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

The Curse of Meroz
“And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.” 1 John 2:17. Just as this verse indicates, all of this world, its vanities, sins, structures, hopes and dreams, shall pass away as in a moment. All that people live for, prepare for, is all going to perish.

Our focuses are all wrong. We are ever so slowly, but steadily, moving toward the end—if not the world’s, certainly our own. Yet how much time do we devote to our eternal interests? Truly, if we come up to the end and we still have our property and baubles of this world, we will indeed throw them to the bats and moles.

Oh how effective Satan has been, and is, with his deceptions, with his mesmerizing mind manipulations. And so we often play right into his hands. Just like Eve, we listen, rather than run away to God for His protection and advice. If Satan cannot get you to turn away from God, and cannot get you caught up in some “darling sin,” just maybe he can get you thinking Christ’s coming is not as close as it really is. Maybe he can convince us that we know the Bible and Spirit of prophecy so well that we will recognize the event and will commit our all then, right in the nick of time.

It reminds me of a plan I had devised as a small child. There must have been something I saw in the news or heard about relating to planes falling out of the sky. I had planned that if I were ever on a plane, and it were to go hurtling to the earth, that if I could just make my way to the door of the plane, and jump out just before it crashed, I could make it, and save myself from certain destruction.

The problems is, of course, that I am going in the same direction as the plane. I am going the same velocity as the plane. I am in the plane! At that point, it would be impossible to change my course. I am going too fast and have gone too far.

We are told that the final events will be rapid ones. It is possible that many still plan to “get right” before the Lord comes. But they will be found unready and ill prepared, and the door will be forever shut when they finally are ready. Oh what a sad scene. What a catastrophic waste! Too late! Will be the cry. Too late! Those mournful words will never leave the memory of our dear Savior and our Father. But I praise God that it does not have to be that way. We can “abide forever” if we will just be willing to do the will of God now!

It brings to mind the pernicious tradition of having a “bachelor party” the night before the wedding. The groom is to party and have his last night of “fun” before he gets connected to the old “ball and chain.” What kind of sign does that send to the bride? If you have made the commitment to get married and be “one” with your bride the rest of your lives, why would you, right before the supposedly joyous event, spend your last night having “fun”? Wouldn’t the idea be that you are getting ready to be married and then the “fun” would begin (or continue) for the rest of your lives? What a satanically devised scheme. Yet, aren’t we doing the same to Jesus? Are we wanting to have our last bit of “fun” before we commit to Him wholly? How do you think Jesus feels about that? How genuine is our commitment with that attitude?

As our verse indicated, the world and all its lusts are going to pass away. Will we pass away with it? In mercy, the Lord still keeps the door open. How much longer we do not know, but the signs are obvious. Let us not show Jesus, who did, and is doing, so much for us, even now in the heavenly sanctuary above, that we simply want to get on board before it is too late. Let’s show Him that He means everything to us, and that we want Him in our hearts and lives right now!

Will you join me in a dedication, or re-dedication, right now? Let us take the time, right now, on our knees, to let our God and Savior know that we really want to spend the rest of our lives with Him.

Joe Olson serves as the executive director and chairman of the board of Hope International. He also travels as an international speaker.
The Need of Complete Consecration  
*Ellen G. White*

It is a lamentable fact that not all the ministers who preach the truth are converted.

Solving Personal Conflicts - Part 1  
*D. David Stramel*

To love others is to be a conduit of God's blessing, a vessel unto honor.

My Testimony - Part 2  
*Diane Styles*

“For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.” Luke 19:10

Gospel Gimmicks - Part 3  
*S. Samuel Koranteng-Pipim Ph.D*

Worldly preaching methods in the form of entertainment do little to touch the sin ridden soul to move it to repentance.

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**Editorial**  
*Clark Floyd*

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“Indifference and neutrality in a religious crisis is regarded of God as a grievous crime.”

“Cursed ye Meroz, said the angel of the Lord, cursed ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty.” Judges 5:23.

The Israelites had been oppressed for twenty years by King Jabin of Hazor, a Canaanite king. Sisera, the commander of his army, treated the people ruthlessly. The Israelites finally turned back to the Lord and cried out to Him for help.

Deborah, a prophetess and a judge in Israel, sent for Barak who lived in the land of Naphtali, and told him that the Lord wanted him to assemble ten thousand warriors to go against Sisera and his forces. Sisera had at his command 900 chariots of iron and much better weapons than the Israelites. Barak was willing to proceed if Deborah would accompany him.

When Barak attacked, the Lord threw Sisera and all his charioteers and warriors into a panic. The Israelites had an overwhelming victory, and Sisera and his men were all destroyed.

Chapter 4 of Judges tells the story, and then it is repeated as a song in chapter 5. In the song, we are given the additional facts that some Israelites stayed neutral during the battle. Many of these were from the area of Meroz. We are told that the angel of the Lord cursed these folks because they did nothing to help; they were neither hot nor cold, they remained neutral.

Ellen White states: “If God abhors one sin above another, of which His people are guilty, it is doing nothing in case of an emergency. Indifference and neutrality in a religious crisis is regarded of God as a grievous crime and equal to the very worst type of hostility against God.” Testimonies, vol. 3, 281.

“Christ’s followers have no right to stand on the ground of neutrality. There is more hope of an open enemy than of one who is neutral.” Review and Herald, February 25, 1902.

She continues, “The gospel message admits of no neutrality. It counts all men as decidedly for the truth or against it; if they do not receive and obey its teachings, they are its enemies.” Sketches from the Life of Paul, 240.
The question then is: where does each of us stand? Are we willing to speak out for truth even if it involves confronting an authority figure in our church? Of course, such speaking out needs to be done in a Christ-like and kind manner. But many fade into the background and allow truth to be sacrificed in order not to “shake the boat,” or because they fear that they will not be liked, and possibly be called troublemakers. But dare any remain neutral in the midst of a religious crisis?

In book one of Selected Messages, Ellen White speaks of the time when John Harvey Kellogg sought to bring pantheistic theories into the Seventh-day Adventist Church through his book, The Living Temple. She asks, “Where are the faithful guardians of the Lord’s flocks? Where are His watchmen? Are they standing on the high tower, giving the danger signal, or are they allowing the peril to pass unheeded?” Page 194.

She continues, “The dangers coming upon us are continually increasing. It is high time that we put on the whole armor of God, and work earnestly to keep Satan from gaining any further advantage. Angels of God, that excel in strength, are waiting for us to call them to our aid, that our faith may not be eclipsed by the fierceness of the conflict. Renewed energy is now needed. Vigilant action is called for. Indifference and sloth will result in the loss of personal religion and of heaven.” Pages 195–196.

“My message to you is: No longer consent to listen without protest to the perversion of truth. Unmask the pretentious sophistries which, if received, will lead ministers and physicians and medical missionary workers to ignore the truth. Every one is now to stand on his guard. God calls upon men and women to take their stand under the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel. I have been instructed to warn our people; for many are in danger of receiving theories and sophistries that undermine the foundation pillars of the faith.” Pages 196–197.

Sister White called the crisis described above, “the alpha of this danger” (page 197). The omega would be of a most startling nature. “The omega will follow, and will be received by those who are not willing to heed the warning God has given.” Page 200.

What would be the signs of the omega? “The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath, of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement.” Pages 204–205.

What has happened in and to our beloved Seventh-day Adventist Church? Are we now in the omega? Will any of us be under the curse of Meroz because we fail to come to the help of the Lord?

In Bible Readings for the Home Circle, copyrighted in 1914, 1920, 1935 and 1942, on page 174, this statement is found: “In His humanity Christ partook of our sinful, fallen nature. If not, then He was not ‘made like unto His brethren,’ was not ‘in all points tempted like as we are,’ did not overcome as we have to overcome, and is not therefore, the complete and perfect Saviour man needs and must have to be saved.”

Ellen White has written, “The great work of redemption could be carried out only by the Redeemer taking the place of fallen Adam. . . . He would take man’s fallen nature and engage to cope with the strong foe who triumphed over Adam.” Review and Herald, February 24, 1874.

Never has Ellen White stated that Jesus came in the nature of Adam before the fall. In studying her writings and the writings of the pioneers on this subject only one true conclusion can be reached. Jesus, in fact, came in the nature of “fallen Adam.”

Connected closely in many instances, with the idea that Jesus came in the nature of Adam before the fall is the conclusion that man will be sinning until Jesus comes—that Jesus cannot give total victory over sin now. Principles of truth are being discarded. Our religion is being changed; fundamental principles that have sustained the work in the past are being accounted as error.

Books of a new order are being written to sustain these false philosophies. Some of our Adventist Book Centers are carrying more and more outside authors besides promoting some books that carry these wrong philosophies. When I
We must not only give discourses
the “Left Behind” series of books for sale.

And the Sabbath is being lightly regarded by many who see no problem in going out to a restaurant for a Sabbath meal, and others whose Sabbath activities are quite questionable. Theatrical presentations, clowns, magicians, wrong music, are a few of the other inappropriate teaching methods being accepted in some of our churches.

But many of us remain quiet in regard to these things happening in our church for fear that we will be labeled as “trouble makers,” or “fanatics,” or “too judgmental.” And those who do speak up are ostracized even by some of the leadership. We in effect remain neutral. We fail to come up “to the help of the Lord.”

“The message we have to bear is not a message that men need cringe to declare. They are not to seek to cover it, to conceal its origin and purpose. Its advocates must be men who will not hold their peace day nor night. As those who have made solemn vows to God, and who have been commissioned as the messengers of Christ, as stewards of the mysteries of the grace of God, we are under obligation to declare faithfully the whole counsel of God. We are not to make less prominent the special truths that have separated us from the world, and made us what we are; for they are fraught with eternal interests. . . .

“We should now purpose, as did Daniel and his fellows in Babylon, that we will be true to principle, come what may. The flaming fiery furnace heated seven times hotter than it was wont to be heated did not cause these faithful servants of God to turn aside from allegiance to the truth. . . .

