## > 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.

## Satan An Accuser of the Brethren

Ellen White

[SERMON DELIVERED SABBATH AFTERNOON, SEPT. 26.]

"And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire? Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel." Zechariah 3:1-3.

Here we find a representation of the people of God of today. As Joshua stood before the Angel, "clothed with filthy garments," so we stand in the presence of Christ, clothed in garments of unrighteousness. Christ, the angel before whom Joshua stood, is now interceding for us before his Father, as he is here represented as

interceding for Joshua and his people who were in deep affliction; and Satan now, as then, stands by to resist his efforts.

Ever since his fall, it has been the work of Satan to oppose Christ's efforts to redeem the race. In the Bible he is called an accuser of the brethren. It is said that he accuses them before God day and night. Every time he leads them into temptation, he rejoices; because he well knows that their power of resistance will thus become weakened, and that he can then the more easily lead them to commit other sins. And when they have taken step after step in the wrong direction, he turns and begins to accuse them of the very sins which he has led them to commit. He thus causes

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

#### Dear Brothers and Sisters ...

Jerry O'Donnell

The other day as I was scanning the news articles (a daily chore of looking for any article that springboards into a spiritual lesson snippet) I noticed something interesting regarding firing workers. It was not one article on one day, but it was a number of articles over a period of time that kept coming up in one form or another.

Several articles over the past few months told of people being fired because the employee had a slip of the tongue, took a wrong position on a political matter, accidentally used a racial slur, was involved in supporting or not supporting a particular cause, etc. Basically, they were fired over what they said or what they posted on social media that went against the reputation of the company. To speak out against vaccinations for COVID saw many being fired in recent years. One party member accidentally said something that could be interpreted as being mean or even racially dividing and was hounded until being fired. We are not discussing right or wrong actions here or even politics. Just wait until the end.

Several other articles over time told of people being fired for an evil they committed, be it teachers with inappropriate relations or attention towards a certain student or students, embezzlement, fighting with a co-worker, and many other such criminal acts.

Some articles addressed the number of employees that employers go through because of the employee being unreliable, like, not showing up, not doing any work, etc.

Then we have the church who refuses to disfellowship over major

issues. For instance, it has been reported that an elder had an adulterous relationship, even to the point of admitting it, and yet was able to retain the position while still having the affair or an adulterous remarriage. There are preachers who tear up the scriptures, but still remain in position. There are ministers who participate in sinful activities, support sinful activities, and even have encouraged it and still continue as if all is well. The General Conference does nothing to them, either.

Yet, disfellowship is brought out in both the Bible (1 Corinthians 5:4-5) and the Spirit of Prophecy (5BC 1096.6, 5MR 201.4). Those who want to hold onto the "wheat and tares" business (which is about the world because it refers to the field and not specifically for the church as it does not refer to the vineyard) are nullifying the Word of God. "Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear" (1 Timothy 5:20).

Now here is the point: What I observed is that the secular world exercises a type of disfellowship while the church is afraid to. This is part of the reason we are in such a spiritual mess. This is what prevents honest souls from wanting to be part of the church. In many cases, the church conducts itself worse than the outside world.

Again, it is just an observation that came to mind as we continue to have "the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the

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## The mission of The Four Angels' Messages Minis-

try is to alert as many Seventh-day Adventists as possible to see the need of living the Three Angels' Messages, be wellstudied 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

"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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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. (Continued from page 1)

them to become discouraged, and to lose confidence in themselves and in the Lord; and after they have separated from God, dishonored his name, and broken his law, he claims them as his captives, and contests the right of Christ to take them from him. Pointing to their sins, as he did to the filthy garments of Joshua, he says: "They profess to be thy children; but they do not obey thee. See the traces of sin upon them. They are my property."

This is the argument that he employs concerning God's people in all ages. He pleads their sinfulness as the reason why Christ's restraining power should not hold him back from exercising his cruelty upon them to its fullest extent. But to the accuser of his people the Saviour says, "The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan. Is not this a brand plucked out of the fire? Have I not thrust my own hand into the fire to gather this brand from the burning?"

So long as the people of God preserve their fidelity to him, so long as they cling by living faith to Jesus, they are under the protection of heavenly angels, and Satan will not be permitted to exercise his hellish arts upon them to their destruction. But those who separate themselves from Christ by sin are in great peril. If they continue to disregard the requirements of God, they know not how soon he may give them over to Satan, and permit him to do to them according to his will. There is, therefore, the greatest necessity of keeping the soul free from defilement, and the eye single to the glory of God; of thinking soberly and watching unto prayer continually.

Satan is now more earnestly engaged in playing the game of life for souls than at any previous time; and unless

we are constantly on our guard, he will establish in our hearts, pride, love of self, love of the world, and many other evil traits. He will also use every possible device to unsettle our faith in God and in the truths of his word. If we have not a deep experience in the things of God, if we have not a thorough knowledge of his word, we shall be beguiled to our ruin by the errors and sophistries of the enemy. False doctrines will sap the foundations of many, because they have not learned to discern truth from error. Our only safeguard against the wiles of Satan is to diligently study the Scriptures; to have an intelligent understanding of the reasons of our faith; and to faithfully perform every known duty. The indulgence of one known sin will cause weakness and darkness, and subject us to fierce temptation.

Joshua is represented as pleading with the Angel. Are we engaged in the same work? Are our supplications ascending to God in living faith? Are we opening the door of the heart to Jesus, and closing every means of entrance to Satan? Are we daily obtaining clearer light and greater strength, that we may stand in Christ's righteousness? Are we emptying our hearts of all selfishness, and cleansing them, preparatory to receiving the latter rain from heaven?

Now is the time when we are to confess and forsake our sins that they may go beforehand to judgment and be blotted out. Now is the time to "cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." It is dangerous to delay this work. Satan is even now seeking by disasters upon sea and land to seal the fate of as many as possible. What is the defense of the people of God at this time? It is a living connection with heaven. If we would dwell in

safety from the noisome pestilence, if we would be preserved from dangers seen and unseen, we must hide in God; we must secure the protecting care of Jesus and holy angels. In these days of peril, the Lord would have us walk before him in humility. Instead of trying to cover our sins, he would have us confess them, as Joshua confessed the sins of ancient Israel. We profess to be the depositaries of God's law. We profess to be building up "the old waste places," and to be raising up "the foundations of many generations." If this great and solemn work has indeed been committed to us, how important that we depart from all iniquity!

We may be followed with testimony after testimony of reproof; but if we do not overcome the disposition in us to do evil, if we do not respond to the light, we shall be in a state of condemnation before God. If, on the other hand, we live up to all the light that shines upon us, that light will continue to increase, and we shall have a clean record in heaven. The third angel's message is to lighten the earth with its glory; but only those who have withstood temptation in the strength of the Mighty One will be permitted to act a part in proclaiming it when it shall have swelled into the loud cry.

As the intercession of Joshua was accepted, the command was given to those that stood by, "Take away the filthy garments from him." And unto Joshua the Angel said, "Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment." "So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments." Even so will all those who come to Jesus in penitence and faith receive the robe of Christ's righteousness.

As we approach the perils of the last days, the temptations of the enemy become stronger and more determined. Satan has come down in great power, knowing that his time is short; and he is working "with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish." The warning comes to us through God's word, that, if it were possible, he would deceive the very elect.

Wonderful events are soon to open before the world. The end of all things is at hand. The time of trouble is about to come upon the people of God. Then it is that the decree will go forth forbidding those who keep the Sabbath of the Lord to buy or sell, and threatening them with punishment, and even death, if they do not observe the first day of the week as the Sabbath.

"And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time; and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book." By this we see the importance of having our names written in the book of life. All whose names are registered there will be delivered from Satan's power, and Christ will command that their filthy garments be removed, and that they be clothed with his righteousness. "And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him."

In the time of trouble, Satan stirs up the wicked, and they encircle the people of God to destroy them. But he does not know that "pardon" has been written opposite their names in the books of heaven. He does not know that the command has been given, "Take away the filthy garments" from them, clothe them with "change of raiment," and set "a fair mitre" upon their heads.

The promise made to Joshua is made to all the remnant people of God: "If thou wilt walk in my ways [not in your own ways], and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by." Who are these that stand by? They are the angels of God. Could our eyes be opened, as were those of the servant of Elisha at Dothan, we should see evil angels all around us, urging their presence upon us, and watching for an opportunity to tempt and overthrow us; we should also see holy angels guarding us, and with their light and power pressing back the evil angels.

If we could only see the many dangers from which we are daily preserved by the holy angels, instead of complaining of our trials and misfortunes, we would talk continually of the mercies of God. How precious in the sight of God are his people! If Satan had his way, whenever an effort is made to bring souls into the truth, both the minister and those who come to hear would be made to suffer in body and in

mind. But angels of God are commissioned to accompany his servants, and to protect them and their hearers. Satan pleads for the privilege of separating these angels from them, that he may compass their destruction; but Jesus forbids it. If it were not for the constant guardianship of these angels, we would not be able to live on the earth and present the truth.

