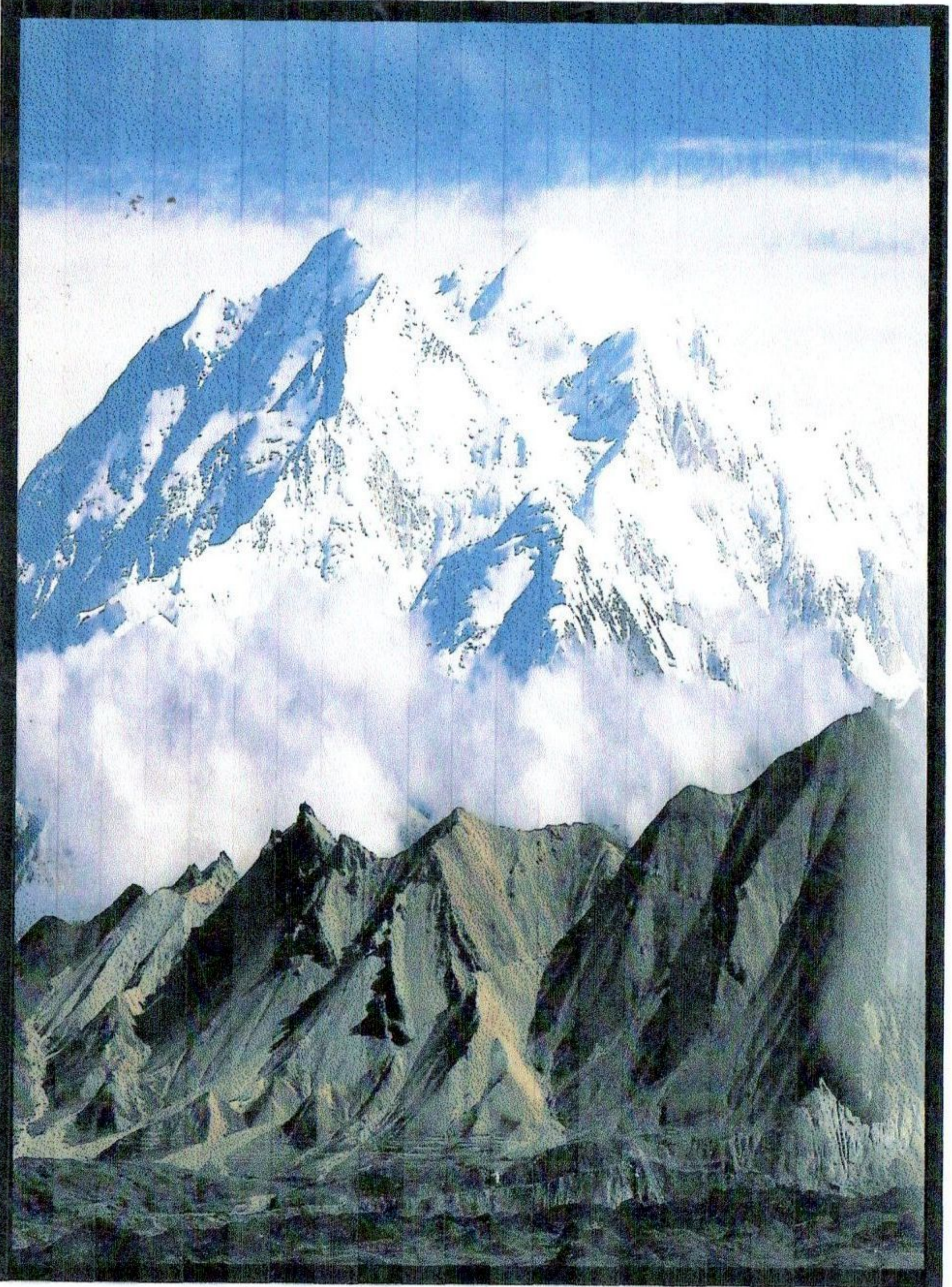


The Symbolic Code

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“Thy righteousness is like the great mountains...”

Psalm 36:6

CONTENTS

- 3 CHRIST OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS**
- 8 DEAR BRETHERN....**
- 10 THE MAIL BAG**
- 12 IF A MAN DIES...**
- 16 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**
- 18 THE GOSPEL OF HEALTH**
- 21 THE GREAT PARADOX OF THE AGES**
- 26 THE STORY OF REDEMPTION**
- 29 SIGNS OF THE TIMES**

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CHRIST OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

Restoration Full and Complete Provided

When the sinner enters through the door of faith into the new life in Christ Jesus, he finds that not only has he been pardoned for transgression of the law, but restoration full and complete is provided. Furthermore, provision is made in Christ for the maintenance of that which has been restored. He enters upon a new and higher plane of life, in harmony with the following direction and assurance:

"We must unite with Christ. There is a reservoir of power at our command, and we are *not to remain in the dark, cold, sunless cave of unbelief*, or we shall not catch the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness." -*Review and Herald, Jan. 24, 1893.*

"We must rise above the frosty atmosphere in which we have hitherto lived, and with which Satan would surround our souls, and breathe in the hallowed atmosphere of heaven." -*Review and Herald, May 6, 1890.*

The whole story of redemption and restoration is clearly set forth in the following beautiful statement by the pen of inspiration:

"Through Christ, restoration as well as reconciliation is provided for man.

"The gulf that was made by sin has been spanned by the cross of Calvary.

"A full, complete ransom has been paid by Jesus, by virtue of which the sinner is pardoned and the justice of the law is maintained.

"All who believe that Christ is the atoning sacrifice may come and receive pardon for their sins; for through the merit of Christ communication has been opened between God and man.

"God can accept me as His child, and I can claim Him and rejoice in Him as my loving Father.

"We must center our hopes of heaven upon Christ alone, because He is our substitute and surety.