“Today the world is full of flatterers and dissemblers; but God forbid that those who claim to be guardians of sacred trusts shall betray the interests of God’s cause through the insinuating suggestions and devices of the enemy of all righteousness.” Testimonies to Ministers, 470–471.

Many of us are not sure what is truth because we fail to spend the time in study and prayer that we need to. We do not keep the close personal relationship with Jesus that we should have. We waver back and forth on our beliefs because we haven’t thoroughly studied them out. We question the authenticity of the Spirit of Prophecy because we haven’t studied her writings enough to know for ourselves that she is truly God’s prophet for these times. We listen to some pastors and leaders that put doubts in our minds in regard to her.

“Every position of our faith will be searched into, and if we are not thorough Bible students, established, strengthened, settled, the wisdom of the world’s great men will be too much for us.” Selected Messages, book 2, 386.

“Men may get up scheme after scheme, and the enemy will seek to seduce souls from the truth, but all who believe that the Lord has spoken through Sister White, and has given her a message, will be safe from the many delusions that will come in these last days.” Selected Messages, book 3, 83–84.

Brothers and Sisters, now is the time to stand for truth; now is the time for total commitment. Don’t be like those Israelites in Meroz who did nothing in the time of need. “Let the prayer constantly ascend, ‘Lord, teach me how to do as Jesus would do, were He in my place.’” Gospel Workers, 373. May God be your constant guide.

Clark Floyd resides in Leicester, North Carolina. He is a board member and a speaker for Hope International.

The Need of Complete Consecration

It is a lamentable fact that not all the ministers who preach the truth are converted.

Brethren, the Lord is coming, and we need to bend every energy to the work before us. We must not only give discourses in the desk, but minister out of the desk. We must be a savor of life unto life in our conversation and deportment. Watchmen upon the walls of Zion, God calls upon you to give yourselves wholly to the work.

It is impossible for any man to answer the purpose of God unless
he gives his whole soul, mind, and being to God, deciding that he will practice what he preaches, showing himself to be a faithful, devout Christian, a partaker with Christ of His sufferings. The servants of God should pray as never before, Lord, “open Thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law.” Psalm 119:18. “Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.” Psalm 51:15.

We lose much by not diligently searching the Scriptures for precious gems of truth. We should study the Word of God more earnestly. “Therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.” 2 Peter 3:17–18.

Jesus is measuring the characters of those who profess to be His followers. He is going from congrega tion to congregation, from church to church, measuring the worshipers. See Revelation 11:1–2. He follows those who claim to be the sons and daughters of God, to take their measurement in business transactions, in trade, in all the affairs of life.

His under-shepherds are bearing heavy responsibilities; for by virtue of their office they are to be representatives of Christ, representatives of the sanctifying power of the truth. The under-shepherds may sleep, they may fail to rightly divide the Word of truth, they may fail to point the flock to the pastures provided for them. Instead of being a light to the world, they may be walking in darkness. They may stumble upon the dark mountains of unbelief.

But the True Shepherd, He that keepeth Israel, shall neither slumber nor sleep. See Psalm 121:4. If the candlestick is held by unfaithful men, if it gives a flickering light that grows dim and dies out, there is One who sees, One who declares, “I know thy works.” Revelation 2:2.

Message to Ephesus

Christ is present at every assembly and at every private interview. He has made His people the depositaries of rare blessings. He has given them gems and treasures richer than gold; and every faithful co-laborer with God is to work the mine of truth and bring the treasures to view.

The great Master-worker has an oversight of the whole. He notes those who toil with patience. He sees their faith, their forbearance, their love, their untiring zeal; and it is registered of them in the book of heaven, “Well done, good and faithful servants.” Matthew 25:23. They are commended because they have toiled early and late, and because they cannot bear them which are evil. They have carried out the injunction of the apostle to “reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.” 2 Timothy 4:2.

They have administered impartial discipline, laying their hand upon all false teaching, upon false brethren whose works have denied the faith. Amid the scorn of men, suffering worldly loss, they have manifested steadfast integrity. While temptations to worldliness and licentiousness cause the love of many to wax cold, they stand true as the needle to the pole, as faithful workers, as standard-bearers for God, in principle firm as a rock.

Shall we forget our holy calling, brethren? Shall the mournful deterioration of piety be seen among us, that caused the rejection of the Jewish nation? Shall we who have had so great light upon Bible truth let a dry, dead formalism take the place of zeal and faith? Is our light to go out in darkness? Are we not to work zealously to counteract the arts of the enemy?

Day of Atonement

We must watch and pray. We must arouse and take in the situation. We are in the day of atonement, and we are to work in harmony with Christ’s work of cleansing the sanctuary from the sins of the people. Let no man who desires to be found with the wedding garment on, resist our Lord in His office work. As He is, so will His followers be in this world.

We must now set before the people the work which by faith we see our great High-priest accomplishing in the heavenly sanctuary. Those who do not sympathize with Jesus in His work in the heavenly courts, who do not cleanse the soul temple of every defilement, but who engage in some enterprise not in harmony with this work, are joining with the enemy of God and man in leading minds away from the truth and work for this time.

The Spirit of truth has a refining, elevating, heavenly influence upon mind and character. We are to study the mind of Christ, and to receive the truth as it is in Jesus. We are to watch and pray, to consult the living oracles of God. When any lust takes possession of the mind in any way or to any degree, and there is a yielding to fleshly desires, we lose the image of Christ in spirit and character. The work in the heavenly sanctuary becomes obscure to the minds of those who are controlled by the temptations of the evil one, and they engage in side issues to gratify their own selfish purposes, and their true moral standing is determined by their works.

Demonstrate Transforming Truth

I appeal to you, my fellow-laborers, to meditate upon the sacred heavenly Master has entrusted you...
Every fundamental truth Jesus taught during His ministry is found in the Sermon on the Mount. This was His public State of the World Address given to the entire world, encompassing all ages. Time stands still as Jesus speaks these simple words because their application is timeless. Through simplicity and brevity Jesus reaches the nerve, the sublime kernel of social conscience and responsible behavior.

Jesus is the world’s only universal Teacher. His teachings are never out of date and they never need to be altered for a different time or generation. His words reach the heart issues of the world’s population; they are always fresh, current, and relevant with no time or space limitations. His keen perception of what values are eternal and timeless is matchless through all the annals of history.

Jesus speaks to the families of the world; to secular Europeans, North Americans, Africans, educated intellectuals, Old World peasants, women and their children, and fathers and men. Across time, continents, oceans and culture—Jesus still speaks today to humanity in concise measured words comprising a depth unsearchable. Jesus should be Time’s Man of the Centuries. Jesus is by far the most influential Teacher that has ever lived; affecting society for good beyond any other life ever lived.

**Freedom from Abusive Language**

“Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment [sentencing]; but I say [add] unto you, That whoever is angry [malicious or hateful] with his brother [another human being] without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca [an insult, vilification, and cursing], shall be in danger of the council [held accountable]: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool [worthless, stupid idiot], shall be in danger of hell fire [eternal judgment].” Matthew 5:21–22.

The teachers of Judaism misapplied Scriptures to justify verbal abuse. They taught that as long as murder was not committed, slander and hateful words could be justified. The leaders could insult Jesus and call him a “devil” (John 8:48) to his face, and yet call themselves, “Moses’ disciples” John 9:28.

Jesus desired to bring home to His hearers the seriousness of the sins of the tongue. To call someone a fool, in this context, is not a gentle word. It means in modern English, “away with you.” Such words are always spoken in anger.

A similar expression in English may be “you idiot,” or unspoken by giving gestures that are demeaning. Notice that the same judgment (verses 21, 22) or sentence is given for murder as for anger with a brother (verse 22). Jesus regards anger as murder deserving the same judgment.

To call somebody a fool, with words of contempt, places oneself in danger of hell fire. Believers should never use harsh or hurtful words in their speech, but instead sweet and kind expressions. “But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy,
filthy, communication out of your mouth.” Colossians 3:8.

We need to be certain to let nothing come out of our mouth that does not “edify one another” 1 Thessalonians 5:11. When we are walking with God, we will be at peace with others, having “thoughts of peace” Jeremiah 29:11.

**Anger in Judgment**

Paul was very concerned about the harmful results of anger, and wrote to the Ephesians “Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.” Ephesians 4:31–32.

To Pastor Timothy he gave this advice, “I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.” 1 Timothy 2:8.

To the Corinthian church elders he wrote, “For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults.” 2 Corinthians 12:20.

All anger is a form of judgment, and only God has the right to display “wrath” Revelation 19:15. “For we must all appear before” His “judgment seat” (2 Corinthians 5:10), where God, not a human being, is the judge. Thus, we are not given the right to pass out sentences through anger to any person, for only “true and righteous are His judgments” Revelation 19:2.

**Swift to Listen**

James, the Lord’s brother said, “Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: for the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.” James 1:19–20.

We are to be “swift” to listen to the explanation of another, to know their point of view. We are to be “slow to speak” our opinions, more anxious to hear what the other individual feels. We are to avoid “anger” for it is unproductive, and as such never brings glory to God. It is a form of self-love. For love “doth not behave itself unseemly [rudely]” 1 Corinthians 13:5. We should not rush to defend self, twisting the truth, to the expense of others.

“Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.” Romans 14:19. When resolution of a conflict is pursued by peace, instead of anger, we “edify another.”

A disciple of Jesus, should be agreeable, and flexible in nature; easy to please, patient and kind 1 Corinthians 13:4. They will be easy to get along with, never bearing a grudge. They will be considerate of others, not attempting to control others by rude, unkind actions so as to “teach them a lesson.”

Anger, hate, and rage are major causes of conflict in personal and professional relationships. One out of five humans has an anger management problem. Domestic abuse, road rage and work place violence are rooted in anger. Anger is dishonorable in almost every professional position. No wonder the Bible condemns it.

**Political Leaders**

When society functions under wholesome relationships, peace will reign. To maintain healthy relationships political leaders must advocate social skills of tolerance, forgiveness, and negotiation. They must see the dignity of human life, and that degrading another is the same as murder. If they fail to require peaceful resolution of conflict, society will degenerate into civil war, anarchy and ruin. One race will attempt to enslave the weaker. Injustice and a hateful condition in society will destroy love and peace. The propaganda for war is hatred of the enemy.

