Last month I ended the editorial with Stewart’s question about the Sabbath. Here we were again. What did he think? What had he read? How should I approach this subject? Again, a quick prayer to the Lord for wisdom, then I said, “According to the Bible, the Sabbath day is Saturday and we keep God’s Sabbath as He has directed in the Ten Commandments and in the rest of Scripture.

Breathlessly, I waited for him to respond. He looked right at me and said, “I believe it! There is no question in my mind but that Saturday is the Sabbath of the Bible.” I sent up a silent prayer of thanks and a joyous “YES” to the Lord. I was so happy. The Lord had once again blessed with a wonderful manifestation of His leading in this family.

We had a wonderful season of prayer and retired for the evening, preparing to visit their printing facilities in the morning. After breakfast the next day, we went to their company location and were introduced to every staff member there. For the most part, every person who worked there was a Christian. They were as gracious and kind as any group of workers I had ever met. They seemed to act and work like those who knew they were working for Jesus Himself. It was a delight to meet each one of them.

After the visit we went straight to the airport, where their pilot took us back to the international airport for our flight back to Hope International. Stewart and Vinnie then asked what we would like them to do for us and we said, “Whatever the Lord puts on your hearts.” We asked for no special favors nor did we make any specific requests. We simply basked in our newfound friendship and in our joint fellowship with our Lord and Saviour.

When we returned, we gave all the staff the news of our visit and joined together in a season of prayer. Everyone was excited to see how the Lord had worked, and was working, in behalf of His ministry here at Hope.

Vinnie contacted me the next day to tell me that she “loved” the book Ron had given her and had already finished the first three chapters. She said that whenever she was home, she always had Fox News on, but she had become so engrossed in the book that she actually shut Fox News off, which, she said, she never did. She wanted to make sure I let Ron know how much she was enjoying the book and planned to finish it. What joy it was to hear those words from Vinnie!

Ultimately, we began to discuss how we could be benefited by their printing company. Vinnie offered an across-the-board fifteen percent cut in our printing costs for the magazine and newsletter, but only on one condition: that we would agree to use glossy paper for the magazine since they were already using this kind of paper for other products.

We were ecstatic! Not only would we be using a much better grade of paper, but we would be getting a fifteen percent reduction in our printings costs at the same time! God is so good!

In addition to costs for the magazine and newsletter, we had asked for a price for our DVD covers for the free DVD’s that we send out each month. Vinnie asked for all the covers to be sent to her so she could give us a price. When we later asked how much it would cost, Vinnie said that they were going to do them for free. That entailed thousands of dollars in printing costs.

At the same time, we were planning to print a new health brochure for our health center and sent that to Vinnie for a price. We wanted 5,000 of them, so it was going to be no small effort.

Before we knew it, the brochures were mailed to us! We called to see what the bill would be. Free again! God brought to our minds the simple but profound promise: “…Them that honour me I will honour. …” 1 Samuel 2:30.

We have promised the Lord to do His will as far as we understand it. This is one of the many blessings He has bestowed upon us as a result. We here at Hope encourage each one to do the same, for God’s promises are sure!

Joe Olson serves as the executive director and chairman of the board of Hope International. He also travels as an international speaker.
You know the story. You have read it dozens of times. You have heard sermons on it. The story is found in Matthew 8:28-34 and repeated with more details in other gospels. It’s the story of Jesus’ encounter with the two demoniacs at Gergesa. Jesus finds two men that are possessed with many demons. He confronts the men and casts the demons out, but allows the demons to enter into a nearby herd of swine. The swine then run madly down a steep bank and into the sea, where they drown.

This is an amazing miracle. Men who a few minutes before lived and looked like wild beasts now calmly sit at the feet of Jesus. We expect astonishment and amazement from the people that witness this miracle. We also expect celebration, for men who seemed hopeless and lost are now completely healed. Like a celebration a Gewin, we expect the people to rush over to the two men and Jesus with praise, joy and thanksgiving.

**A Miracle—but No Rejoicing**

But there is no celebration. There is no praise. Indeed, something very odd happens after this miracle—something that you would never expect to happen following such an incredible miracle. The oddity in the story is found in verse thirty-four. After witnessing this miraculous restoration, the people do something very puzzling: they ask Jesus to leave.

Why do they ask Him to leave? For the answer, we turn to another gospel. This same story is told in the gospel of Luke. Luke 8:37 gives us some further insight into what is going on here. It states that the “multitude . . . besought him to depart from them; for they were taken with great fear. . . .” They asked Him to leave because they were afraid. But of what were they afraid? At first blush, it might seem that the multitude feared for their physical safety after such a display of supernatural power, but this was not what they feared, at all. The root of their fear was at a deep spiritual level. The spirit of prophecy explains it as follows:

“The people who beheld the scene did not rejoice. The loss of the swine seemed to them of greater moment than the deliverance of these captives of Satan. . . . They saw that the men had been restored to reason, but they were so fearful of endangering their earthly interests that he who had vanquished the prince of darkness was treated as an intruder”1 (emphasis supplied).

In other words, they saw that these swine owners had been wiped out financially. Now they feared that if they remained associated with Jesus, they also would suffer financial loss. The fact is, they were so absorbed in their earthly possessions that they were unable to comprehend the magnitude of the amazing miracle that Jesus had just performed. It’s not that they did not want to comprehend the significance of the miracle. They were simply unable to comprehend it because their earthly interests completely absorbed their minds.

**A Significant Contrast**

One need only look further in the story to determine that this is exactly what happened. As we pick up the story in Mark 5, we gather an additional fact. After Jesus told one of the healed men to publish what he had done for them, the man went forth telling the people in Decapolis what Jesus had done for him. When the people of Decapolis heard his story, the Bible says in verse twenty that “all men did marvel.” In other words, the people in Decapolis were amazed and awed by the miracle Christ had performed. What a contrast to the people of Gergesa! The only differ-

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1 Desire of Ages, 295
Gerald Coleman

us to spiritual realities right in front of us.

What a frightening thought! This story ought to raise a couple of questions in our minds.

Two Questions to Consider

Is it possible that end time events are happening around us but, like the people of Gergesa, many of us in the church are not able to recognize them because we are too attached to our earthly interests? If these people, who had been in the presence of Jesus and had seen the power of God with their own eyes, could not sufficiently detach themselves from their earthly interests to recognize and appreciate the workings of God, what kind of danger are we in in these last days?

Gergesa Repeated in Our Day?

This story presents a clear warning for us. If we do not allow God to become the complete ruler of our lives, we will not have the spiritual discernment necessary to recognize the foretold deceptions of Satan, just like the people of Gergesa. We will be too absorbed in our earthly interests to recognize the signs that God will send to us.

Saints, we all want to be ready, but we will not be ready if we fail to surrender completely to Him in such a way that we become more attached to Him than we are to this world. Although many don’t believe it, it is impossible to remain attached to this world and become attached to God. God has told us in Scripture, “No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”

Oh, saints, this is why God pleads with us to give our lives to Him completely. This is why God pleads with us to allow Him to be the ruler of our lives. He is trying desperately to warn us today that unless we do, we, too, will ask Him to leave.

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2 Luke 16:13
Our Firm Foundation

An Appeal to Live the Truth and Share It

Ellen G. White

For weeks I have not been able to sleep after half past three o'clock. My mind is deeply exercised in regard to our condition as a people. We ought to be far in advance of any other people on the earth because we have greater light and greater knowledge of the truth, which lays us under increased accountability to advance that light and not only profess to believe the truth but to practice it. When we do practice the truth we are then following Jesus, who is the light of the world; and if we as a people are not constantly elevating, becoming more and more spiritually minded, we are becoming like the Pharisees—self-righteous—while we do not the will of God. We must have a greater nearness to God. Much less of self and much more of Jesus Christ and His grace must be brought into our everyday life. We are living in an important period of this world’s history. The end of all things is at hand; the sands of time are fast running out; soon in heaven it will be said: “It is done.” “He that is holy, let him be holy still,” “he which is filthy, let him be filthy still” [Rev. 21:6; 22:11]. Let our testimonies be sharpened up; let us have a firmer hold on God. I cannot refrain from prayer at one, two, and three o’clock in the morning for the Lord to work upon the hearts of the people. I think of all heaven being interested in the work that is going on upon the earth. Ministering angels are waiting about the throne to instantly obey the mandate of Jesus Christ to answer every prayer offered in earnest living faith. I think of how many who profess the truth are keeping it apart from their lives. They do not bring its sanctifying, refining, spiritualizing power into their hearts. I think how this grieves Jesus.

