# 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.

## Witnessing

## Ellen White

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth."

This commission Christ gave to His disciples just before, in His risen and glorified body, He ascended to His Father. This charge He gives to every one who has an intelligent knowledge of the plan of salvation. It is the privilege of His followers to reveal Christ and the Father to the world.

The work of Christ in the world was to reveal the Father, and when praying to the Father for His disciples, He said, "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I sent them into the world." "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth, I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me: and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me."

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

## March 2024

Volume 8, Issue 3

## Dear Brothers and Sisters ... Jerry O'Donnell

Life's choices result in facing the outcomes of our decisions. Many of them are easy to make because they carry many good results; others tug at the heart as they contain both good and bad outcomes; and still a few other choices require endurance because the results draw much disapproval from the world.

Choosing stir fry for dinner is an easy choice when compared to another option – that of just eating chocolate cake. The different feelings one will have afterwards are like night and day. The stir fry meal will provide that necessary amount of food which will not interfere with activities afterwards. Eating a chocolate cake may spike energy for a moment but then cause a crash along with the belly bloat. The stir fry is guilt-free while the chocolate cake may contain things we ought to feel guilty about, like the sugars, caffeine, possibly dairy, etc.

Choosing to be a missionary oversees is one choice that pulls on the heart strings. Sure, it is exciting to be on the front-line of spreading the gospel to people who have not heart it, but having to leave friends and relatives behind is a pull on the heart; those are the more difficult choices. But the separation does not have to be that profound. Many choose to distance themselves from relatives and friends because of the influence, especially around certain times of the year. If the Fourth of July holiday family-and-friends gathering at a lake is about the friends and family getting drunk, cooking unclean meats which stink up the air so badly that it causes gag reflexes, young men running around without shirts, young

girls wearing strings for bathing suits, and conversations that are inappropriate at any time – these pull on the heart strings, especially since the love for the people is unchanged but, one does not want to be exposed to such things for long periods of time. And no one goes uninfluenced at such gatherings.

Then there is the ultimate choice when a person has to stand up for the side of Christ and reject what the world demands. Many times, the world requires hours of employment on the Sabbath, be it late Friday or some time on Saturday, of which if a person does not participate they may be facing unemployment. Some jobs still require vaccinations, and to try and submit an exemption is getting more and more challenging causing a person to have to make the choice of supporting the family financially or facing unemployment as well. And we all know that at some point, there will be no buy or sell, and there will be no amount of preparing for that time. Thieves will steal the crops, and infestations will be found in the storage of the food.

Being a Christian is more than a title. It is a challenging decision. Anything short of that is a person who compromises. And searching the Bible, we see that every compromise ended poorly, even in a loss of salvation.

So, how firm is your commitment to the Lord? "But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end" (Hebrews 3:6).

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 wellstudied in the messages of all four angels, to get ready and be ready very soon to go and preach them, even being active now. It is our belief that not only are we the last generation, but the mark is soon to be forced upon us, and publications like this shall be targeted. So while the presses can run, let us awake to our high calling, despite others who want to remain asleep. Keep in mind, the final movements of the message are described thus:

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

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

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

#### About The Four Angels' Messages Ministry

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

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

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this publication is challenging to provide to everyone for free. So we are asking for a subscription on the honor system of **\$35 annually for 12 issues**, and if the Lord impresses you with the means to be able to provide a donation, we definitely would welcome such and would put it to proper use, including helping to pay for subscriptions of those who cannot afford the cost. The publication is free online in PDF format.

#### (Continued from page 1)

The sinner can be accepted by a holy God only through the righteousness of Christ. Through His blood we have redemption. This is the knowledge that every true witness will have. Upon this Rock will he stand. His faith in Christ as the Son of the infinite God, the mighty Counsellor, the everlasting Father, the Prince of peace, will give him assurance. And resting his faith in Christ he will become one with the Father. He will have an experimental knowledge of what Christ is to the believer. He will realize that no member of the human family can of himself meet the claims of God's law or satisfy His justice, but that Christ is the justifier of him that believeth.

The followers of Christ are to represent Him to the world. By precept and example they are to teach the works of Christ. They are to do the work that will represent His attributes. They are to entreat their fellow men for whose salvation they labor, that they may not, by providing for themselves only an earthly portion, deprive themselves of eternal happiness. "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth," says Christ, "where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." He who secures his treasure beside the eternal throne becomes a partaker of the heavenly attributes. Divine attributes and temporal blessings are appreciated and enjoyed in a sense that the worldling cannot understand.

When the Lord asked Solomon what he should give him, Solomon said,

"Thou hast showed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness and in uprightness of heart with thee, and thou hast kept for him this great kindness that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. And now, O Lord my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my Father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in. And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

"And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life: neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart: so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches and honor, so that there shall not be any among all the kings like unto thee all thy days. And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days."

Here is a lesson for us. Our petitions to God should not proceed from hearts that are filled with selfish aspirations. God exhorts us to choose those gifts that will redound to the glory of God. He would have us choose the heavenly in place of the earthly. He throws open before us the possibilities and advantages of a heavenly commerce. He would give encouragement to our loftiest aims, security to our choicest treasure. When the earthly is swept away, the believer will rejoice in his heavenly treasure, the riches that cannot be lost in any earthly disaster. Then let your property go before you to heaven. By our works here below we may lay up for ourselves a good foundation against the time to come.

"Charge them that are rich in this world," says the apostle, "that they be not high-minded, and trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us all things richly to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate, laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold upon eternal life."

We have an infinite Redeemer, and how precious are the gems of truth that testify to this in God's Word. But these precious jewels have been buried beneath a mass of rubbish, of tradition, and heresies, which Satan himself has originated. His schemes are working with a strange power upon human minds to eclipse the value of Christ to those who believe in Him. The enemy of God and man has cast a spell over those who profess to be the followers of Christ until of many it can be said, They know not the time of their visitation.

Says the true Witness, "I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love." In the ardor of the first love, what testimonies were poured forth for Christ, what entreaties were made from souls overflowing with love. What joyous gratitude filled the heart and flowed forth from the soul when the believer first became conscious of the love of Jesus. With tears and prayers he offered his petitions to God, he entreated his friends to accept of Jesus; his yearning sympathy was revealed in the love he manifested for the souls for whom Christ had died. But he met with coldness; minds seemed unimpressed.

Sinners will not always respond to the heaven born pity revealed in the laborer in his first love. But the example of Christ is placed before us, that we may not fail nor be discouraged. Faith, living, active faith must work through apparent discomfiture, defeat, and contempt. The love of Christ in the heart must not be quenched, but show itself invincible through God. In seeking wisdom from God in the work of saving souls there must be manifested a faith that is unwavering.

How many in our churches have lost their first love! With many it is almost extinct. Shall the Christian graces be brought back? The Lord expects His steward to be faithful, educating and training all his powers, that when the Lord comes to scrutinize his talents, he may return His own with usury. Unless Christlike humility is brought into the life, the believer will grow away from the simplicity of the work. He will bring in spiritual pride and self -sufficiency to supply the vacuum that should be filled with the love of Jesus. Bungling work will be done, because the worker is not disposed to act a self-denying, self-sacrificing part. This he leaves for someone else to do. The love of Christ is scarcely mentioned. The minister whose heart is unsubdued by the grace of Christ cannot give his attention to the

people. He has not the Christ love in his own soul, and therefore it cannot flow out in rich currents to others.