Those who promote hate toward any race, Arabs, blacks, Jews, immigrants or the poor are in danger of being sentenced by God to hell fire. Adherence to the teachings of Jesus from the Sermon on the Mount, can prevent class wars and social upheavals that have cost millions of lives throughout history.
Wholesome Relationships

“Therefore if thou bring thy gift [offering] to the altar [in religious worship], and there rememberest [have any knowledge] that thy brother hath ought against thee; and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison [your situation grows progressively worse]. Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing [high cost of unresolved conflicts].” Matthew 5:23–26.

Peaceful Community

In Matthew 5:21–22, Jesus advocated peaceful conflict resolution, free from anger, rage, and insulting language. He considered malice, hate, and offensive language to be equal to murder. Jesus went further, teaching that we are to make peace with our adversary as quickly as possible. Believers are to solve social or personal discord with one another, quickly. They were to not “let the sun go down” (Ephesians 4:26) while they were angry.

“When difficulties arise among church-members, let them be cleared away before the Sabbath comes. This should be regarded as a Christian duty by every church-member.” Review and Herald, July 21, 1904.

This passage addresses public worship, where conflicts are to be resolved before the gift is brought before the altar. Religious devotion is in vain, if the worshipers harbor disrespect, grudges or malice.

Differences are to be settled as quickly as possible or our religious service is unacceptable to God. Only when “two or three are gathered together” in peaceful loving relationship is Jesus “in the midst of them” Matthew 18:20.

God will not accept pretense in worship. All religious duties, from the preacher in the pulpit, to the choir leader, should immediately stop if they remember that their brother has something against them.

Any individual that harbors hard feelings toward another person is in danger of hell fire. Grace will not save them if they treat an offender with a mean spirit. They will receive from God what they give to others, for “with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.” Matthew 7:2.

When differences are not settled, individuals will find themselves in prison emotionally. They will lose their freedom (Galatians 5:1) in the Lord. The rule is first peace with man — then power with God.

The Lord will not bless unresolved discord. Among the seven things that God hates is “he that soweth discord among brethren.” Proverbs 6:19. The chief evidence that a person does not possess wholesome relations is seen in harboring anger or resentment in their heart. As a result often they have an attitude.

Those who promote hate toward any race, Arabs, blacks, Jews, immigrants or the poor are in danger of being sentenced by God to hell fire. — Page 9

leave there thy gift before the altar [cease your worship], and go thy way [alone]; first be reconciled [have peace] to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift [worship].

“Agree [make peace] with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him [as soon as possible]; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison [your situation grows progressively worse].” Matthew 5:23–26.

Our Firm Foundation
that promotes retaliation, a desire for another to suffer to the full extent of what they believe they deserve.

God holds every believer responsible for keeping peace in their homes, and in their church. Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.” Matthew 5:9. Christians are to “Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled.” Hebrews 12:14–15. Bitterness, and reproachful speech is highly offensive to God. It is defiling to the community, the home, and the church.

A Christian should be able to say, “I’m sorry, please forgive me, I was wrong.” Many cannot admit a wrong with transparent honesty.

Many individuals as well as entire churches are in spiritual prison, because they focus on wrongs done to them. They cannot forgive an offense, even from years ago. They cannot put the best construction on the motives of others. The first Christian martyr prayed as he was being stoned, “Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.” Acts 7:60.

They cannot look another in the eye and say, “I forgive you. I do not hold this against you.” They cannot give pleasantry to one whom they believe has opposed or hurt them; they cut them off. Many churches are dead spiritually by unwholesome relationships that have existed in their midst for decades.

Sad to say they worship what “they know not” John 4:22. They do not worship God who “forgiveth all thine iniquities,” and “hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according [in proportion] to our iniquities.” Psalm 103:3, 10.

The Forgiving Character of God

The character of God is revealed by not giving us what we deserve. God is not exacting, but stunningly gracious, always treating us better then we deserve; every time and all the time. Instead of deserved punishment because of our sins, he treats us in accordance to His character of faithfulness and love.

When our best efforts for peace are fruitless, we can follow the example of the Father, who pardons “iniquity and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage . . . because He delighteth in mercy.” Micah 7:18. In mercy, we can pass over other people’s offensive behavior, even if they do not realize the seriousness of their actions.

“Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications. If Thou, Lord, shouldst mark iniquities [keep track of them], O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee, that thou mayest be feared [obeyed].” Psalm 130:2–4.

The disciples of Jesus are at fault if they do not attempt to clear up misunderstandings, even if they did not create the difficulties. Even when they are only partially in the wrong, they must be truthful, and take responsibility for their part. They cannot sit back harboring hurt feelings, doing nothing about it. They are not to wait for others to come to them before they forgive. Instead, they are to be aggressive in attempting reconciliation. They are to go their way privately to the individual, if they remember that a brother has something against them. They are to practice “forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Ephesians 4:2–3.

To be continued.

David Stramell writes from the Nevada-Utah Conference where he is serving the Lord as pastor in Fallon, Nevada.
Part 1 of this article addressed how easily one can slide into the dark world of the occult. Part 2 demonstrates the power of the Lord Jesus Christ over evil and the victory that awaits the believer in Him.—Editor.

The mystic Eastern religion I was studying stated that to be able to reach God one could come to Him through any path of one’s choice. It was a wheel of life, with God at the centre. The outward point of each spoke on the wheel represented the many “ways” through which one could find God such as yoga, meditation, tarot, palmistry and other “divination” methods, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, mysticism—even Christianity—it didn’t really matter—any of these paths would eventually lead to God—and I was searching for Him without being aware of it.

I returned to Melbourne to visit my mother. Looking back, I believe I was definitely demon-possessed by that time. My studies of mystic ‘religion’ told me the nearer I came to god-consciousness, the more fearful I would become and I would have to pass through these “guardians of fear” to reach my goal.

I told my mother a little about the way I was living and she replied “Diane, I don’t think you’re doing the right thing” and again the Bible was put into my hands—an old Bible that had belonged to one of my brothers when he was a child. The funny thing is as I opened it, my eyes fell on the very text I needed to see—I could hardly believe the words: “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.” John 14:6. This started me thinking—truth had to agree with itself to be truth. How come the Christian religion was not stating that ALL ways lead to God, as other religions I had studied did?

Now that my interest in the Bible was aroused, and Satan knew I was drawing nearer to Christ, his force and attacks against me increased. I was experiencing terrifying manifestations and becoming mentally confused as to what was reality and what was not. I saw that events taking place around me were uncoordinated and out of sync and that people’s behaviours, perspectives and beliefs were not founded on truth, but lies. I was hallucinating. Events that I thought were taking place in other people’s lives were not taking place at all.

I was getting more and more messages to the effect that the time had come for me to die, and to end my life. I called a friend I had known years ago who “levitated” tables, and discovered she herself had been through years of mental and spiritual torment. She said she had met a Catholic priest whom she felt could help me. A day or so later I found myself seated opposite this man in his study with tears streaming down my face as I told him of my fear and experiences. Suddenly, I noticed two white “eye” shapes appear above his head. I was terrified, and described to him what I was seeing. He calmly said to me “Diane, this is not of God,” and after comforting me a little more, we had prayer, and I went home.

Unseen physical forces were now buffeting me, with waves of vibrations pressing on my throat and body, making me shake inside and out! I awoke one night and discovered I could not breathe properly and my voice was coming out in a thin squeak. I went to my mother’s room and woke her up. She just held my hands and prayed, and kept praying for about half an hour until these forces subsided.

The most wonderful incident occurred one evening when this force was pounding against me, and in fear I grabbed my Bible, and just read the name of Jesus Christ out loud—at the mention of His name those forces broke from me like chains!—I literally felt them flee at the mention of His name! The Lord’s power is so much greater than anything Satan can display.
His protection is like a shield. The memory of that experience has sustained me through many years since.

I attended a rock concert one evening and was again menaced by oppressive messages and visualisations. I became extremely distressed because I didn’t think this would ever come to an end—I saw blood on the path in front of me that was not there and other death-like impressions. The group on the stage was the Doobie Brothers.

All of a sudden, right there in the concert hall, the Lord touched me, reminding me, gently, that I did belong there, that I belonged with Him. I shall never, ever forget that experience. I was filled with a love, a cleansing, a healing, and a peace I had never known before. But when I received it I knew it was what I had been searching for all my life. God filled me with His love, I felt truly clean, inside and out, and I had the distinct impression that I had been lifted up and my feet planted on a rock. I did not realise the spiritual meaning of this until much later when I became better acquainted with the Bible.*

I know we are to be careful of miracles in these days, as the Bible tells us, many visible healing miracles and wonders will be performed by Satan and that he will even appear as an “angel of light.” Finally, he will manifest as a visual “counterfeit Christ” in different parts of the world, but I knew this was God’s miracle—full and complete, a truly saving, justifying, wonderful conversion experience! I could do nothing but respond to this amazing love. That night I surrendered my life to Him in wonderment and joy. When I arrived back at my mother’s home, I ran inside the door, calling to her excitedly “Jesus is real, Jesus is real!” and she just looked at me and said calmly “Yes, I know!”

Since my new-found faith was still taking quite a beating from demonic attacks, I called a Church of Christ minister, and begged him to baptise me straight away. He was surprised and told me that baptism usually came after Bible study, but I told him I was being attacked by Satan. I personally believed that God would honour my small, uneducated faith and cut me off from these powers by baptism. He eventually agreed to help, and my first baptism was held a few days later. God did honor my faith, and I received a baptism of the Holy Spirit in abundance, filled with joy and praising God as I came out of the fount—what an experience.

However, the attacks continued for some time. When an individual has escaped from Satan’s power, Satan will fight hard to get that person back under his control. I still had a lot of fear, but my faith in God was growing and I knew He would ward off the attacker and give me His protection, blessing and help.