I think of His great sorrow as He wept over Jerusalem, exclaiming, “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not” [Luke 13:34]. God forbid that these words shall apply to those who have great light and blessings. In the rejecting of Jerusalem it was because great privileges were abused, which brought the denunciation upon all who lightly regarded the great opportunities and precious light that were entrusted to their keeping. Privileges do not commend us to God, but they commend God to us. No people are saved because they have great light and special advantages, for these high and heavenly favors only increase their responsibility. The more and increased light God has given makes the receiver more responsible. It does not place the receiver in any safer position unless the privileges are wisely improved, prized, and used to advance God’s glory. Christ said, “Woe unto thee, Chorazin! Woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes” [Matt. 11:21]. When Jerusalem was divorced from God it was because of her sins. She fell from an exalted height that Tyre and Sidon had never reached. And when an angel falls he becomes a fiend. The depth of our ruin is measured by the exalted light to which God has raised us in His great goodness and unspeakable mercy. Oh, what privileges are granted to us as a people! And if God spared not His people that He loved, because they refused to walk in the light, how can He spare the people whom He has blessed with the light of heaven in having opened to them the most exalted truth ever entrusted to mortal man to give to the world?

We are far from being the people God would have us to be, because we do not elevate the soul and refine the character in harmony with the wonderful unfolding
of God’s truth and His purposes. “Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people” [Prov. 14:34]. Sin is a disorganizer. Wherever it is cherished—in the individual heart, in the household, in the church—there is disorder, strife, variance, enmity, envy, jealousy, because the enemy of man and of God has the controlling power over the mind. But let the truth be loved and brought into the life, as well as advocated, and that man or woman will hate sin and will be a living representative of Jesus Christ to the world. The people claiming to believe the truth will not be condemned because they had not the light, but because they had great light and did not bring their hearts to the test of God’s great moral standard of righteousness. The people who claim to believe the truth must be elevated by living it out. Real Bible religion must leaven the life, refine and ennoble the character, making it more and more like the divine model. Then will the home be vocal with prayer, with thanksgiving and praise to God. Angels will minister in the home and accompany the worshiper to the house of prayer. Let the churches who claim to believe the truth, who are advocating the law of God, keep that law and depart from all iniquity. Let the individual members of the church resist the temptations to practice evils and indulge in sin. Let the church commence the work of purification before God by repentance, humiliation, deep heart searching, for we are in the antitypical day of atonement—solemn hour fraught with eternal results.

Let those who teach the truth present it as it is in Jesus. Under the subduing, sanctifying, refining, influence of the truth of God they are as clean vessels. Let them be leavened with Bible religion, and what an influence would go forth from them to the world! Let the individual members of the church be pure, steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the love of Jesus, and they will then be a light to the world. Let the men standing as watchmen and as shepherds of the flock proclaim the solemn truth, sound the notes of warning to all people, nations and tongues. Let them be living representatives of the truth they advocate, and honor God’s law by strict and holy compliance with its requirements, walking before the Lord in purity, in holiness, and a power will attend the proclamation of the truth that will reflect light everywhere.

God never forsakes people or individuals until they forsake Him. Outward opposition will not cause the faith of God’s people, who are keeping His commandments, to become dim. The neglect to bring purity and truth into practice will grieve the Spirit of God and weaken them because God is not in their midst to bless. Internal corruption will bring the denunciations of God upon this people as it did upon Jerusalem. Oh, let pleading voices, let earnest prayer be heard, that those who preach to others shall not themselves be castaways. My brethren, we know not what is before us, and our only safety is in following the Light of the world. God will work with us and for us if the sins which brought His wrath upon the old world, upon Sodom and Gomorrah and upon ancient Jerusalem, do not become our crime. The least transgression of God’s law brings guilt upon the transgressor, and without earnest repentance and forsaking of sin he will surely become an apostate. You inquire in regard to the course which should be pursued to secure the rights of our people to worship according to the dictates of our own conscience. This has been a burden on my soul for some time, whether it would be a denial of our faith and an evidence that our trust was not fully in God. But I call to mind many things God has shown me in the past in regard to things of a similar character, as the draft and other things. I can speak in the fear of God, it is right we should use every power we can to avert the pressure that is being brought to bear upon our people. I know that were our people spiritualized by the truth the greatest love would be maintained. [We are] not to provoke those who have accepted this spurious sabbath, an institution of the Papacy, in the place of God’s holy Sabbath. Their not having the Bible arguments in their favor makes them all the more angry and determined to supply the place of arguments that are wanting in the Word of God, by
the power of their might. The force of persecution follows the steps of the dragon. Therefore great care should be exercised to give no provocation. And again let us as a people, as far as possible, cleanse the camp of moral defilement and aggravating sins. When sin is making its march upon the people who claim to be elevating the moral standard of righteousness, how can we expect God to turn His power in our behalf and save us as a people that did righteousness?

All the policy in the world cannot save us from a terrible sifting, and all the efforts made with high authorities will not lift from us the scourging of God, just because sin is cherished. If as a people we do not keep ourselves in the faith and not only advocate with pen and voice the commandments of God, but keep them every one, not violating a single precept knowingly, then weakness and ruin will come upon us. It is a work that we must attend to in every one of our churches. Each man must be a Christian. Let the sin of pride be put away, let all superfluities of dress be overcome, and repentance toward God be exercised for the hhighhanded robbery toward Him, which has withheld money that should flow into the treasury to sustain the work of God in its mission fields. Let the work of reformation, of true conversion, be set before and urged upon the people. Let our works, our deportment, correspond with the work for this time, that we may say, “Follow me as I follow Christ.” Let us humble our souls before God by humiliation, fasting and prayer, repentance of sin, and putting it away.

The voice of the true watchman needs now to be heard all along the line, “The morning cometh, and also the night” [Isa. 21:12]. The trumpet must give a certain sound, for we are in the great day of the Lord’s preparation. All the struggles to carry our appeals to the highest authorities in our land, however earnest and strong and eloquent may be the pleas in our favor, will not bring about that which we desire unless the Lord works by His Holy Spirit in the heart of those who claim to believe the truth. We may struggle as a mighty man in swimming against the current of Niagara, but we will fail unless the Lord pleads in our behalf. God will be honored among His people. They must be pure, they must be divested of self, steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. The Lord will elevate the humblest soul that trusts in Him. He will unite His power with human effort if that man will honor Him as did Daniel. But as a people we need the beauty of righteousness, holiness, and truth. The most harmonious theory will not save us. The God that ruled in Babylon is the same God that rules now. There are many doctrines current in our world. There is many a religion current that numbers its thousands and tens of thousands, but there is but one that bears the superscription and the stamp of God. There is a religion of man and a religion of God. We must have our souls riveted to the eternal Rock. Everything in God’s world, both men and doctrines and nature itself, is fulfilling God’s sure word of prophecy and accomplishing His grand and closing work in this world’s history.

We are to be ready and waiting for the orders of God. Nations will be stirred to their very center. Support will be withdrawn from those who proclaim God’s only standard of righteousness, the only sure test of character. And all who will not bow to the decrees of the national councils and obey the national laws to exalt the sabbath instituted by the man of sin to the disregard of God’s holy day, will feel, not the oppressive power of popery alone, but of the Protestant world, the image of the beast. Satan will work his miracles to deceive; he will set up his power as supreme. The church may appear as about to fall, but it does not fall. It remains, while the sinners in Zion will be sifted out—the chaff separated from the precious wheat. This is a terrible ordeal, but nevertheless it must take place. None but those who have been overcoming by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony will be found with the loyal and true, without spot or stain of sin, without guile in their mouths. We must be divested of our self-righteousness and arrayed in the righteousness of Christ. The remnant that purify their souls by obeying the truth gather strength from the trying process, exhibiting the beauty of holiness amid the surrounding apostasy. All these,
He says, “I have graven... upon the palms of my hands” [Isa. 49:16]. They are held in everlasting, imperishable remembrance. We want faith now, living faith. We want to have a living testimony that shall cut to the heart of the sinner. There is too much sermonizing and too little ministering. We want the holyunction. We need the spirit and fervor of the truth. Many of the ministers are half paralyzed by their own defects of character. They need the converting power of God.

That which God required of Adam before his fall was perfect obedience to His law. God requires now what He required of Adam, perfect obedience, righteousness without a flaw, without shortcoming in His sight. God helps us to render to Him all His law requires. We cannot do this without that faith that brings Christ’s righteousness into daily practice.

Dear brethren, the Lord is coming. Lift up your thoughts and heads and rejoice. Oh, we would think that those who hear the joyful news, who claim to love Jesus, would be filled with joy unutterable and full of glory. This is the good, the joyful news which should electrify every soul, which should be repeated in our homes, and told to those whom we meet on the street. What more joyful news can be communicated! Caviling and contention with believers or unbelievers is not the work God has given us to do.

If Christ is my Saviour, my sacrifice, my atonement, then I shall never perish. Believing on Him, I have life for evermore. Oh, that all who believe the truth would believe in Jesus as their own Saviour. I do not mean that cheap faith unsupported by works, but that earnest, living, constant, abiding faith, that eats the flesh and drinks the blood of the Son of God. I want not only to be pardoned for the transgression of God’s holy law, but I want to be lifted into the sunshine of God’s countenance. Not simply to be admitted to heaven, but to have an abundant entrance. Are we so insensible as a peculiar people, a holy nation, to the inexpressible love that God has manifested for us? Salvation is not to be baptized, not to have our names upon the church books, not to preach the truth. But it is a living union with Jesus Christ, to be renewed in heart, doing the works of Christ in faith and labor of love, in patience, meekness, and hope. Every soul united to Christ will be a living missionary to all around him. He will labor for those near and those afar off. He will have no sectional feeling, no interest merely to build up one branch of the work over which he presides and there let his zeal end. All will work with interest to make every branch strong. There will be no self-love, no selfish interest. The cause is one, the truth a great whole. Well may the question be asked with earnest, anxious heart, “Is envy cherished, is jealousy permitted to find a place in my heart?” If so, Christ is not there. “Do I love the law of God, is the love of Jesus Christ in my heart?” If we love one another as Christ has loved us, then we are getting ready for the blessed heaven of peace and rest.