There have been times since the third angel's message was first proclaimed, when angels in the form of human beings have appeared to men, and conversed with them as they did with Abraham of old. When the complaints of Satan are entered against the servants of God, angels are often sent down to investigate their course, sometimes conversing with men unbeknown to them. They sometimes question those in error, until they tell all that is in their hearts, and then these angels bear their report back to heaven, relating things just as they exist.

Jacob, in his vision of the ladder whose base rested upon the earth, and whose topmost round reached to the highest heaven, saw the God of heaven standing above this ladder of glorious brightness, and angels of God constantly ascending and descending upon it. This fitly represents the love and care of God

## 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.

Sure, that may mean we do not collect more funds, but we would like to trust God to prompt people to do so instead of conducting God's work in a business fashion.

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.

for his children, and the constant communication there is between earth and heaven. It is also intended to impress us with the importance of walking circumspectly before God. Oh, that I could say something to impress you with the offensive character of sin in God's sight!

There are many today who profess to serve God, but who are not doing so in reality. But when Christ comes it will be known who are the chosen of God. "Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not. For, behold, the day cometh that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble; and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch."

The exhortation of the prophet is, "Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the Lord come upon you." "Seek ye the Lord, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness; it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger."

In view of what is soon to come upon the earth, I entreat you, brethren and sisters, to walk before God in all meekness and lowliness of mind, remembering the care that Jesus has for you. All the meek of the earth are exhorted to seek him. Those who have wrought his judgments are to seek him. Let self break in pieces before God. It is hard to do this; but we are warned to fall upon the rock and be broken, else it will fall upon us, and grind us to powder. It is to the humble in heart that Jesus

speaks; his everlasting arms encircle them, and he will not leave them to perish by the hands of the wicked.

All heaven is interested in the salvation of the human race; what are you doing for yourselves, brethren? While from the light of the cross of Calvary you obtain a view of the great love of God for man, do not build yourselves up in self-esteem; but in humility of soul stand before God as prisoners of hope. Why not be in earnest in your efforts for eternal life? Why not manifest a perseverance and an intensity of desire proportionate to the value of the object of which you are in pursuit? Instead of doing this, many now engage in the work of God at will, and let it alone at pleasure. They thus invite Satan to come in and take possession of their hearts.

What is it to be a Christian? It is to be Christ-like; it is to do the works of Christ. Some fail on one point, some on another. Some are naturally impatient. Satan understands their weakness, and manages to overcome them again and again. But let none be discouraged by this. Whenever little annoyances and trials arise, ask God in silent prayer to give you strength and grace to bear them patiently. There is a power in silence; do not speak a word until you have sent up your petition to the God of heaven. If you will always do this, you will soon overcome your hasty temper, and you will have a little heaven here to go to heaven in.

God wants his people to cleanse their hands and purify their hearts. Will it make them unhappy to do this? Will it bring unhappiness into their families if they are kind and patient, courteous and forbearing? Far from it. The kindness they manifest toward their families will be reflected upon themselves. This is the work that

should be carried forward in the home. If the members of a family are not prepared to dwell in peace here, they are not prepared to dwell in the family that shall gather around the great white throne. Sin always brings darkness and bondage; but rightdoing will bring peace and holy joy.

The work of overcoming is a great work. Shall we take hold of it with energy and perseverance? Unless we do, our "filthy garments" will not be taken from us. We need never expect that these will be torn from us violently; we must first show a desire to rid ourselves of them. We must seek to separate sin from us, relying upon the merits of the blood of Christ; and then in the day of affliction, when the enemy presses us, we shall walk among the angels. They will be like a wall of fire about us; and we shall one day walk with them in the city of God.

When tempted to sin, let us remember that Jesus is pleading for us in the heavenly sanctuary. When we put away our sins and come to him in faith, he takes our names in his lips and presents them to his Father, saying, "I have graven them upon the palms of my hands; I know them by name." And the command goes forth to the angels to protect them. Then in the day of fierce trial he will say, "Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee; hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast." What are the chambers in which they are to hide? They are the protection of Christ and holy angels. The people of God are not at this time all in one

place. They are in different companies, and in all parts of the earth; and they will be tried singly, not in groups. Every one must stand the test for himself.

There has never been a time when the people of God have had greater need to claim his promises than now. Let the hand of faith pass through the darkness, and grasp the arm of infinite power. While we speak of the necessity of separating from sin, remember that Christ came to our world to save sinners, and that "he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him." It is our privilege to believe that his blood is able to cleanse us from every spot and stain of sin. We must not limit the power of the Holy One of Israel. He wants us to come to him just as we are, sinful and polluted. His blood is efficacious. I entreat you not to grieve his Spirit by continuing in sin. If you fall under temptation, do not become discouraged. This promise comes ringing down along the line to our time: "If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." I feel that for this one promise a continual song of thanksgiving ought to go forth from the lips of mortals. Let us gather up these precious jewels of promise, and when Satan accuses us of our great sinfulness, and tempts us to doubt the power of God to save, let us repeat the words of Christ, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."

{Historical Sketches of the Foreign Missions of the Seventh-day Adventists, pages 154.1 - 158.4}

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## "Evil Counsel" The Present Truth 15, 28.

E. J. Waggoner

An increase in the crop of gamblers and a corresponding increase in all the crimes that accompany gambling, may be expected as the result of the Duke of Westminster's recent utterance concerning betting on horse races, which has been widely published. He said that there was nothing wrong in betting, provided people could afford to lose. People who could not afford to lose ought not to bet, but wealthy people, to whom the loss of the amount staked would be no hardship, might bet with impunity.

That is from the same piece as the statement that drinking alcoholic liquor is all right, provided only those drink who can do so without injury to themselves. The fallacy of the Duke's advice to people not to bet unless they can afford to lose, lies in the fact that nobody bets to lose. Even the rich man bets to win, and if he thought that he should lose in any given case, he would not risk anything on it. It may be that he doesn't care for the money, but only for the excitement; but the fact remains that whenever any man bets he does so on what seems to him almost a certainty of winning.

The poor man who bets expects to better his condition. There is more to entice him to gamble than there is the rich man; because he needs more money, and expects to better his

financial condition; it is a business venture with him, and the fact that, because of his poverty, so much depends on the result, makes the excitement with him more intense than with the rich man. Therefore the Duke's utterance as to the harmlessness of betting in itself, which, coming from the source it does will be quoted as authority, will only result in an increase of the evil among those who are most injured by it.

For betting is an evil, and only an evil. In the first place the unnatural excitement is injurious. A thing that has not in itself enough interest to attract one, without the added stimulus of betting, is not worth enough to engage the attention of men. In all legitimate employment, in honest labour, the successful accomplishment of the task is sufficient incitement. Moreover it is dishonest for any man, whether rich or poor, to attempt to get something for nothing. Betting, no matter by whom indulged in, is akin to theft.

This in itself is sufficient to condemn all betting. The fact that no one can afford to lose is of minor consequence compared with the fact that all gambling is sinful. It is a species of intoxication, and the fact that some can keep within a certain limit both in gambling and drinking, does not destroy the fact that with

## NO REFUNDS, ESPECIALLY AS CENSORING CONTINUES TO INCREASE

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most the excitement draws them on until they cannot resist. How many penniless men there are to-day who once "could afford to bet"; they had so much money that the loss even of a few thousands on a wager did not inconvenience them. Now they cannot afford to bet; but they can in reality afford it as well as they ever could. It is sad when men whose rank and position give them great influence use that influence in a way that can tend only to the ruin and degradation of their fellow-men.

As we look upon the trees of a field to see whether they are bearing good fruit or not, so God looks upon us. He desires that we be "trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord," bringing forth the fruits of righteousness. And this is not merely an illustration, for the very principles put into operation to make a field fruitful, are the ones which if applied to the Christian life will cause it to

yield an abundant harvest. When the Lord said, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow," he meant that by doing so, we could learn how to grow spiritually. What is needed is more of the simplicity of the Gospel, for in its simplicity lies its greatest power.

The world is so full of deceit – so much of appearance when the reality is absent. The thing people seek to know is what others think they are, not what God knows them to be. The Christian is not to care what people think he is, but to care what God says and what God thinks of him. It is a rare thing to find men of this character, for it is directly contrary to worldly policy.

{July 13, 1899, Waggoner, Ellet Joseph, The Present Truth [UK] Articles, page 439.8}

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## The Most Powerful Texts

Jerry O'Donnell

Those who promote the notion that all a person has to do to be saved is believe do not realize the verses that they think support their theory actually are the most powerful verses in the Bible. We say that because when an "only believe" Christian is confronted with Bible truth and it crosses their lifestyle, they immediately dismiss it by saying, "What does it matter? I'm already saved!" In essence, they are saying that by a handful of verses, the whole Bible is done away with. That really does not make any sense.

