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**FOUNDATION**

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

*Satan's Masterpieces*

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# Editorial

E. G. White



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

Ellen White wrote in her day, “The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places. She then likened the position of the Seventh-day Adventist people to those Christians who ultimately fled Jerusalem to escape the Roman conquest and destruction of that city. “As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation in the decree enforcing the papal Sabbath will be a warning to us. It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains.” 5T 464 & 465.

When the Roman armies under Cestius first encircled the walls of Jerusalem, and planted their pagan flags in the “holy space” that extended outside those walls, many Judean Christians were still in the city with no way to escape. But the army of Cestius soon retreated followed by some Jewish troops, thus opening the way for all those Christians still within the city to flee from the city.

Jesus had foreseen the destruction of Jerusalem and had forewarned His true followers of the need to flee. “When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains.” Matt. 24:15 & 16. In Great Controversy at page 26, Ellen White writes, “When the idolatrous standards of the Romans should be

set up in the holy ground, which extended some furlongs outside the city walls, then the followers of Christ were to find safety in flight.” She goes on to say, “When the warning sign should be seen, those who would escape must make no delay.” At page 30, she indicates, “Not one Christian perished in the destruction of Jerusalem.”

Note that the time to leave the big city of Jerusalem came after the first attempted siege by Cestius. That siege was unsuccessful, but it was the sign to flee to the country!

In 1888 the first attempt at a Sunday law was made under what we refer to as the Blair Bill. Was that our first indication to flee the big cities to the smaller ones, and then to the country? Will our attempt to flee after the actual passing of the Sunday law be too late? I have heard arguments made by some living in the big cities that we should wait to leave them until the passing of the Sunday law.

If the Judean Christians had stayed until the successful siege that came later under Titus, they would have been destroyed with the rest of the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Please read the article by Joe Olson on leaving the cities with a mind seeking to determine whether God is seeking to reach your heart with the out-of-the-cities messages.

I have wondered whether any Seventh-day Adventists were in San Francisco in 1906 when the earthquake happened, or in the more recent tragedy of New Orleans. What is ahead for the big cities?

In another line, I would ask you to consider carefully, the issue of feast

day keeping in our day. Please read my article carefully and think about obtaining the book mentioned at the end of my article.

The following statement by Ellen White is found in Signs of the Times, September 4, 1884: “But there is a law which was abolished, which Christ ‘took out of the way, nailing it to his cross’. Paul calls it ‘the law of commandments contained in ordinances’. This ceremonial law, given by God through Moses, with its sacrifices and ordinances, was to be binding upon the Hebrews until type met antitype in the death of Christ as the Lamb of God to take away the sin of the world. Then all the sacrificial offerings and services were to be abolished. Paul and the other apostles labored to show this, and resolutely withstood those Judaizing teachers who declared that Christians should observe the ceremonial law.

Brothers and Sisters, the coming of Christ is in the very near future. “The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God. ‘Where there is no vision, the people perish.’ Proverbs 29:18. Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, to unsettle the confidence of God’s remnant people in the true testimony.” FLB 296.

By not following Ellen White’s clear statements concerning the ceremonial laws, and by not removing ourselves from the big cities and eventually going to the country, or by putting our out-of-context interpretations on her writings, are we making her writings of none effect?

**Our Mission:**

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

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We are accepting article-length manuscripts (1700 to 4000 words) for possible publication in *Our Firm Foundation*. We prefer that submissions be submitted in Word .doc format as a computer file. Include a digital picture and a short bio. Please address all correspondence to Editor, *Our Firm Foundation*, P.O. Box 220, Knoxville, IL 61448, or by email to editorial@hopeint.org.

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# The Bible Museum Opened

By A.L.O.E.  
1883

The narrative portions of the Holy Scriptures are full of objects of deep interests that often need our closer scrutiny to get their deeper meanings.

## a vessel of the temple

Bitter must have been the shame and grief of the Jews when Nebuchadnezzar, King of Assyria, plundered the glorious building which they had raised, the Temple which, eleven years later, was itself given to the flames. Well was it for good king Hezekiah that he lived not to see that day when his precious things, his silver and his gold, with the consecrated gold of the Temple, were carried away to Babylon, according to the word of the Lord spoken by Prophet Isaiah. Great was the quantity of sacred vessels taken from Jerusalem, even if Ezra's list of those restored comprises them all. Thirty chargers and twenty basins of gold; a thousand chargers of silver. "All the vessels of gold and of silver were five thousand and four hundred." It was a humbling day to the captives from Jerusalem when the treasures of the sanctuary, the pride of their fathers, were placed as trophies in the idol temple of the Gentiles.

### *Sacred vessels were used in the riotous feast of Belshazzar*

But we conceive yet stronger indignation excited in the breasts of Jewish exiles, when the sacred vessels were brought forth to add to the magnificence of the feast of King Belshazzar, when the heathen

in riotous mirth quaffed wine out of those splendid chargers, and praised their own gods of silver and gold, of brass, of iron, or wood, and of stone! It was a sacrilegious hand that Belshazzar laid on the golden cup before us, a blasphemous lip that pressed its brim; and God at once avenged the insult to His Majesty. Part of a man's hand appeared writing on the wall terrible mysterious characters that no one present could read, and the king's countenance was changed, he trembled, his knees smote one another with fear. On that night was proud Babylon taken by the Persians under that Cyrus who subsequently restored to the Jews the vessels of their Temple, to be once more devoted to the service of the one true God.

### *The image of a vessel is repeatedly employed in the New Testament to represent human beings*

St. Paul writes of God making known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy which He had before prepared unto glory; he described a believer as "a vessel unto honour, sanctified, meet for the Master's use," and he was himself spoken of by the Lord as "a chosen vessel". It does not appear improbable that in each instance the idea was suggested by the vessels of the Temple. It seems as if some light might be thrown by the use of this simile upon the subjects of baptism and conversion.

### *Satan has carried away some vessels once consecrated to God*

In baptism every Christian adult or child becomes a vessel solemnly consecrated to God, even like the

treasures of the Temple dedicated by Solomon to the Lord. Happy those who are never suffered to fall into the hand of the Enemy! What myriads of babes will there be in Heaven, little vessels of mercy that have never been defiled by willful sin, but which have been safely laid up in the treasury above! But there are many baptized beings whose history is like that of the golden charger on which the mental eye now rests. They were indeed once solemnly devoted to God, but the world has them now, Satan has carried them away, they are no longer in the Master's service. They are given to idols, they are filled with iniquity, and though some in the sight of men may be precious and beautiful still, they are no longer "vessels unto honour". They need to be washed, and cleansed, and given back—restored to their lawful Owner, and to their rightful use, and when God's grace has accomplished this, we call the blessed restoration conversion.

### *That which has been filled with iniquity may yet overflow with grace*

It is therefore with feelings of grief, yet not unmingled with hope (like those which the Jews of old must have experienced in regard to their Temple plate), that believers should look upon the unconverted around them. It is not with loathing and contempt that the drunkard or the thief should be thrust aside; it is not with proud disgust that the Christian should turn from the multitude whose daily course of life proves them to be under the dominion of the Prince of this world, though they were baptized in earlier years. These are all precious vessels once dedicated to God, and which may be restored to His service still. They are in Babylon now, but they



# Hope for Health

may be rescued from thence; that which has been filled with iniquity may yet overflow with grace; saved from the idol temple, snatched from the revel and the riot, they may yet be reserved to shine in glory amongst the jewels of their Lord. What marvelous instances of such conversion have formed themes for the songs of rejoicing angels! Such men as John Newton and Vine Hall, and many others besides, were as vessels grasped by Satan himself and held up on high in unhallowed triumph: but they were to be wrenched from his hold, filled with grace and filled with glory, and made chosen vessels of the heavenly Temple which is built not by man but by God.

## *Know how to preserve your vessel in sanctification and honour*

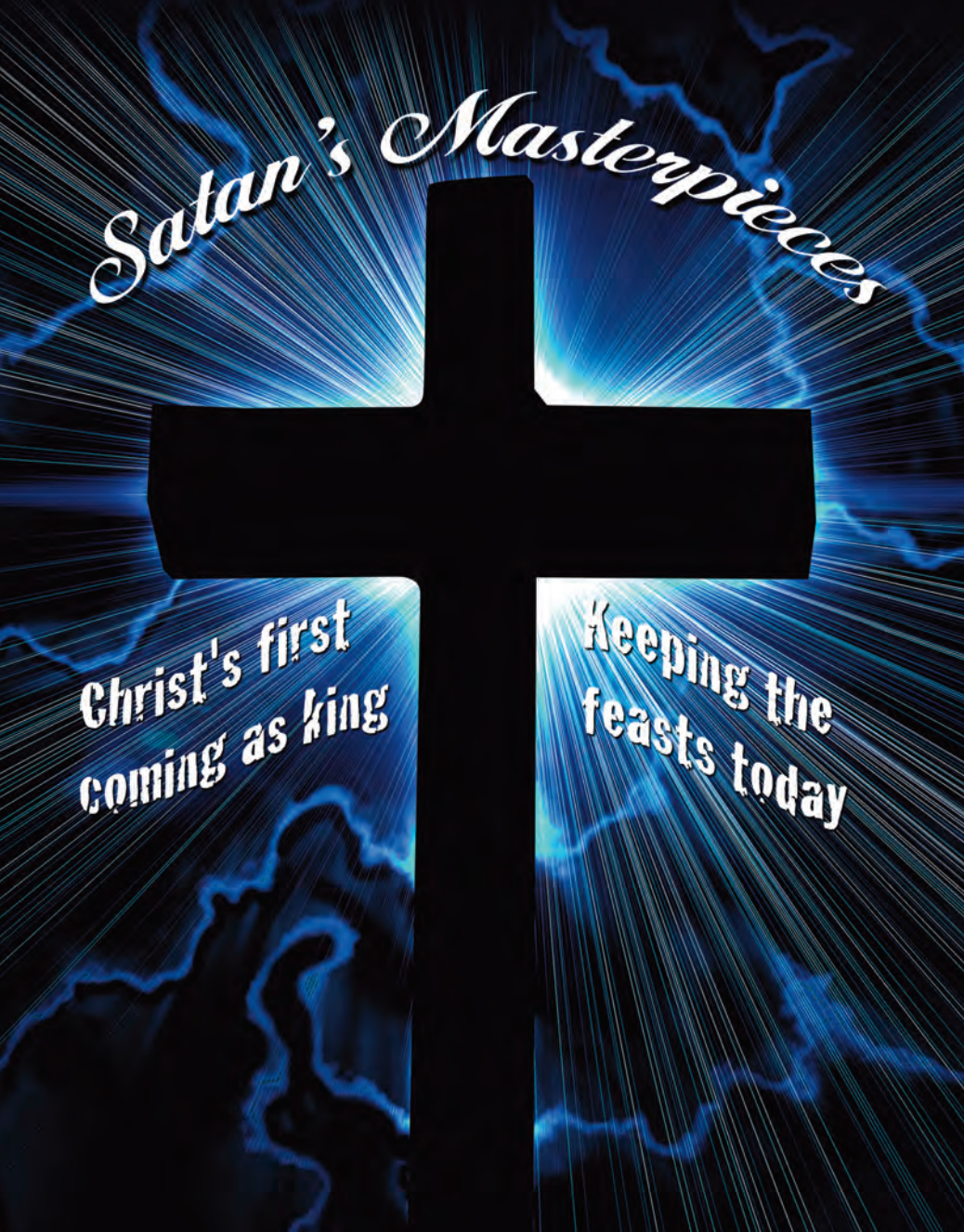
Fervent should be our prayers for the unconverted whether they be those whom the world condemns or the world admires. There are some amongst them whose characters seem to bear no dark stain or spot: all acknowledge the metal to be precious and the form to be fair: they are so goodly—so bright—that it is hard to believe that they are not “vessels of honour”. But alas! if they be not truly devoted to God’s service and receiving His grace, they are like the golden chargers of the feast of Belshazzar, they are yet but “vessels of wrath”. They are like beautiful chalices made to hold the wine of blessing; but taken from the church to the godless banquet. It is profanation when any baptized being is given to the service of the world; the familiar sound of his own Christian name should remind him that he has once been devoted to God.

