



# The Four Angels' Messages

## A Monthly Magazine

It is the Three Angels' Message of Revelation 14 empowered by "another angel" (Revelation 18:1) producing the Loud Cry, which is yet future, but now is the time of preparation, which is the purpose of this publication.

### **Love, the Need of the Church**

*Ellen White*

"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil." Troubles exist between brethren in the church because they fail to understand what constitutes true Christian charity, brotherly affections, and Christlike love. Self-love, self-esteem lead professed Christians to measure themselves by themselves. They take for granted that all their surmisings and suspicions of others are correct. But it is because of suspicions and judging of one another that there is discord, strife, and an unhealthy condition of the church.

If brethren would meet together once or twice a week, and with humble minds, feeling their weakness and

realizing their defects, then would ask the Lord to enlighten their understanding and fill their hearts with His love, examining not one another, but the Scriptures, Satan would be defeated. Many imaginary difficulties, mere mole hills that have been magnified into mountains and have made barriers between brethren, would vanish, and love, compassion, and respect would take the place of jangling and accusation. When you begin to judge your brethren, you are doing a work God has not given you to do. You are not working with Christ. God did not place you upon the judgment seat to measure and pronounce sentence upon your brethren.

Satan is an accuser of the brethren, and when he can set the leaven of

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**A Publication By Seventh-day Adventists  
For Seventh-day Adventists**

**August 2025**

**Volume 9, Issue 8**

## Dear Brothers and Sisters ...

Jerry O'Donnell

I want to take a moment to thank each one of you for being on our mailing list. Even though I do not get to speak to you personally all the time, your support is greatly appreciated. For some, I have been able to talk with, but others will drop little notes here or there with their tithe, donation, subscription, etc. Do not think those notes are ignored. They are not.

Do know that every message we receive is read and appreciated and acted upon. That does not mean I am always perfect, as a couple subscription requests recently slipped through my fingers, but have been appropriately adjusted. And your prayer requests have been offered to God, and continue to be uplifted.

But what struck me to write something on this is the number of returned pieces of mail that I get each month of a certain pattern. Admittedly, our mailing list is mostly older true, die-hard Seventh-day Adventists on the *Four Angels' Messages* list, but they are also mostly aged on the general public list for the *Have One Mind in Christ* publication. The youth want most things electronic these days, and even though we have posted the publications on the Internet, it is not in the style of fun and exciting content to grab their attention. More directly, when I see pieces of returned mail with the word "deceased" on it, or a note from an unbelieving spouse announcing the passing of the believing spouse and to cancel the subscription, or even a note to inform me that a couple that were both believers, having one of them pass, it really strikes my heart, and I have to catch my breath.

Some of you reveal your age, along with your donation, and I praise God for Him sustaining you so long. These, too, bring to mind part of the Bible verse, "Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them" (Revelation 14:13). Obviously, "Blessed [are] the dead which die in the Lord" does not come to mind with those writing and supporting the ministry because God has sustained, and they are alive. And to those in that situation, may God continue to bless you with good health and strengthen you where you are weak.

Another verse that comes to mind is, "Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where [is] their God?" (Joel 2:17). If we are here another five, ten, fifteen years (which I hope not), who is picking up the mantle which the spiritual Elijah has dropped, in the form of the aged? There do not seem to be Elishas today to pick it up. Too many of our youth are partying on Friday nights, claiming it is the movement of the Holy Spirit, as Ellen White predicted regarding Indiana {2SM 36.2}. Other youth seem to be going astray, chasing one false doctrine after another. Praise God for the handful of youth that are faithful, even though quiet.

Every generation of Seventh-day Adventists that come onto the scene does not seem as strong as the prior,

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***Immediate Donation Receipts Available Upon Request!***

**The mission of The Four Angels' Messages Ministry** is to alert as many Seventh-day Adventists as possible to see the need of living the Three Angels' Messages, be well-studied in the messages of all four angels, to get ready and be ready very soon to go and preach them, even being active now. It is our belief that not only are we the last generation, but the mark is soon to be forced upon us, and publications like this shall be targeted. So while the presses can run, let us awake to our high calling, despite others who want to remain asleep. Keep in mind, the final movements of the message are described thus:

“Are we hoping to see the whole church revived? That time will never come.” {1SM 122.1}

“We must enter upon the work individually.” {1SM 122.2}

We are not against conference churches as there are some still faithful, but most are not.

**About The Four Angels' Messages Ministry**

This ministry is founded by Jerry O'Donnell upon the necessity to raise the standard higher and higher. It is a non-profit, Seventh-day Adventist volunteer organization who love God's church and love the people, hating to see a single person deceived.

**Subscription and Donations:** Although we are volunteers, the cost of

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this publication is challenging to provide to everyone for free. So we are asking for a subscription on the honor system of **\$41 annually for 12 issues**, and if the Lord impresses you with the means to be able to pro-

vide a donation, we definitely would welcome such and would put it to proper use, including helping to pay for subscriptions of those who cannot afford the cost. The publication is free online in PDF format.

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dissatisfaction to work in human hearts, he is exultant. When he can divide brethren, he has a hellish jubilee. I think if our brethren could see, as I have seen, how much wrong is done in speaking evil of our brethren, there would be an entire change in the way we treat one another. You do not understand yourselves, you misinterpret words and deeds, and you measure them from your own finite standpoint. Your imagination leads you astray, your feelings, your tongues, which are not sanctified, are employed in a service and work that is anything but holy and Christlike.

We should bring the attractiveness of Christ into our Christian service. The soft beams of the Sun of Righteousness should shine into our hearts, that we may be pleasant and cheerful, and have a strong and blessed influence on all around us. The truth of Jesus Christ does not tend to gloom and sadness. Do not forget, my brethren, that we are in Christ's school to learn lessons of truth and love. We are taught in this school to have faith in our Redeemer. We must attend carefully to our own soul's necessity, improving every privilege provided for us to learn the meekness and lowliness of Christ.

We will have to learn that trials mean benefit, and not be discouraged under them. The heart must be disciplined, faith must be cultivated, the soul's endurance must be tested. The simplicity of faith and perfect confidence in God needs to be encouraged in your hearts. You must be constantly looking and talking on the bright side, and while the work of self-discipline must be carried on by every individual Christian, it must be in such a manner as to exalt and ennoble, and not to contract the mind and center it upon little things. Your thoughts should be the outgrowth of holy principles. Do not center your minds on objectionable things and

make a brother an offender for a word. Do not judge him by your own finite measurement. Let the voice of simple, trustful, earnest prayer be heard in your dwellings.

When our sisters visit one another, let them not speak words of criticism of their brethren. Let your minds dwell upon the attributes of God and tell of your experiences in the love of Jesus. The fullness of that love will soothe the heart and cause us to forget disagreeable occurrences.

How much sweet peace we lose because we keep pouring over the disagreeable items in ourselves and in our brethren. We must look away from the disagreeable to Jesus. We must love Him more, obtain more of His attractive beauty and grace of character, and cease the contemplation of others' mistakes and errors. We should remember that our own ways are not faultless. We make mistakes again and again, and should others watch our every word and every action as diligently as we watch them, they would present a catalogue fully as dark as we are able to present against our brethren and sisters. No one is perfect but Jesus. Think of Him and be charmed away from your self, and from every disagreeable thing, for by beholding our defects faith is weakened. God and His promises are lost from sight.

You need more of Jesus and less of self. Think no evil, talk no evil of any one. Keep your lips as with a bridle. You cannot measure others' experiences by your own. It would be a deplorable thing if every one were of the same mind. What if in some respects we do err, does the Lord forsake us, and forget us, and leave us to our own ways? No, the Lord does not treat us as we treat one another. May the Lord help you all to repent and confess, and let the love of Jesus pervade your hearts. Jealousy is all ready to spring

into existence at the least provocation. Envy and evil surmising are ready to flourish, ready to grow by being cultivated. Oh, how many hurt the heart of Christ because they want their own way and their own will. War against these unenviable traits of character, and not against one another.

If the elements existed in the church which existed in the life of Christ, there would be a trim union among His professed followers. The world is working against the church, seeking to weaken and destroy it. Shall the church imitate the world in this matter? Shall we as church members destroy confidence in other church members because they do not meet a certain standard. The message of the angel to us is, "Press together, press together, press together." Let not Satan thrust himself between the members of the church. Do not give a stroke on the enemy's side of the question to weaken the influence of any member of the church. There will always be agents of the great adversary of souls who are doing their master's work of accusing those who profess to believe the truth. They will relate something that reflects upon the attitude and character of those who profess to be Christians.

The seed of evil surmising is frequently dropped into prepared soil, and it produces a harvest after its kind. Those who should guard the interests of those of like precious faith entertain suggestions and reports from the enemies of God and truth, and the root of bitterness defiles many. Could the state of every heart reputed as eminent for holiness be critically examined and developed there would be seen some dark chapters in the experience of those most highly honored. What erroneous ideas of Christian life we would find! What false ideas of God's prerogatives and of His moral government! What limiting ideas

of the powers of the Holy One of Israel, what narrow ideas in regard to the agency of the Holy Spirit!

I know many are earnestly struggling after a higher life and seeking for clearer views of heavenly things, yet how very slow is their progress! How difficult for the mind to arise to the full assurance of hope that maketh not ashamed! In spite of all our efforts, we are often discouraged because the flesh warreth against the spirit. Let not the common, cheap, earthly things engross the mind that the presence of Jesus shall be withdrawn. The life of the church is communicated from Christ, and we help the church when we work in harmony with the life-giving power, losing sight of ourselves, and seeking to build one another up on the most holy faith.

God may choose instrumentalities which we do not accept, because they do not exactly meet our ideas. They do not work in the very line marked out as perfect, and in place of leaving them with God, for His Spirit to work with them, many begin to present difficulties, barricade the way, and cherish a grieved feeling because they see that they are doing a work which has not been done. Then begins the dissecting of the character and the gathering up [of] tidbits of complaints, and fault-finding and slander, and magnifying of little occurrences and events into grave sins. This has been done in the church until we are weak, and [we] will always be weak unless this narrow order of things is changed. May the Lord show you all what to do that you may be filled with thanksgiving, gratitude, and praise to God for the precious gift of the Son of God, and put away envyings, jealousies, and rivalries, that true love and unity may exist.