"We have transgressed the law of God, and by the deeds of the law shall no flesh be justified. The best efforts that man in his own strength can make, are valueless to meet the holy and just law that he has transgressed; but through faith in Christ he may claim the righteousness of the Son of God as all-sufficient.

"Christ satisfied the demands of the law in His human nature.

"He bore the curse of the law for the sinner, made an atonement for him, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

"Genuine faith appropriates the righteousness of Christ, and the sinner is made an overcomer with Christ; for he is made a partaker of the divine nature, and thus divinity and humanity are combined.

"He who is trying to reach heaven by his own works in keeping the law, is attempting an impossibility.

"Man cannot be saved without obedience, but his works should not be of himself; Christ should work in him to will and to do of His good pleasure."
-Review and Herald, July 1, 1890.

Let us carefully review this message which unfolds to the human mind the sublimest facts of the gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ:

1. Restoration full and complete is provided for sinners. The atoning sacrifice of Christ on the cross not only made our *reconciliation* with God possible, but it also made possible, for every sinner who may choose to accept the offer, *restoration* to Adam's glorious standing before he sinned.

2. The great gulf made by sin, that separates us so far from God and heaven, has been spanned by the cross of Calvary. What cause for praise and adoration!

3. The great problem of pardoning the sinner and at the same time maintaining the justice of God's holy law, has been solved. Christ became our substitute. He took our place, and thus ransomed us from condemnation and death.

4. By His atoning sacrifice, Christ opened communication between God and poor, sinful, lost man, so that we can now come to Him and receive pardon, cleansing, and salvation from all sin.

5. Because Christ alone became our substitute and surety, all our hopes center in Him. There is no other name, no other way.

6. Because of man's transgression of the law, no flesh can ever be justified by the deeds of the law. But through faith in Christ, man may claim the righteousness of Christ as all-sufficient.

7. By appropriating the righteousness of Christ by faith, we are made overcomes with Christ, and thus become partakers of the divine nature.

8. In trying to reach heaven by the works of the law, we are attempting an utter impossibility.

9. While we cannot be saved without obedience, that obedience cannot be of ourselves. It must be Christ's obedience working in and through us, causing us to will and to do of His good pleasure.

Imputed, Then Imparted Righteousness

Righteousness by faith in all its meaning, is comprehended in the following definition:

"The righteousness by which we are *justified* is *imputed*. The righteousness by which we are *sanctified* is *imparted*. The first is our *title to heaven*; the second is our *fitness for heaven*." -Review and Herald, June 4, 1895.

Imputed righteousness, by which man is justified from guilt, is the foundation upon which imparted righteousness is bestowed, which sanctifies the life conduct, and provides "our fitness for heaven." As to the operation of these living principles, we quote as follows:

"Christ has become our sacrifice and surety. He has become sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. Through faith in His name, He imputes unto us His righteousness, and it becomes a living principle in our life. -*Review and Herald, July 12, 1892.*

"No repentance is genuine that does not work reformation. The righteousness of Christ is not a cloak to cover unconfessed and unforsaken sin; *it is a principle of life that transforms the character and controls the conduct.* Holiness is wholeness for God; it is the entire surrender of heart and life to the indwelling of the principles of heaven." -*The Desire of Ages, p. 555.*

"Christ imputes to us His sinless character, and presents us to the Father in His own purity. There are many who think that it is impossible to escape from the power of sin, but the promise is that we may be filled with all the fullness of God. We aim too low. The mark is much higher." -*Review and Herald, July 12, 1892.*

"Jesus is our great High Priest in heaven. And what is He doing? He is making intercession and atonement for His people who believe in Him.

Through His imputed righteousness, they are accepted of God as those who are manifesting to the world that they acknowledge allegiance to God, keeping all His commandments." -*Review and Herald, Aug. 22, 1893.*

"In the religion of Christ there is a *regenerating influence that transforms the entire being, lifting man above every debasing, groveling vice, and raising the thoughts and desires toward God and heaven.* Linked to the Infinite One, man is made partaker of the divine nature. Upon him the shafts of evil have no effect; for he is clothed with the *panoply of Christ's righteousness.*" -*Counsels to Teachers, pp. 51, 52.*

"When the soul surrenders itself to Christ, a new power takes possession of the new heart. A change is wrought which man can never accomplish for himself. It is a supernatural work, bringing a supernatural element into human nature. The soul that is yielded to Christ, becomes His own fortress, which he holds in a revolted world, and He intends that no authority shall be known in it but His own. A soul thus kept in possession by the heavenly agencies, is impregnable to the assaults of Satan. But unless we do yield ourselves to the control of Christ, we shall be dominated by the wicked one. We must inevitably be under the control of the one or the other of the two great powers that are contending for the supremacy of the world.

"It is not necessary for us deliberately to choose the service of the kingdom of

darkness in order to come under its dominion. We have only to neglect to ally ourselves with the kingdom of light. If we do not cooperate with the heavenly agencies, Satan will take possession of the heart, and will make it his abiding place. The only defense against evil is the indwelling of Christ in the heart through faith in His righteousness. Unless we become vitally connected with God, we can never resist the unhallowed effects of self-love, self-indulgence, and the temptation to sin. We may leave off many bad habits, but without a vital connection with God, through the surrender of ourselves to Him moment by moment, we shall be overcome. Without a personal acquaintance with Christ, and a continual communion, we are at the mercy of the enemy, and shall do his bidding in the end." -*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 323, 324.

The Outward Evidence of the Indwelling Righteousness

"Righteousness within is testified to by righteousness without. He who is righteous within is not hardhearted and unsympathetic, but day by day he grows into the image of Christ, going on from strength to strength. He who is being sanctified by the truth will be self-controlled, and will follow in the footsteps of Christ until grace is lost in glory." -*Review and Herald*, June 4, 1895.

