And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day’s journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother knew not of it. But they, supposing him to have been in the temple, said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business? And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.” Luke 2:43-50.

“No act in the life of Christ was unimportant. Every event of His life was for the benefit of His followers in future time. This circumstance of the tarry of Christ in Jerusalem teaches an important lesson to those who should believe on Him...” 5BC 1118.

Jesus tarried, the Bible says. He had specifically stayed behind. Why? Why not leave with the others? Inspiration pulls back the curtain:

“Jesus was acquainted with hearts. He knew that, as the crowd returned in company from Jerusalem, there would be much talking and visiting which would not be seasoned with humility and grace, and the Messiah and his mission would be nearly forgotten. It was his choice to return from Jerusalem with his parents alone; for in being retired, his father and mother would have more time for reflection, and for meditation upon the prophecies which referred to his future sufferings and death.” 2SP 36.

Jesus knew that the multitude would be talking about many things, things not beneficial to growth in grace and Christian character. We have something to learn here.

“Here is a lesson of instruction to all the followers of Christ. . . . There is necessity of carefulness of words and actions when Christians are associated together, lest Jesus be forgotten of them, and they pass along careless of the fact that Jesus is not among them. . . . Jesus will not be found in the company of those who are careless of His presence, and who engage in conversation having no reference to their Redeemer.” TMK 29.

We never want to lose the presence of Jesus, or of the heavenly messengers, His angels!

“These heavenly messengers are not attracted to the crowd where minds are diverted from heavenly things. These pure and holy spirits cannot remain in the company where Jesus’ presence is not desired and encouraged, and his absence not marked.” RH, December 31, 1872.

How often have we been somewhere, visiting, resting, playing, where Jesus’ name is not even mentioned? Is He really the most important object in our lives? Does our conversation show it?

“It is the privilege of all to retain Jesus with them. If they do this, their words must be select, seasoned with grace. The thoughts of their hearts must be disciplined to meditate upon heavenly and divine things.” 5BC 1118.

I wish I could say I have not been guilty of forgetting my Redeemer. I have to admit that I have “gone a day’s journey” through life before I realized my Lord was not with me.

Sister White says that we must “discipline” ourselves. That takes effort. Our minds do not naturally lean toward the right and holy; it takes determined discipline. I find I must work at it constantly. But oh, what a reward for those who do. Here is some advice from the father of the wisest man who ever lived:

“And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.” 1 Chronicles 28:9.

We are promised that if we will seek, we will find. Don’t go anywhere and lose Jesus in the crowd. Keep Him ever before you. ☀️

Joe Olson serves as the executive director and chairman of the board of Hope International. He also travels as an international speaker.
It is the mission of Hope International and the editors of Our Firm Foundation to clearly present Christ and His truth. The days remaining for this world are few, and we must work quickly. We must boldly proclaim the historic truths of Adventism that place us on so firm a foundation in the midst of this troubled world.—Editors

Editor Emeritus: Ron Spear
Executive Director: Joe Olson
Editor: Heidi Heiks
Bookstore Manager: Kaye Olson
Hope For Health Center: Heather Olson, R.N.
Layout & Design: Paul & Mihaela Williams

Hope International is a lay ministry founded, supported, and operated by Seventh-day Adventists to assist God’s Church in the proclamation of the Everlasting Gospel in every way that is consistent with the principles of God as revealed in Inspiration.

We are accepting article-length manuscripts (1850 to 2250 words) for possible publication in Our Firm Foundation. We prefer that submissions be submitted in Word .doc format as a computer file or on letter size paper neatly typed. Include a digital picture and a short bio. Please address all correspondence to Editors, Our Firm Foundation, PO Box 220, Knoxville, IL 61448, or by email to editorial@hopeint.org.

About Hope International
Hope International is published monthly by:
Hope International
P.O. Box 220
Knoxville, IL 61448 USA
Phone: (309) 343-1844
Fax: (309) 343-3721
Email: office@hopeint.org
Web: www.hopeint.org

Editorial
Something Better - Part 1
Norman Peek
Song “is one of the most effective means of impressing the heart with spiritual truth.”

The Words and Works of Satan Repeated in the World
Ellen G. White
It is Satan’s determined purpose to intensify sin by making it legal in the children of disobedience.

Flee to the City of Refuge
Clark Floyd
““The cities of refuge appointed for God’s ancient people were a symbol of the refuge provided in Christ.”

Understanding Aright the “Daily,” Scripturally and Historically – Part 8
Heidi Heiks
How both the sanctuary and the host are trodden underfoot.

Table of Contents
Volume 22, Number 9
September 2007

Page 02
Editorial

Page 16
Theological Waymarks

Page 24
Children’s Story

Page 25
Health Gem

Page 26
News Watch

Page 28
Historical Footnotes

Page 29
Product Catalog

Page 31
Letters to the Editor

Subscription Information: See page 30
Shipping & Sales Tax: See page 30

Content credited in this publication is the property of its respective owner(s), and is licensed or used with permission. Other items are the property of Hope International.
I would like to call your attention to three texts in the New Testament having to do with music:

Eph 5:19 “Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;”

Col 3:16 “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord;”

1 Cor 14:15 “. . . I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.”

A Deeper Understanding

There are several phrases that we should consider to determine their meaning:

“Speaking to yourselves”—A song or hymn should have a worthwhile message that echoes the message of the scriptures or of our commitment to Christ.

“Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs”—Again, the music should express our heartfelt praise, commitment or spiritual facts, not just a sentimental feeling.

“Melody in your heart”—A song should be melodious and express our commitment to serve the Lord.

“To the Lord”—Do we sing to the Lord our commitment and praise, or just some sentimental words in a popular song that might apply to a girlfriend or boyfriend?

“Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom”—Do the words express the words of the scriptures? Are they rich with meaning? Are they full of the wisdom of the scriptures? Do they give evidence of a good understanding of the English language, or are they sentimental, only about feeling?

“Teaching”—Do the words (and music) teach the lessons of the scriptures, or do they merely echo sentimental thoughts? Many of the
psalms are teaching psalms.

“Admonishing”—Perhaps we do not sing many songs of this type today because we do not want to be admonished.

“Sing with the spirit”—We should sing with expression, not dragging the songs in an unenthusiastic manner. More than this, we should be filled with the Spirit, expressing our inmost desires as we sing.

“Sing with understanding”—We should understand that we are making a commitment to God in our songs; as we sing let us remember that we are expressing our desire to follow His instruction and leading.

Singing an Act of Worship

“As a part of religious service, singing is as much an act of worship as is prayer. Indeed, many a song is prayer. If the child is taught to realize this, he will think more of the meaning of the words he sings and will be more susceptible to their power.” Education, 167-8; The Voice in Speech and Song (VSS), 408.

Considering singing, preaching, praying—all of which are a part of worship—the songs that we sing will be remembered far longer than the sermons we hear; therefore, we need to use more songs and choose them with care.

A Potential Power for Good

“Beauty, Pathos, and Power [Pathos is defined as “a quality in something or someone that arouses feelings of pity, sympathy, tenderness, or sorrow in another.”]—Music can be a great power for good; yet we do not make the most of this branch of worship. The singing is generally done from impulse or to meet special cases, and at other times those who sing are left to blunder along, and the music loses its proper effect upon the minds of those present. Music should have beauty, pathos, and power. Let the voices be lifted in songs of praise and devotion. Call to your aid, if practicable, instrumental music, and let the glorious harmony ascend to God, an acceptable offering,” VSS 415.

“But it is sometimes more difficult to discipline the singers and keep them in working order, than to improve the habits of praying and exhorting.

Many want to do things after their own style; they object to consultation, and are impatient under leadership. Well-matured plans are needed in the service of God. Common sense is an excellent thing in the worship of the Lord.” Evangelism, 505; VSS 415.

Does the song have beauty, pathos, and power? Does it have real beauty in the words and melody, or is it something similar to the sentimental or shallow songs of the world? Does it have power to change lives? If there is not harmony, is it acceptable to God? How many songs of devotion do we sing? Does the last sentence in the above quotation imply that we often do not use common sense in worshiping God or, more particularly, in our music?

Something Better

“Something better’ is the watchword of education, the law of all true living. Whatever Christ asks us to renounce, He offers in its stead something better. . . Bring them in contact with truer beauty, with loftier principles, and with nobler lives. Lead them to behold the One ‘altogether lovely.’ When once the gaze is fixed upon Him, the life finds its center. The enthusiasm, the generous devotion, the
passionate ardor, of the youth find here their true object. Duty becomes a delight and sacrifice a pleasure. To honor Christ, to become like Him, to work for Him, is the life’s highest ambition and its greatest joy.” Ed 296.

Music’s Three Aspects

Let us take a few minutes to consider the three major aspects of music: melody, harmony and rhythm.

“Singing is as much an act of worship as is prayer.”

Melody is the intelligence of music; it is the part that most appeals to the mind. When you sing a song, you sing the melody, unless you are singing with someone and you sing a harmonic part. Melody also partakes of rhythm. Changing the rhythm will change the melody (message) that is being delivered. The message should draw us closer to heaven, rather than to the world around us. To write good music requires that one have an understanding of the rules of music, even as to write good prose or poetry requires that one have a good command of grammar and the English language.

Harmony is the agreement or blending of sounds. Some sounds go well together; some combinations of sound have dissonance. They create tension in the listener. In general, a major chord is more pleasing than a minor chord or a random selection of notes, although a careful use of minor chords can be pleasing and give a message all its own. Dissonance or untuned sounds are not pleasing, nor do they exhibit the harmony of heaven.