Christ prayed that His disciples might be one even as He and His Father are one. In what does this unity consist?

This oneness does not exist because every one has the same disposition, the same temperament, and thinks in the very same channel. All do not possess the same degree of intelligence. All have not the same experience.

In a church there are different gifts and varied experiences. In temporal matters there is a great variety of ways of management, and yet these variations in manner of labor, in the exercise of gifts, do not create dissension, and discord, and disunion.

One man may be conversant with the Scriptures, and some particular portion of the Scripture may be especially appreciated by him; another sees another portion as very important, and thus one may present one point, and another, another point, and both may be of highest value. This is all in the order of God. But if a man makes a mistake in his interpretation of some portion of the Scripture, shall this cause diversity and disunion? God forbid. We cannot then take a position that the unity of the church consists in viewing every text of Scripture in the very same light.

The church may pass resolution upon resolution to put down all disagreement of opinions, but we cannot force the mind and will, and thus root out disagreement. These resolutions may conceal the discord, but they cannot quench it and establish perfect agreement. Nothing can perfect unity in the church but the spirit of Christlike forbearance. Satan can sow discord; Christ alone can harmonize the disagreeing elements. Then let every soul sit down in Christ's school and learn of Christ, who declares Himself to be meek and lowly of heart. Christ says that if we learn of Him, worries will cease and we shall find rest to our souls.

The great truths of the Word of God are so clearly stated that none need

make a mistake in understanding them. When, as individual members of the church you love God supremely and your neighbor as yourself, there will be no need of labored efforts to be in unity, for there will be oneness in Christ as a natural result. The ears will no longer be open to reports that will injure your neighbor, and no one will take up a reproach against his neighbor.

The members of the church will cherish love and unity, and be of one great family. Then we shall bear the divine credentials to the world that will testify that God has sent His Son into the world. Christ has said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one for another." The divinity of Christ is acknowledged in the unity of the children of God.

Brethren, when you humble your hearts before God, you will see that there is danger of phariseism in every church, danger of thinking and praying as did the self-righteous Pharisee, "I thank God that I am not as other men are." Oh, that there may be a breaking up of the fallow ground of the heart, that the seeds of truth may take deep root and spring up and bear much fruit to the glory of God! My brethren, when you would accuse one of the brethren, consider the words of Jesus, "He that is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone." Your sin may not be the particular sin that is under consideration, but Jesus' words mean that when you are free from sin you may cast the first stone.

When Jesus spoke these words to the accusers, their guilty consciences were aroused. They could not answer Him; they were convicted each in his own conscience, and they went out one by one, beginning at the oldest even to the youngest. What can Christ, who is so forgiving, so patient with all our mistakes, so rich in mercy and love, think of our hard-hearted criticism and fault-finding? Love for your erring

brethren will produce far greater effect in reforming them than all harsh criticisms. Let all the faults and emotions of the heart be after Christ's order. Let self be put out of sight.

The Lord would have the thoughts and the language and the experience of Christian life far more attractive than it is today. If they are not more like Jesus they can never be the light of the world. Our work is between God and our own individual souls. What are you thinking of, my brethren? There is work to be done in the saving of souls around you, and precious time is passing. Souls are going to ruin while Satan prompts to fault-finding among ourselves. The hours of probation will soon close. Is your work for the Master of that character that you will hear the words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant"?

Remember that every soul striving to advance in the divine life, finds every inch of ground disputed by an antagonistic force, and he must gird himself for the conflict by earnest prayer, and fight the good fight of faith. He is called to "wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." We cannot afford to be found warring against each other. If we make progress in spirituality, we must gird the loins of the mind about with truth, and we must have on the breastplate of righteousness; we must take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit. Brethren, seek God. Seek Him while He is to be found, call ye upon Him while He is nigh.

Oh, what deep, rich experiences we might gain if we were devoting all our God-given ability to seeking knowledge and spiritual strength from God in the place of devoting our powers to hurting one another. Brethren, love one another as Christ has loved you. How little we really know of sweet

communion with God! How little we know of the mysteries of the future life! We may know far more than we do know if all our powers are sanctified to discern the character of Christ.

There are heights for us to reach, depths of experience to sound, if we are to be the light of the world. Then why dishonor God by contention and strife? Why question and find fault with one another? Why misinterpret and misconstrue the words and acts of your brethren?

Is there not better work for you to do than to discourage one another and try to put out the light of your brethren? O, rather let the mind expand, that you may take in the heavenly beauties of the blessed promises. Only believe in Jesus and learn in the school of the greatest Teacher the world ever knew, and His grace will act mightily upon the human intellect and heart. His teaching will give clearness to the mental vision. It will give compass to the thoughts; the soul-hunger will be filled. The heart will be softened and subdued and filled with glowing love that neither discouragement, despondency, affliction, nor trial can quench. God will open to the mind's eye His preciousness and His fullness. Then let us love and labor. I point you to Christ, the Rock of ages. You can be saved only through Him. Let the praise of God be upon your lips when you meet together in little companies to worship God. Let all take part.

He who heard the voice of Christ and did His will was the wise man that built upon a rock, and neither storm nor tempest could destroy this structure. Let us be workers with Christ for time and for eternity. Love one another, forgive one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you.

Manuscript 24, 1892



# Be Ye Separate

Steven Nelson Haskell

The vileness of a union of the Christian church with the state, is depicted in chapter seventeen of *The Story of the Seer of Patmos*. When the church that was once pure, united with the government of Rome, and was known as the papacy, God called her Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots; He showed by the angels who hold the vials of His wrath, that, as loathsome disease is the physical penalty paid for the life of a harlot, so the seven last plagues are the natural results of the spiritual fornication of which the church is guilty when the name Babylon is applicable to her.

This name carries the mind back to the origin of the expression, in the first century this side of the flood. The earth had been depopulated because of the vileness of its inhabitants, and Noah and his sons alone remained alive. Noah was still living when his descendants gathered in the valley of the Euphrates and founded a city. God told them to scatter over the face of the earth, but they congregated in one place. They began building the tower with the idea of defeating the God of heaven, should He again attempt to destroy man by a flood. The spirit of self-exaltation, born of Lucifer himself, took possession of the men of the valley of the Euphrates, and they openly defied their Maker.

Their iniquity reached unto heaven, and God came down to visit them. His coming brought confusion and consternation; and the languages of men were confounded so that they could not understand one another. Then the name Babel was applied, which means confusion.

But the devil determined not to be defeated in his purpose of exaltation; and surrounding the site of this ancient monument, which never reached

completion, he built, sixteen hundred years later, the city of Babylon, which became the capital of the world. This kingdom is used to illustrate the evil of the state church in the end of time. The sins of the ancient city are repeated by the last church, and its overthrow is the object lesson to the world, of the final destruction of the whole world when Christ comes down, because her iniquity has reached heaven. The figure is followed throughout the eighteenth chapter of Revelation; and by comparing scripture with scripture, the grievous sins of modern Babylon stand out in such awful distinctness that they justify the judgments of God as meted out in the plagues. Such a study opens the mind to the meaning of the cry of the mighty angel, referred to in verses one and two.

The sins of Babylon are almost beyond number; but some are pointed out with distinctness by the spirit of inspiration. God's dwelling place is in the humble, contrite heart; "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit." Babylon made the boast, "I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow." God claimed the church as His wife, but she forsook her lawful husband, and played the harlot with the kings of the earth. Then she said boastingly, "I sit a queen." This was literally true of the city of Babylon, which was known as the queen of the earth. But in the same proportion that she had highly exalted herself, so was her fall when the Lord withdrew His supporting hand. God never intended that the church should have anything to do with governments. His life on earth is a living example of what His followers should do and be. He reigned over a spiritual kingdom, when

physically He had not a place to lay His head; He was clothed with the garments of righteousness, spotless and pure, although physically, He had but a travel-stained robe; or was clothed by the mocking priests in a cast-off purple garment, and crowned with a crown of thorns. Union with the kings of earth, made it necessary to put on the apparel of the world; for an earthly queen is supposed to dress as royalty dress; and when supported by all the kings of the earth, the wealth at her command was unbounded. What need had she for the spiritual wealth which comes through Christ?

The city of Babylon was called the golden city, "The beauty of the Chaldees' excellency," "the exactress of gold." She ruled over all the nations. "Wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowl of the heavens hath He given into thine hands." The commerce of the world was controlled by this one power; and the wealth of the East and the West was laid at her feet. She sent ships to the islands for their spices and to the land of Ophir for its gold. The elephants of India and Ceylon yielded their ivory for her palaces and the ships of Tyre brought metals from the mines of Spain and the shores of the Mediterranean. Her lofty structures were built by slaves from captive nations. Her kings, like all Oriental monarchs, were absolute in their authority, and the bodies and souls of men were in bondage to great Babylon.

Her treatment of the Jewish race, who for seventy years were held as slaves, was rewarded by the complete downfall of the kingdom. First, it fell into the hands of a stronger power; but the prophecies concerning her downfall depicted complete ruin, and travelers to-day corroborate the words of Isaiah, "Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. It

shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there. But wild beasts of the desert shall lie here; and their houses shall be full of, doleful creatures; and owls shall dwell there and satyrs shall dance there. And the wild beasts of the islands shall cry in their desolate houses, and dragons in their pleasant palaces: and her time is near to come, and her days shall not be prolonged."

This was literally fulfilled in the earthly kingdom, Babylon; and it is placed on record in the inspired Word, that men may there read the result of such principles as were brought into practice in Babylon the Great.

Moreover, to Jeremiah was given a message from God for Babylon, which he wrote out, and sent by the hand of the chief chamberlain of the captive king of Jerusalem as he went into Babylon. This, the chamberlain was bidden to read in a public place; and having read it, he was to tie a stone about the book, and cast it into the river Euphrates, saying, "Thus shall Babylon sink, and shall not rise from the evil that I will bring upon her." Since these things are repeated in the divine description of the woman on the scarlet colored beast, it is evident that every detail preserved in the record of ancient Babylon and its destruction, is to be fulfilled a second time in, and for, modern Babylon, the church that became a whore. So much for the city whose history is so vividly portrayed in the Word.