There is no struggling there to be first, to have the supremacy; all will love their neighbor as themselves. Oh, that God would open the understanding and speak to the hearts of our churches by arousing the individual members.

The Lord appoints and sends forth ministers not only to preach, for this is a small part of His work, but to minister, to educate the people not to be fighters but to be examples of piety. There are workers in every department appointed to do their work. When Jesus ascended on high He gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. Some have entered the work with a human commission rather than the divine. They have educated themselves as debaters, and the churches under their care show the character of their work. They were not ready, they were not fitted for the work. Their hearts are not right with God. In short, they have a theory but not true conversion and sanctification through the truth. The great issue so near at hand will weed out those whom God has not appointed, and He will have a pure, true, sanctified ministry prepared for the latter rain. Our prayer should ascend to the throne of grace with fervor for the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into His vineyard. My heart aches as I look around upon the mission fields and see so feeble efforts to get the truth before the people. No censure can be attached to our leading men. I believe, brethren, you are one with me in heart, in
sentiment, in regard to our great need, and in the earnest desire and earnest efforts to meet the mind of the Spirit of God in these things. Those who are at ease in Zion need to be aroused. Great is their accountability who bear the truth and yet feel no weight or burden for souls. Oh, for men and women professing the truth to arouse, to take on the yoke of Christ, to lift His burdens. There are wanted those who will not have merely a nominal interest but a Christlike interest, unselfish—an intense ardor that will not flag under difficulties or cool because iniquity abounds. I want to speak to the ears of our people in America in every church. Awake from the dead, and Christ will give you life. Souls are perishing for the light of truth as it is in Jesus. We are standing upon the very borders of the eternal world. Fair-weather Christians will not be wanted for this work. The sentimental and tasteful religion is not needed for this time. There must be intensity brought into our faith and in the proclamation of truth. I tell you, a new life is proceeding from satanic agencies to work with a power we have not hitherto realized. And shall not a new power from above take possession of God’s people? The truth, sanctifying in its influence, must be urged upon the people. There must be earnest supplications offered to God, agonizing prayer to Him, that our hopes as a people may not be founded on suppositions, but on eternal realities. We must know for ourselves, by the evidence of God’s Word, whether we are in the faith, going to heaven or not. The moral standard of character is God’s law. Do we meet its requirements? Are the Lord’s people bringing their property, their time, their talents, and all their influence into the work for this time? Let us arouse. “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God” [Col. 3:1].—Letter 55, 1886.

Ellen G. White, 1827–1915, received the spiritual gift of prophecy, and the fruits of her life and work accord with the biblical tests of a true messenger of God. To this day, her counsels are an incalculable blessing to God’s people around the world.
No longer consent to listen without protest to the perversion of truth.

“M y message to you is: No longer consent to listen without protest to the perversion of truth.” Selected Messages, book 1, 196.

Our culture today is permeated through and through with the philosophy of spiritualism and most of us are not aware of it at all. It has come down through educational systems of the world as they cherish the philosophy of the Greek spiritualists. It has come down through the ancient Gnostics of the first centuries after Christ as they strove to unite precepts of the Babylonian Mystery religion with Christianity. It has come to us magnified and blessed by the unholy apostate religion of the Dark Ages.

But most of all, it has been exalted and heralded as wonderful scientific achievement in psychology and the so-called “mind sciences.” I once presented to a group of conservative SDA Christians some information about the demonic deceptions everywhere apparent in our modern world today. They expressed no concern, telling me they felt certain that they could never be fooled by any of “that stuff.” I am not so sure. Several so-called scientific theories have crept into our very churches—theories that have their origins in pagan sorcery!

The theories of modern psychology are nearly all based on pagan concepts...

The theories of modern psychology are nearly all based on pagan concepts not in harmony with the Bible, although some so-called “Christian psychologists” stretch and twist certain texts to try and make these false concepts acceptable to Christians. What are the sources of the “scientific knowledge” people spend years in the universities learning? I’m sure you’ll say that it comes from careful scientific studies that prove it to be true. But no, it doesn’t!

**Freud’s Fraud**

Freud, the father of modern psychiatry, was himself a certified neurotic. He developed his theories in an effort to cure his own neurosis, but failed. Nevertheless, lots of intelligent people think his ideas can help them with theirs. He was strongly spiritualistic. Freud stated that anyone who believed in God was insane!

Jean Martin Charcot (1825–1893) was a leading French hypnotist of a century ago. Alfred Binet and Sigmund Freud were two of his famous students. Freud developed his early theories by studying people who were hypnotized. In this way, he could receive information directly from spirit guides; that information later formed his theories which are today called “Freudian psychology.”

Today, hypnosis is used in hospitals for major surgery, in dental offices during drilling and pulling of teeth, and by educational counselors, industrial specialists and family workers. Hypnosis seems to be reaching out into nearly every sector of society. And now it is coming into the churches, and even
into our own denomination.

Doctrines of Demons

Jung, who was once Freud’s colleague, got his insight from a “spirit guide” named “Philemon,” who appeared to him as a wise old man with a white beard and the horns of a bull and wings of a kingfisher. Of course, Jung didn’t believe this was a spirit, mind you; he said it was something from the “collective unconsciousness.” He gathered many of his concepts from the Tibetan Book of the Dead. He had so much contact with the spirit world that he once wrote a work called Seven Sermons to the Dead, which he felt was dictated to him by them. His father-in-law, a Protestant minister, talked to his deceased wife every day. (See The Psychological Seduction of Christianity, Dave Hunt, and PsychoHeresy, Chapter 2, Martin and Deidre Bobgan.)

Author Jay E. Adams reminds us that Freud called himself “a completely godless Jew” and a “hopeless pagan.” Competent to Counsel, p.16.

A spirit that called itself “Djwal Khul” dictated many books through a lady medium named Alice Bailey. She was called “high priestess of the New Age.” Among her books was one called Education in the New Age. Her teachings are behind Dr. Roberto Assagioli, who worked with her in Europe. He is the developer of the theory of psycho-synthesis and the source of the theoretical model widely used in schools, the purpose being to obey the spirit “D.K.” and “take it back to the children.”

Two well-known self-help teachers get their input from spirit guides, one a rabbit named “Corky.” A famous oncologist and surgeon consults with “George,” a bearded, long-haired man wearing a flowing white gown and a skullcap. Children are being trained from kindergarten to seek for “inner guides.”

Helen Schucman wrote A Course in Miracles, widely acclaimed in many churches today, from a spirit that called itself “Jesus.” One day he began ordering her, “This is a course in miracles; take it down.” She tells us on her website that the main purpose of her work is to “provide a way in which some people will be able to find their own Internal Teacher.”

From Abraham Maslow and Carl Rogers to popular channels like Marilyn Ferguson, theories, teaching methods, self-help techniques and therapies are pouring out upon the world, either directly channeled from demon spirits or from persons influenced by theories that were. And they call this occult garbage “science”!

Do we really think we can incorporate ideas and philosophies from such sources and make them useful in the Christian life? In fact, we are attempting that very thing with counseling techniques, “four personality types” seminars, self-esteem enhancement programs, grief seminars and so on, ad nauseum.

Gullible Christians

Psychology has clearly no love for Christianity! Sad to say, the feeling is not mutual. The New Age, psychology, pseudo-scientific jargon is in our books, sermons, magazines and conversations. We are swallowing it hook, line and sinker! What is the result? A subtle turning away from God to the theories of man, an excusing of sin and exalting of self, a weakening faith and increased dependence upon human support amongst Christians, and a booming counseling business carried on by church pastors and other so-called experts who point people to man-made theories—and so the cycle goes on.

Do we really think we can incorporate ideas and philosophies from such sources and make them useful in the Christian life?

Take a look at one theory being taught among us as fact: the right-brain, left-brain theory. Everyone knows that is scientific fact, right? Everyone, that
is, except the scientists from whose work the theory was developed. To them the whole notion that the brain’s two hemispheres are split into two tidy sections—one the center of creativity, the other logical thinking—is simplistic and wrong-headed. It is used as a “Trojan horse” to bring occult, spiritualistic techniques such as visualization, meditation, imaging and Eastern mysticism into education programs on the grounds that these develop the right side of the brain. But what do the scientists who did the studies say?

“Even on the most trivial tasks our studies showed that everything in the brain was in flux—both sides, the front and back, the top and bottom. It was tremendously complicated. To think that you could reduce this to a simple left-right dichotomy would be misleading and oversimplified.” John Mazzio, quoted by Kevin McKean, Discover, 1985, p. 38.