At one time when I was witnessing strongly against spiritualism, Satan brought such fear upon me that I wondered whether Jesus had left me. Immediately the answer came clearly into my mind: “I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” Hebrews 13:5. Prior to studying the Bible the only biblical thing I had in my memory was a childhood Sunday School song, “Jesus loves me, this I know.” Once while experiencing satanic attacks I tremblingly sang that little song, and again God blessed me with an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, full of His love and assurance.

Later, I wrote to my former boyfriend’s mother, a Seventh-day Adventist Christian, and told her I had become a Christian. She, praised God, and asked me to come and visit her. She told me she had prayed for me for a long time. I had been unable to see her for some years. Amazingly, that very week when I went to Albury to visit with her, her church was conducting meetings in the same town. I accepted her invitation to attend one evening. I was wary, as I had heard that Adventists were “too strict,” but when I heard what Pastor John Carter was saying, my mouth fell open.

On that very night he was speaking on Bible prophecy of the great upsurge in spiritualism and eastern religions that would manifest themselves in the last days of earth’s history, and that Satan would work great miracles. It was as if the meeting had been held for my benefit! I certainly knew what he was talking about—he was the only preacher I had heard who could explain my experience, including its background and source.

My boyfriend and I ended up staying to hear all about Bible prophecy from that mission, and the following year’s mission, and were both baptised in 1976 in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. My mother became an Adventist Christian some time later, a few years before her death.

I want to say how thankful I am—first, of course, to our Lord
I want to say how thankful I am—first, of course, to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who painstakingly never gave up on me all those years.

and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who painstakingly never gave up on me all those years. He persistently reached out in His love to me through people and situations to direct me to Himself and His Word. I never knew what true, abundant life was until I came to know Jesus. The Lord has never disappointed me in His leading, although there are some things I have had to go through, which I do not understand.

Secondly, I am grateful for the pastors, ministers and other Christians who have remained faithful to their calling and stayed strong in the truths of the Bible because they know what Jesus Christ can do for helpless, hopeless lives. At the time when I needed constant uplifting in faith, and faithful guidance, these under-shepherds were always there for me. These Christians were not afraid to speak the truth, and to “spend and be spent” in helping a new Christian.

warnings regarding spiritualism, divining, occult practices, séances, astrology, mysticism, and all other related so-called “psychic sciences.” The Israelites of old were warned of the deception, danger, and power behind these practices, and that all who disobeyed God and practised them would be put to death. The Bible says, “Jesus Christ [is] the same yesterday, today, and forever.” Hebrews 13:8. His requirements have not changed. When people insist on going this way, He will give them warnings, and His hand is outstretched to save. But if they are determined to continue, He will eventually stand aside, as He always allows us free will in every choice.

Many people who are in these practices today might never come out of them. They will become confused, their discernment will be blinded, and, eventually, they will be eternally lost. The mysterious deception and power that Satan works causes the mind to be enclosed in such darkness that some of his victims end up committing suicide. A person cannot, of his or her own strength, escape these supremely powerful and evil intelligences. These deceptions are only going to increase until Jesus returns.

If you happen to be tampering with any of these devices, I pray that you will turn away from them now because we have no idea how malignant they truly are, and I plead with Jesus to give you His strength and power to escape them before it is too late. [Concluded.

Diane Styles writes from Melbourne, Australia where she is fervently serving the Lord by sharing with others the good things He has done for her and how He has had compassion on her.

* Neither Hope International nor the author are suggesting that people go to the rock concert to meet with the Lord. This is a personal, one time experience that took place in the life of the author.
Worldly preaching methods in the form of entertainment do little to touch the sin ridden soul to move it to repentance.

Samuel Koranteng-Pipim, Ph.D

In Part 2, Dr. Pipim refuted the reasons usually advanced to justify the use of worldly methods in preaching the Word. In this concluding part of the series, he establishes the benefits of plain, unadulterated preaching methods.—Editors.

The Foolishness of Preaching, Not the Preaching of Foolishness

The clear proclamation of God’s Word has always been the most effective method of communicating God’s truth. Because this method went contrary to the gospel gimmicks of his day, the apostle Paul referred to it as “the foolishness of preaching” 1 Corinthians 1:21. Evangelist Carlyle B. Haynes has aptly illustrated the difference between preaching centered on the Word of God and preaching using the worldly method.

Gospel Gimmicks

Speaking to young ministers several decades ago, Haynes wrote:

“I once attended a meeting conducted by a well-known evangelist who had achieved an outstanding reputation, and whom many younger ministers were consulting for suggestions to improve their work. Some were diligently copying this man’s manner of presentation. I had been out of the country for five years in mission work. Reports came to me regarding this man, who was looked upon as a successful winner of souls. His methods, which were certainly innovations among us, were the subject of much discussion.

“I was eager to get a firsthand look at this man and his techniques. My appointments brought me to the city where he was conducting an evangelistic campaign, and I made plans to hear and observe him in action. Mingling with the large number of people streaming into the meetings, I sat in the middle of the audience, where I could see and hear without difficulty.

“The tabernacle was well lighted and decorated. . . . On the rafters above the platform were hung many lights, and on each side of the platform two spotlights centered on the preacher.

“There was music, much music—instrumental, vocal, choral, solos, duets, quartets, and two little tots who sang an amusing ditty which brought a round of laughter and a handclap or two. Then came an impressive theme song, which many seemed to know and I had never heard. At its close the preacher entered in a sort of hush.

“He attracted everyone’s attention, including mine. I was not quite prepared for this. He could not fail to catch attention. Everything had apparently been done with that in mind. He was dressed in spotless white, with white tie, white socks, white shoes. Even the Bible he carried was bound in white. A woman at my back exclaimed breathlessly to her companion, ‘Isn’t he a honey?’ and I had to agree. He was indeed. From that first moment he was the focus of attraction. No one could hear, see, or think of anything else but that ‘honey’ of a preacher. His words were little noticed, yet no one moved his eyes from the speaker, and all heads swung around with him as he stood or moved about in the glare of the spotlights. . . .

“I didn’t listen, but I certainly looked. I couldn’t help looking. It was an impressive performance. What he said, I don’t know; but I can remember yet what he did as he skillfully moved about the platform. . . .
“Returning to my hotel room, I tried to recall what he may have read from the Bible. I could not remember his opening that beautiful white Bible at all. While I am sure he must have done so, I did not notice it. The last thing I remember passing through my mind before I sank into slumber was, ‘He certainly is a ‘honey.’”

“Traveling about the country for some months after that, I ran into a considerable number of white suits and spotlights. They broke out like an epidemic everywhere. The imitation ran its course, as epidemics do, and then subsided—I hope.

“I mention the incident only because I desire to contrast it with another experience that occurred while I was a pastor in New York City. For a number of years I had heard reports about the ministry of a great British expositor, George Campbell Morgan, pastor of London’s Westminster Chapel. He had been making annual trips to America for Bible conferences, but I had not heard him. I had, however, read all his books.”

**Biblical Preaching**

Haynes continued his advice to ministers:

“Learning that Morgan was coming to New York City to conduct a two-week series of studies in the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, I was delighted at the prospect of hearing this great preacher and arranged my schedule so that I could attend these nightly meetings without interruption. They were to start on a Monday night which I thought to be a poor night to begin.

“I arrived at the church a half hour before the meeting was to begin. Knowing the church accommodated 2,500 easily, I had no worry about finding a seat. But I was wrong; the seats were all taken. The ushers directed me into the gallery, and fortunately one seat was left there. With a sigh of relief I sat down, astonished beyond measure that 2,500 people would turn out like this on a Monday night.

“The pastor and Dr. Morgan came onto the rostrum quietly and sat down. The congregation sang an old hymn, and during the singing I looked closely at the famous preacher. Never had I seen a more unprepossessing man in the pulpit. He was tall, lanky, awkward, and I thought I might hear his bones rattle if there were not so much rustling by the audience. His clothing was plain, and there was nothing conspicuous about him.

“After the pastor’s prayer and simple introduction, Dr. Morgan walked to the pulpit, opened the Bible—not a white one—and in a pleasing voice, but entirely without dramatic effect, read the Scripture passage and immediately began to explain it. I am glad that I examined him before he began speaking, for I never noticed him again during the whole hour. Instead, I was utterly absorbed and entranced at the meanings he was bringing out of the treasure-house of the Word of God. It was one of the most thrilling hours of my life. I had never experienced anything like it before. And it was repeated nightly for two weeks.

“Dr. Morgan had no graces of gesture, no spectacular delivery, and no eloquence in the usual sense. He used no charts, blackboard, pictures, screen, or gadgets of any kind. Nothing in his talk, movements, dress, or manner attracted attention to himself or diverted attention from the Bible. His tremendous power was in what he did with and by the Word of God.

“I was in another world in five minutes, not because of any elocution or oratorical ability. He talked quite casually and in a conversational tone, reading with deep reverence and impressive feeling the passage he was to explore. I forgot the people about me, forgot the church, forgot the speaker, forgot everything but the wonders of the world into which I had been led. . . .

“I went home dazed with wonder at the effectiveness of the Bible alone as the source of great preaching. . . .

“I want to impress upon you that such preaching is wholly within the reach of every one of you, the most powerful that any man can ever use. Throw away your accessories, discard your gadgets and pictures, discontinue your shows and playlets, stop relying on entertainment and theatrical displays, and get back again to the simple, plain, powerful exposition of the Word.

“When I returned home the night after Dr. Morgan’s first study, the prayer that burst from my deeply moved heart was, ‘O God, make me a preacher of Thy divine Word, and help me never to rely on anything else.’”

*May this be our prayer, too.*

**Series concluded.**

Samuel Korateng-Pipim is Director of Public Campus Ministries for the Michigan Conference. He also teaches courses in theology and ethics at campuses around the world and has served the world church as a member of the General Conference’s Biblical Research Institute Committee (BRICOM). He is currently based in Ann Arbor, Michigan where he ministers to students and faculty at the University of Michigan.

Note:

The tomato, the Italian “pomodoro,” was long regarded as an unhealthy fruit. Though it began to be used in Spain and Italy, it took a long time before it could be eaten in tomato salads, sandwiches or sauces. In fact, until the 1930s, in our grandmothers’ time, it was claimed that eating a raw tomato was lethal and that it needed to be cooked for at least three hours to rid it of its harmful properties!

