



# The Four Angels' Messages

## A Monthly Magazine

It is the Three Angels' Message of Revelation 14 empowered by "another angel" (Revelation 18:1) producing the Loud Cry, which is yet future, but now is the time of preparation, which is the purpose of this publication.

### *The Controversy Ended.*

*Ellen White*

At the close of the thousand years, Christ again returns to the earth. He is accompanied by the host of the redeemed, and attended by a retinue of angels. As he descends in terrific majesty, he bids the wicked dead arise to receive their doom. They come forth, a mighty host, numberless as the sands of the sea. What a contrast to those who were raised at the first resurrection! The righteous were clothed with immortal youth and beauty. The wicked bear the traces of disease and death.

Every eye in that vast multitude is turned to behold the glory of the Son of God. With one voice the wicked hosts exclaim, "Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord!" It is not love to Jesus that inspires this utterance. The force of truth urges the words from unwilling lips. As the wicked went into their graves, so they come forth, with the same enmity to Christ and the same spirit of rebellion. They are to have no new probation, in which to remedy the defects of their past lives. Nothing would be gained by this. A lifetime of transgres-

sion has not softened their hearts. A second probation, were it given them, would be occupied as was the first, in evading the requirements of God and exciting rebellion against him.

Christ descends upon the Mount of Olives, and as his feet touch the mountain, it parts asunder, and becomes a vast plain. Then the New Jerusalem, in its dazzling splendor, comes down out of Heaven. As it rests upon the place purified and made ready to receive it, Christ, with his people and the an-

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- The Vine and Its Branches
- Watchman, Let Him Declare What He Seeth

**A Publication By Seventh-day Adventists  
For Seventh-day Adventists**

# Dear Brothers and Sisters ...

*Jerry O'Donnell*

After 4 months of sending out the "Have One Mind in Christ" general publication to mostly those not of our faith, we received our first request to be removed from the mailing list. They were quite firm about it as well. But, with nearly 1,900 names on the mailing list each month, to receive but 1 request in that period of time to be removed is quite remarkable. We are praising God for this. Usually, people are not very receptive towards a new publication coming to their home that they did not subscribe to themselves, and the result is that we then get numerous requests to be taken off the list. But in this new publication, we have broken through that first hurdle. Now, does that mean they are actually reading the publication? Only God knows that answer.

Do keep in mind that both publications are sent at the low "media mail" route and usually arrive with other bulk mail delivery, whichever day of the week that happens to be for the various neighborhoods across the United States. In many places, that is on a Tuesday while others are on a Wednesday and still

others receive it on a Thursday. What this means is that it can easily be considered not important material. May the angels of God direct through these obstacles.

And regarding the new publication, here is an amazing holy deliverance, literally. A person called and said that his name and street address was on the publication that he did not sign up for, but without a city, state and zip code. He has no idea how he got on the list, but instead of asking to be removed, he wanted to give me his full address so he does not miss the next issue!

On a different note, I want to continue to praise God for the provided employment. In the line of work as a computer programmer, we work on code for a period of time and then pick a date to release the finished edits or new features in which the public will then have access to the new or changed content. For this environment in this company, it is about once a month that it happens. Everyone involved in the process, no matter how small of a contribution, is expected to participate. This date, in the past, was Friday nights. Obvi-

ously, this would not work well for a Sabbath keeper, and no, despite the infrequency of the activity, it is not a justification to compare to the pulling a creature out of a ditch that Jesus spoke of. With that said, we just had our first such nightly gathering. It was held on a Thursday night. I since learned that just prior to my arrival, the team had moved it from Fridays to Thursdays. It does not matter the reason; all I know is that God put it into the team's mind that they needed to move it. It could have been wanting to close the work week on Friday late afternoons, or it could have been because if something went wrong, that meant trying to fix things over their desired weekend hours. Like I said, it does not matter the reason. The bottom line is that they moved it to a different day of the week prior to my arrival. That means that God cleared the potential Sabbath conflict before I became part of the team. Truly, God does fight our battles for us, many times without us even knowing. Praise the Lord!

Still on a different note, my apologies for not

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**The mission of The Four Angels' Messages Ministry** is to alert as many Seventh-day Adventists as possible to see the need of living the Three Angels' Messages, be well-studied in the messages of all four angels, to get ready and be ready very soon to go and preach them, even being active now. It is our belief that not only are we the last generation, but the mark is soon to be forced upon us, and publications like this shall be targeted. So while the presses can run, let us awake to our high calling, despite others who want to remain asleep. Keep in mind, the final movements of the message are described thus:

"Are we hoping to see the whole church revived? That time will never come." {1SM 122.1}

"We must enter upon the work individually." {1SM 122.2}

We are not against conference churches as there are some still faithful, but most are not.

#### **About The Four Angels' Messages Ministry**

This ministry is founded by Jerry O'Donnell upon the necessity to raise the standard higher and higher. It is a non-profit, Seventh-day Adventist volunteer organization who love God's church and love the people, hating to see a single person deceived.

**Subscription and Donations:** Although we are volunteers, the cost of

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this publication is challenging to provide to everyone for free. So we are asking for a subscription on the honor system of **\$24 annually for 12 issues**, and if the Lord impresses you with the means to be able to pro-

vide a donation, we definitely would welcome such and would put it to proper use, including helping to pay for subscriptions of those who cannot afford the cost. The publication is free online in PDF format.

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gels, enters the holy city.

Now Satan prepares for a last mighty struggle for the supremacy. While deprived of his power, and cut off from his work of deception, the prince of evil was miserable and dejected; but as the wicked dead are raised, and he sees the vast multitudes upon his side, his hopes revive, and he determines not to yield the great controversy. He will marshal all the armies of the lost under his banner, and through them endeavor to execute his plans. The wicked are Satan's captives. In rejecting Christ they have accepted the rule of the rebel leader. They are ready to receive his suggestions and to do his bidding. Yet, true to his early cunning, he does not acknowledge himself to be Satan. He claims to be the Prince who is the rightful owner of the world, and whose inheritance has been unlawfully wrested from him. He represents himself to his deluded subjects as a redeemer, assuring them that his power has brought them forth from their graves, and that he is about to rescue them from the most cruel tyranny. The presence of Christ having been removed, Satan works wonders to support his

claims. He makes the weak strong, and inspires all with his own spirit and energy. He proposes to lead them against the camp of the saints, and to take possession of the city of God. With fiendish exultation he points to the unnumbered millions who have been raised from the dead, and declares that as their leader he is well able to overthrow the city, and regain his throne and his kingdom.

In that vast throng are multitudes of the long-lived race that existed before the flood; men of lofty stature and giant intellect, who, yielding to the control of fallen angels, devoted all their skill and knowledge to the exaltation of themselves; men whose wonderful works of art led the world to idolize their genius, but whose cruelty and evil inventions, defiling the earth and defacing the image of God, caused him to blot them from the face of his creation. There are kings and generals who conquered nations, valiant men who never lost a battle, proud, ambitious warriors whose approach made kingdoms tremble. In death these experienced no change. As they come up from the grave, they resume the current of their thoughts just where it ceased. They

are actuated by the same desire to conquer that ruled them when they fell.

Satan consults with his angels, and then with these kings and conquerors and mighty men. They look upon the strength and numbers upon their side, and declare that the army within the city is small in comparison with theirs, and that it can be overcome. They lay their plans to take possession of the riches and glory of the New Jerusalem. All immediately begin to prepare for battle. Skillful artisans construct implements of war. Military leaders, famed for their success, marshal the throngs of warlike men into companies and divisions.

At last the order to advance is given, and the countless host moves on, – an army such as was never summoned by earthly conquerors, such as the combined forces of all ages since war began could never equal. Satan, the mightiest of warriors, leads the van, and his angels join their forces for this final struggle. Kings and warriors are in his train, and the multitudes follow in vast companies, each army under its appointed leader. With military precision, the serried ranks advance over the earth's broken

and uneven surface to the city of God. By the command of Jesus, the gates of the New Jerusalem are closed, and the armies of Satan surround the city, and make ready for the onset.

Now Christ again appears to the view of his enemies. Far above the city, upon a foundation of burnished gold, is a throne, high and lifted up. Upon this throne sits the Son of God, and around him are the subjects of his kingdom. The power and majesty of Christ no language can describe, no pen portray. The glory of the Eternal Father is enshrouding his Son. The brightness of his presence fills the city of God, and flows out beyond the gates, flooding the whole earth with its radiance.

Nearest the throne are those who were once zealous in the cause of Satan, but who, plucked as brands from the burning, have followed their Saviour with deep, intense devotion. Next are those who perfected Christian characters in the midst of falsehood and infidelity, those who honored the law of God when the Christian world declared it void, and the millions, of all ages, who were martyred for their faith. And beyond is the "great multitude which no man

could number, of all nations and kindreds and people and tongues," "before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands." Their warfare is ended, their victory won. They have run the race and reached the prize. The palm branch in their hands is a symbol of their triumph, the white robe an emblem of the spotless righteousness of Christ which now is theirs.

The redeemed raise a song of praise that echoes and re-echoes through the vaults of Heaven, "Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." And angel and seraph unite their voices in adoration. As the redeemed have beheld the power and malignity of Satan, they have seen, as never before, that no power but that of Christ could have made them conquerors. In all that shining throng there are none to ascribe salvation to themselves, as if they had prevailed by their own power and goodness. Nothing is said of what they have done or suffered; but the burden of every song, the keynote of every anthem, is, Salvation to our God and unto the Lamb.

In the presence of the assembled inhabitants of earth and Heaven takes place the final coronation of the Son of God. And now, invested with supreme majesty and power, the King of kings pronounces sentence upon the rebels against his government, and executes justice upon those who have transgressed his law and oppressed his people. Says the prophet of God: "I saw a great white throne, and Him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works." [Revelation 20:11, 12.]

As soon as the books of record are opened, and the eye of Jesus looks upon the wicked, they are conscious of every sin which they have ever committed. They see just where their feet diverged from the path of purity and holiness, just how far pride and rebellion have carried them in the violation of the law of God. The seductive temptations

which they encouraged by indulgence in sin, the blessings perverted, the messengers of God despised, the warnings rejected, the waves of mercy beaten back by the stubborn, unrepentant heart, – all appear as if written in letters of fire.