“The two-brain myth was founded on an erroneous premise: that since each hemisphere was specialized, each must function as an independent brain. But in fact, just the opposite is true. To the extent that regions are differentiated in the brain, they must integrate their activities. Indeed, it is precisely that integration that gives rise to behavior and mental processes greater than and different from each region’s contribution. Thus, since the central premise of the myth-makers is wrong, so are all the inferences derived from it.” Jerre Levy, “Right Brain, Left Brain: Fact and Fiction,” Psychology Today, May 1985, p. 43.

This concept is the source of a lot of social confusion and has resulted in the strengthening of the feminist movement (which is also highly lesbian) and has contributed greatly to the breakdown of family structure in these last days. No error is innocent!

**Female Superiority?**

Many popular books have been poured out in the recent years, promoting not just female equality, but female superiority. These books are eagerly snapped up by “restless modern Eves” and the concepts they put forth, although only richly embroidered speculation, are being accepted as fact. This has done much harm in our society at large! Remember that Satan seeks to destroy the gifts of God to man, and the family structure is one of those precious gifts.

This article will be much too long if I show too many examples, but look at one of the claims these promoters of the “split-brain” theory make in regard to male and female:

“The female brain is a brain that’s not damaged during fetal development as the male brain is . . . The damage occurs to the male brain during the sixteenth to the twenty-sixth week of fetal development. At that time a chemical bath is given to the left hemisphere and the connecting link between the two hemispheres that reduces the size and number of transmission passages that exist there for what’s called lateral transmission. So males simply can’t talk to themselves across the hemispheres in a way that a woman does.” Donald Joy interview, “The Innate Differences Between Males and Females,” Focus on the Family Radio Broadcast, CS-099, 1984, 1986.

Now, brothers and sisters, what does this say about God? That He would have designed the very sex that He declared are to lead out and head up the family, the church and society, and yet arranged that their brains are damaged in utero, while female brains are not? Brothers and sisters, this makes the Creator out to be an idoit! But remember: the ones that put forth these books believe in evolution and spiritualism. Many of these leading feminists are lesbians and many are witches and “goddess” worshippers. Satan is having a field day with these feminist speculations.

“Some feminists seem bent on proving that there are no differences. And other popularizers of pseudo-science, such as Smalley, Trent, Joy, Wright, and Dobson, seem bent on propagating differences that have not been proven. Underlying their unjustifiable conclusions seems to be a female brain superiority, which certainly appeals to the women who follow them. While the research seems to support some differences, they are not the ones Smalley, Trent, Joy, Wright, and Dobson are promoting. Notice our expression “research seems.” Whenever individuals speak with the certainty of these men in such an uncertain area, caveat emptor! (Buyer, beware!)” Excerpted from the now out-of-print book Prophets of PsychoHeresy II, by Martin and Deidre Bobgan.

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What has the Second Coming of Jesus Christ to do with the sun? Jesus made the connection for us when He said there would be great signs in the heavens just before His return.

In Matthew 24:29-30, we read that one of the signs would be that the sun would be “darkened” and the “moon not give her light.” A twin prophecy is found in the Old Testament in Isaiah 13:9-10: “Behold, the day of the Lord cometh... The sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.” We also can read in the book of Joel, “The sun shall be turned into darkness... before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come.” Joel 2:31.

This darkening of the sun and the moon turning into blood has occurred already in planet earth’s history. On May 19, 1780, an unprecedented great darkness over spread New England. The darkness extended over several thousand square miles, differing in intensity in different places. The day was appropriately called the “Dark Day of 1780.”

This sign in the heavens came in the closing years of the great 1260-year tribulation period of papal supremacy. Pope Pius VI was deposed on February 10, 1798, by French General Berthier, thus fulfilling the prophecy that Rome would receive a “deadly wound.” Revelation 13:3.

In the prophetic accounts of Matthew 24 and Luke 21, Jesus spoke of another period of great tribulation for God’s people, when the papacy again would be a persecuting world power. That time period ends with the return of Jesus. Luke 21:25-27 indicates more than one sign would be in the sun during that time: “And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity;... Men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth... And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.”

**A SOLAR REPEAT**

At the time of the seven last plagues spoken of in Revelation 16, just before the Second Coming, the celestial scenario repeats itself, only this time the sun is extinguished completely: “And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness...” Revelation 16:10. John in Revelation saw “...a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair; and the moon became as blood...” Revelation 6:12. See also Joel 2:31.

“Except for the small remnant that still resists his supremacy, Satan numbers the world as his subjects... It would therefore appear that for the duration of this plague the entire world is enveloped in a pall of darkness. Thus, while men grope unrepentantly for light in a spiritually dark world... God sends upon them literal darkness...” Bible Commentary, Vol. 7, 842.
A POSSIBLE SCENARIO

Our Creator is a God of true science, and science offers a plausible explanation--a possible scenario--for these solar events. Let’s examine the evidence.

Our solar system, just one of millions in the Milky Way galaxy, is approximately seven billion miles across. By the process of atomic fusion, our sun has been producing energy since the fourth day of creation, but when producers of energy can no longer export the same amount they generate, then something must give. In the case of stars, they either blow up (supernova) or they suffer an atomic collapse (nova).

God may use the scientific process of entropy, which is the degradation of the matter and energy in the universe to an ultimate state of inert uniformity. According to the law of entropy, when the inner core of matter builds to the point where the energy produced cannot escape in an even flow, huge atomic explosions occur, hurling atomic matter and gases millions of miles outward. Such activity, called solar flares, precedes the death of a star. It is thought by some scientists that the critical stage is reached when fifty percent of a star’s hydrogen atoms are consumed.

Approximately one-half of our sun’s supply has now been consumed, and increasing sunspot activity is taken by some astronomers as a sign that our sun could “nova” at any time.

A nova stage is reached when the heat factor builds to a point where atoms are stripped of their shells. Like a runaway atomic generator, the remaining heavy hydrogen is compressed within a period of seven to fourteen days. The entire mass of the sun, originally 900,000 miles across, would be reduced via compression into a ball no more than fifteen miles in diameter. During this runaway period, as our sun “dies” (our scenario suggests it occurs during the seven last plagues), the sun becomes seven times hotter than normal, and “scorchers men with great heat . . . .” Revelation 16:8-9.

SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT

Admittedly, there is wide disagreement upon the approximate time to nova, from a decade to a billion years. Nevertheless, we will consider Jesus’ words in Holy Scripture in the light of the following information from an article by Dr. George Bamow, professor of physics at the University of Colorado. In an article entitled “Is Our Sun about to Explode?” (1991), he wrote, “Now that the sun’s hydrogen, which provides the fuel for its nuclear chain reactions, has been almost half consumed, its equilibrium may be drastically tipped much sooner than anyone suspected. Judging from the sun’s recent dramatic eruptions and corresponding changes in earth’s terrestrial weather--record-breaking rainfalls, floods, summer hailstorms, global temperatures, etc.--we may be facing an imminent decline in the energy being produced by the sun . . . .”

As its supply of hydrogen reaches the critical stage of depletion--or as some astronomers now fear, half depletion--the sun will act up dramatically, with an increase in solar flares, magnetic storms, and huge sunspots which are out of phase with its 11-year cycle. Under these conditions the sun will grow larger, hotter, and brighter . . . .”

PROJECTION SUMMARIZED

As we summarize our projected picture of last day events, we see the saints’ second great tribulation period ending in the seven last plagues that God sends upon the Earth to punish the inhabitants of thereof, “For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets. . . .” Revelation 16:6.

We see the sun given power to destroy sinful mankind in the form of a nova. First, “power was given . . . to scorch men with fire.” Revelation 16:8. Then the sun will become dark and the moon will reflect no light. Our solar system is...
Once everything was smooth flying in God’s universe. Then a terrorist team attacked our divine Pilot in the nerve center of His government. Next, the arch-terrorist toppled the twin towers of our race. The fall of Adam and Eve brought terrible consequences, for we have all inherited the effects of the anthrax of iniquity that Adam inhaled in Eden. Consequently, sin and death—and terrorism—reign in the earth.

Similar Agendas

But just as today’s Muslim terrorists have an agenda beyond murder and mayhem, so also the arch-terrorist Satan wants more than our demise. Today’s Islamic terrorists have as one of their main goals occupation and power in all territories and lands they consider sacred—including old Jerusalem.

Satan’s goals are strangely parallel with those of present-day Muslim extremists. It is written that Satan said, “I will ascend into heaven ...above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation.... I will ascend above the heights of the clouds...” Isa 14:13-14, KJV. It is further stated that when the thousand years are over and heaven and earth are one, “Satan shall be loosed... And shall go out to deceive the nations..., to gather them together to battle... [to capture] the camp of the saints... and the beloved city: the holy city, new Jerusalem...” Rev 20:7-9; 21:2 KJV.

Just as Islamic terrorists want to occupy and control lands they value highly—including old Jerusalem, Satan seeks occupation of earth and power in holy New Jerusalem.

