It should be difficult for even the casual observer not to notice that our world is falling apart. Geologically, economically, socially and morally, the nations are grappling with issues that are insurmountable. It would seem like a supernatural power has outrageously decided to bundle the nations together and throw them all in an abyss of confusion and death. What we are observing in our world is nothing short of the manifestation of the ire of the dragon (Satan). He knows that time is rapidly running out for him and his hosts of darkness; so whatever he intends to do he must do quickly. However, the good news is that the Great Sovereign of the universe is still in charge of events on the earth, and while Satan is working to destroy, the Lord of glory is working indefatigably to save that which was lost. It is opportune at this juncture to take a brief survey of some of the critical planetary issues that are of concern to well thinking men and women today and to see what the word of prophecy has to say on these matters.

Climate Change

Probably one of the greatest concerns among statesmen and policy makers globally is that of the changing climatic conditions the world over. It is believed that climate change is caused by the irresponsible activities of humans (burning of fossil fuels, indiscriminate use of chemicals, cutting down of forests, etc.) and that for this situation to be reversed, there has to be globally co-ordinated efforts among the nations. A few recent issues of concern are listed as follows:

Greenland’s Melting Ice and Rising Sea Levels

Scientists fear that with climate change (global warming) there could be danger to land masses that are close to sea level. Very large population groups could be permanently displaced.

Continued on page 2

The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish.

Isaiah 24: 4
“In 2008, scientists documented for the first time a staggering phenomenon, long hidden from humanity, in the remote frozen expanse of Greenland. Beneath a gleaming turquoise lake atop the ice sheet, a monstrous crack suddenly split the lakebed from edge to edge. Torrents of water surged through the crack at times flowing out of the bottom of the lake faster than the water flowing over Niagara Falls. In less than two hours, the crack drained the entire lake, sending a deluge thousands of feet through the ice, all the way down to the bedrock…”

“It stirred interest not only because it was dramatic, but also because it had dramatic implications for billions of people far removed from Greenland—in New York City, Bangladesh, and other coastal areas. The water that drained from the lake to the base of the ice sheet lubricates the interface between ice and rock, allowing the ice sheet to slide faster toward the coast. That accelerates the outflow of ice from land into the ocean, causing sea levels to rise faster.”

Snow in the Namibian Desert

On Tuesday, June 14, 2011, a peculiar phenomenon made headlines around the world: snowfall in the hot Namibian desert. One online news journal carried the article thus: “Parts of the south-west Africa nation of Namibia usually associated with heat and dust have been blanketed in snow. A storm brought sub zero temperatures and snow to the Namib-Naukluft Park this week, which local forecasters have described as an extremely rare event. The average overnight temperature, measured from Tuesday 18h00 until 06h00 Wednesday, was a record low of 2.1 degrees celsius.” The lowest temperature recorded that day was minus 7.8 degrees celsius.

Rise of Racism in America

There seems to be a rise in acts of racism in the United States of America. In recent times there have been reports of police killings of unarmed young black men and even police aggression against young black women. “Sandra Bland, 28, was found dead in her cell three days after she was arrested after being stopped for a minor traffic violation…Bland, from Chicago, was found hanged with a plastic rubbish bag around her neck in her cell three days later.” Then the gruesome killing of nine blacks at church in Charleston, S. C. by a white youth. “Nine people have died in a shooting at a historic black church in Charleston, S.C., police said early Thursday morning.” I do believe this was a hate crime," Police Chief Gregory Mullen said. The suspect, who remains on the loose, is a white male about 21 years old, officials said. This phenomenon of racism is not just endemic to the USA, it is rampant in Europe as well.

Global Debt Crisis

The global debt crisis seems set to cause serious social upheavals within various countries. Greece was on the verge of bankruptcy in June/July 2015 until a last minute austerity package was approved by the Greek parliament in order to secure well needed funds from the IMF and the European Union.

Continued on page 4
This story is recalled by Mabel R. Miller, Great-granddaughter of Ellen G. White: "One morning, my mother helped me pick a handful of our prettiest pansies from our flower garden. Then she let me take them to Grandma Ellen and visit her all by my self.... When Grandma Ellen saw me her face turned into one big smile. She pushed her flat writing board to the side of her chair and held out her arms. I ran straight into them.... This morning, she hugged me tightly and thanked me as she took the flowers ... She smiled like I had given her the biggest bouquet of flowers from a real flower shop! 'Look at all these smiling pansy faces!' Grandma Ellen said with a laugh. 'That's why pansies are one of my favourite flowers. They make me happy. Look Mable! Every pansy is smiling at you.' 'She pulled me closer. 'Jesus wants us to be like pansies. He wants us to bring happiness to everyone around us' [said Grandma Ellen].... I have remembered what my Grandma Ellen told me that day. It was more than eighty years ago now, but whenever I see a pansy, I remember to smile" (Mabel R. Miller, Grandma Ellen and Me, pp. 14-17).

