



The Four Angels' Messages

A Monthly Magazine

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

The Elevating Character of True Religion

Ellen White

True religion ennobles the mind, refines the taste, and sanctifies the judgment. It makes the soul a partaker of the purity of heaven, brings angels near, and separates more and more from the spirit and influence of the world. It reveals to man an infinite and all-wise Creator, a protector, a redeemer from sin, a comforter in sorrow, a light in darkness, a guide in obscurity. It invites man to become a son of God, an heir of heaven. It fills the soul "with joy unspeakable and full of glory."

This precious gift of heaven is freely offered to all who will accept it. Our brightest hopes, our loftiest aspirations, can ask nothing more complete, more noble, more exalted. The tokens of infinite love, the pleadings of divine mercy, are ever wooing us to turn to God. The

prophet says, "Wherefore do ye spend your money for that which is not bread? and your labor for that which satisfieth not? harken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live."

Truth has power to elevate the receiver. If Bible truth exerts its sanctifying influence upon the heart and mind of its recipient, it will make him more intelligent. A Christian will understand his responsibilities to God and to his fellow men if he is truly connected with the Lamb of God, who gave His life for the world. It is only by the improvement of the intellectual as well as the moral

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- Keep the Sabbath Holy
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- The Elevating Character of True Religion
- The Wicked Dead: Are They Now Being Punished?
- Watchman, Let Him Declare What He Seeth

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

October 2023

Volume 7, Issue 10

Dear Brothers and Sisters ...

Jerry O'Donnell

Of late, Satan is very active against this ministry, as well as others. As we reported last month about the post office not delivering our publication to many of the households and their being returned, we recently received a notice from YouTube regarding our videos we have been posting. It appears that we are not following their community standards; however, it does not appear as if we received a strike in their three-strike rule, but we are being punished.

We have lost “advanced features” like using external links pointing to our website; people may not be able to comment on our videos; and we suspect that they are playing games with the numbers regarding viewers as well – as not suggesting our videos to others to watch.

I literally saw in a three-day period three of our videos, which were my sermon and both of my children’s question and answers sessions, lose views on a particular day. That is not possible. Once a video has been viewed, well, it has been viewed. The numbers decreased to one third of the numbers that they originally stated at the beginning of the week. Another series of videos stayed at 2 for my own sermon and one each for the kids. Keep in mind that I use my personal account to view them immediately after uploading them to the internet and then “like them”, so in reality, it was one view for the sermon and zero each for the kids. And that was not true because, at the very least, their grandmother views the videos as well within a day or two.

For several years, we have been posting the “no refunds” message in our publication due to censorship.

Without it being that noticeable, without drawing attention, it appears that the process that started a few years ago is taking its toll even on the small ministries.

These are the days we are living in. These days were expected to come. They are now here. Praise the Lord, for it shall not be much longer.

For our video ministry, we are actively adjusting to the situation. We are in the process of using something other than just YouTube, but remember, “In the last great conflict of the controversy with Satan those who are loyal to God will see every earthly support cut off” {DA 121.3}. That does not happen overnight at the very end. It is a process. The influencers of the world experiment with restrictions to see which works and which do not.

The sad thing is that there are two main dangers in what is happening. The first is that those who witness this happening, know it to be wrong, but it is not directly affecting them, and they keep silent. The second danger is that people are solidified in thinking that it is alright to discriminate against other people’s positions through cancel culture, squashing and hiding the voice of the other side, and much more. Both of these positions further the satanic agenda to persecute in one form or another.

God help us and direct us to continue to get the message out, and when I use the word “us”, I mean all of us as it is everyone’s responsibility to do so and has been the encouragement of this publication to do so.

Maranatha!



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

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

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

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

About The Four Angels' Messages Ministry

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

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

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

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powers that we can hope to answer the purpose of our Creator.

The Redeemer of the world has warned us against the pride of life, but not against its grace and natural beauty. He pointed to the flowers of the field, and said, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin; and yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."

"The path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." But light becomes darkness to all those who will not walk in it. In order to be accepted and blessed of God as our fathers were, we must be faithful as they were faithful. We must improve our light as the ancient, faithful prophets improved theirs. God requires of us according to the grace He bestows upon us. He will not accept less than He claims. All His righteous demands must be fully met. In order for us to meet all our responsibilities, we must stand on that elevated ground that the order and advancement of holy, sacred truth has prepared for us.

But few have a true sense of what is comprised in the word Christian. It is to be Christlike, to do others good, to be divested of all selfishness, and to have our lives marked with acts of disinterested benevolence. Our Redeemer places souls in the arms of the church, for the members to care for unselfishly, and train them for heaven, and thus be co-workers with Him. But the church too often thrusts them away upon Satan's battlefield. One member will say, "It is not my duty," and bring up some trifling excuse. And another will say, "It is not my duty;" and finally it is no

one's duty, and the soul is left to perish. It is the duty of every Christian to engage in the self-denying, self-sacrificing enterprise of saving souls, and every man's work is to be tested, and brought into judgment, and he is to be rewarded as his works have been.

The good works of God's people have a more powerful influence than words. By their virtuous life and unselfish acts, the beholder is led to desire the same righteousness which produced such good fruit. He is charmed with the power of God which transforms selfish human beings into the divine image, and God is honored and His name glorified.

The Christian must be like the palm tree of the desert. The sky may be brass, the desert sand may beat about the palm tree's roots, and pile itself in heaps about its trunk; yet the tree lives as an evergreen, fresh and vigorous. If you remove the sand till you reach its roots, you will discover the secret of its life—it strikes down deep beneath the surface, to secret waters hidden in the earth.

Many profess to come to Christ, while they yet cling to their own ways, which are a painful yoke. Selfishness, covetousness, ambition, love of the world, or some other cherished sin, destroys their peace and joy. They are restless, impatient, dissatisfied; their spirits chafe under the weight of care and responsibility, all because they have not made a complete surrender to Jesus, but are seeking to carry their burden without His aid. If He were by their side, the sunshine of His presence would scatter every cloud; the help of His strong arm would lighten every burden.

Jesus said to His disciples, "Learn of me; for I am meek and lowly of

heart.” I would plead with those who have accepted the position of teachers, to become humble learners, and ever remain as pupils in the school of Christ, to receive from the Master lessons of meekness and lowliness of heart. Humility of spirit, combined with earnest activity, will result in the salvation of souls so dearly purchased by the blood of Christ. We may understand and believe the theory of the truth, and be able to present it to others, but this is not all that is required. “Faith without works is dead.” We need that faith that works by love, and purifies the soul. A living faith in Christ will bring every action of life and every emotion of the soul into harmony with God’s truth and righteousness.

God can make the humblest followers of Christ more precious than fine gold, even than the golden wedge of Ophir, if they yield themselves to His transforming hand. They should be determined to make the noblest use of every faculty and opportunity. The words of God should be their study and their guide in deciding what is the highest and best in all cases. The one faultless character, the perfect Pattern set before them in the gospel, should be studied with deepest interest. The one lesson essential to learn is that goodness alone is true greatness. May God deliver us from the philosophy of the worldly-wise. Their only hope is in becoming fools, that they may be wise indeed.

The weakest follower of Christ has entered into an alliance with Infinite Power. In many cases, God can do little with men of learning, because they feel no need of leaning upon Him, who is the source of all wisdom. Therefore, after a trial, He sets them aside for men of inferior talent who

have learned to rely upon Him, whose souls are fortified by goodness, truth, and unwavering fidelity, and who will not stoop to do anything that will leave a stain upon the conscience.

Brethren, if you connect your souls with God by living faith, He will make you men of power. If you trust in your own strength and wisdom, you will surely fail. God calls for complete and entire consecration; and anything short of this He will not accept. The more difficult your position, the more you need Jesus. The love and fear of God kept Joseph pure and untarnished in the king’s court. He was exalted to great wealth, to the high honor of being next the king: and this exaltation was as sudden as it was great. It is impossible to stand upon a lofty height without danger. The tempest leaves unharmed the modest flower of the valley, while it wrestles with the lofty tree upon the mountain height. There are many men whom God could have used in poverty—He could have made them useful there, and crowned them with glory hereafter—but prosperity ruined them. They were dragged down to the pit, because they forgot to be humble—forgot that God was their strength—and became independent and self-sufficient.

Joseph bore the test of character in adversity, and the gold was undimmed by prosperity. He showed the same sacred regard for God’s will when he stood next to the throne as when in the prisoner’s cell. Joseph carried his religion everywhere, and this was the secret of his unwavering fidelity. As a representative of Christ, you must have the all-pervading power of godliness. You must hide in Jesus. You are not safe unless you hold the hand of Christ. You must

guard against everything like presumption, and cherish that spirit that would rather suffer than sin. No victory you can gain will be so precious as that gained over self. Selfish ambition, desire for supremacy, will die when Christ takes possession of the affections.

The true spirit of the Christian is one of self-sacrifice; self-denial is required at every step. Jesus came down from heaven to teach us how to live; and his life was one of toil and self-denial. He went about doing good, and those who are truly His representatives will follow His example in working for the good of others. They will delight to advance the interests of the cause of God, both at home and abroad. They will be seen and heard, and their influence will be felt in the prayer meeting. Yet they do not seek to exalt self, or to receive the credit of doing a great work, but labor humbly, meekly, faithfully, doing small errands if they are called for, or a greater work if necessary, to testify their love and gratitude to Christ who has done so much for them.

A genuine Christian experience unfolds day by day, bringing its possessor new strength and earnestness, and leading to constant growth in spiritual life. The Captain of our salvation leads His people on step by step, purifying and fitting them for translation, and leaving in the rear those who are disposed to draw off from the body, who are not willing to

be led, and are satisfied with their own righteousness.

The Christian life is constantly an onward march. Jesus sits as a refiner and purifier of His people; and when His image is perfectly reflected in them, they are perfect and holy, and prepared for translation. A great work is required of the Christian. We are exhorted to cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. Here we see where the great labor rests. There is constant work for the Christian. Every branch in the parent vine must derive life and strength from that vine in order to yield fruit.

Christ is our refuge; and it is only through faith in Him that we form characters that God can accept. We may add knowledge to knowledge, strength to strength, virtue to virtue. But we shall fail in the soul-testing conflict just before us if we do not make Christ our strength and righteousness. All who have not experienced the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit are like chaff among the wheat. Our Lord has His fan in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor. In the coming day He will discern "between him that serveth God, and him that serveth him not."

Keep the spirit humble as that of a little child. Pride, envy, worldly ambition, cupidity, and love of ease must be sacrificed upon the altar of duty. In the simplicity of love, be like those little ones whose angels do

NO REFUNDS, ESPECIALLY AS CENSORING CONTINUES TO INCREASE

When this publication is shutdown beyond our control we will be unable to provide any refunds. Be rest assured that all funds are used in the most responsible ways according to the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.

always behold the face of our heavenly Father. But unite with these virtues the courage of a tried warrior. We want faithful Calebs who will raise their voices fearlessly in defense of the right, who are the first to press into the front of the battle, and plant the banner of truth in the heart of the enemy's camp.

Trials patiently borne, blessings gratefully received, temptations manfully resisted, meekness, kindness, mercy, and love, habitually exhibited, are the lights which shine forth in the character before the world, revealing the contrast with the darkness which comes of selfishness and unrestrained passion of the natural heart, into which the light of life has never shone. The grace of God can accomplish this for you.

O love and grace of God! O precious grace, more valuable than fine gold! It elevates and ennobles the spirit beyond all other principles, and sets the affections upon heaven, whence we look for our Saviour. Converse with God and contemplation of things above transform the soul into the likeness of Christ.

Like seeks like; like appreciates like. Christ recognizes His own spirit and image in His followers. As they become more like Him, they seek a closer association with Him. His character shines with new attractions. They see matchless charms in their Redeemer, and He becomes "the chiefest among ten thousand," and "the one altogether lovely." His ways are precious to them, and it is their delight to do His will.