Let us close our meditation with the words of the apostle: “Every one of you should know how to preserve his vessel in sanctification and honour.....And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly,..... faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it.”



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By Clark Floyd

The Great Controversy in chapter 32, 'Snares of Satan', opens with the following warning: "The great controversy between Christ and Satan, that has been carried forward for nearly six thousand years, is soon to close; and the wicked one redoubles his efforts to defeat the work of Christ in man's behalf and to fasten souls in his snares. To hold the people in darkness and impenitence till the Saviour's mediation is ended, and there is no longer a sacrifice for sin, is the object which he seeks to accomplish." GC 518.

### **The enemy is on our track**

In volume 5 of the Testimonies at page 160, we are warned: "Satan's snares are laid for us as verily as they were laid for the children of Israel just prior to their entrance into the land of Canaan. We are repeating the history of that people."

And finally in volume 8 of the Testimonies at page 298, we read: "Perilous times are before us. Everyone who has a knowledge of the truth should awake and place himself, body, soul, and spirit, under the discipline of God. The enemy is on our track. We must be wide awake, on our guard against him."

### **Satan uses misapplication of scripture and prophecy to accomplish his deceptions**

Satan has, from the beginning of time, had his deceptions. He convinced Adam and Eve that it was all right to take fruit from the forbidden tree. He convinced Cain that he could make up his own rules for sacrifice in opposition to the rules God had established. He convinced Abraham that it was all right to say that Sara was his sister, not his wife—after all, it was a partial truth. And so it was on down through history and beyond.

One of his great masterpieces of deception was to convince the Jew of Jesus' day that Messiah's first coming would be as a king and conqueror rather than one that was to go to the cross and die for our sins. And he used misapplication of the Scriptures and prophecy to do so.

### **The sanctuary service, and the coming of the Messiah, are clearly described in scripture**

In the Bible, from the first animal sacrifice by Adam and Eve after their sin, to the sacrifices offered by the patriarchs of old, including Abraham's willingness to offer up his only son as a sacrifice, the coming of a Messiah that would give His life for a repentant people was foretold.

The sanctuary service was like a kindergarten illustration of the plan of salvation. And then the feast days were given to add to the accumulating information pointing to a Messiah that would be sacrificed.

Isaiah wrote, "But he [was] wounded for our transgressions, [he was] bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace [was] upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened

not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.” Isa. 53:5-7.

## **We are instructed to “know... and understand”**

And Daniel followed with a prophecy: “Know therefore and understand, [that] from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince [shall be] seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself....And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease....” Dan. 9:25-27.

## **The Talmudic tract ‘Sanhedrin’ supports Satan’s deceptions**

But Satan, with his great masterpiece of deception covered up the true mission of Messiah and used a misapplication of Scripture and prophecy to do so. All of the sacrificial offerings, instead of pointing forward to a Savior, became like the offerings of the pagans to appease an angry God.

The Jewish leadership went so far as turning the people away from the Book of Daniel in regard to understanding the truth about the Messiah—the late F. C. Gilbert, beloved leader of Christian work for the Jews, in an article entitled “Daniel Not Included Among the Prophets” published in the Review and Herald of May 24, 1945, wrote thus:

“In the Talmudic tract, ‘Sanhedrin’, 97B, section 2, at line 28, may be

found these words translated from the Jewish writings: ‘May the bones of the hands and the bones of the fingers decay and decompose of him who turns the pages of Daniel to find out the time.’

“This prophecy of Daniel 9:24-27 so accurately predicts the date of the Baptism and Death of Christ, thus the early Jewish authority apparently attempted to direct their people away from the Book of Daniel and thus this powerful prophecy that points out Christ as the true Messiah.”

## **Those closest to Christ didn’t even understand how they were deceived**

Even the Disciples of Christ were misled to the point that they couldn’t understand the very clear and direct words of Jesus found in Matthew.

In Matthew chapter 16, the Bible speaks of Christ entering the coasts of Caesarea Phillipi with His disciples, and in verse 21, it reads, “From that time forth began Jesus to show 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.” THEY DIDN’T UNDERSTAND.

In Matthew chapter 17, verses 22



and 23, “And while they abode in Galilee, Jesus said unto them, The Son of man shall be betrayed into the hands of men: And they shall kill him, and the third day he shall be raised again.” THEY DIDN’T UNDERSTAND, but were “exceeding sorry”.

And again in chapter 20, verses 17-19, “And Jesus going up to Jerusalem took the twelve disciples apart in the way, and said unto them, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify [him]: and the third day he shall rise again.” THEY DIDN’T UNDERSTAND.

Satan had been quite successful with his masterpiece of deception.

## **Futurism is another of Satan’s deceptions**

Again, in our own time, Satan has been successful with his new masterpieces of deception.

In the world of the mainline, so-called Protestant churches, futurism has taken hold. These churches have lost sight of the Protestant Reformation and what it stood for. They have forgotten the millions of folks put to death at the hands of the Catholic Church. The Book of Daniel has been misapplied. The antichrist has become an individual to arise in the future. The nation of Israel has become a focal point. The Scriptures have again been abused and misused.

## The grand masterpiece of deception is the keeping of the feast days

Satan has also been very active in the Seventh-day Adventist church. Back in Ellen White's day, we see the Messenger Party, John Harvey Kellogg's pantheism, the falling away of Jones and Wagoner and others. Since that time, we have had the Lord of Righteousness group, the no Holy Spirit people, the folks on the wrong nature of Christ (nature of Adam before the fall), the people that claim we will be sinning until the Lord returns, and his grand masterpiece - the restoration of keeping the feast days.

Many of the people who have turned to the feast days are wonderful, sincere people as were the Disciples, but like the Disciples, they are sincerely wrong, and lead away, and harm in the presentation of the Three Angels' messages by pushing the feast days. Like the Disciples, they are misapplying Scripture, including both the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.

Like the Disciples, they avoid some very direct statements while taking others out of context. And like the Disciples, it becomes very difficult to help them to see their error.

The Road to Emmaus could only occur after the crucifixion. The Disciples were not ready before that. What will it take for the feast day keepers to have their "Road to Emmaus"?

## Words must be understood within the context in which they are used

Some folks who attend our church on a regular basis, and are wonderful and likeable people, very sincere in



what they believe, approached me one evening after church to promote the feast days. They were all excited about the Hebrew term "moed".

It is a term used in the Bible in connection with the feast days. This term was found to exist in the very first chapter of Genesis in the creation account. The argument was made that the feast days therefore existed from the time of Creation, as did the Sabbath.

These folks failed to study the use of the term "moed" throughout Scripture. It is used more than 220 times, but only about 27 per cent in regard to the feast days. To understand its use, the context in which it is used must be checked. Its many definitions must be examined—for instance, I have a flashlight that I call my "light". Light is spoken of in the creation story at the beginning, but it would be incorrect to say therefore my flashlight must have been back there at the beginning.

## God gave very definite rules for the keeping of the feast days

Jesus did, on the Road to Emmaus, give us a very definite way to study the Scriptures, including the Spirit of Prophecy. We want to follow Him in all things.

"And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself." Luke 24:27.

Unless we compare Scripture with Scripture using *all* the Scripture, we will be liable, as the Disciples and the feast day keepers were and are, to take

things out of context.

God gave very definite rules for the keeping of the feast days. The sacrifices were an intricate part of the feast days. They could not be separated from them—can you imagine what would have happened to the Hebrew people if they decided to just keep a special day without putting the blood on the doorpost?

God required the people to go to the temple in Jerusalem for the feasts. Feast day keepers today make up their own rules on where and how to keep the feasts—they have been given no direction after the cross for the keeping of the feasts.

## Satan is constantly seeking to divert the mind

Ellen White spoke of keeping "a feast of tabernacles", not "*the* feast of tabernacles". If the full context of her statement is carefully checked out, she was referring to a getting together at camp meetings, not a keeping of the literal feast.

In the Review and Herald, May 29, 1888, Ellen White warned, "Erroneous ideas will be brought into the work,



and presented as a part of the truth to the people; but everything that God has not connected with the truth will only serve to weaken the message and lessen the force of its claims. Satan is constantly seeking to divert the mind from the real work to a spurious work."

"There are those who turn away from this great and all-important work (The Three Angels' Messages),



to follow their own way. They have independent ideas and will not receive counsel. They choose to follow their own course, until the third angel's message becomes a thing of minor importance, and finally it loses all its value. They hold another doctrine, opposed in principal to the doctrine of the Bible. They do not comprehend the nature of the work, and instead of leading the people to the firm platform of truth, they lead them to place their feet on the sandy foundations of error. They induce men to wear a yoke that is not the yoke of the meek and lowly Jesus."

**To continue the feast days is an insult to Jehovah**

In the Review and Herald of June 14, 1898, Ellen White, in referring to the communion service replacing the feast days, states: "In this ordinance (the communion service), Christ discharged his disciples from the cares and burdens of the ancient Jewish obligations in rites and ceremonies. These no longer possessed any virtue; for type was meeting antitype in himself, the authority and foundation of all Jewish ordinances that pointed to him as the great and only efficacious offering for the sins of the world....To continue these rites (the feast days) would be an insult to Jehovah."

A further statement in regard to the Passover was made in the Desire of Ages at page 652: "Christ was standing at the point of transition between two economies and their two great festivals. He, the spotless Lamb of God, was about to present Himself as a sin offering, that He would thus bring to an end the system of types and ceremonies that for four thousand years had pointed to His death. As He ate the Passover with His disciples,

He instituted in its place the service that was to be the memorial of His great sacrifice. The national festival of the Jews was to pass away forever. The service which Christ established was to be observed by His followers in all lands and through all ages."