In the sacrifice of Christ for our world, His mediation is made visible. This is the evidence of things unseen and makes faith the gift of God. "For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; and having made peace by the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth or things in heaven."

It was by this means that Christ acquired the power to lay under tribute to Himself man's entrusted talents, influence, and wealth to carry forward this great work in the world. It is contrary to the Lord's plans for one soul to withhold from Him his ability, his means, or influence. Every soul to whom the Lord has given a knowledge of the truth is a thread in the great web of humanity. He is to fill his position, to act his part, holding himself under the orders of the Captain of his salvation. Each is to bear in mind that he is to act a part in the work of saving souls, that there may be no hindrance to the work of the upbuilding of the kingdom of God.

The Lord's Spirit is grieved when any of His servants, be they ministers or laymen, withhold their tribute of service. When this is done, additional burdens fall on those who are willing to labor. To all who are converted to God, who through faith become partakers of the divine nature, are entrusted talents to be employed in the salvation of souls. Each is commanded, "Go work today in my vineyard." And in working as a colaborer with Christ, man is educated for the work. As a faithful servant looks to his master, and a handmaid to her mistress, so the servant of God will look in earnest prayer to Christ. He will be a doer of the Word. He will obey orders. If the Christian is to be the light of the world, he must shine; he must be a faithful worker for Christ, holding forth the Word of Life, lifting Jesus up before the people and repeating His lessons.

The Lord makes every effort to reclaim the delinquent—those who place themselves out of the rank of workers, as though they were not responsible for the salvation of their own souls or for the souls of others. But if these men continue in this position, Christ cannot become responsible for their salvation, for they hide their Lord's talents and bind themselves to the side of the enemy. "He that is not for me," says Christ, "is against me; and he that gathereth not with me, scattereth abroad."

Why are so many who profess to be children of God devoting their Godentrusted capabilities to selfish purposes. Are they not stewards of the grace of Christ? Are they not to lift up Jesus? Are they not to talk of Christ? His praise should be upon their lips because the Sun of Righteousness is shining in their hearts. His holy name should be exalted in the earth. Many, many become the subjects of Satan's temptations because they do not engage in Christ's work disinterestedly and energetically, but take their position in opposition to the great Worker. The names of such cannot be registered in the books of heaven as laborers together with God. They are numbered with the idlers.

Have the church members any real sense of what this means? Do you feel yourselves under no obligations to be a strength in the world, acting a part in the church, and according to your baptismal vows becoming dead to the world and having your life hid with Christ in God? Says the apostle, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God."

In the work of redemption for the fallen race, all heaven is constantly employed. Angels are enlisted in the work. They are actively engaged in executing God's plans to bring men back from their rebellion to reconciliation with God. With intense earnestness they are co-operating with God to bring to men moral efficiency, that in <and through> Christ he may be more than conqueror. Jesus left the heavenly courts and came to our world, bringing with Him the sympathies of the angels who lost not their first estate. He advanced from the manger to Calvary with all the heavenly intelligences in His train. On Calvary, in the dying victim, mercy answered the claims of justice with a full compensation.

All who are partakers in this great salvation wrought out by Jesus Christ are under obligation to work as laborers together with God. In the heavenly courts the roll is called, on which every name is registered, and the heavenly agencies respond to the call. The service which is being done by every human being <upon earth> is there recorded. If negligent, it is recorded; if diligent, the same is reported; if idlers, the fact stands against their names. Not one of all the great mass of humanity is lost. Then let every one be ready to answer the call, saying, "Here, Lord, ready for action."

The world has claims upon you. If you fail to shine as lights in the world, some will rise in the judgment and charge upon you the blood of their souls. It will be seen that you are an agent in the hands of the enemy of God and man to mislead and deceive by your profession of Christianity. You did not lead souls to piety and devotion. You had a name to live, but were spiritually dead. You had not the vitalizing influence of the Spirit of God, which is richly and abundantly provided for all who in faith make demands upon it.

If man turns away, and does not act his part, he not only suffers loss himself and imperils his own soul, but deprives those who are in darkness of the light he could bring to them. Man must watch constantly for opportunities to do good. Then he will co-operate with the heavenly agencies. The spirit of Christianity will lead men to impart their treasure of the knowledge of the love of Christ to others. Those who become Christ's disciples will communicate to others the light given them of God. Truth in the heart longs for diffusion. In proportion to the greatness of the sacred trust which has been committed to them, so will be their desire to impart it to others.

{Manuscript 21, 1890}

## Annual Receipts Have Been Sent

If you did not receive a receipt, please let us know right away and we shall get it out to you as quickly as possible.

## Second Adam After His Resurrection Thomas Motherwell Preble

What became of Jesus, after he was raised from the dead? Did that personage, - the Son of God called Jesus - lose his "flesh and bones" after he was raised from the dead? Hear the word of the Lord upon this all important question: for if we can find Jesus, after he led the disciples "out as far as to Bethany," and was there "parted from them and carried up into heaven;" (Luke 24:50, 51,) we shall find that holy thing, born of Mary: and so long as we can find "Jesus", so long as we find that same personage of "flesh and bones;" for that was called, is called, and will be called Jesus! Hence: -

"After that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion, by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. (Acts 1:2, 3.) "He led them out as far as to Bethany; and he lifted up his hands and blessed them." And "while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven, as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel: Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." - Acts 1:9-11.

Bear in mind that, "in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established:" and on this occasion we have two heavenly messengers testifying that, "This same Jesus," which was taken up into heaven, shall so come in like manner as he was seen to go into heaven! Who is Jesus? Don't forget, - Son of God, - that holy being born of Mary! The testimony of the angels that this same Jesus shall come in like manner as he went away is positive: the witnesses are above impeachment! Mark says, "He was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God." On the right hand of God, the Elohim or Theos; not on the right hand of himself! On whose throne does he sit? On his Father's throne. as we read: "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in the throne." (Rev. 3:21.) Jesus, then, is now on his Father's throne. But how long will he remain there? Ans. "And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all his holy prophets since the world began." (Acts 3:20, 21.)

He, then, is to remain on his Father's throne until the time of "restitution." It is also written, - This man, the second Adam - "after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God; from henceforth expecting till his footstool," Heb. 10:12, 13. Here we find that, after Jesus had offered himself an everlasting sacrifice for sins, sat down on the right hand of God; from henceforth expecting, waiting or looking for the time when his enemies should be made his footstool: - or the time come when he should take possession of that which was lost by the first Adam. "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Heb. 9:28.

And thus the Church "wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus!" (1 Thess. 1:10.) Hence the Church, while Jesus, the second Adam, is on his Father's throne, wait and pray, believing that their Saviour will come again; for among the last words revealed for the comfort and hope of the church are, –

"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches." "And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give to every man according as his work shall be." "He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." – Rev. 22:12, 16, 20.