"When we accept Christ, good works will appear as fruitful evidence that we are in the way of life, that Christ is our

way, and that we are treading the true path that leads to heaven. -*Review and Herald*, Nov. 4, 1890.

"When we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ, we shall have no relish for sin; for Christ will be working with us. We may make mistakes, but we will hate the sin that caused the sufferings of the Son of God." -*Review and Herald*, March 18, 1890.

"When Christ is in the heart, it will be so softened and subdued by love for God and man that fretting, faultfinding, and contention will not exist there. The religion of Christ in the heart will gain for its possessor a complete victory over those passions that are seeking for the mastery." -*Testimonies*, Vol. 4. p. 610.

"When a man is converted to God, a new moral taste is created; and he loves the things that God loves; for his life is bound up by the golden chain of the immutable promises, to the life of Jesus. His heart is drawn out after God. His prayer is, 'Open Thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law.' In the immutable standard he sees the character of the Redeemer, and knows that though he has sinned, he is not to be saved in his sins; but from his sins; for Jesus is the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." -*Review and Herald*, June 21, 1892.

Thus it is clear that "man cannot be saved without obedience, but his works should not be of himself; Christ should

work in him to will and to do of His good pleasure." Christ becomes not only the "author," but the "finisher" of our faith.

"As we near the close of time, the current of evil will set more and more decidedly toward perdition. We can be safe only as we hold firmly to the hand of Jesus, constantly looking to the Author and finisher of our faith. He is our mighty Helper." -*Review and Herald*, Oct. 7, 1890.

Wearing the Spotless Robe of Righteousness

Although the righteousness of Christ is freely offered, and provides restoration full and complete for the sinner; yet we are told that some "do not appropriate the righteousness of Christ; it is a robe unworn by them, a fullness unknown, a fountain untouched." How can there be such failure to accept and appropriate this greatest of all gifts, when--

"Only those who are clothed in the garments of His righteousness will be able to endure the glory of His presence when He shall appear with 'power and great glory.' " -*Review and Herald*, July 9, 1908.

"On Christ's coronation day, He will not acknowledge as His any who wear spot or wrinkle or any such thing. But to His faithful ones He will give crowns of immortal glory. Those who would not that He should reign over them will see Him surrounded by the army of the

redeemed, each of whom bears the sign, 'The Lord our Righteousness.'" -*Review and Herald*, Nov. 24, 1904.

(Note: This is a continuation of a chapter by chapter study of the book, *Christ Our Righteousness*,—outlining the principles of Righteousness by Faith as set forth in the Word of God and the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy. This is chapter 10, pp. 115-123. To be continued).

From the Golden Bowl:

"The days in which we live are solemn and important. The Spirit of God is gradually but surely being withdrawn from the earth. Plagues and judgments are already falling upon the despisers of the grace of God. The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude.

"The agencies of evil are combining their forces, and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. **Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones.**" -*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 11.

"Never did clouds of war, so strange and so dark, hang in an angry thunder-head over the world, and never did the world see itself as it does today. Everywhere,—in government, in industry, in halls of learning, in churches, in homes, on the streets—in every walk of life, the question uppermost is, **Whitherbound mankind?....** - *The White House Recruiter*, p. 3.

Dear Brethren of the Present Truth Message:

"O Lord of host, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee. For the Lord God is a sun and shield...No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand." Ps. 84:12, 11, 10.

Greetings in the name of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, our sun and shield.

Branches....

It is so comforting to be assured from the two olive trees and from the golden bowl of all the beautiful promises the Heavenly Father has given us; and as yet He has still greater rewards for those who love Him and do His will.

Here at headquarters it is our heartfelt honor and privilege to serve our members in the field, to assist in whatever way we can serve you. Let us pull together first, with all truthfulness, holding high the tenets of the Word and with brotherly love, knowing we are all endeavoring to bring in the pre-eleventh hour.

We are inviting all the Branches in the field to send in quarterly activity reports for their areas which will be included in the Symbolic Code. We also would like you to let your constituents know we welcome reports, stories, and pictures from them also. We feel it would be good for the world field to know just what is happening in the various areas.

We believe that this would bring encouragement to many in the church (field)

for it is said "a good report makes the bones fat."

We will continue to pray for you, as we ask that you also lift up in prayers the work of the pre-judgment hour. God bless you all!

Encouragement...

"I saw angels hovering to and fro in heaven, descending to the earth, and again to heaven, preparing for the fulfillment of some important event. Then I saw another mighty angel commissioned to descend to the earth, to unite his voice with the third angel, and give power and force to his message...This message seemed to be an addition to the third message, joining it as the midnight cry joined the second angel's message in 1844...." *Early Writings*, 277.

Several developments have taken place recently: the New York World Trade Center disaster, and the quick and unexpected death that came to over 6,000 victims, and also the attack on the Pentagon in Washington D.C., and the resulting war in Afghanistan and Osama bin Laden's televised speech calling on the nations of Palestine to join in the war against America (the king of the north). And now the supposed outbreak of anthrax, the suspected germ warfare attack on the U.S. What are we, brethren to do?

These are major developments, and as we can see, in the light of President Bush's speech "that the war against terrorism is going to be a long one" with no forecast of its end. But in God we have a more sure Word of prophecy, 2 Peter 1:19, that from all appearances we may be entering the beginning of the conflict that may shape the region of Palestine for the King.

It would do us good to stay focused in the message of the *Shepherd's Rod*, Micah 6:9, of which we are so privileged to be a part of at this time. Let us "feed thy people with the Rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the woods in the midst of Carmel." Micah 7:14.

With full devotion of all our endowments, and our talents, let us give our best support to this very special work of taking the sealing message to God's people (His church). May we not forget to be careful in all our financial commitments to our loving God who gives us so much and who has asked us for so little in return to build up the *Shepherd's Rod* message. No it is not an impossible venture. Indeed the present truth message and the signs of the times are pointing to the fact that God's New World Order, the promised pre-millennial Kingdom and eternity are very, very near. Zeph. 2; 1.TG.22:25-30.