Rhythm is what carries music forward; it is the regularity or flow of movement. Think of it like your heartbeat. If your heart beats regularly, you do not think of it unless you decide to give it special attention. However, if you hurt yourself or are ill, the heartbeat become noticeable, or you may have an irregular heartbeat which indicates that something is wrong. Of course, if there is no heartbeat, the person is dead!

“Lyrics” in Religious Songs

There are four other words that we need to consider: song, hymn, anthem and lyrics. A song is a rhythmical arrangement of words (poem) designed to be accompanied by music. (Yes, there is a rhythm to words in a poem, a sequence of accented and unaccented syllables.) A hymn is a song of praise or adoration, and refers primarily to the poet’s feelings, rather than to an outward incident or events. Perhaps this term is now being used for religious songs because the writers of most of the newer songs base the words on feelings, rather than on the Word of God, which will stand forever.

Consider These Songs

Let us now consider examples of some songs, most of which are found in The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal (and also The Church Hymnal). These might not even be considered to be in the category of Contemporary Christian Music (CCM).

Repetitious songs:
#627 (We Are Climbing) Jacob’s Ladder
#208 There’ll Be No Dark Valley
#403 Let Us Break Bread Together (on Our Knees)
#471 Give Us Your Peace
I’ve Got a Home in Glory (Do, Lord)

Sentimental songs:
Listen to many of the modern songs (if you can understand the words). They are about feeling, rather than about the certainties of the Bible or our commitment to Christ.

“Rah, rah, rah” songs, or foot-stomping songs:
#216 When the Roll is Called
Up Yonder (I’ll Be There)
The songs that we sing will be remembered far longer than the sermons we hear.

Ancients Knew Music’s Effect on Nations

The principle of the effect of music was recognized by Plato in his political maxim: “Let me make the songs of a nation and I care not who makes the laws.” Donald J. Grout and Claude V. Talisca, *The History of Western Music*, 5th ed., p. 6.

In ancient Greece, music “was considered to be such a potent and influential force in society that leading philosophers and politicians advocated its control by the nation’s constitution. . . . They believed music affected the will, which in turn influenced character and conduct.” Samuel Koranteng-Pipim, ed., *Here We Stand* (2005), p. 401.

Similarly, in China Confucius wrote, “If one should desire to know whether a kingdom is well-governed, if its morals are good or bad, the quality of its music will furnish the answer.” Ibid., 402.

A Law of the Mind

“Men are changed in accordance with what they contemplate. If commonplace thoughts and affairs take up the attention, the man will be commonplace. If he is too negligent to obtain anything but a superficial understanding of truth, he will not receive the rich blessings that God would be pleased to bestow upon him. **It is the law of the mind that it will narrow or expand to the dimensions of the things with which it becomes familiar.** The mental powers will surely become contracted and will lose their ability to grasp the deep meanings of the word of God unless they are put vigorously and persistently to the task of searching for truth. The mind will enlarge if it is employed in tracing out the relation of the subjects of the Bible to one another, comparing scripture with scripture, and spiritual things with spiritual. The richest treasures of thought are waiting for the diligent student.” *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, 460; *Messages to Young People*, 262.

Are we preparing for the heavenly kingdom, or for the kingdom of him who was once the leader of the heavenly choirs but is now the prince of this world? Would he know how to use music, even so-called religious music, to accomplish his diabolical purpose? Do you want to resist temptation, to have your nature changed to be like that of Jesus?

Songs Repeat Story of Redemption

“As the children of Israel, journeying through the wilderness, cheered their way by the music of sacred song, so God bids His children today gladden their pilgrim life. There are few means more effective for fixing His words in the memory than repeating them in song. And such song has wonderful power. It has power to subdue rude and uncultivated natures; power to quicken thought and to awaken sympathy, to promote harmony of action, and to banish the gloom and foreboding that destroy courage and weaken effort.” *VSS* 407.

“It [Song] is one of the most effective means of impressing the heart with spiritual truth. How often to the soul hard-pressed and ready to despair, memory recalls some word to heaven. Have we, by not singing songs relating to our “willing obedience,” accepted the false doctrine of “once saved, always saved”?

Are these songs spiritual? Are they Christ-centered or me-centered?

Will the songs we sing affect our lives? Has the shallowness of our songs made us lose the ability to grasp the deep meanings of the word of God? When one goes to a typical Protestant funeral, there is the almost universal assumption that the deceased is saved—gone to heaven. Have we, by not singing songs relating to our “willing obedience,” accepted the false doctrine of “once saved, always saved”?

#294 (There Is) Power in the Blood
I have the Good Old SDA Religion Down in My Heart

#291 Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

#241 Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

#494 We Would See Jesus

#325 Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken (Dying with Jesus)

#461 Be Still, My Soul

#507 Moment by Moment (Dying with Jesus)

Ancients Knew Music’s Effect on Nations

The principle of the effect of music was recognized by Plato in his political maxim: “Let me make the songs of a nation and I care not who makes the laws.” Donald J. Grout and Claude V. Talisca, *The History of Western Music*, 5th ed., p. 6.

In ancient Greece, music “was considered to be such a potent and influential force in society that leading philosophers and politicians advocated its control by the nation’s constitution. . . . They believed music affected the will, which in turn influenced character and conduct.” Samuel Koranteng-Pipim, ed., *Here We Stand* (2005), p. 401.

Similarly, in China Confucius wrote, “If one should desire to know whether a kingdom is well-governed, if its morals are good or bad, the quality of its music will furnish the answer.” Ibid., 402.

A Law of the Mind

“Men are changed in accordance with what they contemplate. If commonplace thoughts and affairs take up the attention, the man will be commonplace. If he is too negligent to obtain anything but a superficial understanding of truth, he will not receive the rich blessings that God would be pleased to bestow upon him. **It is the law of the mind that it will narrow or expand to the dimensions of the things with which it becomes familiar.** The mental powers will surely become contracted and will lose their ability to grasp the deep meanings of the word of God unless they are put vigorously and persistently to the task of searching for truth. The mind will enlarge if it is employed in tracing out the relation of the subjects of the Bible to one another, comparing scripture with scripture, and spiritual things with spiritual. The richest treasures of thought are waiting for the diligent student.” *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, 460; *Messages to Young People*, 262.

Are we preparing for the heavenly kingdom, or for the kingdom of him who was once the leader of the heavenly choirs but is now the prince of this world? Would he know how to use music, even so-called religious music, to accomplish his diabolical purpose? Do you want to resist temptation, to have your nature changed to be like that of Jesus?

Songs Repeat Story of Redemption

“As the children of Israel, journeying through the wilderness, cheered their way by the music of sacred song, so God bids His children today gladden their pilgrim life. There are few means more effective for fixing His words in the memory than repeating them in song. And such song has wonderful power. It has power to subdue rude and uncultivated natures; power to quicken thought and to awaken sympathy, to promote harmony of action, and to banish the gloom and foreboding that destroy courage and weaken effort.” *VSS* 407.

“It [Song] is one of the most effective means of impressing the heart with spiritual truth. How often to the soul hard-pressed and ready to despair, memory recalls some word to heaven. Have we, by not singing songs relating to our “willing obedience,” accepted the false doctrine of “once saved, always saved”?

Are these songs spiritual? Are they Christ-centered or me-centered?

Will the songs we sing affect our lives? Has the shallowness of our songs made us lose the ability to grasp the deep meanings of the word of God? When one goes to a typical Protestant funeral, there is the almost universal assumption that the deceased is saved—gone to heaven. Have we, by not singing songs relating to our “willing obedience,” accepted the false doctrine of “once saved, always saved”?...
of God's--the long-forgotten burden of a childhood song--and temptations lose their power, life takes on new meaning and new purpose, and courage and gladness are imparted to other souls!” VSS 407.

“Song is a weapon that we can always use against discouragement. As we thus open the heart to the sunlight of the Saviour's presence, we shall have health and His blessing.” Ministry of Healing, 254; VSS 409.

**Be Diligent with Children**

“Evening and morning join with your children in God's worship, reading His Word and singing His praise. Teach them to repeat God's law. Concerning the commandments, the Israelites were instructed: 'Thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.' Accordingly, Moses directed the Israelites to set the words of the law to music...” VSS 410.

“When Christ was a child like these children here, He was tempted to sin, but He did not yield to temptation. As He grew older He was tempted, but the songs His mother had taught Him to sing came into His mind, and He would lift His voice in praise. And before His companions were aware of it, they would be singing with Him. God wants us to use every facility which Heaven has provided for resisting the enemy.” Manuscript 65, 1901; VSS 412.

*To be continued.*

---

Tennessean Norman Peek's varied interests have led to a wide variety of occupations. Recently, Norman has written accounting programs for several non-profits and currently serves as an accounting consultant to a self-supporting ministry.
Before Lucifer was banished from heaven, he sought to abolish the law of God. He claimed that the unfallen intelligences of holy heaven had no need of law, but were capable of governing themselves and of preserving unspotted integrity. Lucifer was the covering cherub, the most exalted of the heavenly created beings; he stood nearest the throne of God, and was most closely connected and identified with the administration of God’s government, most richly endowed with the glory of his majesty and power. The prophet writes of his exaltation, saying: “Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so; thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.”