There is another source of information which shows the repetition of the sins of the city, Babylon, as the church entered the Middle Ages. The Roman See gained power gradually. It was at first a simple church, the same as all others, which arose as the result of the preaching of the early apostles. Constantinople was for some time a

rival of the rising queen; she, too, was seated upon seven hills; but finally, the rise of Mohammedanism in the East so occupied the eastern division of the empire that Rome was quite unmolested in her ambitious designs. The invasion of the West by the barbarians of the North, extended the power, and increased the wealth and influence of Rome.

There, barbarians, "after being satiated with blood and plunder, lowered their reeking swords before the intellectual power that met them face to face; recently converted to Christianity, ignorant of the spiritual character of the church, and feeling the want of a certain external pomp in religion, they prostrated themselves, half savage and half heathen as they were, at the feet of the high priest of Rome." One by one, the barbarians, ancestors of all the nations of modern Europe, bowed the knee to Rome, and crowned her queen of the earth. From each nation, throughout the period of her supreme rule, she gathered her stores of wealth.

For years England, as a government, paid to Rome a tribute of a thousand marks. Likewise from each country, Rome drew the money which was needed for national defense. The poor were robbed by the payment of penance and the buying of indulgences. During the time of the Crusades, nations arose as a whole people, at the bidding of Rome. Relics, the bones of saints and martyrs, bits of the cross, the nails, – all such things were exchanged for gold.

The treatment of Columbus by the Spanish government, one of the daughters of Rome, is an illustration of the tyranny exercised over body and mind. Gallileo, who introduced the truth of astronomical discoveries into Italy, incurred the displeasure of Rome, and was pursued by the Inquisition. Later, after the supremacy of Rome was broken, and the queen sat a widow, her children carried out the

same principles. England had not lost the spirit when she taxed her colonies, and impressed their seamen. France has never fully recovered; for she still bears arbitrary rule over her possessions. Italy, once a wealthy kingdom, was drained of its wealth by the papacy. Examples might be multiplied without number. It is enough to say that nations have been oppressed. The pagan Roman Empire was lordly and dictatorial; but oppression before the days of the papacy, sank into insignificance, when compared with the tyranny of the woman clad in purple and scarlet, seated upon the scarlet colored beast. Claiming to be the vicegerent of God on earth, Rome held souls in her grasp, and assigned them at will, to heaven or hell, or demanded the payment of any price for their release from purgatory.

The messages sent to Babylon, the city, concerning its overthrow, were repeated to Rome in the person of the martyrs. Wycliffe, Huss, Jerome, Luther, Melancthon, – these, and hundreds of others, God used as a mouthpiece to proclaim the impending fall of Rome. But so self-confident was the queen that she said, "I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. "Come down, and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon, sit on the ground.... Thy nakedness shall be uncovered, yea, thy shame shall be seen: I will take vengeance.... Thou shalt no more be called, The lady of kingdoms."

The wounding of the head of the beast in 1798, the beginning of the time of the end, dethroned the woman for a time, but she was the mother of harlots, and the education, as well as the hereditary tendencies of her children, has enabled them, although in many ways restricted, to continue the practices of the mother. To each of the kingdoms of Europe, the Reformation came as a light and deliverance; but to-day, without

exception, those nations are returning their allegiance to the dethroned queen, who only waits the opportune moment to resume her seat and her crown.

The hatred which Europe once manifested toward the central ecclesiastical power is fast disappearing; and before the outpouring of the plagues, there will be general agreement to exalt Rome. Rome to-day stands as the arbiter of nations. She is regaining her crown by the same method by which she at first received it. One nation after another bows before her throne, and recognizes the woman's right to ride the beast. The wealth of all nations is about to be given into her hands.

In the United States, the formation of the image to the beast, will place the unbounded resources of this country in the hands of the same power. Protestantism repudiates its fundamental principles, the complete separation of church and state, and performs the works of the beast. Society, once democratic throughout, is gradually revolutionized in the formation of the image; as it was done in the growth of the beast. The distinction between the rich and the poor, becomes more marked; the corporations and trusts control the money, the produce, and the laboring classes. Democracy gives way to a king, – the coal king, the oil king, or the money king. A few men dictate to the masses. The independence once gained by war, is lost in America, as in Europe, through false methods of education.

The Protestant churches, once simple in habits and customs, now bid for the most popular minister, pay high prices for pews, listen to paid singers, who know nothing of the power of soul music; and the sermons to which the wealthy listen, are such as will please the ear, but do not convert the heart.

God has sent message after message to save the world. Such are the messages of the three angels of Rev. 14:6-12. The first one was rejected; and the second angel proclaimed the fall of Babylon. The spirit of discernment is lost, and that which came from God, is passed by unheeded. Babylon, devoid of the Spirit which controlled and kept vice in check, becomes as the house which was empty, swept, and garnished. It becomes "the habitation of devils, the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird," and the condition of Babylon in the last days is worse than in former times.

Saul, when he could receive no word from the Lord, because he had hitherto rejected divine counsel, sought out a witch, and consulted the spirit of devils. The end of Saul was death by suicide. The churches that reject the message of the judgment and the Saviour's second coming, reject the Spirit of God, and are given over to the control of evil spirits, a miracle working power, which binds men by supernatural manifestations until they are prepared to receive Satan himself, who comes in the name of the Lord.

As Babylon the city, became the home of the bittern and the owl, birds of prey, so Babylon the church, takes the spirit of the carrion birds, and watches to destroy souls. What Rome of the Middle Ages accomplished under the cover of darkness, modern Babylon will repeat in the full blaze of intellectual life. The third angel's message offers life to those who are bound by the fetters of false doctrines, and warns them against the beast and his image.

God's judgment waits until the last end of time, – until there is no longer any who will repent. Before the close of probation, an angel is seen to come down from heaven, and join the third angel. Together, their glory enlightens the world. This is the loud cry. Men acknowledge the sins of Babylon, and some, even of the kings of the earth,

repent. The loud cry will reach the corners of the earth; thousands will be converted in a day, as they were in the days of Pentecost. As the oppressions of Babylon become more galling, most fervent prayers will be offered for release. The Jews in ancient Babylon near the close of the seventy years' captivity, symbolized the people of God in modern Babylon as the time of the plagues draws near. As Daniel prayed with fasting and heart searching, that he might know the time of deliverance, and that no sins might be left on the books against Israel, so the people of God will plead in these last days. The prayers that Daniel offered, will be answered more fully in the end of time than it was possible for them to be answered in the days of his natural life. The prayer which Moses offered when Israel sinned, and he, their leader, pleaded for their forgiveness, was partially answered then. The Lord said, "I have pardoned according to thy word: but as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord." Moses waits over three thousand years for the answer to that prayer. From his dwelling place in heaven, he will see the answer in the loud cry of the third angel's message. Other prayers long-delayed will then be answered. These requests have been bottled in heaven and when

Satan manifests his greatest power, the Gospel of Jesus Christ is preached with a spirit which enlightens the world. Time is about to close, and the vials of sweet odors held by the four living creatures about the throne, will be emptied before the sanctuary work closes.

There will be a voice heard from heaven saying, "Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." As the angels took Lot by the hands, and hurried him out of Sodom, bidding him not to look back, so angels will hurry the sincere and true-hearted out of Babylon, for her destruction cometh like the burning of Sodom.

This message from God, the Great Shepherd, comes from heaven, and souls respond. To the Jews in Babylon, the same call was given and those who were true to Jehovah, fled to the mountains, that they might not be partakers of her impending destruction. Some had lived so long in the city, that they hesitated about leaving. Lot had sons and daughters who would not leave Sodom; and the family ties were so strong that Lot's wife, the mother, turned to look back,

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and destruction overtook her. The loud cry will cause many a heartache; will lead to the severance of many a fond tie. Husbands will have to decide whether they will cling to their families and remain in spiritual Sodom, or whether they will heed the voice from heaven. Mothers will have the same decision to make. This is the time when Christ says, "He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me."

While the work of separation is going on, the power of the beast and his image, grows more intolerable. The believers are obliged to seek shelter in rocks and caves of the mountains. Some will be thrown into prison. Then the plagues begin to fall. "How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her.... Therefore shall her plagues come in one day (or one year), death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire."

During this time of trouble, many who rejected the messages when they were given remember the call of God, and when it is too late, seek to recall His messengers. "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: and they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it."

There is no word of God in Babylon; for she is the one who exalted self above Jehovah, who caused the two witnesses to prophesy in sackcloth for forty and two months, and who thought to change the eternal times and laws of the universe. "And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth." Those who love the Word of God have withdrawn from her midst, and during the time of trouble,

are hidden from the wrath of man and the fury of the plagues. As probation has closed, "the light of a candle shall shine no more at all" in Babylon. The voice of joy is turned to mourning; the social gatherings and the marriage feasts no longer offer any attraction; merchants and the great men of earth fail because of the destruction of great Babylon. The earth is literally turned upside down, and it reels to and fro like a drunken man; for great Babylon has come in remembrance before God. Her iniquities have reached unto heaven, and God comes down to reward her double according to her works.

As the ancient city of Babylon was overthrown because she forsook the way of life, so modern Babylon dies. None need partake of her plagues; for all had an opportunity to separate from her midst. God is to-day making up His spiritual kingdom. His subjects are on the earth, and by the strong magnet of His love He is drawing to Himself all who prefer a spiritual life to one of earth.

The story of Babylon the city, and again of Babylon the church, is the picture divinely given of a worldly life under the dominion of the power of the prince of this world. The little church, hidden from trouble during these last days, may seem to have lost much by following the Man of Nazareth; but their love of truth links their hearts with God, and they taste the joys of an endless life. The great controversy still continues; it ends in the overthrow of Babylon, the mother of harlots, and the confusion of Babel is replaced by the divine harmony, which, for six thousand years, has been marred by sin.

1905 Steven Nelson Haskell, The Story of the Seer of Patmos, p. 300.1 to 313.2



# The Grandest of All Wars

Jerry O'Donnell

When did this war begin? "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven" (Revelation 12:7-8). So, the grandest of all wars started in Heaven and appears to have ceased as Heaven gained the victory by the losing side no longer being in Heaven. But if that were only the case! It actually simply relocated.