And when he shall thus come in his glory, "then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory," "the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever: and of his kingdom there shall be no end." -Luke 1:32, 33. Hence, we see, that it was Jesus at eight days old, it was Jesus at twelve years old, it was Jesus at thirty years old, it was Jesus on the cross, it was Jesus in the tomb, it was Jesus raised from the dead, it was Jesus which was carried up to heaven, it is Jesus on his Father's throne, and it will be this same Jesus coming again as he was seen to go away; and it will be Jesus forever! - Rev. 1:18.

"Jesus, and shall it ever be,

A mortal man ashamed of thee!

Ashamed of thee, whom angels praise,

Whose glories shine through endless days."

Now, if it was not, and is not blasphemy, to say that our Lord Jesus Christ was eight days old, – twelve years old, – thirty years old, – why blasphemous to say that the "Son of God" is now one thousand eight hundred and sixty four years old? according to the true era.

The different names appropriated to the second Adam, will now claim a passing notice.

Messiah, Christ, Son of God, Son of man, Jesus, Prince, Prophet, Priest, Mediator, Judge, King, Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, etc. are names which occur in the Scriptures. What do these names severally mean?

Messiah, and Christ, are synonymous terms; Messiah being the Heb. and Christ the Gr. words which signify, anointed. Hence, we read, "We have found the Messias; which is, being interpreted, the Christ." And again, "For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed." And again, "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power."

Son of God, – so called, as being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, or in consequence of his relation to the Father; as said the angel, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

Son of man, – so called because he is the seed of the woman: "for verily, he took not on him the nature of angels, but he took on him the seed of Abraham." "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself took part of the same;" therefore, he is the Son of man.

Jesus, – is the christen, or proper name of the Son of God, and its meaning is Saviour. The Hebrews pronounce it, Jehoshua, or Joshua, meaning, "he who shall save."

Prince, – In a general sense, is a

sovereign: chief and independent ruler; – a king's son. As Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the King of the universe, he is called Prince of princes, Prince of the kings of the earth, etc.; the Father having promised him the "throne of his father David; and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." (Luke 1:32, 33.)

Prophet, – Literally, one who foretells future events; but it is also used to denote a religious teacher. Jesus not only foretold future events, but was the great Teacher of mankind; as saith the Scriptures, – "A Prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things, whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass, that every soul which will not hear that Prophet shall be destroyed from among the people."

Said Jesus, — "The word that I have spoken, the same shall judge you at the last day." Christ, therefore, has fulfilled his office as Prophet.

Priest, or high priest, – One who makes reconcilliation for the sins of the people. "Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession Christ Jesus." Heb. 3:1. "Christ being come an high priest of good things to come,"... "He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." (Heb. 9:11, 12.)

Hence, when Jesus comes the second time, his priestly office will cease.

Mediator, – One that interposes between parties at variance for the purpose of reconciling them. "For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus." (1 Tim. 2:5.) Mark this! One God, and one Mediator, the man Christ Jesus, between God and man. When therefor his mediation shall have ceased, he will then come to judge the world.

Judge, – One who tries, examines and passes sentence on. "The Lord Jesus Christ shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom." "The Father judgeth no man; but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He that honoreth not the Son, honoreth not the Father which hath sent him." (John 5:22, 23.)

When the judgment is passed, then Jesus will be King: – "Then shall the king say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." (Matt. 25:34.) Jesus will now be king forevermore: – Dan. 7:13, 14, 27; Rev. 11:15.

The names which are mentioned in Isaiah 9:6, viz.: – "Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, the Everlasting Father," etc., are names by which Jesus Christ our Lord, "shall be called," when "The government shall be upon his shoulder:" – and this cannot be, so long as he is on his Father's throne. But when he shall have fulfilled his offices as Prophet, Priest, Mediator, and Judge; – and commenced his kingly office, being seated on "the throne of his glory," then "the government will be upon his shoulder."

With what propriety can the Lord Jesus – our second Adam – be now called Father! The term Father signifies one who begets a child; one that hath children; or the author of anything.

God, as Creator, is the Father of us all. He is literally "the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Eph. 1: 3.) After his resurrection, Jesus said to Mary, – "Go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend to my Father and your Father; and to my God, and your God." The first Adam was the father of the human or mortal race; the second Adam will be father of the immortal race. The first Adam was the father of the race of men "in this present evil world;" - the second Adam will be Father of the immortal ones "in the world to come," he being the Author and finisher of our faith, -"the Author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him." "He is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the first born from the dead." (Col. 1:18.) Jesus Christ, "is the faithful witness, and the first begotten from the dead, and the Prince of the kings of the earth." (Rev. 1:5.) At the last day, his children that shall be "in the graves, shall hear his voice, and shall come forth!" (John 5:28.) Then "shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day" – "a nation shall be born at once!" (Isa. 66:8.) Jesus will then be Everlasting Father; or as it is by some more properly rendered, "The Father of the everlasting age," - for neither he, nor his children, will ever die again; - for "they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead," will never "die any more, for they are equal unto the angels." (Luke 20:36.) The first Adam was the means, under God, of bringing the family of mortal men into this world; and the second Adam will bring the family of the redeemed into the world to come: then with his children he shall be known as their "everlasting Father!" "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father!" (Matt. 13:43.) Mark this! The kingdom of their Father; this being the only place in the New Testament where the term, their Father is found.

In the Old Testament the term, Father, as referring to a Supreme Being, occurs nine times, but in the New Testament, it is found about 170 times, as follows, viz: The Father 83 times; Jesus called him my Father, 60 times; he is called our Father, 10; your Father, 8; thy Father, 6; His Father, 2; a Father, 2; and their Father, once.

Christ is never called the Father: Christ forbid any one calling him father, saying, "One is your Father, which is in heaven"; and "one is your Master, even Christ." (Mat. 23:8-10.) But we find him spoken of as possessing "the image of God," – the "express image of his person," – "the image of the invisible God." And thus "God was manifested in the flesh!" Hence Jesus said,-"I am in the Father and the Father in me."

But this no more proves that Jesus and his Father are one person! than it proves that Christ and disciples are one person! For we read, – He, (man,) "is the image and glory of God!" "For whom he did foreknow he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son:" Hence Jesus prays, "Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one as we are;" . . . "that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us!" . . . "that they may be one, even as we are one!" (John 17:11, 21, 22.) Hence, if saying that, - "I and my Father are one," proves that the Father and Son are one person.! then it follows that when Jesus prayed that, - "they all may be one;" he prayed for the Father to make the disciples all into one man, or person! {1845?, The Two Adams, pages 9.3 to 15.3

## Why Did God Not Say Something? Jerry O'Donnell

A lot of people struggle with situations in the Bible, especially related to God's mouthpieces, the prophets. So, what do these scenarios have in common?

Genesis 9:20-21 tells us, "And Noah began [to be] an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent."

Genesis 16:1-4 reveals, "Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name [was] Hagar. And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai. And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife. And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived: and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes."