God’s Law a Delight; No Excuse for Sin

The angels had been created full of goodness and love. They loved one another impartially and their God supremely; and they were prompted by this love to do his pleasure. The law of God was not a grievous yoke to them, but it was their delight to do his commandments, to hearken unto the voice of his word. But in this state of peace and purity, sin originated in all his ways. The prophet writes of him: “Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty; thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness.” Sin is a mysterious, unexplainable thing. There was no reason for its existence; to seek to explain it is to seek to give a reason for it, and that would be to justify it. Sin appeared in a perfect universe, a thing that was shown to be excusable and exceeding sinful. The reason of its inception or development was never explained and never can be, even at the last great day when the judgment shall sit and the books be opened, when every man shall be judged according to the deeds done in the body, when the sins of God’s repentant, sanctified people shall be heaped upon the scapegoat, the originator of sin.

At that day it will be evident to all that there is not, and never was, any cause for sin. At the final condemnation of Satan and his angels and of all men who have finally identified themselves with him as transgressors of God’s law, every mouth will be stopped. When the hosts of rebellion, from the first great rebel to the last transgressor, are asked why they have broken the law of God, they will be speechless. There will be no answer to give, no reason to assign that will carry the least weight.

Self-Exaltation Sees No Need for Law

The change from perfection of character to sin and defection did come even in heaven. Lucifer’s heart was lifted up because of his beauty, his wisdom was corrupted by reason of his brightness. Self-exaltation is the key to his rebellion, and it unlocks the modern theme of sanctification. Satan declared that he had no need of the restraints of
law, that he was holy, sinless, and incapable of doing evil; and those who boast of holiness and a state of sinlessness, while transgressing the law of God, while willfully trampling under-foot the Sabbath of the Lord, are allied on the side of the first great rebel. If the sanctified, holy angels became unsanctified and unholy by disobedience to God's law, and their place was no longer found in heaven, think you that men, redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, will be received into glory who break the precepts of that law which Christ came to magnify and make honorable by his death upon the cross? Adam and Eve were in possession of Eden, and they fell from their high and holy estate by transgression of God's law, and forfeited their right to the tree of life and to the joys of Eden.

The Lie Continues:
“Disobedience is Liberty”

Satan had told them that they were under restriction, under bondage to the law, and that they might be free and independent by disregarding the divine prohibition concerning the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He informed them that they would be as the angels if they would but partake of its fruit, for they would then be able to discern both good and evil. But what angels would they be like?—Not holy angels, but like the angels who had left their first estate, who were reserved under everlasting chains unto the judgment of the great day. The holy pair had received the positive word of God in regard to what they should do, but they presumed on God's mercy, and ate of the forbidden fruit.

Is not the story of the fall repeated by thousands of lips today, and even from the pulpit do we not hear the words of the tempter, “Thou shalt not surely die”? Is not the law of God represented as a yoke of bondage which men are free to violate as they choose? Satan insinuated to Adam and Eve that they might reach a higher, happier state by violation of the divine command, and today the same falsehood is spread through the world, even by those who claim to be sanctified. Do they not say to the sinner, “It shall be well with thee”? The Lord has defined sin as the transgression of his law, but they say they are saved in sin, and thus make Christ the minister of sin.

These professed Christians are doing the very work that Satan did in Paradise, they are leading souls astray by precept and example. They say to the sinner, “It shall be well with thee”; you will rise to a higher, holier state by violating the law of God. The lesson that is heard throughout the land is, “Disobey and live.” But how different is this teaching from the lessons of Christ. He declared: “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets; I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

Divine Law Immutable

If the law of God should relinquish its claims upon men, if its restraints were removed, the result would be a state of society in which lawlessness would be rife, and our world would be in a condition similar to that which existed before the flood, which brought down on the earth the wrath of God. If the law of God could have been changed, or altered in one of its statutes, it would have been so altered when sin originated in heaven, when the brightest son of the morning, who was good, noble, and lovely above all the beings that God had created, found fault with the precepts of that law in the counsels of angels. If ever a change was to have been made, it would have been accomplished when rebellion revealed itself in heaven, and so have prevented the...
great apostasy of the angels. The fact that no change was made in God’s administration, even when the most exalted of the angels drew away from allegiance to God’s law, is evidence enough to reasonable minds that the law, the foundation of God’s government, will not relax its claims to save the willful transgressor.

Satan and his followers were expelled from heaven in consequence of rebellion, and the spirit of the evil one now works in the children of disobedience; Satan carries on his rebellion against God in this world. He seeks to corrupt all; but the instruments most favorable to his purpose of ruining souls, are men who have had great light and blessing from God; for they can accomplish more harm in making void the law than can those who have been less favored of heaven. They use the same flattering sophistry that Satan used in heaven and in Eden; they speak of the law as a yoke of bondage, and picture the liberty of him who disregards its claims, as a state of holiness and sanctification. Those who claim holiness and make a boast that they cannot sin, though at the same time living in transgression of the law, are in the same condition as the angels that sinned in heaven. They make great pretensions to the favor of Heaven, claim to possess exalted knowledge of spiritual things, while they go on in reckless disregard of the word of the Lord.

Satan at Work in Church and State to Make Sin Legal

The fact that no change was made in God’s administration, even when the most exalted of the angels drew away from allegiance to God’s law, is evidence enough . . . that the law . . . will not relax its claims to save the willful transgressor.

to reveal to the world and to heaven what is the order and result of a government carried on according to his ideas of administration and law. He is working with secret yet with intense zeal in both Church and State, to cause men to throw off all the restraints of God’s law, and take a decided stand with him in the ranks of rebellion; but when his work is accomplished, the Lord will interpose, and vindicate his honor as the supreme Ruler of the universe.

Signs of the Times, April 28, 1890.

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.
The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.” Proverbs 18:10. When we sin, why are we so hesitant to come to Jesus? Why do we worry about whether or not we will be accepted by Him? The Bible tells us to run to Him, and we will find safety. If we could just understand the meaning of this text, we would run to Jesus if we sin. This concept is beautifully illustrated in the slayer’s experience of running to the cities of refuge.

The Slayer’s Safety Net

If an individual killed someone accidentally, he would run to one of the cities of refuge before a person could avenge the death and kill him. Joshua 20:2, 3 says, “... Appoint out for you cities of refuge, whereof I spake unto you by the hand of Moses: That the slayer that killeth any person unawares and unwittingly may flee thither: and they shall be your refuge from the avenger of blood.” Joshua 20:3-6.

The slayer would state his case to the elders of the city to be admitted, have judgment of his case, and find safety from the avenger.

The cities of refuge were only for those who killed people innocently. Deuteronomy 19:5 gives a scenario of who could reside in one of the cities. “As when a man goeth into the wood with his neighbor to hew wood, and his hand fetcheth a stroke with the ax to cut down the tree, and the head slippeth from the helve, and lighteth upon his neighbor, that he die; he shall flee unto one of these cities, and live.”

Those who premeditated their murders could not be kept in the city. “But if any man hate his neighbor, and lie in wait for him, and rise up against him, and smite him mortally that he die; he shall flee unto one of these cities: then the elders of his city shall send and fetch him thence, and deliver him into the
hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die.” Deuteronomy 19:11, 12.

Having found access into one of the cities of refuge, the slayer would have to dwell there until the death of the high priest. Joshua 20:6. If the slayer ventured to leave the city before that time, he would take a great risk of being killed by the avenger. “And the revenger of blood find him without the borders of the city of his refuge, and the revenger of blood kill the slayer; he shall not be guilty of blood. Because he should have remained in the city of his refuge until the death of the high priest: but after the death of the high priest the slayer shall return into the land of his possession.” Numbers 35:27, 28.

Need Anticipated, Provided For

Provisions were made that the slayer could have a fair chance to flee to one of the cities. The roads leading to the cities of refuge were always maintained, and the slayer could choose to flee to different cities. The Bible says in Deuteronomy 19:3, “Thou shalt prepare thee a way, and divide the coasts of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to inherit; into three parts, that every slayer may flee thither.” The cities of refuge were so distributed as to be within a half day’s journey of every part of the land. The roads leading to them were always to be kept in good repair; all along the way signposts were to be erected bearing the word ‘Refuge’ in plain, bold characters, that the fleeing one might not be delayed for a moment. Any person—Hebrew, stranger, or sojourner—might avail himself of this provision.” PP 515.

God Is Our Refuge

The psalmist evidently knew about cities of refuge because of the comparison he gives in Psalm 91:2. “I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.” What promise is found in that text! God is our refuge from our avenger, who is the devil. “Your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” 1 Peter 5:8.

When we sin, the devil is on our tracks, trying to “obstruct the way to the mercy seat.” SC 95. He knows that if we find entrance into the cities of refuge, we will be safe. “Satan knows that those who ask God for pardon and grace will obtain it . . . .” PK 586.

Do Not Delay

If we do not make it to the city, we will be lost forever. What should we do? “The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it and is safe.” Proverbs 18:10. We must run to Jesus without a moment’s hesitation because the avenger is running to kill us! Lamenting our sins without coming to Jesus will cost us our lives. “Do not listen to the enemy’s suggestion to stay away from Christ until you have made yourself better; until you are good enough to come to God. If you wait until then, you will never come.” COL 205-6.
“He who fled to the city of refuge could make no delay. Family and employment were left behind. There was no time to say farewell to loved ones. His life was at stake, and every other interest must be sacrificed to the one purpose—to reach the place of safety. Weariness was forgotten, difficulties were unheeded. The fugitive dared not for one moment slacken his pace until he was within the wall of the city.

“The sinner is exposed to eternal death, until he finds a hiding place in Christ . . . .”