Above the throne is revealed the cross; and like a panoramic view appear the scenes of Adam's temptation and fall, and the successive steps in the great plan of redemption. The Saviour's lowly birth; his early life of simplicity and obedience; his baptism in Jordan; the fast and temptation in the wilderness; his public ministry, unfolding to men Heaven's most precious blessings; the days crowded with deeds of love and mercy, the nights of prayer and watching in the solitude of the mountains; the plottings of envy, hate, and malice which repaid his benefits; the awful, mysterious agony in Gethsemane, beneath the crushing weight of the sins of the whole world; his betrayal into the hands of the murderous mob; the fearful events of that night of horror, – the unresisting prisoner, forsaken by his best-loved disciples, rudely hurried through the streets of Jerusalem; the Son of God exulting-

ly displayed before Ananias, arraigned in the high priest's palace, in the judgment hall of Pilate, before the cowardly and cruel Herod, mocked, insulted, tortured, and condemned to die, – all are vividly portrayed.

And now before the swaying multitude are revealed the final scenes, – the patient Sufferer treading the path to Calvary; the Prince of Heaven hanging upon the cross; the haughty priests and the jeering rabble deriding his expiring agony; the supernatural darkness; the heaving earth, the rent rocks, the open graves, marking the moment when the world's Redeemer yielded up his life.

The awful spectacle appears just as it was. Satan, his angels, and his subjects have no power to turn from the picture of their own work. Each actor recalls the part which he performed. Herod, who slew the innocent children of Bethlehem that he might destroy the King of Israel; the base Herodias, upon whose guilty soul rests the blood of John the Baptist; the weak, time-serving Pilate; the mocking soldiers; the priests and rulers and the madened throng who cried, "His blood be on us, and

our children!" – all behold the enormity of their guilt. They vainly seek to hide from the divine majesty of His countenance, outshining the glory of the sun, while the redeemed cast their crowns at the Saviour's feet, exclaiming, "He died for me!"

Amid the ransomed throng are the apostles of Christ, the heroic Paul, the ardent Peter, the loved and loving John, and their true-hearted brethren, and with them the vast host of martyrs; while outside the walls, with every vile and abominable thing, are those by whom they were persecuted, imprisoned, and slain. There is Nero, that monster of cruelty and vice, beholding the joy and exaltation of those whom he once tortured, and in whose extremest anguish he found Satanic delight. His mother is there to witness the result of her own work; to see how the evil stamp of character transmitted to her son, the passions encouraged and developed by her influence and example, have borne fruit in crimes that caused the world to shudder.

There are papist priests and prelates, who claimed to be Christ's ambassadors, yet employed the rack, the dungeon, and the stake



to control the consciences of his people. There are the proud pontiffs who exalted themselves above God, and presumed to change the law of the Most High. Those pretended fathers of the church have an account to render to God from which they would fain be excused. Too late they are made to see that the Omniscient One is jealous of his law, and that he will in no wise clear the guilty. They learn now that Christ identifies his interest with that of his suffering people; and they feel the force of his own words, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

The whole wicked world stand arraigned at the bar of God, on the charge of high treason against the government of Heaven. They have none to plead their cause; they are without excuse; and the sentence of eternal death is

pronounced against them.

It is now evident to all that the wages of sin is not noble independence and eternal life, but slavery, ruin, and death. The wicked see what they have forfeited by their life of rebellion. The far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory was despised when offered them; but how desirable it now appears. "All this," cries the lost soul, "I might have had; but I chose to put these things far from me. Oh, strange infatuation! I have exchanged peace, happiness, and honor, for wretchedness, infamy, and despair." All see that their exclusion from Heaven is just. In their lives they declared, We will not have this Jesus to reign over us.

As if entranced, the wicked have looked upon the coronation of the Son of God. They see in his hands the tables of the divine law, the statutes which they have despised and trans-

gressed. They witness the outburst of wonder, rapture, and adoration from the saved; and as the wave of melody sweeps over the multitudes without the city, all with one voice exclaim, "Marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints;" and falling prostrate, they worship the Prince of life.

Satan seems paralyzed as he beholds the glory and majesty of Christ. He who was once a covering cherub remembers whence he has fallen. A shining seraph, "son of the morning;" how changed, how degraded! From the council where once he was honored, he is forever excluded. He sees another now standing near to the Father, veiling his glory. He has seen the crown placed upon the head of Christ by an angel of lofty stature and majestic presence, and he knows that this office might have been his.

## ***NEED A RECEIPT?***

We will be happy to provide you with a receipt but please indicate that you would like to receive one. Many give without claiming it on their taxes.

Personally, I would so as to have more to give. But for us to mail a receipt to those that do not use such would be a waste of God's funds. So do not hesitate to ask, and even if you already gave, we have record of it, so if you still want a receipt, just ask.

Memory recalls the home of his innocence and purity, the peace and content that were his until he indulged in murmuring against God, and envy of Christ. His accusations, his rebellion, his deceptions to gain the sympathy and support of the angels, his stubborn persistence in making no effort for self-recovery when God would have granted him forgiveness, – all come vividly before him. He reviews his work among men and its results, – the enmity of man toward his fellow-man, the terrible destruction of life, the rise and fall of kingdoms, the overturning of thrones, the long succession of tumults, conflicts, and revolutions. He recalls his constant efforts to oppose the work of Christ and to sink man lower and lower. He sees that his hellish plots have been powerless to destroy those who have put their trust in Jesus. As Satan looks upon his kingdom, the fruit of his toil, he sees only failure and ruin. He has led the multitudes to believe that the city of God would be an easy prey; but he knows that this is false. Again and again in the progress of the great controversy has he been defeated and compelled to yield. He knows too well the power and majesty of the Eternal.

The aim of the great rebel has ever been to justify himself, and to prove the divine government responsible for the rebellion. To this end he has bent all the power of his giant intellect. He has worked deliberately and systematically, and with marvelous success, leading vast multitudes to accept his version of the great controversy which has been so long in progress. For thousands of years this chief of conspiracy has palmed off falsehood for truth. But the time has now come when the rebellion is to be finally defeated, and the history and character of Satan disclosed. In his last great effort to dethrone Christ, destroy his people, and take possession of the city of God, the arch-deceiver has been fully unmasked. Those who have united with him see the total failure of his cause. Christ's followers and the loyal angels behold the full extent of his machinations against the government of God. He is the object of universal abhorrence.

Satan sees that his voluntary rebellion has unfitted him for Heaven. He has trained his powers to war against God; the purity, peace, and harmony of Heaven would be to him supreme torture. His accusations against the mer-

cy and justice of God are now silenced. The reproach which he has endeavored to cast upon Jehovah rests wholly upon himself. And now Satan bows down, and confesses the justice of his sentence.

Every question of truth and error in the long-standing controversy is made plain. God's justice stands fully vindicated. Before the whole world is clearly presented the great sacrifice made by the Father and the Son in man's behalf. The hour has come when Christ occupies his rightful position, and is glorified above principalities and powers and every name that is named.

It was for the joy that was set before him, – that he might bring many sons unto glory, – that he endured the cross and despised the shame. And inconceivably great as was the sorrow and the shame, so great is the joy and the glory. He looks upon the redeemed, renewed in his own image, every face reflecting the likeness of their King. In their perfect purity and surpassing joy he beholds the result of the travail of his soul, and he is satisfied. Then, in a voice that reaches the assembled multitudes of the righteous and the wicked, he declares, "Behold the purchase of



my blood! For these I suffered; for these I died; that they might dwell in my presence throughout eternal ages." And the song of praise ascends from the white-robed ones about the throne, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing."

Notwithstanding Satan has been constrained to acknowledge God's justice, and to bow to the supremacy of Christ, his character remains unchanged. The spirit of rebellion, like a mighty torrent, again bursts forth. Filled with frenzy, he determines not to yield the great controversy. The time has come for a last desperate struggle against the King of Heaven. He rushes into the midst of his subjects, and endeavors to inspire them with his own fury, and arouse them to instant battle. But of all the countless millions whom he has allured into rebellion, there are none now to acknowledge his supremacy. His power is at an end. The wicked are filled with the same hatred of God that inspires Satan; but they see that their case is hopeless, that they cannot prevail against Jehovah. Their rage is kindled against Satan and those who have been his agents in

deception. With the fury of demons they turn upon them, and there follows a scene of universal strife.

Then are fulfilled the words of the prophet: "The indignation of the Lord is upon all nations, and his fury upon all their armies: he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter." [Isaiah 34:2.] "Upon the wicked he shall rain quick burning coals, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup." [Psalm 11:6. MARGINAL.] Fire comes down from God out of heaven. The earth is broken up. The weapons concealed in its depths are drawn forth. Devouring flames burst from every yawning chasm. The very rocks are on fire. The day has come that shall burn as an oven. [Malachi 4:1.] The elements melt with fervent heat, the earth also, and the works that are therein are burned up. [2 Peter 3:10.] The fire of Tophet is "prepared for the king," the chief of rebellion; the pile thereof is deep and large, and "the breath of the Lord, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it." [Isaiah 30:33.] The earth's surface seems one molten mass, – a vast, seething lake of fire. It is the time of the judgment and perdition

of ungodly men, – "the day of the Lord's vengeance, and the year of recompenses for the controversy of Zion." [Isaiah 34:8.]

The wicked receive their recompense in the earth. They "shall be stubble; and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts." Some are destroyed as in a moment, while others suffer many days. All are punished according to their deeds. The sins of the righteous have been transferred to Satan, the originator of evil, who must bear their penalty. Thus he is made to suffer not only for his own rebellion, but for all the sins which he has caused God's people to commit. His punishment is to be far greater than that of those whom he has deceived. After all have perished who fell by his deceptions, he is still to live and suffer on. In the cleansing flames the wicked are at last destroyed, root and branch, – Satan the root, his followers the branches. The justice of God is satisfied, and the saints and all the angelic host say with a loud voice, Amen.