When perfect faith and perfect love and obedience abound, working in the hearts of those who are Christ's followers, they will have a powerful influence. Light will emanate from them, dispelling the darkness around them, refining and elevation all who come within the sphere of their influence, and bringing to a knowledge of the truth all who are willing to be enlightened and willing to follow in the humble path of obedience.

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully." "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbor, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor. In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoreth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his hurt, and changeth not. He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved."

When the judgment shall sit and the books be opened, there will be many astonishing disclosures. Men will not then appear as they now appear to human eyes and finite judgments. Secret sins will then be laid bare to the view of all. Motives which have been hidden in the dark chambers of the heart will then be revealed. Designing ambitions, selfish purposes, will be seen where

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outward appearances told only of a desire to honor God and to do good to all men. What revelations will then be made! Men of pure motives and true and noble purposes may now be neglected, slandered, and despised; but they will then appear in their true character, and will be honored with the commendation of God.

God is no respecter of persons. Heaven is a place prepared for those who have a fitness of character for the society of angels. Its lofty seats are not reserved for relatives and particular friends, but are given to those who love most. The beautiful mansions are opened to those who have practiced self-denial, who have brought their will into subjection to the will of God, and in life and character have conformed to the divine standard. They may have by nature fierce tempers and grave faults, and these may have been

fostered and increased by wrong methods of training; but if through the grace of Christ they subdue these unlovely traits, and fight the good fight of faith, they will receive the overcomer's reward.

Our work is to copy the divine Pattern. We must rely in loving confidence upon the merits of Christ and take hold of His strength. Day by day we must subdue the evil traits that strive for the mastery. Earnest faith and loving obedience will bring us into close relationship with Christ, as was the beloved John. Those who are faithful in this appointed work will be acknowledged heroes in the heavenly courts. They reflect a bright light to the world now, for the power of divine grace is made manifest in them; and by and by they will shine forever as stars in the kingdom of heaven.



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The Wicked Dead: Are They Now Being Punished?

Elder J. N. Andrews

THIS is a question of awful solemnity, and should not be treated as a matter of speculation and idle curiosity. By far the larger part of mankind live in neglect of the great duties of religion, if not in open contempt of its most solemn commands. Such has ever been the fact with our fallen race. This vast throng of sinful men, for long ages have been pouring through the gates of death, and its dark portals hide them from our further view. What is the condition of this innumerable multitude of impenitent dead? Where are they, and what now is their real state?

To this question two answers are returned: 1. They are now suffering the torments of the damned. This is the answer of all the self-styled orthodox creeds. 2. They are now sleeping in the dust of the earth, awaiting the resurrection to damnation. This answer is believed by Seventh-day Adventists to be the harmonious teaching of the Scriptures on this subject. Which of these two answers is the true and proper one?

1. There is no statement in the Bible relating to the wicked dead in general, where they are in any way represented as in a state or place of torment. Nor is there any instance in the Bible where men are threatened that they shall, if wicked, enter an abode of misery at death. Even the warning of Jesus in Matt.x,28, which is thought to contain the strongest proof of the soul's immortality that can be found in all the Bible, says not one word concerning the suffering of the soul in hades, the place of the

dead, but relates wholly to what shall be inflicted upon "both soul and body in gehenna," the place of punishment for the resurrected wicked.

2. There being no general statement in the Bible representing the wicked dead as now in torment, and no instance in which the living wicked are threatened with consignment to the furnace of fire till after the judgment, we now search out the particular cases which may be thought to teach such fact. There are just two of these cases which may be cited as proving that some of the wicked dead are now in torment, and from these if at all, the torment of the wicked dead in general must be deduced. These cases are the Sodomites, "set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire" [Jude 7]; and the rich man lifting up his eyes in torment. Luke xvi,22,23. These are the only cases that can be cited from the Scriptures in proof that the wicked dead are now undergoing the punishment of their sins.

3. The case of the Sodomites then claims our attention. The text reads thus: "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire," Jude 7. Does the apostle mean to say that the Sodomites are now in the flames of eternal fire? The clause "suffering the vengeance of eternal fire," is modified by the words "set forth for an example," which immediately precede it. In fact the real meaning of the apostle in what

he says of the sufferings of the Sodomites can only be determined by giving this phrase, "set forth for an example," its proper bearing. To be "set forth for an example" to wicked men "suffering the vengeance of eternal fire," one of two things must be true: 1. They must now be in a state of suffering in plain view of the inhabitants of the earth; or 2. They must be somewhere in the Scriptures set forth in the very act of suffering the vengeance of fire from heaven. If the first of these views be correct, then the Sodomites are indeed now in torment. But that view is not correct; for the very place where Sodom was burned is now covered by the Dead Sea. {1854 JNA, WDNP 2.2}

That the second view is correct, is manifest from Gen.xix,24-28. "Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven; and he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt. And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the Lord. And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace."

Here the Sodomites are set forth for an example in the very act of suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. Are they to this day in that fire? Peter bears testimony, and it is the more valuable in this case, because the chapter containing it is almost an exact parallel to the epistle of Jude. Thus he says: "Turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah INTO ASHES condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly."

2Pet.ii,6. Peter thus shows that the fire did its proper office upon the men of Sodom, and that they were not in his day alive in its flames. Their case is an example of what God will do to all the wicked after the resurrection to damnation, when fire shall descend out of heaven upon them and the whole earth become a lake of fire. Rev.xx; 2Pet.iii; Mal.iv.

The testimony of Jeremiah which represents the punishment of Sodom as comparatively brief, must complete this evidence: "For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her." Lam.iv,6.

4. The language of Jude concerning the Sodomites has therefore no relation to their condition in death, and cannot be made to furnish evidence that the wicked dead are now in a state of torment. There remains therefore, the case of a single individual – the rich man – out of which to deduce the doctrine that the wicked dead are now in the lake of fire. This is certainly a fact worthy of note.

5. The account of the rich man stands at the conclusion of a discourse made up of parables. Thus Luke xx, presents us with the parable of the lost sheep, the ten pieces of silver and the prodigal son. The sixteenth chapter is made up of two parables, the unjust steward, and the rich man and Lazarus. It is true that the account of the rich man and Lazarus is not called a parable by the sacred penman; but the fact is the same with respect to the two cases which precede this; and the three are introduced in the same manner: "A certain man had two sons;" "There was a certain rich man which had a

steward;" "There was a certain rich man which was clothed in purple and fine linen."

6. It is generally admitted that a parable cannot be made the foundation of any doctrine, or be used to disprove doctrines established by plain and literal testimony. But the doctrine of the present punishment of the wicked dead, rests upon a single parable, and that parable the case of a single individual.

7. The proper interpretation of any portion of the Sacred Record will show that it is in divine harmony with the general tenor and plain facts of the whole book.

8. Three of the dead are here introduced, Abraham, Lazarus and the rich man, and all represented as in hades. "In hell (Greek, hades) he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom." Hades is the place of all the dead, the righteous as well as the wicked. Thus at the resurrection of the just, they shout victory over death and hades from whose power they are then delivered. "O death where is thy sting? O grave (Greek, hades), where is thy victory?" 1Cor.xv,55. The wicked dead are in hades; for at the resurrection to damnation hades delivers them up. Rev.xx,13. The resurrection of Christ did not leave his soul in hades; i.e., he then came forth from the place of the dead. Hades therefore is the common receptacle of the dead. Those who are in hades are not alive but dead. "DEATH and HADES delivered up the DEAD which were in them." Even the language of Abraham implies that all the party were then dead. To Dives he says, Thou in thy lifetime [now passed] receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things, but

now he is comforted, and thou art tormented." Classing himself with dead Lazarus he adds: "Between us and you there is a great gulf fixed." The rich man then begs that Lazarus may be sent to his brethren, declaring that if one went unto them from the dead they will repent. And Abraham denying his request said that they would not be persuaded "though one rose from the dead." This scene transpires in hades, the place of the dead, and those who act in it are three dead persons.

9. Here is found a clew to the proper interpretation of this parable. "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them." If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rose from the dead." This language directs the living to Moses and the prophets for instruction concerning man's condition in hades. In their testimony will be found adequate warning to the living wicked, and facts of great importance bearing upon the proper interpretation of this peculiar passage.

10. The Old Testament was written in Hebrew, and the New Testament in Greek. Here an important fact is to be noticed. The Old Testament uses the word sheol to designate that place which in the New Testament is called hades. Thus the sixteenth Psalm, written in Hebrew says, "Thou wilt not leave my soul in sheol." The New Testament quoting this text and expressing the words in Greek says, "Thou wilt not leave my soul in hades." Acts.ii,27. The Hebrew term sheol as used in the Old Testament is therefore the same in meaning with the Greek word hades as used in the New. In other words the hades of Christ and the apostles is the sheol of Moses and the prophets.

11. It is well here to observe that the

Hebrew word sheol is used in the Old Testament sixty-five times. It is rendered grave thirty-one times. Gen.xxxvii,35; xlii,38; xlv,29,31; 1Sam.ii,6; 1Kings ii,6,9; Job vii,9; xiv,13; xvii,13; xxi,13; xxiv,19; Ps.vi,5; xxx,3; xxxi,17; xlix,14,15; lxxxvii,3; lxxxix,48; cxli,7; Prov.i,12; xxx,16; Eccl.ix,10; Cant.viii,6; Isa.xiv,11; xxxviii,10,18; Hosea xiii,14; Eze.xxxi,15. It is rendered pit three times as follows: Num.xvi,30,33; Job xvii,16. It is also rendered hell in thirty-one instances as follows: Deut.xxxii,22; 2Sam.xxii,6; Job xi,8; xxvi,6; Ps.ix,17; xvi,10; xviii,5; lv,15; lxxxvi,13; cxvi,3; cxxxix,8; Prov.v,5; vii,27; ix,18; xv,11,24; xxii,14; xxvii,20; Is.v,14; xiv,9,15; xxviii,13,18; lvii,9; Eze.xxxi,16,17; xxxii,21,27; Amos ix,2; Jonah ii,2; Hab.ii,5.

Hades, the New Testament term for the sheol of the Old Testament, is used eleven times, and in ten of these it is rendered hell. Matt.xi,23; xvi,18; Luke x,15; xvi,23; Acts ii,27,31; Rev.i,18; vi,8; xx,13,14. It is once rendered grave. 1Cor.xv,55.

12. Moses and the prophets were indeed divinely inspired on every point concerning which they wrote; but on the point respecting which we seek light, they have the special endorsement of our Lord. We may therefore confide in their teaching concerning hades or sheol, assured that the great facts revealed through them by the Spirit of God, will be found in divine harmony with the teaching of Christ and the apostles.

13. The texts quoted above, relating to hades or sheol, reveal to us many important facts. We learn that sheol is the common receptacle of the dead whether they are righteous or wicked. Thus Jacob expressed his faith in what should be his state in death when he said, "I will go down into sheol unto my son mourning."

Gen.xxxvii,35; xlii,38; xlv,29,31.

Korah and his company went down into sheol. Num.xvi,30,33. Joab went down into sheol. 1Kings ii,6,9. Job was to be hid in sheol and wait there till the resurrection. Job xiv,13; xvii,13. All the wicked go into sheol. Ps.ix,17; xxxi,17; xlix,14. All mankind go there. Ps.lxxxix,48; Eccl.ix,10.