Confession is Key to Entrance

How do we gain entrance into the city of refuge? We must confess our case to Jesus. “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9. The confession should be of a specific character. “True confession is always of a specific character, and acknowledges particular sins. They may be of such a nature as to be brought before God only; they may be wrongs that should be confessed to individuals who have suffered injury through them; or they may be of a public character, and should then be as publicly confessed. But all confession should be definite and to the point, acknowledging the very sins of which you are guilty.” SC 38.

Repentance Necessary to Dwell in Safety

Those who accidentally killed someone were able to stay in the cities of refuge, while those that premeditated the murder were not. If we think we can cherish sin and live in the city, we are deceiv-
ing ourselves. “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.” Psalm 66:18. Only the truly repentant will be allowed to abide in Christ. We must have the godly sorrow that produces repentance which needeth “not to be repented of” again. 2 Corinthians 7:10.

The only way we will sorrow for our sin and turn away from it is if we behold Jesus. “It is ignorance of Him that makes men so uplifted in their own righteousness. When we contemplate His purity and excellence, we shall see our own weakness and poverty and defects as they really are. We shall see ourselves lost and hopeless, clad in garments of self-righteousness, like every other sinner. We shall see that if we are ever saved, it will not be through our own goodness, but through God’s infinite grace.” COL 159.

Are we scared that we do not have the power to repent? We need to stop trusting in our power and trust in the power of the God of heaven. Why are we hesitating? “It is the virtue that goes forth from Christ, that leads to genuine repentance. Peter made the matter clear in his statement to the Israelites when he said, ‘Him hath God exalted with His right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.’ Acts 5:31. We can no more repent without the Spirit of Christ to awaken the conscience that we can be pardoned without Christ.” SC 26.

Danger in Separation

If the slayer went out of the city before the death of the high priest, he could be killed by the avenger. Likewise, we cannot have an on-and-off connection with Jesus. We must abide in Christ. “This union with Christ, once formed, must be maintained. Christ said, ‘Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in Me.’ This is no casual touch, no off-and-on connection.” DA 676. The Bible says, “He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.” 1 John 5:12.

Abiding Until Judgment

The slayer that killed someone unintentionally was to stay in the city while judgment would take place concerning his case. Judgment would happen before the death of the high priest, and as long as he stayed in the city until that time, he would be able to leave without the threat of an avenger. “And he shall dwell in that city, until he stand before the congregation for judgment, and until the death of the high priest that shall be in those days: then shall the slayer return, and come unto his own city, and unto his own house, unto the city from whence he fled.” Joshua 20:6.

We are living in the antitypical day of atonement, and our cases are being judged. “Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.” Acts 17:31. The only way that we will be able to pass the judgment is if we stay in the city of refuge. In other words, we do not have to fear the judgment if we abide in Christ.

As long as we maintain that connection with Jesus, we will be able to live in a land without any threat of an avenger. Christ will not be our high priest forever. When He takes off His priestly robes and exchanges them for kingly ones, those who have stayed in the city of refuge will have the right to live in the New Jerusalem and travel to other worlds without any pesterings from the devil.

The Refuge of God’s Pardon

“The cities of refuge appointed for God’s ancient people were a symbol of the refuge provided in Christ. The same merciful Savior who appointed those temporal cities of refuge has by the shedding of His own blood provided for the transgressors of God’s law a sure retreat, into which they may flee for safety from the second death. No power can take out of His hands the souls that go to Him for pardon. ‘There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.’ ‘Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us;’ that ‘we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us.’ Romans 8:1, 34; Hebrews 6:18.” PP 516-7.

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

Understanding Aright the “Daily,” Scripturally & Historically

Part 8

In this issue, we conclude the study of Daniel 8:13 and 14 begun last month. We previously pointed out that the question in Daniel 8:13 involves three noun phrases: “the daily,” “the transgression of desolation,” and “both the sanctuary and the host” that were to be trampled underfoot. Those three elements to be understood when the vision ended were addressed by only one answer in Daniel 8:14: “Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be “cleansed” (nitsdaq).

In Hebrew thought, it is not unusual for all nuances of a word to occur in a single usage. This is precisely what is implied from the word nitsdaq in Daniel 8:14, in all its complementary meanings. The Hebrew word for “cleansed” (nitsdaq) contains three basic English meanings, all related to the root word sadaq. Sadaq: Usage: AV - justify 23, righteous 10, just 3, justice 2, cleansed 1, clear ourselves 1, righteousness 1; 40 verses 41 hits. In our study the Niphal verb form of this root appears only once in the Old Testament, in Daniel 8:14 (nitsdaq). The more specific, single meanings of the root word are indicated by the texts in which we
find them. In summary, as we demonstrated in our previous issue of Our Firm Foundation, the various stem and verb forms of *sadaq* have the three basic meanings of (1) “to put right” or to “restore;” (2) “to cleanse;” or (3) “to vindicate.” See *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: Old Testament* (AMG: 2003), p. 938.

With this Biblical understanding and foundation, we were equipped to analyze those three noun phrases in Daniel 8:13. Having already studied intensively last month the noun phrases of “the daily” and “the transgression of desolation” in Daniel 8:13, we now interject two related items of interest before proceeding with our study.

**Had They Understood…**

Had William Miller and the brethren understood aright the *ha tamid*, the “daily” work of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary, there would never have been a Midnight Cry. In turn, the prophecy of Revelation 10 would never have had its fulfillment.

But the Millerites should not be held in contempt for their lack of perception. As we have seen, Daniel had declared the “daily” was to be taken away, and history confirms it was largely removed from the mindfulness of God’s people. By the 1840s nearly all believed that the sanctuary was the earth. Thus as previously shown, it was their faulty interpretation that produced the bitter experience so vividly portrayed in the book of Revelation chapter 10. And Revelation 11:1 has revealed to us that the restoration of knowledge of the sanctuary and its services would not come until the passing of October 22, 1844.

**The Little Horn in the Investigative Judgment**

Another necessary point of understanding involves Daniel 8:11-12.

The little horn (papal Rome) is clearly portrayed as causing “transgression”⁹⁸⁸⁸ (pesa) because he has indeed usurped the prerogatives of God in hearing and presuming to answer prayers, in forgiving sin, and in thinking to change the Law of God. With this charge against him, does the little horn then come up for review in the great investigative judgment, or do we look for that process only during the millennium? Turning to the pen of Ellen White, we have these words:

“As the books of record are opened in the judgment, the lives of all who have believed on Jesus come in review before God. Beginning with those who first lived upon the earth, our Advocate presents the cases of each successive generation, and closes with the living. Every name is mentioned, every case closely investigated. Names are accepted, names rejected. When any have sins remaining upon the books of record, unrepented of and unforgiven, their names will be blotted out of the book of life, and the record of their good deeds will be erased from the book of God’s remembrance.” 

Great Controversy, 483.

“At the time appointed for the judgment—the close of the 2300 days, in 1844—began the work of investigation and blotting out of sins. All who have ever taken upon themselves the name of Christ must pass its searching scrutiny. Both the living and the dead are to be judged ‘out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.’” Great Controversy, 486.

The message is clear. All who have ever taken the name of Christ will be examined thoroughly in the investigative judgment. Does the little horn profess Jesus Christ? Yes, he does. Therefore, the little horn must undergo the investigative judgment, during which his name will either be accepted or rejected. According to Daniel, Paul and John, the little horn is rejected or “cut off,” and will also then come under the executive judgment during the 1000-year millennium to receive the reward of his crimes.

As a further point of information in the context of the sanctuary, the time of the end and the judgment, we know of no Seventh-day Adventist that teaches that pagans, heathens and unbelievers (of whom
paganism is comprised) are judged this side of the Second Coming. Seventh-day Adventists are united in the belief that the judgment of all those whose unconfessed sins “follow after” (1 Tim 5:24) takes place after the Second Coming, during the 1000-year millennium.

**The Sanctuary: Trodden Underfoot**

We now come to our third and final noun phrase in Daniel 8:13, “the sanctuary and the host.” We will begin with the first of the two nouns in this phrase: “the sanctuary” (qodes). Usage: AV - holy 262, sanctuary 68, (holy, hallowed,...) things 52, most 44, holiness 30, dedicated 5, hallowed 3, consecrated 1, misc 3; 382 verses 470 hits.

As we mentioned before, heaven places the sanctuary and the host under one umbrella, “to give both . . . to be trodden under foot.” The sanctuary that is to be trodden underfoot is a holy sanctuary, underfoot the rightful owner of that sanctuary. In this sense, it is none other than God Almighty. He has obviously been defamed before the entire universe; He’s been declared unjust or weak and incompetent.

In ancient Eastern mindset, it was believed that a trampling underfoot of a host or their sanctuary was a trampling underfoot of their god and their religious system. Thus the understanding was that their god was weak and undeserving. Given that connotation of “trodden underfoot,” it is understandable why God’s government, encompassing His holy name and personality, must be justified and seen in its rightful place of honor.

The qodes. It is none other than the heavenly sanctuary of the new covenant. We now investigate how it is to be trodden underfoot.

“To be trodden” (mirmas) under foot.” Usage: AV - tread down 4, tread 2, trodden under foot 1; 7 verses 7 hits. “Trodden underfoot” can be a figurative expression, as Paul so clearly illustrates: “Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?” Heb. 10:29. Figuratively, then, to have trodden underfoot the holy sanctuary is to have trodden underfoot the rightful owner of that sanctuary.