**We must compare scripture with scripture, and study the writings of Ellen White to arrive at correct understanding**

There are many things that the feast keepers do to make their case. They attempt to include the feast days in the statutes that were given to guard the Decalogue. They try to separate the sacrifice from the feast day. They attempt to make their own rules for keeping the feast days, separate and apart from the rules the

Lord gave.

As with Christ's Disciples, there is a Road to Emmaus, but, also, as with the Disciples, unless feast day keepers are willing to look at all the Scriptures, including all the writings of Ellen

White, and to compare Scripture with Scripture, they will seek every excuse to avoid and misuse the particular Road to Emmaus I am speaking of.

**May we all be ready for His soon return**

Recently, Pastor Ron du Preez of the Michigan Conference, one who understands the Hebrew language, and



is well acquainted with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, has written a book called Feast-Keeping and the Final Crisis. It is 398 pages long and is an excellent study of the feast days including a section on "Old Testament Issues", a section on "New Testament Concerns" and one on "Ellen G. White Matters".

I do not know Brother du Preez personally, but I have been through his book more than once. I see it as the Road to Emmaus for feast keepers and others that want to really know the truth about feast days.

Ron du Preez's book is available through Omega Media at 1-517-599-3798. Hope International has no connection with Ron du Preez nor the sale of his book, but I, as editor of Our Firm Foundation and one who is concerned with the good people who I believe are being misled by the feast days, make this a personal recommendation by me.

**MAY THE LORD BE YOUR GUIDE, AND MAY YOU TRULY BE READY FOR HIS SOON RETURN, AND BE HIS WITNESS OF THE THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES, INCLUDING THE SEVENTH-DAY SABBATH.**



*Clark Floyd, editor of Our Firm Foundation magazine, has been co-host of the radio program Bible Answers with Clark and Lee and is a*

*licensed attorney and an ordained Seventh-day Adventist pastor. He has spoken internationally and makes his home in the beautiful mountains of western North Carolina.*

# A WARNING FOR THIS TIME

Mrs. E. G. White

“For this cause,” Paul wrote, “we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness.” These words present an advancing religious experience.



“Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers.” This is a warning appropriate for this time. Then comes a charge which will often need to be given: “Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” Learn to take the truths that have been revealed, and to handle them in such a way that they will be food for the flock of God.

## **SPECULATION HAS NO PLACE IN INTERPRETING SCRIPTURE**

We shall meet those who allow their minds to wander into idle speculations about things of which nothing is said in the word of God. God has spoken in the plainest language upon every subject that affects the salvation of the soul. But He desires us to avoid all day-dreaming, and He says, Go work today in my vineyard. The night cometh wherein no man can work. Cease all idle curiosity; watch, and work, and pray. Study the truths that have been revealed. Christ desires to break up all vacant reveries, and He points us to the fields ripe for the harvest. Unless we work earnestly, eternity will overwhelm us with its burden of

responsibility. God has given us talents upon which to trade, and He expects us to increase them by faithful use. He has made us His almoners; and He requires that wherever we shall go, usefulness shall mark our path. If the contemplation of eternal realities unfits us for the duties of the present life, the blame lies with ourselves.

## **THERE WILL ALWAYS BE THOSE WHO PREFER ERROR INSTEAD OF TRUTH**

We have encouragement in the Scriptures that if we walk humbly before God, we shall receive instruction. But we are warned against undue curiosity. “Shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness”, leading into paths of supposition and imagination, with which we have nothing to do. These are vain, unessential theories of human creation, which keep the mind dwelling upon nothingness. They have in them nothing sure or substantial. Of those who advance these theories, Paul says: “Their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.”

In the days of the apostles the most foolish heresies were presented as truth. History has been and will be repeated. There will always be those who, though apparently conscientious, will grasp at the shadow, preferring it to the substance. They take error in the place of truth, because error is clothed with a new garment, which they think covers something wonderful. But let the covering be removed, and nothingness appears.





## THE LORD KNOWETH THOSE THAT ARE HIS

“Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal; The Lord knoweth them that are His. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth;

and some to honor, and some to dishonor.” The “great house” represents the Church. In the Church will be found the vile as well as the precious. The net cast into the sea gathers both good and bad.

“If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the Master’s use, and prepared unto every good work.” He is not to accept theories that, if received, would corrupt. He is to purify himself from all unrighteous sentiments, which, if received, would lead away from the sure word of God to unstable human devisings, degradation, and corruption. He is to resist the working of the enemy through vessels of dishonor. By searching the Scriptures with much prayer, he will find a path to follow, not the path of man, but a path that leads to heaven.

## THE SPIRIT OF GOD WILL WORK THROUGH SANCTIFIED HUMAN AGENCIES

The work of purification is an individual work. No one can do this work for another. “If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the Master’s use.” The Spirit of God will work through sanctified human agencies, leading them to work aright. Ability and grace will be provided. Men will be filled with an earnest desire to preach the truths of the gospel, firmly, decidedly, and in a clear manner.

The men intrusted with sacred responsibilities as teachers of spiritual things are representatives of Christ. Having His meekness and lowliness, they day by day witness for Him. They manifest His Spirit in their earnest endeavor to do good, and they receive the unction represented by the holy oil. The impartation of God’s Spirit is an overflowing of the holy oil from the divine receptacle into human vessels



prepared to receive it. Thus by the power and grace of God, and under His superintending care, the work is carried forward, in the face of mighty foes. This work is not to cease until its completion amid the triumphant shout of victory, “Grace, grace unto it.”

## AVOID FOOLISH QUESTIONINGS

“Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes. And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing them that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.”

## UNLESS WE ARE CONVERTED WE WILL LEAD AWAY FROM CHRIST

The members of the Church of God need converting. Unless they are converted, they will lead away from Christ, making crooked paths for their own feet, and turning the lame out of the way. There is just as much need of repentance in and among believers who err from the principles of Christ as among those who have not a knowledge of the way of the Lord. Let the question come home to every soul, Am I walking in Christ’s footsteps? True religion exerts a powerful influence. True Christians are filled with love for God and man; their earnest desire for the salvation of the souls ready to perish gives them decided victories.

RH, February 5, 1901

Editor’s note: The truths necessary for salvation will be abundantly clear—any attempt to bring in the feast days as a requirement for salvation is not supported by Scripture nor by the writings of Ellen White. (Underlining added.)

*Ellen G. White, 1827–1915,*



*received the spiritual gift of prophecy, and the fruits of her life and work accord with the biblical tests of a true*

*messenger of God. To this day, her counsels are an incalculable blessing to God’s people around the world.*



# Out of the Cities!

By Joe Olson

We have been told to get out of the cities for over 100 years. The cities are filled with disease and filth and soul-destroying vices. “Take your families away from the cities is my message. The time has come when, as God opens the way, families should move out of the cities.” AH 139. “Out of the cities; out of the cities!”--this is the message the Lord has been giving me. The earthquakes will come; the floods will come; and we are not to establish ourselves in the wicked cities, where the enemy is served in every way, and where God is so often forgotten.” LS 409, 410, 1906.

## **Plan, plan, and plan some more!**

Yes, we have been told to get out of the cities. Of course, we are not to make injudicious moves, or to just

quit our jobs and go stand in a forest somewhere. We have to be very wise and move with discretion. In other words, when we have been told to move out and away from the cities, we have to make a plan...Plan to get some land, but plan to be able to make a living wherever you go...Plan how you will build a house, and plan how you will garden and can your produce, and plan how you will pay your bills once you move away from the cities...Plan how your children will be schooled, plan what you will do for medical care. Plan, plan, plan! Does this sound like it is a lot of work? It is! It is for sure. It is the same kind, or type, of work as character building.

We have been told that we must “strive” to enter in at the strait gate. We must work as hard as we can to overcome our sins, by the power of Him who told us to strive. Revelation tells us over and over again that God will give to the overcomer the gift of

eternal life, entrance to the City, and a new name.

## **Do not consider it a privation to leave the cities**

There is work, much work in being a Christian. And, as a result, very few really want to be true Christians, because it takes so much effort. Following God’s instructions to move out of the cities takes much effort, too. “I urge our people to make it their lifework to seek for spirituality. Christ is at the door. This is why I say to our people, Do not consider it a privation when you are called to leave the cities and move out into the country places. Here there await rich blessings for those who will grasp them. By beholding the scenes of nature, the works of the Creator, by studying God’s handiwork, imperceptibly you will be changed into the same image.” MS 85, 1908.

There is a lot of meat here in these few sentences.

### If God calls us to do it, it is for our good

Do you notice that she said to not consider it a “privation” when God calls us to leave the cities? As with Lot, and Sodom and Gomorra, there may be conveniences that you will have to leave behind; there may even be family that you have to turn away from, but we are not to consider these “privations”. Doing the will of God is never, ever to be considered a privation or a sacrifice. If God tells us to do it, it is FOR us, not against us.

Whenever we think that following God’s will is too much of a sacrifice, you can be sure that it is the devil’s temptation you are listening to.

### City living is not something we should have

Country living is always the best for us and for our children. No one is better off in the city, or God would have said, “Some of you should go to the country, but some of you really need to stay in the city.” It’s like eating fruits and vegetables instead of meat and cheese, there is no one that is benefited by eating those things that God has said to get away from.

And there is always benefit in following God’s instruction as to what to eat.

Tithe is another good example. God tells everyone to do it, not

just those with lots of money. Why? Because God needs our money? No, because He knows we need to give that to Him for our OWN benefit.



God does not ever, ever, ask us to do anything that is not for our own, best good. So, if He says to move to

the country, then we should not consider leaving the cities a privation, or something we “can’t” have. It is something we *shouldn’t* have.

### If God says to go, then we should plan to go

It is always the devil that comes up with every excuse in the book for not following what God says to do. If God says to go... then we should plan to go. We have been given this counsel for over 100 years, as we have noted, so there has been PLENTY of time to prepare, don’t you think?

Many of us will not be able to leave the cities tomorrow, but all of us can *plan* to go now... right? Some of us can plan and prepare to move very quickly. Others will have

to plan for some time to come. But for those who are doing *no* planning, you will not be moving out of the cities. I cannot tell you how much time there is left

before it will be too late to move out of the cities, but what I can tell you, is that there is less time now than there was.



### What more could we want?

Fresh air, less crime, space to roam, room for a large garden, fresh produce, canned goods for winter... what’s not to like? And we are told that... “By beholding the scenes of nature, the works of the Creator, by studying God’s handiwork, imperceptibly you will be changed into the same image.” MS 85, 1908. So, you get all the benefits I just mentioned, plus being changed into God’s image!??? What else could we ask for or want? Who would actually ever feel or say that they would not desire these things?