While the earth is wrapped in the fire of God's vengeance, the righteous abide safely in the holy city. Upon those that had part in

the first resurrection, the second death has no power. [Revelation 20:6.] While God is to the wicked a consuming fire, he is to his people both a sun and a shield. [Psalm 84:11.]

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away." [Revelation 21:1.] The fire that consumes the wicked purifies the earth. Every trace of the curse is swept away. No eternally burning hell will keep before the ransomed the fearful consequences of sin. One reminder alone remains: our Redeemer will ever bear the marks of his crucifixion. Upon his wounded head, his hands and feet, are the only traces of the cruel work that sin has wrought.

"O Tower of the flock, the stronghold of the daughter of Zion, to thee shall it come, even the first dominion." [Micah 4:8.] The kingdom forfeited by sin, Christ has regained, and the redeemed are to possess it with him. "The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever." [Psalm 37:29.] A fear of making the saints' inheritance seem too material has led many to spiritualize away the very truths which lead us to look upon the new earth as

our home. Christ assured his disciples that he went to prepare mansions for them. Those who accept the teachings of God's word will not be wholly ignorant concerning the heavenly abode. And yet the apostle Paul declares: "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." [1 Corinthians 2:9.] Human language is inadequate to describe the reward of the righteous. It will be known only to those who behold it. No finite mind can comprehend the glory of the Paradise of God.

In the Bible the inheritance of the saved is called a country. [Hebrews 11:14-16.] There the great Shepherd leads his flock to fountains of living waters. The tree of life yields its fruit every month, and the leaves of the tree are for the service of the nations. There are everflowing streams, clear as crystal, and beside them waving trees cast their shadows upon the paths prepared for the ransomed of the Lord. There the wide-spreading plains swell into hills of beauty, and the mountains of God rear their lofty summits. On those peaceful plains, beside those liv-

ing streams, God's people, so long pilgrims and wanderers, shall find a home.

There is the New Jerusalem, "having the glory of God," her light "like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal." [Revelation 21:11.] Saith the Lord, "I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people." [Isaiah 65:19.] "The tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God, And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away." [Revelation 21:3, 4.]

In the city of God "there shall be no night." None will need or desire repose. There will be no weariness in doing the will of God and offering praise to his name. We shall ever feel the freshness of the morning, and shall ever be far from its close. "And they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light." [Revelation 22:5.] The light of the sun will be superseded by a radiance which is not painfully dazzling, yet which

immeasurably surpasses the brightness of our noontide. The glory of God and the Lamb floods the holy city with unfading light. The redeemed walk in the sunless glory of perpetual day.

"I saw no temple therein; for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it." [Revelation 21:22.] The people of God are privileged to hold open communion with the Father and the Son. Now we "see through a glass, darkly." [1 Corinthians 13:12.] We behold the image of God reflected, as in a mirror, in the works of nature and in his dealings with men; but then we shall see him face to face, without a dimming veil between. We shall stand in his presence, and gaze upon the glory of his countenance.

There, immortal minds will study with never-failing delight the wonders of creative power, the mysteries of redeeming love. There is

no cruel, deceiving foe to tempt to forgetfulness of God. Every faculty will be developed, every capacity increased. The acquirement of knowledge will not weary the mind or exhaust the energies.

There the grandest enterprises may be carried forward, the loftiest aspirations reached, the highest ambitions realized; and still there will arise new heights to surmount, new wonders to admire, new truths to comprehend, fresh objects to call forth the powers of mind and soul and body.

And as the years of eternity roll, they will bring richer and more glorious revelations of God and of Christ. As knowledge is progressive, so will love, reverence, and happiness increase. The more men learn of God, the greater will be their admiration of his character. As Jesus opens before them the riches of redemption, and the amazing achievements in the great controversy with Satan, the hearts of

the ransomed beat with a stronger devotion, and they sweep the harps of gold with a firmer hand; and ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of voices unite to swell the mighty chorus of praise.

"And every creature which is in Heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne and unto the Lamb forever and ever."

Sin and sinners are no more; God's entire universe is clean; and the great controversy is forever ended. {*The Spirit of Prophecy Volume Four*, page 476.1-492.3}

[This series using the *Spirit of Prophecy Volume Four* is now concluded and we will be providing other articles by Ellen White starting in the next issue.]



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(YouTube link is on our website.)

# *The Vine and Its Branches*

*John Norton Loughborough*

"I HAD planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right seed: how then art thou turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me?" Jer.2:21.

The Lord compares his church – his people – to a vine, in which each member draws its life and nourishment from the parent stock. In the beautiful comparison drawn by the prophet Isaiah we read: "Now will I sing to my well-beloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My well-beloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: and he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a wine-press therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard. What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? Wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?" Isa.5:1-4.

If we read still further, we learn why the fruit was evil instead of good: "For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant; and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry." Verse 7.

Concerning the Lord's vineyard and his care of it, the same prophet say: "In that day sing ye unto her, a vineyard of red wine [not a cellar of wine casks, but a vineyard, where it is 'wine in the cluster,' as in Isa.65:8]. I the Lord do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day." Isa.27:2, 3.

More fully still is this comparison of Christ and his church with the vineyard and its branches illustrated in our Saviour's discourse: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away; and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it ['pruneth it'], that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the

branch can not bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples." John 15:1-8.

The Branches and the Vine

"This chapter is simple in its illustrations, and is one that all may understand. Christ is ever seeking to present before his followers the privileges that are offered to sinful, feeble humanity. He would teach them that only through him can it be restored to healthful growth. We are to bear in mind that the branches in the true vine are the believers, who are brought into

oneness by connection with the vine. ...

"The branches of the vine can not blend into each other; they are individually separate; yet every branch must be in fellowship with every other if they are united in the same parent stock. They all draw nourishment from the same source; they drink in the same life-giving properties. So each branch of the True Vine is separate and distinct, yet all are bound together in the parent stock. There can be no division. They are all linked together by his will to bear fruit wherever they can find place and opportunity. But in order to do this, the worker must hide self. He must not give expression to his own mind and will. He is to express the mind and will of Christ. The human family are dependent upon God for life and breath and sustenance. God has designed the web, and all

are individual threads to compose the pattern. The Creator is one, and he reveals himself as the great reservoir of all that is essential for each separate life.

"Christian unity consists in the branches being in the same parent stock, the vitalizing power of the center supporting the grafts that have united to the vine. In thoughts and desires, in words and actions, there must be an identity with Christ, a constant partaking of his spiritual life." - Review and Herald, Nov. 9, 1897.

#### Branches Supported by the Vine

"The branches do not sustain the vine, but the vine supports and nourishes the branches. The church does not support Christ, but Christ, by his vital power, supports the church. It is not enough to be a branch; we are to be

fruitful branches. 'He that abideth in me,' said Jesus, 'and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit.' But if the fruit produced be that of the thorn bush, it is evident that we are not branches of the Living Vine.

"Life is disciplinary. While in the world, the Christian will meet with adverse influences. There will be provocations to test the temper; and it is by meeting these in a right spirit that the Christian graces are developed. If injuries and insults are meekly borne, if insulting words are responded to by gentle answers, and oppressive acts by kindness, this is evidence that the spirit of Christ dwells in the heart, that sap from the Living Vine is flowing to the branches. We are in the school of Christ in this life, where we are to learn to be meek and lowly of heart; and in the day of final accounts we shall

## ***Subscription Renewal***

Subscriptions are based on the honor system because we are trying to conserve on the cost by putting God's money to the most efficient means possible as well as precious time.

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If you do send it in "too early", it will be applied properly.

Also, if you are sincerely unable to pay the annual subscription, do not feel guilty for still receiving the bread in times of need.

see that all the obstacles we meet, all the hardships and annoyances that we are called to bear, are practical lessons in the application of the principles of Christian life. If well-endured, they develop the Christlike in the character, and distinguish the Christian from the worldling.

"There is a high standard to which we are to attain if we would be children of God, noble, pure, holy, and undefiled; and a pruning process is necessary if we would reach this standard. How would this pruning be accomplished if there were no difficulties to meet, no obstacles to surmount, nothing to call out patience and endurance? These trials are not the smallest blessings in our experience. They are designed to nerve us to determination to succeed. We are to use them as God's means to gain decided victories over self, instead of allowing them to hin-

der, oppress, and destroy us.

"Character will be tested. Christ will be revealed in us if we are indeed branches of the Living Vine. We shall be patient, kind, and forbearing, cheerful amid frets and irritations. Day by day and year by year we shall conquer self and grow into a noble heroism. This is our allotted task; but it can not be accomplished without continual help from Jesus, resolute decision, unwavering purpose, continual watchfulness, and unceasing prayer. Each one has a personal battle to fight. Each must win his own way through struggles and discouragements. Those who decline the struggle lose the strength and joy of victory. No one, not even God, can carry us to heaven unless we make the necessary effort on our part. We must put features of beauty into our lives. We must expel the unlovely natural traits that

make us unlike Jesus. While God works in us to will and to do of his own good pleasure, we must work in harmony with him. The religion of Christ transforms the heart." – "Testimonies for the Church," No. 32, pages 100, 101.

#### Test of Character

"The fruit we bear is the only test of the character of the tree before the world. This is the proof of our discipleship. If our works are of such a character that as branches of the Living Vine we bear rich clusters of precious fruit, then we wear before the world God's own badge as his sons and daughters. We are living epistles known and read of all men." – Ibid., page 104. {1907 J. N. LOUGHBOROUGH, The Church: Its Organization, Order and Discipline, pages 31.1 - 35.1}



## ***NO REFUNDS, ESPECIALLY AS CENSORING CONTINUES TO INCREASE***

I hope everyone would understand that if this publication were to be shutdown beyond our control that we also would be unable to provide any refunds to subscriptions paid in advanced.

Be rest assured that all funds are used in the most responsible ways according to that which is revealed in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.



# Our Pioneers Were Not Prophets!

*Jerry O'Donnell*

Ellen White makes a statement that we ought to reprint articles from our pioneers.