As part of modern Israel, and with the pre-eleventh hour judgment message in mind, let us not be like ancient Israel, who failed to fulfill the divine purpose in Malachi's day. God's rebuke from His servant was given them for the evils that were robbing Israel of temporal prosperity and spiritual power. *Prophets and Kings*, 705. Let us, dear brethren, rise to the challenge of the day and lay down our idols as we prepare for that day by total commitment now. God is waiting.

Mexico -

"The great day of the Lord is near...and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the Lord. The mighty man shall cry there bitterly. Neither their silver nor their gold

shall be able to deliver them in the day of the Lord's wrath." Zeph. 1:14, 18.

But praise be to our God that we have a bright hope. "For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve him with one consent. Zeph. 3:9.

It is with pleasure that we write to you concerning the work in Mexico. During the past year a representative from the Executive Council visited the area. D.L.I. classes were also held at that time. Indeed, the Mexican brethren have made great progress.

Our dear Spanish brother and D.L.I graduate, made a good part of his land available at a low price (he was actually willing to donate it) for the use of God's Association and work. Since then much progress has been made there on the building by the faithful efforts of the workers there. A nice two story building is being erected there for the headquarters of the work. With some help from New York and California, much work has already been done. Presently, the first floor will be ready for occupancy and dedication. Praise the Lord.

Since, however, the larger part of the building still remains to be completed, and since there is a scarcity of funds, that is holding back that major part, the Mexican field is requesting something beyond our kind prayers. Please continue to pray for the work in Mexico and show your precious faith by action in sending your donations to Headquarters on their behalf...Or to say it the way Br. Houteff would: "Faith, courage and action are what brings success."

Our faithfulness now promises to be multiplied an hundred fold. The Executive Council is kindly endorsing this plea and stands fully behind the brethren there. At their request we are sending a worker there to further assist in this precious work, to perform a wedding, and do a preliminary dedication of the building project. Praise the Lord indeed.

Thus once again, we on behalf of the Mexican brethren, heartily thank you in advance. We believe that the Lord will not only impress upon your hearts to assist in this great work in this part of the vineyard, but amply recompense you.

May God richly bless you as you labor for the Master.

Your Fellow Servants,
The Executive Council

THE MAIL BAG

Dear Brethren:

Thank you very much for the tapes you sent to me. I have been listening to the cassettes several times and they are wonderful. I also found the *Shepherd's Rod* and *Timely Greetings* and some prophetic studies on the Internet. I'm so thankful to God for this truth.

I have been an Seventh-day Adventist for many years and have been searching for the truth. I realize that God has sent the *Shepherd's Rod* message my way and would be thankful if you could send me more tapes.

I'm trying to share this message with my brothers and sisters here in the Adventist Church in _____Sweden. Please pray for our people...it seems like they are all sleeping. None really cares about what they eat, how they dress or what they read, etc.

I want to hold up the standard that are set forth in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, but it is very hard when no one else does. Some of them say they do, but it is like they are sleeping and don't realize it. But I love them and want to share the *Shepherd's Rod* message with them. They don't seem to be interested and a Bible school teacher told me not to read the literature.

I'm trying to translate some of the material to the Swedish language, then it will be easier to read it. Please pray for us!

For some months now my daughter and I have read a sermon from *Timely Greetings* every Sabbath afternoon. We are so blessed. Again, please send more tapes, and other literature. Do you have a correspondence course?

God bless you all.

SWEDEN

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am a baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist church...I was very happy when I received the booklet. It was fabulous. I can now feel the Holy Spirit in me even as I am writing. Now I know where I was wrong and where I was right.

Keep up the good work in helping more people. We youth in Zambia need you. Yes, please send me tracts on health, God's Four Thrones, Playing the Harlot and the World Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.

As for the tapes, I need the 144,000, Who Are They?, An Appeal to Mother and the Eleventh Hour Call.

May God stand by your side as you carry on with your good work. There are still more souls to be saved. May God bless you day and night with the work that you are doing.

ZAMBIA, CENTRAL AFRICA

Dear Sir/Madam:

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, believing that you're being blessed over there as we are here. My name is _____ and I am a member of the Seventh-day Adventist church.

I listened to a tape from you entitled "The Eleventh-Hour Call of Matt. 20," and was very much moved. In fact, I tried to teach or pass it on to the brothers and sisters in church but didn't get far. Some of the brethren acknowledged the message and wanted to learn more, but the church elder misunderstood and stopped me....Nonetheless, some of the brethren approached me and wanted to know more. I therefore request that you send me more information on the 144,000 and any other materials you recommend for me.

Some of the brethren are hungry for the truth and I think you can help us. Continue to carry on the good work and be blessed.

KENYA, EAST AFRICA

From the Golden Bowl:

"The Enemy will certainly do all in his power to make all believe that the scriptures treated of herein [the Shepherd's Rod Message] are erroneously interpreted, and that the Testimonies are 'taken out of their setting.' Already he has firmly planted in the minds of both laity and ministry the fiction that there is 'no necessity for more truth and greater light' (*Gospel Workers*, p. 300), and that the Spirit of Prophecy so declares! Both of these lies, of course, he planted in the minds of the people years ahead, in the effort to beguile God's elect into tossing away their 'pearl of great price.' Matt. 13:46. The only defense and protection for anyone, therefore, will be not to let him control the mind: humans are not horses for riders to control with bits in their mouths. Let each vigorously assert his God-given right and responsibility to put every enemy claim to the acid test, and to respectfully demand that the *Recruiter's* enemies produce something better, or at least as good, in the place of what It brings from the Scriptures, or else that they becomingly lapse into 'golden' silence and start diligently studying the Scriptures...

-V. T. Houteff, *The White House Recruiter*, pp. 69, 70.