### The devil always tempts us not to listen to God

So, if you are not in the country, or planning to leave, then the devil is throwing up his many wicked temptations and reasonings to *not* do what God has said. Don’t think for a minute that he does not know that you will be changed into God’s image if you will behold and study God’s handiwork. He wants to avoid that happening at all costs!

Now, there is no question, or at least I hope there’s not, that we should leave the cities. If they were so wicked and bad and evil 100 years ago, can anyone argue that things have improved? No, we must get out of the cities.

### The specific time to leave the cities

God has given us the specific time when we absolutely *have* to be out of the cities by... “The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places. As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman

armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation, in the decree enforcing the papal sabbath, will be a warning to us. It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains". 5T 464.

### **Get out before we are forced to leave**

The time is not far distant when we will be "forced" to seek refuge in desolate and solitary places. I am not referring to being *forced* just yet. I'm referring to getting out and getting a place BEFORE we are "forced" to leave. We are told that when our nation makes a decree to enforce Sunday worship, then "it will be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains." 5T 464.

### **It is wise to leave as soon as you can**

If one were to ask the question, "Do I HAVE to leave the cities now?" my answer would be, we have been told to leave, but you don't HAVE to until the enforcement of the papal Sabbath is decreed. But, do you really want to take the chance that you might not be ready at that time? Wouldn't it be wiser to get ready and move as soon as you can? If we know we are eventually going to go to "retired homes in secluded places among the mountains", would it not make the most sense to go there now... if you can? Or, at least prepare for that move?



### **If we believe God's warnings, we need to prepare**

Let me ask a question...If we know this is coming, and we believe that we will eventually be going to these mountainous, desolate, secluded places...Wouldn't you rather be there early, to kind of get things set up ahead of time? I mean, wherever you end up, wouldn't you like to have running water? How about power? What about a home to live in? Do you plan to live in a tent? How long might we be in these solitary places? A week, a month, a year... longer? If we *believe* this is coming, I mean, *really believe* it, would we not try to get ready for it?



"Educate our people to get out of the cities into the country, where they can obtain a small piece of land, and make a home for themselves and their children..."

Mar 180. We should try to obtain a small piece of land. When would you suppose we

ought to try to obtain this land? Do you think we should wait until we are "forced" to leave, or before, under calmer circumstances? Remember, we have been counseled to get out of the cities and into the country *for 100 and more years.*

### **Soon, strife in the cities will make it impossible to leave**

"Erelong there will be such strife and confusion in the cities, that those who wish to leave them will not be able." Mar 180.

We have been very plainly spoken to by God. He has said this is coming, and to prepare for it. He said it is going to get so bad that when those who finally decide that maybe they should leave now, will not be able. He did not say that they "might" not be able... He said they *WILL not be able.*

Please, whatever you do, don't let the devil discourage you when you hear these things! This is our most loving heavenly Father helping us to avoid much worse problems than we need to, or at least prolong the time before we suffer.

As you have heard me say over and over for years... God always wants to do it the easy way, or at least, in this situation, the easier way. We have been told point blank to get out. We have been told point blank that if we wait too long, we will not be able to get out.

### **We are warned to stay away from close proximity to those who do not honor God**

What should we do? "We are not to locate ourselves where we will be forced into close relations with those who do not honor God. . . . A crisis is soon to come in regard to the observance of Sunday. . ." Mar 180. Here again, we are warned to stay away from close proximity to those who do not honor God, specifically Sunday keepers. What do you think is going to happen when they know you are a Sabbath keeper, and you

live three doors down? And I'm not talking about a few neighbors who might live in our proximity, but a few hundred or a few thousand! Have you ever heard of the "mob mentality"? When this day comes, and we are told it is coming soon, we will wish we lived near as few people as possible.

### Is it okay to live in the suburbs, or small towns?

Now, for those who do not live "in" the cities, but are in the suburbs, or are in small towns within a few miles of larger cities... we have to ask if that is a good idea. What about those folk? Once again, God has given us very plain and easy-to-follow counsel. We are told that the cities will be destroyed by God because of their exceeding wickedness.



"The time is near when the large cities will be visited by the judgments of God. In a little while these cities will be terribly shaken. No matter how large or how strong their buildings, no matter how many safeguards against fire may have been provided, let God touch these buildings, and in a few minutes or a few hours they are in ruins." CH 268.

God's judgments will be poured out upon these wicked cities. What kinds of judgments? Are we told what God will do to punish the city's wicked inhabitants? "I am bidden to declare the message that cities full of transgression, and sinful in the extreme, will be destroyed by earthquakes, by fire, by

flood. All the world will be warned that there is a God who will display His authority as God. His unseen agencies will cause destruction, devastation, and death. All the accumulated riches will be as nothingness. . ." CL 7.

### Where will the flood waters stop?

When these cities are destroyed, what will happen to the surrounding suburbs and smaller towns that are near the cities? What I mean is, if the cities are to be destroyed by fire and flood and earthquake, etc., do all of these disasters stop directly at the city limit? Do we really think that the

water that comes in will just impact the area right to the city's edge? When a flood comes in, will the waters immediately subside at the city's welcome sign? Or, do you suppose those towns around the city, and those nearby, might be affected as well? Do you think the services that are interrupted in the cities

destroyed by these judgments of God will continue to operate for the towns and villages nearby? Many smaller towns and localities get their water and gas and electricity from the larger cities that are close to them.

What about an earthquake? Don't these often travel for miles past the epicenters? Just pick a city, and figure



how far you are from it. Do you suppose, if we lived nearby, that we might be affected by that earthquake as well? Fire? Same thing... right? My point is that if we are truly nearing the end, we obviously need to be out of the cities; but how far out? A mile? Three miles? 10 miles? Or would we rather be in the country - WELL into the country?

Would we prefer to be far enough out where we won't be caught up in the fires and floods and earthquakes ourselves? Would we prefer to have our own septic tank and our own well or water supply and food supply, like a garden and canned produce?

### No situation will be trouble-free

Please don't get me wrong. No one will avoid all problems and concerns and calamities. But, given the choice, wouldn't we rather avoid as much of it as we could? It just makes sense to me that if we know something is coming, and we know where it will be the worst, that we would try to get away from where those trouble spots will be.

Sister White continually used terms, when referring to getting out of the cities and into the country, like, "retired" or "mountains" or "rural" or "secluded" or "desolate" and even "as far away from the cities as possible".

Do ANY of these terms or phrases strike you as being anywhere near the cities? Do they not rather indicate that we need to be far, far away? As far as possible?

## Is it not wise to be as far from the cities as possible?

Now, I am not telling anyone that they are doing wrong, or not going to be saved, or any such thing, if they are in the cities right now. But what I *am* saying, is that for our own benefit and our own good, would it not be wiser to be as far away from the cities as we can be? There is no question that we have been warned by God to do so. Now, if we have been warned, especially for a really long time, and we do nothing about it, can we expect God to keep us safe?

I'm not saying that anyone living in the cities will be unprotected by God, because there are always some whose situations prevent them from leaving, but those who have heard the warning, and heard it over and over again, and *can* leave, and simply *don't*... I would hate to be in their shoes. I'm not sure angels would have come for Lot and his family had Lot been warned for 100 years to get out of the cities.

## Is your heart in the city?

And speaking of Lot and his family, what happened to his wife because she still wanted to be in the city? The woman wasn't even *in* the city any longer, but her desire for it was so strong, that she was turned into a pillar of salt. The point, of course, is that it is not just about your location, but what is important to you.



Especially today, with all of our technology, we can certainly leave the city physically, but we are more than able to bring a lot of the city with us in our electronic devices. But just because you *can* bring the city with you, is no reason not to follow God's command to leave the cities. "At such a time as this, the people who are seeking

to keep the commandments of God should look for retired places away from the cities." CL 14. I read these words thirty-five years ago, and they were as true then as they are today, and even more so now.

## God did not 'suggest' that we leave the cities

Are you a commandment keeper? Then you should be looking for retired places away from the cities. Are you seeking to keep the commandments of God? Then you should be looking for retired places away from the cities.

I think it is so important that we look at these directives from God as a blessing and not as a curse as Lot's

wife obviously did. Just sheer logic will suggest that it will be easier to keep the commands of God out in the country than in the cities, wouldn't it? So, when God says to get out of the cities and into the retired places in the country, isn't He trying to help us keep His commandments?



## Can you be alone with God where you now live?

That's why Ellen White said not to consider moving to the country a privation. How can it be a privation to do something that makes it easier to obey God? "Who will be warned? We say again, Out of the cities. Do not consider it a great deprivation, that you must go into the hills and mountains, but seek for that retirement where you can be alone with God, to learn His will and way." MS 85, 1908.

We want to be alone with God. Look around you now... are you and your family alone? Are you within shouting distance to others? Can others see you coming in and going out of your house? Can you see them? Can you hear their music and see their parties and observe their disobedience to God on His holy day? Then you might be too close for comfort.



## What are we to prepare for?

"Before the overflowing scourge shall come upon the dwellers of the earth, the Lord calls upon all who are Israelites indeed to prepare for that event. To parents He sends the warning cry: Gather your children into your own houses; gather them away from those who are disregarding the commandments of God, who are teaching and practicing evil. Get out of the large cities as fast as possible." AH 139. How fast is, "as fast as possible...?"

We are told to prepare. How do we do that? What are we to prepare for? No question we are to prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord and Saviour. But in reference to these



quotes about being out of the cities and the “overwhelming scourge”, is it not that we should prepare by *not* being in or near these cities?

### All should be warned of these coming judgments

The dictionary defines “scourge” to be “a cause of affliction or calamity” and/or to “punish or chastise severely”. We are to prepare for what is going to happen to the cities. They are to be punished; chastised; afflicted; and whatever other word you would like to apply for getting their just dues.

“The time is near when large cities will be swept away, and all should be warned of these coming judgments.”

AH 136.

Swept away... as in... gone... destroyed, ruined! And if you are in them, what do you think is going to happen to you? All should be warned! Who is “all” do you suppose? All who will listen.

Noah preached for 120 years that the flood was coming, and that everything would be “swept away”. Do you suppose there were any people who were planning on getting in the boat, but had just not packed yet? Really, I mean, do you think there were those who were convinced by Noah’s preaching, convinced by the Spirit that they should get on that boat, but just didn’t make the decision soon enough? Why say, “Get ready, get ready, get ready”, if you really don’t have to, because God is going to take care of everything for us anyway?

### How would you define a “large” city?

One more thought... we have been talking about getting out of the cities, especially the large cities.

The large cities are to be destroyed. How *many* cities do you suppose she considered to be “large”?

“O that God’s people had a sense of the impending destruction of thousands of cities, now almost given to idolatry.” RH, Sept. 10, 1903. THOUSANDS of cities are going to be destroyed. Minimally, that would be two thousand, but it could certainly mean 4 or 5 or 10 thousand cities... right? And this was not 2003... it was 1903... *a hundred years ago!* Large cities in 1903 would be small suburbs today!