The Bible states that God is the Author (1 Corinthians 14:33). The forty individuals involved in contributing to the scriptures are mere writers. That means that God has gone through an awful lot of work constructing the contents of the Bible for it to be simply dismissed by a handful of verses. If that were the case, why did He not just have a single prophet write a single page with the handful of verses that declare, "Just believe"? That is because it is not just a matter of belief alone, for "the devils also believe, and tremble" (James 2:19), but they are not saved.

Additionally, the Bible was not meant for unbelievers. In fact, when unbelievers read the Bible, it is then criticized, for "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know [them], because they are spiritually discerned" (1 Corinthians 2:14). The actual purpose is told to us by Jesus: "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17). It is to make a born-again Christian into a

holy being able to dwell within a sinless realm with angels who have never fallen, God Who does not sin, and all the redeemed who have repented and ceased from their sins. Although at "the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent" (Acts 17:30), meaning that we, assuming that no sin is being held onto, are sanctified at conversion despite knowing little to nothing in what God expects of us "but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:11).

Now, just as "the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear" (Mark 4:28), we are to grow in the sanctification process. Although, we are perfect at every stage as long as we remain submissive to the light, keep in mind that purposeful ignorance is not permitted. "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved" (John 3:19-20). At the same time, sanctification is not about making sure every box is checked and when all of them are checked we have crossed the finish line. In other words, there are Christians who know a whole lot more than other Christians and also practice what they know; that does not mean we have to be at that point immediately for the moment we believe honestly and if a mishap were to occur, we

would be saved without the list being completed. In other words, we need to stop comparing ourselves with ourselves in both directions. Those who do not know as much as others feel inadequate and should not. At the same time, those who are far advanced should not see a fellow Christian far behind in the growth process and lighten up on the seriousness of growing in sanctification, thinking they are so far ahead in the process and if that poor soul is going to make, why should further effort be put forth? Both attitudes are wrong. When it comes to "the check-boxes", it is a matter of willingness to learn and submitting to all additional light at the pace that God reveals to us His truths.

As Ellen White states, "God leads His people on, step by step. He brings them up to different points calculated to manifest what is in the heart. Some endure at one point, but fall off at the next. At every advanced point the heart is tested and tried a little closer. If the professed people of God find their hearts opposed to this straight work, it should convince them that they have a work to do to overcome, if they would not be spewed out of the mouth of the Lord. Said the angel: 'God will bring His work closer and closer to test and prove every one of His people.' Some are willing to receive one point; but when God brings them to another testing point, they shrink from it and stand back, because they find that it strikes directly at some cherished idol. Here they have opportunity to see what is in their hearts that shuts out Jesus. They prize something higher than the truth, and their hearts are not prepared to receive Jesus. Individuals are tested and proved a length of time to see if they will sacrifice their idols and heed the counsel of the True Witness. If any

will not be purified through obeying the truth, and overcome their selfishness, their pride, and evil passions, the angels of God have the charge: 'They are joined to their idols, let them alone,' and they pass on to their work, leaving these with their sinful traits unsubdued, to the control of evil angels. Those who come up to every point, and stand every test, and overcome, be the price what it may, have heeded the counsel of the True Witness, and they will receive the latter rain, and thus be fitted for translation" {1T 187.1}.

"God proves His people in this world. This is the fitting-up place to appear in His presence. Here, in this world, in these last days, persons will show what power affects their hearts and controls their actions. If it is the power of divine truth, it will lead to good works. It will elevate the receiver, and make him noblehearted and generous, like his divine Lord. But if evil angels control the heart, it will be seen in various ways. The fruit will be selfishness, covetousness, pride, and evil passions" {1T 188.1}.

So, if the Bible is not for Christians, according to the "just believe" crowd, and unbelievers have no interest in it, then who was the Bible written for? Of course it is for the Christian, which means that the "just believe" crowd are in error. They are not "rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

For instance, they say that John 10:28 -29 shows that once we are in God's hands, we can never be removed: "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any [man] pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave [them] me, is greater than all; and no [man] is able to pluck [them] out of my Father's hand." That is because they

ignore the lead in verse: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:" (John 10:27). The colon (:) is an implied "if". Basically, the protection only occurs if Christians hear the voice or Word of God and follow it. That is not a single date in time but a daily relationship. In fact, Paul was upset with the "just believe once" crowd thinking now one is eternally saved. "I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily" (1 Corinthians 15:31), which is connected to Jesus' statement, "If any [man] will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). So, to deny oneself is to die to self and it is done daily, therefore, it is not one moment in time that makes one saved for eternity. We are even told, "he that endureth to the end shall be saved" (Matthew 10:22, Matthew 24:13, Mark 13:13).

Of course, Luke penned, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31). It does look like belief alone on one day does save, however we are also told, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16). Now which is it? Does one just believe or does a person believe and is baptized to be saved, implying that if a person is not baptized, they are lost? We ask, "How long is one to believe?" If it is one day being sufficient, as the "just believe" crowd want people to, well, believe, then we have a problem since there is a contradiction here.

Like we started out with, we are dealing with powerful verses of the Bible, which seem to cancel out scripture and in fact, the whole Bible. But, if the word "believe" actually meant, which it does, a continuous

belief, then we have no contradiction for as we grow in the knowledge of the expectations set forth for Christians to obey, then it all fits. We are expected to keep following the progressive light. The light of scripture is not stagnant. "Those who turn away from the light which God has given, or who neglect to seek it when it is within their reach, are left in darkness" {GC88 312.1}.

Keep in mind, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). However, it is "not the hearers of the law [are] just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified" (Romans 2:13). This is not contradictory. Doing the law does not contribute to our being saved. We are saved wholly and completely by Jesus Christ's merits. What it means though, is that God's grace or application of Jesus' meritorious work does not get placed upon willful sinners. It is like painting over rust on a car. It may look fine for a moment, but quickly the rust will reappear. We ought not waste the paint on the rust, but deal with the rust and then paint.

We cannot make up for a single sin. Only "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). But that is just it. We must recognize our sin; then not want to do it again; and forsake it.

So, we do encourage people to believe but continue to believe. It is like the devil to dismiss God's Word by using God's Word. Let us not fall for such a deception.

## How Do You Resolve It?

Jerry O'Donnell

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.

## Do Unbelieving Slaves Go Free or Not?

Leviticus 25:45-46 "Moreover of the children of the strangers that do sojourn among you, of them shall ye buy, and of their families that [are] with you, which they begat in your land: and they shall be your possession. And ye shall take them as an inheritance for your children after you, to inherit [them for] a possession; they shall be your bondmen for ever: but over your brethren the children of Israel, ye shall not rule one over another with rigour."

Isaiah 58:6 "[Is] not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?"

Jesus said, "ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). What loosens the bands of wickedness, which is sin, is that of God's truth, even His Word. This is a spiritual reference.

Jesus also said, "All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, [that] observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not. For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay [them] on men's shoulders; but they [themselves] will not move them with one of their fingers" (Matthew

23:3-4). The heavy burdens come from overbearing teachings. In fact, Jesus told us further, "Come unto me, all [ye] that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke [is] easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). Again, it is a spiritual reference to be under heavy burdens.

Even if we physically work, Isaiah 58:6, oppressed people in that context does not necessarily mean slavery. Yes, slaves are oppressed, but the context makes it more of helping the poor, the unfortunate, etc.

Therefore, the letting of the oppressed go free is by the truth, specifically, it is a spiritual reference along with breaking every yoke. And what we have then, is an apples and oranges comparison. They are not equal. Isaiah is dealing with spiritual matters while Moses wrote in Leviticus about physical matters. We are not debating or addressing the act of enslavement being right or wrong or even trying to figure out why God would direct enslavement, but weather Leviticus is declaring that people remain as slaves forever and Isaiah is undoing it. The answer is no; they are not canceling each other out, neither are they in contradiction. Again, Leviticus is

about physical slavery while Isaiah is dealing with spiritual matters. They are two separate topics, where physical slavey can be forever and those oppressed can be let loose from Satan and sin.

## Keep the Sabbath Holy

Jerry O'Donnell

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.

## We Are Not Obtaining All of the Blessings

Ellen White wrote, "We do not obtain a hundredth part of the blessing we should obtain from assembling together to worship God. Our perceptive faculties need sharpening. Fellowship with one another should make us glad. With such a hope as we have, why are not our hearts all aglow with the love of God?" {6T 362.3}

Could too much of a routine contribute to the lack of receiving Sabbath blessings? In many Adventist homes, on Friday the sun sets without much of a recognition of things. They just know that all secular work has come to an end, and it is twenty-four hours until they can pick up again where they left off. They spend their Friday nights almost the same as Sunday through Thursday, pretty much doing their own thing until it is time for bed. Those that take showers at night stick to the routine and wash up before going to bed. The alarm is set for the latest they can sleep picking up an extra hour or possibly two compared to their work schedule. They may grab a quick bite to eat before heading off to Sabbath School, if they attend

such, as it seems that there are far more people that show up for the church service as compared to the study time. Of course, most do not care to attend the song service so they make sure they arrive just as class starts, which, in many cases is 9:45. Now, this is probably the first time that they have seen the lesson as the other six days are for themselves, and the thought of studying during the week is unheard of. Therefore, they have little to nothing to contribute and are annoyed at those that seem to bring in "extra material" while not even being the teacher. From there, they get ready for the church service, catching up with everyone that they did not see since last Sabbath. They take no notice to the praying ones who want to prepare their minds for the upcoming service and are basically an interruption. As the music begins, they know to take their seats. After a few activities, they begin to check the clock, and as the service continues into the sermon time, they really begin to check the clock. Afterwards, they hurry on out the doors to head home. Upon arriving at home, they kick off their Sabbath outfits, put on comfortable clothing, and proceed to be entertained by 3ABN or possibly take

a nap. As they count down to the sunset time, very little, if anything is done to close out the Sabbath. An announcement may crack the silence with an older child saying, "I'm taking the car to my friend's. See you later!" At which time a parent may yell back, "Don't be out too late!" And so goes another routinely kept Sabbath.