IF A MAN DIES HOW SHALL HE LIVE AGAIN? AND WHAT SHALL HE BE LIKE?

Victor T. Houteff

"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. For this we say unto you by the Word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 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. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." 1 Thess. 4:14-18.

Here we see that those who come up in the first resurrection shall not only live again, but shall die no more.

Now to find our answer to the question, What shall man be like if he lives again? We shall first turn to the book of Genesis:

Gen. 2:7—And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

In this scripture we are told that God formed man out of the dust of the ground. Then the breath of life was breathed into his nostrils, and thus he became a living soul, that the breath and the body together are what make the soul. The process of development is the same as is the process of ice

making—low temperature and water make ice just as the body and the breath make the soul. Hence when the breath leaves the body, man no longer is a living soul—no, no more than the ice is ice after it goes back to water. Man obviously has no existing soul after the breath leaves his body, for the body and the breath together make the soul.

"I know," says the wise man, "that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before Him." Eccl. 3:14.

Eccl. 9:5, 6—For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any things, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in any thing that is done under the sun.

Eccl. 3:19-21—I said in mine heart concerning the estate of the sons of men, that God might manifest them, and that they might see that they themselves are beasts. For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath; so that a man hath no preeminence above a beast; for all is vanity. All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again. Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth

upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?

Inspiration you see, first tells us how man was created and what he is like, then It asks point-blank: "Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?"—The only answer that can be given is that no one knows but God. And since He has told us that the body and soul together, not apart, make the soul, then it is plain that a dead man has no soul, that the body returns to dust, and the breath returns to breath, to wind. Moreover, whatever befalls the beasts the same befalls the man. They both have one breath, declares Inspiration, and the one has no preeminence above the other.

This is what God says about the soul, and we should believe Him rather than fool ourselves with uninspired theories of men who presumptuously say that the soul never dies, although God says, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Ezek. 18:4. Hence, when man dies, his soul vanishes as does ice when the temperature rises above freezing.

Next to find what man will look like when he is made to live again a sinless life, we should see what man looked like before he sinned.

Gen. 3:6-8—And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig

leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

Immediately after Adam and Eve had eaten of the forbidden fruit, a surprising change took place. They at once perceived that the light of life and beauty which which they had been clothed vanished away, and they saw themselves naked, ugly, and shameful to the eye. Consequently they tried to cover themselves with leaves and to hide away among the trees. The leaf-covering, though, was not adequate, and therefore the Lord made them "coats of skins."

What shall man be like if he lives again?—Certainly not less than he was in the beginning for all that was lost is to be restored. Neither is he to be improved upon, for everything the Lord made, He Himself pronounced "very good." Gen. 1:31. And so if a man lives again, he shall be exactly what Adam was before he sinned.

Now for the answer to the question, "How shall he live again?" we shall turn to Ezekiel—

Ezekiel 37:1-10—The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, and caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry. And He said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live?

And I answered, O Lord God, Thou knowest. Again He said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the Word of the Lord. Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you and ye shall live: and I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them. Then said He unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, saith the Lord God; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. So I prophesied as he commanded me and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

Here we learn that the process of resurrection is the same as the process of creation: first the frame of the man, then the organism, the flesh, the skin, and last the breath, and again he becomes a living soul. Man's soul or spirit, you see, is not called down from heaven, or up from hell. In fact, not a soul at all, but wind from the four corners of the earth fills his lungs at the command of God, and thus he again becomes a living soul. Then, too, the material of which man was composed originally, of the same shall he be made again, for bone to bone come together. When he is thus re-created or

resurrected, though, he must retain the knowledge and memory which he had at his death, otherwise the man that is raised would not be the man that died, and if such be not his case, then the experience gained in this life would be lost.

The next point of interest would be to note why there are two resurrections, a thousand years apart (Rev. 20:5,6). Let us turn to Romans:

Rom. 8:10, 11—And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you.

Those who die with the Spirit of Christ in them are the ones who come up in the resurrection of the just. But those in whom the Spirit of Christ does not dwell are to come up in the resurrection of the unjust, a thousand years after the resurrection of the just.

Rev. 20:6—Bless and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

If these verses mean what they say concerning the righteous, then concerning the wicked they actually say:

"Cursed and unholy is he that hath no part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath power; they shall not be priests of God and of Christ, and

shall not reign with Him during the thousand years.

If we accept God's Word as Inspiration gives It to us, and if we are doers of His Word, we shall live again, and be the perfect image of God as were Adam and Eve. We shall indeed return to the Garden of Eden. The garden, too, shall again flourish as before, and the tree of life shall bear its fruit every month. And so, you see, man shall thus live again, and thus live forever.

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son." Rev. 21:4-7.

"But when that which is perfect is come, then what which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." 1 Cor. 13:10-13. 2 *Timely Greetings*, No. 32.

From the Golden Bowl:

"Precious light is to shine forth from the word of God, and let no one presume to dictate what shall or what shall not be brought before the people in the messages of enlightenment that He shall send, and so quench the Spirit of God. Whatever may be his position of authority, no one has a right to shut away the light from the people. When a message comes in the name of the Lord to His people, no one may excuse himself from an investigation of its claims. No one can afford to stand back in an attitude of indifference and self-confidence, and say: 'I know what is truth. I am satisfied with my position. I have set my stakes, and I will not be moved away from my position, whatever may come. I will not listen to the message of this messenger; for I know that it cannot be truth.' It was from pursuing this very course that the popular churches were left in partial darkness, and that is why the messages of heaven have not reached them." *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, p. 28.

"The Lord often works where we least expect Him: He surprises us by revealing His power through instruments of His own choice, while He passes by the men to whom we have looked as those through whom light should come. God desires us to receive the truth upon its own merits—because it is truth.

"...We are not to accept the opinion of commentators as the voice of God; they were erring mortals like ourselves. God has given reasoning powers to us... We should make the Bible its own expositor." -*Testimonies to Ministers*, 106.