Genesis 24:10-22 shows us, "And the servant took ten camels of the camels of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his master [were] in his hand: and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor. And he made his camels to kneel down without the city by a well of water at the time of the evening, [even] the time that women go out to draw [water]. And he said, O LORD God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham. Behold, I stand [here] by the well of water; and the daughters

of the men of the city come out to draw water: And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: [let the same be] she [that] thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac; and thereby shall I know that thou hast shewed kindness unto my master. And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder. And the damsel [was] very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up. And the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher. And she said, Drink, my lord: and she hasted, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink. And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw [water] for thy camels also, until they have done drinking. And she hasted, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again unto the well to draw [water], and drew for all his camels. And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not. And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten [shekels] weight of gold."

Genesis 25:6 discloses, "But unto the sons of the concubines, which Abraham had, Abraham gave gifts, and sent them away from Isaac his son, while he yet lived, eastward, unto the east country."

Exodus 2:11-15 disappointingly tells us, "And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren. And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that [there was] no man, he slew the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand. And when he went out the second day, behold, two men of the Hebrews strove together: and he said to him that did the wrong, Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow? And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known. Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian: and he sat down by a well."

Joshua 7:1-5 horrifically informs us, "But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed thing: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel. And Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which [is] beside Bethaven, on the east side of Bethel, and spake unto them, saying, Go up and view the country. And the men went up and viewed Ai. And they returned to Joshua, and said unto him, Let not all the people go up; but let about two

or three thousand men go up and smite Ai; [and] make not all the people to labour thither; for they [are but] few. So there went up thither of the people about three thousand men: and they fled before the men of Ai. And the men of Ai smote of them about thirty and six men: for they chased them [from] before the gate [even] unto Shebarim, and smote them in the going down: wherefore the hearts of the people melted, and became as water."

Joshua 9:3-15 confusingly tells us, "And when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done unto Jericho and to Ai, They did work wilily, and went and made as if they had been ambassadors, and took old sacks upon their asses, and wine bottles, old, and rent, and bound up; And old shoes and clouted upon their feet, and old garments upon them; and all the bread of their provision was dry [and] mouldy. And they went to Joshua unto the camp at Gilgal, and said unto him, and to the men of Israel. We be come from a far country: now therefore make ye a league with us. And the men of Israel said unto the Hivites, Peradventure ye dwell among us; and how shall we make a league with you? And they said unto Joshua, We [are] thy servants. And Joshua said unto them, Who [are] ye? and from whence come ye? And they said unto him, From a very far country thy servants are come because of the name of the LORD thy God: for we have heard the fame of him, and all that he did in Egypt, And all that he did to the two

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1 Kings 19:1-9 disappointingly reveals, "And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do [to me], and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time. And when he saw [that], he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which [belongeth] to Judah, and left his servant there. But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I [am] not better than my fathers. And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise [and] eat. And he looked, and, behold, [there

was] a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink. and laid him down again. And the angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise [and] eat; because the journey [is] too great for thee. And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God. And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD [came] to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?"

2 Samuel 11:2-5 also sadly discloses, "And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman [was] very beautiful to look upon. And David sent and enquired after the woman. And [one] said, [Is] not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite? And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house. And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I [am] with child."

2 Samuel 11:14-17 compounds the matter by telling us, "And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent [it] by the hand of Uriah. And he wrote in the letter, saying, Set ye Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die. And it came to pass, when Joab observed the city, that he assigned Uriah unto a place where he knew that valiant men [were]. And the men of the city went out, and fought with Joab: and there fell [some] of the people of the servants of David; and Uriah the Hittite died also."

2 Samuel 24:10 shows a further disappointing act is executed, "And David's heart smote him after that he had numbered the people. And David said unto the LORD, I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O LORD, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly."

2 Samuel 5:12-13 brings upon David a bad reputation when it comes to women by revealing, "And David perceived that the LORD had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for his people Israel's sake. And David took [him] more concubines and wives out of Jerusalem, after he was come from Hebron: and there were yet sons and daughters born to David."

1 Kings 11:1-4 shows "like father, like son" by telling us, "But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, [and] Hittites; Of the nations [concerning] which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: [for] surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, [that] his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as [was] the heart of David his father."

Matthew 16:13-23 tells us that these situations are not limited to the Old Testament, "When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some [say that thou art] John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon

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Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed [it] unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ. From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men."

Matthew 26:69-75 tells us about the saddest of all of the situations, "Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. But he denied before [them] all, saying, I know not what thou sayest. And when he was gone out into the porch, another [maid] saw him, and said unto them that were there, This [fellow] was also with Jesus of Nazareth. And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man. And after a while came unto [him] they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art [one] of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee. Then

began he to curse and to swear, [saying], I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew. And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly."

So, did you catch the common theme throughout each situation? Despite all of these being people of God, they all acted at times without consulting with God and it led to disasters. God is not a helicopter parent despite being our Father. Even towards people of God, even prophets, He does not prevent poor decisions from being made, in fact, He does not give any warning to them as the situation unfolds. Many were told ahead of time that these things were wrong, so most of them should have known anyways, especially that polygamy practice that makes it difficult today to refute. How many times do we hear, "David was a man after God's heart, therefore, having multiple wives, especially since God did not intervene, is permissible!"

Sure, some of the situations were rebuked after the fact, but just because it is in the Bible and executed by a person of God does not make it automatically acceptable to God. They are revealed for other purposes, of which is not the point of this message.

Now, let us take a look at only a handful of scenarios on the opposite side. What do these situations have in common?

Joshua 7:6-11 tells us something that he should have done before verses 1 through 5 to avoid such a slaughter, "And Joshua rent his clothes, and fell to the earth upon his face before the ark of the LORD until the eventide, he and the elders of Israel, and put dust upon their heads. And Joshua said, Alas, O Lord GOD, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan! O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies! For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land shall hear [of it], and shall environ us round, and cut off our name from the earth: and what wilt thou do unto thy great name? And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put [it] even among their own stuff."

Judges 16:25-31 shows us something that Samson should have practiced all along and would not have ended up in the situation he found himself in, "And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars. And Samson said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them. Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines [were] there; and [there were] upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while Samson made sport. And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes. And Samson took hold of the two middle

pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left. And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with [all his] might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that [were] therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than [they] which he slew in his life. Then his brethren and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and brought [him] up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the buryingplace of Manoah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years."

1 Kings 3:7-14 reveals something that should have been practiced every day to avoid the mess he created afterwards that even reached until the time of Jesus, "And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I [am but] a little child: I know not [how] to go out or come in. And thy servant [is] in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. And I have also given thee

that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days. And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days."

Daniel 9:21-22 shows us that God is a God of answers, "Yea, whiles I [was] speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. And he informed [me], and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding."

Acts 10:1-6 tells us how God will provide every detail and guidance to us, "There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian [band], [A] devout [man], and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway. He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius. And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God. And now send men to Joppa, and call for [one] Simon, whose surname is Peter: He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do."

The common thing they all have is that of praying before acting and wanting to know God's will in the matter along with being willing to then do His will. By the way, Eliezer was half right. He had prayed to find the right woman for Isaac and followed through with that, but then he returned to the customs that were practiced among the people of the land, having a background from the pagan place of Damascus (Genesis 15:2), when he presented the jewelry to Rebekah. Now, this article is not about the jewelry topic, but typically we do not wear ornamentation and what we are doing is eliminating one argument that is used in supporting at least modest use of jewelry. Full investigation on the topic would require much more space to address all arguments. Just like those that use the "rich man and Lazarus" to justify immediate Heaven and Hell destinations upon death, we can safely say that the use of a parable is never a basis for doctrine, but space in this article does not provide enough opportunity to investigate that topic, either, in a deep manner to firm up the position of belief that we have.

