SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD

THE "FORGETFULNESS" FACTOR

PURE AND UNDEFILED RELIGION

THE WAITING TIME

THE RIGHTeous SHALL HOLD ON HIS WAY

Servant of God
George Muller was one of the truly marvelous spiritual leaders of his day. Born in the kingdom of Prussia on September 27, 1805, George left Prussia and went to England to enter the ministry in February, 1829.

Mr. Muller thus became a preacher, and eventually much more than a preacher—a real man of God. He early on recognized that "neither eloquence nor depth of thought makes the truly great preacher, but such a life of prayer and meditation and spirituality as may render him a vessel meet for the Master's use, and fit to be employed both in the conversion of sinners and in the edification of the saints." The Life of Trust by George Muller (Thomas Y. Crowell, 1877, p. 80).

George Muller is best known for his prayer life and complete trust in God to provide for not only his own needs, but the needs of many orphanages and other Christian outreaches. Many times his prayers for food or other means of care were answered on the very day needed, sometimes the very hour.

Even early in his career as a pastor, at the end of October 1830, he told the members of his church that he "should for the future give up having any regular salary.... [He] told the saints that if they still had a desire to do something towards [his] support might put his offering in the box." Ibid., 82.

His truly was a life of trust. He was a prayer warrior. As we come into these last days of earth's history, I am convinced that each one of us needs to be spending more time in prayer, meditation and reading the Scriptures. This editorial is to encourage each of our readers in that direction.

Ellen White has asked, "Why should the sons and daughters of God be reluctant to pray, when prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse, where are treasured the boundless resources of Omnipotence?" She continues, "Without unceasing prayer and diligent watching we are in danger of growing careless and deviating from the right path." Steps to Christ, 94.

George Muller has shared, "I saw more closely than ever that the first great and primary business to which I ought to attend every day was, to have my soul happy in the Lord. The first thing to be concerned about was not how much I might serve the Lord, how I might glorify the Lord; but how I might get my soul into a happy state, and how my inner man might be nourished. For I might seek to set the truth before the unconverted, I might seek to benefit believers, I might seek to relieve the distressed, I might in other ways seek to behave myself as it becomes a child of God in this world; and yet, not being happy in the Lord, and not being nourished and strengthened in my inner man day by day, all this might not be attended in a right spirit." Ibid., 205.

Mr. Muller continues, "The first thing I did, after having asked in a few words the Lord's blessing upon his precious word, was, to begin to meditate on the word of God, searching as it were into every verse, to get blessing out of it; not for the sake of the public ministry of the word, not for the sake of preaching on what I had meditated upon, but for the sake of obtaining food for my own soul." Ibid., 205.

Jesus has given us an example in his constant life of prayer. "And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place and there prayed." Mark 1:35.

"As one with us, a sharer in our needs and weaknesses, he was wholly dependent upon God, and in the secret place of prayer he sought divine strength, that he might go forth braced for duty and trial.... " As a man He supplicated the throne of God till His humanity was charged with a heavenly current that should connect humanity with divinity. Through continual communion he received life from God, that he might impart life to the world. His experience is to be ours." Desire of Ages, 363.
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our firm
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It is the mission of Hope International and the editors of Our Firm Foundation to clearly present Christ and His truth. The days remaining for this world are few, and we must work quickly. We must boldly proclaim the historic truths of Adventism that place us on so firm a foundation in the midst of this troubled world. — Editor

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Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." Revelation 3:11, "Let no man beguile you of your reward, . . . vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind. Colossians 2: 18.

The Bible is the story of a great eternal purpose; of the efforts made, being made, and yet to be made to defeat that purpose; and of the means ordained, employed, and available to fulfill that purpose. It teaches that this great purpose is the purpose of God concerning man; that this purpose is according to the will of God; that man was created to fulfill that purpose; that within that purpose man has been ordained to rule; that outside of that purpose man is a slave, and that that purpose can be fulfilled in and by those only who do the will of God.

The first teaching of the Bible regarding man is that human experience began right; that it was placed on an enduring foundation, even eternal truth, the essence of which is the will of God.

The next teaching is that notwithstanding its right beginning and its sound basis, man's experience went wrong. He chose a life outside the will of God. He voluntarily turned away from the life that fulfilled God's purpose, and elected to live in disobedience.

The third teaching is that man's turning away from God did not change God's purpose for man; that all the change which was made was in man himself, and in those things over which he had been given dominion.

Up to this point the two things that are especially set forth are first, that man, with everything in his favor, failed to fulfill God's purpose; and, second, that notwithstanding this, the purpose of God is unchangeable and indestructible.

The foundation laid at the beginning has stood. Man by his own choice took himself off that foundation. But man's moving off did not move the foundation. That foundation is the will of God, which is the essence of all truth. In order to build on that foundation, man must live and labor within the will of God. Life lived and service rendered outside of that divine will are not established upon that foundation.

The blight of human experience is that man has persistently failed to appreciate his opportunities and possibilities within God's purpose for him. The whole story of the Bible is a sad revelation of that tragic fact. The first section of that story ends with the Fall of man, the second ends with the Flood, and the third ends with Babel. Each of these periods in human experience ended in human failure. After that, the story tells of God's efforts to have His will done on earth by a family.

Throughout the first three sections of the Bible story, God is dealing with humanity as a race, and almost without distinction. In the fourth section we have the record of His dealings with the race through one of its families. Through the family of Abraham, God ordained that His eternal purpose would be fulfilled. He gave the literal children of Abraham a wonderful opportunity. But the section of the story that gives us the history of that family ends with them all in bondage. What took it there? –Directly, the wickedness of its members. God gave to that family the knowledge of His will. The ways of obedience and disobedience were clearly marked for it in the experience of their father Abraham. But knowing his failures and their causes, they chose to depart from the will of the Lord. Consequently, at the end of the period they were found in bondage. Instead of being made rulers by the doing of God's will, they were made slaves by their departure from His will.
In the will of God there was one place in all the earth for that family. That place was Canaan. But in the course of their story we find them for four generations outside of Canaan. Why was that? It was because they had fled from Canaan before the face of difficulty. They fled to Egypt, and Egypt became the place of their bondage.

This business of offering a pious reason to bring about a worldly end in the experience of God's people, is an old-fashioned affair. It dates back at least to the days of Samuel.

Abraham, too, had gone down unbidden into Egypt before them, and in all the story there is scarcely anything more disastrous to God's purpose than that sojourn of Abraham in Egypt. So far had the purpose of God dropped from the minds of that family while in Egyptian bondage that, though delivered at last with great wonders, and led by great power back to the border of the land where the Lord had willed them to be, they refused His purpose, they turned from the possibility of doing His will, and perished in the wilderness.

So the fourth section of the story ends in human failure as did the preceding three.

The fifth section of the story reveals God's effort to have His eternal purpose fulfilled through a nation. Having brought Israel out of Egypt, He made them a nation. He Himself was that nation's King. This part of the story teaches us the lesson of Israel's failure as a theocracy. It would seem, as one reads the provisions for the success of Israel as a nation, that it could not possibly fail. With them the Lord dwelt in person. Day and night the people saw the manifestations of His presence and glory. They worshiped Him, seeing with their natural sight that He was among them. They heard His voice speaking to them the words of His divine will. They quaked at the power of His speaking. They witnessed the smoke-clouded glory of His majesty. They acknowledged themselves His people, and covenanted to obey His voice. Never since the Fall had there seemed to be brighter prospects of having God's purpose for humanity fulfilled in His people.

But nearly four centuries after they heard God proclaim His will to them, they rejected Him as their King, and would not have Him reign over them any longer.

"The Lord said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them." 1 Samuel 8:7.

Why had they rejected the Lord in this way? Had He failed in His leadership of them? Had He been unwise in His kingship? Had He brought the people into great difficulty? Had He brought them into great suffering? Were they unhappy under Him as King? Had the kingdom become divided? Was it about to become divided? Had the kingdom and the nation reached a crisis that demanded a change of rulership to save it from disaster?

No, none of these things had happened. None of them were about to happen. None of them were at all likely to happen under God as the nation's King. What then had happened?

Samuel, the servant of God, had grown old, and his sons were unsatisfactory. Did that warrant the nation's rejection of God? Not at all. That would have been no warrant for such a far-reaching action if it really had been the true underlying reason for their rejection of the Lord. But the Scriptures make it clear that Samuel's age and his sons' carelessness were not the reason, but the excuse, for their rejection of God as their King.

The reason for their action was within their own hearts. It was their own worldly-mindedness; and they were obstinately determined to have their own way. At the direction of God they were cautioned, they were warned, they were reproved, they were faithfully told that a human king would enslave them, would dispossess them, would take away their liberties, and would require their first, their best, and the goodliest of all for himself.

But the record is: "Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; that we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles." 1 Samuel 8:19-20.

As a nation, Israel was determined to be worldly, and their determination to be like the world is the one and great cause of their failure in this fifth part of the story.

They did not call their action a rejection of God. They claimed to be concerned about the worldliness of Samuel's sons, and especially in view of Samuel's old age. Think of it! —determined to be worldly, they claimed that it was necessary for them to be like the world because Samuel's sons were worldly and he was old. But God called it rejection of Him, and that is just what all worldly-mindedness is. He gave them no reason to be deceived by their own worldly desires. But they rejected His counsel as they were determined to reject Him.

This business of offering a pious reason to bring about a worldly end in the experience of God's people, is an old-fashioned affair. It dates back at least to the days of Samuel. But it was wrong then, and age has not changed its nature a particle. It is still one of the methods pursued by
the worldly-minded, and God's people are still misled by it.

We need very much to beware of this old-fashioned foolishness and pious wickedness in this closing work. During the last quarter of a century I have seen efforts of the same kind among this people. But a pious reason for worldly action is as hypocritical now as it ever has been.

The message of this movement is to be preached with power, and by believing that message its adherents are to be separated in life and purpose and principle and belief and hope from the world all about them.