“The working out of Satan’s rule, its effects upon both men and angels, would show what must be the fruit of setting aside the divine authority.”

How will this be done? On October 22, 1844, heaven moved into the second apartment of the heavenly sanctuary for the sake of investigation. Christ is eager, through due process and the merits of His blood, to exonerate His people and declare their rightful entry into heaven. Our loving Savior demonstrates to all the unfallen heavenly intelligences that the faithful have indeed washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb. But that is not all that is to be accomplished in the sanctuary during the investigative judgment.

Revelation reveals the primary aspect that cannot be overlooked: “Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.” Rev. 14:7. Yes, the hour of His judgment is come.

God’s faithful people living today realize the profound personal relevance of the events taking place in heaven since 1844, but the scriptural emphasis is not exclusively on them. During the cosmic controversy, it is first and foremost God—His character and His government—that has been on trial, with the universe as “courtroom” spectators. It is God’s integrity and laws that are being challenged, and His rightful authority to legislate and judge. The Bible says that at the very last remnant of time, just before the Second Coming, God is to be vindicated in a very special way. It is He who will act to sanctify and elevate His holy Law. “Vindicate” is the last of the three nuances of sadaq that is yet to be defined and interpreted. Its place and application in scripture will now be shown.

“But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went. Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name’s sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went. And I will sanc-
The true character of the
you before their eyes.” Eze. 36:21-3.
Again, in the writings of Paul,
the Bible is very explicit: “God for-
bid: yea, let God be true, but every
man a liar; as it is written, That thou
mightest be justified in thy sayings,
and mightest overcome when thou
art judged.” Rom. 3:4.

The Charges Against God

At the introduction of sin or
rebellion in heaven, as depicted
in Revelation 12:9 and further
revealed in Patriarchs and Prophets,
Lucifer charged the government
of heaven—the Law of God and
the Lawgiver, God Himself—with
being unjust and unfair. As the
following words of Ellen White
will reveal, this is the sole rea-
son for the hour of His judgment
that was and is to come:

“God could employ only such
means as were consistent with truth
and righteousness. Satan could use
what God could not—flattery and
deceit. He had sought to falsify
the word of God and had misrep-
resented His plan of government,
claiming that God was not just in
imposing laws upon the angels;
that in requiring submission and
obedience from His crea-
tures, He was seeking
merely the exaltation of
Himself. It was therefore
necessary to demonstrate
before the inhabitants of
heaven, and of all the
worlds, that God’s gov-
ernment is just, His law
perfect. Satan had made
it appear that he himself
was seeking to promote
the good of the universe.
The true character of the
usurper and his real ob-
ject must be understood
by all. He must have time to mani-
fest himself by his wicked works.”
Patriarchs and Prophets, 42.

“. . . He had determined to claim
the honor which should have been
given [Christ], and take command
of all who would become his fol-
lowers; and he promised those who
would enter his ranks a new and
better government, under which all
would enjoy freedom. . . .

“. . . God’s government included
not only the inhabitants of heaven,
but of all the worlds that He had
created; and Lucifer had concluded
that if he could carry the angels of
heaven with him in rebellion, he
could carry also all the worlds. . . .

“The discord which his own
course had caused in heaven, Satan
charged upon the government of
God. All evil he declared to be the
result of the divine administration.
He claimed that it was his own ob-
ject to improve upon the statutes of
Jehovah. Therefore God permitted
him to demonstrate the nature of
his claims, to show the working out
of his proposed changes in the di-
vine law. His own work must con-
demn him. Satan had claimed from
the first that he was not in rebellion.
The whole universe must see the
deceiver unmasked.

The Wisdom and Justice of God

“Even when he was cast out of
heaven, Infinite Wisdom did not
destroy Satan. Since only the ser-
vice of love can be acceptable to
God, the allegiance of His creatures
must rest upon a conviction of His
justice and benevolence. The inhab-
itants of heaven and of the worlds,
being unprepared to comprehend
the nature or consequences of sin,
could not then have seen the justice
of God in the destruction of Satan.
Had he been immediately blotted
out of existence, some would have
served God from fear rather than
from love. The influence of the de-
ceiver would not have been fully
destroyed, nor would the spirit of
rebellion have been utterly erad-
cated. For the good of the entire
universe through ceaseless ages, he
must more fully develop his prin-
ciples, that his charges against the
divine government might be seen
in their true light by all created be-
ings, and that the justice and mercy
of God and the immutability of
His law might be forever placed
beyond all question.

“Satan’s rebellion was to be a les-
tion to the universe through all com-
ing ages—a perpetual testimony
to the nature of sin and its terrible
results. The working out of Satan’s
rule, its effects upon both men and
angels, would show what must be
the fruit of setting aside the divine
authority. It would testify that with
the existence of God’s government
is bound up the well-being of all
the creatures He has made. Thus
the history of this terrible experi-
ment of rebellion was to be a perpetual
safeguard to all holy beings,
to prevent them from be-
ing deceived as to the na-
ture of transgression, to
save them from commit-
ting sin, and suffering its
penalty.” Ibid., 40-42.

The Cross: Proof of
An Immutable Law

The issue is cosmic,
to say the least, and the
focus of the agitation is vertical, not earthly or horizontal. It is the government of God, the Law of God. Today, the Christian world hears the same voice of Satan through his ministers as they promote a so-called new and better government, under a “new” covenant, in which all would enjoy freedom from the bondage of the Law of God. This new covenant of grace, they declare, is confirmed by the writings of Paul in A.D. 64, found in the book of Colossians 2:14-17, allegedly declaring the Law of God to be nailed to the cross. Thus the same warfare as carried out in heaven by Satan and his angels is carried out here on earth by Satan’s human instruments.

But thirty-two years after A.D. 64, we have this testimony of John: “And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament. . . .” Revelation 11:19.

Moses had been commanded of God to make a sanctuary according to the pattern of the heavenly, so He could dwell among them. Ex. 25:8-9. In that sanctuary was the resting place of the Law of God, the ark located in the Most Holy directly under the mercy seat, where God said he would commune with His people. Ex. 25:16, 21-22.

Sixty-five years after the cross, John was given that vision of the heavenly sanctuary. God Himself sits on His throne above the mercy seat, which is situated above the ark of His testament containing the Law of God. Thus the very foundation of that throne as seen by John is the Ten Commandments. They are the written reflection of the nature and character of its Sovereign and the basis of His government of the universe.

“The cross of Calvary forever condemns the idea that Satan has placed before the Christian world, that the death of Christ abolished not only the typical system of sacrifices and ceremonies but the unchangeable law of God, the foundation of His throne, the transcript of His character.” Faith and Works, 90.

**Imperative We Understand**

This supernatural battle for universal supremacy should be coming clear to the reader as we pull back the veil and reveal why we have been told the hour of His judgment is to, and indeed has, come: “In order to endure the trial before them, they must understand the will of God as revealed in His word; they can honor Him only as they have a right conception of His character, government, and purposes, and act in accordance with them.” Great Controversy, 593.

The government of heaven, as we have seen, is exhibited in none other than the Law of God, a transcript of His character that cannot and does not ever change. Heb. 13:8. It is His purpose that we understand this work of rebellion. The government of Satan must be allowed to be demonstrated before the entire universe, until a time when the entire world unites under a universal bond of Satan’s rule. That will be the church’s most trying hour. All during the development and culmination of Satan’s futile challenge for rulership, we are to act in accordance with the revealed will of God.

Satan’s accusations of the brethren and his thrusts that God has been unjust and unfair must and will be met. One can be assured Satan will contest every inch of ground. This scenario will be further played out by the following:

“. . . In free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. Liberty of conscience, which has cost so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected. In the soon-coming conflict we shall see exemplified the prophet’s words: ‘The dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.’ Revelation 12:17” Great Controversy, 592.

Thus the final crisis begins, which brings the inhabitants of this world to make a stand with or against the Law of God. “The so-
called Christian world is to be the theater of great and decisive actions. Men in authority will enact laws controlling the conscience, after the example of the papacy. Babylon will make all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. Every nation will be involved. Of this time John the Revelator declares:

**A Confederacy of Evil**

". . . These have one mind.' There will be a universal bond of union, one great harmony, a confederacy of Satan's forces. 'And shall give their power and strength unto the beast.' Thus is manifested the same arbitrary, oppressive power against religious liberty, freedom to worship God according to the dictates of conscience, as was manifested by the papacy, when in the past it persecuted those who dared to refuse to conform to the religious rites and ceremonies of Romanists.

"In the warfare to be waged in the last days there will be united, in opposition to God's people, all the corrupt powers that have apostatized from allegiance to the law of Jehovah. In this warfare the Sabbath of the fourth commandment will be the great point at issue, for in the Sabbath commandment the great Lawgiver identifies Himself as the Creator of the heavens and the earth. . . ." *Selected Messages*, Vol. 3, 392-3.

Yet God is at last to be vindicated, and the government of heaven will never again be contested throughout the ceaseless ages.