Now, as always, God is not limited. There are some exceptions to what has been revealed. God in these three scenarios did stop a person from making huge mistakes, and they did not pray to know God's will beforehand, however, exceptions do not negate, cancel, remove what was already stated about how God operates. God does not guide every action, prevent every mistake, etc., even among His prophets. Now, here are samples of some exceptions:

Genesis 16:7-9 tells us, "And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur. And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai. And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands." Jonah 1:2-4 reveals to us, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. But the LORD sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken."

Acts 9:1-6 shows us, "And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: [it is] hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord [said] unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do."

Read our church history, especially in the publication *Early Writings*, where Ellen White fought against the Sabbath, giving up meat, and several other things. Those personal battles do not make her a false prophet.

Further, the greatest demonstration that God does not control every action comes about when early discussions were taking place on Bible subjects and doctrine when God allowed heated arguments, sharp divides to occur before revealing the truth sometimes days later. It is all for character development, lessons learned, exercising of the mind, and examples for others to learn by.

So, before anyone uses the argument, "If it is wrong, why did God not tell that prophet that it was wrong", do realize that God allows all human beings to have the freedom to choose when decisions are to be made. The proper question should be, "Why did the person of God not consult with God in the first place?" God indeed would have told them what was the proper thing to do. He is always ready to help us even in the littlest situations.

Now, will you go to God with your decisions, even though the answer appears to be obvious?

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## 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 the Bible Actually Teach the Pre-rapture?

The pre-rapture theory is the teaching that Christians will be removed just before the tribulation of the last days, leaving the Jews to discover Christ.

Luke 21:36 states, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

However, Acts 14:22 says, "we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God."

In addition to Acts 14:22, Jesus warned the Christian followers, not the last generation of Jews known as the 144,000 as many teach, "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be" (Matthew 24:21). And we are told, "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb" (Revelation 7:14).

So, what does it mean then to be able "to escape all these things"? Does it contradict other verses? We turn to 1 Corinthians 10:13 for the insight, which says, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God [is] faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear [it]."

Now, let us apply that principle of "escape" to Luke 21:36, for verses 34 and 35 reveal what people actually escape from: "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and [so] that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth" (Luke 21:34-35).

In other words, to be accounted worthy to escape the snares of the world we are actually escaping the last, great temptation. We are escaping being tempted to receive the Mark of the Beast, so as to be able to continue to buy and sell. To escape this temptation will be by the grace of God but it also involves adhering, clinging to the Seal of God.

Actual difficulties and tribulations will be upon us. Those things we shall not escape from. It will be difficult days ahead, but we shall be here on this planet and not raptured away during that time.

# **Heavenly Health**

## Reen Swindle

And speaking of "Cleanliness is next to godliness"... as we touched on briefly at the end of February's article, I would like to expand a little on that theme by bringing out some important issues concerning cleanliness as associated with our health.

As we did bring out last month, we are admonished in 2 Corinthians 7:1 to "cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit"; this is just one Biblical reference to the importance of cleanliness. We are to take special care of these bodies we have been given, and cleanliness is within the reach of all. As we have already learned, the process of sanctification is a cleansing of the mind, heart and spirit to which we must add the physical body as well. Keeping our entire being, our clothing, our home, as well as our immediate outdoor surroundings clean, we will be much more likely to have better health.

A perfect example of life-saving changes which can occur simply by having clean bodies, clothing and surroundings can be found in the work of Florence Nightingale, probably best known for her hygienic nursing work which had its beginnings during the Crimean War in the mid-1800s when she became a pioneer in the field of public health. Women nurses were not welcomed near the war zone but the casualties were so numerous and fast-arriving, and area hospital facilities were so under-staffed and unsanitary that the Secretary of War permitted her to organize and manage a group of about 40 female nurses to enter Turkey. She and her team of nurses

transformed the hospital into a healthy, sanitary environment not only with the patients themselves, but in the bedding and entire rooms, operating theaters, and hallways in that hospital, which had to be meticulously scrubbed and sanitized. As a result, within just six months the mortality rate of patients fell from 40% to 2%. Simple procedures such as hand-washing, hygiene and overall sanitation in the hospital helped to save thousands of lives during that war. Medical facilities around the world were changed due to the work and influence of Florence Nightingale which lives on and is proof that cleanliness saves lives. From practicing these procedures, the nursing profession was revolutionized and since that time many millions of lives have been saved by following basic, affordable rules of cleanliness.

Keeping the personal body clean is a daily necessity and responsibility. Here are a few paragraphs from a book called *The Uses of Water in Health and Disease*, by Dr. J.H. Kellogg, which stress the importance of bodily cleanliness. Did you know we actually have an initiating built-in, self-cleaning function in our skin?

"The skin is one of the most important depurating [freeing from impurities] organs of the whole body. From each of its millions of pores constantly flows a stream laden with the poisonous products of disintegration. As the water evaporates, it leaves behind these non-volatile poisons, which are deposited as a thin film over the whole surface of the skin. As each day passes, the process continues, and the film thickens. If the skin is moderately active, three or four days suffice to form a layer which may be compared to a thin coating of varnish or sizing. The accumulation continues to increase, unless removed, and soon undergoes further processes of decomposition. It putrefies, rots, in fact, and develops an odor characteristic and quite too familiar, though anything but pleasant, being at once foul, fetid, putrid, pungent, uncleanly, and unpardonable.

"But the offense to the nose is not the extent of the evil. The unclean accumulation chokes the mouths of the million little sewers which should be engaged in eliminating these poisons, and thus obstructs their work. Being retained in contact with the skin, some portions are reabsorbed, together with the results of advancing decay, thus re-poisoning the system, and necessitating their elimination a second time.

"One of the most serious effects of this accumulation of filth is the clogging of the perspiratory ducts. Their valve-like orifices become obstructed very easily, and depuration is then impossible. It is not wonderful that so many people have torpid skins. The remedy is obvious, and always available."

His suggested remedy, of course, is simply bathing. Since our skin is a major part of our excretory system, it is important to keep it as clean as possible all the time to prevent the wastes and toxins from building up in our bodies and causing disease. On no account are we to neglect frequent bathing which is essential to both physical and mental health.



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### Ingredients

- 2 (3.7 oz) boxes instant vegan vanilla pudding mix
- 4 cups unsweetened non-dairy milk such as almond, coconut, or soy
- 9 ounces vegan vanilla wafers
- 2 or 3 barely ripe bananas
- 2 to 3 cups So Delicious Coco Whip, thawed in the refrigerator, or homemade whipped coconut cream

#### Instructions

**NOTE**: Check the instructions on the pudding mix. (you can use a blender to avoid clumps)

- Prepare one box of pudding: add 1 cup of milk and pudding to the blender.
- While blending on low slowly add the remaining milk. Blend for approximately 2-3 minutes.
- 3. Arrange vanilla wafers across the bottom and sides of an 8- or 9- inch square ceramic or glass dish

- 4. Crumble 3 or 4 wafers by hand and sprinkle the crumbs into the gaps between the cookies.
- 5. Slice one banana, and arrange on top of the cookies
- Spread the pudding on top all the way to the edges so that the banana is covered.
- Now make the 2nd batch of pudding: add the remaining 2 cups of milk to the blender and prepare the pudding the same way you did before. Set aside.
- Repeat the layering process: a layer of wafers, sliced banana, and the 2nd batch of pudding.
- Refrigerate for at least 3 hours. Cover with plastic wrap if refrigerating longer.
- 10. Before serving, top with dairyfree whipped topping.
- If also decorating with sliced banana, toss banana with lemon juice to prevent browning.
- 12. Crumble a few vanilla wafers on top and serve.