How many cities in the United States would you say have a

population of 100,000 people, or more? I mean, Clarksville, Tennessee has 100,000 and Peoria, Illinois has 100,000. Those are not particularly large cities to me. But if thousands are to be destroyed,



and that could be 2 or 5 or 10 thousand cities, then how many would be destroyed in this country?

Again, how many cities in all of the United States would you think there are with a population of 100,000 or more? There are less than a thousand. You might be surprised to learn that there are less than 500. The actual number is 252. That means that the cities to be destroyed might be a lot smaller than we think. It might mean that a lot of cities we assume to be small towns, would have been large cities to Ellen White. It’s just a matter of perspective.

### We should praise and thank God for the timely warning

This message is not to bring discouragement, disappointment or despair, but praise to God for warning us in plenty of time to get ready! “I see the necessity of making haste to get all things ready for the crisis.” Letter 90, 1897. He has given us so much time to “get all things ready”. Shall we not praise God and thank Him for giving us this wise and helpful counsel? And let’s go further than thanking Him. Let us show Him how much we appreciate it by actually *following* His guidance!



Joe Olson serves as the executive director and chairman of the board of Hope International. He also travels as an international speaker.

# THE LATTER RAIN NO. 11

By Meade MacGuire

Editor's note: This will be the last in the series of articles on the Latter Rain, by Meade MacGuire, that ran in the Review and Herald from June 3 to August 12, 1943—these all are very pertinent to the time we are in.

In preceding articles we have noticed how God plans to finish the work of the gospel by the outpouring of His Spirit in the latter rain. We have quoted some of the many statements setting forth the conditions on which we may receive that experience to which we have so long looked forward. We must have “victory over every besetment”, perfect characters “not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing”, cleanse ourselves “from filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God”.

## GOD PROMISES TO PERFECT OUR CHARACTERS

Let us now consider earnestly and prayerfully the provisions God has made by which everyone who will co-operate with Him may attain to Christian perfection of character and share in the latter rain and the finishing of God's work. God promises to do this work of perfecting our characters Himself.

“The very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your

whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it.” 1Thes. 5:23, 24.

## MAN CANNOT MAKE HIMSELF PERFECT

It is nowhere taught in the Scriptures that man can make himself perfect, but rather that such a thing is impossible.

“Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.” Jer. 13:23. “Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.” Job 14:4.

## CHRIST CAME TO MAKE US PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE

The very first step in this wonderful experience is God's work of re-creation, or the new birth, by which His divinity is united with our humanity, thus providing unlimited power to overcome all sin.

“Not even by a thought did He yield to temptation. So it may be with us. Christ's humanity was united with divinity; He was fitted for the conflict by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. And He came to make us partakers of the divine nature. So long as we are united to Him by faith, sin has no more dominion over us. God reaches for

the hand of faith in us to direct it to lay fast hold upon the divinity of Christ, that we may attain to perfection of character.” DA 123.

## THE UNSEEN POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT CREATES A NEW BEING IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

When Adam and Eve sinned, human nature became fallen, corrupt, and impure, and we all inherit that fallen nature from our human parents. Therefore Jesus said, “Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” John 3:3. We can become God's children only by being born of God. (John 1:13). Through that new birth we receive the divine nature. (2 Peter 1:4).

“When the Spirit of God takes possession of the heart, it transforms the life. Sinful thoughts are put away, evil deeds are renounced: love, humility, and peace take the place of anger, envy, and strife. Joy takes the place of sadness, and the countenance reflects the light of heaven. No one sees the hand that lifts the burden, or beholds the light descend from the courts above. The blessing comes when by faith the soul surrenders itself to God. Then that power which no human eye can see, creates a new being in the image of God.” DA 172, 173.

## WHEN THE SOUL SURRENDERS ITSELF TO CHRIST, A NEW POWER TAKES POSSESSION OF THE NEW HEART

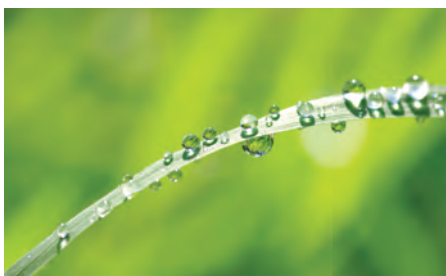
This is not a matter of simply assenting to the teaching of the Bible. It is a divine miracle, involving the exercise of God's creative power. The apostle Paul declares, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold, all things are become new." 2 Cor. 5:17.

"When the soul surrenders itself to Christ, a new power takes possession of the new heart. A change is wrought which man can never accomplish for himself. It is a supernatural work, bringing a super-natural element into human nature. The soul that is yielded to Christ becomes His own fortress, which He holds in a revolted world, and He intends that no authority shall be known in it but His own. A soul thus kept in possession by the heavenly agencies, is impregnable to the assaults of Satan." DA 323 & 324.

## THAT DIVINE POWER IS THE SINNER'S ONLY HOPE

The abiding presence of the Holy Spirit in Jesus, while He was here on earth, kept Him from yielding to the fiercest temptations of the enemy. He will do the same for us if we yield wills fully and continually to Him. Thus through divine power we shall be enabled to attain to Christian perfection of character.

"He came to show man how to obey, how to keep all the commandments. He laid hold of



divine power and this is the sinner's only hope. He gave His life that man might be a partaker of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." MYP 165.

## OUR POWER AND EFFICIENCY COME FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT

"The work of the Holy Spirit is immeasurably great. It is from this source that power and efficiency come to the worker for God; and the Holy Spirit is the Comforter, as the personal presence of Christ to the soul. He who looks to Christ in simple, childlike faith is made a partaker to the divine nature through the agency of the Holy Spirit." RH Nov. 29, 1892.

"We want to see the King in His Beauty. Then let us daily keep our eyes fixed upon Christ, the perfection of human character, and laying hold of his divine nature, we shall have the strength of divinity to overcome every evil tendency and desire.

"Christ came to earth to suffer and to die that we might lay hold on eternal life. He gave Himself that we might be partakers of the divine nature, and overcome the corruption that is in the world through lust." RH Jan. 13, 1910.

## WE SHALL HAVE THE STRENGTH OF DIVINITY TO OVERCOME EVERY EVIL TENDENCY AND DESIRE

How marvelous are these provisions when we consider them. When we surrender ourselves fully to Christ, "a new power takes possession of the new heart". "That power which no human eye can see, creates a new being in the image of God." He brings a "supernatural element into human nature". "We shall have the strength of divinity to overcome every evil tendency and desire." A soul thus kept "is



impregnable to the assaults of Satan".

Oh, if we could only realize how exceedingly interested God is in doing all this for and in us.

"The very image of God is to be reproduced in humanity. The honor of God, the honor of Christ, is involved in the perfection of the character of the people." DA 671.

## LET US PREPARE QUICKLY FOR THE LATTER RAIN, AND THE FINISHING OF THE WORK

"None are living Christians unless they have a daily experience in things of God, and daily practice self-denial, cheerfully bearing the cross and following Christ. Every living Christian will advance daily in the divine life. As he advances toward perfection, he experiences a conversion to God every day; and this conversion is not completed until he attains to perfection of Christian character, a full preparation for the finishing touch of immortality." 2T 505.

What is there in all this world that compares in value with the attainment of such a life? Long has our merciful heavenly Father waited for us to heed His loving appeals and warnings and turn to Him with all our hearts. Let us obey His summons now, and by His grace prepare quickly for the latter rain, the loud cry, and the finishing of the work!

# Out Of Tune

By J. Albert Libby

My organ stood a useless thing,  
Week after week, to those who sing;  
All who would seat themselves to play  
Did soon arise and come away.  
I said, I'll go and look within—  
'Tis outwardly as it hath been  
The pedals play an organ breeze,  
Yet discord rings along the keys.

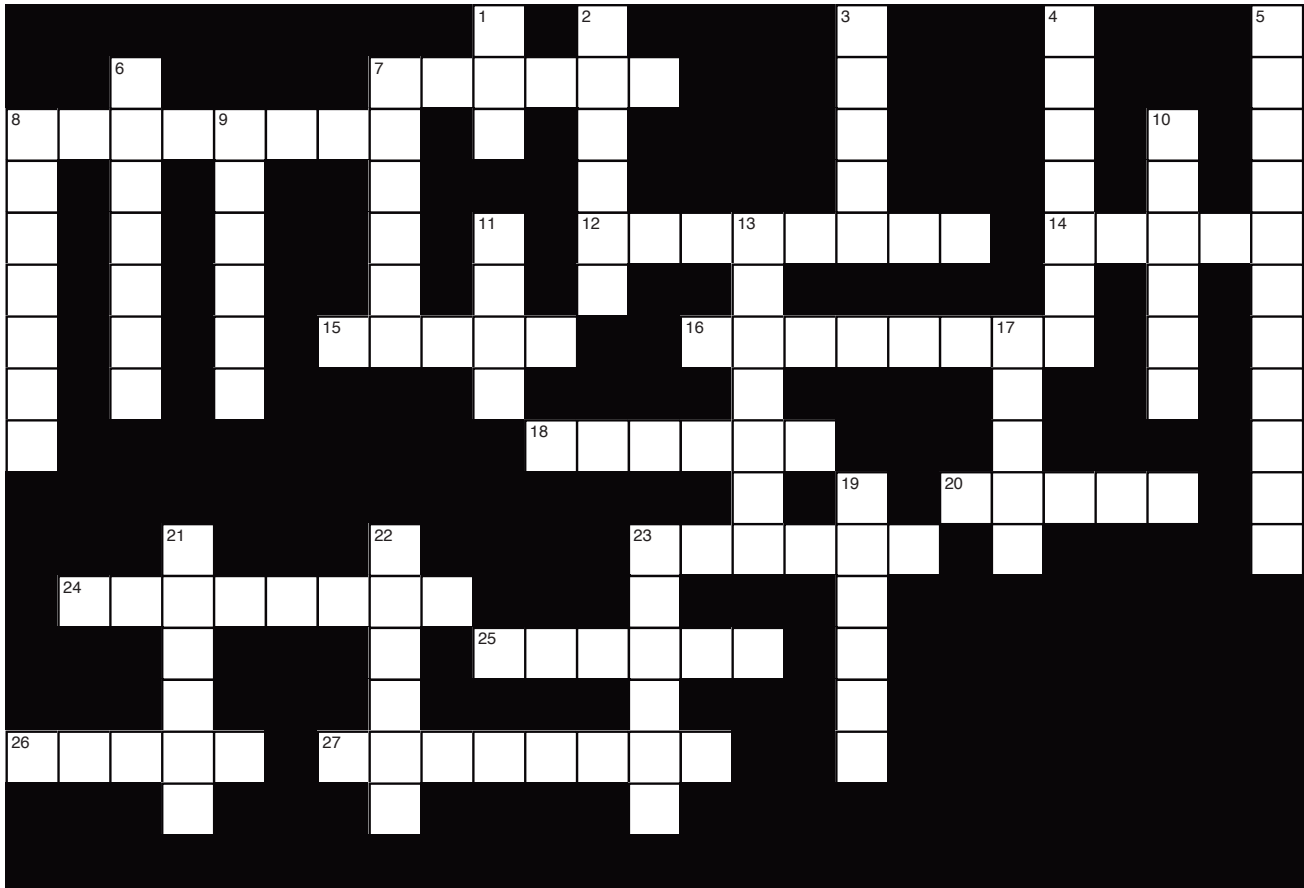
So carefully I laid aside piece after piece  
and backboard wide,  
Lifted the keyboard, when I found  
The trouble with my organ's sound.  
A mouse had lived above the reeds,  
And built his nest for napping needs.  
His nibblings fine about were blown,  
Stopping and spoiling many a tone.