**Noni Juice – Fights Cancerous cells**

**Science Supports**

Numerous people across the globe including the health experts have testified the astounding and life-changing health related benefits of noni juice. The anti-cancer qualities of noni juice have been traditionally trusted and advocated by the modern science. Various clinical and laboratory research have suggested the chemopreventive properties of noni juice in the prevention of various cancers such as lung cancer, liver cancer and renal cancer owing to the abundance of healing antioxidants. As supported by another scientific finding, effectiveness of noni juice in reducing the risk of cancer attributes to its ability to block the carcinogen-DNA binding and prevent adduct formation. Furthermore, evidences have revealed the efficacy of noni juice in retarding the tumour growth in mammary glands by significantly decreasing the weight and volume of the tumours in the subjects. **SOURCE:**


**Ellen White’s Writings**— The Lord has provided antidotes for diseases in simple plants, and these can be used by faith, with no denial of faith; for by using the blessings provided by God for our benefit we are cooperating with Him. He can use water and sunshine and the herbs which He has caused to grow, in healing maladies brought on by indiscretion or accident. We do not manifest a lack of faith when we ask God to bless His remedies. True faith will thank God for the knowledge of how to use these precious blessings in a way which will restore mental and physical vigor.

*Selected Messages Bk 2. page 289.2*
Youth Issues
Youth, will you answer God’s Call?

In order that the work may go forward in all its branches, God calls for youthful vigor, zeal, and courage. He has chosen the youth to aid in the advancement of His cause.

To plan with clear mind and execute with courageous hand demands fresh, uncrippled energies. Young men and women are invited to give God the strength of their youth, that through the exercise of their powers, through keen thought and vigorous action, they may bring glory to Him and salvation to their fellow-men.

The State of the Nations Cont’d
The world is teetering on the brink of economic and social calamity because of debt. The richest nation in the world, the United States of America is also the most indebted. As of July 27, 2015, the American national debt stood at 18,151,903,780,340.35; that is, eighteen trillion, one hundred fifty one billion, nine hundred three million, seven hundred eighty thousand, three hundred forty dollars and thirty five cents. In 2013 the American government paid $430 billion in interest payments.

Global Terrorism
Finally, there is the perceived threat to world peace caused by global terrorism. Millions of people in Iraq, Afghanistan, Tunisia, Syria, Nigeria and other Arab states have been displaced because the terror exploits of ISIS, Boko Haram and other militant groups. Suicide bombings, beheadings of victims, rapes and all manner of subversive activities characterize the operations of terrorist groups. Why are these things happening? Can we hope for a respite any times soon?

The Prophetic Word
The Bible tells us why our planet is in such a derelict state, and that things will not improve until the Lord Jesus returns to set up his eternal kingdom. Isaiah 24: The earth mourneth [and] fadeth away, the world languisheth [and] fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish. 24:5 The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant...
No renewed heart can be kept in a condition of sweetness without the daily application of the salt of the Word. Divine grace must be received daily, or no man will stay converted. Let your faith be substantiated by the Word of God. Grasp firmly the living testimony of truth. Have faith in Christ as a personal Saviour. He has been and ever will be our Rock of Ages.

Christians should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an overwhelming surprise, and this preparation they should make by diligently studying the Word of God and striving to conform their lives to its precepts.

None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict.

Only those who have been diligent students of the Scriptures, and who have received the love of the truth will be shielded from the powerful delusion that takes the world captive.

Our people need to understand the oracles of God; they need to have a systematic knowledge of the principles of revealed truth, which will fit them for what is coming upon the earth and prevent them from being carried about by every wind of doctrine.

Several times each day precious, golden moments should be consecrated to prayer and the study of the Scriptures, if it is only to commit a text to memory, that spiritual life may exist in the soul.

God's precious Word is the standard for youth who would be loyal to the King of heaven. Let them study the Scriptures. Let them commit text after text to memory and acquire a knowledge of what the Lord has said.

Build a wall of scriptures around you, and you will see that the world cannot break it down. Commit the Scriptures to memory, and then throw right back upon Satan when he comes with his temptations, "It is writ-

Study the Word of God. Commit its precious promises to memory so that, when we shall be deprived of our Bibles, we may still be in possession of the Word of God.
Gift of Prophecy Questions

How will God work to finish His work?

Let me tell you that the Lord will work in this last work in a manner very much out of the common order of things, and in a way that will be contrary to any human planning... God will use ways and means by which it will be seen that He is taking the reins in His own hands. The workers will be surprised by the simple means that He will use to bring about and perfect His work of righteousness.”- *Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 300.

How Important Is It That We Do Our Part?

“Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God.”- *Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 327.

Will The Work Succeed?

“There is no need to doubt, to be fearful that the work will not succeed. God is at the head of the work, and He will set everything in order. If matters need adjusting at the head of the work, God will attend to that, and work to right every wrong.”- *Selected Messages*, book 2, p. 390.