The banana is the most prolific of fruits. The produce of an acre planted with bananas will support twenty-five times as many people as the produce of an acre planted with wheat. {June 9, 1898 EJW, PTUK 366.13}

## Receipts Available Upon Request!

## **Natural Vitamins**

## Jerry O'Donnell

## The Benefits of Cayenne

- 1. Applied topically to the skin, it is a pain reliever.
- 2. Can help reduce itching and improve skin inflammation related to psoriasis.
- Boost to your metabolism and causing you to burn slightly more calories.
- 4. Helps your digestion.
- 5. Reduce heart-related problems such as high blood pressure by calming inflammation.
- 6. Full of antioxidants.
- Is a source of Vitamin A, B1, B2, B6, C, E, K, beta carotene, cryptoxanthin, choline, lutein,

zeaxanthin, folate, manganese, potassium, copper, iron, magnesium, selenium, phosphorous, and zinc.

- 8. Relieves congestion.
- Reduces inflammation and arthritis symptoms.
- 10. Reduces nerve pain.
- 11. Reduces headaches.
- 12. Improves vision.
- 13. Strengthens immunity.
- 14. May protect against cancers.
- 15. Relieves oral aches.

Ø.

## Authorized KJV vs Catholic Bible Jerry O'Donnell

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

## If We Love Jesus, Do We Keep His Teachings, Sayings, or Word?

In John 14:23, when we read that a person who loves Jesus will keep His Word, many automatically and correctly include all of the Bible. When we read the word "teachings", many Christians become New Testament only, in fact, some restrict the gospel to only being that which is taught in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Sayings are even more general as if to have one-liners ready to utter, like when a person is approached with the fact that a person is not eternally saved unless they endure until the end, a saying of Jesus that is used to dismiss such thoughts is, "no [man] is able to pluck [them] out of my Father's hand" (John 10:29). So, the safer understanding is that of the use of "word" as opposed to "teachings" and "sayings". **King James Version:** Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

### In Error:

**Bishops' Bible of 1568:** Iesus aunswered, & sayde vnto hym: If a man loue me, he wyll kepe my sayinges: and my father wyll loue hym, and we wyll come vnto hym, and dwell with hym.

**Contemporary English Version:** Jesus replied: If anyone loves me, they will obey me. Then my Father will love them, and we will come to them and live in them.

GOD'S WORD<sup>®</sup> Translation: Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will go to them and make our home with them.

**Good News Translation:** Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and my Father and I will come to them and live with them.

Mace New Testament: Jesus answered him, he that loves me, will observe my precepts: and my father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

**New International Version:** Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

**New Living Translation:** Jesus replied, "All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them.

**Tyndale Bible of 1526:** lesus answered and sayde vnto him: yf a man love me and wyll kepe my sayinges my father also will love him and we will come vnto him and will dwelle with him.

Weymouth New Testament: "If any one loves me," replied Jesus, "he will obey my teaching; and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

#### Mixed Message Which is Confusing:

**Amplified Bible:** Jesus answered, "If anyone [really] loves Me, he will keep My word (teaching); and My Father will love him, and We will come to

## Four Angels' Messages Contact Info

Phone: In the United States, 717-460-7881E-mail: info@fourangelsmessages.comMailing: 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. him and make Our dwelling place with him.

## Correct, This Time:

A Faithful Version: Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.

American Standard Version: Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my word: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Anderson New Testament: Jesus answered and said to him: If any one loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our abode with him.

Aramaic Bible in Plain English: Yeshua answered and said to him, "Whoever loves me keeps my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and we will make our lodging with him."

**Berean Literal Bible:** Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and we will come to him and will make a home with him. **Berean Study Bible:** Jesus replied, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word. My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

**Catholic Public Domain Version:** Jesus responded and said to him: "If anyone loves me, he shall keep my word. And my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and we will make our dwelling place with him.

Christian Standard Bible: Jesus answered, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

**Coverdale Bible of 1535:** Iesus answered, and sayde vnto him: He that loueth me, wyl kepe my worde, and my father wyl loue him: and we wyl come vnto him, and wyll make oure dwellynge with him.

Darby Bible Translation: Jesus answered and said to him, If any one love me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our abode with him.

**Douay-Rheims Bible:** Jesus answered, and said to him: If any one love me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and will make our abode with him.

## Subscription Renewal

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

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

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

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

**English Revised Version:** Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my word: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

**English Standard Version:** Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

Geneva Bible of 1587: lesus answered, and sayd vnto him, If any man loue me, he will keepe my worde, and my Father will loue him, and we wil come vnto him, and wil dwell with him.

**Godbey New Testament:** Jesus responded and said to him; If any one may love me with divine love, he will keep my word: and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and will make our mansion with him.

Haweis New Testament: Jesus answered and said to him, If any man love me, he will observe my word: and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our abode with him.

Holman Christian Standard Bible: Jesus answered, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word. My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

International Standard Version: Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word. Then my Father will love him, and we will go to him and make our home within him.

Lamsa Bible: Jesus answered and said to him, He who loves me, keeps my word; and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make a place of abode with him.

**Literal Emphasis Translation:** Jesus answered and said to him, If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and will make an abode with him.

Literal Standard Version: Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone may love Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and We will make [an] abode with him;

**NET Bible:** Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and take up residence with him.

**New American Standard Bible:** Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone

## **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.

loves Me, he will follow My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our dwelling with him.

New Heart English Bible: Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word; and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling place with him.

**New King James Version:** Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

Smith's Literal Translation: Jesus answered and said to him, If any one love me, he will keep my word: and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and we will make our stay with him.

Webster's Bible Translation: Jesus answered and said to him, If a man loveth me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our abode with him.

World English Bible: Jesus answered him, "If a man loves me, he will keep my word. My Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our home with him.

Worrell New Testament: Jesus answered, and said to him, "If any one loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and make Our abode with him.

Worsley New Testament: Jesus answered and said unto him, If any one love me, he will observe my word: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and will make our abode with him.

Young's Literal Translation: Jesus answered and said to him, 'If any one may love me, my word he will keep, and my Father will love him, and unto him we will come, and abode with him we will make;

## **Questions And Answers**

## Jerry O'Donnell

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

**QUESTION:** Why are we to be part of a church?

**ANSWER:** The answer to this question is not to define what church is but this do know, it is not a building, and it is not blindly following leadership into apostasy. About two thousand years ago, the leadership had the congregation call for the Savior's crucifixion!