**God Vindicates His Name**

"Satan is constantly at work, with intense energy and under a thousand disguises, to misrepresent the character and government of God. With extensive, well-organized plans and marvelous power, he is working to hold the inhabitants of the world under his deceptions. God, the One infinite and all-wise, sees the end from the beginning, and in dealing with evil His plans were far-reaching and comprehensive. It was His purpose, not merely to put down the rebellion, but to demonstrate to all the universe the nature of the rebellion. God's plan was unfolding, showing both His justice and His mercy, and fully vindicating His wisdom and righteousness in His dealings with evil. . . . By the facts unfolded in the progress of the great controversy, God will demonstrate the principles of His rules of government, which have been falsified by Satan and by all whom he has deceived. His justice will finally be acknowledged by the whole world, though the acknowledgment will be made too late to save the rebellious. God carries with Him the sympathy and approval of the whole universe as step by step His great plan advances to its complete fulfillment. He will carry it with Him in the final eradication of rebellion. It will be seen that all who have forsaken the divine precepts have placed themselves on the side of Satan, in warfare against Christ. When the prince of this world shall be judged, and all who have united with him shall share his fate, the whole universe as witnesses to the sentence will declare, 'Just and true are Thy ways, Thou King of saints.'* Revelation 15:3." *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 78-9, emphasis added.

"The warfare against God's law, which was begun in heaven, will be continued until the end of time. Every man will be tested. Obedience or disobedience is the question to be decided by the whole world. All will be called to choose between the law of God and the laws of men. Here the dividing line will be drawn. There will be but two classes. Every character will be fully developed; and all will show whether they have chosen the side of loyalty or that of rebellion. Then the end will come. God will vindicate His law and deliver His people." *Desire of Ages*, 763, emphasis added.

Had William Miller and the brethren understood aright the ha tamid, the "daily" work of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary, there would never have been a Midnight Cry.
Vindication Continues
After Close of Probation

Even after the close of probation, the scriptures yet portray the vindication of God by His people along with the unfallen agencies of heaven. “Who shall not fear Thee and glorify Thy name, for Thou only art holy” (hosios). Rev. 15:4. The Greek word for “holy” is not the one commonly interpreted so. This particular word hosios denotes that which is “right,” and it involves the vindication of God, especially in His pronouncement of a righteous and just verdict. It is a recognition of moral obligations. “Shall not the judge of all the earth do right?” Gen. 18:25.

When God metes out His judgments in the seven last plagues, it will be a revelation of His righteousness and justice in the great controversy between Christ and Satan, in which the remnant have played a significant part. In both the investigative and executive judgments, He shows Himself to be and is declared to be just. The unfallen creation are also represented as recognizing the rightful judgments of the Creator: “And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy. And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments.” Rev. 16:5-7.

Before the universe, the remnant will proclaim the righteousness and justice of God’s dealings. On earth, under the severest test, they will have displayed their loyalty and obedience. They will have proved that God’s law can be kept even under the most dire circumstances. God will then be cleared of all accusations before the universe.

“. . . That thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.” Ps. 51:4.

Therefore, when the heavenly sanctuary of Daniel 8:13, which has been “trodden underfoot” for centuries by the false accusations leveled against the God of that sanctuary, is “cleansed” (nitsdaq), it will be manifest before all that its God will most surely be “vindicated” (sadaq) in the hour of His judgment. This interpretation bears the test of investigation.

The Trampling of the Host

We now begin our consideration of “the host” (saba). “Host” is the
second noun in the third noun phrase of Daniel 8:13, and the concluding topic of our study of verses thirteen and fourteen in Daniel 8. Usage: AV - host 393, war 41, army 29, battle 5, service 5, appointed time 3, warfare 2, soldiers 1, company 1, misc 5; 461 verses 485 hits. In the context of Daniel 8:13, the host is clearly the people of God, and the trampling underfoot of the host refers to none other than the persecution of the saints.

In Daniel 8:12, as well as Daniel 7:25, we witnessed a very specific time period during which the saints were to be trodden underfoot: when the papacy was permitted to “practice and prosper” for 1260 long years.

As shown, this prophesied trampling of the host would occur prior to 1844. It is in Daniel 12:7 that the portion of Daniel’s question regarding the treading underfoot of the host is answered, showing that the trampling and scattering of the saints would be until 1798:

“And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.” Daniel 12:7.

During the Dark Ages of papal rule, when over fifty million of God’s people were condemned to death for their faith and loyalty to Christ, they were judged and presented in the most dark and malicious light before the world.

The events culminating in October 22, 1844, and the renewed understanding of heaven’s sanctuary, prove that depiction false beyond doubt. God again demonstrates His faithfulness to His moral obligations. When the investigative judgment concludes, God’s Word reveals the saints in their true light, picturing them in garments of purest white, with a righteous judgment given in favor of the saints. God is vindicated, as well as the faithful of all ages. Rev. 19:8; Dan. 7:22. The “restoration,” “cleansing,” and “vindication” (sadaq meanings) foretold in the sanctuary’s cleansing (nitsdaq, with all of the nuances of sadaq implied for Daniel 8:13), is finally and forever accomplished.

We will finalize this series by first clarifying Ellen White’s communications regarding Brothers Daniells and Prescott, and lastly by addressing other legitimate issues related to this series.

Heidi Heiks, editor of Our Firm Foundation magazine, has been a college educator, an author, and a radio speaker for The People of the Book radio program. He continues to write and is currently a teacher and speaker for Hope International throughout the United States.

Heidi Heiks has supplied for Adventist readership, both scholarly and lay, the historical and legislative documentation from primary sources that describes what really happened in AD 508 and 538. Finally, the dates for the commencement of the 1290- and 1260-year prophecies are fully established. Submitted beforehand for critical review before the most prestigious scholarly institutions within Adventism the world over, it is now presented with the endorsements of William H. Shea, Ph.D., associate of the Biblical Research Institute of the General Conference, professor at Andrews University; Herbert Edgar Douglass, Th.D., professor at Pacific Union College, president of Atlantic Union College; and others. To obtain your copy of this documentation in hardback, call or visit our bookstore and request the 508 538 1798 1843 Source Book (Preliminary). BEHH-5085

$19.99

Volume 22, Number 9
Ellen Harmon was only nine years old when something very serious happened to her. She and two friends were walking together when an angry older girl threw a stone at them. The stone hit Ellen right on the nose. It must have been a big stone, or else the girl threw it pretty hard, for poor little Ellen fell to the ground, unconscious.

When she came to, she found herself in a store. A grown-up offered to take her home. “No,” she said, “I am well enough to walk.”

Soon after the trio started homeward, though, Ellen nearly fainted. “Please help me get home,” she asked her friends. She couldn’t even walk, so the other two girls had to carry her home.

For three weeks she lay in a big cradle built just for her. She didn’t notice anything around her. Only her mother thought she would live. When she finally regained full consciousness, Ellen did not remember what happened to her. “Mother, why am I so weak? Why am I so ill?” She was very thin. Her young face wasn’t attractive anymore because of her swollen, broken nose.

Very slowly, she got her strength back. Then she was able to play with her friends again. But soon her feelings got hurt very badly. Her friends didn’t seem to like her as much as they used to. Sometimes they acted like her feelings weren’t important. They’d be rude or impatient with her.

“It’s my face,” she said to herself. “I’m not so nice to look at any more since my nose has been broken.” But she was the same friend inside, wasn’t she?

For several more years, she was treated badly by those who had been her closest friends. Poor Ellen! She couldn’t do anything about the change in her face. She still wanted friends to play with, but often they didn’t invite her to play with them. “If only that stone hadn’t hit my face,” she’d say to herself, “people would like me.” How lonely she was.

What’s really sad is that those friends weren’t listening to Jesus. Jesus wants us to treat others the way we would like to be treated. I’m sure those other girls would not want to be treated as they treated Ellen.

But God caused something good to happen after all that unhappiness. After Ellen turned thirteen, she heard a precious gospel message. She became so very sure God loved her and had forgiven her sins. She was full of joy and love for Jesus. She forgot about her loneliness.

And then—the most amazing thing! She completely changed her mind about her face! Imagine that! She wrote in her journal, “I started thinking that it was a GOOD thing that my face wasn’t attractive. I might have started thinking about how to be prettier and how to make people notice me and praise me.” That’s the way people think when they think about themselves a lot—but Jesus wants us to think about others, not ourselves.

Ellen thought back on the girl she was before the stone hit her nose and changed her life. She wrote, “I realized I had been proud of myself. I had always been eager to show off my abilities to others. If it hadn’t been for that stone, I might have grown up full of pride. I would have wanted people to pay attention to me and think I was pretty and smart. I might not have wanted to humbly give my heart to Jesus.”

God says that pride is one of our biggest problems. Pride stops us from realizing how much our hearts need to be changed, so we can live in heaven with Jesus and holy angels. Pride keeps us from asking Jesus to change our hearts.

Ellen was grateful for that stone, after all! It helped her get rid of her dangerous pride.

Adapted from Life Sketches of Ellen G. White, Pacific Press, 1915.
Help guard your daughter. You can do something mothers before you never had the chance to do.” (Merck Advertisement).

Makes you feel good inside, doesn’t it? Well, that’s exactly how the multi-billion dollar pharmaceutical company Merck would have you feel! Their web site and advertisements are full of feel-good promotions. They make you feel like not only should you do this for your child, but you need to!

The product I’m talking about today is a vaccine called Gardasil. I’m sure you’ve heard about it in the news by now, as it has raised quite a stir. Now, normal vaccinations (supposedly) protect against contagious diseases such as measles, mumps, rubella, and the like. The government says the children need these since they will be in such close quarters at school and would be easily susceptible to these diseases. The difference with this vaccination is that it (supposedly) protects against human papillomavirus (HPV) (genital warts), a disease that is contracted ONLY through sexual contact.