For the serious Sabbath-keeper, hymns being sung may welcome in the Sabbath. Maybe an acknowledgment from each person as to how God led during the week may be presented. Scripture reading or readings may be offered followed by a prayer. The more serious ones may attend some vesper service while others may do similarly via the use of electronic media. All bathing would have been done ahead of welcoming in the Sabbath so that when it is time for bed, lights are out. In the morning the members of the family arise and have a bit of personal time with God in prayer and the Word followed by a decent breakfast but not too much as it may dull the mind for the services before them. Upon attending Sabbath school, they are ready to participate, and once it is done, they enter the sanctuary reverently and keep silent, trying to commune with God. Whatever role they can participate in during the service, they do. If an afternoon service is provided, they make their best effort to attend. The remaining time is spent in nature, reading religious material, or having family discussions. Finally, as the sun begins to set, a song service, scripture reading, and sharing time is conducted, and with sadness, they bid the Sabbath farewell while looking forward to the next Sabbath.

As you see, the more serious Sabbath -keeper is the one receiving the blessings.

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## **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.

#### Cleanliness and Order.

Incorrect personal habits are among the most prolific causes of disease. Order and cleanliness are laws of heaven. The directions given to Moses, when the Lord was about to declare His law upon Mount Sinai, were very strict in this respect: "And the Lord said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes." Exodus 19:10. They were directed to do this, lest there should be impurity about them as they should come before God. He is a God of order, and He requires order and cleanliness in His people.

On no occasion were the children of Israel to allow impurities to remain upon their clothing or their persons. Those who had any uncleanness were to be shut out of the camp until the evening and then were required to cleanse themselves and their clothing before they could return. They were also commanded to carry all their refuse to a distance from the camp. This was a sanitary measure, as well as a religious regulation.

The Lord requires no less of His people now than He did anciently. If cleanliness was so necessary to those journeying in the wilderness, who were in the open air nearly all the time, it is not less necessary to us, who live in close houses, where impurities are more observable and have a more unhealthful influence.

The moral law, spoken from Sinai, cannot live in the hearts of persons of

disorderly, filthy habits. If the children of Israel could not so much as listen to the proclamation of that holy law without cleanliness of person and clothing, how can its pure precepts be written upon the hearts of those who are untidy in their persons and their homes?

A neglect of cleanliness will induce disease. Sickness does not come without a cause. Violent epidemics of fever have occurred in villages and cities that were considered perfectly healthful, and these have resulted in death or broken constitutions. In many instances the premises of the very ones who fell victims to these epidemics contained the agents of destruction, which sent forth deadly poison into the atmosphere to be inhaled by the family and the neighborhood. It is astonishing to witness the prevailing ignorance relative to the effects which slackness and recklessness produce upon health.

When Lord Palmerston was premier of England, he was at one time petitioned by the Scottish clergy to appoint a day of fasting and prayer to avert the cholera. He replied, "Cleanse and disinfect your streets and houses, promote cleanliness and health among the poor, and see that they are plentifully supplied with good food and raiment, and employ right sanitarium measures generally, and you will have no occasion to fast and pray. Nor will the Lord hear your prayers while these, His preventives, remain unheeded."

Upon rising in the morning, most persons would be benefited by taking a sponge or hand bath. This will remove impurities from the skin and keep it moist and supple, thereby aiding the circulation. Persons in health should on no account neglect frequent bathing. Whether a person is sick or well, respiration is rendered more free and full by bathing. The mind and body are alike invigorated. The muscles become more flexible, every faculty of the intellect is made brighter. The bath is a soother of the nerves. Instead of increasing the liability of taking cold, it fortifies against cold, because it improves the circulation; the blood is brought to the surface and a more easy and regular flow of the vital fluid is obtained.

It is not God who has brought upon us the many woes which mortals now inherit. Our own folly has led us to deprive ourselves of things that are precious, of the blessings which, if properly used, are of inestimable value in the maintenance of health. Exercise, sunlight, and air are the blessings which Heaven has provided to make the sick well and to keep in health those who are not sick. God deprives no one of their benefits; but the people close their doors against these things which are among Nature's most healing agents.

Many houses are furnished expensively, more to gratify pride than for the comfort, convenience, or health of the family. The best rooms are kept closed and dark, lest the light injure the rich furniture or fade the carpets, or tarnish the picture frames. When visitors are permitted to be seated in these spare rooms, they are in danger of taking cold because of the damp atmosphere pervading them. Spare bedrooms are kept closed for the same reasons.

Sleepingrooms should be large and so arranged as to have a free circulation of air day and night. Those who have slept in an ill-ventilated room awake feeling feverish and exhausted. This is because the vitalizing air was excluded, and the whole system suffers in consequence. Whoever occupies beds which have not been freely exposed to the air and sunlight does so at the risk of health, and often, even, of life itself. There should be a circulation of air and an abundance of light in every apartment of the house for several hours each day.

If you would have your homes sweet and inviting, the abodes of health and happiness, make them bright with air and sunshine. Remove the heavy curtains, open the windows, throw back the blinds, and enjoy the pure air and the rich sunlight. It may fade your carpets, but it will give a healthy color to the cheeks of your children. A humble home, made bright with air and sunlight and cheerful with earnest, loving hearts and the presence of God, will be a heaven below for your family, and for all who may share your generous hospitality.

A yard adorned with flowers, and some trees and shrubbery at a proper distance from the house has a happy influence upon the family, promoting health and cheerfulness. God is a lover of the beautiful. He has given us unmistakable evidence of this in the work of His hands. He who made the Eden home for our first parents so beautiful has surrounded us with the lovely things of nature for our happiness. He has implanted in our hearts a love of the beautiful; and He has caused the noble trees to grow and has set the flowers in the field like gems, to beautify the earth, that through these tokens of His love

we may have correct views of His character.

The charms of nature are restful to eve and mind. But with the fragrance of flowers in the garden, the Godgiven air and sunlight should be granted free ingress into our homes. Shade trees and shrubbery, if sufficiently scattered and properly taken care of, will prove no injury to the health. But the great quantities of fallen leaves, if not immediately removed, decay, and poison the atmosphere. And if the trees and shrubs are close and dense around a house, they make it unhealthful, for they prevent the free circulation of air and shut out the rays of the sun. In consequence, a dampness gathers in the house, especially in wet seasons, and those who occupy the sleeping rooms are liable to be troubled with rheumatism, neuralgia and lung complaints.

Dwellings should, if possible, be built on high ground. If a house is built where the water will settle around it, remaining for a time and slowly drying away, there is a poisonous miasma continually rising from the damp ground which breeds sore throats, fevers, ague, or lung diseases.

Many expect that God will keep them from sickness merely because they ask Him to do so; but the prayers of those who do not regard the laws of life, God cannot answer, because their faith is not made perfect by works. When we do all we can on our part to insure health, then we may expect that good results will follow, and we can ask in faith that God will bless our efforts. And He will answer our prayer, if His name can be glorified thereby. But let all understand that they have something to do. God will not work in a miraculous manner to preserve the health of persons who are, by their careless inattention to the laws of health, taking a sure course to make themselves sick.

Manuscript 58, 1890

## Healthy And Delicious Recipes

Lisa O'Donnell

#### Vegan Zucchini Boats

#### **Ingredients**

- 4 medium zucchini, cut in half lengthwise
- 1/4 tsp salt, more or less to taste
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 12-16 oz textured vegetable protein
- 1 c. vegetable broth or water
- 1 clove garlic, minced

- 1 small onion, chopped (about 1/3 1/2 cup)
- 2 cups marinara sauce
- 1/2 tsp Italian seasoning
- 3/4 cup vegan shredded parmesan
- 1/4 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 2 tbsp fresh parsley, chopped

#### Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 400 degrees
   F. Lightly grease a 9x13 baking dish.
- In a bowl, cover your textured vegetable protein with vegetable broth or water. Let sit for about 10 min. for liquid to be absorbed.
- With a teaspoon, scoop out the flesh from the interior of the zucchini, so they resemble boats.
   Sprinkle a little salt on each shell and place into the baking dish.
- 4. With the zucchini flesh that was removed, roughly chop and set aside.
- In a medium pan over medium heat, add oil. Add in onions, cook until translucent about 3-4 minutes. Add in garlic and cook for 1 more minute, careful not to burn.