Questions and Answers

Q. Should we continue to attend the Seventh-day Adventist church if we know we are not wanted there?

A. "It matter not what they may do to us. We would rather die than to disobey the commandment of the Lord. The S.D.A. church is not Babylon. If it were we would have been duty bound to come out, but since it is not, we have no place to go. Consequently, we will stay in 'Jerusalem' though it may be filled with thieves. 'Fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks.' saith the Lord. (Ezek. 3:9). 'The angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just.' (Matt. 13:49).

"The generation is almost past and there is no time left for building up another denomination, and though in times past God called His people out from one denomination into another, He can not do it now, but instead He shall by the seal of God preserve the denomination for the righteous and take out of it all the wicked who receive not the seal, for thus saith the Lord: 'All the sinners of My people shall die by the sword, which say, The evil shall not overtake nor prevent us.' (Amos 9:10; Vol. 5:211).

"Therefore, we advise all our people to be peaceful, make no disturbance of any kind, and stay in the denominational churches for we have helped build them. They took our tithes and offerings for the support of the ministry, etc., and as long as we are true S.D.A's by keeping the truth they have no legal right from the King of heaven nor from the governments on earth to cast us out. If they attempt to carry you out, do not resist them. If they set a watch at the

doors and bar you out, do not attempt to force yourselves in. If they beat you do not fight back, but by all means try to get in and if you cannot stay on the outside and witness for present truth until the services are over except when physically unable to do so.

"The test is coming and regardless of temptations we must not fail to demonstrate what we believe and show them that we keep the truth, love the brethren, and are willing to die for them if it would awaken them and be saved, for we were no better than they when the truth found us." *Symbolic Code, Vol. 1, No. 14, p. 8, Aug. 1935.* See also *4 Answerer, pp. 30-33.*

Q. Upon What Conditions May We Expect Miraculous Healing?

A. "Many have expected that God would keep them from sickness merely because they have asked Him to do so. But God did not regard their prayers, because their faith was not made perfect by works. God will not work a miracle to keep those from sickness who have no care for themselves, but are continually violating the laws of health, and make no efforts to prevent disease. When we do all we can on our part to have health, then may we expect that the blessed results will follow, and we can ask God in faith to bless our efforts for the preservation of health. He will then answer our prayer, if His name can be glorified thereby. But let all understand that they have a work to do. God will not work in a miraculous manner to preserve the health of persons who by their careless inattention to the laws of health are taking a sure course to make themselves sick." -Ellen White, *Counsels on Health, p. 59.*

Q. How Can We Detect Truth From Error?

A. "As we near the end of time, falsehood will be so mingled with truth, that only those who have the guidance of the Holy Spirit will be able to distinguish truth from error. We need to make every effort to keep the way of the Lord, We must in no case turn from His guidance to put our trust in man. The Lord's angels are appointed to keep strict watch over those who put their faith in the Lord, and these angels are to be our special help in every time of need. Every day we are to come to the Lord with full assurance of faith, and to look to Him for wisdom...Those who are guided by the Word of the Lord will discern with certainty between falsehood and truth, between sin and righteousness. - Ellen White, *7A Bible Commentary, Vol. 7, p. 907.*

Q. Why Haven't The Prophecies Concerning the Setting Up of the Kingdom and Kindred Prophecies Been Fulfilled?

A. "From all appearances it looks as though we are very, very close to the fulfillment of these prophecies. Only one thing hinders it and that is that we have not finished our work. Had we taken the message of warning to the church, this could have all been finished by now, for the nations are all ready. God will hold it until we get our work done. " *12 Symbolic Code, No. 1. p. 24.*

Q. Does God Count All Persecution Suffered in the Name of Religion as for Righteousness?

A. "God is angry with those who pursue a course to make the world hate them. If a Christian is hated because of his good works, and for following Christ, he will have

a reward. But if he is hated because of his uncultivated manners, and because he makes the truth a matter of quarrel with his neighbors, and because he has taken a course to make the Sabbath as annoying as possible to them, he is a stumbling-block to sinners, a reproach to the sacred Truth, and unless he repents it were better for him that a millstone were hung about his neck, and he cast into the sea." Ellen White, *4 Spiritual Gifts, p. 160.*

Though I speak with the tongues of
men and of angels,
and have not charity,
I am become as sounding brass,
or a tinkling cymbal.

And though I have the gift of prophecy,
and understand all mysteries,
and all knowledge;
and though I have all faith
so that I could remove mountains,
and have not charity,
I am nothing.

And though I bestow all my goods to
feed the poor,
and though I give my body to be burned,
and have not charity,
it profiteth me nothing...
I Corinthians 13:1-3.

Q. Since the Bible Teaches That One Should Tithe All His Increase, Should Not One Therefore Pay Tithe on all Gifts?

A. Used as a noun, the word "increase" means "that which is added to the original stock; profits"—the return from one's labor or inheritance. As we do not know whether it can therefore be Scripturally construed to enjoin paying tithe on small love gifts, the decision must rest entirely with the individual. -4 Answerer, p. 48.

THE GOSPEL OF HEALTH

PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE

"The best and most efficacious type of medicine is preventive medicine."

With reference to our physical health, the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy both emphasize prevention. Yes, the Lord knew we would many times go over the line somehow and need healing after becoming ill or diseased, but prevention remains the watchword. Exodus 15:26—"If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight and wilt give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee."

1 Corinthians 3:16, 17; 6:19,20 and 10:31, too, remind us that we have an obligation to our heavenly Father to maintain good health principles in order to better serve and glorify Him.