Fortunately for us, tomatoes are now part of our daily diet. Biting into a juicy, freshly cut tomato, bursting with the flavors of earth and sun, is one of the greatest pleasures of summer. Tomatoes contain calcium and vitamin C, to name just two of their beneficial properties.

A study done recently found that people in Northern Italy who ate 7 or more servings of raw tomatoes per week had up to 60% less chance of developing colon, rectal, or stomach cancers compared to individuals who ate two servings or less. There are also indications that tomatoes may play a role in prevention of heart disease, high cholesterol, and fatty deposits in the arteries. As little as two glasses of tomato juice per day can be very beneficial in preventing these problems.

The tomato is a “vegetable-fruit” that plays an important role in a balanced diet. Low in calories, it is a good source of vitamins, minerals and trace minerals. Its acidic flavor stimulates digestion and assists in nutritional absorption—thanks to the pigments that give it its attractive red color and its content of vitamins C and E, provitamin A and other carotenes. Tomatoes also help maintain the body’s acid-base balance and promote ongoing vitality. Lycopenes give tomatoes their red color. Lycopenes are bioflavonoids, antioxidants related to beta-carotene and are present in tomatoes.

They are also good for prevention of prostate cancer. Eating raw tomatoes every day may reduce the risk of prostate cancer and other types of cancer, including lung, stomach, pancreatic, breast, cervical, colorectal, oral and esophageal cancers. All forms of tomato (raw, in ketchup, spaghetti sauce, tomato paste, soup, and salsa) had beneficial effect; however, tomatoes cooked in oil (such as in tomato sauce) appeared to be the most protective. Individuals from southern Mediterranean countries, including Portugal, Italy and Greece, have a low incidence of prostate cancer. Coincidentally, in these countries, tomato consumption is high.

Raw salads play a crucial role in our diet. We should have at least one raw salad a day. Raw food means life.

Adapted from: Alfons Balbach and Daniel S. F. Boarim
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Disclaimer:
These articles from Dr. Tony’s desk are for educational purposes only and are not intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice. Hope International does not offer medical advice or prescribe the use of diet as a form of treatment for sickness without the approval of a healthcare professional.
My name is Sarah Louise Keller. I am the family historian. At least that is what my dad calls me. I hope to be a writer someday. They tell me that good writers write about what they know. Right now, all I know about is my family. I am ten, my brother Steve is eight and I have a two-year-old little sister called Millie.

It is Sunday night and I am still smiling about the fun we had this afternoon. It all started when Steve wanted to ride his bike to his friend’s house. Steve had been bored and restless most of the afternoon so you can imagine how excited he was when his friend called and invited him over. Just as he was about to leave, Mom reminded him to wear his helmet if he was going to ride his bike. “Oh Mom, I look like such a baby wearing a helmet,” Steve complained.

Mom replied, “You have two choices, wear your helmet, or don’t ride your bike.” Steve was about to talk back, but I could tell he wasn’t going to take the chance of not being able to go to his friend’s house at all. Steve and I have been trying very hard not to talk back to Mom and Dad. We have been learning about the sin of talking back in Sabbath school. Steve did put his helmet on and rode off.

The fun started when he came home later. Mom called us into the family room. She had a big grin as she announced that she had a surprise for us. I had heard her up in the attic earlier and had wondered what she was up to. Now, we were about to find out!

She pulled out play swords, breastplates, shields and helmets. There were three, one for each of us. She told us that her dad, my grandfather, had made them for her and her brothers when they were kids. She had forgotten they were up in the attic until Steven complained about his helmet.

Mom and Dad showed us how to put everything on. Millie almost disappeared behind her shield. The swords were not sharp so we didn’t have to worry about hurting each other. We were having fun acting like soldiers and knights. After we had played for a while Dad had us sit in a circle and read to us from the Bible. “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” Ephesians 6:12.

“What are the wiles of the devil?” Steve asked.

“They are tricks the devil plays on people,” Dad said. That was easy to understand.

Dad continued to read: “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” Verse 12.

Now it was my turn to wonder. Were all these verses talking about Satan? Dad must have been reading my mind, because before I could ask, he went on to explain how Satan tries to trick us into doing things we know we should not do. I know very well how I sometimes just don’t feel like cleaning my room or doing the dishes right when Mom wants me to do them. I also know how unkind I am to Millie when she does things that irritate me. Then Dad said something very encouraging, “the good news is that God has given us the ability to fight against Satan and to defeat him.” We all stood up and cheered, waving our swords in the air!

After we had settled down, Dad continued reading, “Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.” Verse 13. He continued explaining to us what the verse meant, “Truth is what we find in the Bible. Lies are what Satan tries to tell us. If we know the Word of God, we will not believe Satan’s lies.” Mom said that was the reason she has always encouraged us to memorize Scripture. She said knowing God’s Word was just like having a warm blanket on a cold winter night to protect us from the cold.

Dad said that righteousness was a little harder for us to understand. He said it is right doing, which we receive as a gift from Jesus. He also

Continued on page 25
with the mine of truth, and you are
to work out its treasures, to display
its gems, and unveil its attractions,
not merely when giving a discourse,
but in your daily life you are to
show the constraining, transform-
ing power of the truth. Every faculty
and power of our nature must re-
ceive the imprint of Christ’s signa-
ture. We must become partakers
of the divine nature. 2 Peter 1:4. By
beholding, we become changed into
His image. 2 Corinthians 3:18.

What are we doing for Jesus?
Are we cooperating with Him in
His great work above? Are we us-
ing every jot of influence we have
to cleanse the temple of God from
defilement? Let not the ministers act
in such a way that they will come
under the same condemnation as did
the priests and rulers whom Jesus
charged with making the house of
God a den of thieves. We might bet-
ter be reduced to penury than gain
means that will divorce our interest
from the solemn truths for this time.

It is Satan’s studied effort to
make of none effect saving, testing
truth through the lives of those who
preach the truth to others and who
in their daily practices deny what
they preach. If we are paralyzed
spiritually, we shall not be able to
realize that our obligations are in
proportion to the light we have
received. All the angels of heaven
are united in the work of bringing to
man the infinite treasures of the bet-
ter world. Shall we not with grateful
hearts show that we appreciate the
heavenly gifts, and cooperate with
the workers of heaven in bringing
every power into captivity to Christ?

If we would come into possess-
ion of the heavenly inheritance, the
glorious, eternal substance, we
must be in covenant relation with God

If we would come into possession of the heavenly inheritance, the glorious, eternal substance, we
must be in covenant relation with God

God’s people must be a peculiar,
holy people, distinct in character
and practice from the world, dis-
ing divine light on the pathway of
benighted souls.

God Himself has plucked men
as brands from the burning, and
through the sanctifying power of
His truth, He has trained the chil-
dren of wrath to be the children of
light, that they might cooperate with
Him in life and character, by precept
and example, and reveal His miracle
of grace that has filled the angels
with astonishment and joy.

God’s Seal or Satan’s Stamp

Satan is working to put his seal
and stamp upon the watchmen, that
the purposes of God may not be ful-
filled in them. He is working that the
individual members of the church
shall not be one with Christ as He is
one with the Father. But it is the privi-
lege of Christ’s followers to partake
of the rich and full supplies of His
grace, that the world may believe
that Christ has indeed sent them. It
is a lamentable fact that not all the
ministers who preach the truth are
converted. Many have ceased to
advance in the path of progress, and
they do not represent Christ, for they
do not copy the Pattern.

The Lord cannot glorify His
name through ministers who at-
tempt to serve God and mammon.
We are not to urge men to invest in
mining stock, or in city lots, hold-
ing out the inducement that the
money invested will be doubled
in a short time. Our message for
this time is, “Sell that ye have, and
give alms; provide yourselves bags
which wax not old, a treasure in
the heavens that faileth not, where
no thief approacheth, neither moth
corrupteth. For where your treasure
is, there will your heart be also.”

Just before Israel entered the
land of Canaan, Satan sought to

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inheritance, the glorious, eternal substance, we
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Ellen G. White, 1827–
1915, received the spiri-
tual gift of prophecy, and
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A
ter five meetings at Mr. Thompson's schoolhouse, I traveled west to the Two-
bridge Schoolhouse. Impressed that this would be a good place for meetings, I called at the near-
rest home. They gave me dinner and showed me where the trustees lived. I saw them and had an ap-
pointment given out. The place was filled the first night. Afterwards, a Mr. Beardsley invited me to make
my home with him.

With moonlight nights and fine sleighing, I had a packed house every evening. After my ninth
lecture, Mr. Beardsley had a charge brought against him of harboring a heretic in his house. He made his
defense publicly in one of my meet-
ings and endorsed what I preached
as the truth. This broke the ice and others took their stand. Since the
eleven sermons I gave in that place were all I had prepared, I stopped the meetings and went home to
rest, and to see to the needs of my widowed mother.¹

But I still dreaded to go out
alone and preach. After a few
weeks at home, I started for Mr.
Thompson's neighborhood again.
On my way, I called at Mr. Lamson's
at Clarkson, and asked if someone
would go with me to help sing
and carry on the meetings, but no one could be spared. Finally, Mr.
Lamson walked three or four miles
with me, carrying my valise and speaking words of encouragement.

After we parted, I went a short
distance, sat down on my valise by
the roadside and wept until I felt
relieved. Then I went on and called
on my friend Thompson and his
family. They were glad to see me
and circulated an appointment for
that evening.

On arriving at the schoolhouse,
we found quite a number of rude
fellows with a Universalist school-
teacher at their head, who seemed
bent upon mischief. When I was
there before, they had taken offense
at my teaching of immortality alone
through Christ, so when I began
to preach, they started to whisper,
then talk aloud. When I reproved
them, they fired at my head a
shower of parched corn, shot, and
hickory nuts. These did not injure
me although they struck with con-
siderable force against the black-
board behind me. Deciding it was
useless to proceed further, I closed
the meeting. Friend Thompson and
others wished me to prosecute the
boys, but I objected.²

When I reported the incident to
Elder Phineas Smith, the minister
who baptized me, he invited me
to accompany him in meetings at
Morganville and Elba. This I did,
and it provided excellent schooling
for me.