The next section of the story tells of Israel under their kings. It can hardly be expected that this part of the story will bring us to a happy conclusion. It was begun wrong. It continued to be wrong. It ended in captivity and failure.

There is no need for me to follow the course of their experience very closely through this period. Let it be sufficient for me to remind you that the trouble so faithfully foretold by Samuel began with their first king. The first three kings each reigned forty years. At the end of the third reign, the kingdom was divided permanently, the people were unhappy, and the miseries of an idolatrous apostasy had begun to be experienced. Four hundred eighty-nine years after the nation that was determined to be like the world had rejected God as its king, it had become so much like the world that God had to let it go into captivity to cure it of its idolatry. Almost the whole of this monarchic period was lived largely outside the will and purpose of God, and it all began by their pretended objections to the worldliness of Samuel's sons, while they themselves determined to be like the world about them.

That nation having rejected the kingship of God, because it was determined to be worldly, had become idolatrous, so idolatrous that it was sent into captivity. That was the end of that people as a nation. They might have fulfilled God's purpose, but they turned from His will, and the end was failure.

There is, of course, the story of the restoration. But those of them that came back were never able to throw off the yoke of foreign rulership. Never again had they a ruler of their own. They built up their city, they raised again its ruined walls, but they did it by the consent and under the patronage of foreign kings. They bowed their neck to the yoke of foreign princes. But they never again went into idolatry.

Then in the next period came the dispersion. Since that time they have been "a nation scattered and peeled, . . . a nation meted out and trodden down, whose land the rivers have spoiled." Isaiah 18:2.

The seventh section of the story brings us to the establishment of Christianity. Its founder is the Lord Jesus. Its foundation is eternal truth as given us in His teachings. His life and teachings were all a manifestation to us of the will of God. He came as man to fulfill the purpose of God, and after He had won the right by His sacrifice on the cross, by His victory over death, and by His acceptance for us by the Father, He commissioned His church to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Endued with power from on high, the church went forth, conquering and to conquer. But observe that the attitude of its leaders toward the will of God was very definite. They were determined to obey God at all costs. Hear them as they so declare themselves: "Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye." Acts 4:19.

While this attitude of adherence to the will of God was maintained, the church was a conquering power. When it was forsaken, the church became a persecuting power.

From the book of Acts to the book of Jude, the story is of the development of the Christian church. But after the first century a change began to come into its experience. The church first became worldly, then it became cruel. It forgot the will of God, and began to enforce its own will upon
the people, blasphemously claiming its will to be the will of God. Soon it had begun to counterfeit everything that has to do with God's purpose to save men from sin and to give them power to do His will.

The years that followed in this period are justly called the "Dark Ages," made so by the violence of the church gone into the deepest and most damnable apostasy.

But what brought all this about? What was it that took the power of God out of the church, and made it the most bloodthirsty and most unscrupulous despot the world has ever seen?

The historian tells us that all this grew from a very simple and apparently harmless beginning. The church began to court the world, and to receive the courtship of the world. It began to desire and accept the high-sounding titles that the world was pleased to bestow upon its leaders. As it became more worldly, it became more cruelly intolerant until it wallowed in the blood of those who dared to worship God according to the forms of a faith differing from its corrupt teachings.

Near the close of the first century John had written to the church: "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world." But the church in its love of the world forgot all that, and stained the centuries with her black deviltries till the world, shocked and horrified, rose up against her rule, and by force of arms compelled her to stay her hand, and to let men live, whatever their religious views might be.

Everywhere upon the record is impressed the lesson that whenever the church and the world have united, the union has destroyed the church.

All that makes up the dark record of those apostate ages grew from the church's love of the world and the things of the world. There ends the seventh section of the church's experience. Everyone will recognize that this part of the record gives us the story of the church's darkest sin and most tragic failure.

The eighth section begins with the Reformation. Sect after sect has risen to proclaim some phase of Protestant truth, and to lead God's people onward. Men of many nationalities have been used to stir the hearts and lead the minds of the people with living truth. In that way many of the Protestant denominations came into being. They each one had some definite truth to proclaim, or some important principle to make clearer.

These truths, with all that they had previously received, became their founding principles.

It was God's will that they each one should not only hold fast that which they had, but should receive additional truth as He saw fit to reveal it. They were to remain firm on those founding truths and principles, and on them embrace new revelations of God's will.

Have they done this? We have only to look around on the wreckage of Protestant faith that is everywhere, to know that they have not. In the main, those Protestant peoples have not only failed to progress in Christian faith and power, but have, almost without exception, failed to keep within sight of those founding principles. Were the founders of many of those Protestant movements now to come to the peoples that they once taught and inspired, they would find the movement that each so successfully started, far more distant from the will of God than was the life of the religious body from which He originally called them at the time of their denominational beginnings.

Why is this? Is it because those founding truths and principles were found to be wrong and untrustworthy?--Not at all. It is simply because the people have listened to the voice of the world instead of the voice of God. They have failed to hold fast that which they had. They have been beguiled of their reward. They have come to love the world; and as their love of the world has increased, their love of God and God's truth has decreased. They have become conformed to the world instead of being transformed by the renewing of their minds.

That is the situation of Protestantism today, and to an alarming degree it is led by what, but a few years ago, would have been unhesitatingly denounced as an unbelieving ministry. Widespread uprisings against the Christian faith are taking place in heretofore Christian lands, and the church is powerless to prevent them.

We face that terrible fact, and we are far too indifferent to its woeful significance. Protestantism is losing out in this our day, and we are not very deeply concerned about it. It is now heard with no voice of power. Its pulpits ring no longer with the proclamation of vital Protestant truth. It should grieve us deeply to be forced, as we are, to admit that the eighth section of the story is ending in a tragic failure of human effort to have the purpose of God fulfilled in the lives of those whom the world regards as God's people.

But this section of the story reaches to our own time, and we can accurately trace causes in this period. What is it that has brought Protestantism to this sad, backslidden condition? To perpetuate itself and to propagate its truths, Protestantism established its centers of learning and training. These it intended to be the great immovable buttresses to its being. But they have become the strongholds of unbelief and the channels of departure from those grand, rugged, eternal principles of essential truth upon which the Christian church was placed by its divine Founder. Protestantism has been betrayed, and is being betrayed, by its own educational institutions. These centers of learning have, through the
We look back over the other sections of the story, wisely in every consideration of our leadership. Continually, and they must be allowed to influence us. These two facts must be kept in the minds of our leaders. We must meet the most tremendous efforts of Satan and his agents to overthrow it, and to cause it to fail of fulfilling its purpose. Second, that the Bible foreshows that this movement of God's people this side of Eden.

The Protestant church has entrusted the world, through its own unbelieving worldly schools, to train the leaders and ministers and professional members of the church, and the power of a Spirit-led, evangelical church has departed from it. The lesson for us is an important one, and is rooted in an experience that belongs, not to the distant past, but to the present. God help us to hold fast that which we have, that no man take our crown.

It is my conviction that this is all so vitally important that we would do well to take honest bearings, and if necessary, rechart our course.

The ninth section of the story is pictured in the latter part of the book of Revelation. At a specific time a movement begins that closes up the work of reformation forever. This finishing work is to be done in the judgment hour. It is to be done by a people that are spoken of as "the remnant." It is to be done at a time when faith is failing in the experience of man; when the world is in confusion, and its populations are in distress; when unbelief is prevalent and arrogant. The message of this movement is to be preached with power, and by believing that message its adherents are to be separated in life and purpose and principle and belief and hope from the world all about them. That movement is to succeed by its people's holding fast to the peculiar truths and to the definite principles upon which it was founded. We believe, and have proclaimed our belief far and wide, that we are that people, and that the movement with which we are connected is that movement.

We believe that our service will bring the work of God for sinners to a close. We believe that the truth we proclaim will prepare the way of the Lord among all peoples. We publicly and widely proclaim all these things. But there are two very important facts that we should consider:

First, that this movement, if not directed according to God's will, is just as subject to failure as any previous movement of God's people this side of Eden.

Second, that the Bible foreshows that this movement must meet the most tremendous efforts of Satan and his agents to overthrow it, and to cause it to fail of fulfilling God's purpose.

These two facts must be kept in the minds of our leaders continually, and they must be allowed to influence us wisely in every consideration of our leadership.

We look back over the other sections of the story, and we find that the reasons for failure are very definite. Briefly, those reasons center in one thing, "love of the world." God's people have never been victorious while surrendering or surrendered to the world. They have had victory only when surrendered to God, to have His will done in and by them. It must still be so. The remnant people can no more have success by loving the world and surrendering to its allurements and claims and calls, than did Israel of old.

The message by which we are made the remnant requires that we be separate from the world. Why? –Because, otherwise, we shall meet with the most awful failure that has ever overtaken a people. Observe the statement of God regarding that: "Come out of her, my people, . . . that ye receive not of her plagues." Revelation 18:4.

If we are not separate, we cannot possibly succeed. If we are not separate, the ninth section of the story will be but the tale of a work well begun, but marred and distorted and ruined by the weakness and unbelief and worldly-mindedness of its leaders and its people, the story of a people that undertook to finish God's work, and failed.

When this movement began, the faith of its people was rugged. They were simplehearted and trusting and unworldly. They were self-sacrificing and intensely earnest. Their hope was buoyant. Their courage was invincible. We cannot succeed if by any means we lose these qualities. The world and all worldly things are soon to pass away. If we are to succeed in that to which God has called us, we must keep love of that doomed world out of our hearts. If we are not to fail more dismally than those who have gone before us, we must successfully resist the world, and let the will of God be first with us in all things.

It is the common practice of all properly-managed concerns to stop sometimes and check up on their position, their progress, their direction, their adherence to the purpose for their being, and on all matters that affect their status and influence their future. Such stocktaking is a good, a necessary, and a revealing thing. I believe that this is such an occasion with us. We, doubtless, will check up on finances, on membership, and on all statistical matters. We do that continually. But I am appealing this morning for a review of very important things that appear in none of our statistical and financial statements. They cannot appear there, for they are not measured by statistics and statements, neither are they checked by our auditors.