“When men come in who would move one pin or pillar from the foundation which God has established by His Holy Spirit, let the aged men who were pioneers in our work speak plainly, and let those who are dead speak also, by the reprinting of their articles in our periodicals. Gather up the rays of divine light that God has given as He has led His people on step by step in the way of truth. This truth will stand the test of time and trial.” – Ms 62, 1905. {RY 21.2}

That statement, or similar ones, somehow has placed in the minds of Seventh-day Adventists that what our pioneers printed was always accurate. This has led to simply reprinting anything and everything not realizing that not everything of the pioneers was in agreement. Just because a pioneer printed it, and it was published, other pioneers wrote opposite views, and they, too, were published. On a number of occasions, Ellen White wrote condemning this practice of

printing both sides of beliefs. The quote regarding reprinting is only that which is confirms us in the foundation of our beliefs. So, quoting a bunch of pioneers who wrote against the trinity leaving out those who printed articles in favor of a three-person Godhead requires time to sort it out. In other words, our pioneers were not prophets. Remember, our pioneers very early on would spend whole nights studying the Bible with such contention that it forced them to separate. Ellen White, who had no contribution to the discussion, would eventually enter into vision, and God would use her to confirm the correct concluding doctrine. God did not dictate to our pioneers the doctrine, as some outsiders believe. Our pioneers were to search it out until all was fully laid upon the altar, and when they could go no further, or worse, when there was sharp disagreement, God would then step in using Ellen White.

What complicates matters today is the infrequent passing comment of Ellen White in

what appears to be endorsing one thing or another automatically creating a belief that whatever else they printed is gospel. Jones and Waggoner in 1888 is a good example of this, where today, later content of their published works is being passed out as if it is necessary for salvation when even Ellen White warned against their teachings. Dr. Kellogg falls into that category as well.

Again, I do not say this to brag, but we as a people have to stop searching Ellen White's writings to pull out that single paragraph to prove our point. As I have read all that Ellen White wrote, one gets to see the overall intention of the quote.

For instance, numerous years Ellen White complained with all godliness that our church lacked a book that combined Daniel and Revelation together. She kept declaring that one cannot fully understand one or the other properly without both being referenced together. When Uriah Smith was the first writer to have a book published in the desired

manner, she gave it high praise. Her praise did not endorse every single sentence as Uriah Smith was no prophet. Just as God uses erring human beings, like David, like Miller, like Luther, the contents of books outside of the Bible may contain error, not significant enough to undermine salvation, but nonetheless, error.

With that said, as stated back in June 2018 and in July 2020, just because there are pioneers advocating Turkey to be the King of the North and there is an implication of Ellen White suggesting that Smith's book, *Daniel and the Revelation* answers the question, we recently came across this quote in which the expected time fulfillment was to take place. It was back in the 1800s. That time is past. Ellen White states, "Aug. 25, 11:00 a.m. The first two pages were written Sunday after I had spoken to the crowd. The evening meeting was largely attended. Elder Smith spoke with great clearness, and many listened with open eyes, ears, and mouths. The outsiders seemed to be intensely interested in the Eastern question. He closed with a very solemn address to those who had not been preparing for these great

events in the near future" {Lt55-1884}.

As a reminder, without repeating the full articles prior, the topic called the "Eastern Question", which was in reference to the Ottoman Empire as contained in Turkey ended officially in 1923

[Michael S. Anderson, *The Eastern Question, 1774–1923: A Study in International Relations*. (1966); Theophilus C. Prousis. Review of Macfie, A. L., *The Eastern Question, 1774–1923*. HABSURG, H-Net Reviews. December, 1996.] So, the question itself that Ellen White even refers to does not even exist anymore.

Here is her quote from 1877; Ellen White stated, "Sunday morning boats and trains poured their living freight upon the ground in thousands. Elder Smith spoke in the morning upon the Eastern question. The subject was of special interest, and the people listened with the most earnest attention" {LS 225.3}.

Again, I offer, now direct from the prophet herself, what changed. "We may have to remain here in this world because of insubordination many more years, as did the children of Israel; but for Christ's sake, His people should not add sin to sin by

charging God with the consequence of their own wrong course of action" {10MR 277.3}. So, the prediction of some present at the meeting would see translation changed, as well as Turkey's involvement in last day events.

Now, to keep people hyped up about Turkey, Satan inspires Turkey to flex its muscles once in a while, and now is pushing the thought that the treaty is soon to expire.

The only prophet that can detail last day events, and has proven herself as such, is Ellen White. She does not blatantly declare who the King of the North is, but with the lack of content in her writings regarding Turkey, one would think she would have been told something along the line more than just hinting at it.

Further, another preacher stated something very interesting according to the books of Daniel. Daniel 2 is an overview of prophecy with the rise and fall of nations. The feet of iron and of clay includes the period of church and state known as the papacy. Daniel 8 is the repeat of that view with added detail, again drawing attention to the papacy. Daniel 10 fur-

ther details events bringing out the concern of the papal activity. Finally, in Daniel 11, we are given tremendous detail of Grecian activity and all of a sudden we bring in a new kingdom, Turkey? That does not seem right.

Here is another new quote that we did not use before. Since the end of Daniel 11 is what is in question and the next verse is Daniel 12:1, where God's "people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book", Ellen White makes an interesting statement of sequence of events commenting upon Daniel 12:1:

"The papal power has thought to change the law of God by substituting a spurious Sabbath for that of Jehovah; and all through the religious world the false Sabbath is revered, while the true one is trampled beneath unholy feet. But will the Lord degrade his law to meet the standard of finite man? Will he accept a day possessing no sanctity, in the place of his own Sabbath, which he has hallowed and blessed? No; it is on the law of God that the last great struggle of the controversy between Christ and his angels and Satan and his angels will come, and it

will be decisive for all the world. This is the hour of temptation to God's people; but Daniel saw them delivered out of it, every one whose name is written in the Lamb's book of life"

{ST, January 17, 1884 par. 11}.

That quote of "Daniel saw them delivered out of it" is referring to Daniel 12:1. That means the contention described prior to the deliverance is the contents of the end of Daniel 11, keeping in mind that chapter breaks are man-made. Chapter 12 is actually a continuation of Daniel 11, especially beginning with the word "then". The contender in the quote is not Turkey but the "papal power".

The Bible also states that the King of the North "shall plant the tabernacles of his palace" (Daniel 11:45). This is in fulfillment of Revelation 13:6: "And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven." What better way to blaspheme God's true tabernacle than to plant his own? Revelation 13:6 belongs to the papacy, therefore, Daniel 11:45 does as well.

Additionally, if one were to search the Bible for the words "king" and

"north", there are eleven references. There are, of course, seven references in Daniel 11 (verses 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 15,40). So, that leaves but four verses to examine. There is the one reference to the northern kingdom of Israel (Jeremiah 25:9), so that verse does not shed light on the subject. There is the one reference to God being King of the North (Psalms 48:2), which is not the subject in Daniel 11. There is one reference to multiple kings in the north (Jeremiah 25:26), again, this does not shed any helpful light on the matter. But there is one very strait verse which not only refers to a king in the north, but being the king of kings, not referring to Jesus. "For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will bring upon Tyrus Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, a king of kings, from the north, with horses, and with chariots, and with horsemen, and companies, and much people" (Ezekiel 26:7). And that is what is brought out in Revelation, Babylon being the end time contention without reference to Turkey. And the King of Babylon these days is the papacy.

Couple that with the fact that Satan's goal is to declare, "I will sit also upon the mount of the

congregation, in the sides of the north” (Isaiah 14:13). What kingdom on earth helps Satan achieve that goal? It is the Papacy and not Turkey. It is the papacy that sits, not necessarily physically, though it does, but spiritually in the north, “Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God” (2 Thessalonians 2:4).

It would be no big deal normally, but the Turkey voices are getting louder and louder. Many go as far as to condemn those that do not believe the message. And that is just wrong.

Further, Satan is successfully taking our eyes off of spiritual matters and have placed them back to physical fulfillment. And that is a dangerous place to be, especially if Turkey were to come down and beat up Egypt occupying the land of Israel, Satan can place the icing on the cake with his physical appearance and deceive many more.

Remember, Paul declared that the interpretation of prophecy has become spiritually applied since the cross, where only Jews shall

be saved, “For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither [is that] circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he [is] a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision [is that] of the heart, in the spirit, [and] not in the letter; whose praise [is] not of men, but of God” (Romans 2:28-29). Ellen White declares that true Seventh-day Adventism is spiritual Israel today {9T 164.1}. Therefore, Turkey would have to occupy Seventh-day Adventism and not the land in Israel. That land is meaningless today in God’s eyes. It is the papacy, the spiritual King of the North that is out to occupy and is currently occupying Seventh-day Adventists in general, with their Jesus’ planted in numerous leadership roles leading unsuspecting Seventh-day Adventists back to Rome.

John explicitly states “the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified” (Revelation 11:8) showing that Egypt is a spiritual representation. Ellen White states, “This is atheism, and the nation represented by Egypt would give voice to a similar denial of the claims of the living God and would manifest a like spirit of unbelief

and defiance” {GC 269.2}. And today, atheism is certainly pushing against the Vatican. With very poor church attendance for all denominations, Christianity falling below 50% in a recent survey representing the status of the United States, atheism expanding and unifying with other groups to literally run religion out of the country, the push is on.

Basically, holding on to Turkey in the physical realm and Israel in the spiritual realm is comparing apples to oranges. Comparing Turkey to physical Israel or the spiritual King of the North, the papacy, to spiritual Israel, the Seventh-day Adventists, is comparing apples to apples or oranges to oranges. The question then is, “Is the king of the north and Israel physical or spiritual?” Jesus Himself declared physical Israel of no significance. “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [thou] that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under [her] wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate” (Matthew 23:37-38). “Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be

taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof" (Matthew 21:43). Upon the stoning of Stephen, that nation, not a physical one, is the Gentile nation... spiritual Israel.