Ellen White, points out that "the distinction between prevention and cure has not been made sufficiently important. Teach the people that it is better to know how to keep well than how to cure disease. Our physicians should be wise educators, warning all against self-indulgence, showing that abstinence from all things that God has prohibited is the only way to prevent ruin of body and mind. -*Medical Ministry*, 221. In *2 Selected Messages*, 291, she again reminds us "...if all would seek to become intelligent in regard to their bodily

necessities, sickness would be rare instead of common. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Prevention, of course, is another word for maintaining health and this requires that we become cognizant of and implement the basic principles of right living. These principles include eating adequate amounts of the basics—fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, nuts and seeds, and avoiding meats, animal fats, white sugar and flour, as found in processed and refined foods. Getting enough pure water is likewise involved as well as non-dietetic factors such as getting an adequate amount of fresh air, sunshine, exercise, rest, maintaining a thankful, contented, cheerful attitude and trust in divine power. Our people are encouraged to study this broad multi-disciplinary subject the Lord has given us in all of its bearings.

Medical science, too has much information on this important subject. Dr. Ernest L. Wynder, president of the American Health Foundation in New York, laments the fact that "most of us, unfortunately, conduct ourselves in ways that make us old before our time and dead before our full life span has been attained."

Dr. Wynder continues: "We Americans, eat, drink, smoke and neglect exercise to the point where we rob ourselves, our families and our nation of a large part of our potential creativity and productivity." Is it any wonder our national bill for medical care and hospitalization annually exceeds

\$1 trillion—with only 3 to 4 percent of that sum going for prevention?

Meanwhile epidemiologists estimate the major chronic diseases, those responsible for more than two-thirds of all premature deaths (cancer, heart disease, diabetes, stroke) could be reduced significantly by shifting our emphasis from disease treatment to disease prevention.

Where does this shift begin? With you, the consumer, the family-planner, teachers, ministers and health-care providers. Lowel Levin, Yale University professor of public health has stated: "The responsibility for good health has shifted from the scientific community to the family and the individual." More than this, ultimately true complete healing must entail spiritual, physical, mental and emotional healing. And in the words of Dr. William L. Kyle, "this complete healing can only be achieved by a total commitment of the Creator God and obedience to His laws, including His health laws. It requires a lifestyle that is diverse from the world-at-large."

Dear friends, we see that the cost of crisis-oriented, after-the-fact medicine is spiraling out of control. Some experts voice concern that the costly chronic ailments of today (heart disease, cancer, diabetes, high-blood-pressure...), could bankrupt the health care system. Hence a renewed focus is directed toward prevention—which can not only improve health and increase longevity but also cut the costs of health care by as much as one-half.

"The people have been led to believe that national health insurance, more doctors and greater use of high-cost, hospital-based technologies will improve health," wrote

John Knowles, the distinguished physician and former president of the Rockefeller Foundation. "Unfortunately, none of them will. The next major advances in the health of the American people will be determined by what the individual is willing to do for himself and for society at large."

Dr. Knowles goes on to say that "over 99 percent of us are born healthy and made sick as a result of personal misbehavior and environmental conditions." The ability of the medical profession to remedy this man-made illness has reached the point of diminishing returns, Knowles said. At the same time, however, there is evidence that the most serious illnesses, including most of the nation's leading killers and cripples, can be prevented by adoption of healthier living habits and conditions. Let us as Christians, be the first to board the prevention bandwagon!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"There are many ways of practicing the healing art, but there is only one way that heaven approves. God's remedies are the simple agencies of nature, that will not tax or debilitate the system through their powerful properties. Pure air and water, cleanliness, a proper diet, purity of life, and a firm trust in God are remedies for the want of which thousands are dying; yet these remedies are going out of date because their skillful use requires work that people do not appreciate." *Testimonies, Vol. 5:443.*

"The health should be as sacredly guarded as the character." *Christian Temperance, 82.*

"The liability to take disease is increased tenfold by meat eating." -2 *Testimonies, 64.*



THE SOUTH COUNTRY

THE NORTH COUNTRY

AD 1500

ZECH. 6: 1-8.
**THE CHURCH TO,
 AND BACK FROM,
 THE WILDERNESS.**

HER PROPHETIC HISTORY
 BY UNMISTAKABLE SYMBOLS.

THE GREAT PARADOX OF THE AGES

Victor T. Houteff

Zech. 6:1-8—"And I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came four chariots out from between two mountains; and the mountains were mountains of brass. In the first chariot were red horses; and in the second chariot black horses; and in the third chariot white horses; and in the fourth chariot grisled and bay horses. Then I answered and said unto the angel that talked with me, What are these, my Lord? And the angel answered and said unto me, These are the four Spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth. The black horses which are therein go forth into the north country; and the white go forth after them; and the grisled go forth toward the south country. And the bay went forth, and sought to go that they might walk to and fro through the earth: and He said, Get you hence, walk to and fro through the earth. So they walked to and fro through the earth. Then cried he upon me, and spake unto me, saying, Behold, these that go toward the north country have quieted My Spirit in the north country."

The paradox in this prophetic symbolism is with the fourth chariot, you see: It is hitched to two teams, the grisled and the bay, one team trying to take it in one direction (south), and the other in another direction (to and fro through the earth)! What is to become of the chariot, and which of the teams is likely to take it? That is the paradox, for they cannot both have it unless they

walk together. As this is a paradoxical symbolism, it has been a mystery ever since the prophet wrote it, and as it is now disclosed for the first time, Inspiration obviously is forewarning someone of something very serious that is taking place at this particular time. What can it be?--

The prophet Zechariah was as anxious to know as we are, for he asked, "What are these, my Lord"? And to his question came the answer, "These are the four Spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of the whole earth."

The angel's answer is positive. The chariots, He declared, are the Spirits of the heavens, Who stand before the Lord, and Who are sent to go to and fro through the earth. Plainly, then, these four teams and chariots symbolize four messages (four Spirits) sent from God's presence. And since all the messages from God are carried to and fro through the earth by the Ministry and the Church, the chariots and their teams, therefore, are seen to symbolize the church at work in four different periods.