The devil and his angels also want to board the plane for eternity. That is obviously a terrifying concern. We would prefer a quick fix to the problem of terrorism, but eliminating extreme religious terrorism, the likes of which Satan has forced upon us, takes time, sacrifice—and screening. Not every believer who claims to have a ticket for eternity places a high value on the well-being of the traveling saints. Therefore, God has devised a way to save the faithful from the midst of the terrifying and self-destructive—including Satan.

God’s Screening Plan

However, His plans are not generally understood. A carefree religious experience is popular with many. Consequently, among those who plan to be saved are individuals who will be surprised to learn that God has a different view of the matter. Peter’s story is illustrative of the surprise of some of those who
will be lost while thinking their appeals to the Lord prove their faith (Matthew 7:22). Peter didn’t think he would ever deny Jesus. But he did. It was in a courtroom for Christ that Peter was tried and convicted that he was not the Christian that he thought he was. The investigation of Peter’s faith that Thursday night produced for Peter a painful surprise, and he learned an important lesson that ultimately saved him from the fate of the careless and self-confident believer.

The sinful human heart is horrifyingly deceptive. Jesus warns us that some will think that they are in good stead with God. Like Peter, they know neither their weaknesses nor their lack of acceptance with God (Matthew 7:21-27). These are they who would surely repeat the history of Satan’s suicidal attack on our beloved Divine Pilot and the human race.

Therefore, in His infinite wisdom, God has devised a process of screening the saints before they board the plane for heaven. When we understand this much, we have only begun to understand why it is necessary for us to have such a process.

God’s Plan Challenged

Lamentably, this doctrine is one that receives, at best, little recognition in Christendom. At worst, it has been the subject of outright ridicule among Christians. Yet there is hardly a doctrine of Scripture that is more Biblical.

Have we read anywhere in the Bible of an investigative judgment? Do we find the words “investigative judgment” anywhere in our Bibles? We must admit that we do not have these exact words in any of the many published translations of God’s Word. Critics of Adventism’s investigative judgment doctrine go so far as to claim that there isn’t “any Scripture which teaches an investigative judgment of the saints long before the Advent.” In other words, they say, “There are no clear Scriptures that teach the investigative judgment.” Therefore, they urge us to show them “clear didactic statements or Scripture” which prove the existence of the investigative judgment.

...The overall witness of Scripture is that there is some sort of divinely ordained trial—indeed, an investigative judgment.

Nearly everyone agrees there is a judgment. Despite that agreement, though, we break up into many different camps in terms of what this judgment is about. Remarkably, most Christians spurn the notion that one’s salvation will be determined in an investigative judgment that begins before the Second
Coming. Are there any clear statements of Scripture that teach that, before the Second Coming, there is a process by which each passenger wanting to live in eternity is searched? In other words, is there any Scriptural evidence that God investigates believers? While we must admit that no published translation of the Bible uses the word “investigate” in this sense, this is not all there is to the matter. There most certainly are passages which present the concept of such an investigation.

Support for “Investigation”

A most important passage to our discussion is found in the book of Revelation. This passage shows that the doctrine of the investigative judgment is not just implied in Scripture. Not at all. As seen in the following translation of Revelation 2:23, it is clearly taught in the Bible:

“…And all the churches shall know that I am He who investigates [Greek, ereunao] minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works” Rev 2:23.

Now you may wonder, “If other translations don’t use the word “investigates,” how can I know this is an accurate translation? How can I share this with others without published translations backing me up?” There are three good answers to these questions.

First, most authoritative lexicons and dictionaries agree that in ereunao we clearly have the idea of investigation. For example, one of these dictionaries says of ereunao, “In the NT [ereunao] has the common sense of ‘thorough investigation.’”

Other passages in the Bible that are parallel in thought with Revelation 2:23’s emphasis on God’s scrutiny of believers’ hearts and minds are common. These passages use terms that are synonymous with the idea of investigation, such as “trial” and “examine.” For example, Paul wrote, “We have been approved by God …who examines our hearts” 1Thes 2:4, NAS. Paul also states that “…he that judgeth [enquires, searches, examines, investigates] me is the Lord… who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts…” 1 Cor 4:4-5, KJV. Jeremiah 17:10 is so close in wording to Revelation 2:23 that it seems Christ is quoting it: “I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings” Jer 17:10, NKJ. When all the evidence is considered, we see that the overall witness of Scripture is that there is some sort of divinely ordained trial—indeed, an investigative judgment (1Cor 4:4,5) for believers that reveals that which is at the heart of our motives and thinking.

Secondly, most translations...
of Revelation 2:23 state that Jesus “searches” the hearts and minds of the assembly of believers. That the original language of the Bible would explicitly say that God “investigates” the believer is powerful foundational evidence upon which the investigative judgment doctrine may securely stand. However, the idea of “searching” is virtually the same as the notion of “investigation.” Therefore, while other translations of ερευναω do not make our case for the investigative judgment completely obvious, neither do they undermine it.

Third, while it is true that no widely published translation literally says God “investigates” believers, is this a real problem? No, for neither is there any Scripture which says “immersion” is the proper rite of entrance into the family of God. No widely used translation of the Bible says that believers in Jesus’ day were “immersed” in water. The original language of the New Testament, however, makes it clear that immersion is indeed the Biblical pattern to follow. Similarly, with a little study one can see in Scripture that God is investigating His people.

The Old Testament from which John preached the Gospel is rich in passages that teach that God examines, tests, searches and thus investigates His people. Here are just a few:

“The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD’s throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try [examine, investigate], the children of men. The LORD trieth [examines, investigates] the righteous...” Ps 11:4-5, KJV.

All can see from this that from His holy temple, God is investigating believers. What specifically is God investigating? The Bible answers, He investigates our hearts and minds:

“Oh ...establish the just; for the righteous God tests [or investigates] the hearts and minds” Ps 7:9, NKJ.

“I know also, my God, that You test [or investigate] the heart and have pleasure in uprightness” 1Chr 29:17, NKJ.

From this we see in a new way that the Bible does teach that God investigates the saints long before the Second Coming. The theology of investigative judgment in its basic elements is, in fact, Scriptural. In just these few texts (there are many more) we see that

1) Jesus the LORD looks upon the righteous saints and investigates.
2) He investigates our hearts and minds.
3) He does this in His temple—His heavenly sanctuary.

An Appropriate Term

We have seen that it is Biblically correct to say that God investigates His saints. He judges them to determine the truth concerning their faith, their love, their true loyalties. We should not be ashamed of this doctrine or retreat from presenting it. Some have shied away from using the term “investigative judgment,” preferring the more easily-swallowed moniker “pre-advent judgment.” The evidence presented in this article suggests that the historic terminology should be restored in Adventist literature and in Adventist preaching.

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Notes:
1 Desmond Ford, Daniel 8:14, the Day of Atonement and the Investigative Judgment, p. 1.
2 Ibid, p. 293.
3 Ibid.
4 These New Testament passages teach quite clearly that there is a judgment: Romans 2:6-8, 16; Acts 17:31; 1Peter 4:17; James 2:12; Rev 14:7.
5 My translation of the second half of Revelation 2:23.
7 We also may interchange this word “judges” (anakrino) with the term “investigate,” according to Strong’s lexicon (Biblesoft’s New Exhaustive Strong’s Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary. Copyright (c) 1994, Biblesoft and International Bible Translators, Inc.). Vine’s Expository Dictionary agrees that anakrino may be translated “investigate”: “To examine, investigate, is used ...of searching or enquiry ...judging” (W. E. Vine, Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, p.53)
My name is Sarah Louise Keller. I am the family historian; I write about the important things that happen to me and my family. I recently learned an important lesson about loving people who are not nice, or even our enemies.

One day I was working alone in our garden when a few of the neighbor kids walked by on the road. Our garden is quite close to the road, so they could see me. They were walking home from the bus stop. I was just about to wave and smile when they pointed at me and all started laughing. “Hey, it’s the Jesus freak!” they yelled. They also said horrible ugly things about the fact that our parents homeschool us. I just stood there. I didn’t say anything, and I couldn’t believe that they were being so mean to me.

After they walked on, I ran into the house, threw myself on my bed and started sobbing. My brother Steve came in to see what was wrong. I told him what happened. He sat quietly a minute and then he said, “You know, this reminds me of a verse that Grandma just taught me.” He opened his Bible to Luke 6:27 and read, But I say unto you which hear, love your enemies, do good to them which hate you.

I told him I was very hurt and angry; I could never do anything good to those kids. He said he understood how I felt, but that the Bible is always right. Now besides feeling hurt and angry, I also felt bad that I was not acting the way God would want me to. Oh, my lovely afternoon sure did turn sour!

Mother came in my room next, and she pointed to a plaque I have on my wall. It reads, Thou shalt love your neighbor as thyself. “This is not always easy, honey, but if you pray, Jesus will help you.”

I asked her why those kids would be mean to me when I had never done anything to them.

“Sometimes people just don’t like anyone who is different,” she said.

“How are we different, Mom?”