GROWING IN CHRIST

Growth in grace does not come **without** much **earnest prayer**, without the humbling of self at every step. Jesus said: "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." *RH, May 24, 1892 par. 6*
Louis Conradi was born in Germany, where he began studies leading to the Roman Catholic priesthood. At age 17 he emigrated to the United States where, in 1878, he was converted to Seventh-day Adventism. He attended Battle Creek College and was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1882. That same year he married Elizabeth Wakeham, of Devonshire, England, who had moved with her parents to the United States. She graduated from Battle Creek College and was trained in music, both vocal and instrumental.

In 1886 Conradi was sent by the General Conference to strengthen the work in Europe. He traveled extensively in Germany and Russia. That same year, en route to the Crimea, he was accused by the authorities of teaching Jewish heresies and was imprisoned for 40 days. Upon hearing of his imprisonment, Ellen White wrote him a letter of encouragement. She began, “We were made very sorry to hear that you were in prison. We anticipated nothing of the kind when you left us, and we cannot make it seem real now. We have not forgotten you, but we have presented your case to the highest tribunal—the Great Sovereign of the worlds. The Lord whom we serve will deliver you in His own good time.” Mrs. White reminded Conradi that the Lord was with Daniel and his three friends in Babylon and that He would be with him now in his time of trouble. “Just put your trust in Jesus,” she continued, “and remember that you are suffering for His sake and that He will not leave nor forsake you. Have faith in God. Our prayers are going up daily to God in your behalf. We will have special care for your wife and child. Those who have put you in prison have done an unjust thing. Instead of enclosing you in prison walls, if they had known you and been acquainted with your work, they would have sent two throughout the length and breadth of the domain, telling you to proclaim to all people, to all subjects and to all tongues, that there is a living God, that there is salvation for the sinner. “The entire letter is published in Manuscript Release, volume 21, pages 219-221.

While preaching at the 1901 General Conference session, Ellen White addressed Conradi by name from the pulpit with these words: “You have been doing the work of several men. God has greatly blessed your labors. The angels of God have done this work, not Brother Conradi. He has opened doors for the angels, and they have entered. And if you will all open doors for the angels and give God an opportunity to work, let me tell you that He set in operation that which will carry forward the work with a strength you do not dream of.” - GCB April 22, 1901.

Conradi was the first chairman of the newly formed General European Conference (later the European Division) in 1901, and he remained head of the work in Europe until 1922. In later years his ministry included repeated visits to Africa and the Middle East. Conradi was actively involved with the efforts of Ellen White’s staff to translate her principal works into the European languages.

In time, Conradi came to believe and advocate erroneous views in regard to prophecy and the heavenly sanctuary. He presented these views to a gathering of church leaders in 1931, but his conclusions were unacceptable. Sadly, in 1932 at the age of 76 Conradi separated from the Seventh-day Adventist Church and became a minister for the Seventh Day Baptists.
Climate change and planetary upheavals are a natural result of an aging, dying planet. The prophet Isaiah again speaks, Isaiah 51:6 “Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished.” It is during the hopeless state of affairs that the gospel will have its greatest appeal. We must see in all these things a call to mission; a call to give hope to a hopeless world. Humankind cannot stop or reverse what is happening on planet earth. It is wholly out of their control. There are forces at work that are beyond the power of mortal man to counteract. It is an opportune time for the gospel to be proclaimed; for this power we must be earnestly praying. “December 10, 1871, I was shown that God would accomplish a great work through the truth, if devoted, self-sacrificing men would give themselves unreservedly to the work of presenting it to those in darkness. Those who have a knowledge of the precious truth, and who are consecrated to God, should avail themselves of every opportunity where there is an opening to press in the truth. Angels of God are moving on the hearts and consciences of the people of other nations, and honest souls are troubled as they witness the signs of the times in the unsettled state of the nations. The inquiry arises in their hearts, what will be the end of all these things? While God and angels are at work to impress hearts, the servants of Christ seem to be asleep. But few are working in unison with the heavenly messengers.” GW, 48, 49.

Let us send up our petition to heaven for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, for this message, this life-transforming message cannot go forth in mere human strength. “And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations: and then shall the end come.” Matt. 24:14.

**SOURCES:**


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**The State of the Nations Cont’d**

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**Book of the Month**

One of Ellen White’s favourite themes was the return of Jesus, her Saviour and precious Friend. She saw our little world as a lesson book to the entire universe, illustrating both the terrible results of sin and God’s glorious love, culminating in the triumph of righteousness at Christ’s Second Advent. This book brings together significant statements from the pen of Ellen G. White on end-time events and have special relevance today as we draw ever nearer to the grand climax of this world’s history. In her writings through the years she described with inspired insight and graphic detail the climatic scenes of the last days and Jesus’ coming.