- Add in textured vegetable protein and cook for 4 minutes.
   Add zucchini flesh and Italian seasoning. Cook until softened, about 3-4 minutes.
- Pour the marinara sauce into the pan and bring to a simmer; cook for 5 minutes or until most of the liquid has dissolved.
- In a medium bowl, combine the vegan parmesan and breadcrumbs.
- Spoon in and mound the mixture into the zucchini boats. Sprinkle the breadcrumb mixture over top.
- 10. Place in oven and bake until golden on top, 20-25 minutes.

To fare well implies the partaking of such food as does not disagree with body or mind. Hence only those fare well who live temperately.—*Socrates*.

## Natural Vitamins

Jerry O'Donnell

#### The Benefits of Eating Cherries

- 1. Cherries are rich in antioxidants.
- 2. May contribute to weight lost.
- 3. May lower blood pressure.
- 4. May lower blood sugar.
- 5. May help get more and better sleep.
- 6. May result in better brain health, thinking, and memory.
- May play a role in cancer prevention.
- 8. May combat symptoms of arthritis and gout.

- 9. May aid in exercise recovery.
- May decrease the levels of LDL ("bad") cholesterol.
- 11. May increase HDL ("good") cholesterol.
- 12. May have low-glycemic content and contain fiber, ideal for diabetics.
- 13. May reduce risk of heart disease.

Ш.

## Authorized KJV vs Catholic Bible

Jerry O'Donnell

If you are using anything but the KIV, 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.

## Was Jesus a Mere "Teacher" or the "Good Master"?

When a man came forth and addressed Jesus, by calling Him "Teacher" makes Jesus a mere mortal while referring to Jesus as "Good Master" recognizes Him as God. And Jesus would recognize that by saying, "[there is] none good but one, [that is], God" (Matthew 19:17).

King James Version: "And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?"

#### In Error:

American Standard Version: And behold, one came to him and said, Teacher, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

Amplified Bible: And someone came to Him and said, "Teacher, what [essentially] good thing shall I do to obtain eternal life [that is, eternal salvation in the Messiah's kingdom]?"

**Berean Literal Bible:** And behold, one having come to Him said, "Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I might have eternal life?"

Berean Study Bible: Just then a man came up to Jesus and inquired, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to obtain eternal life?"

Christian Standard Bible: Just then someone came up and asked him, "Teacher, what good must I do to have

eternal life?"

**Contemporary English Version:** A man came to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to have eternal life?"

**Darby Bible Translation:** And lo, one coming up said to him, Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have life eternal?

English Revised Version: And behold, one came to him and said, Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

English Standard Version: And behold, a man came up to him, saying, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?"

GOD'S WORD® Translation: Then a man came to Jesus and said, "Teacher, what good deed should I do to gain eternal life?"

**Good News Translation:** Once a man came to Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what good thing must I do to receive eternal life?"

Holman Christian Standard Bible: Just then someone came up and asked Him, "Teacher, what good must I do to have eternal life?"

International Standard Version: Just then a man came up to Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what good deed should I do to have eternal life?"

**Literal Emphasis Translation:** And behold, one having come to Him, said, Teacher, what good thing shall I do so that I might have life eternal?

**NET Bible:** Now someone came up to him and said, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to gain eternal life?"

**New American Standard Bible:** And someone came to Him and said, "Teacher, what good thing shall I do so that I may obtain eternal life?"

New Heart English Bible: And look, someone came to him and said, "Teacher, what good thing must I do, that I may have everlasting life?"

**New International Version:** Just then a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"

**New Living Translation:** Someone came to Jesus with this question: "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?"

#### **Weymouth New Testament:**

"Teacher," said one man, coming up to Him, "what that is good shall I do in order to win the Life of the Ages?"

Worrell New Testament: And, behold, one, having come near, said to Him, "Teacher, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?"

Correct, This Time, Even If They Used the Word Teacher:

**A Faithful Version:** Now at that time, one came to Him and said, "Good

Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?"

Anderson New Testament: And behold, one came and said to him: Good teacher, what good thing must I do that I may have eternal life? He said to him:

Aramaic Bible in Plain English: And one came near and said to him, "Good teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?"

**Bishops' Bible of 1568:** And beholde, one came, and sayde vnto hym: good maister, what good thyng shall I do, that I may haue eternall lyfe?

Catholic Public Domain Version: And behold, someone approached and said to him, "Good Teacher, what good should I do, so that I may have eternal life?"

Coverdale Bible of 1535: And beholde, one came vnto him, and sayde: Good master, what good shall do, yt I maye haue the euer lastinge life?

**Douay-Rheims Bible:** And behold one came and said to him: Good master, what good shall I do that I may have life everlasting?

Geneva Bible of 1587: And beholde, one came and sayd vnto him, Good Master, what good thing shal I doe, that I may haue eternall life?

#### Our Websites

FourAngelsMessages.com—All of our monthly magazines, speaking schedules, YouTube links, PayPal donation processing.

ConvertingTheSoul.com—Morning, mid-day, and evening post where we supply a Bible verse and comment working through the Old Testament verse-by-verse in the morning, various thoughts around noon, and working through the New Testament verse-by-verse in the evening. Made for the general public.

HaveOneMindInChrist.com—All three books for free in PDF, News with comments appearing before they come out in print, and the general monthly publication for the general public.

https://www.youtube.com/@fourangels552—Weekly sermons.

**Godbey New Testament:** Behold, one coming to Him said, Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do, in order that I may have eternal life?

Haweis New Testament: And Io! a person coming to him, said, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, in order to attain eternal life?

Lamsa Bible: Then a man came up and said to him, O good Teacher, what is the best that I should do to have life eternal?

**Literal Standard Version:** And behold, one having come near, said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing will I do that I may have continuous life?"

Mace New Testament: Immediately one came near him, saying, good master, what good shall I do, to obtain eternal life?

New King James Version: Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?"

Smith's Literal Translation: And,

behold, one having come said to him, Good teacher, what good shall I do, that I might have eternal life?

**Tyndale Bible of 1526:** And beholde one came and sayde vnto him: good master what good thinge shall I do that I maye have eternall lyfe?

Webster's Bible Translation: And behold, one came and said to him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?

World English Bible: Behold, one came to him and said, "Good teacher, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?"

Worsley New Testament: And behold, there came one to Him, and said, Good master, what good shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

Young's Literal Translation: And lo, one having come near, said to him, 'Good teacher, what good thing shall I do, that I may have life age-during?'

## **Questions And Answers**

Jerry O'Donnell

Allow at least three (3) months before your question may appear.

**QUESTION:** What is the historical position of both our church and Christianity regarding gambling as it is not directly mentioned in the Bible?

ANSWER: Since the entrance of sin into the human family, nearly every culture on earth seems to have developed some form of the practice of gambling. But with the advent of the Reformation—and especially the Second Great Awakening (1795-1835)—most Christian denominations condemned gambling as a sinful vice and considered it to be entirely improper to be engaged in by anyone with morals based on the Bible. And

the Spirit of Prophecy within Adventism accepted and even amplified that assessment:

Satan has invented many ways in which to squander the means which God has given. Card playing, betting, gambling, horse-racing, and theatrical performances are all of his own inventing." (RH, March 31, 1896, par. 5)

"Men become engrossed with games, with horse races, with gambling, smoking and drunkenness...They make it evident that they do not stand under the banner of the Prince of life, but that the prince of darkness rules and controls them." (CT343)

"The transgressors of God's law are filling the earth with wickedness. Their betting, their horse racing, their gambling...are fast filling the earth with violence." (DA633)

Not only was gambling denounced by many churches as a sin, it was also legally outlawed for generations as a crime by the civil authorities in a number of predominately Christian countries like the United States. But clearly, the moral tide against gambling has been reversed. Gambling is now almost universally accepted and approved of. Anti-gambling laws have been repealed and many governments actually operate state-run lotteries as a source of revenue. Casinos, once mostly prohibited, are now easily accessible nearly everywhere. Most recently, sports betting has taken the gambling world by storm. And with the current general acceptance of gambling, there is little doubt and good evidence that many professed Christians, and even some who claim to be members of the remnant church, have assimilated a favorable attitude toward this practice and have been ensnared by the tantalizing temptation to gamble.

Other than general warnings against desiring to gain riches quickly (See: Prov. 28:19-22), the Bible does not appear to speak to the gambling process specifically either by precept or example. But as Seventh-day Adventists we know by direct revelation through the Spirit of Prophecy that gambling is definitely a sin with a demonic derivation.