The reeds were drawn, the brush was used  
And many a silent tongue was loosed.  
The parts replaced, and then the keys  
Rang out the old-time harmonies.  
I thought, "This figure suits me well,  
A story of ourselves to tell."  
Attuned by Heaven what music flows  
Harmonious as the Spirit blows.

But when some mouse of sin  
Creeps from the outer world within,  
The prayers, the talks, the songs we sing,  
To listening ears with discord ring.  
Ah! then what dusting should there be  
Of every inharmonious key,  
Till prayer and praise in sweet accord  
Flow out as music—to the Lord!



# Christian Crossword



## ACROSS

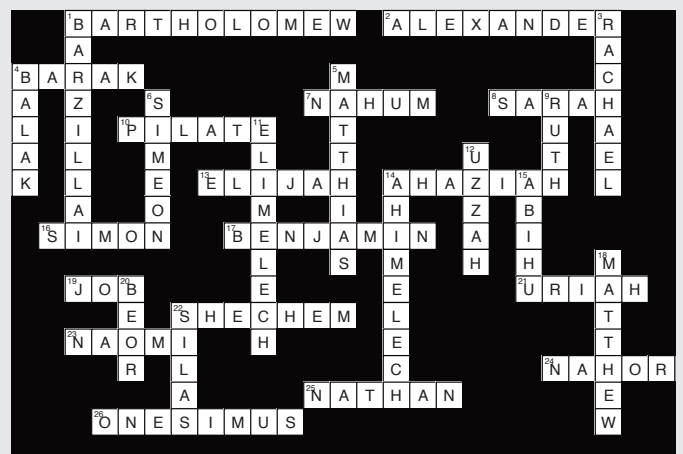
7. The son of King Ammon of Judah
8. The Babylonian name given to Azariah
12. High priest during the reign of David
14. He rebelled against Moses and Aaron along with Dathan and Abiram
15. Jacob's father-in-law
16. Wife of Moses
18. The wife of Abraham's brother Nahor
20. The father of David
23. The maid whom Laban gave to his daughter Leah
24. Son Eleazar and grandson of Aaron
25. The daughter of Aiah who was one of King Saul's concubines
26. Bethsheba's first husband
27. First king of Judah after the monarchy split

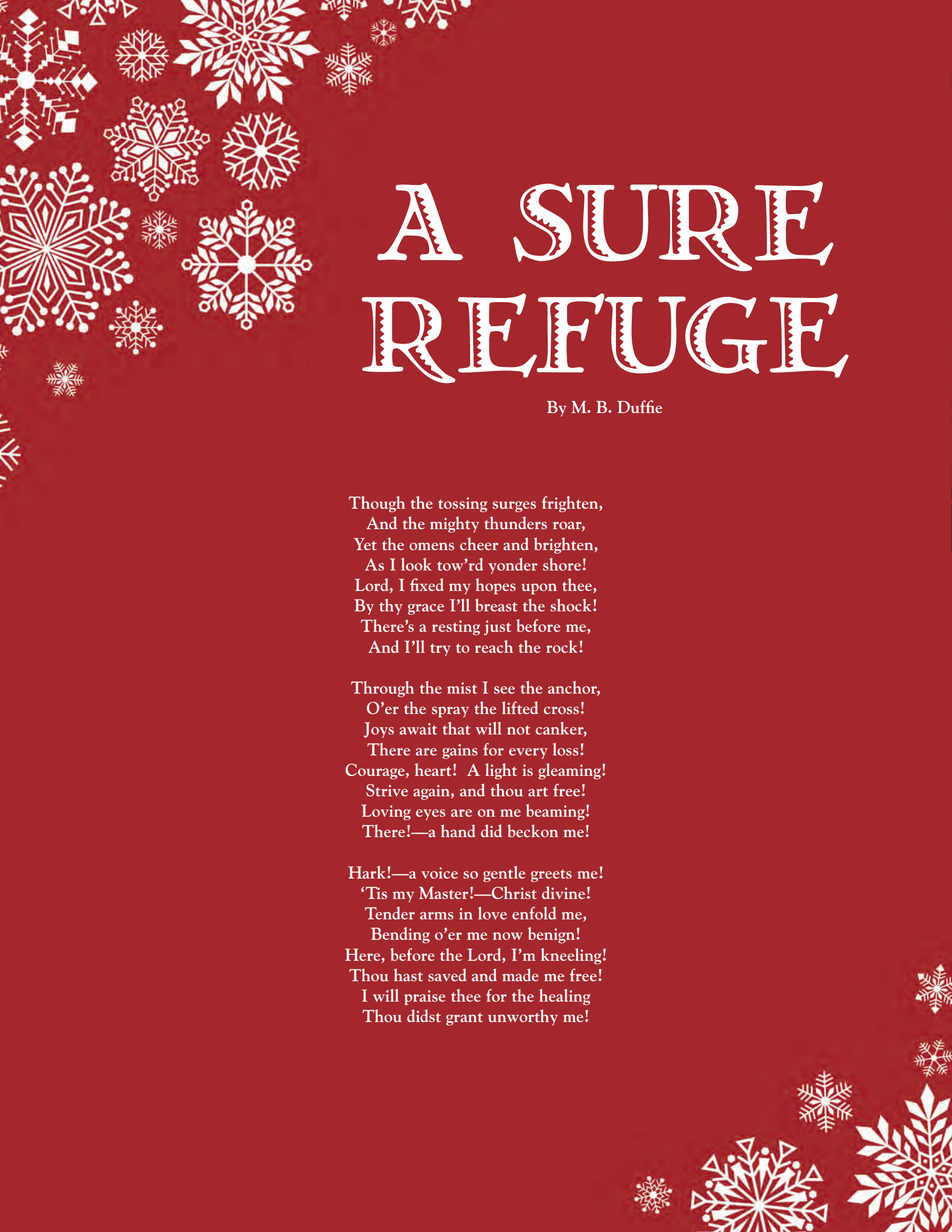
## DOWN

1. Third king of Judah after the monarchy split
2. Father of Samson
3. Moabitess who married Chilion, the son of Naomi
4. Wife of Isaac
5. King of righteousness
6. Abraham's third wife
7. Successor to Moses
8. David's favorite son
9. The prophet that exposed David's sin to David

10. Sister of Moses and Aaron
11. Jacob's first wife
13. Wife of Nabal and later of King David
17. A commander of King Saul's army who was Saul's cousin
19. Scribe of Jeremiah
21. Younger daughter of King Saul who married David
22. Second wife of Jacob
23. One of three friends that remonstrated with Job

## Answers from Christian Crossword published in the December 2011 issue of Our Firm Foundation





# A SURE REFUGE

By M. B. Duffie

Though the tossing surges frighten,  
And the mighty thunders roar,  
Yet the omens cheer and brighten,  
As I look tow'rd yonder shore!  
Lord, I fixed my hopes upon thee,  
By thy grace I'll breast the shock!  
There's a resting just before me,  
And I'll try to reach the rock!

Through the mist I see the anchor,  
O'er the spray the lifted cross!  
Joys await that will not canker,  
There are gains for every loss!  
Courage, heart! A light is gleaming!  
Strive again, and thou art free!  
Loving eyes are on me beaming!  
There!—a hand did beckon me!

Hark!—a voice so gentle greets me!  
'Tis my Master!—Christ divine!  
Tender arms in love enfold me,  
Bending o'er me now benign!  
Here, before the Lord, I'm kneeling!  
Thou hast saved and made me free!  
I will praise thee for the healing  
Thou didst grant unworthy me!

# Hope for Health

## Feature Product



Organic Beet Powder is a wonderful cleansing and nourishing tonic that builds the blood, particularly improving the blood quality for menstruating women. It also normalizes the pH balance of the blood (reducing acidity) and purifies the blood by flushing away fatty deposits and improving circulation. Further supporting its role as a blood purifier, Beet Powder has been used to detoxify and strengthen the liver and spleen..

"My husband and I take one teaspoon of the beet root powder mixed in water after our rigorous workouts. This powder has everything that is essential to the body and we feel great. I cancelled our expensive liquid supplements after researching and applying herbal knowledge. The beet powder also works well in our vegetable drinks."

# ORGANIC BEET POWDER

### SOME POSSIBLE BENEFITS OF OUR ORGANIC BEET POWDER MAY INCLUDE:

- Purifying the blood
- Cleansing the liver, spleen, and intestines
- Normalizing the blood pH
- Improving overall cardiovascular health (partially due to the naturally occurring Dimethylglycine in beet powder)
- Boosting the immune system
- Flushing the kidneys
- Helping build healthy red blood cells

**10 oz. powder.....\$19.99**

### Suggested Adult Dosage:

- One or two teaspoons twice daily. One teaspoon of powder provides the nutrition in one beet!! Use to add flavor, color, and nutrition to any recipe.

*100% pure organic beet root powder has a tendency to clump so it is not unusual to find some clumps in this powder*

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### OPTIMAL NUTRITION

- Our Organic Beet Powder provides a wide range of important vitamins, minerals and micronutrients. It is rich in iron, potassium, calcium, magnesium, A, C, B1, B2, B3, B6, copper, phosphorous, sodium, iodine, boron, carbohydrates, protein, and both soluble and insoluble fiber.

### BETALAINS, BETANIN, BETAIN AND SAM-E

- In addition to the variety of nutrients above, beet root is a unique source of phytonutrients called betalains which give beets their dark red color. Betanin and vulgaxanthin are the two best studied betalains (or pigments) from beets, and both have been shown to provide antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and detoxification support.
- Organic Beet Powder also contains another extremely valuable phytochemical called betaine which performs various functions in the body. Among other things, betaine helps the liver process fats (which prevents the accumulation of fatty tissues in the liver, especially in heavy drinkers), and also stimulates the production and preservation of the amino acid SAM-e, that is found naturally in the body. SAM-e is best known for boosting certain hormones like dopamine and serotonin. These hormones are responsible for the feelings of relaxation and well-being. Adding our Organic Beet Powder to your diet naturally increases the production of SAM-e in the body and may lead to reduced stress, anxiety, and worry. In addition, proper levels of SAM-e may also protect joints and reduce painful joint inflammation.