While this attitude of adherence to the will of God was maintained, the church was a conquering power. When it was forsaken, the church became a persecuting power.

There has ever been but one measuring line for God's people. That measuring line is the will
of God. Life and service are successful or unsuccessful, in God's sight, according to their relationship to His will. Life and service that do the will of God are strong in every worthwhile way, while life and service that do not the will of the Father are accounted unworthy in heaven.

With this important truth in mind let us, then, consider the question, Are we successfully keeping the love of the world out of our hearts, and the influence of the world out of our work? or are we foolishly surrendering to the same spirit of worldliness that is responsible for all the failures of the church in those other sections of the story? Are we putting God's will before all else in our work for Him? Are we living and laboring only to fulfill His eternal purpose?

Brethren, these things are very much on my mind and heart, and have been for some time past. I see in this movement many, many things that are there by the hand of God—strong things, true things, divine things. These must continue with us and have yet a larger place and stronger service in our experience and work. This must indeed be so, if we are to reach final success. But I see also some things that are not good taking hold in the church, and being given an enlarging place in the control of the church; and those things resemble very much the evil things that came into and ruined the experience of the church in all those former periods of the story. There is setting in on this people a tide of worldliness to which we are surrendering. I do not mean to imply that we are not resisting these influences at all; but I believe that the measure of resistance that we are putting forth is not holding us. We are gradually being swept backward, and should be alarmed about it.

As we look back over the story, we discover that nowhere in it is the world found accomplishing God's purpose. Everywhere upon the record is impressed the lesson that whenever the church and the world have united, the union has destroyed the church. The story in brief is this: When the church has kept itself separate from the world, the world has sought to kill it by persecution; but when the church has received the patronage of the world and joined hands with it, the church itself has used the world to destroy God's people by persecuting them. Nowhere in all the story do we find real Christianity united with the world, or pleased with worldly patronage, or robed with worldly grandeur.

We as a people know all this. There is no people on earth more zealous or more vigilant in its determination to keep the church and the state in their own fields and spheres. But notwithstanding all this, we are in danger of walking the way of failure because of our growing attachments to the world.

There is a union prescribed for us in the Word of God that is far different from this. Here is the prescription as Goodspeed gives it in his translation of Colossians 2:6-9:

"So just as you once accepted the Christ, Jesus, as your Lord, you must live in vital union with Him. You must be rooted and built up in Him and made strong in faith, just as you were taught to be, overflowing with it in your gratitude.

"Take care that nobody exploits you through the pretensions of philosophy, guided by human tradition, following material ways of looking at things, instead of following Christ. For it is in Him that all the fullness of God's nature lives embodied, and in union with Him you too are filled with it."

Going back to the third century of Christianity, we remind ourselves that after the Diocletian persecution, from which the church suffered no spiritual hurt, the church fell upon an evil day when the throne of state began to patronize it. First the state tolerated Christians, then it patronized the church, then it espoused the church, and finally it compassed the church's spiritual ruin.

Thomas Cooper, author of the book, "The Bridge of History Over the Gulf of Time," has stated this: "Constantine's wily patronage of the Christian teachers . . . did much to strengthen his power, while it tended to ruin the Christian church spiritually."

From the time when the Saviour sent forth His church to preach His gospel, the well-being of the church and the success of its evangelical mission have depended, next to God, upon the uprightness of its teachers. Their corruption has always been the downfall of the church. It is essential, therefore, that the church be continually led by a truehearted, believing ministry. If we learn anything at all from our study of Christ's efforts to prepare those whom He ordained for their work of ministry, it is that He purposed for His church a leadership by men who themselves are in the innermost secret of the Lord.

There must, then, be continued for the work of the church an unworlthy ministry. Constantine took the certain way to ruin the church, to make a Papacy possible, and to bring into being a beast power that would war against the church to the very end, when he patronized the teachers of the church in his day, and thus destroyed their
humility and made them worldly. And it is important for us to observe that what he did so successfully in the early years of the fourth century has been successfully repeated again and again in the experience of Protestantism. The Protestant churches are where they are now as the result of their teachers being corrupted.

The simple teaching of the gospel is that sinful man can enter life only through death. He must die to the world that he may live unto God. How, may I ask, is it possible for worldly ministers to lead the people into the experience that that teaching requires? If they themselves are not dead to the world, how can those who are influenced and led by their teaching be brought to sense the necessity of their dying to the world? And if neither the minister nor the church member is dead to the world, how can the life of God be experienced in the church?

It has always been important that the ministry of the church be trained right. It has always been important that God's work in all lines be done by godly workers. But it has also always been the unyielding purpose of the enemy of the church to control as far as possible the training of God's workers. Knowing that with a Spirit-filled ministry, nothing under heaven could defeat God's church, Satan is determined that the church shall be led by an unspiritual, unbelieving, worldly-taught, and worldly-minded ministry. To bring this to pass he has gradually introduced his policies and teachings into the great institutions of learning where the ministers and teachers of Protestantism are taught and trained. This is the basic explanation of the defeat of Protestantism, and of its powerlessness in face of the widely-offered challenge of unbelief today.

Our Own Situation

Well may we ask, then, Are we successfully keeping the love of the world out of our hearts, and the influences of the world out of our work? Well may we pause to consider whether we in our efforts to serve God are putting the will of God before the ways of the world. My serious conviction is that there is grave reason in fact for our most earnest consideration of these questions.

I believe that there is a growing love within our ranks for the frivolities of the world. Our resistance of worldly influences is seriously diminishing. Our willingness to yield to worldly control of important matters is more noticeable. These things I see, and they trouble me.

I am troubled by the sanctions which we give to weak and questionable things. I am troubled by the direction that our educational and training work is definitely taking. I am concerned by the more and more obvious fact that in the education and training of our workers we are inquiring more of the world and less of God than formerly. I am grieved because we are allowing the erroneous belief that the highest in standards is reached by the ways of the world rather than by the way of God.

I believe that the highest and truest in all things are reachable for us only by doing the will of God, and I am fearful as I measure all the effort and expense that we are putting forth to reach our goal by other means. Brethren, I do not believe there is help for us in the way we are going in this thing, and I recognize with regret that we have been forced in that direction by a spirit of institutional competition of our own origination, about as much as we have been by the requirements of powers beyond our control.

This people cannot, anywhere within the purpose of God, receive its educational program from the world. Nowhere within the purpose of God can we delegate the training of our ministers and other workers to worldly influences. We have been spoken to from Heaven itself upon those matters, and we have instruction of such volume and minuteness of detail that we are without excuse if we are found working contrary to what has been
written. The one practical, foreshown way for us to escape the plagues that shall fall on Babylon is for us to come out and be separate from Babylon, and to remain out and to continue to be separate.

It is my conviction that this is all so vitally important that we would do well to take honest bearings, and if necessary, rechart our course. By all means we must hold that fast which we have in the truth of the gospel, that we lose not our crown. With the purpose of God steadfastly in mind, and with courage and consecration we must still go on, and allow nothing to beguile us of our reward.

What the world can give us is no part of the equipment that we need to finish the work successfully. Our principal equipment is not the accumulation of worldly wisdom and worldly knowledge, not even the best of worldly wisdom and the best of worldly knowledge, but rather a definite, saving, renewed relation to Christ and an experience of doing His divine will, which will set us apart from the world, and fill us with strength that is all of the Holy Spirit.

Above every other thing that we can possibly sense, the remnant people need to realize that Christ is calling them to an experience which will not only instruct and clarify their minds, but purify their hearts, and invade the innermost places of their souls, cleansing their motives, and making them willing to have the will of God done in their lives and through their service. Unless it be so, we shall not hold fast that which we have, and we shall indeed be beguiled of our reward. Our success depends, not upon that which the world has brought to us, but upon our appropriation of divine resources.

What we need just now is a large reception of divine grace to enable us to do God's holy will at any cost. May the good Lord come to us and open our hearts and make us willing to receive it. We have to do the work of God in an age of doubt, and for a world that is sinking altogether in sin. Let us not trifle with that work at such a time and in face of such need. Foolish indeed shall we be if we seek from that lost world the power, the help, the equipment of mind and heart that we need, to be God's messengers of salvation to that same ruined world. If we do, may it not truthfully be said of us that we have turned again to the weak and beggarly elements of the world?

Brethren, my heart tells me that our need is great, far, far too great to be met by anything that the world can supply. We must go to a source of help higher than the world, where our need can be reached farther in and deeper down than ever the world can penetrate. Oh, shall we not now "search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord"? Shall we not "lift up our hearts with our hands unto God in the heavens"? He will have mercy on us. He will lead us in the way of His purpose, and according to His divine will. Walking in that way, and living only to fulfill that unchanging purpose, this people will finish the work victoriously; and when the world, which now would allure and ruin us, shall go down in its own ruin, we shall be crowned with life eternal, and enter into our reward.

Let us, then, love not the world, neither the things of the world, but let us cherish the ways of God and love to do as He has bidden. May the good Spirit of the Lord be with us and help us in such a time as this, for Christ's sake.

Charles H. Watson served as General Conference president from 1930 to 1936. This article first appeared in the Review and Herald on November 21, 1935, and was reprinted in Our Firm Foundation in July 1992. Its timely clarion call merited a republication in this issue.
I would like to talk to you about the devil’s master plan for your life. We talk a lot about God’s plan and love for us, and the sacrifice of His Son, and the angels’ interest in us, and we should. God’s love is the theme of all He does, and all we are meant to be. His plan is to redeem us from sin and woo us back to Him through His love. But for a brief moment, I would like to address the plan of the devil. What is it that he “plans” for us, and how does he expect to accomplish it?

First off, we need to understand what he thinks of us, God’s children. As you might probably expect, the devil hates God for not being allowed to take over heaven, and for being ultimately cast out of heaven, but only after God spent a long time trying to win Lucifer, or the devil, back.