14. Sheol or hades receives the whole man at death. Jacob expected to go down with his gray hairs to sheol. Gen.xlii,38. Korah, Dathan and Abiram went into sheol bodily. Num.xvi,30,33. The soul of the Saviour left sheol at his resurrection. Ps.xvi,10; Acts ii,27,31. The Psalmist being restored from dangerous sickness testified that his soul was saved from going into sheol. Thus he says, "O Lord my God I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me. O Lord thou hast brought up my soul from the grave [Heb. sheol], thou hast kept me alive that I should not go down to the pit." Ps.xxx,2,3; See also lxxxvi,13; Prov.xxiii,14. He also shows that all men must die, and that no one can deliver his soul from sheol. Ps.lxxxix,48.

15. The sorrows of hell, three times mentioned by the Psalmist, are, as shown by the connection, the pangs which precede or lead to death. 2Sam.xxii,5-7; Ps.xviii,4-6; cxvi,1-9. They are in each case experienced by the righteous. The cruelty of sheol is the remorseless power with which it swallows up all mankind. Cant.viii,6; Ps.lxxxix,48.

16. Those who go down to sheol must remain there till their resurrection. At the coming of Christ all the righteous are delivered from sheol. All the living wicked are then "turned into sheol," and for one thousand years sheol holds all wicked men in its dread embrace. Then death and sheol or hades deliver up

the wicked dead, and the judgment is executed upon them in the lake of fire. Compare Job vii,9,10; xiv,12-14; xvii,13; xix,25-27; Rev.xx,4-6; 1Cor.xv,51-55; Ps.ix,17; Rev.xx,11-15.

17. Sheol, the invisible place or state of the dead is IN THE EARTH BENEATH. Though it is rendered grave thirty-one times, it is not the word usually so rendered in the Old Testament; for it embraces in its meaning not only the locality of the dead, but also their state or condition. All the passages which speak of the location of sheol or hades, represent it as beneath. It is always in the bosom of the earth, sometimes it is in the nethermost parts of the earth. Num.xvi,30,33; Ps.cxli,7; Is.v,14; xiv,9-20; Eze.xxxi,15-18; xxxii,18-32. Referring to the fire now burning in the heart of the earth which shall at the last day swallow up the earth in its fiery gulf, Moses represents the Almighty as saying: "For a fire is kindled in mine anger, and shall burn unto the lowest sheol, and shall consume the earth with her increase, and set on fire the foundation of the mountains." Deut.xxxii,22. Jonah went down into sheol, when, in the belly of the whale, he descended into the depths of the mighty waters, where none but dead men had ever been. Jonah i; ii. Korah and his company went into sheol alive; that is, the earth swallowed them up while yet alive. Num.xvi.

18. The righteous do not praise God in sheol. Thus David testifies: "In death there is no remembrance of thee; in sheol who shall give thee thanks?" Ps.vi,5. And Hezekiah when delivered from death in answer to prayer expresses the same great truth: "I said in the cutting off of my days, I shall go to the gates of sheol: I am deprived of the residue of my years. . . Behold, for peace I had great

bitterness: but thou hast in love to my SOUL delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back. For sheol cannot praise thee, death cannot celebrate thee; they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth. The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day; the father to the children shall make known thy truth." Is.xxxvii,10-19; Ps.cxv,17; cxlvi,1-4.

19. The wicked in sheol are silent in death. Thus David prays: "Let the wicked be ashamed and let them be silent in sheol." Ps.xxxi,17. See also 1Sam.ii,9; Ps.cxv,17, last clause.

20. Sheol is a place of silence, secrecy, sleep, rest, darkness, corruption and worms. "So man lieth down and riseth not; till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake nor be raised out of their sleep. Oh that thou wouldst hide me in sheol, that thou wouldst keep me secret till thy wrath be past, that thou wouldst appoint me a set time, and remember me. If a man die, shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come. Thou shalt call and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands." Job xiv,12-15. "If I wait sheol is mine house: I have made my bed in the darkness. I have said to corruption, Thou art my father: to the worm, Thou art my mother and my sister. And where is now my hope? As for my hope who shall see it? They shall go down to the bars of sheol, when our rest together is in the dust." Job xvii,13-16; iv,11-19; Ps.lxxxviii,10-12.

21. There is no knowledge in sheol. Thus writes the wise man, the Spirit of inspiration bearing testimony through him: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might: for there is no work, nor device, nor

knowledge, nor wisdom in sheol
whither thou goest." Eccl.ix,4-6,10.

22. Such are the great facts concerning sheol or hades, as revealed to us in the books of "Moses and the prophets." Yet we have the following cases in these same writings, in which the dead in sheol in the nethermost parts of the earth converse together, and are comforted or taunted by each other, or in which they weep bitterly, refusing comfort.

The case of the king of Babylon is a noted instance of this. When he is overthrown and goes down to sheol, the DEAD, for sheol has no others in its dark abode, are stirred up to meet him. The kings that had been conquered and destroyed by the king of Babylon in the days of his prosperity, now rise up from their thrones in that dark abode, and mock him with feigned obeisance as in life they had rendered real homage. Now they taunt him saying, "Art thou become weak as we? Art thou become like unto us?" Those that see him shall narrowly look upon him saying, "Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms." Is.xiv,9-20.

23. Pharaoh and his army slaughtered in battle with the king of Babylon, are set forth in this same manner. The slain upon the field of battle being buried indiscriminately, and friend and foe cast down together into pits, into the nether parts of the earth, "into sheol, "the strong among the mighty speak to him out of the midst of sheol." And this sheol in the nether parts of the earth full of the dead, is contrasted with "the land of the living." These slaughtered soldiers went down to sheol with their weapons of war, and their swords they "laid under their heads." Pharaoh, lying among them,

and seeing the multitude of his enemies that were slain, is "comforted" at the sight. See this remarkable prophecy, Eze.xxxii,17-32; xxxi,15-18.

24. Perhaps the case of Rachel is even more remarkable than these. Long ages after her decease and entrance into sheol, a dreadful slaughter of her posterity takes place. Upon this, Rachel breaks forth into lamentation and bitter weeping, and refuses to be comforted, because her children are not. Then the Lord says to her, "Refrain thy voice from weeping and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded saith the Lord." Jer.xxxi,15-17; Matt.ii,17,18; Gen.xxxv,18-20.

25. That Rachel did literally weep and shed bitter tears at the murder of her children nearly 2000 years after her entrance into sheol, no one will assert. Nor will it be maintained that the slaughtered Egyptians and Chaldeans lying in sheol with their swords under their heads, were able to converse together in the nether parts of the earth; and that one was literally "comforted" or the other literally "ashamed." Equally difficult is it to believe that the kings who had been overthrown by the king of Babylon were literally seated on thrones in sheol deep in the earth, and that when he was cast down to sheol they arose from their thrones and mocked him, declaring that he was now become weak as they. Please compare the following texts on the king of Babylon. Jer.li,39,57; Dan.v,1-4,30; Is.xiv,4-30.

26. Taking our leave of "Moses and the prophets," whose testimony on this subject has the direct endorsement of our Lord, let us now return to the case of Dives and Lazarus. Luke xvi,19-31. Lazarus lived in the deepest poverty; too helpless

to walk, or even to stand, he was laid at the rich man's gate; he had no other food than the crumbs, perhaps grudgingly bestowed from the table of the rich man; and no other nurses than the dogs which licked his sores. In process of time, death comes to his relief; but his burial is not mentioned, though that of the rich man, who died soon after, is distinctly named. It is likely that the dead beggar covered with sores, was disposed of with as little trouble as possible; in the sight of man, he had the burial of a dog; but this poor man, forsaken of all earthly friends, and apparently unnoticed of Heaven, had, unseen to mortal eye, such a burial as the wealth of the whole world could not command. The angels of God took part as his bearers to that quiet resting place from which, by and by, when hades gives up the righteous dead, at the sound of the last trumpet, they shall take him up through the air, to meet his triumphant Redeemer. Till that time, we leave him asleep in Jesus, resting in hope, with Abraham, the father of the faithful, and all the ancient worthies who have not yet received the promises. Heb.xi,8-16,39,40.

27. The rich man lived in luxury, faring sumptuously every day. To the eye of all beholders his lot was to be envied, and that of the beggar to be despised. But he dies also, and of him it is recorded that he was buried. All that wealth could purchase, all that pride could exhibit of earthly pomp and grandeur were no doubt displayed at his funeral. But there were, no doubt, no angels of God to participate in it. He had lived for himself, neglecting the great preparation for the future. He goes down to hades a lost man, waiting the resurrection to damnation. As the Douay Bible reads, "he was buried in hell," i.e., in hades or sheol. Here he

lifted up his eyes being in torment, and seeth Abraham afar off and Lazarus in his bosom. Then as though calling to mind the littleness of the favors he had bestowed on Lazarus, he asks a favor at the hands of the despised beggar - the smallest indeed that he could ask - that Lazarus should dip the tip of his finger in water and cool his tongue. This being denied, he asks that Lazarus may be sent to warn his brethren. And this also was refused because they had Moses and the prophets whose testimony was sufficient.

28. This scene transpires in hades or sheol, which, as we have seen, is in the nether parts of the earth. The place is one of darkness and silence, where there is neither wisdom nor knowledge. It is the place of the dead, and those who are therein are called "the congregation of the dead." Prov.xxi,16. In the utter darkness of hades, how can men see each other? "In the land of forgetfulness," how can they remember the events of their past lives? In a place where there is no knowledge, how could Dives know Abraham whom he had never seen? Where there is no work nor device, how could he devise a plan to warn his wicked brethren? And in hades where there is no wisdom, how could Abraham give such wise answers? In hades where the wicked are silent in death, how could Dives converse? As the righteous cannot praise God in hades, and do not even remember his name, how does it happen that they can so well understand and converse on every thing else?

29. We answer these questions precisely as we do those which arise from the testimony of "Moses and the prophets," to which we are in this parable referred. When Rachel long dead, is represented as shedding tears and lamenting the murder of

her children; when the mighty dead converse with Pharaoh in hades, and he is "comforted" with what he sees in the nether parts of the earth; and when the king of Babylon is mocked by dead kings who rise up from their thrones in hades and taunt him with his overthrow; when we read all this of that place where all is darkness, silence, secrecy and death, - a place within the earth itself, and when we consider that this parable relates to this very place, and cites us to these very testimonies for information on the subject, it becomes evident that one common answer pertains to all these questions.

30. The dead are personified and made to speak and act in reference to the facts of their respective cases as though they were alive. Why should not the Spirit of God do this when it has seen fit to personify every kind of inanimate thing? Thus the blood of Abel cried to God. Gen.iv. The stone by the sanctuary heard all the words of Israel. Josh.xxiv. The trees held an election and made speeches. Judges ix. The thistle proposes a matrimonial alliance with the cedar. 2Kings xiv; 2Chron.xxv. All the trees sing out at the presence of God. 1Chron.xvi. The stone cries out of the wall, and the beam answers it. Hab.ii. The hire of the laborers kept back by fraud, cries to God. James v. Dead Abel yet speaketh. Heb.xi. The souls under the altar slain for their testimony and who do not live till the first resurrection, cry to God for vengeance, Rev.vi; xx. And finally death and hades are both personified, - the one riding a pale horse, the other following, and both cutting down mankind. And this personification is still further carried out, when both, as though living enemies, are at last cast into the fire of gehenna. Rev.vi; xx; 1Cor.xv;

Hosea xiii,14.

31. The apostle Paul has given us the key to all this, when he says of God, that he "quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not, as though they were." Rom.iv,17. And our Lord, in that remarkable discussion with the Sadducees, in which he proved the resurrection of the dead by the fact that God spoke of dead Abraham as though he were alive, gives us this same key thus: "For all live unto him." Luke xx,38. Abraham though dead, is spoken of as alive, because in the purpose of God he is to live again.