The next question has been answered in a symbolic way regarding, who started the war? For the non-symbolic answer, we read, "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him" (Revelation 12:9). So, Satan began the war.

What did Satan begin the war over? "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! [how] art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High" (Isaiah 14:12-14). One word answer is "coveting".

In Satan causing Adam and Eve to sin, what did Satan actually continue here on earth? "We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments" (Daniel 9:5). Rebellion against God continues the war on earth. Basically, Satan rebelled against God, and to do this, he enlisted the use of a third of the angels (Revelation

12:4). Now, he enlists the use of the human race as we continue sinning, which is a form of rebellion against God. We are basically rebelling against His order of things, specifically the Ten Commandments.

God is not interested in the physical wars being fought as they are mere distractions. In fact, Jesus spoke of these distractions: "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all [these things] must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these [are] the beginning of sorrows" (Matthew 24:6-8). They are distractions because people have a tendency to look at the physical wars as being equal with the second coming. In fact, most people consider the final war as wiping out the whole human race, and we know that such is not true. Jesus is not coming back to a dead planet. He is coming back for the living faithful (1 Thessalonians 4:17) and resurrecting the dead faithful (1 Thessalonians 4:16)!

So, if World War I and II, and possibly even III, are not the real battle, which the human race even calls World War III by the name of Armageddon, what is the world really rebelling and working against? "Because the carnal mind [is] enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Romans 8:7). It is rebellion against God, and specifically His commandments.

What is the world gearing up for? "And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon" (Revelation 16:16). Now, to figure out this answer, you have to

have the King James Version of the Bible or a very similar version.

Modern versions use the word “they”. The word “they” is plural and evangelicals like to take us to Revelation 16:14, which says, “For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, [which] go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.” They then equate the final battle to be located near Mount Megiddo, specifically in a valley. This theology comes straight from the anti-reformation movement called the Jesuits. Thanks to a vision of a lady in England, it started to work the work of darkness in the late 1800s and caught on to where just about every denomination adheres to the future antichrist theology and the nuclear war that will supposedly be triggered by the scuffle in Israel over broken promises during the seven-year tribulation.

Many Adventists have a similar form of this physical conflict. Their interpretation, though I will get some heat on this, takes the ending of Daniel 11 literally and involves literal Israel. There are several problems with that theology that we cannot go deep into for space consideration. But first, God is concerned worldwide and the salvation of souls. It is a spiritual matter.

Second, as stated, God is not worried about physical battles today as things are spiritually concerned. Jesus said, “The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof” (Matthew 21:43). It was taken from physical Israel to another nation that you cannot find on any map, meaning that it is a spiritual nation. Further, “he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly” [physical] “But he [is] a Jew, which is one inwardly;” [spiritual] “and circumcision [is that] of the heart,”

[spiritual] “in the spirit,” [spiritual] “[and] not in the letter” [physical] (Romans 2:28-29). “And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise” (Galatians 3:29), which is spiritual, specifically, we are “spiritual Israel” today. The threat is not on physical Israel but upon spiritual Israel by spiritual Babylon, which is in the North.

Third, if literal Israel were a big deal, why is it not directly written anywhere in the Great Controversy or more blatantly anywhere in Ellen White’s writings. There is just a hint when Ellen White makes certain factual statements. That is not an endorsement. By the way, Ellen White was not a prophet sent to be a copy-editor removing all error from our publications, so endorsements with mistakes are permitted without question. God obviously allows mistakes or Miller would not have been preaching that Jesus was coming in 1844.

Now, back to the different versions of the Bible issue, the King James Version and similar versions use the word “He” to refer to Revelation 16:15, “Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed [is] he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.” That is Jesus Christ! He does the gathering into His place called Armageddon.

Where is He gathering us, specifically? In my Father's house are many mansions: if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also” (John 14:2-3). “Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the

Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17). "I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" (Revelation 21:2). "O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city" (Isaiah 52:1). Armageddon is a place known in the Hebrew tongue as Zion or Jerusalem, but ultimately, the New Jerusalem, and not the title of a battle. The battle is over that place and trying to occupy it, but Armageddon is not a place on earth where a battle will take place.

How is the world gearing up for it? Again, "the spirits of devils, working miracles, [which] go forth unto the

kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty" (Revelation 16:14). And that deception is happening now. The final move, of course, will be the worldwide Mark of the Beast enforcement, but that is a different story.

As earth is gearing up to fight against God, Jesus Christ Himself, what is Heaven ready for? "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had

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a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on [his] vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all [men, both] free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army" (Revelation 19:11-19).

How prepared is God for this war? "The horse [is] prepared against the day of battle: but safety [is] of the LORD" (Proverbs 21:31). "Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail, Which I have reserved against the time of trouble, against the day of battle and war?" (Job 38:22-23). "And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, [every stone] about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for

the plague thereof was exceeding great" (Revelation 16:21). God has the hail already ready since the time of Job to be used in the seventh plague. His horse is also waiting to be ridden into battle. Heaven is set. All that needs to happen is the four angels to let the winds blow, but they are being restrained right now (Revelation 7:1-4).

How successful will earth be against God? "And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which [sword] proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh" (Revelation 19:20-21). "These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him [are] called, and chosen, and faithful" (Revelation 17:14). "Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, [even] them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought" (Isaiah 41:12). They will be no match for Jesus.

Where ought our confidence be? "The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted. The LORD of hosts [is] with us; the God of Jacob [is] our refuge. Selah. Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth. He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder;

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he burneth the chariot in the fire. Be still, and know that I [am] God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. The LORD of hosts [is] with us; the God of Jacob [is] our refuge. Selah” (Psalms 46:6-11). “Who [is] this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle” (Psalms 24:8).

What is our role? “This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare” (1 Timothy 1:18).

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high [places]. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the

wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints” (Ephesians 6:10-18). We need to be fighting the good warfare and be fully armored, spiritually.

In the person of God’s saints, why do they war against us? “And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” (Revelation 12:17). “Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus” (Revelation 14:12). Faithfulness to God through His Word and keeping of His Commandments. They do not like that because they rebel against those commandments in one form or another.

When is the war over? “I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom” (Daniel 7:21-22). “And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four

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quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom [is] as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them” (Revelation 20:8-9). Even at the third coming the battle is not over. There is one last effort to take Zion, Armageddon, the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, but when the wicked and Satan are reduced to ashes, the grandest of all wars will finally be over. This war will have lasted over seven thousand years, since it started before Adam and Eve and continues past the “thousand years” period.

Now, let us close out this article by hearing the words of Ellen White on the subject...

“We are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. Prophecies are fulfilling. Strange and eventful history is being recorded in the books of heaven,—events which it was declared should shortly precede the great day of God. Everything in the world is in an unsettled state. The nations are angry, and great preparations for war are being made. Nation is plotting against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. The great day of God is hastening greatly. But although the nations are mustering their forces for war and bloodshed, the command to the angels is still in force, that they hold the four winds until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads.

“The world is now realizing the sure results of transgression of the law of God. His work of creation completed, the Lord rested on the seventh day, and sanctified the day of his rest, setting it apart as the day which man should devote to his worship. But today the world at large is utterly disregarding the law of Jehovah. Another day has been instituted in the

place of God's day of rest. The human agent has set his way and his will against the positive teachings of the Word, and the world is plunged in rebellion and sin.

“This work of opposition to the law of God had its beginning in the courts of heaven, with Lucifer, the covering cherub. Satan determined to be first in the councils of heaven, and equal with God. He began his work of rebellion with the angels under his command, seeking to diffuse among them the spirit of discontent. And he worked in so deceptive a way that many of the angels were won to his allegiance before his purposes were fully known. Even the loyal angels could not fully discern his character, nor see to what his work was leading. When Satan had succeeded in winning many angels to his side, he took his cause to God, representing that it was the desire of the angels that he occupy the position that Christ held.

“The evil continued to work until the spirit of disaffection ripened into active revolt. Then there was war in heaven, and Satan, with all who sympathized with him, was cast out. Satan had warred for the mastery in heaven, and had lost the battle. God could no longer trust him with honor and supremacy, and these, with the part he had taken in the government of heaven, were taken from him.

“Since that time Satan and his army of confederates have been the avowed enemies of God in our world, continually warring against the cause of truth and righteousness. Satan has continued to present to men, as he presented to the angels, his false representations of Christ and of God, and he has won the world to his side. Even the professedly Christian churches have taken sides with the first great apostate.”

{RH, January 28, 1909 par. 3-7}



# Heavenly Health

Reen Swindle

## Have You Met Sanballat?

If you are doing the Lord's work in any capacity, all the way from the top in ministry, down to just standing firm for truth, you surely have met him at some point.

We are told that as the time of the end draws near for those of us living in the world today, Satan, who worked through Sanballat in Nehemiah's time, will employ many human agents to mock and revile those who "build the wall", just as he did in Nehemiah's day. Even though we are not building a physical wall around a city, our work is spiritual, and the same rules apply to surviving Satan's attacks. The builders should endeavor to defeat the purposes of their adversaries, but they should not allow anything – neither friendship nor sympathy – to call us from our work. This tells us that those who will distract us from our mission are not always obvious enemies, and not wearing black hats so you can easily identify them; no, they are co-workers, neighbors, friends, family, and get this – even members in the church who are not really committed to a changed lifestyle from that of the world; those can be your worst enemies. So, do you think we should be a little more careful about who we hang out with, spend a lot of time with, even on the phone? Why would that be? Remember that "by beholding we become changed". This means if we are true Christians with a heavenly destination in our future plans that we are daily working and striving toward, yet we have not crossed over that line from the world's lifestyle into the heavenly lifestyle in preparation of that final journey, we could be in for a rude awakening. Having our names on the church books is not a ticket to heaven;

there must be many definite changes made in our lives from the way we used to live, to be in harmony with our new name, Christian. And we must exude a new atmosphere

There is an atmosphere around every living, breathing, functioning, human being – "The Effect of Personal Atmosphere – The atmosphere that surrounds Christ actually "forbids evil" to enter His sphere." {2MCP 733.2}. Are our senses and characters so sharpened and refined by the Word of God that we have that force field surrounding us that would not permit evil to enter? "The influence of every man's thoughts and actions surrounds him like an invisible atmosphere, which is unconsciously breathed in by all who come in contact with him. This atmosphere is frequently charged with poisonous influences, and when these are inhaled, moral degeneracy is the sure result." {2MCP 733.2}. So, we can ascertain from this quote that our atmosphere does not always mesh with that of others, and that is a good thing.