As a result of hating God and His Son Jesus Christ, the devil hates us, too, because we are the children of God. “For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.” Galatians 3:26.

"Scapegoat Transference"

But there is another reason Satan hates us. And he doesn’t want you to know about this one. It’s called… the “Scapegoat Transference.”

Very few people in the Christian world, and almost none in the non-Christian world, are aware of this, other than maybe some Jews. The “Scapegoat Transference” concept was designed by God, and first brought to our attention in the book of Leviticus:

“And he shall take the two goats, and present them before the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. And Aaron shall cast lots upon the two goats; one lot for the LORD, and the other lot for the scapegoat. And Aaron shall bring the goat upon which the LORD’S lot fell, and offer him for a sin offering. But the goat, on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat, shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make an atonement with him, and to let him go for a scapegoat into the wilderness.” Leviticus 16:7–10.

So we have two goats. One is offered, or slain, for a sin offering; the other is to be the scapegoat. Now, what exactly is a scapegoat?

Taking the Blame

Webster’s says that a scapegoat is “one that bears the blame for others.” This is a crucial point! It is important that you understand this, because I can tell you for a certainty that the devil understands it. And it is a huge reason for why he hates you and me.

The “Scapegoat Transference” is a concept the devil well understands, but is doing his best to make sure you do not. The fact that you are reading about this drives the devil insane! He has spent the better portion of his fallen existence trying to hide this truth from others. But we are exposing this for all to hear and know, and as is said, to be forewarned is to be forearmed. Remember, the “scapegoat” bears the blame for others!

The “Scapegoat Transference” is a concept the devil well understands, but is doing his best to make sure you do not.

When God made man, He also made a plan to implement, should man choose to sin. If sin should enter this world, God needed a way to get rid of it. That plan was the “Scapegoat Transference” plan. This was God’s plan to remove and eradicate sin.
This is not to be confused with the plan of salvation to redeem man; this is the plan to get rid of sin.

Do you think Satan, who instigated sin, would want to know what God’s plan was to get rid of it? You bet he would! So, when God gave these instructions to Moses, and Moses wrote them down in a book called Leviticus, you can be sure Satan was right there to see what the plan was.

**The Plan to Get Rid of Sin**

First, two goats were chosen. Then lots were cast on them or for them to see which one would be sacrificed as an offering, and which one would be presented alive as the scapegoat. Now what happens? We return to God’s plan in Leviticus:

“And when he hath made an end of reconciling the holy place, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat: And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all their iniquities and transgressions and sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness: And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness.” Leviticus 16:20–22.

**Language and Symbols**

When the priest “hath made an end. . . .” The Hebrew word for “end” is kaw-law, and means “end or finish.” So you could say, “When the priest is finished. . . .”

The Hebrew word for “reconciling” is kaw-far and means “reconcile or expiate or cancel or purge away or cleanse.” In other words, to get rid of the “dirt,” so to speak, and clean up.

The idea here is that the priest is to take all of the sins that have been symbolically placed in the sanctuary and get them out of there, finish and clean the sanctuary. Please remember that this is all a symbolic act. The symbolism is supposed to teach what God does with sin.

The wages of sin is death: “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 6:23.

God taught His people, through the symbolic act of killing a lamb, that sin causes death. What did the lamb represent? Of course you all know. The lamb symbolically represented Jesus Christ, the pure “Lamb” of God:

“The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” John 1:29.

It was not about lambs or goats or bulls. Those things simply represented, or symbolized, a truth God was trying to convey. Sin causes death. Someone must pay the penalty. The sinner must pay for his sin— OR—he can ask Jesus to pay for it. That explains the symbolism of the “Lamb” of God, which takes away the sin of the world.

**Transference Multiplied**

Now, back to the plan of “Scapegoat Transference.” When a sinner confessed his sin upon the lamb and the lamb was slain, the blood was brought into the holy place in the sanctuary and sprinkled. In symbolism again, the sin had been transferred into the Holy Place.

Every day, day in and day out, the sins were transferred from the sinner to the lamb, and the lamb was killed and the blood of the lamb was brought within the Holy Place.

Finally, at the end of the year, at the Day of Atonement, or what we know as Yom Kippur, the Holy Place was cleansed. All of the sins that had been symbolically removed from the sinner and transferred to the lamb and then to the Holy Place, then needed to be removed from the Holy Place.

**Cleansing the Holy Place**

The Holy Place, or the sanctuary, is to be cleansed. All of the sins that have been accumulating in the sanctuary, or Holy Place, for the entire year, are now to be removed, or cleaned out. Now is the time for the “Scapegoat Transference.”

Remember the two goats? One was sacrificed; one was presented alive. The live goat is brought to the high priest, and the priest lays his hands upon the goat and confesses all the iniquities and all the transgressions and all the sins of God’s people and symbolically transfers them from the sanctuary to the goat.
All of the evil, all of the rottenness, all of the bad that has been done in the world that has been repented of, and given to Jesus, is now transferred to this goat. Guess whom the goat represents? That’s right . . . Satan himself! And he knows it!

The Devil Has to Pay
All of those sins, iniquities and transgressions are going to be transferred to him. And he will pay for each and every sin that has been committed by people that have asked Jesus into their hearts and remained faithful. You see, the ones without Jesus have to pay for their own sins.

But the ones who have accepted Christ . . . the ones who had their sins transferred from them to the Holy Place? The devil has to pay for those. And he knows it.

At the end, when all is accounted for and the sanctuary is finally cleansed, the sins are placed upon Satan and he is “led out into the wilderness,” a symbolic act representing his removal from existence.

Satan’s Plan for Us
Satan does not want to pay for his own sins, much less anyone else’s. So what does he have to do to make sure he does not pay for your sins? He has to make sure YOU pay for them!

Well, no one in their right minds are going to pay for their own sins when the devil has to pay for them. The devil started this mess, and ultimately he is charged with cleaning it up. He has to pay for the sins of everyone—except for those who choose to pay for their own.

Did you catch that? God has created a plan whereby the instigator of all sin has to pay for those sins . . . unless you want to pay for them yourself. It is your choice. You pay. Satan pays. It’s up to you. The devil has no way out, but you do.

No Way Out—Unless...
What would you do if you were he? There’s no way out. All he can do is lessen his punishment by not paying for your sins. But he can’t stop you from getting rid of your sins. He can’t stop you from coming to Jesus and letting Jesus take away your sins and ultimately transferring those sins to him (the devil).

There is only one possibility, though: keep you from transferring those sins! HE can’t stop you, but maybe he can get YOU to stop yourself. How? How can he get you to stop you? What plan can he use?

May I submit . . . any plan that will work. He doesn’t have one plan; he has a thousand, nay, ten thousand. Just like when politicians use smear campaigns. They will say anything, and see what works. What will the people accept? What will each person accept?

“Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”

Some he has convinced that the “devil” is just a myth. Others he has led to believe sin is not really sin; it is simply a “different lifestyle.” Still others he has persuaded that there was no God or creation. We have just evolved from stardust and slime, and thereby . . . no devil. Yet others he has convinced the Bible is just a good storybook, but not a real history of what has happened to us, what the devil has done, and what is going to happen.

Yes, he has a thousand ways to convince us that he and sin are not real, so we do not go to Jesus and have those sins transferred to him. But what about those who have not convinced? What about those who see through the lies of evolution, through the lies of the Bible not being an inspired book, through the lies of him not being real? What about them?

The “Forgetfulness Factor”
Well, that’s the title of this message. For those he cannot deceive, he uses the “Forgetfulness Factor.” He tries to get you to forget. But forget what?

Forget that Jesus is coming soon. Forget that Satan is trying to deceive you. Forget to read your Bible, forget to go to church or prayer meet or any other spiritual meeting.

Remember, he is fighting to keep from paying for your sins. He will not let you; he will not give up; he will not go away. He will continually tempt you to think that you have lots of time.

Do it later. Come to Jesus at a more convenient time. After all, you’re young, you’re healthy, and it’s not that serious yet.

A Powerful Deception: Delay
And one of his greatest deceptions of all is: You need to come to Jesus . . . soon. Yes, that’s right. The devil can tell you that you need to come to
Jesus . . . just not right now.

You see, this way the devil takes that edge off your conscience about doing something about your life and sin and what Jesus has done for you. You fully plan to do something about it. You plan to accept Christ and get baptized. You are absolutely going to be a follower of Jesus . . . very, very soon. But we forget. We prolong. We procrastinate. And then we die.

There is no second chance, and the devil knows that, too. If he can juuuuust keep us from making that decision to follow Christ, he has won.

Remember, he will not necessarily tell you not to follow Christ, but just put it off for a month, a week, even a day . . . because he knows the “Forgetfulness Factor.” That smitten conscience that says, “I must go to Jesus,” if put off for just a little while, will almost surely forget in “just a little while.”

**Today, Tomorrow or Never?**

The “Forgetfulness Factor” works all too well on us. We have the greatest of aspirations. We have the noblest goals. We have the grandest resolutions. And the devil is okay with all of them . . . so long as they are for tomorrow.

We all know the saying, “Don’t put off until tomorrow, what you can do today.” When it comes to salvation and payment for sin, the devil says “Tomorrow.” God says “Today!”

“For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” 2 Corinthians 6:2.

**Choose Ye This Day...**

Remember the “Scapegoat Transference” plan of God’s. And remember the “Forgetfulness Factor” of the devil’s. And do not delay to make your choice today! God is waiting, and so is the devil.

What will you do, dear reader? Ask Jesus, right now, to come into your heart. Ask Him to help you turn away from sin.

Trust me, you do not want to pay for your own sins. Let the devil have them back. Let Jesus cleanse you and make you free!

Joe Olson serves as the executive director and chairman of the board of Hope International. He also travels as an international speaker.
The following brief history was written before 1890 in a compilation of Charles Spurgeon’s sermons:

The name of C. H. Spurgeon has been before the Christian public for more than a third of a century. He was first heard of as a boy preacher in a rural district of England, and in a little while he created a sensation which not a few were swift to predict would soon pass away. But not so; the star of his glory has been shining ever since, and with ever-increasing brightness.