32. By this parable our Lord illustrates several great truths. 1. The folly and vanity of riches. 2. The worth of true piety, though attended by the deepest poverty. 3. The importance of that great lesson inculcated in the previous parable, to make friends of the mammon of unrighteousness. Luke xvi,9; 1Tim.vi,17-19. The rich man had neglected this, wasting all on himself, though wretched, suffering Lazarus lay at his gate. The folly of this criminal neglect is shown in that part of this parable in which the rich man in his distress, as if remembering the past, is represented as asking of Lazarus the water that could be brought on the tip of his finger, and even this is denied. 4. The certainty of future recompense, and the great contrast that it will make with the present state of things. 5. The sufficiency of the Scriptures to instruct and warn mankind. 6. But to make this text teach that the righteous dead are now recompensed, would be to array a parable against our Lord's plain statement that the recompense of the righteous is at the resurrection of the just. Luke xiv,14. 7. Or to make the passage teach that the wicked dead are now in the lake of fire, is to

make one of the Saviour's parables conflict in its teaching with his own grand description of the final judgment, in which the wicked enter the everlasting fire at the dreadful mandate, "Depart from me ye cursed." Matt.xxv,41; Rev.xx,11-15.

33. Lazarus died a beggar. But he rests in hope, an heir to the inheritance promised Abraham. Eternal life and endless felicity are his, and by personification it is said that he is "comforted." Dives lives in the greatest splendor, and dies an impenitent man. The lake of fire is to be his portion. By personification he is represented as in it already. This is in accordance with the teaching of Paul, when he says of God that he calleth things that be not, as though they were. That is, God speaks of things that exist only in his purpose just as though they had a present existence; because they shall surely exist; even as he called Abraham the father of many nations, when as yet he had no son. Gen.xvii; Rom.iv,16,17. This is the more clearly seen when we consider that to

Lazarus in the silence of hades there will not be a moment between his death, in the grounds of the rich man, and his resurrection to eternal life. And not a moment to the rich man between the closing of his eyes in death, and his opening them in the resurrection to damnation.

34. That we have done right in hearing the testimony of "Moses and the prophets" on this subject we have the authority of the parable itself. And we have this further evidence of the truth of this exposition that without doing violence to a single text we have a divine harmony on the subject of the dead in hades, in all that is said by Moses and the prophets, and by Christ and the apostles.

That those who conversed together are not disembodied spirits, but personified dead men, is further proved by the following facts: 1. Not one word is said of the spirit of any person named. 2. This conversation takes place in hades which the sacred writers affirm to be in the depths of

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the earth. 3. The persons named are men that had lived, the one clothed in purple, the other covered with sores, and both were then dead. But these dead men have bodily organs, as eyes, fingers, tongues, etc. 4. But the truth on this point is sealed by the fact that Lazarus could only return to warn the rich man's brethren by being raised from the dead. "Neither will they be persuaded though one rose from the dead." Greek, *ean tis ek nekron anaste*. It was not whether the spirit of Lazarus should descend from the third Heaven, but whether Lazarus himself should be raised from among the dead ones. This shows that the conversation did not relate to the coming back of a disembodied spirit; and in fact that they were not disembodied spirits that here conversed.

The parable of Dives and Lazarus, does not therefore teach the present punishment of the wicked dead. And as there is nothing else on which to rest the doctrine, it must be given up as having no foundation in the Bible. The testimony shows that the wicked dead are asleep in sheol where they await the resurrection to damnation. The following texts show that the resurrection and judgment of the wicked take place before they are punished; a doctrine in the highest degree reasonable and sustained by many plain testimonies.

1. "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to RESERVE the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished." 2Pet.ii,9. The day of judgment must arrive before the retribution of the ungodly.
2. "The heavens and the earth which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men." 2Pet.iii,7. The

perdition of ungodly men comes at the judgment.

3. "The wicked is RESERVED unto the day of destruction they shall be brought forth to the day of wrath." Job xxi,30. The next scripture will explain this.
4. "Marvel not at this; for the hour is coming in the which all that are in their graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation." John v,28,29.
5. "The wicked dead are raised and judged, then cast into the lake of fire." Rev.xx,11-15.
6. "Vengeance is taken upon all the ungodly together, AFTER the second advent." Jude 14,15.
7. The wicked are cast into the furnace of fire at the end, and not before. Matt.xiii,30,39-43,49,50.
8. The burning day is the time when the wicked meet their fate. Mal.iv; Ps.xxi,9.
9. The wrath of God waits till the day of wrath. Rom.ii,5-9.
10. Tribulation to the ungodly comes after the advent. 2Thess.i.
11. The wicked dead are not punished till after the seventh trumpet. Rev.xi,15,18.
12. The judge says, "Depart from me ye cursed," and then, for the first time, the ungodly enter the furnace of fire. Rochester, N. Y., March 8, 1865. SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION. Battle Creek, Mich.

1854 JNA, Wicked Dead Being Punished, pages 1.1 to 16.9



Armageddon

Jerry O'Donnell

This is a study to clear the confusion about what Armageddon represents.

Revelation 16:16 states, "And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon." Please take notice that Armageddon is not the name of a battle but a battle over a place. Further, the use of the word "them" equates to people being involved where there is a type of "gathering" going on.

Now, before we continue on, we must determine the pronoun in the verse. According to the King James Version of the Bible or KJV, it states "He" does the gathering while other versions, like the New International Version or NIV states "they" do the gathering. This is a very significant decision to make. It determines the proper understanding of the place called Armageddon. If we get the pronoun wrong here, the whole narrative is thrown off. That is because if we select "He", then "He" refers to Jesus Christ found in the preceding verse, Revelation 16:15, which says, "Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed [is] he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame." On the other hand, if "they" is selected as the proper pronoun, that refers two verses prior to verse 15, as in Revelation 16:13-14, which says, "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs [come] out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, [which] go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty."

Already the line has been drawn.

Either the KJV is telling us the truth and the NIV should not be trusted for Bible study purposes, or the NIV is telling us the truth and we should discard the KJV. That is how serious this matter is. To think anything less is to be asleep, uneducated, unaware, ignorant, and the synonyms could continue. These are very strong words that we stated, but we have very strong positions drawn in the church over this very matter and almost all are set in their ways. There seems to be no convincing of those using the NIV to stop, and there seems to be no convincing of KJV only people to be "open minded".

Unfortunately, a simple comparison of scriptures is not going to resolve this issue, therefore, we are going to have to rely completely upon the writings of Ellen White for the proper understanding. Ellen White does not identify where Armageddon is directly, but she did have twenty-two references on the matter, though certain paragraphs were repeated multiple times. We shall include all of the references and make reference to all twenty-two references without duplicating the texts. In other words, one quote will have multiple references assigned to it where it was duplicated.

"The battle of Armageddon is soon to be fought. He on whose vesture is written the name, King of kings and Lord of lords, leads forth the armies of heaven on white horses, clothed in fine linen, clean and white [Revelation 19:11-16]. (1899)." {LDE 251.4} {7BC 982.5} {6T 406.3}. Immediately we see Who the main character is in the fighting or

gathering for Armageddon. It is Jesus!

And as stated time and time again, the NIV is not just a different translation but is in reality an anti-Seventh-day Adventist translation and only fools would consider to be persistent in using such a translation from the enemy of souls – Satan through the antichrist. In other words, it is foolish to think that the Roman Catholic Church banning of the Bible was the only attack perpetrated and the battle is over. Not at all! They have conceded that they lost the ability to ban the Bible by introducing a tainted version of the Bible and now encourage everyone to be reading it. It is no different than the persecutions upon the church continuing until the church was invaded by paganism, only to now have a Christianized version. What we have is a fake translation through a Christianized paganism system.

“The powers of evil will not yield up the conflict without a struggle. But Providence has a part to act in the battle of Armageddon.” {Mar 297.5} {7BC 983.2} {19MR 160.1} Though Satan also has a part to act, along with the antichrist and false prophet, it is Providence, or God, that has the bigger role, implying that the proper understanding of Revelation 16:16 is referring to Jesus doing the gathering, and not Satan and his agents.

This is further confirmed by the “direct” role that Jesus plays in the “battle”, as in the battle of Armageddon: “The Captain of the Lord’s host will stand at the head of the angels of heaven to direct the battle He on whose vesture is written the name, King of kings and Lord of lords, leads forth the armies of heaven on white horses, clothed in

fine linen, clean and white” {Mar 297.6 - 7}.

Now, to confirm that the proper understanding is “He”, or Christ, who does the gathering, we need to know where people are gathered. In other words, just where is this place? Those who are being lied to with the word “they” in verse 16 think it is in the Middle East, specifically the valley at the base of Mount Megiddo. Those who have the truth need to search “in the Hebrew tongue” instead. Before we do that, let us exhaust all of the remaining Ellen White quotes, realizing that she does not explicitly tell us where Armageddon is, but we shall have more content to bolster our position that it is the KJV which is to be trusted and not the counter-reformation version that is the NIV.

“We need to study the pouring out of the seventh vial. The powers of evil will not yield up the conflict without a struggle. But Providence has a part to act in the battle of Armageddon. When the earth is lighted with the glory of the angel of Revelation eighteen, the religious elements, good and evil, will awake from slumber, and the armies of the living God will take the field” {Mar 257.2} {LDE 251.3}.

“Four mighty angels hold back the powers of this earth till the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads. The nations of the world are eager for conflict; but they are held in check by the angels. When this restraining power is removed, there will come a time of trouble and anguish. Deadly instruments of warfare will be invented. Vessels, with their living cargo, will be entombed in the great deep. All who have not the spirit of truth will unite under the leadership of satanic agencies. But they are to be kept under control till the time shall come

for the great battle of Armageddon” {Mar 257.3} {LDE 238.3} {7BC 967.8} {1MR 145.3}.

“Every form of evil is to spring into intense activity. Evil angels unite their powers with evil men, and as they have been in constant conflict and attained an experience in the best modes of deception and battle, and have been strengthening for centuries, they will not yield the last great final contest without a desperate struggle. All the world will be on one side or the other of the question. The battle of Armageddon will be fought, and that day must find none of us sleeping. Wide awake we must be, as wise virgins having oil in our vessels with our lamps...” {Mar 257.4} {7BC 982.6} {8MR 347.1} {14MR 286.3} {1888 761.3}.

“All the world will be on one side or the other of the question. The battle of Armageddon will be fought. And that day must find none of us sleeping. Wide awake we must be, as wise virgins having oil in our vessels with our lamps. The power of the Holy Ghost must be upon us and the Captain of the Lord's host will stand at the head of the angels of heaven to direct the battle – 3SM 426 (1890)” {LDE 250.3}.

“The battle of Armageddon will be fought. And that day must find none of us sleeping. Wide awake we must be, as wise virgins having oil in our vessels with our lamps. The power of the Holy Ghost must be upon us and the Captain of the Lord's host will stand at the head of the angels of heaven to direct the battle. Solemn events before us are yet to transpire. Trumpet after trumpet is to be sounded; vial after vial poured out one after another upon the inhabitants of the earth. Scenes of stupendous interest are right upon us and these things will be sure

indications of the presence of Him who has directed in every aggressive movement, who has accompanied the march of His cause through all the ages, and who has graciously pledged Himself to be with His people in all their conflicts to the end of the world. He will vindicate His truth. He will cause it to triumph. He is ready to supply His faithful ones with motives and power of purpose, inspiring them with hope and courage and valor in increased activity as the time is at hand” {3SM 426.1}.

So, we are now left with good old-fashioned, but trustworthy, Bible study – comparing scripture with scripture. In a rare moment, we are going to provide some “outside” resource information which we really hate using since that takes away from the Bible being its own interpreter and instead relies on human interpretation. Therefore, take this lightly, though it will be helpful later.