In May, my brother at Adams
Basin came down with malaria, and
requested me to come and work in
his shop. His chills continued most
of the summer, so I did not preach,
but labored with my hands.

In November, I arranged to
go with Elder Sullivan Heath, an
experienced Adventist minister, and
spend the winter in Erie County,
Pennsylvania. So, fitted out with
his horse and carriage and a supply
of books, we had meetings in Erie,
Girard, Washington, and other
towns with good results. Friends
in Pennsylvania presented me with
a horse and light wagon. With this
rig, I returned in April, and spent
the summer in New York.

During 1850, I was afflicted with
a slight lung hemorrhage. Since
I was advised to use tobacco as a
remedy, I began to smoke cigars.
But in September, 1852, I left off
the injurious habit. One day as I
lighted a cigar, the filthiness of the
tobacco habit passed before me like
a panorama in contrast with the
character of those who are to dwell
in the New Jerusalem. I heard as
distinctly as if a voice had spoken,
"Suppose the Lord should come
and find you with that cigar in
your mouth. Would you be permit-
ted into that clean place?" I said to
myself, "No! Lord, by thy grace I
abandon tobacco forever!" I threw
the partly-smoked cigar into the
Genesse River, and from that day to
this, never let a particle of the foul stuff pass my lips. The desire for it completely left me.\textsuperscript{3}

In the summer of 1852, I did some house painting in Rochester. When this was over, I found a wife and had to support her. Soon I entered the wholesale and retail trade of Arnold’s patent sash locks. It was remunerative labor, and I still filled my Sunday appointments. In the meantime, I was studying the subject of the sanctuary and the two-horned beast of Revelation 13. I could find no proof to sustain the First-day Adventist position that the earth was the sanctuary, but I did not discover what the real sanctuary was. While studying Revelation 13, I read in Litch’s exposition of the two-horned beast, “I think it is a power yet to be developed as an accomplice of the papacy in subjecting the world.”

I then searched for claims for Sunday-keeping. I decided there was no divine authority for keeping the day holy, so had no misgivings about working on that day. However, I still had the idea that the law as a whole was abolished. Meanwhile some of the leaders among the first-day Adventists dealt dishonestly with me, and partially destroyed my confidence in them.

In midsummer, an uncle of mine had a violent attack of fever and chills. He called for me and said, “John, I wish you would read from the fifth chapter of James.” I did so. Then he added, “I believe if you will ask Brethren Boughton and Morehouse to join with you in prayer and anoint me with oil, the Lord will heal this fever and I will be well. Will you ask them?” I did so and they immediately came. When we followed the directions in James, he was entirely free from fever, and the room was filled with the presence of the Lord.\textsuperscript{4}

A few weeks later, I learned that a Seventh-day minister had been to Parma, and many Adventists there now believed the United States to be the two-horned beast, and they also had begun to keep the Seventh-day Sabbath. Some of the First-day Adventists tried to prejudice my mind against the Sabbath-keepers by saying, “They get together and scream and yell, and have a great noisy fanatical demonstration.”

I prayed much about the matter. Then one night I dreamed I sat in an Adventist meeting in Rochester. The room had low, smoky walls and was poorly lighted and ventilated. I recognized in my dream several ministers. Among them Joseph Marsh, J. B. Cooke, and O. R. L. Crosier. The people were not only in confusion but looked sad and discouraged. As some of the ministers would arise and preach, their talk seemed to stupefy their listeners.

As I meditated upon the situation, a door directly in front of me opened into a much larger room with high walls and a clean, white ceiling. It was well-lighted and ventilated, and everything bore the aspect of good cheer. The people all had Bibles in their hands and seemed to be feasting with great satisfaction on its truths. At the far end of the room hung a chart which differed from any I had ever seen before. It pictured a Jewish Sanctuary, and also the two-horned beast. By the side of the chart stood a tall man whose very countenance indicated earnestness, devotion, and sincerity. In the congregation were brethren from Parma and Hamlin.

I dreamed I arose and said, “I’m going to get out of this room and go into the other room.” I began to meditate upon the great contrast between the two rooms, and awoke deeply impressed that I would soon see great light on the sanctuary and the two-horned beast.

A few days later, Brother Orton of Rochester said to me, “The Seventh-day folks are holding meetings at 124 Mt. Hope Ave. Let us go and attend one of their meetings.”

I replied, “No! I will not go.”

“But, he argued, “You have a duty there. Some of your flock have joined the Sabbath Adventists, and you ought to get them out of this heresy. They give you a chance to speak in their meeting. Get your texts ready, and you can show them in two minutes that the Sabbath is abolished.” So, with seven other First-day Adventists, I went to the meeting.\textsuperscript{5}

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\caption{John N. Loughborough, 1832–1924, pioneer evangelist and administrator also served the Lord as a literature evangelist, conference president in several states, foreign missionary, editor of the Pacific Health Journal, and treasurer of the General Conference. He also authored several books and many articles for denominational papers. He was closely associated with Elder and Mrs. White for over 40 years.}
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\caption{Taken from Miracles in My Life, 13–17. This book is available from Hope International for $5.99. Please see page 30 for shipping and sales tax information.}
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Notes: \\
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1 \textit{The Youth’s Instructor}, May 1865.
2 Ibid., July 1865.
3 \textit{Good Health}, December, 1899; February, 1900.
4 \textit{Pacific Union Recorder}, March, 1909; April, 1909.
\hline
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The time came when James could no longer hold up under the load of responsibilities he bore. Working from fourteen to eighteen hours a day, carrying the principal burden of producing the Review, the Instructor, and other printed matter, constantly burdened with financial difficulties, having the care of the large group of people in his home, and saddened by sickness and death in his family, he was finally brought, as he wrote in the Review, “very near the grave.”

“We cannot expect a tolerable state of health without a complete change in many respects,” he stated. “We are resolved on this change, even if we leave the office entirely.”

At about the time he was forced to this decision, actions on the part of the brethren indicated that the pillar of cloud was lifting, and that the press should move to some other place. James began to consider which direction the move should take.

When word got around that Elder White was thinking of moving the publishing work to another location, invitations came from Vermont and Michigan for him to move to those States. As early as March, 1855, the brethren in Vermont sent him a check for $492 and expressed the hope that the press might be moved to that State.

The Michigan believers were not slow in stepping forward and inviting Elder White to move there. Of this invitation, he wrote:

“The brethren in Battle Creek and vicinity are generally awake to the wants of the cause, and are anxious to establish the Review office in that place. They are able and willing to do so, and manifest much anxiety to relieve us of those cares and responsibilities which we have too long borne. The climate, water, prices of rent, fuel, provisions, etc., seem favorable to the location.”

But before making a final decision James decided to visit Vermont in order that the brethren there might give their reasons why their State would be the better place to locate the Review. So, during the summer of 1855 James and Ellen made a tour of the eastern churches. That Elder White continued to keep an open mind in regard to the decision he would be making is evident from the following statement he wrote to a friend:

“‘Providence’ does not open the way for the press in Michigan. The way is abundantly opened in Vermont.”

And in the August 7, 1855, issue of the Review he wrote, “Unless the friends of the cause in some more central position shall take their responsibility, it will be proper that the friends and supporters of the cause in Vermont should take it.”

Two weeks later he was still undecided. He wrote to a brother of his perplexity. He hesitated about moving back to New England. He recalled Ellen’s vision, when she had been instructed that the press should move westward. But he also hesitated about moving to Battle Creek:

“We must start right. I think I shall not settle at Battle Creek. My mind is west, say Wisconsin, Illinois or Iowa or Minnesota. But I mean to stand by the press till it is well established.”

In the August 7 Review James repeated his resolution of February, no longer to carry the intolerable
burden he had been bearing, and also reminded his readers that the publishing work was actually the responsibility of the church.

"We shall no longer bear the burdens we have borne in Rochester; neither shall we move the Office, East or West. The Office is the property of the church. The church must wake up to this matter, and free us from the responsibilities that have been forced upon us, and which we have reluctantly taken. We must have freedom and repose, or go into the grave."

Still, he knew that the final decision would be his. There was no organization as yet. Neither State nor general conferences had come into being. But God had blessed his movements thus far, and he had faith to believe that divine guidance would continue to light the way into the future. Finally, from Paris, Maine, he wrote to Abram Dodge, his friend in Battle Creek, indicating that he had made up his mind, and that the press should go to Battle Creek. A major reason for the decision was that four trustworthy Adventist believers in Michigan, Henry Lyon, Dan Palmer, Cyrenius Smith, and J. P. Kellogg, had decided to grapple with the problem and fill the need. They made up a fund of $1,200 with which to purchase land and erect a modest press building. After writing and directing these men to erect a building 32’ by 25’ two “story and a half, on three-fourths,” James White went on to outline the conditions under which he proposed to make the move and the changes he foresaw:

1. The office would remain the property of the church.
2. Three or more persons would build an office and own it themselves.
3. Uriah Smith would be resident editor, while James White, R. F. Cottrell, J. N. Andrews, and J. H. Waggoner would be corresponding editors, all five to have an equal voice in conducting the paper.
4. There would be a finance committee of three men, C. Smith, Henry Lyon, and one other, who would receive all funds for the Review, pay all bills, and establish the prices of the papers and books.

The present inventory of books should remain in the hands of James White until his debts were paid off. At a meeting held on September 23, in Battle Creek, Michigan, of believers interested in establishing the publishing work in that city, these suggestions were accepted.

In his letter, White pointed out to Dodge that it was obviously impossible for any resident editor really to know the field. It would be the duty of the corresponding editors to supply reports and articles to Elder Smith. He suggested in conclusion that it might be difficult to move the press before the following spring. In this respect, he apparently misjudged the strong determination of the Michigan brethren, who moved with dispatch. A general meeting was called for November and representatives from the whole field were invited to discuss the situation. The proposals previously adopted were accepted and broadened. Joseph Bates served as chairman of the conference. At this meeting James was relieved of financial responsibility for the Review and Herald. A committee consisting of Henry Lyon, David Hewitt, and William Smith was appointed to examine the financial status of the Review. The name of Stephen Pierce was added to the list of corresponding editors. A vote of thanks was tendered to Elder White for his sacrificial work of the past six years.