I am just concerned that we are not all studying the scriptures properly. One camp is stuck on physical interpretation while another camp is spiritual. On a different matter, while "children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, [and] cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive" (Ephesians 4:14) we have those that operate on a hint of a rediscovered truth when Ellen White does not lay any concrete foundation about it. In fact, "Brethren should not feel that it is a virtue to stand apart because they do not see

all minor points in exactly the same light. If they agree on fundamental truths, they should not differ and dispute about matters of little real importance. To dwell on perplexing questions, that after all are of no vital consequence, tends to call the mind away from truths vital to the saving of the soul. Brethren should be very modest in urging these side issues which often they do not themselves understand, points that they do not know to be truth and that are not essential to salvation..." {Ev 182.3}. Unfortunately, many of these minor points are growing from mole hills into mountains causing the division, causing people like myself to have to speak out. Once a belief reaches the point where one side advocates an item as essential for salvation,

the line has been crossed and needs addressed. The feast day keepers, 2520, and some, but growing, regarding the king of the north are raising the line to either accept their theory or be lost.

In a time where we are to be coming together, we surely are drifting apart based upon misapplied prophecies. They include taking Revelation 13's forty-two months literally instead of figuratively (Revelation 13:5), the seven heads in Revelation 17 as 7 different popes instead of different world influencing kingdoms (Revelation 17:10), etc.

This is definitely one sure way to cause self-supporting work to become an unreliable force. God help us in this time of confusion.



## Coming To Tennessee

Friday, June 25 and Saturday June 26, Jerry O'Donnell will be presenting these four messages in Decaturville, TN:

**Friday, 7:00pm** - The 144,000

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**Sermon, 11:00am** - Perfection, What It Is and Is Not

**Afternoon, 2:00pm** - What the Sanctuary Personally Means

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# How Do You Resolve It?

*It is one thing to know some verses that help a person stay in the faith, but it is another thing to know the Word in such a way that when a verse seems contradictory to know how to resolve it. True Seventh-day Adventists do not ignore verses. It is our hope that this section will help answer some of those challenges that we may come across personally or be used by others against our beliefs.*

## Peace or a Sword?

In one verse, it looks like Jesus is giving out peace, but in another, He says that He sending a sword instead. Here are the two verses in question:

**John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**

**Matthew 10:34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.**

Proponents of the peace-loving Jesus look to what the apostles taught and even references to Jesus. This is where the hippie movement criticizes Jesus for failing at His mission. They then take the symbol of the cross; flip it upside down; stick it back in the ground; and break the arms of the cross to form a peace sign. In other words, the peace sign is an anti-Christ symbol. It is a sign

that declares that Jesus was a failure and the hippie movement is what real peace is all about. With that in mind, here are a few samples of verses that seem to support the peace-movement-type of Jesus:

Acts 10:36 The word which [God] sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

Romans 14:19 Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

2 Corinthians 13:11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye

thankful.

2 Thessalonians 3:16 Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord [be] with you all.

Hebrews 12:14 Follow peace with all [men], and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

Hebrews 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

So, no wonder people are confused when they meet verses that seem contrary to the peace-seeking God, such as:

Luke 14:26 If any [man] come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

Matthew 10:35-37 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law



against her mother in law. And a man's foes [shall be] they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

Luke 12:51-53 Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division: For from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother in law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

Reconciling the original pair of verses comes down to realizing the same misunderstanding

regarding peace that is usually heard around New Years' Eve – "Let us pray for world peace", they say. There will never be world peace on this side of the second coming. In fact, it will wax worse and worse for "ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all [these things] must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom" (Matthew 24:6-7).

The solution to the original question ("Which did Jesus bring? Peace or a sword?") is found in the next couple verses.

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Colossians 1:20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, [I say],

whether [they be] things in earth, or things in heaven.

The peace that Jesus brought is peace between repentant sinners and God the Father. Sin cut the whole human race off from God. Jesus, our Mediator, brought peace to restore the connection. Between like believers, we may have peace. Between unlike believers, or between a believer and a non-believer, there is going to be a sword. It is not to be a literal sword, but there will be sharpness in the relationship.

Therefore, Jesus giving peace is within the relationship among believers, while sending a sword is our relationship among other people who do not believe in the true God and in His expectations – obedience to the Word (John 14:23) and His commandments (Ecclesiastes 12:13).



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# Keep the Sabbath Holy

*This regularly scheduled column is to enlighten us to proper keeping of the Sabbath through the writings of Ellen White and then additional comments by us, the publishers of this publication since we have so many surface readers as well as those that do not know how to apply certain statements.*

Ellen White penned, **“Many need instruction as to how they should appear in the assembly for worship on the Sabbath. They are not to enter the presence of God in the common clothing worn during the week. All should have a special Sabbath suit, to be worn when attending service in God's house. While we should not conform to worldly fashions, we are not to be indifferent in regard to our outward appearance. We are to be neat and trim, though without adornment. The children of God should be pure within and without.”** {6T 355.2}

The casual church attire struck every denomination, where the focus was, “We'd rather you be in church dressed down instead of avoiding church because you don't want to dress up.” This, of course, is the problem with church in general. They forget that church is “For the perfecting of the saints, for the work

of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12). If the attitude is poor, they do not want to be growing in grace, let them stay home.

Search the scriptures and you will find that nowhere is church used as a “witnessing” tool. The reason to assemble into a church service is to build upon the foundation that was laid outside of the church service, such as Bible studies, evangelistic meetings, and other means of outreach. Yes, evangelistic meetings may be held in church as well as other outreach programs, but the church service itself is for the spiritual growth of the saints. Once that foundation is laid, there would be no question of attire during regular church services in the minds of new attendees.

A converted soul will realize that in all things, “seek ye first the kingdom of God” (Matthew 6:33), which includes giving God our best efforts. That includes

giving God our best effort in appearance for church. A converted soul would realize that to offer common street attire is to “put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed [difference] between the unclean and the clean” (Ezekiel 22:26).

From proper instructors, be it teachers or ministers in the pulpit, “they shall teach my people [the difference] between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean” (Ezekiel 44:23).

How such dress-down, common everyday clothing wearing has entered into Seventh-day Adventist churches is very surprising because the dress down approach to church grew out of the attitude of squeezing in a church service during the hours of doing something else. Popularized by the Catholic Church with the Saturday night service counting as replacement for Sunday ser-

vices, such timing was usually in the middle of doing something on a Saturday. In other words, people did not want to stop using the day as they were using it for their own purposes, stop for a moment to get ready for church by changing clothes to dress up for the service, and then return to their original clothing afterwards. They wanted the convenience to just swing into church, put in their obligation, and continue on with their day. Seventh-day Adventists are to keep the whole day holy. There should not be an attitude of squeezing church into the day. Therefore, it should not be difficult to dress up for church at all, unless one is not keeping the

whole day holy. Further, those that do not care to dress up are also those that are putting in “obligation time”. And sadly, no-obligation attitude Sabbath keepers are going to go to Heaven.

An additional reason for the dress-down church attendance is rebellion. Born out of the hippie movement, those that dressed up for church, mostly putting on their “Sunday best”, were labeled as being “holier than thou”. Instead of rejecting the label, as Jesus would have, they tried changing the image of churchgoers and that opened the door to everyone being rebellious towards God, or at least insulting

Him. They insult God because these same people would never attend a white-collar interview dressed down, enter a courtroom looking like they just rolled out of bed, or dress down for an important function where the attire is expected to be dressed up.

So, while ignoring fashion, while ignoring out-dressing someone or everyone else, let us respect God on His holy day and give Him our best in attire as possible. What that best is happens to be on an individual basis. Not everyone can afford a nice suit.



## Healthy Living

Ellen White

*Periodically, we need reminded that our bodies are not our own. And sometimes we need to get back to the basics. We need to hear from the words of inspiration, the Spirit of Prophecy.*

### Controlling the Appetite

Every true Christian will have control of his appetites and passions. Unless he is free from the bondage of appetite, he cannot be a true, obedient servant of Christ. The indul-

gence of appetite and passion blunts the effect of truth upon the heart. It is impossible for the spirit and power of the truth to sanctify a man, soul, body, and spirit, when he is controlled by sensual desires. {Ms5-1875}

Paul had a keen sense of the conflict which every soul must wage with the agencies of evil that are continually seeking to deceive and ensnare, and he had worked untiringly to strengthen and confirm those who were young

in the faith. He had entreated them to make an entire surrender to God; for he knew that when the soul fails to make this surrender, then sin is not forsaken, the appetites and passions still strive for the mastery, and temptations confuse the conscience. {AA 298.2}

The world is full of snares for the feet of the young. Multitudes are attracted by a life of selfish and sensual pleasure. They cannot discern the hidden dangers or the fearful ending of the path that seems to them the way of happiness. Through the indulgence of appetite and passion, their energies are wasted, and millions are ruined for this world and for the world to come. Parents should remember that their children must encounter these temptations. Even before the birth of the child, the preparation should begin that will enable it to fight successfully the battle against evil. {AH 255.4}

My brethren, God calls upon you as His followers to walk in the light. You need to be alarmed. Sin is among us, and it is not seen to be exceedingly sinful. The senses of many are benumbed by the indulgence of appetite and by familiarity with sin.