So, is this vaccination promoted only for girls who are sexually active? Not at all. Merck is trying to get legislators to pass laws that would make it mandatory for all girls to receive this vaccination—specifically before they enter middle school. In fact, Merck says that girls need to be vaccinated before they become sexually active for it to really be effective. Well, how young? They want to start with girls as young as nine years old. They don’t mention the fact that as far as they know, it could be effective for only three to five years. Then they would have to be vaccinated again!

It is said that the average age that girls become sexually active (as sad as it is) is around sixteen years old. Wait a minute. If it may only be good for five years anyway, why are we giving it to nine-year-olds? Doesn’t make sense, does it?

But why the concern about HPV? Well, they are right that the incidence of HPV is on the rise, but what does that mean? What they tell us is that HPV causes cervical cancer and we surely don’t want our girls to get cervical cancer, do we? Well, unfortunately, as in much of advertising today, we are being misinformed.

Dr. David J. Graham, MD, MPH, Associate Director for Science and Medicine in the FDA’s Office of Drug Safety, says, “Gardasil is not all it’s cracked up to be. A recent study in the Journal of the American Medical Association finds that among women ages 14 to 24, the rate of all 37 types of sexually transmitted HPV combined is 33.8 percent - much lower than the 50% figure cited on Merck’s website. More importantly, the rates for HPV 16 and 18 - the two types responsible for 70% of all cervical cancers - are astronomically lower: only 1.5% and 0.8%, respectively.”

(Did you catch that? Only 1.5% or less actually contract the strains even without Gardasil . . .”)

So why would Merck have us believe that cervical cancer is much more of a threat than it actually is? Well, let’s put it this way. With the elevated price of about $360 for a series of three shots, you can imagine the profits Merck would stand to make if they could make it mandatory in all states. Take just one state, for instance. If all the eleven- and twelve-year-old girls in Colorado were vaccinated, the company could make almost $150 million in that state alone. Vaccination of nearly two million New York children would bring in almost $700 million. Think it might be about the money?

Also, according to the medical journal Lancet (2005), as many as 61,600 Americans died as a result of taking another drug manufactured by our friends at Merck. To find out more . . . stay tuned.

For more information on vaccines, order The Vaccination Crisis today. To improve your immune system and combat disease, try our Mighty Immune Plus, C-Blast, or Mega-Multivitamin. Call 1-800-468-7884 today!
As this issue went to press, the immigration bill proposed by the Bush administration had not yet passed. That bill contains a little-known proposal for a major expansion of the Employment Eligibility Verification System (EEVS), which would establish a national database of American and non-American workers within 18 months. The bill would require every American to have a REAL ID, which is a national ID card (remember the REAL ID Act of 2005?), which would be linked to states’ DMV databases. This proposed national ID is basically a new “hardened” social security card with additional personal data, likely to include biometrics. All American employers would have to submit this data on their employees to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Tax information, including private financial information, is also to be made available to DHS and its contractors.

Also, whenever people want to get a job or change jobs, employers would be required to submit applicants’ information from the national IDs and REAL ID-compliant state drivers’ licenses to the DHS for final approval. The DHS would have authority to prevent or terminate employment. No one would be able to work in the United States without DHS approval.

The current pilot program has an estimated error rate of 4.1 percent. At that rate, one in 25 would experience difficulties with the federal government in obtaining or retaining employment. The ACLU said this provision of the immigration bill would create a “No Work list,” and “there would be virtually no way to challenge the error or recover lost wages” because, incredibly, the bill includes prohibitions on judicial review!

“The bill denies essential due process, seeks to overturn Supreme Court limits on detention and fails to guarantee meaningful judicial review,” said…[the] director of the ACLU’s Washington Legislative Office.” “The ACLU noted that these policies do nothing to solve the problems of illegal immigration and violate the fundamental American value of due process.”


**END-TIME PERSPECTIVE:**

“…No man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.” Rev 13:17.

When people are faced with destitution and death, one option for survival is servitude in exchange for life’s essentials. “As the defenders of truth refuse to honor the Sunday-sabbath, some of them will be thrust into prison, some will be exiled, somewill be treated as slaves. To human wisdom, all this now seems impossible; but as the restraining Spirit of God shall be withdrawn from men, and they shall be under the control of Satan, who hates the divine precepts, there will be strange developments. The heart can be very cruel when God’s fear and love are removed.” GC88 607.

**Evangelical Head Now Catholic**

Francis Beckwith, “the president of the Evangelical Theological Society, an association of 4300 Protestant theologians, resigned this month because he joined the Catholic Church.”

He “said he was deeply affected by the joint declaration in 1999 by the Lutheran World Federation and Catholic Church on the doctrine of justification…. “At the end of the day, the reason for the Reformation was… over justification. If that is no longer an issue, I have to be Catholic,” Beckwith said. “It seems to me that if there is no strong reason to be Protestant, then the default position should belong to the historic church.” Alan Cooperman, Washington Post, May 12, 2007.

**END-TIME PERSPECTIVE:**

Justification was hardly the only reason for the Reformation. “In giving the Bible to his countrymen, [Wycliffe] had done more to break the fetters of ignorance and vice, more to liberate and elevate his country, than was ever achieved by the most brilliant victories on fields of battle…. It was with difficulty that the copyists could supply the demand.

“The appeal to men’s reason aroused them from their passive submission to papal dogmas. Wycliffe now taught the distinctive doctrines of Protestantism,—salvation through faith in Christ, and the sole infallibility of the
Scriptures. The preachers whom he had sent out circulated the Bible, together with the reformer’s writings, and with such success that the new faith was accepted by nearly one-half of the people of England.

“The appearance of the Scriptures brought dismay to the authorities of the church. They had now to meet an agency more powerful than Wycliffe,—an agency against which their weapons would avail little. There was at this time no law in England prohibiting the Bible, for it had never before been published in the language of the people. Such laws were afterward enacted and rigorously enforced. Meanwhile, notwithstanding the efforts of the priest, there was for a season opportunity for the circulation of the Word of God.” GC88 89.

**END-TIME PERSPECTIVE:**

“And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death, and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God.” Revelation 13:3-4, 6.

**Scarce Clean Water to be Costly**

Concerns about diminishing, contaminated water supplies and an aging infrastructure have made the water industry one of the hottest areas for investors....

“There are two main reasons for the impending water crisis. First, the world is running out of fresh water because of uncontrolled growth in population, industry and agriculture.... Fresh water is contaminated with thousands of chemicals.... Add climate change to the mix... and we have the makings of a real disaster.

“Second, an estimated $1 trillion is desperately required to repair, upgrade and build infrastructure worldwide. The 100-year-old US and European water and wastewater infrastructure consists of a million miles of pipes - thousands of which are eroding and leaking. In the developing world, new infrastructure is sorely needed to serve the billion people who currently lack access to fresh water.

“While the technology is available to fix the problems, there isn’t the money to pay for it. Water is currently managed - through subsidies and absurdly low prices - as if it were worthless instead of the life-sustaining, valuable, and increasingly scarce resource that it is. The root of the problem is that water is ridiculously cheap, concludes the report.

“Water utilities can’t afford to upgrade, the infrastructure continues to decay, and individuals, businesses and farms have little incentive to conserve and change their extremely inefficient practices, the report continues.

“The drivers for huge growth are there and investment capital is there, but these won’t connect until the price of water rises significantly,’ says Rona Fried, CEO of Progressive Investor.... “Where’s the return on investment for the $300 billion dollars needed to prevent the infrastructure from literally collapsing under our feet?” www.world-wire.com, March 28, 2007.

**END-TIME PERSPECTIVE:**

Come what may, by the grace of God we know of other water: “And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.’ It is the needy, the fainting, those who are weighed down with care, those who are burdened with sorrow, to whom the invitation is given.” RH, October 23, 1888.

---

On June 28th, “Benedict XVI has called the Second Special Assembly for Africa of the Synod of Bishops to be held in the Vatican in October 2009.... In 2004, John Paul announced his intention to convoke a second African synod, citing new challenges and unparalleled growth in the African church. Benedict XVI confirmed the decision after his election. “According to a report based on documents analyzed by the German bishops’ conference, the number of Catholics in Africa grew from 1.9 million in 1900 to 130 million in 2000.”

On June 30th, the pope issued a letter to Catholics in China. In the letter, called “a pressing invitation to charity, unity and truth,” the pope also “reconfirmed the Church’s position on religious freedom: The solution to existing problems cannot be pursued via an ongoing conflict with the legitimate civil authorities; at the same time, though, compliance with those authorities is not acceptable when they interfere unduly in matters regarding the faith and discipline of the Church.”

On July 1st, “the Chinese government expressed a desire to promote ‘constructive dialogue’ with the Vatican in a statement released after the publication of Benedict XVI’s letter to Catholics in that country.” Zenit.org.
August 1861.
July 1872.

The camp meeting’s intended audience was both unconverted persons and early Advent believers, or primarily unconverted persons, divided, with separate lectures for each group.

In preparation for camp meeting, one issue of the Review had instructions on how to make dried foods, tents, sleeping bags, meals for 100s.

An estimated 3000 people attended at one venue, despite short notice.

Within 2 years, how many camp meetings were held annually?

Although the camp meeting schedule was too demanding for the Whites, in concern for souls they added 3 more to their itinerary. The entire schedule comprised 3 months.

In Iowa, a heavy storm would have made camp meeting miserable, except for the foresight many showed in bringing musical instruments, coal stoves for the tents, snow shovels, prepared foods.

1. In May 1866, Ellen White pointed out that Sabbathkeepers had been neglecting to act on health reform. She specifically stated a need for
   a. another printing press.
   b. another publishing house.
   c. a hospital.
   d. a health institute.