**QUESTION:** Why is gambling immoral?

**ANSWER:** But what exactly is it about gambling that makes it evil? If it is wrong, why is it wrong? While they may not have stated it in precisely

these terms, what our spiritually-enlightened Christian ancestors apparently perceived was that gambling is, in fact, a satanically disguised form of theft in which the winners have in reality stolen what they won from the losers. As a result, the losers are defrauded of valuable assets; and the winners are morally depraved by the delusion that it is legitimate to live off of the industry and productivity of others.

To unmask gambling's apparently innocent moral masquerade, one must recognize certain motivational facts of human nature: Nobody puts money or other assets into the kitty desiring to give them to another player. Each player contributes their valuables to the pot not because they want to give them to somebody else; but only because they want to get them back and more besides. The "more besides" being somebody else's valuables for which they have given nothing of value in return. In all legitimate business transactions, money is exchanged only when one party compensates the other party by providing goods or services of real value. But gambling is a totally self -centered enterprise where each is just trying to get something for nothing. The players have no intention of giving their money to the other players as a free handout if they can avoid doing

So, when the winner takes possession of the pot, do the other players want to give the money that they put into it to the winner? Obviously not! They may be forced to do so by the rules of the game; but they certainly do not actually desire to give their valuables to the winner. Therefore, since the winner ends up taking something of value from someone who did not want to give it to him, the winner is actually stealing and breaking the Eighth Commandment which says plainly, "Thou shall not steal." (Exodus 20:15) So the Scriptures do in fact address the immoral principle on which the

gambling procedure is based; but humanity in general has failed to recognize this application of a straightforward moral requirement. But since the players are involved of their own free will, few people are able to discern that an act of theft has taken place. Again, the point being that the loser does not actually desire to give the winner his money or other goods of value. (If he really did, he would simply make a gift of his assets without going through the charade of a game of chance.) Taking something of worth from another person who has no real intention of transferring ownership is a basic definition of stealing. But this is exactly what the winner does every time he or she takes possession of the jackpot.

Since all parties are willing participants, does that make such arrangements morally ethical? Let us consider a similar situation. When a drug dealer sells his illegal narcotics to a willing buyer, does the willingness of both the buyer and the seller somehow relieve either person of their guilt for engaging in this immoral arrangement? Not at all! Both are still under condemnation for their sinful actions. And other transactions of an even more degenerate nature could be described to prove that willing involvement does

not automatically absolve a person of moral responsibility.

As all dedicated Christians recognize, our Creator God is the true owner of this world and all that it contains. (See: Ps. 24:1) We are merely stewards of our Heavenly Father's possessions and will be held accountable in the judgment for what we did with His property. Therefore, in the final analysis, everyone who participates in the gambling process is a thief. The winners have taken something of value from those who did not want to give it to them. And the losers have stolen from themselves, from their families, and from God the money that should have been used to supply the legitimate necessities of life or been contributed to spread the gospel and support the work of God on earth to hasten His coming.

**QUESTION:** Could you address the excuses people use to justify gambling?

ANSWER: Not only is it difficult to perceive the thievery inherent in gambling, Satan and his agents have also attempted to protect it from criticism and condemnation by fabricating numerous excuses to justify participation in gambling or "gaming" as it is now often referred to. (Using

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the word "gaming" as a synonym for gambling is a subtle means to make gambling appear to be simply an innocent and harmless "game" for all to enjoy.) So let us carefully examine these deceptive rationalizations that have been popularized to make gambling seem to be morally unobjectionable.

Excuse #1: "I pay my bills and take care of my family first. I only gamble the money I can afford to lose." Moral reality: Even if a person does not deprive his family by the money he loses when gambling, he is still morally responsible for dissipating precious resources that should have been put to a better use by donating those funds to the church or to some worthy charity as a blessing to mankind. The amount of a wager has nothing to do with the fact that a person has stolen from God and his fellow man by wasting his money for no good purpose. Whether a person bets only one dollar or one million dollars, they are still guilty of thievery. Just because there is enough money left over to support one's family after they stop gambling does not negate their culpability for consuming assets that could have supported the work of the Lord or helped the needy.

Excuse #2: "Gambling is okay as long as you do not get addicted." Moral reality: It makes no difference how often you gamble. A thief is a thief. Whether you do it only now and then or are addicted and gamble a hundred times a week. Each time you gamble, you are committing an act of theft – either from God or from other people.

Excuse #3: "When I win, I will give the church or some good charity a large donation. So my gambling will actually end up as a blessing to others and the Lord's work." Moral reality: God said, "You shall not bring the hire [wages or earnings] of a harlot...into the house of the Lord thy God." (Deut. 23: 18 NASB) In other words, God wants nothing to do with offerings or contributions that

have been acquired by immoral means. And to donate money to a charity that has been obtained by defrauding one's fellow man through the gambling mechanism is a covert kind of hypocrisy.

Excuse #4: "In this area, the only gambling legally permitted is charitable gambling; so any money I might lose goes to support good humanitarian organizations. Therefore, my gambling actually functions as a blessing to my fellow man." Moral reality: The only real motivation to use gambling to support charities is to appeal to mankind's inherent self-centeredness. The players are actuated by selfishness and the desire to get, and not to give. If the players really wanted to help the charities, they would just make a direct donation and eliminate the costs and waste inevitably involved in the administrations of a government gambling bureaucracy. Additionally, if the players do win, every dollar they may obtain has in reality been stolen from the other players and is recorded as such in the books of heaven. And without confession, repentance, and restitution, this money will stand as a testimony against them in the day of judgment.

Excuse #5: Probably the most pervasive and persuasive excuse used to justify gambling is the one that equates gambling with the business of farming. It goes something like this: "Well, there is nothing wrong with farming. And we all know that farming is the biggest gamble there is." Moral reality: Comparing gambling with farming or other business ventures that involve risk is a very popular example of the sloppy thinking that Satan has used to generate the general approval that the vice of gambling now enjoys. Those who use this excuse to rationalize their gambling activity are failing to make the vital distinction between gambling and taking a risk. Gambling and taking a risk are not the same thing. What's

the difference? The difference is that when you are in a business like farming, which certainly involves risks, you are permitted to do everything you can do to reduce the risk of failure and make it more likely that the results will be positive rather than negative. A farmer does not haphazardly throw some seeds on the ground and merely hope, as the gambler must do, for a good outcome. The good farmer studies which seed variety is best for his particular soil and climate conditions. He carefully cultivates his fields and plants the seeds at just the right time and at just the right depth. He adds the right fertilizer to the soil as needed and eliminates the weeds at just the right time by the most effective means possible. He then harvests the crop at just the right stage of maturity and moisture content, etc. He does all this to minimize the risk of a poor crop and to maximize the prospect that the harvest will be plentiful and his profits greater. Yes, there is still the risk beyond his control that drought, hail, or wind may damage or destroy the crop. But the farmer is expected to do everything within his power to improve the possibility of producing an abundant harvest and increasing his income.

Are you permitted to do this when gambling? Are gamblers allowed to do something to increase the chances of winning by stacking the deck, marking the cards, or loading the dice to make it more likely that the result will be to their benefit? Absolutely not! Doing anything to enhance a gambler's chances of winning is considered to be cheating and a good way to get yourself injured or even killed by outraged losers. Gamblers are required to simply depend on blind fate and are never permitted to do anything to interfere with the gambling process in order to make it more likely that they will win.

By contrast, farmers and all good businessmen can and are expected to

do everything possible to reduce the risk and increase the possibilities for prosperity. Therefore, there is a distinct difference between gambling and taking a risk. They are not the same thing. Farmers may indeed be the biggest risk takers; but they are not the biggest gamblers. When one understands the distinction between gambling and taking a risk, farmers are not in reality true gamblers at all.

Furthermore, even if a farmer fails in the business of farming due to factors beyond his control like the weather or the markets, he has done so in the process of producing something of real value to society. And the same could be said for all other legitimate businesses that provide a product or beneficial service for the community. But the gambler and the gambling process originate none of the necessities of life that improve the nation's standard of living. Gambling merely transfers wealth from the majority to a very small minority without any real benefit to humanity. As a result, it immorally increases the abundance of the few at the impoverishment and moral degradation all the rest.

**QUESTION:** With society so accepting of gambling, what does it matter if the church speaks out or not?

ANSWER: We should now be able to discern the fallacy of these progambling assertions and conclude, as stated previously, that gambling is a cunningly disguised form of theft and a violation of the commandment against stealing whether one wins or loses. It was judged to be a sin by Christians in the past and should continue to be regarded as such by the followers of Christ in the present. Its immense popularity does not diminish in the least its immorality and is a conspicuous fulfillment of the perceptive poem by Alexander Pope:

Vice is a monster of such terrible mien, That to be hated, needs but be seen.

But seen too oft, familiar with her face,

We first endure, then pity, then embrace!

Therefore, without clear warnings and moral guidance from the church concerning this devious and demonic snare of Satan, it is nearly inevitable that many sincere Christians will be deceived and then yield to the alluring enticement to gamble. So, in spite of the heart-sickening reality that the approval of and participation in gambling has now invaded our modern societies like an irresistible tsunami, the church is morally obligated to stand steadfastly against this prevailing iniquity and forcefully remind its members that the biblical command found in Exodus 23:2 still applies to all Christians: "Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil."