We need to advance nearer heaven. {AH 401.5}

It must be kept before the people that the right balance of the mental and moral powers depends in a great degree on the right conditions of the physical system. All narcotics and unnatural stimulants that enfeeble and degrade the physical nature tend to lower the tone of the intellect and morals. Intemperance lies at the foundation of the moral depravity of the world. By the indulgence of perverted appetite, man loses his power to resist temptation. {MH 335.1}

"Moses preached a great deal on this subject, and the reason the people did not go through to the promised land was because of repeated indulgence of appetite. Nine-tenths of the wickedness among the children of today is caused by intemperance in eating and drinking. Adam and Eve lost Eden through the indulgence of appetite, and we can only regain it by the denial of the same." {RH, October 21, 1884 par. 2}

A noble character is not the result of accident; it is not due to special favors or endowments of Providence. It is the

result of self-discipline, of subjection of the lower to the higher nature, of the surrender of self to the service of God and man. {PK 488.2}

Through the fidelity to the principles of temperance shown by the Hebrew youth God is speaking to the youth of today. There is need of men who like Daniel will do and dare for the cause of right. Pure hearts, strong hands, fearless courage, are needed; for the warfare between vice and virtue calls for ceaseless vigilance. To every soul Satan comes with temptation in many alluring forms on the point of indulgence of appetite. {PK 488.3}

The body is a most important medium through which the mind and the soul are developed for the upbuilding of character. Hence it is that the adversary of souls directs his temptations to the enfeebling and degrading of the physical powers. His success here often means the surrender of the whole being to evil. The tendencies of the physical nature, unless under the dominion of a higher power, will surely work ruin and death. The body is to be brought into subjection to the higher powers of the being. The passions

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are to be controlled by the will, which is itself to be under the control of God. The kingly power of reason, sanctified by divine grace, is to bear sway in the life. Intellectual power,

physical stamina, and the length of life depend upon immutable laws. Through obedience to these laws, man may stand conqueror of himself, conqueror of his own incli-

nations, conqueror of principalities and powers, of "the rulers of the darkness of this world," and of "spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6:12. {PK 488.4}

In some families the wishes of the child are law. Everything he desires is given him. Everything he dislikes he is encouraged to dislike. These indulgences are supposed to make the child happy, but it is these very things that make him restless, discontented, and satisfied with nothing. Indulgence has spoiled his appetite for plain, healthful food, for the plain, healthful use of his time; gratification has done the work of unsettling that character for time and for eternity. {CG 272.4}

Some are not impressed with the necessity of eating and drinking to the glory of God. The indulgence of appetite affects them in all the relations of life. It is seen in the family, in the church, in the prayer-meeting, and in the conduct of their children. It is the curse of their lives. It prevents them from understanding the truths for these last days. {CTBH 151.2}

In nine cases out of ten there is more danger of

eating too much than too little. . . . There are many sick who suffer from no disease. The cause of their sickness is indulgence of appetite. They think that if the food is healthful, they may eat as much as they please. This is a great mistake. Persons whose powers are debilitated should eat a moderate and even limited amount of food. The system will then be enabled to do its work easily and well, and a great deal of suffering will be saved. {CG 399.1}

The world had become so corrupt through indulgence of appetite and debased passions in the days of Noah that God was provoked to destroy its inhabitants by the waters of the flood. As men again

multiplied upon the earth, the indulgence of wine to intoxication perverted the senses, and prepared the way for excessive meat-eating and the strengthening of the animal passions. Men lifted themselves up against the God of Heaven. And their faculties and opportunities were devoted to glorifying themselves rather than honoring their Creator. Satan found easy access to the hearts of men. He is a diligent student of the Bible, and is much better acquainted with the prophecies than many religious teachers. He knows that it is for his interest to keep well informed in the revealed purposes of God, that he may defeat the plans of the

Infinite. So infidels study the Scriptures frequently more diligently than some who profess to be guided by them. Some of the ungodly search the Scriptures that they may become familiar with Bible truth, and furnish themselves with arguments to make it appear that the Bible contradicts itself. And many professed Christians are so ignorant of the word of God, through neglect of its study, that they are blinded by the deceptive reasoning of those who pervert sacred truth, that they may turn souls away from the counsel of God in his word. {RH, March 3, 1874 par. 8}



## *Healthy And Delicious Recipes*

### ***Veggie Stuffed Shells with Kale***

#### **Ingredients**

#### **for the veggie**

**“ricotta”** (can be made ahead)

- 1.5 cups cashews, soak overnight & drain
- 2 cloves garlic
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice

- ¼ cup water (just enough to get the blade going)
- salt to taste
- ½ cup crumbled firm tofu
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano

- 1 cup finely chopped raw kale (or spinach)
- handful of chopped chives and/or other fresh herbs
- salt to taste



### for the shells:

- 16 jumbo pasta shells
- a few cups of your favourite marinara sauce
- drizzle of olive oil

### Instructions

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- In a blender or food processor, puree together the cashews, garlic, and lemon juice.
- Add only enough water to help the blade going. Taste and add salt to your liking.
- Scoop cashew cream into a large bowl and add the crumbled tofu, oregano, kale, chives, and another few pinches of salt. Stir & taste.
- Cook your shells in salty water until al dente.
- Prepare a baking dish with a good

slathering of marinara at the bottom.

- Scoop a few tablespoons of filling into each shell, place them into the baking dish. Top each with a generous spoonful of marinara and a drizzle of olive oil. Bake for 25 minutes.



## Recipe Adjustment

In February 2021 issue, the use of Black Pepper was mentioned. Our apologies seeing that Ellen White tells us that such is an irritant {CG 381.1}.

BBQ substitute. As for the barbeque sauce, there are many no-vinegar products in most large grocery stores these days like sauces and pickles, but for the barbeque sauce

I make a simple one using only 3 ingredients - tomato paste, molasses (or honey), and lemon juice; no recipe necessary, just make it to taste.



## Natural Remedies

**COMMENT:** *In these times we live in, even access to natural supplements will become increasingly difficult to access, so we are going to try our best to use the most natural means possible to deal with health situations.*

### Calcium Smoothie

- ¼ bunch of Parsley
- 1 cup of Pineapple Juice

Blend until completely smooth. Drink 1 to 2 cups a day to restore calcium levels. This drink has the correct

calcium to magnesium ratio for maximum utilization in the body. Also a great blood cleanser.



# Natural Vitamins

## Turmeric

Used as a spice or taken in capsule form Turmeric has many health benefits.

The active ingredient of Turmeric is Curcumin and has anti-inflammatory properties and is a powerful antioxidant. Turmeric has been shown to help relieve arthritis and joint pain and its anti-inflammatory proper-

ties are similar in effect to ibuprofen.

Turmeric has been shown in studies to not only improve cognitive function but also helps the blood vessels in the body repair itself which reduces blood pressure, risk of blood clots, strokes and heart disease. Turmeric also has prebiotic-like properties and supports gut

health.

Turmeric can be used in cooking or taken in supplement form.

\*Turmeric has a beautiful golden color; however, it does stain so care should be taken when handling supplements or during cooking.



## Authorized KJV vs Catholic Bible

*If you are using anything but the KJV, you are using a Catholic influenced Bible, which strategically twists and leaves out key words and verses so as to make even the ecumenical movement between religions outside of Christianity possible. And Ellen White does identify not to use them for reliability: “Wycliffe’s Bible had been translated from the Latin text, which contained many errors.” {GC 245.1}. Latin is Catholic or which most modern versions rely upon.*

**Luke 4:8** is missing some key words in most Bible versions. **“Get thee behind me, Satan”** is significant. It reveals that Jesus knows who the adversary is. It reveals that Jesus is able to command the adversary, Satan, and He must obey. And, it reveals that Christ had the victory by commanding Satan. Without it, the verse becomes weak and simply becomes another argument point

of scripture. It is more than that.

### King James Version:

And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

### In Error:

### American Standard

**Version:** And Jesus an-

swered and said unto him, It is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

**Amplified Bible:** Jesus replied to him, “It is written and forever remains written, ‘YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE ONLY HIM.’”

### Aramaic Bible in Plain

**English:** Yeshua answered and said to him, “It is written: ‘you shall

worship THE LORD JEHOVAH your God, and him only you shall serve.' "

**Berean Literal Bible:**

And Jesus answering, said to him, "It has been written: 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and you shall serve Him only.'"

**Berean Study Bible:** But Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.'"

**Catholic Public Domain Version:**

And in response, Jesus said to him: "It is written: 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and you shall serve him alone.' "

**Christian Standard Bible:**

And Jesus answered him, "It is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only."

**Contemporary English Version:**

Jesus answered, "The Scriptures say: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve only him!'"

**Darby Bible Translation:**

And Jesus answering him said, It is written, Thou shalt do homage to [the] Lord thy God, and him alone shalt thou serve.

**Douay-Rheims Bible:**

And Jesus answering said to him: It is written: Thou shalt adore the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

**English Revised Version:**

And Jesus answered and said unto him, It is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

**English Standard Version:**

And Jesus answered him, "It is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'"

**Godbey New Testament:**

And Jesus responding said to him; It has been written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God and Him only shalt thou serve.

**GOD'S WORD® Translation:**

Jesus answered him, "Scripture says, 'Worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'"

**Good News Translation:**

Jesus answered, "The scripture says, 'Worship the Lord your God and serve only him!'"

**Holman Christian Standard Bible:**

And Jesus answered him, "It is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only."

**International Standard Version:**

But Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'"

**Lamsa Bible:** Jesus answered and said to him, It is written, You shall

worship the Lord your God, and him only you shall serve.

**NET Bible:**

Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'You are to worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'"

**New American Standard Bible:**

Jesus replied to him, "It is written: 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'"

**New Heart English Bible:**

Jesus answered and said to him, "It is written, 'You are to worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

**New International Version:**

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"

**New Living Translation:**

Jesus replied, "The Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'"

**Weymouth New Testament:**

Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'To the Lord thy God thou shalt do homage, and to Him alone shalt thou render worship.'"

**Worrell New Testament:**

And Jesus, answering, said to him, "It has been written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve.'"

**Correct This Time:**

**A Faithful Version:** But Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan; for it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve.' "

**Anderson New Testament:** And Jesus answered and said to him: Get behind me, Satan; it is written, You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.

**Bishops' Bible of 1568:** Iesus answered, & sayde vnto hym, Hence from me Satan: For it is writte, Thou shalt worship the Lorde thy God, and hym only shalt thou serue.

**Coverdale Bible of 1535:** Iesus answered him, and sayde: Auoyde fro me thou Satan. It is wrytten: Thou shalt worshippe the LORDE

thy God, and him onely shalt thou serue.

**Geneva Bible of 1587:** But Iesus answered him, and saide, Hence from mee, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lorde thy God, and him alone thou shalt serue.

**Haweis New Testament:** And Jesus answering him, said, Get thee behind me, Satan, for it is written, "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and to him alone shalt thou pay divine honour."