### BEET FIBER

- Beet fiber seems to be particularly health-promoting. Pectin, a soluble fiber in beets, binds toxins, heavy metals, and excess hormones that have been dumped into the gut from the liver. The toxins are passed out instead of being reabsorbed. In this way, it naturally cleans the kidneys and gall bladder.

\*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to prevent, diagnose, treat, or cure any disease.

## Excitotoxins Part 5: The Cover-Up - The Beginning



Dr. Olson comes from a long line of health professionals including MDs, naturopaths, and osteopaths. Having always wanted to help people, especially in the area of health, she was a missionary to Belize and Korea. A national speaker, an RN for years, a certified herbologist, and a naturopathic doctor, Dr. Olson is utilizing this experience and wealth of knowledge for the benefit of people all over the world.

For the past 4 months we've been dealing with excitotoxins and their damaging effects. We discovered these dangerous "flavor enhancers" are found in a variety of processed foods (basically all of them). So if these chemicals are so bad, why are they still in our foods? Why isn't the FDA doing their job of keeping us safe from these dangerous chemicals? Is it all just some big conspiracy? Who stands to gain and who stands to lose by discontinuing the use of these ingredients? We quoted Dr. Russell Blaylock, the world's foremost expert on the subject who is vehemently opposed to the use of these substances. Did Dr. Blaylock get paid off by some anti-MSG campaigners? What's the deal? What's really going on?! But first let's recap some of the previous articles and look at the timeline so you get a good idea of how this one ingredient developed into a multi-billion dollar industry.

### Timeline of MSG and Aspartame Use:

#### Roughly 2000 years ago:

Chinese began using seaweed to flavor foods.

- 1866:** German chemist Karl Heinrich Leopold Ritthausen discovers and identifies the "flavor-enhancing ingredient."
- 1907:** (41 years later....): Dr. Kikunae Ikeda, a chemist in Japan, isolates MSG from Kombu seaweed and that same year Mr. S. Suzuki II established Suzuki Seiyakusho Co.
- 1908:** 1. Dr. Ikeda acquired patent for manufacturing seasoning (monosodium glutamate).  
2. Mr. Suzuki acquired a joint share of the above-mentioned patent with Dr. Ikeda.  
3. The Japanese Interior Ministry **certified AJI-NO-MOTO (MSG) as harmless in terms of health and safety.**  
4. Registered the trademark name of AJI-NO-MOTO (meaning "the essence of taste").  
5. Started production of MSG in Zushi factory.
- 1910:** Ajinomoto started selling in MSG Taiwan & Korea
- 1914:** Ajinomoto started selling MSG in China
- 1920:** Ajinomoto established S. Suzuki & Co., Ltd. in New York.
- 1947:** MSG was introduced commercially by Ajinomoto in the United States as "Accent" flavor enhancer.

- 1956:** Ajinomoto Corp started manufacturing in the United States

### When did we first realize that excitotoxins were dangerous?

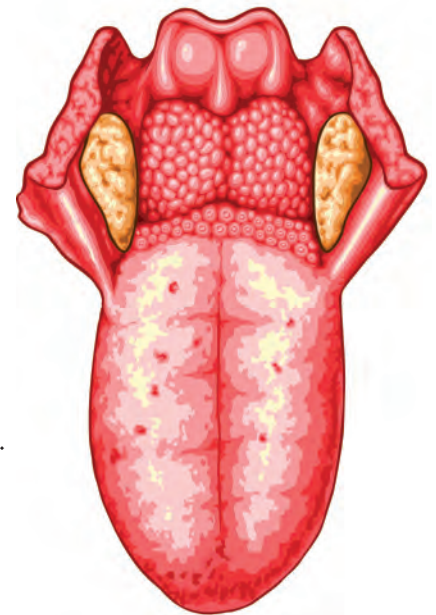
Now I'd like to pause for a second and go over what we just listed.

Humanity has discovered this amazing, almost *miraculous* ingredient that makes everything taste delicious. And in one short year after it's discovered (isolated) it's deemed perfectly safe and harmless. Great! Wasn't

it wonderful how fast this "essence of taste" made it to market? Then the real miracle happened. Within 12 short years, the MSG business expanded from Japan to Korea and Taiwan, then on to China, and further, all the way to the good ol' U.S. of A. Business was **booming!** Then in 1947 they start selling MSG to the general public in the United States. Cooks around the country rejoice! Everything tastes better! Children are cleaning their plates! Husbands don't complain or add salt to everything that their wives put in front of them! The "Hallelujah" chorus echoes through homes as dinner is brought to the table! We have now... reached... the culinary pinnacle of success!

But, as is often the case, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Just 9 years later (as early as 1957) troubling studies began to surface, showing the dangerous and detrimental effects of MSG and other excitotoxins on the brain.

- 1957:** In 1957, two ophthalmologists, Lucas and Newhouse decided to test MSG on infant mice in an effort to study an eye disease (hereditary retinal dystrophy). But low and behold, when





they examined the eye tissue of the animals they made a **startling** discovery! MSG had destroyed all the nerve cells in the inner layers of the animals' retina! These are the visual receptor cells of the eye, meaning, MSG was destroying important cells in the eyes! In fact, some studies showed it actually caused blindness! (4)

**1958:** So what happened? Nothing. Life went on as we knew it. In fact, the company expanded! The following year (1958), Ajinomoto established "Nippon Consomme Co., Ltd.", which is the present day Knorr Foods Co. If you've been to a grocery store in the U.S. you've seen their products. Interestingly, Knorr Foods is still a subsidiary of Ajinomoto Co. So, if you love the Knorr soups, sauces, and flavorings, chances are it's because they are **loaded** with MSG!

**1959:** Then, in 1959, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) did something that would enable MSG to be used as freely as table salt. It was this year, shortly after studies were beginning to show dangers of MSG, that the FDA classified monosodium glutamate as **GRAS**. (5)

### Now what is "GRAS"?

According to the FDA's 'Frequently Asked Questions': "GRAS" is an acronym for the phrase Generally Recognized As Safe. Under sections 201(s) and 409 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act), any substance that is *intentionally* added to food is a food additive, that is subject to premarket review and approval by FDA, unless the substance is generally recognized, among qualified experts, as having been adequately shown to be safe under the conditions of its intended use, or unless the use of the substance is otherwise excluded from the definition of a food additive. (6) (*Emphasis supplied.*)

Reading further on the FDA's site it goes on to say: "It is impracticable to list all substances that are generally recognized as safe for their intended use. However, by way of illustration, the Commissioner regards such common food ingredients as salt, pepper, vinegar, baking powder, and monosodium glutamate as safe for their intended use." (6)

Now, if you read the entire FDA document you will see that their information consists of a very wordy (and confusing) explanation. But basically what it's saying is this: The term "GRAS" is used by the FDA to **justify** not vetting an ingredient before approval. There are two criteria they use. The first is "through scientific procedures"

and the second is "for a substance used in food before 1958, through experience based on common use in food". They then list a few examples, which include, salt, pepper, vinegar, baking powder, and **monosodium glutamate**. Wait a minute! The history of MSG usage at this point is less than 60 years old, and there have already been studies linking MSG to eye trouble. Shouldn't it require a little more testing to make sure it is actually safe? And comparing it to salt and pepper (which have been used for thousands of years) is quite a stretch. But, maybe they didn't see the studies. Maybe they didn't know. Let's get back to our timeline. Now MSG has been approved by the FDA and considered GRAS.

### 1960-62:

More studies are done, confirming Lucas and Newhouse's findings that MSG causes eye damage. *Similar studies are done nearly every year from 1960-1971 all finding overwhelming evidence that MSG causes damage to the retina and optic pathway.* (2-11)

Meanwhile back in Japan:

### 1962/1963:

Ajinomoto formed an alliance with Kellogg Co.

**1964:** Ajinomoto launched Knorr Soup in alliance with CPC.

**1968:** The first published report of a **reaction** to monosodium glutamate appeared in the New England Journal of Medicine. Robert Ho Man Kwok, M.D., a doctor who had emigrated from China, reported that although he never had the problem in China, about 20 minutes into a meal at certain Chinese restaurants, he suffered numbness, tingling, and tightness of the chest that lasted for approximately 2 hours. (12) (13)



**1969:** *Several things happened this year:* John W. Olney, M.D. released a report showing that laboratory animals suffered **brain lesions, stunted skeletal development, obesity, and female sterility, as well as a variety of observed pathological changes** found in several brain regions associated with endocrine function in maturing mice that had been given monosodium glutamic acid as neonates. (14)

Dr. Olney and Dr. Sharp found brain lesions in an infant rhesus monkey treated with MSG. (15)

“Chinese Restaurant Syndrome” was attributed to the flavor enhancer, glutamate. (16)

**1971:** *Science continues to find more evidence!* Arees, E.A., and Mayer, J. publish a study in the journal ‘Science’ showing MSG-induced brain lesions in young animals. (17) (18)

Doctors Olney and O.L. Ho publish yet another study documenting brain damage in infant mice following oral administration of either glutamate (MSG), aspartate or cysteine. (19)

More studies are done showing central nervous system damage, brain damage, and multiple studies showing brain cell death (particularly in the hypothalamus). So now not only is it MSG causing the damage, but another well known food additive, aspartate (in aspartame which is in almost every sugar free product out there). (20-24)

**1972:** The studies continue! More research showing damage of the brain cells (particularly the hypothalamus) due to MSG. (25, 27-29)

A study by Arees, E.A., and Mayer, J. on monosodium glutamate-induced brain lesions in mice is actually presented at

the 47th Annual Meeting of American Association of Neuropathologists in Puerto Rico (June 25-27, 1971). (26)

Studies are pouring in, research is showing some scary stuff about MSG use. Yet, in 1972 they are selling more MSG than ever. At that time, over 272,000 tons of MSG were being produced and sold to the unsuspecting public. Think that’s bad? Wait till you hear who is really behind this mass poisoning. Stay tuned next month for “Who Owns What?”

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# News Watch

SHARES WORTHLES  
worldwide  
s tumble assets  
y deepens  
ndoubt  
Interest rates  
liquidity  
SESSION FORECAST  
rat  
Crash!



## 1. Time Magazine, Dec. 19, 2011, World, page 19— Occupy Red Square

Russia—A protestor grapples with police in Moscow following some of the biggest anti- government demonstrations seen in recent times. Opposition activists claim parliamentary elections Nov. 5 were marred by vote rigging and fraud. Even so, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's United Russia party failed to win 50% of the vote, a sign of growing disquiet and anger among Russia's middle classes.