**QUESTION:** How extensively should we consider the reaches of gambling and put a stop to it?

ANSWER: Let us settle in our minds once and for all time this point of truth: Gambling is not wrong simply because it occasionally leads to bad results for a few people such as addiction, financial ruin, broken families, and suicide. Gambling is evil at its very core. Each and every gambling transaction is a covetous act of robbery and a violation of the Eighth and Tenth Commandments. The terrible consequences of gambling emanate naturally from its intrinsic wickedness.

Let's say that you are given a birthday card with the enclosed gift of a lottery ticket. You scratch it off and find that you have just won \$5,000. Or, you are walking down the street and by chance you pick up a Megamillions stub off the ground that has literally been blowing in the wind. You check out the numbers and discover that they match

for a six-million-dollar payout! Since you didn't risk your own money in either case, can you cash them in and enjoy the rewards of your "good fortune"? Absolutely not! Morally you would be in receipt of stolen goods.

Or, let us assume that an Adventist hospital decides to expand its facilities and a civic-minded organization offers to help in the fund-raising with a substantial donation. But it comes to the knowledge of the administration that the proffered contribution has been derived wholly or in part from the operation of a casino. Would it be morally proper for the hospital to accept this gift? Again, certainly not. As stated previously, no offering procured by immoral means is to be used in the support of the Lord's work. And to receive it would be to condone the morally degenerate means by which it was generated.

Furthermore, true Christians must be careful not to facilitate the vile business of gambling in any way. Jesus pronounced a dire warning against allowing oneself to become a source or avenue of temptation. "Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come. It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause [tempt] one of these little ones to sin." (Luke 17:1-2 ESV)

In regards to the sin of gambling, this can happen primarily in two ways: employment and advertising. No Christian should ever yield to the inducement to earn even a part of their living by being employed at a gambling establishment even if only in a supporting role like doing maintenance or custodial work. (Would it be morally acceptable for an Adventist to work at a bar or a liquor store even if they are only doing janitorial work? Obviously not! And the same would hold true for being employed at a gambling establishment of any kind.) And great

care needs to be taken by Christians who work in any kind of media such as radio, TV, newspapers, billboards, most magazines, or the internet so that they do not profit or participate in the massive amount of advertising that the gambling industry does to promote its morally debasing form of commerce. (Personally, this author is convinced that the secular media is simply no place for an Adventist. How can anyone be employed by these businesses without being involved in one way or another with the immoral promotion of smoking, drinking, gambling, LGBTQ acceptance, or morally corrupting music, movies,

entertainment, and violent sports, etc.? It is practically impossible.)

Like other worldly vices such as pornography, prostitution, and the use of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs, the disassociation of devout Christians from gambling must be total and complete! "For what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? ... Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." (2 Cor. 6: 14,17)

## **Prophecy Made Plain**

Jerry O'Donnell

# Why Do We Believe the Image of the Beast to be Church and State United Rule?

Revelation 13:14-15 states, "And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by [the means of] those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed."

So, the image is to the first beast and is even referred to as the image of the beast. An image is not necessarily a physical object like a statue or picture. An image can be like looking in a mirror. In fact, the phrase "mirror image" reflects that concept. Actors in Hollywood can look and act like a particular actor so well that

they appear to be another image of the same person.

Therefore, to understand what the image is, we ought to look at the make-up of the beast, the first creature of Revelation 13. We are not going to take time to identify the beast or provide all of the aspects of the beast. We are just going to focus on those aspects that pertain to the topic of church and state uniting. In other words, we do not care what color it is, what it is decked out with, etc.

To reveal this, Daniel 7:24 tells us, "And the ten horns out of this kingdom [are] ten kings [that] shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings." So, of the ten countries of Europe, this eleventh kingdom described as being a horn equates to the beast of Revelation 13. It is diverse, or different from all other ten kingdoms, and all other

kingdoms, especially around the rise of the eleventh kingdom were political in nature with kings and queens. This was in the 500s A.D. This kingdom would not just be political, although it incorporates politics, otherwise it would not be a kingdom, but merely a different entity. That is not what Daniel saw. He clearly saw another horn. If the first ten horns are kingdoms, the eleventh horn is a kingdom as well.

Now, with the Bible declaring that it indeed is a kingdom, or nation, or country, all of which are synonyms, notice the action of this antichrist power: "And he shall speak [great] words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time" (Daniel 7:25). In fact, Paul states, "Let no man deceive

you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 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 2:3-4). From there, we conclude that this kingdom exercises religious authority making it indeed different from just being political.

Therefore, in Revelation 13, the second beast is going to eventually form into another religious and political power forming a mirror image of the first beast of Revelation 13 as it is religious and political in nature. It is hard to believe that the United States will copy the Vatican like that but prophecy will be fulfilled.

## 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.

#### May 24—North American Division

## Patmos Chapel Grand Opening: Opening Doors For Community Engagement

The Well serves hundreds of youth and adults who participate in activities such as gymnastics, martial arts, basketball, baseball training, tutoring, and workplace screening. As a result, there's a mission field right inside the church's doors; the "worship hub" provides a spiritual complement to the physical activities the Well offers.

**EGW:** "The way that they have been conducted at the college does not bear

the impress of heaven. It does not strengthen the intellect. It does not refine and purify the character. There are threads leading out through the habits and customs and worldly practices, and the actors become so engrossed and infatuated that they are pronounced in heaven, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God." {2SM 322.2}

**Comment:** Martial arts is support of another religion, and organized sports activities are condemned. Why are we praising the worldliness? Instead of "college" referenced in the quote, replace it with "church" in this case.

#### June 13—Advent Messenger

## Strange Fire: Adventist Worship is becoming more Pagan than Christian

As reported by Saved to Serve, the Southwest Region Conference of Seventh -day Adventists has just concluded their 2023 annual camp meeting. It took place from June 7 to 10, 2023. During the worship services, the entire camp was filled with the sound of war, similar to what Moses experienced during the golden calf apostasy.

EGW: "The Holy Spirit never reveals itself in such methods, in such a bedlam of noise. This is an invention of Satan to cover up his ingenious methods for making of none effect the pure, sincere, elevating, ennobling, sanctifying truth for this time. Better never have the worship of God blended with music than to use musical instruments to do the work which last January was represented to me would be brought into our camp meetings. The truth for this time needs nothing of this kind in its work of converting souls. A bedlam of noise shocks the senses and perverts that which if conducted aright might be a blessing. The powers of satanic agencies blend with the din and noise, to have a carnival, and this is termed the Holy Spirit's working." {2SM 36.3}

#### June 25—Advent Messenger

#### Pentecostal Preaching, No Dress Codes, Drumming, Screaming, and Dancing have Invaded Adventism, Signaling that Probation is about to Close

On Sabbath, June 10, 2023, Seventh-day Adventist Pastor Greg Nelson, who serves in the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists [1], preached at the First University Seventh-day Adventist Church in Tampa, Florida. Also in attendance was Pastor Pierre François, the Executive Secretary for the Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. During the worship service, there was screaming, drumming, dancing, and Pentecostal preaching. Pastor Greg Nelson was also dressed down in ripped jeans and Air Jordan 4

Retro tennis shoes as he told the congregation not to be Pharisaical by passing judgment on him. Instead, he urged the congregation to follow him.

**EGW:** "The introduction of music into their homes, instead of inciting to holiness and spirituality, has been the means of diverting their minds from the truth. Frivolous songs and the popular sheet music of the day seem congenial to their taste. The instruments of music have taken time which should have been devoted to prayer. Music, when not abused, is a great blessing; but when put to a wrong use, it is a terrible curse. It excites, but does not impart that strength and courage which the Christian can find only at the throne of grace while humbly making known his wants and with strong cries and tears pleading for heavenly strength to be fortified against the powerful temptations of the evil one. Satan is leading the young captive. Oh, what can I say to lead them to break his power of infatuation! He is a skillful charmer, luring them on to perdition. Listen to the instructions from the Inspired Book of God. I saw that Satan had blinded the minds of the youth that they could not comprehend the truths of God's word. Their sensibilities are so blunted that they regard not the injunctions of the holy apostle:" {1T 497.1}

#### June 23—Fulcrum 7

#### Loma Linda Employees Vote to Join Labor Union

According to a tweet from the Union of American Physicians and Dentists (UAPD), the residents and fellows of Loma Linda voted to join a labor union yesterday. The vote was 361 to 144 in favor of joining the union.

**EGW:** "We are not to unite with secret societies or with trade-unions." {7T 84.3}. "The trade unions will be the cause of the most terrible violence that has ever been seen among human beings." — Letter 99, 1904, p. 3. {4MR 23.3}.