**Literal Standard Version:** And Jesus answering him said, "[[Get behind Me, Satan, for]] it has been written: You will worship the LORD your God, and Him only you will serve."

**Mace New Testament:** but Jesus answered him, avant, satan, for it is written, "thou shalt

worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."

**New King James Version:** And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "

**Smith's Literal Translation:** And having answered him Jesus said, Retire behind me, Satan: for it has been written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

**Tyndale Bible of 1526:** Iesus answered him and sayde: hence from me Sathan. For it is written: Thou shalt honour the Lorde thy God and him only serve.

**Webster's Bible Translation:** And Jesus answered and said to him, Get thee behind me,

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Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

**World English Bible:** Jesus answered him, "Get behind me Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and you shall serve him only.'"

**Worsley New Testament:** And Jesus answering him said with indignation, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve.

**Young's Literal Translation:** And Jesus answer-

ing him said, 'Get thee behind me, Adversary, for it hath been written, Thou shalt bow before the Lord thy God, and Him only thou shalt serve.'



## Questions And Answers

**QUESTION:** What about God's mercy? We hear about perfection, but is anyone really perfect?

**ANSWER:** Paul wrote, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but [this] one thing [I do], forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14). Today, we are not seeing a whole lot of pressing towards that mark. We do not neglect God's mercy for without, none of us shall be saved. But in the age of "making Christianity relevant", it appears that mercy and forgiveness are overemphasized allowing sin and worldliness to come in. "We hear a great deal about faith,

but we need to hear a great deal more about works. Many are deceiving their own souls by living an easy-going, accommodating, crossless religion. But Jesus says, 'If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me'" {ST, June 16, 1890 par. 6}. "But Jesus says, 'If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me' (Matthew 16:24)" {FW 50.2}.

As a people, we are to have the character of God, in fact, we are told that such is what is missing in the last days because the first of the three angels declare at the beginning of their message, "Fear God!" (Revelation 14:7). To "fear God", the Bible states, "The fear of the LORD [is] to hate evil:

pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate" (Proverbs 8:13). Declaring that "fear God" is mere reverence to God is too generic and too fluid of a definition, meaning, that people can interpret the definition however they want. Everyone seems to believe that they reverence God. If that were the case, then why send a warning message? Therefore, because of the warning, what we lack is the hating of sin that is connected to the "fear God" part. That is because mercy and grace have been overemphasized to the point that sin is allowed in the life while a person can still be saved.

This is evident by the use of movies either being shown in the churches or organizing

to go as a group to the theatre. Although God indeed convicts us of sin, but when minister refuses to be used of God to bring up the topic of sin, he is no longer an instrument of God to bring sins to the minds of God's people. People are not automatically aware of what is a sin or not a sin despite even reading God's Word for none of us have received a brain transfusion from Heaven on all things sinful. One place of enlightenment is to be during sermon time. "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:11-12).

Now, regarding the comment or question, "Is anyone really perfect." The question itself, with all delicacy and honesty in asking the question, is actually an inspiration of Satan. First, no one is able to claim perfection. The Bible itself declares that "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). But the question, which did not originate with yourself, has been around for decades. It is to take our eyes off of

the mark of our high calling and look upon the numerous so-called Christians and find an example of a perfect saint. It is to get us to doubt that perfection is really obtainable. It is asked in a manner that does not allow for us to "confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). It does not bring out "that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). In fact, the question is usually accompanied by another question, "Are you still sinning?" In human reasoning, if I sinned yesterday but confessed it, or a week ago, or even a month ago, the answer would be "yes, I'm still sinning" because it is considered recent. The answer should be "no" if we confessed it and are not doing the sin currently. "Are you still sinning" is a current tense question. "Are you currently sinning?" is how it is to be understood.

Again, these types of questions are all used to undermine what the Bible clearly teaches on the matter. "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is per-

fect" (Matthew 5:48). "Who shall also confirm you unto the end, [that ye may be] blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 1:8). "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world" (Philippians 2:15). "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and [I pray God] your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:23). "Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless" (2 Peter 3:14).

Our position as human beings is not to question. Yes, we may "reason together, saith the LORD" (Isaiah 1:18). Our position is to accept it and ask God to help us to perform it. For "With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26). "Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that



[pertain] unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue" (2 Peter 1:2-3). We cannot do it in our own strength, but God gives us the necessary tools to perform what He commands, otherwise, He would not command it.

The way true perfection works is by answering these three questions: First, are there any unconfessed sins in the life that still need to be confessed? Second, are there any plans to sin? Third, is sinning currently happening? If the answer to all of these questions is "No", then technically, by the grace of God, we are perfect. Can we claim to be perfect? Of course, not because in the next moment, something may catch us off guard and we respond with an act of sin, by losing our temper, swiping something selfishly, etc.

There is coming a time, though, in which we shall have no Intercessor to confess our sins to (Isaiah 59:16). We will need to stand through the seven last plagues in perfection.

"I saw that many were neglecting the preparation so needful and were looking to the time of 'refreshing' and the 'latter rain' to fit

them to stand in the day of the Lord and to live in His sight. Oh, how many I saw in the time of trouble without a shelter! They had neglected the needful preparation; therefore they could not receive the refreshing that all must have to fit them to live in the sight of a holy God. Those who refuse to be hewed by the prophets and fail to purify their souls in obeying the whole truth, and who are willing to believe that their condition is far better than it really is, will come up to the time of the falling of the plagues, and then see that they needed to be hewed and squared for the building. But there will be no time then to do it and no Mediator to plead their cause before the Father. Before this time the awfully solemn declaration has gone forth, '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.' I saw that none could share the 'refreshing' unless they obtain the victory over every besetment, over pride, selfishness, love of the world, and over every wrong word and action. We should, therefore, be drawing nearer and nearer to

the Lord and be earnestly seeking that preparation necessary to enable us to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord. Let all remember that God is holy and that none but holy beings can ever dwell in His presence" {EW 71.2}.

But what many fail to realize is that if we are not still alive at the time of the seven last plagues, we need to also have a perfect character to enter into the grave. Therefore, it is a big risk to purposely participate in sinning because if our life were to end before we have the opportunity to repent, the second resurrection will be our future. And unrepentant sin is just as dangerous as being caught in the act of sinning.

"Christ says, 'I know thy works.' He knows whether you are living a life of perfection and if you love to talk and think of Him, and whether it is your joy to praise Him. Do we expect to get to heaven at last and join the heavenly choir? Just as we go into the grave we will come up as far as the character is concerned. For this mortal shall put on immortality and this corruptible shall put on incorruption (see 1 Corinthians 15:54). It is the body

that will be changed then, but now is the time for washing and ironing. It is the time to wash our robes and make them white in the blood of the Lamb” {9MR 262.2}.

“The Lord requires perfection from His redeemed family. He expects from us the perfection which Christ revealed in His humanity.” {AUCR, June 1, 1900 par. 10}

So, if it appears that we are calling more upon people to “Strive to enter in at the strait gate” (Luke 13:24) as opposed to preaching the mercy message explicitly, though we do mingle it into the messages, it is because one phrase, like, “[There is] therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit” (Romans 8:10) seems to cause many to sit back and relax on the matter. In other words, a message containing encouragement to live a perfect life occupying 95% of an article ending with a 5% reference in mercy, the mercy will erase the 95% and lull people back into allowing “little sins” here and there to remain in their lives. The seriousness of getting ready will diminish.

This matter of perfection is what the church really needs to wake up about because it is the lack of soul preparation that will cause so many Seventh-day Adventists to flee and so many of the general population to be lost.

**QUESTION:** In conducting meetings on our own in a neutral facility, we were approached by guests who asked us about our denomination. The people behind them were members of the church who had come out just to see what was going on and spoke for us by stating, “Well, they are Seventh-day Adventists”. We did not see either the members or the guests in any other sessions. The stance of the members is that we ought never hide our name. Our stance is to allow people to get comfortable with us first before revealing the name. Was it right for them to blurt out who we were? Or is it wrong for us to not be so direct and upfront about the name?

**ANSWER:** “In laboring in a new field, do not think it your duty to say at once to the people, We are Seventh-day Adventists; we believe that the seventh day is the Sabbath; we believe

in the nonimmortality of the soul. This would often erect a formidable barrier between you and those you wish to reach. Speak to them, as you have opportunity, upon points of doctrine on which you can agree. Dwell on the necessity of practical godliness. Give them evidence that you are a Christian, desiring peace, and that you love their souls. Let them see that you are conscientious. Thus you will gain their confidence; and there will be time enough for doctrines. Let the heart be won, the soil prepared, and then sow the seed, presenting in love the truth as it is in Jesus.” – Gospel Workers, pp. 119, 120. (1915) {Ev 200.2}.

From the Bible, many times Jesus told those He healed to keep His name secret. Even He operated in secret. “But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret” (John 7:10). Some may say that Ellen White penned something about Jesus doing nothing in secret not realizing that such a quote was regarding the activity of Jesus’ miracles, His teachings, even His rebukes. All of those things were done pub-

licly. Surely Jesus did other things in a different regard that were secret such as speaking in parables while in public, divulging the understanding of matters to His disciples privately, etc. So, there is no contradiction.

Although we are told not to hide our name, it is always in the context of established buildings and established activities, of which many of our conference churches are actually guilty hiding by calling themselves some community church instead of using the name. Even our

hospitals are hiding the name.

Though we are never to lie, concealing the name in a prejudice environment seems to not be considered deception both by Jesus and Ellen White, even though Jesus was accused of practicing it. "And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceiveth the people" (John 7:12).

You putting forth the effort and probably the funds to conduct the meetings ought to have control of the matter.

Therefore, it was wrong for that member to blurt out who you were. Technically, they were guests as well. If the roles were reverse, then they can blurt the name all they want. But do not feel pressured by numerous people who do not understand the challenges of breaking through prejudices, especially when members try to use the ninth commandment against you. They are simply uneducated and unlearned.