What kind of atmosphere do we suppose was around Nehemiah? There is more than abundant evidence to support the belief that his atmosphere was akin to that of Christ. He refused to be corrupted by the devices of unprincipled men who had been hired to do evil work and would not allow them to intimidate him. When Nehemiah saw wrong, he did not stand by as an onlooker, giving consent by his silence. The wall of Jerusalem had been broken down and the gates had been destroyed by fire. When he heard the news of this, he sat and wept, mourned and fasted, for days over the condition of his homeland. Then he

and a group of people who “had a mind to work” (Nehemiah 4:6) set about to rebuild the wall – remember, Satan is after *our* minds to stop the great work that we are engaged in, and like Nehemiah, we must say to our adversaries, our Sanballats, we cannot come down (Nehemiah 6:3).

What about the character and atmosphere of Sanballat and his company of evil doers? He used Satan's evil tactics of contempt, derision, sarcasm, envy, impiety, deception of every type, to hinder and bring a halt to the work of rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem, all because of corrupt politics and power, much like many situations in the world today. Sanballat hired men who professed to be friends of Nehemiah, in order to trick him into joining their team and to give him evil counsel, as if it were the word of the Lord. The chief one was Shemaiah, previously held in good repute by Nehemiah, like many we still have in our lives. There can be no doubt about the characters, and the atmosphere surrounding these evil, worldly-minded men.

“Let those who would be the children of God take heed to the command, “Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing.” Association with worldly-minded men and women dims the spiritual perception; for it is in direct disobedience to the plain

injunctions of the word of God. In worldly society an earthly influence is at work, an atmosphere of poisonous miasma is there which is disastrous to personal piety. Those who truly love God will not cultivate the society of those who do not love Jesus. They will have some realization of their own individual weakness, and they will study prayerfully the word of God, that they may feed upon the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of God, and they will find that Christian society and conversation is food to the soul, that in the society of those who love God, they breathe in the atmosphere of heaven.” {RH November 27, 1894, par. 4}

Guard your atmosphere, for it will either lead you directly to heavenly health, or into the world's medical systems. “Honesty, integrity, justice, mercy, love, compassion, and sympathy are embraced in medical missionary work. In all this work the religion of the Bible is to be practiced. The Lord does not want anyone to labor as His representative who follows the wrong customs and practices of worldly physicians in treating suffering humanity. Our physicians need to reform in the matter of making high charges for critical operations. And the reform should extend farther than this. Often an exorbitant sum is charged for even small services, because physicians are supposed to be governed in their

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If you do send it in “too early”, it will be applied properly.

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charges by the practices of worldly physicians. Some follow worldly policy in order to accumulate means, as they say, for God's service. But God does not accept such offerings. He says, "I hate robbery for burnt offering." Isaiah

61:8. Those who deal unjustly with their fellowmen while professing to believe My word, I will judge for thus misrepresenting Me." {MM 125.3}



## Healthy And Delicious Recipes

Lisa O'Donnell

### Cauliflower and Lentil Curry

#### Ingredients

- 1 medium head cauliflower, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp onion powder
- ½ tsp paprika powder
- ¼ tsp salt

#### Curry

- 1 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 3 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 Tbsp curry powder
- ½ Tbsp garam masala
- ½ Tbsp ground turmeric
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 1 tsp salt
- 1½ cups canned diced tomatoes
- 10 cherry tomatoes, halved (optional)
- 1½ cups canned full-fat coconut milk
- 1¼ cups cooked brown lentils
- 2 cups fresh spinach

#### Instructions:

1. Line a baking tray and preheat the oven to 400°.
2. Toss the cauliflower with the oil and spices on the baking tray.
3. Roast for 40 - 45 minutes, mixing once halfway.
4. Add the oil to a large pot on medium-high heat.
5. When hot, add the onion and cook until golden. Add splashes of water if needed to deglaze the pot.
6. Then add the garlic and spices.
7. Stir continuously to toast for 30 - 60 seconds.
8. Add the canned tomatoes and cherry tomatoes.
9. Allow to simmer for 5 minutes.
10. Finally, add the coconut milk, lentils, spinach, and roasted cauliflower.
11. Cook until everything is heated through, about 5 minutes.

Serve with rice or naan, and enjoy!



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The combination of lentils with rice or bulgur is the absolute height of Levantine comfort food. I could eat it every day. ~Yotam Ottolenghi

# Natural Vitamins

Jerry O'Donnell

## The Benefits of Eating Apricots

### The Benefits of Eating Apricots

Apricots are a nutrient-rich fruit with several health benefits. Here are some of the main advantages of including apricots in your diet:

#### 1. Rich in Vitamins and Antioxidants

**Vitamin A:** Apricots are high in beta-carotene, which converts to vitamin A in the body. This supports healthy vision, immune function, and skin health.

**Vitamin C:** Supports the immune system, aids in collagen production, and acts as a powerful antioxidant.

**Antioxidants:** Apricots contain flavonoids, polyphenols, and carotenoids, which help protect your cells from oxidative stress and inflammation.

#### 2. Good for Digestion

Apricots are a good source of dietary fiber, especially when dried. Fiber promotes healthy digestion, prevents constipation, and supports gut health.

#### 3. Heart Health

The fiber, potassium, and antioxidants in apricots contribute to heart health by helping to:

Lower bad cholesterol (LDL)

Maintain healthy blood pressure

Reduce inflammation in blood vessels

#### 4. Hydration Support

Fresh apricots have a high water content (about 85%), which helps keep you hydrated and supports healthy skin and kidney function.

#### 5. Eye Health

The combination of beta-carotene (vitamin A), lutein, and zeaxanthin in apricots may protect against age-related eye conditions like macular degeneration and cataracts.

#### 6. Skin Health

Apricots' antioxidants and vitamins A and C help combat skin aging, reduce wrinkles, and maintain skin elasticity.

#### 7. May Support Weight Management

Low in calories but rich in fiber and water, apricots can help you feel full, which may support weight control.

#### 8. May Help Prevent Anemia

While not very high in iron, apricots (especially dried ones) contain non-heme iron, and their vitamin C content can help improve iron absorption from other plant foods.

*How to Eat Them: Fresh, dried, in salads, smoothies, or desserts — just watch for added sugar in dried or canned versions.*



# The Uses of Water In Health and Disease

Dr. John H. Kellogg, M.D.

## Hygienic Relations of Water

In order to be able to appreciate the value of water as a means of preserving health, it is necessary to understand something of the structure and functions of those portions of the body to which it is directly applied; viz., the skin, externally, and the mucous membrane, in the interior of the body.

### STRUCTURE OF THE SKIN.

The skin is composed of two principal layers; a thin outer layer called the epidermis, cuticle, or scarf skin, and a deeper structure, the true skin, or dermis. We will describe the latter first.

**The True Skin.**—This structure covers the entire surface of the body. It varies in thickness according to its location, being thickest upon the soles of the feet, the palms of the hands, the back, and the outer portions of the thighs. Its basis is a dense network of elastic fibers, among which are intricately mingled minute blood-vessels, nerve

fibers, and lymphatic or absorbent vessels. These are most numerous near the upper surface, and are arranged in loops upon little elevations called papillae. In the palms of the hands and upon the soles of the feet these papillae are disposed in rows with so much regularity as to give to those parts a minutely furrowed appearance.

The skin also contains little sacs, or follicles, in which the hairs originate. In its deeper portions are found two kinds of glands; sebaceous glands for the secretion of sebaceous or fatty matter to lubricate the skin, and the perspiratory or sweat glands, the latter of which will receive a more definite description shortly.

*To be continued...*

The Uses of Water in Health and Disease, pp 15, 16



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# How Do You Resolve It?

Jerry O'Donnell

*It is one thing to know some verses that help a person stay in the faith, but it is another thing to know the Word in such a way that when a verse seems contradictory to know how to resolve it. True Seventh-day Adventists do not ignore verses. It is our hope that this section will help answer some of those challenges that we may come across personally or be used by others against our beliefs.*

## **Scriptures Lie About the End of the World!**

Atheists claim that these verses indicate that Jesus was to return in the first century, and since He did not, it makes the scriptures false.

**Matthew 16:28** Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.

**Luke 21:32-33** Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

**Romans 13:11-12** And that, knowing the time, that now [it is] high time to awake out of sleep: for now [is] our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

**James 5:8** Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

**1 John 2:18** Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

**1 Peter 4:7** But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

Some of these are easy to address, while others are a bit more challenging.

Let us not lose faith, especially in the Word of God.

Now, let us start with a practice that I have performed often, especially in the early days of being a Bible believer and someone would try to shake my faith. First of all, focus upon prophecy, which is given in the Bible to solidify our faith in God's Word. Personally, I wrote a book that covers over 80 identifying marks of who the antichrist happens to be, and all eighty-some of those verses are very accurate in pointing the finger. Even if only half of them were true, the odds of any entity of the future to fit what was stated in the past of it, is beyond remarkable. That means the Word of God is trustworthy because "We have also a more sure word of prophecy" (2 Peter 1:19). We also have the numerous verses that point to Jesus' first coming, and how accurate those verses happen to be, again, establishing the trustworthiness of God's Word. There is absolutely no way someone manipulated a being to fit those prophecies. Now, these are but two examples which establish the accuracy of the Bible and are divinely provided, pointing that God, indeed, does exist.

Secondly, the consistency throughout the Bible on any given moral subject written over a period of hundreds of years is beyond coincidence, showing that a divine hand had control of matters.

Once these two main points are solidly established in the mind, even if a verse

is pointed out that I may not know the meaning of, or can resolve, I just know that I am not throwing away the rest of the Bible over it. I acknowledge that my mind is finite and I do not know everything. And I am alright with that, as you should be as well.