**Envy, Criticism, Hostility**

His life has been a battle. He was born in poverty, and learned in his youth to endure hardship. By a curious providence he was denied the advantages of collegiate and theological training. He entered the ministry at sixteen, and was exposed to those peculiar perils which must inevitably beset any boy who suddenly becomes popular. Success always awakens hostile criticism. As soon as Mr. Spurgeon began to attract favorable attention he was assailed by the gibes and cuts of the scornful and envious. It is said that he has preserved many of the ludicrous pictures and belittling descriptions of himself which often appeared in the London papers. He is in debt to his enemies for much free advertisement. It is painful to say, and yet it must be said, that his speedy elevation enkindled the jealousy even of some of his ministerial brethren, and that to such an extent, in some cases, that they joined the wicked crusade against him.

Being an intensely doctrinal preacher, he encountered the hostility of those who hated his doctrines. It has always been his way to strike sin openly and with a giant’s hand, and this, of course, arrayed many evildoers against him. In his sermons he gives a great prominence to the doctrine of Divine Sovereignty, and holds up the sacrifice of Calvary as the only hope of the world. He who does this enters into warfare with the pride and self-righteousness of men.

**Spurgeon’s Cry of Alarm**

In his later life, Mr. Spurgeon has had a supreme trial. He discovered, as he believed, a marked and growing tendency among the English Baptists toward looseness and liberalism in their doctrinal teachings. In his simplicity he raised the cry of alarm and called for a reformation. To his unspeakable surprise he found that many of the denominational leaders sprang forward to deny his charge, or at least to break its force. There seemed to be far greater zeal to preserve denominational unity than to guard the truth of the Lord. This led Mr. Spurgeon to the painful necessity of withdrawing from the Baptist Union and uniting himself with another branch of the English Baptists which he regards as more Baptist and Scriptural in their doctrines. The world little knows how much care and sorrow Spurgeon has had in
would but prove that such a plant has no root in itself, but “the trees of the Lord are full of sap,” and they abide and continue and bring forth fruit, even in old age, to show that the Lord is upright. There is a great difference between nominal Christianity and real Christianity, and this is generally seen in the failure of the one and the continuance of the other. Now, the declaration of the text is that the truly righteous man shall hold on his way; he shall not go back, he shall not leap the hedges and wander to the right or to the left, he shall not lie down in idleness, neither shall he faint and cease to go upon his journey; but he “shall hold on his way.” It will frequently be very difficult for him to do so, but he will have such resolution, such power of inward grace given him, that he will “hold on his way,” with stern determination, as though he held on by his teeth, resolving never to let go. Perhaps he may not always travel with equal speed; it is not said that he shall hold on his pace, but he shall hold on his way. There are times when we run and are not weary, and anon when we walk are thankful we do not faint; ay, and there are periods when we are glad to go on all fours and creep upward with pain; but still we prove that “the righteous shall hold on his way.”

The Scripture does not teach that a man will reach his journey’s end without continuing to travel along the road; it is not true that one act of faith is all, and that nothing is needed of daily faith, prayer, and watchfulness. Our doctrine is the very opposite, namely, that the righteous shall hold on his way; or in other words, shall continue in faith, in repentance, in prayer, and under the influence of the grace of God. We do not believe in salvation by a physical force which treats a man as a dead log, and carries him whether he will it or not towards heaven. No, “he holds on,” he is personally active about the matter, and plods on up hill and down dale till he reaches his journey’s end.

**Cannot, Will Not, Live in Sin**

We never thought, nor even dreamed, that merely because a man supposes that he once entered on this way he may therefore conclude that he is certain of salvation, even if he leaves the way immediately. No, but...
we say that he who truly receives the Holy Ghost, so that he believes in the Lord Jesus Christ, shall not go back, but persevere in the way of faith. [See, however, the experience of Saul, the first king of Israel. Ed.] Though the believer to his grief will commit many a sin, yet the tenor of his life will be holiness to the Lord, and he will hold on in the way of obedience. We detest the doctrine that a man who has once believed in Jesus will be saved even if he altogether forsook the path of obedience.

I will say this of the believer, that if he could live as he would like to live he would live a perfect life. If you ask him if, after believing, he may live as he lists, he will reply, “Would God I could live as I list, for I desire to live altogether without sin. I would be perfect, even as my Father in heaven is perfect.” The doctrine is not the licentious idea that a believer may live in sin, but that he cannot and will not do so.

Saved from Total Apostasy

In 1st John 3:9 we have the thought, “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.” That is to say, the bent of the Christian’s life is not toward sin. It would not be a fair description of his life that he lives in sin. The new life sinneth not; it is born of God, and cannot transgress; and though the old nature warreth against it, yet doth the new life so prevail in the Christian that he is kept from living in sin. Our Saviour, in his simple teaching of the gospel to the Samaritan woman, said to her (John 4:13), “Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: but whosoever drinketh of the water I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.” Now, if our Saviour taught this to a sinful and ignorant woman, at his first interview with her, I take it that this doctrine is not to be reserved for the inner circle of full-grown saints, but is to be preached ordinarily among the common people, and to be held up as a most blessed privilege.

Yet doth the new life so prevail in the Christian that he is kept from living in sin.

A very blessed argument for the safety of the believers is found in our Lord’s intercession. “Wherefore also he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.” (Hebrews
Our Lord Jesus is not dead; he has risen, he has gone up into the glory, and now before the eternal throne he pleads the merit of his perfect work and as he pleads there for all his people whose names are written on his heart, as the names of Israel were written on the jeweled breastplate of the high priest, his intercession saves his people to the uttermost. If you would like an illustration of it you must turn to the case of Peter which is recorded in Luke 22:31, where our Lord said, “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: but I have prayed for thee that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.” The intercession of Christ does not save his people from being tried, and tempted, and tossed up and down like wheat in a sieve, it does not save them even from a measure of sin and sorrow, but it does save them from total apostasy. Peter was kept, and though he denied his Master, yet it was an exception to the great rule of his life. By grace he did hold on his way, because not only then, but many a time beside, though he sinned, he had an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous.

**Editor’s Comments**
Charles Spurgeon was a powerful preacher. His power was not in his antics or his appearance. He was a short man, and moved very little as he preached from the pulpit. In fact, it is said that the only part of him that moved was his left hand slightly while he preached. His power was in the message he would bring. The above message has been condensed with the hope of still maintaining a glimpse of Spurgeon’s preaching. He did believe in a doctrine of once saved always saved, but in quite a different way from many of today’s Baptists. As you can tell from the words he preached, he believed that if a man fell away from the Lord, not just by simple sin, which he would confess and repent of, but in a major way, he never was truly converted. It was like the idea of once saved, always saved, as long as you remain saved. As in so many churches, the powerful understandings of the leaders of the past have been watered down by their followers through the years.

Jesus does not want to lose any of His true followers and will not allow any to be plucked from His hand, but He does give each of us free choice. We can take ourselves from His protection. He would that all men be saved. In praying for His own disciples in John 17, Jesus said, “I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also may be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.”

Ed

A. G. and J. M. McManaway, compilers, *Spurgeon’s Sermons*. February 1890, p. 239.
Pure and Undefiled Religion

Mrs. E. G. White

"Inasmuch as ye do it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye do it unto me."

Christ's Spirit

"Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

Christ was a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief. His human life was one long travail in behalf of the inheritance he was to purchase at such infinite cost. He was touched with the feeling of our infirmities. And in consideration of the value he places upon those who are the purchase of his blood, he adopts them as his children, making them the objects of his tender care; and in order that they may have their temporal and spiritual necessities supplied, he commits them to his church, saying, Inasmuch as ye do it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye do it unto me. This is to be our watchword; and if we carry it faithfully into our lives, we shall hear the benediction, "Well done, thou good and joy faithful servant: . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

...Self is strong in them, and if in their work something arises which cuts across their plans, they place all the strength of their being on the enemy's side.

Speaking through his prophet of the work to be done by Christ in the world, God says: "Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my Spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law." And Christ himself declared: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."

Our Work

This is to be the work of every servant of Christ; and his professed followers would do well to ask themselves, Have I the mind of Christ? Have I, with humble heart, sought to help and bless the souls that are oppressed, those who are tempted and tried by poverty and affliction? or have I heard the voice of my fellow men asking for pity, for consideration, and for mercy, and spurned their earnest cry? Have I made it harder for them to place their faith and confidence in a prayer-hearing God? Have I by harsh, unpitying words crushed the wounded spirit, and in hardness of heart quenched the last spark of hope in the soul? In the sight of God the richest treasure is a humble, contrite heart. The name of the Lord is magnified when the heart becomes tender, sensitive to another's woe, and pitiful of his suffering. When the Holy Spirit works upon our hearts and minds, we shall not shun duty and responsibility, and, like the priest and Levite, pass by on the other side, leaving the wounded, helpless soul to its misery. Angels of God stand ready to work with us as we minister to souls.

What Spirit in Us?

It is possible for a man to think himself a Christian, and yet have entirely incorrect ideas of Christianity. He may regard himself as a follower of Christ, and think he is doing an essential work, and yet do that work with such a spirit and in such a way as to stir up the worst passions of the human heart. There are many intelligent men who mean to be Christians, but who deceive themselves. Their religion is not after the order of Christ, but is a shadow of some other man's mind, and does great harm to the cause of truth when brought into connection with the work. If these persons would study the works of Christ, they would see that in their lives are revealed the attributes of Satan, rather than than the beauty of the meek and lowly Jesus.

Instead of learning in the school of Christ, they are being educated in wrong ways by teachers whose defects of character will close against them the gates of heaven.