Ellen White penned, "Again I say, The Lord hath not spoken by any messenger who calls the church that keeps the commandments of God, Babylon. True, there are tares with the wheat; but Christ said He would send His angels to first gather the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into the garner. I know that the Lord loves His church. It is not to be disorganized or broken up into independent atoms. There is not the least consistency in this; there is not the least evidence that such a thing will be. Those who shall heed this false message and try to leaven others will be deceived and prepared to receive advanced delusions, and they will come to nought" {2SM 68.3}.

"In spite of all the good qualities a man may have, he cannot be a good soldier if he acts independently of those connected with him. Occasional and uncertain movements, however earnest and energetic, will in the end bring defeat. Take a strong team of horses. If, instead of both pulling together, one should suddenly jerk forward and the other pull back, they would not move the load, notwithstanding their great strength. So the soldiers of Christ must work in concert, else there will be a mere concourse of independent atoms" {ST, September 7, 1891 par. 7}.

Now, from the Bible, we see at least two important examples of God uniting His people under His church and not be independent of the church. We first have Paul. "And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: [it is] hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord [said] unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do" (Acts 9:3-6). "And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, [even] Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. And immediately

there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus" (Acts 9:17-19). Jesus could have instructed Saul, now Paul, but instead, Jesus used Ananias, a representative of the church on earth. Basically, Paul was connected with the church, and became subject to the church, as he complied with the results of one of the early church counsels (Acts 15).

Another example is that of Cornelius. Again, a heavenly messenger initiated the conversation by saying, "Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God" (Acts 10:4) but did not finish the work. It is God's intention for us to be connected with the church. Cornelius was instructed, "And now send men to Joppa, and call for [one] Simon, whose surname is Peter: He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do" (Acts 10:5-6).

If we were to act individually, God would not have connected these people, Paul and Cornelius and others, with the church. He would have provided personal instruction instead. So, if we are thinking we can just read the Bible and Ellen White's writings while connecting with no one, we are mistaken. The effects will be felt. Again, as an exception, but not to be held as the model, there are those who are mostly elderly that can no longer move about, not connected electronically, and can only do their best, and if that is Bible reading alone, then that is what it is.

**QUESTION:** Would Ellen White vote today?

**ANSWER:** We wrote an article on this back in October 2022, but it does seem to have been forgotten.

The bottom line is "No" for people or parties, but yes to referendums.

"Those who have charge of our institutions and our schools should guard themselves diligently, lest by their words and sentiments they lead the students into false paths. Those who teach the Bible in our churches and our schools are not at liberty to unite in making apparent their prejudices for or against political men or measures, because by so doing they stir up the minds of others, leading each to advocate his favorite theory. There are among those professing to believe present truth, some who will thus be stirred up to express their sentiments and political preferences, so that division will be brought into the church" {GW 391.1}.

"The Lord would have His people bury political questions. On these themes silence is eloquence. Christ calls upon His followers to come into unity on the pure gospel principles which are plainly revealed in the word of God. We cannot with safety vote for political parties; for we do not know whom we are voting for. We cannot with safety take part in any political scheme. We cannot labor to please men who will use their influence to repress religious liberty, and to set in operation oppressive measures to lead or compel their fellow-men to keep Sunday as the Sabbath. The first day of the week is not a day to be reverenced. It is a spurious sabbath, and the members of the Lord's family cannot participate with the men who exalt this day, and violate the law of God by trampling upon His Sabbath.

The people of God are not to vote to place such men in office; for when they do this, they are partakers with them of the sins which they commit while in office" {GW 391.2}.

"We are not to compromise principle by yielding to the opinions and prejudices which we may have encouraged before we united with God's commandment-keeping people. We have enlisted in the army of the Lord, and we are not to fight on the enemy's side, but on the side of Christ, where we can be a united whole, in sentiment, in action, in spirit, in fellowship. Those who are Christians indeed will be branches of the true vine, and will bear the same fruit as the vine. They will act in harmony, in Christian fellowship. They will not wear political badges, but the badge of Christ" {GW 392.1}.

"What are we to do, then? – Let political questions alone. 'Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?' [2 Corinthians 6:14, 15.] What can there be in common between these parties? There can be no fellowship, no communion" {GW 392.2}.

"The word 'fellowship' means participation, partnership. God employs the strongest figures to show that there should be no union between worldly parties and those who are seeking the righteousness of Christ. What communion can there be between light and darkness, truth and unrighteousness? None whatever. Light represents righteousness; darkness, unrighteousness. Christians have come out of darkness into the light. They have put on Christ, and they wear the badge of truth and obedience. They are governed by the elevated and holy principles which Christ expressed in His life..." {GW 392.3}.

"Those teachers in the church or in the school who distinguish themselves by their zeal in politics, should be relieved of their work and responsibilities without delay; for the Lord will not co-operate with them. The tithe should not be used to pay any one for speechifying on political questions. Every teacher, minister, or leader in our ranks who is stirred with a desire to ventilate his opinions on political questions, should be converted by a belief in the truth, or give up his work. His influence must tell as a laborer together with God in winning souls to Christ, or his credentials must be taken from him. If he does not change, he will do harm, and only harm..." (GW 393.1).

## **Prophecy Made Plain**

## Jerry O'Donnell

### How Do We Know That Probation Closes Before the Second Coming?

Many Christians believe that we shall live life just like any other day right up until the second coming. In fact, there is a prophecy that states just that: "And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as [they were] from the beginning of the creation" (2 Peter 3:4).

The reality of it though is that probation for the human race comes to a close before Jesus shows up. There is the declaration for one thing: "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still" (Revelation 22:11). That means every case has been decided so that when Jesus shows up, He can declare, "And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward [is] with me, to give every man according as his work shall be" (Revelation 22:12).

But there is another reference in the Bible and a bit more explicit on the

matter. Revelation 15:8 states, "And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled."

This temple is referring to the heavenly temple where Jesus ministers, and at some point, "no man was able to enter into the temple." This may cause the question of how are we entering now? Prayer. Our prayers ascend to Jesus, where "Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building" (Hebrews 9:11).

So, when the seven last plagues begin, we cannot offer prayers to Jesus any longer. The reason is because He will not be in the temple to hear those prayers. That is because Jesus puts off His priestly garments and then "he put on the garments of vengeance [for] clothing" (Isaiah 59:17) seeing that every case has been decided. So, the fact that the Bible tells that during the seven last plagues no one may enter into the temple through praying means that probation is then closed for the human race well before the second coming.

# **News And Comments**

### January 6—AP News

### Florida's Greek community celebrates the Epiphany with annual dive into water to retrieve cross

"The retriever of the cross is believed to receive a year of blessings." So, 64 boys fight to be the only one to get a year's worth of blessings. This sounds like a modern day Bethesda in which encouraged competition, selfishness, disregard for human life all to be the first in the pool when the waters were stirred (John 5:2-9). God was not in that pool nor is He in the competition to retrieve some cross.