With that said, let us address each of these verses, keeping in mind that we are limited on space, so the responses will be very direct without a whole lot of elaboration as each of the verses could be a study in itself.

**Matthew 16:28** is answered by Matthew 17, where “the Son of man coming in his kingdom” is not equal to the second coming. What “Peter, James, and John” (Matthew 17:1) saw was Jesus “transfigured before them” (Matthew 17:2) where Jesus took on the appearance back then as He will appear at the second coming. There should be no doubt that the announcement was made and the meaning immediately recorded thereof. In this letter to the Corinthians Paul endeavored to show them Christ’s power to keep them from evil. He knew that if they would comply with the conditions laid down, they would be strong in the strength of the Mighty One. As a means of helping them to break away from the thralldom of sin and to perfect holiness in the fear of the Lord, Paul urged upon them the claims of Him to whom they had dedicated their lives at the time of their conversion. “Ye are Christ’s,” he declared. “Ye are not your own.... Ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.” { AA 306.2}

The apostle plainly outlined the result of turning from a life of purity and holiness to the corrupt practices of heathenism. “Be not deceived,” he wrote; “neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, ... nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.” He

begged them to control the lower passions and appetites. “Know ye not,” he asked, “that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God?” { AA 306.3}

While Paul possessed high intellectual endowments, his life revealed the power of a rarer wisdom, which gave him quickness of insight and sympathy of heart, and brought him into close touch with others, enabling him to arouse their better nature and inspire them to strive for a higher life. His heart was filled with an earnest love for the Corinthian believers. He longed to see them revealing an inward piety that would fortify them against temptation. He knew that at every step in the Christian pathway they would be opposed by the synagogue of Satan and that they would have to engage in conflicts daily. They would have to guard against the stealthy approach of the enemy, forcing back old habits and natural inclinations, and ever watching unto prayer. Paul knew that the higher Christian attainments can be reached only through much prayer and constant watchfulness, and this he tried to instill into their minds. But he knew also that in Christ crucified they were offered power sufficient to convert the soul and divinely adapted to enable them to resist all temptations to evil. With faith in God as their armor, and with His word as their weapon of warfare, they would be supplied with an inner power that would enable them to turn aside the attacks of the enemy.” { AA 307.1}

The Corinthian believers needed a deeper experience in the things of God. They did not know fully what it meant to behold His glory and to be changed from character to character. They had seen but the first rays of the early dawn of that glory. Paul’s desire for them was that they might be filled with all the fullness of God, following on to know Him whose going forth is prepared as the morning, and

continuing to learn of Him until they should come into the full noontide of a perfect gospel faith.” { AA 307.2}

**Luke 21:32-33** is answered by Luke 21:31, which says, “So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand.” That means “this generation” does not refer to those who lived in the first century. It means that those who see evidence in all the signs which have happened, will not pass away, but will see the Second Coming. Do keep in mind that many of the last generation will be laid to sleep, but there will be survivors who will have witnessed the events spoken along with the second coming, even if it were only a mere hundred forty-four thousand saints along with all of the lost.

**Romans 13:11-12** is simply about attitude and not predicting that Jesus was to return in the first century. We are always to be on the ready to meet Jesus either through the grave, or without seeing death. It is true that our salvation is nearer than compared to the day when we first believed. Seeing that time is linear, the past was further away from the event of the second coming, but without date setting, every generation is to understand that we are to be ready and be walking in the light, or knowledge. And then we are expected to share that excitement with others. The reference to the “day is at hand” is not the second coming. When we lived in sin, that was darkness, symbolized by “the night”. The night is far spent was our wasting of our lives in sin, but now that we have entered into light, as in we have entered into the “day light”, the day is now what we are living. That means that the day is at hand; we are experiencing it. Paul even equates that night being equal to darkness and the day being equal to the light by immediately following up the night and day reference with darkness and light in the same sentence.

**James 5:8** is the same as Romans 13:11-12. It is an attitude thing. If we have the attitude that Jesus is not returning in our lifetime, we would tend to be more worldly, hence, why Jesus does not allow us to know the day nor the hour. We are always to be living in the nearness of the second coming. Unfortunately, when people separate the events coupled with the second coming from the second coming itself, there is an attitude that Jesus can just pop up at any moment, and that is not true. There are certain events that can be fulfilled in a short period of time, but I will guarantee that by the time you read this two months from now, as I am preparing this at the beginning of June, Jesus will not be here yet. We still have the seven last plagues to pass through, let alone the other events leading up to that event, but as soon as those events kick off, “this generation” that sees it all happening will be alive when Jesus returns, though a good portion of the generation will be martyred, or laid to sleep. The verse is just an encouragement to have a readiness attitude to meet Jesus. Besides, no one knows when his last day will be in which the next conscious event for that individual will be to see Jesus, and that is not to say we go to Heaven right away – we sleep, unconscious of passing time.

**1 John 2:18** containing “last time” does not mean the very last day or the second coming. We are living in the “last days”, even the time of Antichrist, and especially since the deadly wound is being healed, we can say that the “time of the end”, not the “end of time”, is truly upon us. We need to know the difference in these phrases. Only “end of time” points to Jesus arriving. The “last time” is all amount of time leading up to the second coming.

**1 Peter 4:7** is the same as Romans 13:11-12 and James 5:8. It is just

attitude and not a prediction. Yes, it is very strong, but where there is persecution, which was happening, the sense of life as normal has come to an end. The “end of all things” is inaccurate as well to equate with the second coming, because those who are alive when Jesus comes are not going to see an end of all things as they will not be tasting death. In fact, it would be a new beginning of things.

If eyes were opened back then, though the prophecy was to be closed, then they would have known that Jesus would not be returning in their day. “O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, [even] to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased” (Daniel 12:4). If they knew the timelines of Daniel, then they would have known of the length of the antichrist's rule (Daniel 7:25), which was initially twelve-hundred and sixty years until the deadly wound. They would have known the twenty-three hundred day

prophecy (Daniel 8:14) was still not completed. Now, Paul hinted at it, though. “Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God” (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4). He knew of the specific antichrist, as opposed to the reference of “many antichrists”.

Besides, as Paul said this of the Old Testament, “Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come” (1 Corinthians 10:11), it is true also of the New. The writers wrote more for those living at the end of time as opposed to their time. They received visions and recorded them in a manner in their

## Who Is the Real Antichrist?



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day, but they were meant for those at the end of time, specifically, but a general application was for everyone else. So, phrases like, “the Lord draweth nigh” is a general phrase, yes, it could be taken to mean Jesus could come in their lifetime, but it was meant more for those in the last generation.

Keep in mind that God lives in past, present, and future at the same time. We should expect nothing less of His Word. Therefore, He wants everyone to “Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come” (Matthew 24:42).

So, when you look at it from the position of “intent”, there is no

contradiction in thinking that Jesus was announcing His arrival in the first century and the fact that 1900 years have passed since then. The intent is always to be ready, for when a person senses that the event is not really that near, they become lax in their diligence, fighting against sin. Further, if atheists would actually study the timelines properly, not like evangelicals throwing it into the future, or like the papacy throwing things in the past, they would see that everything is right on time.

Be not discouraged, nor look upon these verses as atheists do, but with hope that Jesus is going to return soon, and very soon at that.

## Authorized KJV vs Catholic Bible

*Jerry O'Donnell*

*If you are using anything but the KJV, you are using a Catholic influenced Bible, which strategically twists and leaves out key words and verses so as to make even the ecumenical movement between religions outside of Christianity possible. And Ellen White does identify not to use them for reliability: “Wycliffe's Bible had been translated from the Latin text, which contained many errors.” {GC 245.1}. Latin is Catholic or which most modern versions rely upon.*

### **Decreed or Determined**

The word “decreed” means that there is simply an announcement, an announcement that Daniel’s people have a prophetic seventy weeks given to them, independent of any other timeline. In this manner, the verse separates from Daniel 8:14 and is disconnected from the twenty-three hundred day prophecy, specifically making the prayer request of Daniel not make sense as recorded in Daniel 9:1-23, a request to understand the missing part of Daniel 8, which is actually just verse 14 that needs explaining.

The word “determined”, on the other hand, means to divide, and as we know, to be cut off from the connecting time

line prior to Daniel 9:24, which is Daniel 8:14.

If “decreed” is used, 1844 is undermined because there is no significant beginning and ending points to the prophecy, as the Messiah timeline no longer confirms any points of Daniel 8:14, hence, why those that try to interpret the timeline of Daniel 8:14 independent of Daniel 9 become so far off the mark and create “out of this world” theories. It is only by connecting Daniel 9:24 to Daniel 8:14 that it justifies the Millerite movement, the disappointment, the need of a prophet to arise around 1844 having the sanctuary message in their mouth, and even the existence of the Seventh-day Adventist movement entirely.

Although the word “decreed” is a meaning of the Hebrew word, the primary translation is “divide” and “determined”. In a secondary understanding of the Hebrew word, the modern translation option appears: “to be determined”, “be decreed”, “be settled”, “be marked out”. That is why the modern translations are not just a little off, but actually anti-Seventh-day Adventist.

**King James Version:** Daniel 7:24, “Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.”

**In Error:**

**A Faithful Version:** Seventy weeks are decreed upon your people and upon your holy city to finish the transgression and to make an end of sin, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

**American Standard Version:** Seventy weeks are decreed upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy.

**Amplified Bible:** “Seventy weeks [of years, or 490 years] have been decreed for your people and for your holy city (Jerusalem), to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make atonement (reconciliation) for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness (right-standing with God), to seal up vision and prophecy and prophet, and to anoint the Most Holy Place.

**Berean Study Bible:** Seventy weeks are decreed for your people and your holy city to stop their transgression, to put an end to sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy Place.

**Catholic Public Domain Version:** Seventy weeks of years are concentrated on your people and on your holy city, so that transgression shall be finished, and sin shall reach an end, and iniquity shall be wiped away, and so that everlasting justice shall be brought in, and vision and prophecy shall be fulfilled, and the Saint of saints shall be anointed.

**Christian Standard Bible:** Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city — to bring the rebellion to an end, to put a stop to sin, to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place.