The last issue of the Review to be printed in Rochester was dated October 30. During November, all hands were busy moving the press and various supplies to Battle Creek. The building in Battle Creek, had been erected, a neat two-story building. The first issue of the paper to be printed in Michigan was dated December 4.

With the move to Battle Creek another of James’s wishes was fulfilled: The weekly publication of the Review began.

When the press moved to Michigan the publishing work was in debt, but this was more than covered by books on hand ready for sale. The committee appointed to investigate the finances of the Review office reported that Elder White had invested $311.89 in the publishing plant and urged that this amount be repaid.

Twenty-five years later, and only a short time before his death, Elder White commented as follows in regard to divine guidance in locating the press:

“The publishing work increased gradually and safely all the way from Paris, Maine, Saratoga and Rochester, New York, to Battle Creek where the Publishing Association has grown to be a powerful institution. Had we commenced at Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, or any other large city where our expenses
would have been greater, and where the cause would have been sustained at great expense, our work would have been crippled in its infancy, and we would have lost very much which we have gained by establishing ourselves in the little city of Battle Creek.”

Ellen White’s comment throws light on the position held by her husband in his relationship to the publishing work:

“I saw that God had qualified him who had to stand at the head of the publishing for his station, and if he did not fill his place, God would remove him from it. God had oversight of the work. I saw that this was an important place. I saw that it was God who had rebuked the disease that was on James when nature had resisted as long as it was possible and could do no more, and disease had fastened upon him, and when Satan was exulting that he had his prey and that he would lay him in the grave, then God’s hand interposed and He put bands around James and strengthened him to fill the place He had put him in.”

Looking back, Willie White commented on the manner in which his father had been divinely guided in settling the publishing work in Battle Creek, and of how, in God’s good time, the headquarters were once again moved, this time to Washington, D.C.:

“How much would it have counted for our work in the United States if Father had gone to Washington at the time he established the printing work in Battle Creek? Then a few men with limited means went to a place where it was inexpensive living and where their work would not be despised; later on when the work had grown and many men had been called into it who were prepared to exert a decided influence wherever they were, the work was called to Washington.”

The author was the great-grandson of James and Ellen White on his mother’s side and the great-grandson of William Farnsworth (one of the first Seventh-day Adventists) on his father’s side.

This article was take from Virgil Robinson, *James White*, 111–115. This book is available from Hope International for $11.99 plus shipping and sales tax (see page 30).

Notes:
2 James White letter to a “Brother,” March 13, 1855.
3 ——, in *Review and Herald*, May 15, 1855.
4 ——, letter to a “Brother,” August 3, 1855.
5 ——, letter August 24, 1855.
6 ——, letter to Abram Dodge, August 20, 1855.
7 *Review and Herald*, December 4, 1855.
8 James White, in *Review and Herald*, December 18, 1855.
9 Ibid., February 5, 1880.
10 Manuscript 1, 1855.
11 W. C. White letter to D. Hartwell, December 29, 1903.
said that if we committed our hearts to Christ, the Holy Spirit would help us to understand these things more as we grew up. Dad said that the important thing to remember is that we should not be afraid. God will always protect us.

Then he read the last two verses: “Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.” Verses 16–17.

We all picked up our shields and pretended that fiery darts were flying at us! Mom patted us all on the head and said that her prayer was that we would get into the habit of wearing both our physical and spiritual helmets. She said she just wanted us to be protected in every way. Steve gave her a hug and said he understood, and would try to remember to wear his helmet whenever he rode his bicycle without being told.

Well, I am now ready to go to sleep. I am no longer afraid of the darkness in my room because I feel very confident that God’s protection is always with me. He thinks and takes care of things that Mom or Dad can’t even think of, and that is a lot!

“Thank you God for providing for our every need. Thank you for the truth of Your Word, and for the salvation that comes to us through Jesus, freely. Thank You, Father, for protecting us from Satan and for giving me a wonderful family.”

Kaye Olson writes from Hope International where she works in the Accounts Department.

Continued from page 18

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Historical

“We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.”—E. G. White, Life Sketches, 196. Many today have neglected to study the history and people that made up the early days of the Advent movement. To help encourage interest in Adventist history, we have put together questions about people and events of our past. Our goal is to spark faith, and further study into “the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.”

1. What did the term “Systematic Benevolence” mean?
   a. A way to care for the elderly
   b. A financial system of church support
   c. A financial system to care for the poor
   d. A way to care for the sick

2. What year did the church unveil the “Systematic Benevolence” plan?
   a. 1851
   b. 1859
   c. 1863
   d. 1887

3. Ellen White kept a diary of her experiences. When did she start that diary?
   a. 1844
   b. 1852
   c. 1859
   d. 1864

4. For morning worship with the White family, what was the hymn most frequently sung?
   a. “Blessed Assurance”
   b. “Praise to the Lord”
   c. “Arise, My Soul, Arise!”
   d. “Lord, in the Morning”

5. On September 20, 1860, Ellen White gave birth to a son. What was his name?
   a. John
   b. James Jr.
   c. William
   d. Edson

6. Who proposed the resolution to take the name “Seventh-day Adventist” as the name for the denomination?
   a. Brother Bates
   b. Brother Hewitt
   c. Brother White
   d. Brother Butler

7. Which child of the Whites’ went without a name for three months?
   a. John
   b. Henry
   c. Herbert
   d. Samuel

8. How old was John Herbert White when he died?
   a. 45
   b. 18
   c. 2
   d. 3 months

9. Meetings in Marion, Iowa were well attended with a man walking several miles to get there. How many miles did this man walk?
   a. 12
   b. 34
   c. 66
   d. 80

10. Our churches started organizing into conferences in 1861. What was the first such conference?
    a. Maine
    b. Minnesota
    c. Michigan
    d. New York

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Footnotes

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Source: For specific references to any answer, please contact Hope International.
Spirit-filled Babble


**End-time Perspective:** Many are drawn to this type of service, not only because of its “exuberant worship style” but also because if people speak in tongues, they feel they have the Holy Spirit, and if they have the Holy Spirit, they must be saved. It is sinister logic from Satan to deceive people into a false security, and ultimately, destruction.

“Many of you are reposing in false security, absorbed in selfish interests, and attracted by earthly treasures. You fear no evil. Danger seems a great way off. You will be deceived, deluded, to your eternal ruin unless you arouse and with penitence and deep humiliation return unto the Lord. Again and again has the voice from heaven addressed you. Will you obey this voice?” *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 233.

“And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.” 1 Samuel 15:22.

Of Taters and Tots

**News Item:** “Your small fry might love French fries. But a new study in the International Journal of Cancer suggests you should think twice before serving them regularly to your kids. The paper, based on a survey that asked more than 2,000 moms to remember the eating habits of their adult kids, showed that a weekly serving of fries for girls ages 3 to 5 could up their risk of developing breast cancer in later life by 27 percent. . . .

But it’s not the spuds that are getting the blame. . . . Instead, trans-fatty acids and saturated fats, which may have a carcinogenic effect on the susceptible breast tissue of young girls, could be the true culprits. (The fats have already been linked to obesity and coronary heart disease.)” Alice Fishburn in “Tip Sheet,” *Newsweek*, August 29, 2005, 78.

**End-time Perspective:** “This is what we need: simple food prepared in a simple, wholesome, and relishable manner. We have no butter and no meat on our table. We do not think fried potatoes are healthful, for there is more or less grease or butter used in preparing them.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 5, 408.

“There are no influences so potent as those which surround us in our early years.” *Child Guidance*, 39.

“More than any natural environment, the habits established in early years decide whether a man will be victorious or vanquished in the battle of life.” Ibid., 203.
Adventist Church Accused of Printing Satanic Bibles

News Item: “When graduate student Dima Belozyorov took a late-night study break from his Russian literature assignment and turned on the television in his Krasnodar apartment, he was aghast to see a documentary disparaging evangelicals. ‘The program reported the Adventist Church in Krasnodar was printing Satanic Bibles and using human blood for ink,’ he told WORLD. ‘They also alleged that the church commits a dozen ritual murders each year.’” Greg Dabel, “Documentary Disinformation,” World, September 3, 2005, 20.

End-time Perspective: “They will deliver you up to councils, . . . yea and before governors and kings shall ye be brought for My sake, for a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.” Matthew 10:17–18, KJV. Persecution will spread the light. The servants of Christ will be brought before the great men of the world, who, but for this, might never hear the gospel. The truth has been misrepresented to these men. They have listened to false charges concerning the faith of Christ’s disciples. Often their only means of learning its real character is the testimony of those who are brought to trial for their faith.” The Desire of Ages, 354.

“As the wrath of the people shall be excited by false charges, they will pursue a course toward God’s ambassadors very similar to that which apostate Israel pursued toward Elijah.” The Great Controversy, 590.

The most vicious lies will be leveled against God’s faithful servants. This is but the beginning, and we will hear more and more of these sorts of charges as time goes on. We must make our calling and election sure by a deep connection and commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ!

Who Would Jesus Assassinate?

News Item: “Pat Robertson last week, on his long-running TV show The 700 Club, seemed more Muslim than Christian when he suggested that U.S. operatives assassinate Venezuelan dictator Hugo Chavez: ‘We have the ability to take him out, and I think the time has come that we exercise that ability. . . . I don’t know about this doctrine of assassination, but . . . I think that we really ought to go ahead and do it.’ Two days later he apologized.” Marvin Olasky, World, September 3, 2005, 44.

End-time Perspective: Soon, very soon, this same attitude will be demonstrated toward God’s faithful, commandment-keeping people, and they will think that they are doing God’s service.

“Their religious prejudice and bigotry would lead them to do any act of violence, verily thinking they were doing God’s service, for they are in great error. A blind zeal under false religious theories is the most violent and merciless.” Southern Work, 74.