#### January 8—The Conversation

### Alcohol use is widely accepted in the US, but even moderate consumption is associated with many harmful effects

"Thanks to lobbying by the powerful alcohol industry, alcohol's dangers may be underplayed and its benefits exaggerated. There are many wellestablished problems with drinking even at moderate levels that likely outweigh any potential benefits. Alcohol is the third-leading cause of premature death in the U.S. Alcohol use, even at low levels, is linked to a number of cancers, including breast, colorectal, liver and esophagus. Alcohol also causes a number of serious harms to others, many of them violence-related." If we would just listen to the Bible: "Wine [is] a mocker, strong drink [is] raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1). Everyone is

deceived if they think science supports a little drinking for health. How Christians especially have convinced themselves that a little buzz from even one glass is acceptable, is beyond belief. Those Christians who insist that Jesus turned water into alcohol or that Timothy was told to drink alcoholic wine are further deceived. Scripture does not contradict itself! Alcohol being condemned by the Bible is not supported in other parts of the Bible. In fact, all topics are that way. It is human injection that makes it so. Timothy drank grape juice - nonalcoholic wine. Jesus turned water also into grape juice. He would not support drunkenness. If He refused the influence of strong drink on the cross, He certainly did not encourage drunken debauchery, even moderate drinking.

### January 10—CBC

## At least 33 Canadian churches have burned to the ground since May 2021. Only 2 were accidents

With 24 confirmed arsons, 5 suspected of being arson, and 2 others still under investigation points to one thing – persecution. Yet, hardly is it a blip in the news. But the important question is, are you one that "when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended" (Matthew 13:21) or despite persecution, are you one of whom "he that endureth to the end shall be saved" (Matthew 10:22).

### January 13—BBC

## TB Joshua exposé: How the disgraced pastor faked his miracles

He used the emergency department, drugs, brainwashing, bribes, fake medical certificates, and video manipulation. "For there shall arise false Christs" (Matthew 24:24) or those that come in the name of Christ or even taking on the name Christian.

#### January 14- The Gateway Pundit

### Archbishop Viganò Calls for Swiss Guards to Arrest Pope Francis and Cardinal Responsible for Pornograhic Book

The Pope having connections with Epstein's island, very welcoming of "the community", and now this, truly "that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition" is being fulfilled right before the world's eyes. "The noontide of the papacy was the world's moral midnight. The Holy Scriptures were almost unknown, not only to the people, but to the priests. Like the Pharisees of old, the papist leaders hated the light which would reveal their sins" {4SP 64.2}. "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" (Revelation 18:4).

#### January 27—People

### Nicole Eggert Regrets Getting Implants at 18 to Fill Out Her Baywatch Swimsuit: 'Leave Your Bodies Alone' (Exclusive)

People do not realize the effects of all the unnatural things they do to their bodies until age sets in and effects are revealed. Not only are implants vain and so unnatural to the body that it does things over time to deal with such an invasion, but so are other things. The hair products, facial applications including covering up pimples, tattoos, wearing of metals in the form of piercings, various types of clothing that are synthetic, etc., all contribute to various problems later in life. "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones" (Proverbs 3:6-8).

## 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.

January 5 Fulcrum 7 Pastors in Hanseatic Conference Issue Letter in Support of the LGBTQ Agenda The Hanseatic Conference published that it had no reason to act against him, declaring, "We want a church where queer people are not afraid of negative consequences and can live without secrecy and loneliness..."

**EGW:** "I am filled with sadness when I think of our condition as a people. The Lord has not closed heaven to us, but our own course of continual backsliding has separated us from God. Pride, covetousness, and love of the world have lived in the heart without fear of banishment or condemnation. Grievous and presumptuous sins have dwelt among us. And yet the general opinion is that the church is flourishing and that peace and spiritual prosperity are in all her borders. {5T 217.1}

"The church has turned back from following Christ her Leader and is steadily retreating toward Egypt. Yet few are alarmed or astonished at their want of spiritual power." {5T 217.2}

### January 5

#### **Advent Messenger**

### Rapping and \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* on Stage at Malawi Adventist University

This type of behavior is not only unfit for our institutions, but it also harms, degrades morality, and corrupts the youth. They were being proactive.

**EGW:** "It is impossible to estimate too largely the work that the Lord will accomplish through His proposed vessels in carrying out His mind and purpose. The things you have described as taking place in Indiana, the Lord has shown me would take place just before the close of probation. Every uncouth thing will be demonstrated. There will be shouting, with drums, music, and dancing. The senses of rational beings will become so confused that they cannot be trusted to make right decisions. And this is called the moving of the Holy Spirit." {2SM 36.2}

#### January 26

#### **Advent Messenger**

### Adventists in Italy Sign a Peace Agreement with Catholics and Orthodox to Be One During a Eucharistic Ecumenical Encounter

A local secular newspaper in Italy also reported on this ecumenical encounter and said that the leaders of five churches—Roman Catholic, Ukrainian Orthodox, Greek Orthodox, Romanian Orthodox, and Seventhday Adventist—had signed a "unity of purpose" document to "counteract" the forces of "division" and to take "concrete" steps towards "peace."

EGW: "The Lord desires His servants to preserve their holy and peculiar character. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers," is His command; "for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? and what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."" {FE 499.2}

#### January 26

#### **Advent Review**

### Adventist-Owned Ice Cream Parlor in Malaysia Offers Taste, Positive Influence

Over the years, the ice cream shop has become a beloved gathering place for friends and family, a place where people can unwind, relax, and enjoy the simple pleasures of life. The restaurant has evolved into more than just a place to satiate one's appetite; it is a hub of connection and companionship, church leaders said.

**EGW:** "But the sugar and milk combined are liable to cause fermentation in the stomach, and are thus harmful." {CD 331.2}

**COMMENT:** Although it appears to be a successful outreach, we ought to still be careful what message is being sent and harmful to people. We are to be a people of the health message.

#### January 26

#### Fulcrum 7

### Church in Georgia-Cumberland Conference to Host Mystical Retreat by Catholic Priest

The progressive Adventist fascination with mysticism reached its highwater mark with the spiritual experimentations of the One Project and the Ohio-sponsored Innovation Conference. **EGW:** "There are many who shrink with horror from the thought of consulting spirit mediums, but who are attracted by more pleasing forms of spiritism, such as the Emmanuel movement. Still others are led astray by the teachings of Christian Science, and by the mysticism of theosophy and other Oriental religions." {Ev 606.1}

## Ellen White Abbreviations In this Issue

1SM - Selected Messages Book

2SM - Selected Messages Book 2

4SP - The Spirit of Prophecy Volume Four

5T - Testimonies for the Church Volume Five

CD - Counsels on Diet and Foods

EV - Evangelism

FE - Fundamentals of Christian Education

GC - The Great Controversy (1911)

GW - Gospel Workers

ST - The Signs of the Times

# **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.

## Digital Detox for Stress Reduction

In times of so much uncertainty and heightened worldly tensions, it is essential to prioritize our spiritual, mental, and emotional well-being. Limiting news consumption is a great way to start a digital detox; excessive exposure to negative news can heighten stress and anxiety and keep your mind in a state of

unnecessary information overload. Setting specific times to catch up on the news and avoiding constant updates via phone or social media is a good way to take control of your screen time and promote your mental clarity.

# REMOVE ME!

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

Mail To: Four Angels Messages, PO Box 301, Boiling Springs, PA 17007 E-mail: info@fourangelsmessages.com Phone: (717) 460-7881