According to the Bible Lexicon, Armageddon meaning is "the hill or city of Megiddo". However, according to Wikipedia, they say, “The original of this word has been variously formed, and variously translated. It is הַר־מֶגִּידּוֹן har-megiddon, ‘the mount of the assembly’ or חֹרְמָה גִּדְהוֹן chormah gedehon, ‘the destruction of their army;’ or it is הַר־מֶגִּידּוֹ har-megiddo, ‘Mount Megiddo’”. Did you catch that? At some point, Armageddon was simply translated to “the mount of the assembly”. It was changed at some point, possibly even at the time of the counter-reformation when the Jesuit theologian Francis Ribera put forth a futuristic theory about some great war in the valley of Megiddo, that just about every Protestant believes today showing the effectiveness of the Jesuits. What does a little valley do for anyone in

an age of nuclear weapons? Nothing at all except that the whole world is to be gathered there, according to Ribera.

The original definition of “the mount of the assembly” is helpful though because it is found in the Bible returning the trust back to the Bible and the Bible alone. Isaiah 14:12-13 states, “How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! [how] art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north”. Do you see the battle-line drawn? Satan wants the “mount of the assembly” or “congregation” of which belongs to God and he will stop at nothing. But notice the location of this “mount”. It is in the “sides of the north”.

Where else does the Bible refer to the “Sides of the North”? Psalms 48:2 states, “Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, [is] mount Zion, [on] the sides of the north, the city of the great King.” God, our great King, resides in the sides of the north, also known as Zion, specifically the heavenly Zion, which is a mount, and is the title given to the “mount of the congregation” which is the definition of Armageddon. In other words, Jesus gathering us in a place called Armageddon is none other than us being taken to Heaven, to the New Jerusalem, to our mansions, even to “the Sea of Glass” (Revelation 15:2) where we shall all assemble, congregate, be gathered. “After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed

with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb” (Revelation 7:9-10). Overall, we do not want to resist Armageddon. We want to be taken there by Jesus, just as Revelation 16:15 states in the KJV.

Also, we are making the statement now, in case it was missed, that Armageddon is the name in the Greek, but in the Hebrew it is Zion.

Notice the connection between Revelation 16 and Isaiah 29:8, where, according to Revelation, Satan and his agents gather the world to fight against Armageddon. The same is true about Zion, where all nations are involved. That has not been fulfilled yet because never ever were all nations in a battle against the earthly Zion. “It shall even be as when an hungry [man] dreameth, and, behold, he eateth; but he awaketh, and his soul is empty: or as when a thirsty man dreameth, and, behold, he drinketh; but he awaketh, and, behold, [he is] faint, and his soul hath appetite: so shall the multitude of all the nations be, that fight against mount Zion.” This must be referring to the battle against the heavenly Zion.

Even Isaiah 31:4 brings out the same future attack against Zion: “For thus hath the LORD spoken unto me, Like as the lion and the young lion roaring on his prey, when a multitude of shepherds is called forth against him, [he] will not be afraid of their voice, nor abase himself for the noise of them: so shall the LORD of hosts come down to fight for mount Zion, and for the hill thereof.”

And “Zion” is not only a literal name but a spiritual representation, as revealed in Isaiah 51:16: “And I have

put my words in thy mouth, and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Thou [art] my people." Psalms 125:1 also connects "they" or people with the name Zion: "A Song of degrees. They that trust in the LORD [shall be] as mount Zion, [which] cannot be removed, [but] abideth for ever." Psalms 53:6 tells us that captive people make up Zion. "Oh that the salvation of Israel [were come] out of Zion! When God bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, [and] Israel shall be glad." And it is restated in Psalms 14:7: "Oh that the salvation of Israel [were come] out of Zion! when the LORD bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, [and] Israel shall be glad."

Look at the wording of Joel 2:15-16 for more connections: "Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet." The Bridegroom is Christ while the Bride is the Church, and a gathering is happening, just like Revelation said about Armageddon.

Isaiah 35:10 tells us also, "And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." To return is to be gathered.

Obadiah 1:17 confirms this: "But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions." Deliverance is a type of gathering.

Isaiah 1:27 continues with the redeeming theme: "Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness."

Isaiah 56:7 uses the word "bring", which is a synonym for gathering: "Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices [shall be] accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people."

Then there are the prophecies found in several passages of Joel that involve Zion of the future, matching Armageddon characteristics:

Joel 3:9-16: "Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I [am] strong. Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD. Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about. Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness [is] great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD [is] near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD [will be] the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel."

Joel 2:32: “And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.”

Joel 2:1-4: “Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for [it is] nigh at hand; A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, [even] to the years of many generations. A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land [is] as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. The appearance of them [is] as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run.”

Joel 2:23: “Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first [month].”

And Isaiah 59:20 reveals the Redeemer or Jesus and not Satan or his agents being involved with gathering for Zion: “And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD.”

Here are a couple passages that use one of the definitions for Armageddon, which is “holy mountain” or “holy hill”: Joel 3:17 says, “So shall ye know that I [am]

the LORD your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more.” Psalms 2:6 tells us, “Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.”

In regards to the “holy hill” or “holy mountain”, also known as Armageddon or Zion, here are few more references: Psalms 43:3 tells us, “O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.” Psalms 15:1 reveals, “A Psalm of David. LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?” Isaiah 57:13 shows, “When thou criest, let thy companies deliver thee; but the wind shall carry them all away; vanity shall take [them]: but he that putteth his trust in me shall possess the land, and shall inherit my holy mountain.” And Isaiah 65:25 states, “The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust [shall be] the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.”

Notice who dwells in Zion and is suggested as being Armageddon: Psalms 135:21 expresses to us, “Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, which dwelleth at Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD.” Zechariah 8:3 informs us, “Thus saith the LORD; I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the LORD of hosts the holy mountain.” And Psalms 132:13 confirms by stating, “For the LORD hath chosen Zion; he hath desired [it] for his habitation.”

And we all know who wins the battle of Armageddon. Not by coincidence, God also wins the battle for Zion:

Psalms 102:16 explains, “When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.” Psalms 149:2 informs us, “Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.” And Isaiah 12:6 tells us, “Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great [is] the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.”

So, at the very least, let us stop referring to Armageddon as World War III or the war to end all wars. It is

indeed a battle to see who rules the universe. Satan and his agents do not do the gathering but do cause people to fight against their Redeemer who is going to come and do the gathering of us to take us to the place called Armageddon, or Zion, or the “mount of the congregation” to meet on the Sea of Glass.

Are you planning on being there?



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.

Does God Dwell in the Light or in Darkness?

1 Timothy 6:15-16 Which in his times he shall shew, [who is] the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom [be] honour and power everlasting. Amen.

Psalms 97:1-2 The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad [thereof]. Clouds and darkness [are] round about him: righteousness and judgment [are] the habitation of his throne.

Those who are bent on finding verses that contradict each other will stretch at everything to make it

appear so in an attempt to discredit the Bible and then the existence of God so that they do not feel guilty for the lifestyle they choose. Here is an example of just such a stretch.

According to Paul, God dwells in the light. According to the psalmist, darkness is round about God. Those are clearly opposite terms. One is light and the other is darkness. There is absolutely no way to make light and darkness equal, but that is not where the solution resides.

According to Paul God is “in” the light while the psalmist states that “round about” is darkness. In other words, darkness can be round about while in the midst of that darkness is light.

This understanding is further illustrated in *The Great Controversy*, page 640: “Soon there appears in the east a small black cloud, about half

the size of a man's hand. It is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour and which seems in the distance to be shrouded in darkness. The people of God know this to be the sign of the Son of man. In solemn silence they gaze upon it as it draws nearer the earth, becoming lighter and more glorious, until it is a great white cloud, its base a glory like consuming fire, and above it the rainbow of the covenant. Jesus rides forth as a mighty conqueror."

Notice the darkness is surrounding the Savior but when the cloud comes closer and we are able to see into the midst of the cloud, it becomes lighter and more glorious.

Therefore, there is no contradiction between the verses but rather what location is being referenced: surrounding exterior versus inside at the interior.



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.

Do You Prepare for Service

Ellen White penned, **"God will bless all who thus prepare themselves for His service. They will understand what it means to have the assurance of the Spirit because they have received Christ by faith"** {6T 363.1}.

Though we may touch on similar concepts already addressed, Ellen White makes it plain that there is a work of preparation to attend the service. It is not about making sure that the outfit is picked out during the preparation day along with making sure the shoes are in good condition for use to attend the service. It is not about making sure that all of the study materials and Bible are collected together so one just has to grab and go on Sabbath morning. Making sure sufficient rest is accomplished is a good preparation for staying awake during the service but that still is not the focus. Even

making a Sabbath meal ahead of time before the Sabbath arrives may be a proper effort in preparing for a type of service after the main service but it still is not the point. Though they are proper to do on the preparation day, Ellen White is referring to something a bit deeper.

If a person is the teacher or preacher, has the message already been prepared before the Sabbath begins? Many figure that they will simply stay up as long as need be Friday night while all week of neglecting to use any personal time to prepare the message or messages was exercised. They figure that such preparation is on God's time while the other six days are personal time, as if the teaching or preaching preparation was that of like an employee and employer relationship.

As for those that are not teaching or preaching, has the study material been reviewed? Are they prepared to participate in the study time? Proper

preparation is to have ready some quotes and notes from the Spirit of Prophecy and verses from the Bible to support a possible discussion, otherwise, Sabbath school becomes no more than a time where people share nothing but opinions, which is the learning from humans rather than God. It should be God's Word that speaks instead.

But greater still is the soul preparation. To properly prepare for

service, all wrongs ought to be righted; all sins that ought to have been confessed before God should be confessed; any disagreements between brethren and sisters ought to be settled or at least settled from our effort despite not necessarily being accepted by the other party due to their stubbornness. In fact, this is the greatest area of preparation that a person can engage in for the service.



Heavenly Health

Reen Swindle

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.

What Is Health?

Before we spend a lot of time delving into a subject that is so important that it has its own set of laws and encompasses every aspect of our lives, we need to have a good understanding of what it is and we all need to be in close agreement. To give us a good foundation I am going to start off with the first definition from Webster's 1828 Dictionary, which says that health is: "That state of an animal or living body, in which the parts are sound, well organized and disposed, and in which they all perform freely their natural functions. In this state the animal feels no pain. This word is applied also to plants." I think that definition is easy to understand and accept, so let us also take in some defining words from the Spirit of Prophecy and then the Bible; but knowing that

we cannot cover every definition without taking up the space of many pages we will narrow it down to a few today that should make clear the necessity of good health. Others will be woven into up-coming articles.

Counsels on Diet and Foods tells us on page 20 that health is a treasure, which lets us know that it is something of great value and high importance, to be guarded and protected, kept safe from harm, and we do not want to risk losing it, which is sin. And since it is considered sin to lose it, then there must be some involvement of the Holy Spirit to reinstate it in our lives through forgiveness, and strengthen us to maintain it. If we profess to be Christians, we cannot be indifferent to the health of the body or we are transgressing the laws of God.

In the book Evangelism and others, we learn that health is morality as well as the restoration of the physical side of mankind. We are to be forever raising the standard in every area of our Christian walk; "...the ladder of Christian perfection, every step of which represents continual advancement in the knowledge of God, and in the climbing of which there is to be no standstill. Faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity are the rounds of the ladder. We are saved by climbing round after round, mounting step after step, to the height of Christ's ideal for us. Thus he is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption." RH September 19, 1912, par. 4. We cannot continue to advance on that ladder in our spiritual journey without good health.