American Idol

News Item: “The Naylor family of St. Paul, Nebraska, paid $3.29 for a bag of pretzels last month. Twelve-year-old daughter Crysta thought one of the pretzels was shaped like an S. ‘I showed it to my mom and she told me it looked like Mary and the baby Jesus,’ said Crysta. ‘I looked at it again and I could see it really did look like that.’ The Naylors decided to auction the honey-mustard pretzel on eBay, and early this month it drew 56 bids. The winning bid: $10,600.” “Quick Takes,” World, March 26, 2005, 11.

End-time Perspective: That is ten thousand six hundred dollars! For a pretzel! Jesus counsels us to buy something different:

“I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.” Revelation 3:18.

Hunting for Health

News Item: “Doc shopping is just one of several activities that are on the increase, according to the Pew survey, released last week: 28 percent of American Internet users do it, compared with 21 percent just two years ago. Searches for diet or nutritional supplement information are also on the rise, as are forays into the Web for info about health insurance, drugs, and experimental treatments. Overall, 80 percent of people who use the Internet say they use it to find information on health topics.” U.S. News & World Report, May 30, 2005.

End-time Perspective: Another perfect example of the Lord’s omniscient (all-knowing) power. He said the last work that will be done would be the health work. Let’s get prepared to help as many as we can in proper health treatments. They are searching for the truth we have. Let’s not hoard it!

Contributor — Joe Olsson
Children and Youth

Spalding, Arthur, W.

Pioneer Stories

It is good for children to know what their fathers and mothers did, for sometimes that makes a pattern of what the children should do. And that is the reason why this book is written—to tell the children of the pioneers in the second advent movement the beginnings of that movement, and the reasons why they are to carry it on.

Paperback 286 pages
BESA-PSTO $12.99

Thy Word Creations

Lord’s Prayer, The

Have you ever wondered how to help your young children memorize God’s Word? You will be amazed how easy it is to memorize long passages—even a whole chapter of the Bible—when it is put to music. These read-along books and their accompanying recordings will help you memorize some of the most important passages of Scripture.

Cassette Tape & Book
AETW-LPRA $10.99

Robinson, Ella M.

Happy Home Stories

Unselfishness, sharing, birthday parties—great stories all from Ellen White’s granddaughter. A wonderful book for Sabbath afternoons for family and children.

A nice gift idea too!

Paperback, 137 pages
BERE-IHST $9.99

Published by TEACH Services

Campbell, Sam

Too Much Salt and Pepper

Share the joys, adventures and hilarious mischief these little porcupines and other forest friends create at the author’s island home.

Paperback 258 pages
BECS-TMSP $6.99

Cookbooks

Hagler, Louise

Meatless Burgers

Find out how to give this classic food exciting new flavor and texture. Louise Hagler uses a wide assortment of grains, beans, and vegetables to transform the ordinary burger into something truly wonderful. These burgers are healthful, easy to prepare, and delicious.

Paperback 91 pages
BEHL-MBUR $7.99

Kaucher, Jo A.

The Chicago Dinner Cookbook

These amazing vegetarian/vegan recipes will impress even the most avid meat eater.
Especially for those who don’t want to give up their favorite tasty dishes. All recipes tested and served at The Chicago Diner since 1983.

Ferrell, Vance

*Christmas, Easter and Halloween*

This is the book you have been waiting for! It is an amazing collection of historical facts and insights. Here you will find the real story behind Christmas, Easter, and Halloween.

Reduced prices available for orders 10 or more and further reduced for 32 or more, please call the bookstore.

**Shannon, Nomi**

*The Raw Gourmet*

This is a complete guide to one of the world’s fastest-growing nutrition and health movements—the living foods diet. Learn how fresh, non-cooked fruits, vegetables, nuts, seeds and grains can boost your vitality without making any sacrifices to your palate.

**Spear, Ron D.**

*Rebellion*

This book faithfully chronicles the apostasy our church has engrossed itself in.

**Cavaness, Rich**

*Life After 9/11*

In just one tragic day, men and women across the nation felt the same cosmic shockwave and sensed a new, urgent life-changing need. This book explores five key spiritual lessons uncovered from the horrifying destruction of 9/11.

**Creech, Charles E.**

*Jewelry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Why?*

The question of jewelry among God’s people has been a matter of controversy for centuries. This book offers historical and contemporary perspectives on the question of the wearing of jewelry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

**General Books**

**Waymarks of Adventism**

An encouraging presentation of the biblical surety of Adventist doctrines, amid this time of uncertainty and dissent in our beloved church.

**Standish, Colin, D./Standish, Russell, R.**

*Perils of Ecumenism, The*

The march of ecumenism seems unstoppable. The goals of the ecumenical movement are noble: the uniting together of the people of the world to bring peace, harmony and unity to a world that for millennia has been fragmented. The authors of this book take a calm but forthright approach in their analysis of the goals, the methodology and likelihood of success of this movement.
**Health**

**Ferrell, Vance/Archbold, Edgar E., M.D./Cherne, Harold M., M.D.**

**Natural Remedies Encyclopedia, The**

As disease increases and conventional treatments fail, this book is a welcome assistance to the world’s need of caring for and treating the body according to God’s plan. Take advantage of the tremendous amount of work that has been done to make this beautiful volume that deals with everything from coughs to cancer!

*Hardcover, 840 pages*

**BEFV-NREN**  $64.99

Published by Harvestime Publishers

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**Batmanghelidj, F., M.D.**

**Your Body’s Many Cries for Water**

This book explains how a lack of water in the body—chronic dehydration—is the root cause of many painful degenerative diseases, asthma, allergies, hypertension, excess body weight, and some emotional problems including depression.

*Paperback 186 pages*

**BEBF-YBMC**  $12.99

Published by Global Health Solutions Inc.

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**Boruchandal**

This compound of Borututu and Cashew was made with the intention of reducing excessive blood sugar (“hyperglycemia”). Important note: This product does not replace insulin in cases of insulin dependency.

**Sixty 500mg capsules**

**HXBO-BCAS**  $17.80

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**Subscription Information**

**Subscription Assistance**

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- Hope International does not solicit tithes; however, we are a tithe-worthy organization and accept tithes. We use the tithe only for the gospel ministry. Donations designated “Gospel Ministry” will be considered tithe.

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**Note to our readers:**

The article entitled Habit and Character by Randy Floyd which was published in our February and March issues of Our Firm Foundation was an excerpt from the book God at Risk by Herbert E. Douglass. Those wanting to read the entire book can order it from Amazing Facts.
May God bless you and keep you as you face a new year. He alone can bless your lives with happiness and good cheer.

KH; Georgia

The magazine is outstanding. I read the January issue cover to cover and was particularly blessed by Dr. Larson’s article on Romans 7. I am getting extra copies for my friends.

DB; Illinois

I just want to say thank you for your faithfulness this past year. By His Spirit He will allow you all to continue to reach souls for His kingdom.

IN; Alabama

What a way to start the new year! Thank you for sending me a sample issue of Our Firm Foundation magazine. I read it from front to back. I have been enjoying reading the truth about the Word of God held by the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

May God continue blessing your good work.

MFC; Texas

We are praying that God will prosper the work you are doing for the Lord’s kingdom.

God bless you all.

RM; Pakistan

Allow me to share my gratitude for your commendable job and initiative taken to warn the world of the impending crisis to soon fall upon the world.

I am a Seventh-day Adventist pastor and have been reading your valuable magazine for a number of years. We need this material and more for evangelistic campaigns.

KR; India

The article “What in the name of God, are we doing?” was extremely timely and relevant for our time.

Keep up your good work.

BJ; Maine

Thank you for your ministry.

CM; New England

Our Firm Foundation is like the voice of John the Baptist preaching repentance for the remission of sins. I pray that this magazine will be a blessing to every reader. Jesus is about to come and we need to prepare for His coming.

DK; Zambia

I love Our Firm Foundation. I would like for more people to receive it and read its timely messages.

EM; New York

The article in Our Firm Foundation by Ellen G. White entitled “The Transforming Grace of God” was edifying. I will have to make copies to share with some of my friends.

GG; Georgia

We sure appreciate receiving Our Firm Foundation magazine. We especially enjoy the Historical Footnotes quizzes.

God bless you all at Hope International. The magazines are just a wonderful blessing. They are what we need, being so close to the coming of the Lord.

Sf; Canada

Thank you for sending us Our Firm Foundation. The articles are wonderful and the magazine is so attractive. It was not unattractive before, but it has become much more so! The articles are warning us of the coming events more than ever.

BSW; Canada

I have been spiritually uplifted by Our Firm Foundation magazine that I have been receiving through friends who are subscribers. Indeed these are significant and timely messages for us all who identify with the remnant, seeking to be ready to meet Jesus Christ when He comes back. The materials have been helpful in my Bible studies and sermons.

I am commending you brothers and sisters for the many honest souls that you bring to embrace the truth through your wonderful publications. Continue in your labors. The fight isn’t over yet.

ALS; Zambia

I have been reading your magazine, Our Firm Foundation, through my friend.

I will be grateful to be enlisted in your mailing list so that I can receive my own copies.

Those publications have been very enriching to me.

SI; Illinois
# Hope International — 2006 Camp Meeting

**May 19-21**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>“Perfect Unity”</td>
<td>Ron Spear</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>“The Message of the 4th Angel”</td>
<td>Lee Forbes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sabbath 7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>“The Power of Giving”</td>
<td>Samuel Simuzoshya</td>
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<td>Sabbath 8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast ($5.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sabbath 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>“United States – The New Rome”</td>
<td>Tony Morais</td>
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<td>Sabbath 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>“The Ransom”</td>
<td>Clark Floyd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sabbath 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch ($5.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sabbath 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>“Are Our Schools Catholic?”</td>
<td>Joe Olson</td>
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<td>Sabbath 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>“Introduction to the Gospel”</td>
<td>John Grosboll</td>
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<td>Sabbath 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Light Supper ($4.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sabbath 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>“Talk Back Live”</td>
<td>Speaker Panel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast ($5.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>“Where is the Glorious Land?”</td>
<td>Domingo Nunez</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>“Modern Cities of Refuge”</td>
<td>Gary Foster</td>
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