**Contemporary English Version:** God has decided that for 70 weeks, your people and your holy city must suffer as the price of their sins. Then evil will disappear, and justice will rule forever; the visions and words of the prophets will come true, and a most holy place will be dedicated.

**Darby Bible Translation:** Seventy weeks are apportioned out upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to close the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make expiation for iniquity, and to bring in the righteousness of the ages, and to seal the vision and prophet, and to anoint the holy of holies.

**Douay-Rheims Bible:** Seventy weeks are shortened upon thy people, and upon thy holy city, that transgression may be finished, and sin may have an end, and iniquity may be abolished; and everlasting justice may be brought; and vision and prophecy may be fulfilled; and the saint of saints may be anointed.

**English Revised Version:** Seventy weeks are decreed upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy.

**English Standard Version:** "Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.

**GOD'S WORD® Translation:** "Seventy sets of seven time periods have been assigned for your people and your holy city. These time periods will serve to bring an end to rebellion, to stop sin, to forgive wrongs, to usher in everlasting righteousness, to put a seal on a prophet's vision, and to anoint the Most Holy One.

**Good News Translation:** "Seven times seventy years is the length of time God has set for freeing your people and your holy city from sin and evil. Sin will be forgiven and eternal justice established, so that the vision and the prophecy will come true, and the holy Temple will be rededicated.

**Holman Christian Standard Bible:** Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city-- to bring the rebellion to an end, to put a stop to sin, to wipe away iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place.

**International Standard Version:** Seventy weeks have been decreed concerning your people and your holy city: to restrain transgression, to put an end to sin, to make atonement for lawlessness, to establish everlasting righteousness, to conclude vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy Place.

**JPS Tanakh 1917:** Seventy weeks are decreed upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sin, and to forgive iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up vision and prophet, and to anoint the most holy place.

**New American Standard Bible:** "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the wrongdoing, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for guilt, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy Place.

**New Heart English Bible:** Seventy weeks are decreed on your people and on your holy city, to put an end to the transgression, and to make an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place.

**New International Version:** "Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the Most Holy Place.

**New Living Translation:** "A period of seventy sets of seven has been decreed for your people and your holy city to finish their rebellion, to put an end to their sin, to atone for their guilt, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to confirm the prophetic vision, and to anoint the Most Holy Place.

**Peshitta Holy Bible Translated:** Seventy weeks shall remain for your people and for the city of your holiness, and to finish debts and to end sins, for the release from evil, and to bring righteousness from eternity, and to finish the vision and the Prophets, and to The Messiah, The Holy of Holies

**World English Bible:** Seventy weeks are decreed on your people and on your holy city, to finish disobedience, and to

make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy.

**Correct, This Time:**

**Bishops' Bible of 1568:** Seuetie weekes are determined ouer thy people, & ouer thy holy citie, to finish the wickednes, and to seale vp ye sinnes, and to reconcile the iniquitie, & to bring in euerlasting righteousnes, to seale vp the vision and prophecie, & to annoynt the most holy.

**Brenton Septuagint Translation:**

Seventy weeks have been determined upon thy people, and upon the holy city, for sin to be ended, and to seal up transgressions, and to blot out the iniquities, and to make atonement for iniquities, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal the vision and the prophet, and to anoint the Most Holy.

**Coverdale Bible of 1535:** Lxx. wekes are determed ouer thy people, & ouer thy holy cite: that the wickednesse maye be consumed, that the synne maye haue an ende, that the offence maye be reconciled, and to bringe in euerlastinge rightuoussnesse, to fulfill ye visions and the prophetes, and to anoynte the most holy one.

**Geneva Bible of 1587:** Seuentie weekes are determined vpon thy people and vpon thine holy citie, to finish the wickednes, and to seale vp the sinnes, and to reconcile the iniquitie, and to bring in euerlasting righteousnesse, and to seale vp the vision and prophecie, and to anoynt the most Holy.

**Lamsa Bible:** Seventy times seven weeks are determined upon your people and upon your holy city, to finish the transgressions and to make an end of sins and for the forgiveness of the iniquity and to bring in everlasting righteousness and to fulfill the vision of

the prophets and to give the most holy to Messiah.

**Literal Standard Version:** Seventy periods of seven are determined for your people and for your holy city, to shut up the transgression, and to seal up sins, and to cover iniquity, and to bring in continuous righteousness, and to seal up vision and prophet, and to anoint the Holy of Holies.

**NET Bible:** "Seventy weeks have been determined concerning your people and your holy city to put an end to rebellion, to bring sin to completion, to atone for iniquity, to bring in perpetual righteousness, to seal up the prophetic vision, and to anoint a most holy place.

**New King James Version:** "Seventy weeks are determined For your people and for your holy city, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins, To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteousness, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy.

**Smith's Literal Translation:** Seventy seventy were divided upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to close the transgression, and to seal up sins, and to expiate iniquity, and to bring in eternal justice, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the holy of holies.

**Webster's Bible Translation:** Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

**Young's Literal Translation:** 'Seventy weeks are determined for thy people, and for thy holy city, to shut up the transgression, and to seal up sins, and to cover iniquity, and to bring in righteousness age-during, and to seal up vision and prophet, and to anoint the holy of holies.

# Keep the Sabbath Holy

Jerry O'Donnell

Yes, we brought this topic back from the chopping block after finding a new approach and a reader sharing their interest in the article.

## Reinforce the True Sabbath

“The Protestant churches have accepted the spurious Sabbath, the child of the Papacy, and have exalted it above God's holy, sanctified day. It is our work to make plain to our children that the first day of the week is not the true Sabbath, and that its observance, after light has come to us as to what is the true Sabbath, is a plain contradiction of the law of God.” {CG 312.4}

Since the children of Israel were told, “And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up” (Deuteronomy 6:7), how much more should we be going over the reason for the Sabbath day, to rehearse it, not only for children, but even for ourselves.

It gets quite challenging when we see the requirement of the Sabbath, but no one else does. Why is it that in many families, only one person out of all of the relatives sees the true Sabbath for what it is really about? How is it that among our friends that not one of them neither sees it, nor keeps it? How is that if a person does try to share the truth about the Sabbath with others that people of other denominations are so quick and ready to fire back with arguments that range from the obvious canned phrases (“the Sabbath is for the Jews”), to what they believe to be intelligent searching of the scriptures (“The first command to keep the Sabbath is in Exodus 16 pointing to the

beginning of the requirement and was nailed to the cross”)?

Despite telling ourselves, “strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matthew 7:14), and patting ourselves on the back for finding it and being among the few, Satan does not let up from trying to insert doubt. And we all know that it does not take much doubt to shake one's faith.

Therefore, make it a special effort to rehearse the reason for keeping the Sabbath, especially when children are involved. Do not take it for granted, simply by going through the motion of not working and possibly attending services on the day. Do not be lax with the opportunity. Make it a special effort each Friday night to read and expand upon a Bible text in support of the Sabbath. We do not have to always be quoting Exodus 20:8-11 every Friday. The Bible provides enough references to uplift the Sabbath that doing one of them once a week is sufficient to make it through the year without repeating the reference.

But during the Sabbath hours do play in the mind that the seventh day is the Sabbath (Exodus 20:8-11), that Jesus rested on the Sabbath in the tomb (Luke 23:50- 24:3), that it was His custom to go to the synagogue on the Sabbath (Luke 4:16), that it is a sign acknowledging God as our salvation (Exodus 31:13, Ezekiel 20:12), that it is our mission to repair the breach (Isaiah 58:12-14), etc.

And as an extra bonus, rehearse that the quote from *Child Guidance* which

states the papacy would think to change the Sabbath was predicted by the Bible. We have the fact that Daniel says that antichrist would “think to change times and laws” (Daniel 7:25). Couple that with the fact that Daniel’s five identifying marks in Daniel 7:25 are found in Revelation as well (Revelation 13:5, 6, 7, 10, 16-17) to the point that the change by the papacy equates to the Mark of the Beast. Further, as another preacher brought out, Revelation 13 is a complete attack on the first four commandments, where worshipping the beast breaks the first commandment, setting up the image to the beast being against the second commandment, accepting the name of the beast, violating the third

commandment, which makes the Mark of the Beast to be a replacement of the fourth commandment.

The severity of events that are yet to come to this world to make us doubt the true Sabbath, and even our Christianity, is going to be so intense that Jesus said, “if [it were] possible, they shall deceive the very elect” (Matthew 24:24). However, “he that endureth to the end shall be saved” (Matthew 10:22).

Use the Sabbath hours wisely. This may become a repetitive task that borders on routine, but in the end, it will be worth it.



## Questions And Answers

*Allow at least three (3) months before your question may appear.*

**Question:** Did Eve get what the devil promised?

**Answer:** So, the devil stated, “For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil” (Genesis 3:5). The key part of the promise is to be like gods, but not like the way it was expected, or even practiced throughout human history. Humans have longed to be worshipped and treated as being all powerful, despite being finite.

But, Genesis 3:22 does state, “And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil.” God knows good and evil because He witnessed it with the rebellion of Satan (Isaiah 14:12-14, Revelation 12:7) and being all-knowing. The human race knows about good and evil through experience. In either case, it is the knowledge of it that answers

the question. Eve indeed received what the devil promised. Unfortunately, it came with serious consequences to know evil by experience.

**Question:** Did God foretell of the Muslim world?

**Answer:** Genesis 16:11-12 reveals the future of Ishmael: “And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou [art] with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction. And he will be a wild man; his hand [will be] against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.”

It is said in general, that the Muslim world is a bit wild, even in the way it conducts warfare. It is not traditionally fought. For that matter, neither was the Vietnam war, but that is a different

story. Their goal, generally speaking, is to convert the world to their religion with permission to take life if refused the offer. Basically, it is “convert or die”. That has prompted every nation to look down upon them, and even fight back against Muslims.

The dwelling in the presence of all his brethren, could be a reference that Muslims indeed dwell in every nation today. It is not always a good dwelling, as many are reserved against them, but nonetheless, overall and generally speaking, yes, Genesis 16:11-12 is a prophecy of sorts, regarding the Muslim world.