There are many who believe the truth, but their faith is not that faith which works by love and purifies the soul. At times they may speak the truth as it is in Jesus. They may be kind, and may deal with equity. They may have right ideas, and at times come to correct decisions in regard to the work. They may have ability to teach others, to educate the young, or to deal with the erring; but self is strong in them, and if in their work something arises which cuts across their plans, they place all the strength of their being on the enemy's side. They become unkind and unfeeling. They make unholy decisions, and act in a way to hurt souls nigh and afar off. They lie against the truth, while claiming to believe. Bitterness is cherished against the souls who are the purchase of the Son of God; and when, through misconception, their own spirit is brought into exercise, their unchristlike disposition manifests itself against those who are innocent. These men misrepresent Christ. By the heavenly universe as well as by men, it is seen that they have not renewed,
sanctified hearts, but are coarse in disposition, unsympathetic, unkind, uncourteous, unchristlike.

When We Scatter, not Gather

God has represented this work in his word, saying, "Ye have thrust with side and with shoulder, and pushed all the diseased with your horns, till ye have scattered them abroad." This has been the course pursued by many professing Christians. They have driven souls onto Satan's battle ground, to be tempted, to falter, and to fall. For a time the work may not show the result of such a course of action; for God works to preserve the honor of his cause. But when messages of warning and mercy are repeatedly rejected, these defects will become apparent; alienation will be aroused, distrust awakened. Those who have connected themselves with these men will find that they are losing personal piety and faith in Christ, that their characters are becoming molded after a wrong pattern. Temptations will be many and strong to be unmerciful, unsympathetic, untouched by the feeling of others' infirmities. Instead of learning in the school of Christ, they are being educated in wrong ways by teachers whose defects of character will close against them the gates of heaven.

When the judgment shall sit, and the books shall be opened, these men will be called to account for the blood of souls that is upon their garments. In that day God will ask them, "Who hath required this at your hand?"

Not Our Work to Punish

Men are slow to learn the lesson that the spirit manifested by Jehu will never bind hearts together. It is not safe for us to bind up our interests with a Jehu religion; for this will result in bringing sadness of heart upon God's true workers. God has not given to any of his servants the work of punishing those who will not heed his warnings and reproofs. When the Holy Spirit is abiding in the heart, it will lead the human agent to see his own defects of character, to pity the weakness of others, to forgive as he wishes to be forgiven. He will be pitiful, courteous, Christlike.

Mark how tender and pitiful the Lord is in his dealings with his creatures. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us, and he stands ready to receive every wanderer who will return. The ear of the Lord is open to the cry of every one who is poor in spirit. Even before the prayer is offered, or the yearning of the soul made known, the Spirit of God goes forth to meet it. Never has there been a good desire, however weak, never a prayer lifted to God, however faltering, never a tear shed in contrition of soul, but grace from Christ has gone forth to meet the grace working in the human heart.

God has not given to any of his servants the work of punishing those who will not heed his warnings and reproofs. When the Holy Spirit is abiding in the heart, it will lead the human agent to see his own defects of character, to pity the weakness of others, to forgive as he wishes to be forgiven.

Regarding the Prodigal

Our Heavenly Father appreciates his erring child, and encourages him to return. The Father's arm is placed about his repenting son; the Father's garments cover his rags; the ring is placed upon his finger as a token of his royalty. And yet how many there are, themselves needing salvation as much as he, who look upon the struggling soul not only with indifference, but with contempt. Like the Pharisee they say, "God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, . . . or even as this publican." How hard and ungracious are the thoughts cherished toward the straying sheep! How can God look with pleasure upon men and women who, claiming to be co-workers with Christ, regard the prodigal with contempt; who, while the soul is making its first struggles against the flood of temptation, stand by, like the elder brother in the parable, stubborn, self-willed, complaining? Will he not judge for these things? If those in positions of trust had realized what God expects of them in rescuing the human race, many lambs that have been killed by neglect would now be safe in the fold of God. If one half the time and strength that is now devoted to sermonizing were spent in seeking to win back the straying ones, there would be rejoicing in the heavenly courts. These sermons lived would have a telling influence in winning souls to Christ.

Living Sermons

We need to make great changes. We need to hold to pure principles in reverence for Christ and respect for the purchase of his blood. There must be a continual growth in those attributes that tend to perfection of character. When divine grace has opened our hearts, we shall impart to others of the grace we have received. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, will keep our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Review and Herald, April 10, 1900.

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 inestimable blessing to God's people around the world.
The King and the kingdom are coming,
Though long has the waiting time seemed;
And oft, to the eye of the watcher,
A light in the distance has gleamed,
   But only to go out in darkness
And leave the heart sad as before:
   Be patient a little while longer;
The waiting time soon will be o’er.

The crown is a thing of the future,
The glory will yet be revealed;
The royal gift has not gone by thee,
Nor Jesus his promise repealed.
   Be faithful a little while longer:
The night must give place to the day;
The King and the kingdom are coming,
And for their arrival we pray.

Our prayer is the prayer of the ages,
Which Jesus himself taught to men;
And thus he is pledged to performance,
Without telling all about when.
So, praying and hoping and working,
   In faith to each other we cry:
“The King and the kingdom are coming!
Keep heart; for the Lord draweth nigh.”

Charles H. Gabriel
1. Sabbath-keeping Adventists first erected church buildings in
   a. 1844.
   b. 1888.
   c. 1855.
   d. 1848.

2. Adventist pioneers applied the Laodicean message to Sunday-keeping Adventists until clearer light came in
   a. 1888.
   b. 1856.
   c. 1847.
   d. 1891.

3. The first Sabbath-keeping Adventist minister in North America was
   a. James White.
   b. William Farnsworth.
   c. Frederick Wheeler.
   d. Joseph Bates.

4. The periodical launched by James White in November 1850 has for over a century been known to old-timers as
   a. “the good old Review.”
   b. The Advent Review.
   c. The Sabbath Herald.
   d. the Signs of the Times.

5. The first periodical of Seventh-day Adventists was called
   a. The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald.
   b. Signs of the Times.
   c. The Advent Shield.
   d. The Present Truth.

6. The first foreign missionary offering by Seventh-day Adventists was
   b. $125.
   c. $76.
   d. $31.

7. The first Adventist institution of higher learning, founded in 1874, was
   a. Andrews University.
   b. Emmanuel Missionary College.
   c. Battle Creek College.
   d. Loma Linda University.

8. Elder J. N. Andrews was sent in 1874 as the first foreign missionary of the Seventh-day Adventist church to
   a. Switzerland.
   b. France.
   d. Germany.

9. William Miller was raised as a
   a. Methodist.
   b. Presbyterian.
   c. Baptist.
   d. Deist.

10. James Andrews accepted the Sabbath at the age of
    a. 33.
    b. 17.
    c. 21.
    d. 24.


Answers: 1.c  2.b  3.c  4.a  5.d  6.c  7.c  8.a  9.c  10.b

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.
**News Watch**

**The EU Must Keep Sunday, Says Catholic Church**


End-time perspective: "More and more the world is setting at naught the claims of God. Men have become bold in transgression. The wickedness of the inhabitants of the world has almost filled up the measure of their iniquity. This earth has almost reached the place where God will permit the destroyer to work his will upon it. The substitution of the laws of men for the law of God, the exaltation, by merely human authority, of Sunday in place of the Bible Sabbath, is the last act in the drama. When this substitution becomes universal, God will reveal Himself. He will arise in His majesty to shake terribly the earth. He will come out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the world for their iniquity, and the earth shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.” Testimonies, vol. 7,141.

**Pope: Catholics in Politics Must Follow Faith**

“Pope Benedict XVI is encouraging Catholics who get involved in politics to stay true to their church’s teaching. Benedict says it is necessary that a new generation of Catholics in politics be ‘coherent’ with the faith they profess. He also recommends that they act with moral rigor and work passionately for the common good.

The pope urged Vatican officials in a speech Saturday to be vigilant about the evangelical education of Catholics who get so involved in society. Benedict recently said religion and politics should be ‘open to each other.’ The Vatican is particularly attentive to political action about abortion, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research.” Asso. Press, Nov. 15, 2008.

**US Officials Flunk Test of US History, Economics, Civics**

“US elected officials scored abysmally on a test measuring their civic knowledge, with an average grade of just 44 percent, the group that organized the exam said Thursday. Ordinary citizens did not fare much better, scoring just 49 percent correct on the 33 exam questions compiled by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute (ISI).

“It is disturbing enough that the general public failed ISI’s civic literacy test, but when you consider the even more dismal scores of elected officials, you have to be concerned,” said [the] chairman of the National Civic Literacy Board at ISI. “How can political leaders make informed decisions if they don’t understand the American experience?” Yahoo!News, Nov 20, 2008.

End-time perspective: "There is a work of sacred importance for ministers and people to do. They are to study the history of the cause and people of God. They are not to forget the past dealing of God with His people. They are to revive and recount the truths that have come to seem of little value to those who do not know by personal experience of the power and brightness that accompanied them when they were first seen and understood. In all their original freshness and power these truths are to be given to the world.” Manuscript 22, 1890.

**Teen Pregnancy Linked to Sexy TV Shows**

“Exposure to some forms of entertainment is a corrupting influence on children, leading teens who watch sexy programs into early pregnancies and children who play violent video games to adopt aggressive behavior…. Researchers at the Rand research organization said their three year study was the first to link viewing of racy television programming with risky sexual behavior by teens.”

End-time perspective #1: "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes." Psalm 101:3.

"The mind, the soul, is built up by that upon which it feeds; and it rests with us to determine what it shall be fed. It is within the power of everyone to choose the topics that shall occupy the thoughts and shape the character." Education, 126.

End-time perspective #2: "If the eye is kept fixed on Christ, the work of the Spirit ceases not until the soul is conformed to His image." DA 302.

US Bank Failures Accelerate in November

"Thanksgiving may be near, but November has proven to be the busiest month this year for bank failures, according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. So far this month five banks have failed, bringing the current 2008 total to 22.

On Nov. 21, the FDIC announced the three latest bank failures: PFF Bank and Trust in Pomona, Downey Savings and Loan in Newport Beach, and The Community Bank in Loganville, Georgia." Tim McLaughlin, Silicon Valley/ San Jose Business Journal, Nov. 24, 2008.