Editor's note: As we observe the news from around the world, we note that there are more and more riots, not only in Europe, but also in other countries, including the United States, and for various and sundry reasons.

**END TIME PERSPECTIVE:** "I think we should feel thankful that our home is in America, but we are not safe unless God protects us even there. For these men who are dissatisfied with kingly rule and heavy taxation are emigrating to America and are making their riotous speeches in cities

there to arouse the working class to make a raid upon the rich and rob and plunder those who have property. These uneasy dissatisfied elements are increasing in power. Every year the swellings of wrath, tumults, and fierce riots are increasing in Europe.

The signs of the times tell us we are surely in the last days. This know also, that in the last days, perilous times shall come. We can see these perils more distinctly here in Europe. Things are rapidly developing. All are ranging under their respective banners; all are preparing for some great event; all are watching for the morning."--Letter 102, 1886, p. 3. (To "My Very Dear Children," July 25, 1886.)

## 2. The following is a last day statement rather than an actual news watch--

"God has revealed what is to take place in the last days, that His people may be prepared to stand against the tempest of opposition and wrath. Those who have been warned of the events before them are not to sit in calm expectation of the coming storm,

comforting themselves that the Lord will shelter His faithful ones in the day of trouble. We are to be as men waiting for their Lord, not in idle expectancy, but in earnest work, with unwavering faith. It is no time now to allow our minds to be engrossed with things of minor importance. While men are sleeping, Satan is actively arranging matters so that the Lord's people may not have mercy or justice. The Sunday movement is now making its way in darkness. The leaders are concealing the true issue, and many who unite in the movement do not themselves see whither the undercurrent is tending. Its professions are mild and apparently Christian, but when it shall speak it will reveal the spirit of the dragon. It is our duty to do all in our power to avert the threatened danger. We should endeavor to disarm prejudice by placing ourselves in a proper light before the people. We should bring before them the real question at issue, thus interposing the most effectual protest against measures to restrict liberty of conscience. We should search the Scriptures and be able to give the reason for our faith. Says the prophet: 'The wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.'" 5T 452.



# Hope for Health

## Feature Product



Hope for Health Broccoli Sprout Powder contains 100% pure and natural Broccoli Sprouts in an easy-to-digest powder! They are low in calories, nutritionally dense, fat-free, and offer a wide range of health benefits! Incredibly energizing, this powder supports normal digestion, promotes healthy cholesterol levels, enhances detoxification, and contributes to healthy cell growth!

Broccoli Sprout Powder can be mixed with Hope for Health's Organic Carrot Powder, Organic Beet Powder, and Living Green Energy for an outrageously nutritious drink!

# BROCCOLI SPROUT POWDER

## BROCCOLI SPROUT NUTRITION

One ounce of broccoli sprouts contains 4% of the recommended daily value of dietary fiber, 15% of the recommended amount of vitamin C, and 2% of the recommended intake of calcium!

## BROCCOLI SPROUTS AND FIBER

Broccoli sprouts are rich in fiber, a nutritional characteristic that provides a variety of benefits. Fiber helps ensure healthy digestion, promotes feelings of fullness and helps maintain healthy blood sugar levels. You hear all the time how fiber is vital to good health. Get yours today, with Broccoli Sprout Powder!

**10 oz. powder..... \$24.99**

### Suggested Adult Dosage:

- Mix 1 tablespoon with water, juice, or your favorite smoothie once or twice a day.

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## WHAT ARE BROCCOLI SPROUTS?

- Broccoli sprouts are three- to four-day-old baby broccoli plants that look like alfalfa sprouts, but taste like radishes. The radish flavor comes from a phytochemical that may act as protection while the broccoli plant is still young. This phytochemical not only benefits the young plant, but also, when eaten by humans, may act as an antioxidant to stimulate the ability of cells to protect against disease.
- If you are looking for a super health food, you most certainly want to consider broccoli sprouts! You have probably heard of the wonderful health benefits of (mature) broccoli, but you may not have known that there are many other cell-protective compounds found abundantly in the baby sprouts which provide an arsenal of health benefits!

## BROCCOLI SPROUTS AND SULFORAPHANE

- In 1992, scientists at Johns Hopkins University identified sulforaphane, which is a compound that reduces the risk of unhealthy cell growth in the body. They found that it is abundant in broccoli.
- In 1997, the same researchers announced they found the same health-boosting compounds, but in much greater quantities, in broccoli sprouts!
- One researcher, Paul Talalay, M.D., (the J.J. Abel Distinguished Service Professor of Molecular Pharmacology) states "Three-day-old broccoli sprouts consistently contain 20 to 50 times the amount of protective compounds found in mature broccoli heads" while another study in the journal 'Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences' backs this up by stating: "Three-day-old sprouts of certain crucifers including broccoli and cauliflower contain 10-100 times higher levels of (sulforaphane) than do the corresponding mature plants." Did you hear that? Up to 100 times the amount of this cell-protecting compound!

## SULFORAPHANE AND THE LUNGS

- In the March 2009 issue of "Clinical Immunology," researchers reported that sulforaphane may help protect against respiratory inflammation brought on by poor lung health. The researchers prepared a solution ranging from 25 grams to 200 grams of broccoli sprouts, or a placebo. The preparations were administered to 65 men and women for three days. Participants who received the highest dose of broccoli sprouts had a 199 percent improvement in their ability to clean pollutants from their lungs! These enzymes help clean your lungs and keep your airways free of tissue damage!

\*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to prevent, diagnose, treat, or cure any disease.

# Ellen White's *Vision*

## *A Mixture of Truth and Error*

EGW

I have not been able to sleep since half past one o'clock. I was bearing to Brother T a message which the Lord had given me for him. The peculiar views he holds are a mixture of truth and error. If he had passed through the experiences of God's people as He has led them for the past forty years, he would be better prepared to make the correct application of Scripture. The great waymarks of truth, showing us our bearings in prophetic history, are to be carefully guarded, lest they be torn down, and replaced with theories that would bring confusion rather than genuine light. I have been cited to the very erroneous theories that have been presented over and over again. Those who advocated these theories presented Scripture quotations, but they misapplied and misinterpreted them. The theories supposed to be correct were incorrect, and yet many thought them the very theories to be brought before the people. The prophecies of Daniel and John are to be diligently studied.

### *The third angel's message is now to be given to the world*

There are those now living who, in studying the prophecies of Daniel and John, received great light from God as they passed over the ground where special prophecies were in process of fulfillment in their order. They bore the message of time to the people. The truth shone out clearly as the sun at noonday. Historical events, showing the direct fulfillment of prophecy, were set before the people, and the prophecy was seen to be a figurative delineation of events leading down to the close of this earth's history. The scenes connected with the working of the man of sin are the last features plainly revealed in this earth's history. The people now have a special message to give to the world, the third angel's message. Those who, in their experience, have passed over the ground, and acted a part in the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages, are not so liable to be led into false paths as are those who have not had an experimental knowledge

of the people of God. . . .

### *We have a sleepless adversary*

There have been one and another who in studying their Bibles thought they discovered great light, and new theories, but these have not been correct. The Scripture is all true, but by misapplying the Scripture men arrive at wrong conclusions. We are engaged in a mighty conflict, and it will become more close and determined, as we near the final struggle. We have a sleepless adversary, and he is constantly at work upon human minds that have not had a personal experience in the teachings of the people of God for the past fifty years. Some will take the truth applicable to their time, and place it in the future. Events in the train of prophecy that had their fulfillment away in the past are made future, and thus by these theories the faith of some is undermined.

### *We must accept the truth as God has given it to His students of prophecy*

From the light that the Lord has been pleased to give me, you are in danger of doing the same work, presenting before others truths which have had their place and done their specific work for the time, in the history of the faith of the people of God. You recognize these facts in Bible history as true, but apply them to the future. They have their force still in their proper place, in the chain of events that have made us as a people what we are today, and as such, they are to be presented to those who are in the darkness of error.

The true workers of Jesus Christ are to cooperate with their brethren who have had an experience in the work from the very rise of the third angel's message. These followed on step by step, receiving light and truth as they advanced, bearing one test after another, lifting the cross that lay directly in their pathway, and pressing on to know the Lord, whose goings forth are prepared as the morning. You and other of our brethren must accept the truth as

God has given it to His students of prophecy, as they have been led by genuine, living experience, advancing point by point, tested, proved, and tried, until the truth is to them a reality. From their voices and pens the truth in bright, warm rays has gone to all parts of the world, and that which was to them testing truth, as brought by the Lord's delegated messengers, is testing truth to all to whom this message is proclaimed.

*Many theories have advanced bearing a semblance of truth, but they are dangerous errors*

The burden of the warning now to come to the people of God, nigh and afar off, is the third angel's message. And those who are seeking to understand this message will not be led by the Lord to make an application of the Word that will undermine the foundation and remove the pillars of the faith that has made Seventh-day Adventists what they are today. The truths that have been unfolding in their order, as we have advanced along the line of prophecy revealed in the Word of God, are truth, sacred, eternal truth today. Those who passed over the ground step by step in the past history of our experience, seeing the chain of truth in the prophecies, were prepared to accept and obey every ray of light. They were praying, fasting, searching, digging for the truth as for hidden treasures, and the Holy Spirit, we know, was teaching and guiding us. Many theories were advanced, bearing a semblance of truth, but so mingled with misinterpreted and misapplied scriptures,

that they led to dangerous errors. Very well do we know how every point of truth was established, and the seal set upon it by the Holy Spirit of God. And all the time voices were heard, "Here is the truth," "I have the truth; follow me." But the warnings came, "Go not ye after them. I have not sent them, but they ran." (See Jeremiah 23:21.)

*That which was truth then,  
is truth today*

The leadings of the Lord were marked, and most wonderful were His revelations of what is truth. Point after point was established by the Lord God of heaven. That which was truth then, is truth today. But the voices do not cease to be heard--"This is truth. I have new light." But these new lights in prophetic lines are manifest in misapplying the Word and setting the people of God adrift without an anchor to hold them. If the student of the Word would take the truths which God has revealed in the leadings of His people, and appropriate these truths, digest them, and bring them into their practical life, they would then be living channels of light. But those who have set themselves to study out new theories, have a mixture of truth and error combined, and after trying to make these things prominent, have demonstrated that they have not kindled their taper from the divine altar, and it has gone out in darkness.--Manuscript 31, 1896.

Note: Underlining provided by editor for emphasis.



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"Be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Roman 12:2

"Christ died on the cross to save the world from perishing in sin. He asks your cooperation in this work. You are to be His helping hand. With earnest, unwearrying effort you are to seek to save the lost. Remember that it was your sins that made the cross necessary. When you accepted Christ as your Savior you pledged yourself to unite with Him in bearing the cross. For life and for death you are bound up with Him, a part of the great plan of redemption." 7T 9