2. About 4 years later, a health institute was prosperous and expanding, with 4 physicians on staff. A “hygienic festival” was held to acquaint Battle Creek and surrounding towns with the work being done there. How many attended?
   a. about 2000
   b. about 800
   c. about 300
   d. about 100

3. An outdoor vegetarian banquet was provided for the guests, followed by
   a. a tour of the facilities.
   b. more lectures by the Whites.
   c. raffle drawing for free therapies.
   d. a and b only.

4. When was the first annual camp meeting held (Wright, Michigan)?
   a. September 1868
   b. June 1865
   c. August 1861
   d. July 1872

5. The camp meeting’s intended audience was
   a. both unconverted persons and early Advent believers.
   b. only early Advent believers.
   c. primarily unconverted persons.
   d. divided, with separate lectures for each group.

6. In preparation for camp meeting, one issue of the Review had instructions on how to make
   a. dried foods.
   b. tents.
   c. sleeping bags.
   d. meals for 100s.

7. An estimated ____ people attended at one venue, despite short notice.
   a. 3000
   b. 2000
   c. 1000
   d. 500

8. Within 2 years, how many camp meetings were held annually?
   a. 4
   b. 7
   c. 10
   d. 14

9. Although the camp meeting schedule was too demanding for the Whites, in concern for souls they added 3 more to their itinerary. The entire schedule comprised
   a. 3 months.
   b. 4 months.
   c. 5 months.
   d. 6 months.

10. In Iowa, a heavy storm would have made camp meeting miserable, except for the foresight many showed in bringing
    a. musical instruments
    b. coal stoves for the tents.
    c. snow shovels.
    d. prepared foods.
The 2007 Catalogs are AVAILABLE NOW!

**ORDER BY PHONE:**
1-800-468-7884

**ORDER ONLINE:**
www.hopeint.org/xcartgold

Please see page 30 for shipping and sales tax information.

---

**ELLEN G. WHITE**

**Life Sketches**

In her own words, this is the story of our dear sister in Christ. Read about her early experiences, the extended labors of the small band of believers, and finally the death of her husband. Other writers then take up her story and death. This autobiographical look will give you a fuller understanding of God’s prophet.

*Hardcover, 480 pages*

**BEWE-LSKE** $13.99

---

**Dwight Hall**

**Learning to Walk With God**

This is an excellent gift of outreach! It is a terrific reminder of the way that God works in our lives. This is the specific testimony of Dwight Hall, but it is applicable to all who search to know God. It is about learning to walk with God – something you can do right where you are!

*Paperback, 216 pages*

**BEHD-LTWW** $10.99

---

**Steve Wohlberg**

**Left Behind Deception, The**

The author’s easy writing style grips your attention from the start. He presents the truths of God’s Word that the “Left Behind” series has forgotten.

*Paperback, 74 pages*

**BEWS-LBDE** $2.99

---

**A.T. Jones/E.J. Waggoner**

**Lessons on Faith**

Faith is depending upon the Word of God, and these writings reveal the light of that Word as it breaks the power of Satan in your life.

*Paperback, 144 pages*

**BEJA-LOFA** $7.99

---

**M.L. Andreasen**

**Letters to the Churches**

What caused M.L. Andreasen to write in 1959 that we need a reformation and revival most of all? Do you think this is still relevant today? Read this book and find answers to these questions and more!

*Paperback, 84 pages*

**BEAM-LTCH** $6.99

---

**Meade MacGuire**

**Life of Victory, The**

We need victory for Christ’s sake, because a sinner really saved from sin is the evidence that His plan of redemption is a success. If you are struggling with claiming victory over sin in your life, big or small, this book will be an excellent guide to the source of power we all have for victory over every temptation and bad habit.

*Paperback, 160 pages*

**BEMM-LOVI** $4.99
ELLA M. ROBINSON

Lighter of Gospel Fires

John N. Loughborough's grandfather always told him, “Son, make up your mind that if there are but two men going to heaven, you will be one of them, and live accordingly.” This marvelous biography shows how during his 92 years he lived according to this advice.

Paperback, 169 pages
BERE-LOGF $9.99

ELLEN G. WHITE

Messages to Young People

We all worry about the young people in our life; we all desire them to have a life of victory in Christ. No one understands the struggles of youth more than Sister White. This book contains many messages of instruction, sympathy, reproof and encouragement. Give this great gift to the youth in your life!

Hardcover, 466 pages
BEWE-MTYP $13.99

TERESITA PEREZ

Missing Chapter From the Great Controversy, The

This work of Brothers Crisler and Hall, which with Mrs. White's permission became part of The Great Controversy in Spanish and was entitled El Despertar de Espana, is now available in English.

Paperback, 54 pages
BEPT-MCFT $7.99

Hope International does not solicit tithes; however, we are a tithe-worthy organization and accept tithes. We use the tithe only for the gospel ministry. Donations designated “Gospel Ministry” will be considered tithe.
We just wanted you to thank you for all the DVDs you have sent from your ministry. We especially enjoyed the "Musical Tribute to the Lord," but also feel blessed from the teachings of "The Lord is My Shepherd" (excellent study) and "Who are the Scribes and Pharisees?" (This one makes you think!) May the Lord continue to richly bless you. Pray for us as we pray for you.

OS, Kentucky

Thanks so much for the clay DVD. I enjoyed it so much, and I want to order the green clay and the Swedish bitters.

MO

I've really been enjoying the recent article series on "the daily" and related topics.

RB

We have enjoyed the DVDs. What a blessing they are. May the Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless you all as you serve Him in His dear cause.

J&TQ, Maryland

Thank you for the DVDs you are sending me. I really enjoy them. Please keep sending them to me. I also enjoy the Firm Foundation magazine subscription I have. Here is a $35 gift for my appreciation. Keep up the good work and God bless you all.

DS

I'm handicapped so I don't get to do much, so I'm thankful for the DVDs you send me. I thank God you are there, and for what you do. I pray for you every day.

BF

I praise God for the relevant and timely content of our Firm Foundation.

OJ

I just finished reading your excellent book 508 558 1798 1843 Source Book (Preliminary). I'm eagerly anticipating the release of the full volume.

JH, North Carolina

Please, please don't stop sending me the DVDs. I'm unable to get to church and I watch the DVDs. I share them with my friends and family.

Thanks for the DVD on green clay and recipes. I'm taking the clay and it sure is helping me. I'm 83 years old and have cracked ribs from a fall but I'm doing good. Thank God for people like you. Keep up the good work.

WG

Thank you for the recent series on "The Daily." That was a true keeper. I was blessed. I had been an adherent to the "pagan" view up until about five years ago.

DT, Maine

Thank you for sharing your six DVDs with me. I am a new subscriber to your magazine. I am learning much from it. We need Present Truth now.

I am interested in learning more from the DVDs. I have an eye problem and can't read for very long. All I want is to learn truth.

Please pray for me about a decision I am thinking of making. I am considering sending my tithes to you for spreading the gospel. I believe you are giving Present Truth to the people.

I hope more tapes will be made on health and herbs and natural remedies. It is hard to find good food and good herbs. I look forward to receiving your health articles.

I pray for your ministry.

BM, Alabama

I love the articles on the "daily." You are hitting it right on the head! Right on the money! I'm ordering the 508 book.

DL, Pennsylvania

I'm giving your 508 book as a Father's Day gift.

LU
As the days begin to grow shorter, this is a perfect opportunity to gather your family together in the evenings for a devotional time. If you have been procrastinating, or if your family is busy, consider changing courses to make time to reflect on the Word of the Lord each evening. You will be astounded with the difference it will make in the lives of your family; you will find that peace which surpasses understanding. To aid you in this endeavor, we would like to remind you of all the wonderful devotional books by Ellen G. White. You don’t have to start on January 1st; there is no time like now!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Pages</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIFT HIM UP</td>
<td>Inspired pen-pictures will draw you to Jesus in a very special way. Each month brings a new perspective, showing Christ lifted up as the Son of God, as Creator, as the Bread of Life, as the Divine Lawgiver and as the Coming King, to name but a few!</td>
<td>Hardcover</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>$9.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARANATHA</td>
<td>This very popular devotional book will help you prepare for the imminent return of our Lord. The daily readings focus on the very culmination of the Adventist hope – the second coming of Christ!</td>
<td>Hardcover</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>$11.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MY LIFE TODAY</td>
<td>Sister White portrays the beauty of holiness, shares the secrets of Christian victory, and paints with glowing colors the future destiny of the saints.</td>
<td>Hardcover</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>$12.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUR HIGH CALLING</td>
<td>What is the relationship between faith and feeling? How does temptation become sin? In this daily devotional Sister White answers these questions and warns against the pitfalls of the Christian path. She also explains how to overcome doubt, guilt, and selfishness; she will motivate you with her encouragement and assurances!</td>
<td>Hardcover</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>$11.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YE SHALL RECEIVE POWER</td>
<td>The person, presence and work of the Holy Spirit are essential as we near the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. As you read this daily devotional, you will see the Holy Spirit more clearly as the messages open your eyes and heart to all He longs to do for you.</td>
<td>Hardcover</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>$9.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THIS DAY WITH GOD</td>
<td>Each daily reading brings you an inspirational message that was actually written or presented orally by Ellen White on that particular day sometime during her ministry. At the close of this book you’ll find a short outline of her activities and travels that provide a setting for a number of the readings.</td>
<td>Hardcover</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>$9.99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>