End-time perspective: "The land boom has cursed this country. Extravagant prices have been paid for lands bought on credit; then the land must be cleared, and more money is hired. A house to be built calls for more money, and then interest with open mouth swallows up all the profits. Debts accumulate, and then come the closings and failures of banks, and the foreclosures of mortgages. Thousands have been turned out of employment; families lose their little all. They borrow and borrow, and then have to give up their property and come out penniless. Much money has been put into farms, bought on credit or inherited with an encumbrance. The occupants lived in hope of becoming real owners, and it might have been so, but for the failure of banks throughout the country." 12MR 89.

Co-worker Perfume Leads to Lawsuit

"A federal judge says a Detroit city employee can proceed with a civil suit claiming she couldn't work because of a co-worker's strong perfume... under the Americans with Disabilities Act. The city is asking to have the suit dismissed.

[The employee] says she's severely sensitive to perfumes and other cosmetics... The perfume... made it difficult for her to breathe. She says the co-worker also used a plugged-in room deodorizer. The suit says the co-worker later agreed to stop using the room deodorizer but kept using perfume." The Detroit News, Nov. 27, 2008.

End-time perspective: "I have been shown that unless we make most diligent work in purifying our own souls from all unkindness and bitterness, these traits will reveal themselves at times before we are aware of it, to do great harm to the cause we love. I have been shown that when we strictly heed the instructions God has given us in regard to cherishing pitying love, compassion, forgiveness, and kindness for others, and are forgetful of ourselves, we shall have a power of influence with our people such as no others can have. I was shown that it rests wholly with us whether we leave an influence behind us that is subduing, transforming and elevating—or to the contrary...." 11 MR 25.

Papal Visit to Israel

"A Vatican spokesman has confirmed that the Vatican and Israel are considering a papal trip to the Holy Land in 2009." Zenit.org, Nov. 27, 2008.

End-time perspective: "The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ." Acts 4:26.
Health Gem

**Powerful Immune Boosters**

So what exactly is the immune system and what does it do for me? The immune system is a collection of mechanisms within our bodies that protect us against disease. It does this by identifying and killing pathogens (microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, or parasites that can cause disease) and tumor cells before they can take hold on the body and wreak havoc.

As you probably know, the most effective method of preventing a common cold or the flu is to strengthen your immune system. More than one or two colds or flu infections a year signals weak immunity. A poor diet, physiological and psychological stress, and drug use (including the use of alcohol, tobacco, and prescription drugs) can all weaken the immune system.

This time of year, cold temperatures have set in, and runny noses and sniffles may seem like an epidemic. What if I told you there is a simple way to boost your immune system so you won't get sick? What if there were nine?

What if I also told you that people who pick three or more of the suggestions from this list— and stick to them— will **substantially** improve their immune strength, increase their ability to stay happy and healthy through dreaded cold and flu season, and be able keep it up through the darkest months of the year? So here goes! Here are my nine recommendations to keep your immune system going strong; making this winter cold- and flu-free!

**Get a full night's sleep.**

Get plenty of rest! Jobs and other obligations often force us to neglect our bodies. But lack of rest can hinder the body's defense mechanisms and prolong infection. When you rest in bed, and especially when you sleep, powerful immune-strengthening substances are released, enhancing the potency of immune functions.

During deep sleep, the production of growth hormone is at its peak. Growth hormone speeds the absorption of nutrients and amino acids into your cells and aids the healing of tissues throughout your body. This hormone also stimulates your bone marrow, where your immune system cells are manufactured.

Melatonin, often called the “sleep hormone,” is also produced during sleep. This hormone inhibits tumors from growing, prevents viral infections, stimulates your immune system, increases antibodies in your saliva, has antioxidant properties, and enhances the quality of sleep.

So much of the body's healing occurs during the nighttime hours! It is **vital** to your health to get plenty of rest at night (especially between the hours of 8 pm and midnight).

In addition to all that, sleep has also been linked to balanced hormone levels (including human growth hormone and the stress hormone cortisol), keeping weight down, clear thinking and reasoning, improved mood, and vibrant, healthy skin. Sound good to you? Get your rest, and you'll feel the difference!

**Drink plenty of water.**

This is almost, but not quite, a given. Despite the number of reminders, most people still aren't getting enough water! In fact, most headaches occur because people are dehydrated. Headaches and thirst are both signs of dehydration. Daily, you should try to drink half of your body weight in ounces. (For example, a 150-pound person needs 75 ounces per day.)

**Drink your lemons.**

Lemons are the ideal food for restoring acid-alkali balance. Drinking freshly squeezed lemon juice in water, or adding it to herbal tea or salad dressing (in place of vinegar), helps maintain the body's internal "climate" at a healthy pH. A balanced pH supports healthy bacteria instead of the harmful bacteria and viruses that thrive in a more acidic environment.

One of the reasons lemons are so powerful is that they are rich in the strong antioxidant vitamin C; vitamin C boosts the immune system and is great for colds, coughs, flu, and ear infections. Lemons also have numerous other health benefits, including anti-cancer properties! So don't forget to drink them!

Dr. Olson comes from a long line of health professionals including MDs, naturopaths, and osteopaths. Having early wanted to help people, especially in the area of health, she was a missionary to Belize and Korea.

A national speaker, an RN for years, a certified herbologist, and a naturopathic doctor, Dr. Olson is utilizing this experience and wealth of knowledge for the benefit of people all over the world.
How does water help prevent illness? The mucous membranes lining the respiratory tract must be kept hydrated. When they become dry, they offer a desirable breeding ground for viruses. A moist respiratory tract repels viral infections. So drink plenty of water throughout the day. No coffee, black tea or colas, as they weaken the immune system—which leads me to the next item:

Stop drinking coffee (and other caffeinated beverages)!

Contrary to recent marketing as a source of antioxidants, coffee, tea (other than herbal tea), colas, and chocolate are some of the worst things you can do for your immune system and your health. Caffeine robs your body of minerals and vitamins, and it dehydrates you. A vitamin- and mineral-robbed immune system is a weak immune system, and you are much more likely to get sick.

If you DO decide to risk it and drink these things, make sure you add an additional two glasses to your water intake per cup of caffeinated beverage. A good quality mineral supplement such as Mega Multi helps to offset caffeine's damage, too.

Quit eating refined white sugar!

If you do only one thing to boost your immune system, eliminating sugar will do the trick. When you break the cravings and stop eating refined sugar, you will see noticeable results in your energy levels, weight distribution, immunity, and ability to think clearly. Many holistic nutritionists actually consider sugar a drug for its impact on the human body.

Sugars depress the immune system, period. And this limits the body's ability to kill bacteria and viruses. In addition, blood sugar and Vitamin C compete for entry into white blood cells. Which do you want to win?

Healthier sugars such as agave and stevia do exist, but avoid artificial sweeteners; they are more toxic than cane sugar. NOTE: If you feel like you might be coming down with something, dilute all fruit juices with at least equal parts of water to reduce the amount of sugar you're consuming.

Eat lots and lots of raw fruits and vegetables!

Fruits and veggies are high in antioxidants, vitamins, minerals, fiber, and enzymes. The nutritional content that you receive from raw fruits and veggies is unparalleled. Many vitamins, including C, are antioxidants and will protect cells—including those of your immune system—from damage by toxins in the environment. Dark-colored produce (berries, kale, broccoli) tends to be higher in flavonoids, polyphenols and other antioxidants. The perfect source of minerals is seaweed, which is sold dried, but can often be found raw (dried at low temperatures to maintain most of the enzymes and nutrients) in health food stores.

Spend some time out in the cold (bundled up, of course).

Exercise can make a noticeable difference to your health and happiness by releasing endorphins. Most of us spend 90% of our lives indoors, inhaling dubiously filtered air and other people's germs, so take any opportunity you can to get outside. Time spent outdoors in the cold also stimulates the thyroid gland!

Twenty to thirty minutes of exercise daily outside in the fresh air (preferably in the sunshine) will help expel toxins, boost the immune system to fight infections, and increase circulatory function. Also it will help increase draining of the lymphatic system, which in turn, expels toxins.

Relax and be happy!

Stress slows the healing process and lowers the immune system, which will increase healing time. Make sure you take time to yourself, spend some time with friends, or unwind with a massage, a hot bath, or other relaxing technique.

Our bodies respond to our emotions. If you're feeling harassed and anxious, it can manifest in a sore throat or a cold. Prayer and Bible study can relax your mind and improve your health! Giving thanks for the blessings and abundance in your life and of the world around you helps. Think positive thoughts. Pay attention to warning signs of sore throat or exhaustion so you can keep them from getting worse. Remember, when you're happy, you're far less likely to get sick!

And finally...

Give your body an herbal boost.

Many herbal supplements and tinctures exist to give the immune system additional support during the cold months (or any time your
immune system is compromised). Of course, I have a few personal favorites! Here are the ones I have personally studied, taken, and highly recommend:

To prevent an infection and boost immune system, I like—

**C-Blast** – This is a whole-food Vitamin C blend (which is much stronger than commercial synthetic Vitamin C products). C-Blast will give your immune system the boost it needs to fight off infections.

**Acerola Chews** – For children—or adults—who don’t like to swallow pills, this is a delicious chewable form of Vitamin C. Tastes great and gives your immune system a kick!

**Mighty Immune Plus** – If you don’t like pills, whether swallowable or chewable, this product is perfect for you. Mighty Immune Plus is an amazing blend of over 200 vitamins, minerals, herbs, and nutrients that will help to boost the immune system and prevent infections.

If it’s too late and you feel an infection starting to come on, try—

**Immune Boost** – A highly potent echinacea formula, Immune Boost is designed to be taken at the onset of an infection to get rid of it fast!

**Ultra Fighter** – Whenever I feel something coming on, I reach for Ultra Fighter. Known as a natural antibiotic and “anti-everything.” This one fights all infections, whether the cause is viral, bacterial, or fungal.