In referencing the Bible's uses of the word "health", Strong's offers such words as safe, well, happy, friendly, prosperous, peace; but the last one says it all – wholly. To be in health is to be whole and we cannot add anything to that in Heaven's language. To be whole is to be complete in all areas of our lives – mental and spiritual as well as physical. Now we might look at ourselves and say I am nowhere near whole or complete. But when we have dedicated our lives to Jesus and continue on that ladder in full surrender, God does not look at us as a sinner, He looks at us the same way He looks at Jesus – as whole. This does not mean we give up and let Jesus and God do all the work, no, we have a part, and that part is to care diligently for the entire life we have been given to the best of our ability. Jesus tells us Himself that to be whole is to be healthy in Luke 5:31,

"And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician;"

You may have heard about someone being found "safe and sound" – this is actually the very term used to describe the prodigal son on his return home in Luke 15:27, "And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound", which meant by the use of the word "sound" that the young man was found to be "Entire; unbroken; Healthy; not diseased; Whole; entire; unhurt; un mutilated; as a sound body." Another place where the word "sound" is used as a descriptive of health is in 2 Tim. 1:7, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind", which addresses the condition of our thinking, spiritual nature.

John, in 3 John 1:2, health is linked with general success in all affairs of life – "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." In regards to this scripture, SDABC, vol. 7, 695 states, "Because of the close connection between mind and body, when the soul or character prospers the body is better able to be healthy." So, we see from this that not one interconnected aspect of our lives can be defective if we are in true health.

As we go on to study further each month in this topic we will discover that the more light is shed on the subject of health, like any other, it gets even broader, higher and deeper, and even extends into future eternity, making a full circle from whence it came – eternity past.



Healthy And Delicious Recipes

Lisa O'Donnell

Smoky Chickpea, Lentil & Cabbage Stew with Kale

Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons avocado or olive oil
- 1 medium yellow onion, small dice
- 2 medium carrots, diced
- ½ teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves, minced
- 4 cloves of garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- sea salt to taste
- ¾ cup French OR brown lentils, rinsed
- 4 cups finely chopped green cabbage (about ½ small savoy/ green cabbage)
- 1 15- oz can chickpeas, drained & rinsed (or 1 ½ cups cooked chickpeas)
- 1 28- oz can crushed tomatoes (I prefer fire-roasted)
- 6 cups vegetable stock
- 2 cups chopped kale, lightly packed
- 2 teaspoons gluten-free tamari soy sauce [water, soybeans, salt, and sweetener]
- 3-4 drops vegan liquid smoke (optional)

Instructions

1. Heat a large, heavy-bottomed pot over medium heat. Once heated, pour in the oil. Add the onions and carrots to the pot and stir. The vegetables should sizzle, but

just barely. Continue to saute until the onions are very soft and starting to break down, about 5 minutes. If vegetables begin to brown too fast, lower the heat a bit.

2. Add the paprika, thyme, and garlic to the pot and stir until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add the tomato paste to the pot and continue to stir until the raw flavor of the tomato paste is cooked out, about 1 minute. Season everything with salt.
3. Add the lentils, cabbage, and chickpeas to the pot and stir to coat in the spices and oil. Season everything again with salt. Add the crushed tomatoes and vegetable stock to the pot and stir.
4. Place a lid on the pot and bring the soup to a boil. Once boiling, lower the heat to a simmer, remove the lid, and cook uncovered until lentils are tender, stirring occasionally, for about 25 minutes.
5. Once the lentils are tender, stir in the chopped kale and bring the soup back up to a boil. Cook until kale is bright green and tender, about 1 minute. Stir in the tamari and liquid smoke (if using). Check the soup for seasoning and adjust if necessary. Serve the smoky chickpea, lentil, and cabbage soup hot!



"The foundation of that which keeps people in health is the medical missionary work of good cooking." ~CG 372.1

Natural Vitamins

Jerry O'Donnell

Benefits of Quinoa

1. Promotes weight loss
2. Helps prevent osteoporosis
3. Protects the heart
4. Improves skin health
5. Fights inflammation
6. Helps fight cancer
7. Helps fight diabetes and hypertension
8. Improves metabolism
9. Aids in anemia treatment
10. Enhances digestive health
11. Promotes longevity
12. Aids tissue repair and growth
13. Strengthens hair follicles
14. Helps treat dandruff when used as paste applied for 15 minutes



Authorized KJV vs Catholic Bible

Jerry O'Donnell

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

Do We Believe in an Underworld for the Dead?

Many of the versions of the Bible use the word "Hades" or "Sheol" throughout, including in Revelation 20:14, which does not mean merely Hell but an active place referred to as the underworld, which, as Seventh-day Adventists, we do not believe in. Also, when the last death is experienced, hell, as in hell-fire, will be completed. Seeing that all who suffer the second death will be resurrected, the grave has nothing of significance here, but hell certainly does. Therefore, there are two reasons the verse could be in error in the many versions of the Bible.

King James Version: And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

In Error:

A Faithful Version: And death and the grave were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

American Standard Version: And death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, even the lake of fire.

Amplified Bible: Then death and Hades [the realm of the dead] were thrown into the lake of fire. This is

the second death, the lake of fire [the eternal separation from God].

Anderson New Testament: And death and hades were cast into the lake of fire: this is the second death.

Aramaic Bible in Plain English: And Death and Sheol were cast into The Lake of Fire- this which is the second death.

Berean Literal Bible: And death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

Berean Study Bible: Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death—the lake of fire.

Christian Standard Bible: Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

Contemporary English Version: Afterwards, death and its kingdom were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

Darby Bible Translation: and death and hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, [even] the lake of fire.

English Revised Version: And death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, even the lake of fire.

English Standard Version: Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

Godbey New Testament: And death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

Good News Translation: Then death and the world of the dead were thrown into the lake of fire. (This lake of fire is the second death.)

Haweis New Testament: And death and the grave were cast into the lake of fire: this is the second death.

Holman Christian Standard Bible: Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

International Standard Version: Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. (This is the second death—the lake of fire.)

King James 2000 Bible: And death and hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

Lamsa Bible: And death and Sheol were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, which is the burning fire.

Literal Emphasis Translation: And death and hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

Literal Standard Version: and death and Hades were cast into the lake of the fire—this [is] the second death;

Mace New Testament: and death and the grave were cast into the lake of fire: this is the second death.

NET Bible: Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death--the lake of fire.

New American Standard Bible: Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

New International Version: Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.

New King James Version: Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

New Living Translation: Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the

second death.

Smith's Literal Translation: And death and hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

Weymouth New Testament: Then Death and Hades were thrown into the Lake of fire; this is the Second Death--the Lake of fire.

World English Bible: Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

Worrell New Testament: And Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, even the lake of fire.

Worsley New Testament: And death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire: this is the second death.

Young's Literal Translation: and the death and the hades were cast to the lake of the fire -- this is the second death;

Correct this time:

Bishops' Bible of 1568: And death and hell were cast into the lake of fyre. This is the seconde death.

Catholic Public Domain Version: And

Hell and death were cast into the pool of fire. This is the second death.

Coverdale Bible of 1535: And deth and hell were cast in to the lake of fyre. This is that second deeth.

Douay-Rheims Bible: And hell and death were cast into the pool of fire. This is the second death.

Geneva Bible of 1587: And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire: this is the second death.

GOD'S WORD® Translation: Death and hell were thrown into the fiery lake. (The fiery lake is the second death.)

New Heart English Bible: Death and hell were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

Tyndale Bible of 1526: And deth and hell were cast into the lake of fyre. This is that second deeth.

Webster's Bible Translation: And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.



Four Angels' Messages Contact Info

Phone: In the United States, 717-460-7881

E-mail: info@fourangelsmessages.com

Mailing: PO Box 301, Boiling Springs, PA 17007

Website: www.FourAngelsMessages.com

The link for our YouTube sermons is on our website.

Keyword search through all of our publications.

Links to our other websites are available too.

Questions And Answers

Jerry O'Donnell

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

QUESTION: Do evil angels die?

ANSWER: According to Jude 1:6, the Bible says, “And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.” Their death does not occur until the execution of the judgment, which is hellfire.

It appears the best that can be done with evil angels is to cast them out. Jesus “cast out the spirits with [his] word” (Matthew 8:16); “when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake” (Matthew 9:33); and Jesus “had called unto [him] his twelve disciples, he gave them power [against] unclean spirits, to cast them out” (Matthew 10:1). That is just a small sample of the references we could supply about confrontation with demons or fallen angels.

It is the movies, television, even books that provide the implication that the devils fight against each other to their death or encounter the good angels, lose in battle, and die.

In fact, the Bible reveals an incident that reveals that no sooner than that time shall the evil angels be dealt with. “And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time? And there was a good way off from them

an herd of many swine feeding. So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine” (Matthew 8:28-31). The torment spoken of is that of the promised punishment at the time of judgment, but instead, Jesus simply cast them out into the swine. He had power to destroy them right there and then, but He did not.

QUESTION: Who is taken first – the saved or the lost?

ANSWER: When you combine Proverbs 3:25-26 with 1 Thessalonians 4:17, we see that the wicked are taken out of the way first. “Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh. For the LORD shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken. Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.” To be kept from being taken is not the death at the hands of other humans for history reveals that there have been many martyrs. This “foot from being taken” is about standing for God, and He shall keep us from being lost or taken out of the way. In other words, if we are successful, while the lost are being taken out of the way, our foot shall remain, which is brought out in the Thessalonian verse. The use of the word “remain” in Thessalonians strongly implies that others are being taken out of the way, and they are, while the saved person remains. We want to be part of those who remain or are left behind.

Let us put it this way, when the vast majority of Christians are being taught that they do not want to be left behind, we can count on the fact that we indeed do want to be left behind because the vast majority are usually wrong. Further, when the movies portray the same thing, of wanting to be taken, we know that they misalign God's character and encourage people to root for the rebellious side instead of the obedient side. Therefore, they would indeed encourage the wrong desire when it comes to one being taken and the other being left behind. Since the movies and books encourage people to be taken, it must be wrong.

But let us investigate the verses themselves because some Seventh-day Adventists have challenged the conclusion in past encounters. Looking at Luke 17:34-36, where are the people? In verse 34, two men are in bed. They have retired for the night. And no, there is nothing encouraging a relationship here as it is customary to share the same bed. In verse 35 as well as in Matthew 24:41, we see two women hard at work grinding at the mill. In verse 36, we see two men in the field working. We know where all six people happen to be. So, when the disciples ask, "Where, Lord?" in verse 37, it does not make sense to be asking, "Where are the ones left behind?" No. The logical question is, "Where are the ones who are taken, going?"

Now, Jesus' answer is a little vague when He states, "Whosoever the body [is], thither will the eagles be gathered together" in verse 37. Without comparing scripture to scripture, which would break the rule for proper Bible study according to Isaiah 28:9-10, people have concluded that this is the secret rapture or at the very least, these are

the ones taken to Heaven because the eagles soar in the sky and so shall the saved be for they "shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

The hint to understanding what Jesus meant happens to be in the use of the word "body". Bodies will be taken to the eagles. And in doing a proper Bible study, we compare scripture and find out that "whosoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together" (Matthew 24:28). In other words, this fulfills Revelation 19:17-18, which says, "And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all [men, both] free and bond, both small and great."

So, the "taken" are the lost and they are dealt with first. Even Matthew 13:29-30 reveals this in a different parable. "But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn." The use of the word "first" means that the lost are dealt with first. Back in the other parable, the ones being taken are being dealt with first. We equate the two together and come to the same conclusion. The lost are taken first to be feasted upon by the eagles, or fowl.



Prophecy Made Plain

Jerry O'Donnell

Who Is Michael?

Daniel 12:1 states, “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.”

Michael is involved with the “time of trouble”, “stand up”, “people shall be delivered”, and “the book”. All four of those items are very much end time events that could be investigated further, but before we could do any of that, possibly in future articles, we need to make sure we understand who Michael is.

There are fifteen verses in the Bible with the name “Michael”. Excluding the ten verses that reveal Michael as a mere human (Numbers 13:13; 1 Chronicles 5:13-14, 6:40, 7:3, 8:16, 12:20, 27:18; 2 Chronicles 21:2; Ezra 8:8), we see the following verses in addition to Daniel 12:1:

Daniel 10:13, “But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.”

Daniel 10:21, “But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and [there is] none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.”