“People who don’t know about Jesus think those of us who love Him and try to be like Him are strange,” she said. “Remember that people thought Jesus was strange, and they were mean to Him, as well.”

I did remember that, and it did not take away the hurt completely, but it made me feel closer to Jesus. I asked Mother if I could just be alone in my room for a while. She said, “Sure.” After she left, I told Jesus that I would like to say something ugly back to those kids the next time I saw them, and I asked Him to take away those bad thoughts.

When my dad came home that night, he asked me to take a walk with him so we could talk. Usually I love to take walks with my dad, but I was a little nervous that he would be disappointed in me for being angry with the kids. He didn’t say anything at first; we just walked and held hands. Then he surprised me. He stopped walking and looked right in the eyes and said, “Every day at work people make fun of me or treat me badly because I am a Seventh-day Adventist. They think the way we live and how devoted we are to God is weird,” he continued. “Every day I have to ask God for strength to deal with them and for the ability to love them,” he confessed.

“But, Dad, you have been working there for twelve years. Has it always been like that?” I asked.

“Yes, it has, Sarah, and every day, without fail, Jesus gives me His love and strength,” he said. “He will give it to you as well, if you ask Him,” Dad said.

We were quiet again and walked back to the house. We prayed as a family before bed, and we all asked Jesus to give me strength and a forgiving spirit.

A couple of days later I was outside again when the neighbor girl who had been the meanest to me rode by on her bike. Right in front of our house, her bike hit a rock and she fell. She looked like she really hurt herself. I ran out to her and helped her up. Her knee was scraped badly and her bike was kind of bent. I asked her if she would be able to make it home. She was crying and said she didn’t think she could.

“I’ll push your bike and you can lean on me. It isn’t far to your house,” I said.

“You would help me?” she asked. I said, “Of course, I will. You’re hurt. You can’t make it alone.”

“Why are you being nice to me when I am always mean to you?” she asked.

“Because of Jesus,” was all I said.

After I helped her home, I ran back to my house and called everyone together. I said, “Let’s pray and thank God, because He gave me strength and love!”
We've all heard that harmful radiation may be emitted from our microwave ovens when we “nuke” our food, but we need to consider what the microwaves do to the food itself, for that could prove a greater danger. In fact, research proves that microwave cooking is “not natural, nor healthy, and is far more dangerous to the human body than anyone could imagine.”

As with all “wave” energy, microwaves rapidly change polarity from positive to negative. “Food molecules...have a positive and negative end in the same way a magnet has a north and a south polarity.” As microwaves “bombard the food, they cause the polar molecules to rotate at the [microwave’s] same frequency millions of times a second.” This “molecular friction” is what heats the food—and also “causes substantial damage to the surrounding molecules...”

“...Structures of molecules are torn apart, molecules are forcefully deformed, ...and thus become impaired in quality.” “...Impaired cells become easy prey for viruses, fungi, and other microorganisms. The natural repair mechanisms are suppressed and cells are forced to adapt to a state of energy emergency...” “This [microwave] radiation results in the destruction and deformation of food molecules. Microwaving also creates new compounds ...which are unknown fusions not found in nature. ...Since people ingest this altered food, shouldn’t there be concern for how the same decayed molecules will affect our own human biological cell structure?” “From the conclusions of the Swiss, Russian and German scientific clinical studies, we can no longer ignore the microwave oven sitting in our kitchens...”

These excerpts plainly indicate it’s time to establish food preparation habits that do not include microwave ovens, but there’s much more to be learned.

The full article, “Radiation Ovens: The Proven Dangers of Microwaves,” by Anthony Wayne and Lawrence Newell, can be read at http://curezone.com/foods/microwave_oven_risk.html (June 2000), reprinted on that website by permission of the Christian Law Institute. The following is a summation of their research findings (page 16), which are confirmed by other studies. Readers are urged to read the full article for the rest of the information and take protective action.

“1. Continually eating food processed from a microwave oven causes long term—permanent—brain damage by ‘shorting out’ electrical impulses in the brain (depolarizing and demagnetizing the brain tissue).

“2. The human body cannot metabolize (break down) the unknown by-products created in microwaved food.

“3. Male and female hormone production is shut down and/or altered by continually eating microwaved foods.

“4. The effects of microwaved food by-products are residual (long term, permanent) within the human body.

“5. Minerals, vitamins, and nutrients of all microwaved food is reduced or altered so that the human body gets little or no benefit, or the human body absorbs altered compounds that cannot be broken down.

“6. The minerals in vegetables are altered into cancerous free radicals when cooked in microwave ovens.

“7. Microwaved foods cause stomach and intestinal cancerous growths (tumors). This may explain the rapidly increased rate of colon cancer in America. [Higher rates of digestive disorders and a gradual breakdown of the systems of elimination were observed.]

“8. The prolonged eating of microwaved foods causes cancerous cells to increase in the human blood.

“9. Continual ingestion of microwaved food causes immune system deficiencies through lymph gland and blood serum alterations. [This includes a decreased ability to prevent certain types of cancers.]

“10. Eating microwaved food causes loss of memory, concentration, emotional instability, and a decrease in intelligence.”

In 1976, the Soviet Union banned microwave ovens and “issued an international warning on the health hazards, both biological and environmental, of microwave ovens and similar frequency electronic devices.” In the 1980’s, after the fall of communism, the ban was lifted—for political reasons only, and not because new evidence found microwave ovens to be safe.

Regarding microwave oven usage, discontinuation is wisdom, and immediacy wiser than delay.

Jean Handwerk
Jean writes from Wilmington, DE.
Starting in the November issue, “Echoes of the Pioneers” will be replaced with “Theological Waymarks.” Aware of the seriousness of the times, we at Hope International are strongly impressed that our people must be fortified in God’s Word. Biblical exegesis (explanation or interpretation) will therefore be the focus of the new series. Readers wishing to continue in the current book, Miracles in My Life by J. N. Loughborough, can find it at Hope International.

The Sabbath following the Vergennes meeting, Elder Cornell and I met with the little company at Grand Rapids. We were told that a steamer crossed Lake Michigan from Grand River to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, so we planned to cross, taking our horse and carriage, and labor among the scattered brethren in the West.

On Monday we started for the mouth of the Grand River on the Lake Michigan shore. Thinking to make the distance in half a day, we did not take much food, but to our dismay we had a forty-mile drive. After eating our meager lunch we became hungry by two o’clock. While passing through a grove of pine trees, we came upon a half-acre thickly covered with winter-green plants. What a sight of berries we could pluck by the handful! This find well supplied our lack of food.

Toward evening we stopped at a hotel by the lakeside and there learned that the steamer did not run to Milwaukee but to Chicago. We made the trip in about twenty hours, landing on the west side of the Chicago River on Wednesday in mud a foot deep. Our fine horse had been terrified all the way across due to the noise of the steam and machinery, and would neither eat nor drink while on the boat. After pulling us and the carriage a half-mile through the mud, he was able to rest on higher ground and feed on prairie grass while we replanned our tour.

The nearest point of meeting any of our people was Alden, two days journey from Chicago. On Friday, the day we were to reach Brother Chapman’s in Alden, as we turned aside to feed our horse, stretched before us was a great mass of large, ripe, wild strawberries. We filled our 12-quart water bucket with berries, then pulled them up by the stems, tying up large clusters. This was a feast for us and the Chapmans for the three days we were at their home.

Elder Cornell and I had the names of the persons in Wisconsin who were keeping the Sabbath and reading the Review, and it was our purpose to call upon them all. On the next Sabbath we visited Brother and Sister Brown in Beloit, and the following Sabbath met with the few believers in Madison at the home of Brother Turner. Though the number was small we held meetings and had an interesting time. About all the reading matter we had for our people at that time was the eight-page Review every two weeks, the monthly Youth’s Instructor, a few pamphlets and Mrs. White’s Experience & Views.

After visits with other isolated believers, we came to Koshkonong where there was a company of twenty, the largest number of any one place in the state. We had the name of the most prominent one among them, and as we neared the settlement we inquired for him. Finally we saw a man in a cornfield near the road. Elder Cornell said, “I am going to ask that man the question asked in the Apocrypha of the Old Testament.”

First he inquired for the home
of Milton Southwick. The man said, “He lives in the second house from here.” Elder Cornell then asked, “Has righteousness that maketh a man righteous been through this land?”

“Yes!” the man replied. “There are a few of us here who are trying to keep all the Commandments of God. Are you not the brethren from the East of whom we read in the Review who are coming to Wisconsin?”

The man was Elder Phelps, leader of their company. Here we spent several days speaking to them and neighbors who ventured in. On learning we would come back that way on our trip to Illinois, they promised to seat a grove for a meeting on our return.

We were especially anxious to meet J. H. Waggoner, former editor of a county paper, who had accepted the truth and begun to preach. He had been active among the Baptists. He lived at Packwaukee, a day’s journey farther north. When we reached there we learned he was holding a series of meetings another day’s journey to the west. T. M. Steward of Packwaukee, who had begun to keep the Sabbath, piloted us with his horse and carriage to the place of Waggoner’s labors. When we arrived, we found him suffering with granulated eyelids, and so we filled his appointments for him. Then we went still farther north to Metomen to meet J. M. Stephenson and D. P. Hall, two active-First-day Adventist ministers who had just taken their stand for the Sabbath. We held a week’s meetings so that they might be more fully instructed in the truth.