**Anamu** – Especially helpful for serious immunodeficiency disorders, Anamu helps boost the immune system to fight against foreign harmful and damaging organisms and particles. Also kills viruses and bacteria! Great for colds and the flu!

**Sore Throat Spray** – When you feel that tingle in your throat, immediately reach for the sore throat spray. It will help stop the infection in its tracks while soothing the throat and reducing inflammation and pain.

**Congesta-Clear** – This product works quickly and effectively. When the infection is deep and congestion is present, some people may experience relief in as little as 15 minutes.
Not only does Immune Boost help to fight and kill infections, but more importantly, it helps to stimulate and strengthen your immune system to be able to attack infections more quickly and effectively.

The active constituents of Immune Boost work together to help inhibit the influenza and cold viruses. Immune Boost can actually help speed recovery. Sore throats, coughs, and congestion can all enjoy quick relief with the use of Immune Boost!

Price:
250 mL (8.5 oz).........$19.99 HXHH-IB00

Suggested Adult Dosage:
• ½ teaspoon 3 times daily for up to 10 days, or until symptoms are relieved. -- When using Immune Boost as a preventative for colds and flu, it should not be taken continually. Periods of Immune Boost use should be followed by periods of rest since the primary ingredient, Echinacea, can lose its effectiveness over time.

To Order Call Today:
1-800-468-7884
or Visit us on the web at:
www.hopeforhealthusa.com

*Prices listed above do not include shipping and handling or sales tax

Facts:

Immune Boost with Echinacea vs Prescribed Antibiotics

• According to Dr. Karl Smith, Echinacea has been called “the natural antibiotic” and has shown to be more effective than antibiotics when fighting infections.

• The majority of prescribed antibiotics fight only bacterial infections and do not have the capacity to kill viruses. So if an illness is caused by a virus, antibiotics will have little to no effect. Not only does Echinacea kill bacteria, but it kills both viral and fungal infections as well!

• Another downfall of conventional antibiotics is that they fight and kill all bacteria they come in contact with, unless the bacteria are resistant to that antibiotic. Unfortunately, this includes the friendly bacteria that help carry out normal body functions. Echinacea also kills bacteria with which it comes in contact. However, it has the ability to differentiate between good and bad bacteria, and it does NOT kill the helpful bacteria such as intestinal flora.

Immune Boost Helps:

• Stimulate the body to produce more white blood cells. These cells are the soldiers which help your body to fight the war against infections. With more soldiers, the body is able to defeat the enemy (infection) more quickly.

• Stimulate the release of interferons. Interferons produce electrical impulses that prevent and inhibit the growth and the spread of disease cells in the body.

• Prevent bacteria from producing an enzyme called hyaluronidase, which allows them to permeate membranes and invade body tissues.

• Purify the blood and promote proper digestion.

Immune Boost contains Vitamins A, C, and E, which help decrease inflammation and speed up the healing process!

*These statements have not been evaluated by the FDA. This product is not intended to prevent, diagnose, treat, or cure any disease.

Tired of constantly feeling run down or seeming to catch every bug that goes around? Next time you feel yourself lagging, BOOST your immune system the natural way! Immune Boost helps stimulate the immune system; making it more efficient at attacking bacteria, viruses, and other infections. This product is formulated to attack the infection before it takes hold, helping to prevent or shorten the duration and severity of illness.
This unique formula is designed to loosen and drain mucus and secretions from the bronchial passageways so you can breathe better! It helps relieve congestion and coughing associated with asthma, bronchitis, colds, and the flu. A particular benefit of this formula is that it works quickly and effectively, with some people experiencing relief in as little as 15 minutes!

Discover the Benefits of the 13 Extraordinary Ingredients in Congesta-Clear:

**Eucalyptus Oil** - Very effective for treating a number of respiratory problems including cold, cough, running nose, sore throat, asthma, nasal congestion, bronchitis, and sinusitis. Eucalyptus oil is antibacterial, anti-fungal, anti-microbial, anti-viral, anti-inflammatory and decongestant in nature which makes it a good ingredient for many medicines for treating respiratory problems.

**Garlic Extract** - A very powerful herb, garlic displays antibiotic, anti-fungal, and anti-viral properties and is reportedly effective against many flu viruses and herpes simplex (the virus responsible for cold sores). Garlic reduces congestion helps expel mucus.

**Menthol** - A powerful antiseptic and anaesthetic, which helps to relieve pain and fight infection. Has cooling and soothing properties that give fast relief.

**Omega 3 & 6** - Relieves pain & inflammation. Boosts immunity.

**Onion Extract** - Breaks up heavy lung congestion, clears phlegm, and soothes the inflammation of the lungs and sinuses. Has anti-inflammatory and secretion-stimulating properties.

**Peppermint Oil** - Opens up lungs, bronchioles, and sinuses. Peppermint oil is very helpful for bronchitis, sinus congestion, asthma and other respiratory illnesses.

**Radish** - Relieves congestion of the respiratory system including nose, throat, windpipe, and lungs, regardless of the cause. Rich in vitamins, it helps prevent future infections.

**Rosemary** - Contains volatile oils that enhance the function of the immune system. It is useful for relieving colds, sore throats, flu, coughs, and chest infections, asthma, wheezing, bronchitis, whooping cough, and excessive mucus. The warming and stimulating effects of rosemary help clear phlegm from the head and chest; its relaxing effects help relieve spasms in the bronchial tubes.

**Watercress** - Having long been used to treat sore throat and stuffy nose, recent research suggests that watercress may have a much more vital use: preventing cancer of the throat and lungs in smokers.

**Vitamin A** - Maintains healthy mucus membranes of the respiratory tract and lungs.

**Vitamin D** - Research shows that an increased intake or higher levels of vitamin D are associated with healthier lungs.

**Magnesium Chloride** - Improves respiratory function. Deficiency is associated with an increased risk of developing lung diseases.

**Zinc Sulfate** - Can help boost immune system and prevent colds and the flu. Zinc deficiency is associated with poor immune function.

Facts:

An analysis of 19 studies of asthma drugs like Advair and Serevent demonstrates that users run a substantially increased risk of hospitalization and death. Research shows that Advair alone may be responsible for 4,000 to 5,000 asthma deaths a year.

Chronic bronchitis is a major cause of disability and death in the United States. The American Lung Association estimates that about 14 million Americans suffer from this disease.

Price:

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Good morning, Hope. Just wanted to say a special thanks for the message on DVD and a very special thank you for the recipe cards. They are heaven-sent. To GOD be all the glory! Praise GOD! I put them to good use. Also, I would like to have the whole recipe list you have. Here is a gift enclosed for the support of the ministry.

CI, Alabama

I was truly uplifted, rebuked and strengthened today by your sermon on the subject of the fig tree, which I watched on DVD this morning. I just wanted to thank you for such an eye-opening, timely and present truth-filled message in this time of compromise and apostasy in Adventism. I wonder, when I think of the consistency to truth and pioneer Adventism that Hope International has maintained ever since I got acquainted with the labors and work of ______.

We stand behind you as you continue to bless us with your preaching and written matter. Most of the people here in South Africa and Africa at large, like myself, are mostly uneducated; thus they would appreciate a message that is presented in a simplified manner. I also visit your website on a regular basis. However, it is impossible for me to download anything as most of the books and documents are for sale. I have wanted to buy some few items on diet and health but this is impossible as I neither have a job nor an income, with the exception of a study mate’s social grant.

Be that as it may, we feel blessed each and every month when we receive Our Firm Foundation at no cost from Elder ______ of Word of Life Ministries of Durban, South Africa, a faithful soul-winner and independent minister. For that, we are truly and sincerely grateful.

BN, South Africa

Your May-June 2008 issue of the Good News newsletter was SUCH a blessing!

LT, Virginia

I just want to say that I like your new literature approach with your bi-monthly booklet, Good News. I like the simple thoughts the book contains; it says as much as you can get in one of those CD or DVD messages. I could say more, but the key thought is that I want to say I like your newsletter. I can get as much, if not more, from your magazine. God bless you all!

JS, Ohio

Christian greetings to you and Pastor ______ and all the beloved of God in Christ Jesus our Lord and soon-coming Saviour. Kindly allow me to thank God, our heavenly Father and our Lord Jesus Christ for the wonderful, truth-filled books you are presenting to the world. A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL who have contributed in any way to give to the world, steeped in spiritual darkness—especially, in a sad way, God’s own elect, the people He has called “out of darkness into His marvelous light”—such beautiful, glossy, informative, uplifting, interesting, challenging Bible and Spirit of Prophecy-filled literature, to warn and prepare a people for the soon coming of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

God bless you, beloved of God in Christ Jesus. I’m looking forward to meeting you ALL around the THRONE OF GOD. Yours in the Master’s service.

FJH, South Africa

I appreciate the new layout and everything else in the November issue. Especially practical was the article “If I’m A Christian, Why Do I Still Want To Sin?”

HL, West Virginia

Thank you for your outreach DVD program. It is a good program for many people. I index them all!

WL, Florida

I enjoyed your article on MSM. Thank you!

AJ, Pennsylvania

Mr. ______ just called to send MSM to a friend. Mr. ______ has only taken it for a few days, and he said he felt immediate relief for nerve damage he had that only ice had helped before, so he is praising God for the relief he is experiencing!

DG, Texas
We fervently believe in the power of prayer, and for that reason we are making a special request for your prayers. We have so many projects that we are striving to complete, our new Hope for Health catalog being a top priority. We also continue to expand our DVD of the Month ministry.

The health work is the right arm of the gospel message; the benefit of healing people to bring them to a greater understanding of spiritual matters was utilized by Christ in His ministry. The catalog and the DVDs work hand in hand to heal, and then bring precious souls to their loving Savior. We know that the Lord will bless this work as many bring it to His throne in prayer. Thank you, and may God bless you.

Hope International Staff and Board.

“If you will find voice and time to pray, God will find time and voice to answer.”
My Life Today, 16.

“Call unto me, and I will answer thee.”
Jeremiah 33:3.