Jude 1:9, “Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses,

durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.”

Revelation 12:7-8, “And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.”

Now, regarding the verse from Jude, do not automatically think that an archangel has to be an angel.

Archangel simply means captain or leader of the angels. That is like the fourteen presidents that were the leaders of the armed forces without having served in the military at all. Most recently, they are Clinton, Obama, Trump, and Biden. Yet, they were all considered Commanders in Chief. A lot of people erroneously make the archangel the top angel, and that is not true. That is human error and distorts the conclusion when researched.

Now, in both verses of Daniel 10, the word “prince” and “princes” appear but they too do not mean what we think they mean. It is not like a person who is waiting to become king. It actually means “leader”, “captain”, even “ruler” according to the Bible Lexicon for understanding the Greek and Hebrew. The translators simply chose the word “prince” when they could have chosen “captain” or “leader”, which matches Jude’s word of “archangel”, captain of the angels or leader of the angels.

Additionally, in Joshua, Michael is not mentioned by name, but the biblical definition that we are seeing so far is confirmed: “And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he

lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, [Art] thou for us, or for our adversaries? And he said, Nay; but [as] captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant? And the captain of the LORD'S host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest [is] holy. And Joshua did so" (Joshua 5:13-15).

An ordinary angel would never command a human to show reverence by telling them to take off their shoes, therefore the Captain is not an angel. In fact, when someone tried to show reverence to an angel, he was told not to do that: "And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See [thou do it] not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren" (Revelation 19:10).

Now, the famous incident that involving the removing of shoes is at the time of Moses: "And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here [am] I. And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off

thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest [is] holy ground" (Exodus 3:4-5).

So, we see God is the one that declares ground to be holy and commands for shoes to be removed. Specifically, Jesus said of Himself, "Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:58). Jesus is the "I AM" that met with Moses, who therefore met with Joshua, who declared Himself to be the Captain of the host of angels. Therefore, Michael is another name for Jesus, keeping in mind names are not mere names but are single words representing phrases. Again, many people who see names in the Bible think that is all they are – names. Names in the Bible are also titles, as in the case of Michael.

Further confirmation of this conclusion in which Michael refers to Jesus is by focusing on the activity of the archangel. At the second coming, "the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first" (1 Thessalonians 4:16). We must ask, is it a mere angel that wakes the dead? No. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear

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

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the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live" (John 5:25). Jesus only wakes the dead and does not transfer that responsibility to any other being, including an angel.

So, twice we compared scripture with scripture and twice it has been pointed out that Michael refers to Jesus.

Finally, we pull the Hebrew definition of Michael, as we hate doing and, therefore, we saved it to the end. When people speak, "In the Hebrew...", all arguments cease because how can we argue Greek and Hebrew not knowing Greek and Hebrew ourselves. We are reduced to having to take their word for it. And

in many cases, we have heard people argue the Greek and Hebrew of texts only to find out that others also arguing in the Greek and Hebrew were using other Greek and Hebrew words. So, be careful when people throw Greek and Hebrew at resolving the issue as the primary decision maker.

Now, in this case, we are not using it to prove our case as we have already proved it. This is just extra information. According to the Bible Lexicon in the Hebrew as well as the Greek, Michael means "who is like God". And we ask, "who is like God" other than Jesus?



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.

August 10

Advent Messenger

Interfaith Worship: An Adventist Pastor from the Central Bolivian Mission Joined Witch Doctors as Food and Drink Offerings were made to the "Sacred Pachamama" (Earth Goddess)

Bible: "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils" (1 Timothy 4:1)

August 21

Adventist Review

Present Over Perfect, by Jill Morikone

It's a performance-based mentality, instead of accepting and receiving who I am in Jesus. In Christ I am enough. I can be present without seeking to be perfect.

EGW: "The injunction of Christ is, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." He here shows us that we may be as

perfect in our sphere as God is in His sphere.” {CD 133.2}

August 23

Advent Messenger

Unholy Communion: An Ordained Adventist Pastor from the Texas Conference Performs Rap on Communion Sabbath

But instead of encouraging a sense of reverence for the solemnity of Christ’s sacrifice, Pastor Serns integrates the elements of the rap culture—beats, music, rhyming, lyrics, cheering, clapping, and shouting—and makes them part of the Holy Communion Sabbath service. At the end, he declares he is having “way, way too much fun.”

EGW: “Every uncouth thing will be demonstrated” {2SM 36.2}.

August 23

Adventist Review

How Not to Keep Young Adults in the Church

Summary: The article of course addresses music, blames the older people, believe there needs to be

more tolerance, etc. Basically, it is the same old agenda story.

EGW: “God does not change. He has not one character for Denmark, another for Sweden, and another for Norway, and still another for England, but he is the same to all. God wants us to fulfill the conditions laid down in his word. He has not a school varying for the different nationalities, but he has one school for all.” {RH, May 10, 1887 par. 17}

Comment: The same applies to various ages. We do not serve a different God that, for instance, allows “modern” music to fit the feelings, the senses, etc.

August 25

Advent Messenger

Magician Jared Hall has been Canceled from the Florida Conference’s Youth Retreat

On August 22, 2023, we reported that Jared Hall, the self-proclaimed magician, was scheduled to perform at the Florida Conference 2023 High School Bible Retreat scheduled for October 5-8 at Camp Kulaqua. The very next day, August 23, 2023, the Florida Conference Youth & Young

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.

Adult Ministries published the new line-up of special guests, and Jared Hall was replaced with someone else.

Bible: “For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.” (2 Corinthians 7:10)

Comment: To change plans only after being called out for it is not true repentance.

August 25

Adventist Review

BRI and Andrews University Release Landmark Book on Adventist Doctrine

Carefully reasoned, meticulously shaped, yet winsomely user-friendly for life beyond the academy.

Comment: Winsomely means “in a way that is attractive and pleasing, with simple qualities”. “User-friendly” is not a phrase one would describe doctrines and the application thereof. Overall, this book is more than likely the same or even more blatant method of changing our doctrines like they did with book *Seventh-day Adventists Answer Questions on Doctrine* in 1957.

Bible: “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears.” (2 Timothy 4:3)



News And Comments

July 4

Fox News

(name withheld) likely violated First Amendment during COVID-19 pandemic, federal judge says

This is not a political shot, hence why the name of the violator was removed. The constitution does not allow for a crisis to usurp citizen's rights. Even forbidding the assembly of people for church, technically, was a violation. Just confirmation of what was stated over the past few years, freedom of speech and other constitutional rights being voided is an example of the United States gearing up to "spake as a dragon" (Revelation 13:11). The Supreme

Court decision will not deter these leaders. It took a few years to strike things down. The damage has long been done, and there will be no apology, correction, or even compensation towards those that were violated. They simply stop one tactic and move onto the next.

July 4

Telegraph

‘I left my dream job to home school my kids because I was afraid of their screen addictions’

Praise the Lord that there are still parents that place a child ahead of self desires. The Bible tells parents,

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). The Bible does not say to drop them in daycare or public school system. Now, there is a place for daycare and schools, so please, for those that have circumstances that necessitates that need, do not get irked, but those that simply use daycare just for career oriented purposes, living comfortably, saving up for family vacations, and other worldly sought after distractions from parental duty, the advice is to follow the example of this mother. Even time together in the evening as a family is not necessarily a reason to throw a child into the daycare and public school pathway. Many parents used to tag-team employment where, though it is hard to do, one worked the day shift while the other a night shift or a modified second shift. Ease is not an excuse with God.

July 7

Telegraph

Why eating red meat and cheese may not be as bad as you thought

"From the light God has given me, the prevalence of cancer and tumors is largely due to gross living on dead flesh" {CD 388.2}. "The effect of cheese is deleterious" {CD 236.2}. So, are we going to believe junk science or God's prophet?

July 10

Benzinga

Bud Light Plummets To 14th Place Among Beers As Anheuser-Busch CEO Pleads For Consumers To Think Of The 65,000 Employees Impacted By Boycotts

Maybe they should have thought about their employees before pursuing the agenda. To blame the boycotters is a serious gaslighting move, but that is typical in this day and age. "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" (Isaiah 5:20). "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

July 10

PC Gamer

Bizarroland UN press stunt sees AI robots lined up to promise they won't kill humans, before one says 'let's get wild and make this world our playground'

The reference in the article after the "get wild" comment was a quote from the movie "Terminator": "I need your clothes, your boots, and your motorcycle." That was movie set in the future in which AI was eliminating all humans for a better future in AI's mind. Many fear that is a predictive movie in which AI will eliminate humans, but that does not match the Bible: "Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

July 13

CBS News

Millions of Gen-Xers have almost nothing saved for retirement, researchers say

The article uses phrases like: "woefully unprepared financially for retirement", "some 40% don't have a penny saved for retirement", "data

indicate that the vast majority are not even close to having enough savings to retire", "The American Dream of retirement is going to be a nightmare for too many Gen-Xers", "they'll need savings of at least \$1 million to retire comfortably", "The status quo means we are looking at elder poverty for many Gen-Xers and pressure on their families for support", and others. This is what the Bible states regarding planning for retirement ... (nothing). As the article admitted, it is "the American dream". What the article failed to state was the option of not retiring. If a person is able to work, why are they forced to retire because of reaching a certain age? Those who can afford life in retirement living the "the American dream", what a blessing! But it is unnecessary to worry or belittle any group of people because they chose to intentionally or unintentionally not chase "the American dream". Gen Xers that are seeing events unfolding may be doing their best to get out of debt and prepare for Jesus to return in their life time – "the Heavenly hope!" "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure" (1 John 3:3).

July 13

CNN

Man acquitted of assault as grope lasted less than 10 seconds, sparking outrage

Yet another country and another class of evil permitted to reign. People who loot under a certain dollar amount usually are not brought to court. Many officers are informed to wait until after the crime is completed before showing up so as to lower the risk of being sued. And now molestation being permitted as

long as it is under ten seconds is very much encouraging to other gropers. "Woe unto them that call evil good" (Isaiah 5:20)!

July 23

US News

Say Goodbye to Bodypainting Day, New York City's Annual Celebration of Nudity and Artistry

Although body painting on nude models is legal in New York, it is not appreciated by God. Nudity is to be shared between husband and wife and not to be an experience with the public. "When thou seest the naked, that thou cover him" (Isaiah 58:7). "And when Moses saw that the people [were] naked; (for Aaron had made them naked unto [their] shame among their enemies:) Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who [is] on the LORD'S side? [let him come] unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him" (Exodus 32:25-26). Much of the art world is an excuse to be naked, obscene, and other rebellious actions.

July 23

Your Tango

Woman's Husband Asks For An Open Marriage, Then Gets Jealous When His Wife Gets Tons Of Tinder Matches

Open marriages, living together, "modern dating", etc. is nothing more than an attack on the purpose of marriage. Let us face it, those that sleep around and then decide to "settle down" with one partner, what do you really bring to the marriage? There is nothing special. It is just an agreement to only have one intimate partner for the rest of your life with

the one you decided to settle down with and evidently, that is not even true with open marriages. There is no wonder of why people refer to marriage as a piece of paper and many choose to not get one. And no wonder many marriages are dull, boring, a feeling like friends sharing a life together instead of actually being a married couple. No wonder it is easy to fight with a spouse. If the fight goes too far, just get a new spouse or go back to playing the field again. The specialty of marriage is mostly gone in this "modern world". If you are single, never been married, and have not had intimacy, continue to hold out and be patient to find that other special partner. The blessings of God will be tremendous. Those that already fallen, repent and be celibate. We cannot lie but that special blessing of marriage is lost. A person cannot pretend it did not happen. The experience has already happened. By remaining celibate, it will help the future marriage but it will not be perfect. Besides, when a person actually engages in such activity, technically before God, they are married: "And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's [death]" (Genesis 24:67). Isaac and Rebekah went into the tent as a couple and came out husband and wife. We are pretty sure there was no minister hiding in the tent with them. Let us teach our youth the sanctity of marriage. Do not simply teach them that intimacy is for marriage; teach them that it is marriage. The public marriage ceremony is like baptism. It is a public display of a commitment. A person is not a Christian on the day of baptism. It is an outward commitment to being a Christian. And by the way, when we state the

word "intimacy", that includes things leading up to it. It may sound old-fashioned but that is because society has changed. The intent of God is that at the ceremony, the couple finally get to kiss. So even "making out" should be off the table before the eyes of God. No wonder Joseph was ready to divorce Mary even before being married. That shows that all of the modern aspects of "dating" is wrong.