From this point we began our journey south with Waggoner, Stephenson, and Hall accompanying us as far as Koshkonong. About halfway there lived a devoted brother and his wife who were anxious that their town have opportunity to hear “The United States in Prophecy.” The men accompanying us had no faith we would have a congregation and voted that I should speak. To our surprise the schoolhouse was packed. As we journeyed on the next day, these brethren complained that I had taken all the time and not given them a chance to speak.

After the grove meeting at Koshkonong, Stephenson and Hall returned home, and Elder Cornell and I expected to go that night to the home of Stephen Bragg, some 12 miles over an unfamiliar road. A brother who lived only a mile off the road had a request from his ten-year-old son who was suffering from a severe fever, that we stop and have prayer for him. The man said, “My boy says that if you will come and pray for him, he will be well.” We told the man we did not see how we could turn off the road that distance and still reach Brother Bragg’s before dark. After we started out on what we supposed to be the right road, we found our way blocked by a gate, and the brother’s house just inside the gate. He rushed out and exclaimed, “We are so glad you decided to come!” The facts were we were so busy talking, the horse had taken the wrong road. We had prayers for the boy, and just as his faith had claimed, he was instantly healed of his fever. We were able to complete our journey before dark.

Brother Chapman at Alden had seated a grove near his house for a two-day meeting and had thoroughly advertised. The Seventh-day Baptist minister of Big Foot Prairie cancelled his appointments and brought his whole church for the meetings.

At that time the country was open prairie, and no fenced roads, so we had to keep our course to Shabbona Grove sixty miles farther south by sighting some distant object, then making for that object. After spending two days here with a devoted couple, we journeyed to Sullivan Heath’s at Barron Grove where we held meetings in a shed between two cribs of corn. With our charts hung upon the cribs we instructed the Heath family as though we had a large audience.

Then we went on to Brother Lock’s at Salem, Indiana, where they prepared a grove for meetings which were well attended. Just before sundown on Sunday, we baptized eight souls. After the congregation separated and I was about to change clothing, Brother Bodly requested, “I can’t have you brethren leave without taking my stand. Will you go back in the stream and baptize me?” I consented, and in the shades of the evening baptized this earnest soul. The Lord greatly blessed us as we stood alone in the stream.

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 40 years.

Taken from Miracles in My Life, 33–36. This book is available from Hope International for $5.99. Please see page 30 for shipping and sales tax information.
“Glimpses of the Pioneers” will also be replaced next month to help further expand “Theological Waymarks.” Those who would like to finish reading Virgil Robinson’s book James White, from which these excerpts have been taken, may purchase it from Hope International.

JAMES and ELLEN had four children, all boys. The first, Henry, was born in Gorham, Maine, in 1847. His brother, James Edson, arrived while the family was living in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. That was in July of 1849. A third son, William Clarence, was born in Rochester, New York, on August 29, 1854, and the fourth child was born in Battle Creek on September 20, 1860.

Shortly after the last child was born James went on a speaking itinerary to Wisconsin and Illinois. He and Ellen hadn’t settled on a name for the boy before the father went away. While James was in Wisconsin he had a premonition that the baby’s life was in danger. Shortly afterward he received a telegram urging him to come home; the baby was sick. James cut short his ministry and hastened to Battle Creek. He found the little one critically ill. In a few days the child died. Little John Herbert, the name they finally settled upon, was buried at Oak Hill in a plot of ground purchased by the grieving father.

During the same trip, while in Wisconsin James had a dream concerning a certain company in Battle Creek in which he had deposited $1,500 of Review and Herald funds. He forgot this dream until just after the funeral of the baby. When he revealed his dream to his associates it was agreed that the money should be withdrawn from the company.

Two days after this transaction was completed the firm was declared bankrupt, and depositors in Battle Creek and vicinity lost $50,000. When James was asked how much money the Review had lost, he could answer, “Not a dollar.” He knew that God had guided in that situation.

The nature of Ellen White’s work during the pre-Battle Creek days necessitated her being away from her children much of the time, and this during their most formative years. Little Henry had spent five years with the Howland family in Topsham, while James Edson (called by his middle name so as not to confuse him with his father) was cared for by Clarissa Bonfoey. As has been noted, it was in’ the fall of 1853 that James and Ellen brought Henry home with them as they returned from an Eastern tour. Clarissa and Edson kept a diary that makes interesting reading today. Under date of April 19 she wrote: “In the evening, Bro. Hilliard comes with his wife and seven children. We are glad to see them, and we keep them overnight, and...”

The record stopped there. Probably some interruption occurred.

At the time of the June 6 conference in Battle Creek, the diary reported briefly that “at dinner we had thirty-five.” Is it any wonder that the following day the entry was extremely brief: “We were all very much worn out.”

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The White home in Battle Creek became a Mecca to Adventists passing through the city. If they had kept a guest book, it would have been quickly filled. Friends came to visit, and workers came to counsel with Elder and Mrs. White. During the year 1859, Ellen White kept a diary that makes interesting reading today. Under date of April 19 she wrote: “In the evening, Bro. Hilliard comes with his wife and seven children. We are glad to see them, and we keep them overnight, and...”

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were already in Rochester.

The next year Willie was born and joined the family in the big house. So, during the last sixteen months that the Whites lived on Mount Hope Road, James and Ellen had their three children with them.

The situation in Rochester was not an ideal one in which to bring up children. With so much consumption among the office workers, it is not surprising that the Whites were concerned for their children's health. But there was a large yard in which the boys could play, and they were encouraged to spend much time outdoors.

Then came the move to Battle Creek. From the first home they could really call their own, Mrs. White wrote to her friends, the Lovelands:

“My husband enjoys good health, and my children are rugged. They never enjoyed so good health before. . . . I never took so much comfort with my family as now. Our family has always been so large. But now we only number eight and I can enjoy the company so large. But now we only number now. Our family has always been much comfort with my family as

Ellen had their three children with...
Satan never gives up. The lie worked on our first parents and it is still working. But God says when you die; you are dead! Not still alive!

Ecclesiastes 9:5 “For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten.”

“Satan commenced his deception in Eden. He said to Eve, “Ye shall not surely die.” This was will be deceived, and will be led to accept them as the great power of God.” Mar 166.

“With more than 580 million adherents (growing by 19 million per year and 54,000 per day), the Pentecostal/charismatic movement has become, in just 100 years, the fastest growing and most globally diverse expression of worldwide Christianity. At the current rate of growth, some researchers predict there will be 1 billion Pentecostals by 2025, most located in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.” Christianity Today, April 2006. p. 30.

Long before this was ever thought about, God foretold it.

Revelation 16:13 “And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.”

Little by little he has prepared the way for his master-piece of deception in the development of Spiritualism. He has not yet reached the full accomplishment of his designs; but it will be reached in the last remnant of time.” GC88 561.

“Many will be ensnared through the belief that spiritualism is a merely human imposture; when brought face to face with manifestations which they cannot but regard as supernatural, they

“On January 18, 1989, I DIED.”

“The victim of a horrendous car crash, Don Piper was pronounced dead at the scene. At least 90 minutes after the EMTs found no pulse, Don came back to life with only the memory of inexpressible heavenly bliss.

In one of the most inspiring and unique stories you’ll ever read, Don Piper tells what he saw, heard, and felt during the time he was absent from his body. Read about his amazing experience – and the healing that came through a painful recovery – in this runaway best-seller 90 minutes in heaven. A true story of death – and life.” Book ad in Christianity Today, April 2006. p. 95.

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“Satan commenced his deception in Eden. He said to Eve, “Ye shall not surely die.” This was
Satan’s first lesson upon the immortality of the soul, and he has carried on this deception from that time to the present, and will carry it on until the captivity of God’s children shall be turned.” EW 218

None other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” Emphasis Supplied.

Deuteronomy 21:20-21 “And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard. And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear.”

“...The same sins that brought judgments upon the world in the days of Noah, exist in our day. Men and women now carry their eating and drinking so far that it ends in gluttony and drunkenness. This prevailing sin, the indulgence of perverted appetite, inflamed the passions of men in the days of Noah, and led to wide-spread corruption. Violence and sin reached to heaven. This moral pollution was finally swept from the earth by means of the flood. The same sins of gluttony and drunkenness benumbed the moral sensibilities of the inhabitants of Sodom, so that crime seemed to be the delight of the men and women of that wicked city. Christ thus warns the world: “Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.” [Luke 17:28-30.] CTBH 11.

Contributor - Joe Olson

Obesity

“The stats are depressingly familiar: more than 60% of us are overweight, and the percentage of us who are considered obese has nearly doubled since 1980. Healthcare spending attributable to obesity reached $75 billion in 2003, by some estimates, with taxpayers shelling out more than half of that through Medicare and Medicaid programs. Last month Medicare increased its financial obligation to the problem by announcing it would cover bariatric surgery, a procedure aimed at weight loss that generally costs $25,000 for a simple case. Government researchers estimate that obesity is associated with anywhere from 100,000 to 300,000 deaths a year.