**Question:** Why did God not respect Cain's offering?

**Answer:** Genesis 4:3-5 states, “And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.” At a quick glance, it appears that God was being arbitrary.

Nowhere in prior verses does it say how Cain was to present an offering. It is only assumed by the example of God

providing skins for Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:21) that such a sacrifice existed.

This is the same argument that is used against the Ten Commandments and the Sabbath. Nowhere does it explicitly state that Adam and Eve, any of their children, Noah, or even Abraham kept the Sabbath. It takes holy insight to see that it is there, at least somewhere in the Bible, though not explicitly stated. Those with a carnal mind cannot see it.

Regarding the issue with Cain's sacrifice, explicitly, Hebrews 9:22 sheds light on the situation: “And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.” Cain's offering lacked blood. Therefore, all Cain was doing was offering praise to God, but God also says, “The sacrifice of the wicked [is] an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright [is] his delight” (Proverbs 15:8). “He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer [shall be] abomination” (Proverbs 28:9). The sacrifices of Cain would only be acceptable if he acknowledged his sins. As long as he was not confessing his sins by the shedding of blood, there was no forgiveness. Hence, God did not regard Cain's praise service.



## ***Making It Plain***

*Jerry O'Donnell*

### ***“Time of the End” versus “End of Time”***

Daniel states a number of times the phrase “time of the end”. This does not mean the end of this world, or even the second coming.

**Daniel 8:17** So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto

me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end [shall be] the vision.

**Daniel 11:35** And [some] of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make [them]

white, [even] to the time of the end: because [it is] yet for a time appointed.

**Daniel 11:40** And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

**Daniel 12:4** But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, [even] to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

**Daniel 12:9** And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words [are] closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

If the phrase “time of the end” meant the second coming, then what purpose would there be for a vision at that moment when reality is happening before people’s eyes (Daniel 8:17)? With every case decided well before the plagues (Revelation 22:11), what purpose would there be to purge out sin and become “white” at the second coming (Daniel 11:35)? Again, at the second coming, what would be so important about the south pushing against the north (Daniel 11:40)? At the second coming, why would people want to be searching the scriptures to increase knowledge (Daniel 12:4) when they should have been doing so already? And what knowledge we have acquired is all that we are going to be able to accumulate from this period on earth anyways, though we will increase in knowledge throughout eternity. Who cares about opening up the Book of Daniel to figure out the prophecies when the second coming is happening (12:9)? Therefore, the phrase “time of the end” logically means that there is a period that leads up to the second coming, just like a period of time in a movie towards the end. You can tell the movie is coming to an end when

everything is wrapped up, but you know it is not completely over just yet as the movie continues with dialogue. The period known as the “time of the end” started in 1798 with the deadly wound upon the Vatican. In either case, we are living in a period that the final scenes are soon to break upon us: the image of the beast being formed, mark of the beast enforced, the seven last plagues to be poured out, etc. All of these are part of the closing scenes known as the “time of the end”.

Now, on the other hand, the phrase “end of time” has a different meaning. That exactly worded phrase is not found in the Bible, however, there is a similar phrase: “And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer” (Revelation 10:6). The phrase “time no longer” is, in essence, the same as saying the “end of time”. And that was the message being preached by the Millerite movement. They originally thought that they figured out the date of the second coming, although adjusted a couple of times from 1843 to finally landing on October 22, 1844. Of course, we know the event was in error, although the date was not. Once we knew what real event happened on that day, we were told, “Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings” (Revelation 10:11) and that leads us into the Three Angels’ Messages (Revelation 14:6).

So, “time of the end” is the period of time that started in 1798. It will last until the “end of time”, which is the second coming, “but of that day and hour knoweth no [man], no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only” (Matthew 24:36).



# News and Comments

June 1

**NBC News**

## **Exercise may benefit colon cancer patients as much as some drugs**

The health industry finally is catching up to what has been known by us for well over a hundred years: "Drug medication, as it is generally practiced, is a curse. Educate away from drugs. Use them less and less, and depend more upon hygienic agencies; then nature will respond to God's physicians – pure air, pure water, proper exercise, a clear conscience. Those who persist in the use of tea, coffee, and flesh meats will feel the need of drugs, but many might recover without one grain of medicine if they would obey the laws of health. Drugs need seldom be used" {2SM 281.4}.

June 3

**NY Post**

## **Is this the end of the world? How a galactic pile-up could bring Earth's violent finish: Cosmic 'coin flip'**

In this weeks episode of how science has found a way that we are all going to die, again, they lack the knowledge of the Bible, therefore, all of this is "oppositions of science falsely so called" (1 Timothy 6:20). First of all, Jesus is coming back sooner than ten billion years from now. Secondly, why would science try to create panic when this is only a 50/50 chance and if time were to last, none of us will be around. Thirdly, have you ever heard a report from science that the stars are twinkling as they should, sun is shining as it should, the planets are orbiting just as expected? No, of course not. It is always doom and gloom. Thank God Christianity is more positive than science.

June 5

**Science Alert**

## **Coffee Could Be The Secret to Healthy Aging For Women, Scientists Discover**

The results of their tests may be accurate, but when the whole impact is not taken into consideration, it very well may have been influenced towards an erroneous outcome. It is proven that caffeine, which is the only type of coffee that has this aging benefit, greatly increases the likelihood of having a heart attack. So, a person may age well, but die younger than necessary because the heart gave out. Be careful of accepting science as the standard. God has a standard. "Abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul," is the language of the apostle Peter. Many regard this warning as applicable only to the licentious; but it has a broader meaning. It guards against every injurious gratification of appetite or passion. It is a most forcible warning against the use of such stimulants and narcotics as tea, coffee, tobacco, alcohol, and morphine. These indulgences may well be classed among the lusts that exert a pernicious influence upon moral character. The earlier these hurtful habits are formed, the more firmly will they hold their victim in slavery to lust, and the more certainly will they lower the standard of spirituality" {CD 62.5}.

June 7

**Futurism**

## **Scientists Calculate That the Entire Big Bang Must Have Taken Place Inside a Black Hole**

Well, science is a little closer, but not much. Instead of a black hole, Genesis 1:2 says, "the earth was without form, and void; and darkness [was] upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God

moved upon the face of the waters." So, darkness was involved but not how science describes. And then bang! "God said, Let there be light: and there was light" (Genesis 1:3).

**June 10**

**Telegraph**

**Big Bang theory is wrong, claim scientists**

Finally. Scientists have confirmed that the Big Bang Theory is wrong, although what they suggest is wrong, too, but science has always contradicted itself. If people would only trust the Word of

God, for "Thy word [is] true [from] the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments [endureth] for ever" (Psalms 119:160).

**June 11**

**Fox News**

**Your favorite alcoholic beverage could be linked to deadly form of cancer, study finds**

"Wine [is] a mocker, strong drink [is] raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1).



## *Watchman, Let Him Declare What He Seeth*

*This section is not about revealing the apostasy and creating ill feeling towards the conference. It is to make sure that no one is caught up in those that participate in the apostasy. That is what it means to "Declare What I See" because God says, "When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked [man] shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand" (Ezekiel 3:18). We have enough to worry about our own life; we do not need your (in general) blood to be on us too.*

**June 3**

**Adventist Review**

**Adventist Students Plant More Than 300 Trees in the Jungle**

With the aim of strengthening environmental awareness among its students and actively contributing to the care of the natural environment, Moyobamba Adventist School recently held a reforestation day in their city in the Peruvian Amazon, in coordination with the local city government.

**June 6**

**Advent Messenger**

**Adventists in Peru Join Catholics and Andean Spiritualists in Ecumenical Respect for Pachamama, the Inca Mother Earth Goddess**

Seventh-day Adventists in Peru are part of this organization that is openly calling for a "deep spiritual commitment and respect for Pachamama" and the need to come into harmony with nature.

**Definition:** Pachamama is a deity or goddess revered by indigenous peoples of the Andes, primarily the Quechua and Aymara, who are considered to be the descendants of the Inca.

**Comment:** One article on the same subject glorifies the activity as it points out what they want you to see, while the other sheds the light on the truth of the matter. Though we are to be responsible with the environment, we are not called to be environmentalists!

**EGW:** [Substitute the attention of the poor with environmentalism as you read for the full effect.] The work for the poorer classes has no limit. It can never be got through with, and it must be treated as a part of the great whole. To give our first attention to this work, while there are vast portions of the Lord's vineyard open to culture and yet untouched, is to begin in the wrong place. As the right arm is to the body, so is the medical missionary work to the third angel's message. But the right arm is not to become the whole body. The work of seeking the outcasts is important, but it is not to become the great burden of our mission. – Medical Ministry, pp. 311, 312. (1899) ] {Ev 549.3}.



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*(Continued from page 2)*

of which Ellen White recognized, especially when she wrote, "We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and his teaching in our past history" {RH, October 12, 1905 par. 22}. But that is just it. Are our youth being deceived into forgetting how we have been led since 1844? Our colleges, publications, and even sermons seem to reflect forgetfulness, even questioning who the Antichrist really is.

Where you still have an influence, let them not forget! Please?



## ***Ellen White Abbreviations In this Issue***

### **1SM -**

Selected Messages Book 1

### **2MCP -**

Mind, Character, and  
Personality Volume 2

### **2SM -**

Selected Messages Book 2

### **AA -**

The Acts of the Apostles

### **CD -**

Counsels on Diet and Foods

### **CG -**

Child Guidance

### **EV -**

Evangelism

### **GC -**

The Great Controversy (1911)

### **MM -**

Medical Ministry

### **RH -**

The Review and Herald

# Natural Remedies

Reen Swindle

**COMMENT:** *In these times we live in, even access to natural supplements will become increasingly difficult to access, so we are going to try our best to use the most natural means possible to deal with health situations.*

## **Mental Energy from Brazil Nuts**

All amino acids are valuable sources of energy, especially needed for optimal brain function. Brazil nuts are among the few nuts or seeds that are incredibly rich in essential, as well as non-essential, amino acids. Some refer to them as the “meat

vegetable”, because of their very high A, B-complex, vitamin C, and their high protein content. So, give your tired brain some pep with several Brazil nuts!