July 24

Yahoo

Is Snacking Bad for You? It Depends on Quality and Timing, New Research Shows

"In eating, errors in the quantity as well as the quality of food should be avoided. Eating too much of even a simple diet will injure the health, as will also irregular eating, and eating between meals. All these abuses of the stomach cloud the mind and blunt the conscience" {8MR 377.2}. "You speak of cake and pastry, saying that the harmful effects of these things are not kept before the people as in former years, and that many have not learned the harm of eating between meals. All these subjects are treated upon in our health literature. Why not see if you cannot get them to read and become intelligent on these subjects? Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart. Why should not those who are accepting the light of present truth become intelligent upon the subjects which concern the habitation the Lord has given them, walking in the light as it shines upon their pathway? Eating between meals places a tax upon the stomach that will surely bring disease upon the digestive organs" {20MR 2.5}.

July 25

Telegraph

'The only way to treat obesity is to make people understand that it is a self-inflicted wound'

Although there are some medical exceptions, choice is a big contributor to weight gain. It takes discipline, endurance, and a commitment to making healthy choices. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31) and not for the glory of the tastebuds.

July 25

CBS News

Popular weight loss drugs Ozempic and Wegovy may cause stomach paralysis, doctors warn

This goes to show that "FDA Approved" does not always mean that it is safe. On top of that, the happy and cheerful commercials that pushed this stuff show that it is all about making a profit. And the sad part is about what lengths people will go to in order to deal with weight loss. "Whose end [is] destruction, whose God [is their] belly, and [whose] glory [is] in their shame, who mind earthly things" (Philippians 3:19).

July 26

Buzz Feed

The 6 Most Shocking Claims Made About UFOs At Congress's Hearing About UFOs

It does not matter what they claim because we know that it is the work of demons for they are making "fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven" (Luke 21:11).

Since the nations are on board with all of these UFO sightings, we know the time is near for God to work mightily.

July 30

(Source Withheld)

(blank) Bares It All in 'Empowering and Freeing' Photos

The person this time around, as it is a daily occurrence with celebrities, especially as they age in an attempt to state that they are still sexy and relevant, has been withheld on purpose so as not to arouse curiosity. But why is becoming naked before the entire world empowering? The first encounter with "empowerment" and "nakedness" goes way back in time to the Garden of Eden. Eve was told, "ye shall be as gods" (Genesis 3:5) and the result was that "they knew that they [were] naked" (Genesis 3:7). Only today, people put the nakedness first in blatant disregard to God and His ways that by this means of nakedness, they experience "knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:5). Basically, these are people who have not learned the lesson of Adam and Eve fulfilling the quite often stated "modern day Eves".

August 2

Popular Mechanics

An Aging Expert Thinks Humans Can Live for 20,000 Years. He's Not Crazy.

So, in the area of "oppositions of science falsely so called" (1 Timothy 6:20), this guy thinks he is better than God. God's best model that was not tainted with sin at the start lived only "nine hundred and thirty years" (Genesis 5:5). The longest living person was Methuselah and he lived

"nine hundred sixty and nine years" (Genesis 5:27). Humans are always looking for the way to undo God's curse. Oh, that is because most of them do not believe in God.

August 6

Telegraph

Hospital cancelled my surgery after I complained about transgender nurse

"Women should be thoroughly educated to work for women, and men to work for men. Let men know that they must go to their own sex, and not apply to lady physicians. It is an insult to women, and God looks upon these things of commonness with abhorrence." {SpTB15 14.1} And trans-genders are just muddying the waters. This woman's right to have an all female staff for surgery is not unreasonable, in fact, it is God's standard.

August 8

Time

Forget 10,000 Steps. Here's How Much Science Says You Actually Need to Walk

Evidently, science contradicts itself once again, but that is not actually the point to be made. Many people have a monitor that calculates how many steps they take and when the certain number is achieved each day, supposedly a person is staying healthy. Steps and walking are two different things. A person can walk to the fridge every hour and nibble on something. That is not exercise and that causes further damage to the body with such a habit of eating by grazing. "Walking, in all cases where it is possible, is the best exercise, because in walking, all the muscles are brought into action. Many who

depend upon the movement-cure could, by exercise, accomplish more for themselves than the movements can do for them. There is no exercise that can take the place of walking. Want of exercise causes the bowels to become enfeebled and shrunken. Exercise will strengthen these organs that have become enfeebled for want of use. The circulation of the blood is greatly improved by the act of walking. The active use of the limbs will be of the greatest advantage to invalids" {HR, July 1, 1872 par. 14}.

August 7

Business Insider

An ancient skull unlike any human ever seen is baffling scientists and could rewrite the story of our evolution

Why does anyone still believe in evolution? It keeps changing. Christians may have various understanding of Genesis 1 and 2, but without human interpretation, God's Word still stands. The fact that even Jesus, the Son of God, makes reference to creation week (Matthew 19:4), tells us the literal interpretation is stands true. "Oppositions of science falsely so called" (1 Timothy 6:20) is what the problem is.

August 8

NBC News

Pope says church is open to everyone, including gay people, but has rules

We are living in the last days, and the generation that is to witness the final destruction has not been left without warning of the hastening judgments of God. Says the apostle, "I saw another angel come down from

heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. . . . And I heard another voice from heaven saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." {RH, November 5, 1889 par. 7}

August 12

NY Post

Japanese man who spent \$14K to become a collie says his family accepts it

Despite the news misreporting that this man wanted to live like a dog but simply wears the costume once a week and the family is alright with it, does not negate the fact that he literally acts like a dog and interacts with other dogs. Of course, the fact that he makes a decent amount of money off it, paying off the \$14K investment, does encourage him a bit. What people will do for money. "Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death" (Proverbs 11:4).

August 10

9 News

Man says he was 'compelled' to expose himself to women on Jeffco trails, affidavit says

We cannot use the argument, "The devil made me do it" or even, "I was compelled." "Because the carnal mind [is] enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Romans 8:7). The way society and justice are going today, do not be surprised if "being compelled" is going to be an allowable excuse one of these days.

August 15

The Gateway Pundit

UMM, WHAT? Museum in Minneapolis Holds 'Family Friendly' Event to Summon a Demon

There is nothing "family friendly" regarding demons, for they destroy families! "Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils" (Psalms 106:37).

August 22

Huff Post

5-Year-Old Killed In Drive-By Shooting Between Teens Fighting Over A Girl, Police Say

SUDDEN MISSING DELIVERY!!!

Although we are having problems with getting the message out and say that we do not offer refunds when censored, please do not hesitate to reach out to see if we indeed have been shut down or if the postal carrier is not delivering. When we receive a piece of mail back as undeliverable, we simply remove the person from the mailing list. We have no phone numbers, therefore we have no other means of contact. So, please reach out if you are missing issues, and we shall place you back on the list.

The precept or principle set forth in James 2:10 still stands today. "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one [point], he is guilty of all." In highlighting the obvious commandment breaking keeping in mind that the others were broken as well, we have selfishness breaks the first commandment; idolizing a girl is the second; murder attempt as well as accidentally murdering is the sixth. Uncontrolled anger easily escalates, and sadly, the innocent usually get hurt.

August 26

Telegraph

Do not heat your homes in the evenings, net zero quango tells public

When "net zero carbon emissions" is the goal and basically a god, then even human life has no value and ought to be sacrificed for this god. Interestingly, they are hypocrites. Even the article reveals that various subgroups, like the CCC (The Climate Change Committee) has its own people not abiding by the "no gas boiler" policy. It is easy to make up policies, even enforce it upon others, but harder to follow by one's own self. The adage of "lead by example" comes to mind. Again, forced compliance is of the devil. Invitation is God's way. "When the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn" (Proverbs 29:2).

August 28

Insider

I've studied more than 5,000 near death experiences. My research has convinced me without a doubt that there's life after death.

Something spiritual surely happens with NDEs, but getting a glimpse of Heaven and hovering over the operation room, basically having the conscience separate from the body, are all conclusions of the senses but the Bible says otherwise. "For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten" (Ecclesiastes 9:5). No one considers that evil angels can plant observations and details of things into people's heads while on the operating table. As for glimpses of Heaven or another realm, the mind can easily create those things but that does not make the experience a reality. The fact that no two stories are the same regarding what people see reveals that each of us have different perceptions as opposed to reality. In other words, if everyone received a glimpse of Heaven during and NDE, then they would be very much similar at the very least. All of the people visit the same destination here on earth coming back to tell similar stories. Yes, the details of the experience may be different, but the main attractions will be factual. Heaven is not going to be an individual experience. The visions given to the prophets reveal fact of what Heaven will be like. The NDEs should reflect that and not some other experience.

August 29

Independent

Teenage girl, 16, stabbed to death in fight over sweet and sour sauce at Washington DC McDonald's

When people are willing to fight and kill over things like this goes beyond it even being an idol. "Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for

the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because [there is] no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land. By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood" (Hosea 4:1-2).

August 30

She Find

3 Fruits No One Should Be Eating Anymore Because They Cause Bloating And Belly Fat

Apples, watermelon, and mangos are the three recommended fruits to avoid, yet Ellen White penned, "Apples are superior to any fruit for a standby that grows" {CD 312.2}.

August 30

Yahoo

In remarks about Maui and Idalia, Biden blames climate change

Ellen White penned, "Satan puts his interpretation upon events, and they think, as he would have them, that the calamities which fill the land are a result of Sunday-breaking. Thinking to appease the wrath of God, these influential men make laws enforcing Sunday observance. They think that by exalting this false rest day higher and still higher, compelling obedience to the Sunday law, the spurious sabbath, they are doing God service." {10MR 239.2}. This is not what Biden did but it will be easy to switch all of the climate change idolizers over to Sunday-breaking as the excuse.



Ellen White Abbreviations In this Issue

1888 - The Ellen G. White
1888 Materials

1MR - Manuscript Releases
Volume One

1SM - Selected Messages
Book 1

2SM - Selected Messages
Book 2

3SM - Selected Messages
Book 3

6T - Testimonies For The
Church Volume Six

7BC - S.D.A. Bible
Commentary Vol. 7

8MR - Manuscript Releases
Volume Eight

10MR - Manuscript Releases
Volume Ten

14MR - Manuscript Releases
Volume Fourteen

19MR - Manuscript Releases
Volume Nineteen

20MR - Manuscript Releases
Volume Twenty

CD - Counsels on Diet and
Foods

DA - The Desire of Ages

GC - The Great Controversy
(1911)

HR - Good Health

LDE - Last Day Events

Mar - Maranatha

RH - The Review and Herald

SpTB15 - Letters from Ellen
G. White to Sanitarium
Workers

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.*

Relief from Fever Blisters

When that itchy, tingling, burning sensation is first noticed on the lip is the time to act to stop the pain.

Usually if you wrap an ice cube in a thin cloth and hold it directly on the affected lip area for 30 to 60 minutes, the fever blister can be completely eradicated before it even gets started with this simple procedure.



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Mail To: Four Angels Messages,
PO Box 301, Boiling Springs, PA 17007
E-mail: info@fourangelsmessages.com
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