## Watchman, Let Him Declare What He Seeth

*This section is not about revealing the apostasy and creating ill feeling towards the conference. It is to make sure that no one is caught up in those that participate in the apostasy. That is what it means to "Declare What I See" because God says, "When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked [man] shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand" (Ezekiel 3:18). We have enough to worry about our own life; we do not need your (in general) blood to be on us too.*

### February 26

#### The official website of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Germany

#### Adventists Encourage Sustainable Faith

At the last works meeting of the employees of the Seventh-day Adventist Church (February 22nd) in the

supraregional church leaderships for North and South Germany (NDV and SDV), attention was drawn to sustainable action in everyday office life, according to the head of the working group "Sustainable faith", Pastor Bert Seefeld.

**EGW:** "There are strong men, precious in the

sight of God, who are under a spell. They do not realize that they are represented by the foolish virgins. Scientific spiritualistic philosophy has taken the minds of some from the message to be proclaimed at this time." {3MR 361.3}

**Comment:** Our faith is not to be worried

about the sustainability of the earth, but for eternal life. The world will not be fixed. It is supposed to wax worse and worse as we near the second coming. It is all going to fall apart. Stop wasting time to save the planet. Our job is to save souls. A saved soul will naturally respect our God-given responsibility. We do not need an outline from the organization.

### April 3

#### Montevideo Portal

#### **PATIENCE AND SOLIDARITY - Bishops encourage vaccination and referents present interfaith Easter message**

The Catholic Church, the Anglican Church, the Adventist Church, the Church of Jesus Christ of the Last Days and the Rabbi of Asunción from Paraguay participated.

**EGW:** "I have been shown that from the first rebellion Satan was working to this end, to exalt his own power in contradiction to God's law and God's power. He does this in exalting Sunday observance, and anything that shall by this people go forth as their voice, to respect the idol sabbath, would it not dis-

honor God and confuse minds and place them where they will be deceived by Satan's devices? Anything we may do that lifts up the spurious to take the place of the true and genuine Sabbath, is disloyal to God and we must move very carefully lest we exalt the decisions of the man of sin. We are not to be found in a neutral position on this matter of so great consequence. The commandments of God and the faith of Jesus must be from conviction of duty inscribed on our banners. {1888 483.2}

"If we shall do as some of our brethren in sympathy with our brethren of the South have urged, then where do God's people stand? Where will be the distinction from the Sunday observers? How will we be recognized as the Sabbathkeeping people of God? How shall we show that the Sabbath is a sign?" {1888 483.3}

"The two armies will stand distinct and separate, and this distinction will be so marked that many who shall be convinced of truth will come on the side of God's commandment-keeping people." {1888 484.1}

**Comment:** This is wrong on many points.

We ought not be linking arms with apostates for this creates confusion in the minds of observers. We ought not be connected with the celebration of Easter, a pagan holiday. We ought not be connected with the vaccine agenda.

### April 17

#### YouTube

**Randy Skeete sermon - Should Adventists Take the Covid Vaccine? | Question and Answer Session** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LC41HEqjoQg&t=672s>)

**Summary:** Randy Skeet answered the question very politically placing the choice on the individual being convicted of God. Then, he compared that those that choose to take the vaccine, if there be any poison in the vaccine, like the poison in the serpent that bit Paul after the shipwreck incident, God will protect from the poison in the vaccine.

**EGW:** "The sin of presumption lies close beside the virtue of perfect faith and confidence in God." {1SM 282.1}

**Bible:** 1 Corinthians 6:19 "What? know ye

not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost [which is] in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"

**Comment:** It is very sad to hear a mighty preacher of the Word of God fail so miserably. Unlike Paul, we have a choice to inject the poison. The snake simply bit Paul without his consent. Basically, Randy Skeete just encouraged sinning. By purposely injecting poison into the body temple and then presume that God will take care of the poison is, as Ellen White plainly penned, the sin of presumption.

**April 7**

**Fulcrum 7**

**SPD President Responds to Open Letter Regarding LGBTQ Support At Avondale**

"I have also read the sermon you mentioned and received feedback from several people who were there. The mention....of pederasty was a passing comment..."

**Comment:** Pederasty (sex with young boys) not being condemned as sinful and just being brushed under the rug as a passing comment is the tip of the satanic message. And the letter

has the nerve to declare that Avondale uplifts Biblical principles. Finding a verse to cancel all other verses is not Biblical.

**Bible:** 1 Corinthians 14:33 "For God is not [the author] of confusion."

**April 21**

**Adventist Record**

**Tributes flow for much-loved Sanitarium employee**

Ms. Norris, 48, died in John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle (NSW) on April 14 after developing thrombosis (blood clots) with thrombocytopenia (low platelet count). The Therapeutic Goods Administration has confirmed that the clotting was likely linked to the Astra-Zeneca coronavirus vaccination she had received a few days earlier.

**EGW:** "People need to be taught that drugs do not cure disease. It is true that they sometimes afford present relief, and the patient appears to recover as the result of their use; this is because nature has sufficient vital force to expel the poison and to correct the conditions that caused the disease. Health is recovered in spite of the drug. But in most cases

the drug only changes the form and location of the disease. Often the effect of the poison seems to be overcome for a time, but the results remain in the system and work great harm at some later period." {MH 126.3}

**Comment:** It is sad that this young life has been snuffed out while our own denomination is promoting the vaccinations.

**April 18**

**Fulcrum 7**

**Oklahoma Conference's Attempt To Align With The NAD In Lieu Of The GC Goes Down in Flames**

**Bible:** Ephesians 4:13 "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."

**Comment:** Why is the NAD staffed with treasonous members? They only have power because they have support somewhere. At a time that we ought to be coming in unification, this long desire to be independent of other divisions is nothing short of treason and satanic.



# News And Comments

**March 29**

**Reuters**

**Leaders of 23 countries back pandemic treaty idea for future emergencies**

Now it is official. We have been saying that the pandemic excuse was creating a unification among the nations, which involves government response, much of which was over-reaching. This is all in preparation for the Mark of the Beast just as predicted. "All nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies" (Revelation 18:3).

**April 8**

**News Max**

**The Sabbath — A Gift from God**

"Sunday as the Lord's Day is even found in the U.S. Constitution. The early Christians worshiped Jesus on Sunday because that's when He rose from the dead. Every Sunday is a reminder of Easter Sunday. It's sad enough to

see commerce on Sunday; it is sadder to see it on Easter Sunday itself."

Can someone prove that Revelation 1:10 refers to Sunday? "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet," No day of the week mentioned at all.

Can someone show from the Bible where Sunday is actually called the Sabbath? According to scripture, "the seventh day [is] the sabbath of the LORD thy God" (Exodus 20:10).

Can someone show from the Bible where early Christians worshipped Jesus on Sunday? It is nowhere to be found. It is stated in the book of Acts that they kept the Sabbath (Acts 13:14, 13:27, 13:42, 13:44, 15:21, 16:13, 17:2, 18:4).

**April 9**

**Fox News**

**Biden on Second Amendment gun rights: 'No amendment is absolute'**

"Our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and Republi-

can government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions" {5T 451.1}.

**April 13**

**CNN**

**CDC and FDA recommend US pause use of Johnson & Johnson's Covid-19 vaccine over blood clot concerns**

"The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the US Food and Drug Administration are recommending that the United States pause the use of Johnson & Johnson's Covid-19 vaccine over six reported US cases of a "rare and severe" type of blood clot. One person is currently in critical condition and another, a 45-year-old Virginia woman, died."

"You should avoid the use of drugs and carefully observe the laws of health. If you regard your life you should eat plain food, prepared in the simplest manner, and take more physical exercise. Each member of the family needs the benefits of health reform. But drugging should be forever abandoned; for while it does not cure any malady, it enfeebles the system,



making it more susceptible to disease" {5T 311.1}.

**April 12**

**NY Post**

**Pentagon develops microchip that detects COVID under your skin**

The method of tracking people to see if in compliance to eventually the Mark of the Beast seems to just be multiplying, but again, do not get caught up in the trackers. Be aware of them but the trackers themselves are not the Mark of the Beast. Revelation 20:4 - "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and [I saw] the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received [his] mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

**April 14**

**The Federalist**

**These Lawsuits Reveal The Left's Goal To Banish Religion Altogether**

And this is why a Democratic leadership does

not fulfill prophecy. The left, even of the religious left, they have no desire for strict religion. They are the ones leading the way for a free style of worship and membership. But the left hides behind a religious garb, invokes the name of God, all the while restricting religion. They are the ones that shutdown churches right away, outlawed speaking in the pulpit on sensitive subjects, and overall, just work against religion. Remember, the fulfillment of prophecy is "When the leading churches of the United States, uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common, shall influence the State to enforce their decrees and to sustain their institutions, then Protestant America will have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy, and the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitably result" {GC88 445.1}.

**April 17**

**Humans Are Free**

**Vatican Hosting Fauci, Chelsea Clinton, Pfizer CEO, Big Tech Oligarchs At 'Health' Conference**

We have religion, pharmacy, government, and merchants all repre-

sented in that title. Interestingly, the Bible predicts the union of these categories that brings on the world wide issues regarding the Mark of the Beast and end time events. Revelation 18:3,23 says, "For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries [Greek: pharmakeia] were all nations deceived."

**April 26**

**Washington Times**

**Biden creates task force to spur unionization of U.S. workforce**

"The trades unions will be one of the agencies that will bring upon this earth a time of trouble such as has not been since the world began." – Letter 200, 1903. {2SM 142.1}



*(Continued from page 2)*

placing a speaking announcement in the publication, but back on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, I had gone to Decaturville, TN, which was not finalized until we had entered the month of March. We attempted to live stream it on YouTube during those days but were unsuccessful. We managed to piece together some content and released it later in the week but quite a bit was still missing, and the angle was not the best. The apology comes in where it is unfortunate that with the long process involved with the publication, it is hard to

advertise the next speaking engagement. Those interested in our speaking engagements and have access to the Internet, can go to [www.fourangelsmessages.com](http://www.fourangelsmessages.com) and click on the EVENTS link at the top

of the page. It will take you to the list of past and scheduled events.

May each of us be holding on to the Rock, which is Christ.



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