Most alarming of all, the rates of obesity among children and teens have tripled in the past 25 years. Health-care providers say they are seeing something of an epidemic of potentially lethal Type 2 diabetes, once known as the adult-onset version of the disease, among children as young as 10 and 11.” Time, March 27, 2006. p. 41.

God groups gluttony and drunkenness together. God said to stone such ones! How serious this must be!

Contributor - Joe Olson

Volume 21, Number 10
“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. On March 29, 1863, Battle Creek Church took steps to address the rumors and falsehoods circulating regarding the business integrity and honesty of whom?
   A. Uriah Smith  
   B. G.W. Amadon  
   C. James White  
   D. Ellen White

2. On James and Ellen White’s eastern tour of nearly three months, how many miles by train did the couple travel?
   A. 840  
   B. 1450  
   C. 2300  
   D. 3200

3. How many miles did the Whites travel by private conveyance on their eastern tour?
   A. 340  
   B. 383  
   C. 440  
   D. 600

4. How many meetings did they hold on this tour?
   A. 88  
   B. 97  
   C. 140  
   D. 210

5. The number of baptisms they had on this tour?
   A. 9  
   B. 18  
   C. 21  
   D. 26

6. Writing to Edson from Greenville, Michigan, James and Ellen said, “We are at home again. We rode sixty miles [on a sleigh]. The snow was very deep, in many places nearly as high as the …?
   A. Mail boxes  
   B. Horses  
   C. Cars  
   D. Houses

7. Before arriving home in Greenville on their sleigh, the Whites broke the reach [coupling pole] on their sleigh while trying to get over a fallen tree. Just as they realized they could not proceed, a man came along in the woods and helped them toggle up the sleigh. 
   True  
   False

8. Ellen White’s postage bill per week in 1868 was?
   A. $ .65  
   B. $1.05  
   C. $2.00  
   D. $2.45

9. In what year was the decision to publish personal testimonies?
   A. 1859  
   B. 1868  
   C. 1889  
   D. 1903

10. The preaching in Oakland, California, reached its climax on June 14, 1874, when approximately how many gathered at Lake Merritt for the very first baptisms?
     A. 485  
     B. 910  
     C. 1400  
     D. 2000

Footnotes
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.”

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Footnotes
The following items represent a much larger selection available from Hope International. If you would like a free Fall 2005 catalog, please give us a call or drop us a line, and we will be happy to send you one.

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Order line: 1-800-468-7884

Please see page 30 for shipping and sales tax information.

RON SPEAR has traveled to several camp meetings this summer to preach the Word as only he can, however, if you missed the opportunity to hear him speak in person, do not despair! Listed below are all of Elder Spear’s books. His messages will stir your heart, encourage your spirit, and enrich your mind.

Spear, Ron D.

Adventism in Crisis

The shaking of the church will remove those who are not faithful, and will strengthen those who are faithful. Though the church may appear as about to fall, we have the assurance from God’s Word that He will have a people in His church who will remain true to Him unto the end.

Paperback, 95 pages
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Is there something special about the final generation of God’s people? What must we do to prepare for the loud cry of the fourth angel? Get Inspired answers to these questions and much more.

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A response to the report issued by the Examination of Hope International Committee submitted to the General Conference ADCOM, April 2000.

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Message of 1888, The

What was the precious message God gave to Elders Waggoner and Jones in 1888 that brought down the fourth angel of Revelation, chapter 18 to give the loud cry? Was this message accepted or rejected by leaders, pastors, and laity? What does it mean today?

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Our Greatest Need

*Our Greatest Need* points us to the divine remedy for the breach between God and us. It reveals, in no uncertain terms, what we must do to get back to a saving relationship with our Redeemer.

*Paperback, 160 pages*

**BESR-OGNE** $4.99

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Preventing for Eternity

This book contains a compilation of priceless passages from the Spirit of Prophecy. By heeding these words of instruction and caution, you can become a part of the people who will be prepared to meet their Lord.

*Paperback, 149 pages*

**BESR-PFET** $4.99

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Rebellion

*Rebellion* leaves no room for complacency or self-satisfaction. Elder Spear’s loving burden for lost souls comes through strongly in this book. It faithfully chronicles the apostasy in which our church is engrossed.

*Paperback, 74 pages*

**BESR-REBE** $4.99

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Retreating Toward Egypt

Is the church retreating toward Egypt? God has given us the answer. This book is a must read for all those who think, there is something wrong with what I see going on at church, but I just can’t put my finger on it!

*Paperback, 59 pages*

**BESR-RTEG** $4.99

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Theocracy

Before sin entered the universe, all created beings were under God’s rule and immediate direction – a theocracy. Leading people to place their faith in church leaders and pastors is Satan’s ploy to derail God’s last-day message. Let us arise and follow God and His Word alone! Elder Spear presents compelling evidence that it is now time – long overdue – that we turn once more to God and place ourselves under His theocratic form of leadership.

*Paperback, 96 pages*

**BESR-THEO** $4.99

Catalog continued on bottom of next page.
Letters to the Editor

Thanks, Joe. Hope gives me hope and I thank Jesus for all the straight strict messages that the world needs now that come from HOPEINT. Thank you.

MH

Your magazines are wonderful. Keep doing the good work of the Lord. May He mightily bless you. We appreciate all your work and enjoy the Firm Foundation magazine.

US; Canada

We also enjoy keeping an eye on all the developments at Hope in the medical ministry area. Before we became Adventists in 1994, we had become herbalists and natural health teachers in order for us to have a way of Marcia being able to “retire” from her public school teaching profession and stay home with our daughters. We started our home-based business of Alive & Well back in 1979, so it is wonderful to watch and see how Hope is expanding in this area.

O&MG; Chippewa Falls, WI

“I don’t get to go to church much anymore, so I sure do enjoy reading Our Firm Foundation. We both believe that Christ is coming soon!”

E&DP; PA

Congratulations for the great work our Lord Jesus hath accomplished through you half a century ago. Your work will never be passed by unrewarded.

JO; Kenya

Keep the faith! Maranatha soon! Praise the Lord!

May God continue to bless the health work there at Hope International. Give my regards to the workers and until we meet again, may all your cloudy days end in beautiful rainbows.

MJG; Peru, IL

Greetings in Jesus’ name! I love your magazine and read with interest every article. It thrills my soul to see Jesus lifted up each month in timely articles.

WA; Bowling Green, MO

Voice of Authority, The

We believe that God has given authority to His remnant church. Leaders must lead but never assume the place that God has reserved for Himself. Under what conditions do church leaders speak with God’s Authority, and how far does that authority go?

Paperback, 30 pages

BESR-VOAU $0.99

Waymarks of Adventism

As a successful soul winner, Elder Spear has developed an abiding confidence in the Biblical foundation of Adventist doctrines. In this book, he shares an encouraging and assuring message amid this time of uncertainty and dissent in our beloved church.

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What I Believe

This book responds to questions posed by a General Conference committee. Twenty convictions are shared – each supported with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. You will see a blend of love and deep concern for God’s last-day remnant church, and have your own faith strengthened as well!

Paperback, 127 pages

BESR-WIBE $4.99

What is the Church?

In this book you will find Elder Spear paints a clear picture of what the church really is. With this topic being discussed so widely today, we must know what the Word of God says.

Paperback, 106 pages

BESR-WICH $4.99

Volume 21, Number 10
OVEN-BAKED VEGETABLE FAJITAS

Medium red bell pepper, cut into 1-inch pieces (1)
Medium green bell pepper, cut into 1-inch pieces (1)
Zucchini or yellow squash, cut into 1-inch slices (2)
Large onion, cut into wedges (1)
Garlic cloves, thinly sliced (2)
One tsp. olive oil
Two tsp. fresh oregano
¼ tsp. salt (optional)
Large tomato, cut into eight wedges (1)
Cooked brown rice (2 cups)
Canned chili beans (2 cups)
10-inch flour tortillas (4)

1. Prepare and cut vegetables.
2. In mixing bowl combine peppers, squash, onion, garlic, olive oil, oregano, and salt. Toss vegetable mixture lightly to glaze the vegetables with oil and herbs.
3. Place vegetables onto a broiler pan or cookie sheet coated with nonstick cooking spray. Broil 5 minutes; add tomato wedges and stir into vegetable mixture, coating with marinade. Broil for 5 additional minutes, or until vegetables are just tender and lightly browned.
4. Assembly: Place ½ cup beans and ½ cup rice in flour tortillas. Top with grilled vegetables. Roll up tortilla and place seam-side down on serving plates. Top with salsa.

Serves: 4
Prep. Time: 15 minutes
Cooking time: 15 minutes

Price: $13.99

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Peters, Cheryl D. Thomas, R.D.

This cookbook focuses on achieving and maintaining a permanent, healthy weight. All the recipes are low-fat and low-cholesterol, with non-dairy options, menu planning tips, and nutritional analysis.