#### June 28—Advent Messenger

A Seventh-day Adventist Church Hosted a Sabbath Rap, Pop, and Dynamic Christian Music Concert with Songs by Janet Jackson and Naughty by Nature

On Sabbath, May 27, 2023, starting at 5:00 p.m., the Beacon Light Tabernacle Seventh-day Adventist Church in Wappingers Falls, NY, hosted the 27th Anniversary celebration of God's Hands, a Seventh-day Adventist music and dance ministry. The concert included a variety of dance performances as well as secular songs by artists like Janet Jackson, such as "What Have You Done for Me Lately?" and the rap group Naughty by Nature's "You Down with OPP." The rap lyrics were changed from "You Down with OPP?" to "You Down with G-O-D?" and Janet Jackson's song was change to "What Have you done for Him Lately?"

EGW: "The things you have described as taking place in Indiana, the Lord has shown me would take place just before the close of probation. Every uncouth thing will be demonstrated. There will be shouting, with drums, music, and dancing. The senses of rational beings

will become so confused that they cannot be trusted to make right decisions. And this is called the moving of the Holy Spirit." {2SM 36.2}

#### June 28—Fulcrum 7

#### SDA Pastor in Minnesota Released From Employment Over His Beliefs Regarding LGBTQ

"I'll just say it and then I'll continue talking. This is the last Sabbath that I'll be here at Andover SDA Church. The conference and I are in agreement that what I need to do as a pastor in pastoral Ministry does not fit with the structure as it currently is in The Seventh-Day Adventist denomination."

**Comment:** Does that mean they are working on changing the structure?

**Bible:** Isaiah 24:5 "The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant."

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## News And Comments

#### May 25—Gateway Pundit

Biden Regime Lumps Christians, Conservatives, and Republicans into Same Category as Nazis in New DHS Anti-Terrorism Program

"Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory" (2 Timothy 2:10).

#### June 2—Washington Times

Interruption of children's choir singing national anthem at U.S. Capitol stokes furor

When singing the national anthem becomes a prohibited demonstration, we know this country is imploding.

"The people of the United States have been a favored people; but when they restrict religious liberty, surrender Protestantism, and give countenance to popery, the measure of their guilt will be full, and "national apostasy" will be registered in the books of heaven. The result of this apostasy will be national ruin" {RH, May 2, 1893 par. 11}.

#### June 4—Yahoo Finance

'Embarrassing': Young Americans are wasting money on silly things — like TikTok 'pink sauce' and Candy Crush. Here are 3 big lessons Gen Z should steal from baby boomers

Malachi 3:8 states, "Will a man rob

God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings." And then people think they are free to waste the rest of their money as they desired. Many do not even pay tithe and offering and therefore they think all the money the have is theirs to spend as they will. "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom [his] lord shall make ruler over his household, to give [them their] portion of meat in due season?" (Luke 12:42).

#### June 7—Insider

# A teenage girl found her mom's debit card and spent \$64,000 on mobile games, wiping out her family's life savings

A 13 year-old girl from China has a serious video game addiction that she would be willing to resort to stealing. So, despite no foul language, sexual content, anger issues, etc., there are hidden character traits revealed making even the "innocent video games" not so innocent. "Thou shalt not steal" (Exodus 20:15).

#### June 9—Business Insider

#### Kim Jong Un orders North Koreans to stop killing themselves after number of suicides skyrocketed

How does one outlaw suicide? If caught killing one's self, they lose their property? The government punishes relatives? The person committing suicide does not care about those things. There is but one thing that can end the thought of suicide — conversion. "Honour all [men]. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king" (1 Peter 2:17).

#### June 11-Fox News

#### ChatGPT delivers sermon to packed German church, tells congregants not to fear death

Although Al failed on emotions, body language, and were monotonous in the delivery, the fact that it is being considered shows how people view church service. It is just a place to attend, hear a message, and go home. The Bible says 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).

#### June 12-MSN

#### Meanwhile, in Texas, Fresh Signs of Impending Apocalypse

"Therefore rejoice, [ye] heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time" (Revelation 12:12).

#### June 12—Fox News

#### Man eats raw oysters; dies from flesheating bacteria, health department says

If the man would only had followed God's instructions, he could still be alive today: "Whatsoever hath no fins nor scales in the waters, that [shall be] an abomination unto you" (Leviticus 11:12).

#### June 12-MSN

# Moms force kids to stomp on rainbow flags in horrifying protest against their LGBTQ+ classmates

As the Muslims and Christians unite in combatting these moral issues, it will eventually turn towards Sunday law issues. Who can argue against these joint efforts? No one. What they are doing to combat immoral activities is technically godly. It is the continued breaking down barriers between religions that will cause the eventual joint effort in the end to bring on

Sunday law. "The agencies which will unite against truth and righteousness in this contest are now actively at work" {GC88 582.3}.

## June 13—Charisma Magazine WEE Official Calls for Al to Re-Write

## WEF Official Calls for AI to Re-Write the Bible 'Correctly'

All those that believe God is a creation of man, this confirms them in their beliefs. All religions that think it does not matter what god we worship, this confirms them in their beliefs. All Christians who think they are fine as they are and the rules people put themselves under is personal choice and truth is not singular, this confirms them in their beliefs. And finally, those who believe that truth does matter ought to see this attempt as an attack on the Bible. "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or [if] ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with [him]" (2 Corinthians 11:3-14). Christianity is the true religion and the KJV is the true Bible. Christianity is about accept Jesus as the Son of God. If that is true, then all other religions are wrong. If it is false, then atheism is probably true because all other religions do not even make that claim. Then, Christianity is about following specific rules that Christ expects us to follow (John 14:21, John 8:31). Therefore, we do not need any new Bible. We already have too many versions that contradict each other. But in reality, there are only 2 versions. The many versions of the Bible today are based upon one collection of influenced text or the few versions of the Bible that come from gathered texts from over 300 sources.

#### June 15—Yahoo

#### Dad Refuses To Let His Stepdaughter Move Back In After Noticing That She's A 'Terrible Influence' On His Two Children

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). That does not cover just right and wrong choices. That does not only apply to godly training. It includes watching out for negative influences. At the age of 24, "partying" with friends past young children's (single digit) bedtimes is more than just a disturbance of sleep. Taking the lifestyle outside the home to bring the result back in by coming home drunk, setting off home alarms, And the fact that she cannot be trusted to remain sober while babysitting is a hazard. Being messy and having a bad attitude is a negative role model as it is proven that children look up to an older sibling of greater age as compared to looking to rule-setting parents. With that said, that does not mean to leave the step-child out in the cold, although he does have to be careful not to be encouraging bad behavior through his assistance. It was her choice to move in with a boyfriend and now cannot handle the financial impact because they broke up. Yet, another argument of why God intended for marriage and not cohabitation.

#### June 17—Your Tango

#### Woman Sparks A Conversation About Going 'No Contact' With Parents And How Adult Children Shouldn't Be Shamed For It

Matthew 10:36-37 states, "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." It is not easy to cut out toxic family members but just because they are

related to a person does not mean we are forced to interact. The blood of Jesus is thicker than the water of birth. If a family member is toxic, is disrupting the relationship with Jesus, then it is permitted of God to distance oneself. It becomes complicated when a person is a mere child and cannot just pick up and go live on their own. Also, relationships like husband and wife or the responsibility to raise a child cannot be severed nor is it biblical: "For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy" (1 Corinthians 7:14). If grandparents go behind the backs of parents and interfere with godly raising, absolutely it is time for distancing.

#### June 27—Telegraph

## University professor 'told to inflate grades of hispanic and black students'

Lying in any form is still lying. Exodus 20:16 states, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour." There are no excuses even for "good reasons".

#### June 30—Fox News

## NY Democrat complains about her student debt after SCOTUS ruling, gets slammed for million dollar home

Ephesians 4:17-19 "This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness."

#### Ellen White Abbreviations In this Issue

1SM - Selected Messages Book 1

1T - Testimonies For The Church Volume One

2SM - Selected Messages Book 2

4MR - Manuscript Releases Volume Four

6T - Testimonies For The Church Volume Six

7T - Testimonies For The Church Volume Seven

GC - The Great Controversy (1911)

GC88 - The Great Controversy

RH - The Review and Herald

(Continued from page 2)

heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where [is] their God?" (Joel 2:17).

And that applies to all of us as we are all called to minister with tears.

## Natural Remedies

Reen Swindle

**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.

#### **Avoiding Bee Stings**

First, do not eat bananas before you go outside. Bananas sweeten the smell of your blood and actually make you smell like another queen bee. This aroma makes the bees aggressive. Other high glycemic fruits, such as melons and pineapple will make your blood smell sweet as well. These smells can attract the bees but will not make them aggressive like bananas will.

Do not wear bright colors. The colors white, yellow, blue, and purple will attract the bees. So will some per-

fumes and hair sprays.

Finally, bees hate cinnamon and peppermint and will avoid you if you have eaten one of them recently. You can also put a little of the essential oils on your skin or clothes or hat to repel them. They also do not like lavender oil, citronella oil, olive oil, and vegetable oil.

#### REMOVE ME!

If you do not want to receive this publication anymore, please be kind and let us know so we do not continue to bother you. No questions asked. Thank you.

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