The next question is, Where in the stream of time shall we look for this message-laden and trouble-burdened church? in our time, in the past or what? The brass mountains give the clue, for the chariots came from between them. We should, therefore, first find out what the mountains symbolize, and where

they stand in time. And as the chariots came from between the mountains, one standing to their left (in the future) and the other to their right (in the past), it is necessary to locate them first. The Biblical interpretation of a symbolical mountain is as follows: "Jerusalem shall be called a city of Truth; and the mountain of the Lord of hosts the holy mountain." Zech. 8:3. The mountains in Zechariah's prophecy, therefore, as elsewhere in the Bible, are seen to symbolize two governments, churches, very similar in nature (both of brass) and at two different times (one to the chariot's right and one to their left). Being of brass, a metal that has everlasting qualities, that does not deteriorate, shows that they represent something eternal. Moreover the mountains being of the same symbolical material as that which the feet of Christ (Rev. 1:15) were shown to be (brass), it locates the mountains in the Christian era.

The only such holy governments of God in the Christian era, one in the past and one in the future between which the path of the chariots lies, are the church of the Pentecost with the 120 Spirit-filled disciples, symbolized by the mountain to the chariots' right, and the church at the second Pentecost (Joel 2:28, 29, yet future) with the 144,000 Spirit-filled disciples standing on Mount Zion with the Lamb (Rev. 14:1), symbolized by the mountain to the chariots' left.

It is well understood that the church of today is made up of all kinds of materials, not of solid brass—wheat and tares. The truth is therefore obvious: There is to be another such sin-destroying and sinner-sifting Theocracy as the one in the day of

Ananias and Sapphira who for sinning gave up the ghost as they fell at the apostle's feet (Acts 5:1-11).

Plainly, the chariots symbolize the church militant at work between the two Pentecosts.

The fourth chariot being the last, it is to be found operating just before the second Pentecost.

Since the chariots are led by horses, the horses themselves must symbolize the chariot's (church's) leadership, and the passengers in the chariots must symbolize the laity.

The symbolism, though, is to disclose the paradoxical situation that exists with the fourth chariot, the last, and hence the Laodicean church with the Judgment message, as her name itself indicates.

The first chariot, you remember, is led by red horses; the second by black horses; the third by white; and the fourth by two kinds—grisled and bay horses. The color of each horse being a mark of species, it must be indicative of their natural and consequential circumstances. And as afore-noted, they are symbolical of the ministry in each segment of church history. The red evidently signifies martyrdom; the black signifies captivity; the white signifies freedom; grisled (an indefinite color, neither black nor white) symbolizes ministers that are neither true Christians nor true Gentiles—hypocrites. The bay, however, denote strength, as the marginal reference points out.

This symbolical prophecy is seen to corroborate history. It points out that

the Christian Church at first suffered martyrdom, shown by the color, **red**. Then followed the Dark Ages of religion when the church was in captivity (**black**). Following these came the Protestant period, the period of religious freedom (**white team**). And at last comes the fourth chariot with its bay and grised teams. The teams are seen to have a controversial struggle over the chariot. Grised being an indefinite color—neither black nor white, denotes hypocrisy, the kind of which is heretofore unknown, whereas the color, bay, denotes spiritual strength (margin) the kind heretofore unknown.

Since the Church originated in Asia, Jerusalem in particular, the first chariot is seen to have remained there, for it went nowhere. The "north country," geographically north of Palestine is where the other chariots went; that is, the countries which the Christian nations are now inhabiting. The fourth chariot, though, is supposed to go to and fro through the earth—to every nation, and kindred, and tongue and people. But contrary to this, the grised horses "go forth toward the south country" which, figuratively speaking, would be spiritual Egypt—worldliness.

God's Spirit having been silenced in the north country, must denote that the messages of God in the north country were generally rejected, especially the one of the fourth chariot, which caused the Spirit of Truth to turn away and to bring Truth no more through them—to be silent there—and that, therefore, there is not to be expected any Truth through them.

The double team of horses, and their two kinds of colors, pulling in two different directions are immediately seen to symbolize a double set of church leaders (the Seventh-day Adventist leaders and the Davidian Seventh-day Adventist leaders) unlike in character and aim. Symbolically speaking, the grised horses, those that appeared first on the prophetic scene, are leading the chariot into Egypt—the worldliness from which they ought to come out rather than go back into. The bay horses, though, are endeavoring to pull away from it and go to and fro through the earth as commanded—to finish the gospel work in accordance with God's plan. But this cannot take place so long as both teams are hitched to the chariot, for the chariot cannot possibly move in either direction while one team pulls in one direction and the other in another direction.

The immediate necessity, therefore, is to unhitch (discharge) the one, so that the other can be free to go to and fro through the earth as soon as they are told to "Go." When this happens the paradox will be a paradox no longer.

What put two different kinds of leaders working at cross purposes?—I shall let the Spirit of Prophecy give the answer. Here follows the description of one set of church leaders:

"...Those who have rendered supreme homage to 'science falsely so-called,' will not be the leaders then. Those who have trusted to intellect, genius, or talent, will not then stand at the head of rank and file. They did not keep pace with the light. Those who have proved themselves unfaithful will not then be entrusted with the flock...." - *Testimonies*, Vol. 5:80.

Obviously, these self-important leaders, who love to slumber in a lukewarm country, are represented as the grisled horses.

We shall now read of the leaders whom the bay horses depict, the ones that come on the scene last:

"...The Lord has faithful servants, who in the shaking, testing time will be disclosed to view. There are precious ones now hidden who have not bowed the knee to Baal. They have not had the light which has been shining in a concentrated blaze upon you. But, it may be under a rough and uninviting exterior the pure brightness of a genuine Christian character will be revealed. In the daytime we look toward heaven, but do not see the stars. They are there, fixed in the firmament, but the eye cannot distinguish them. In the night we behold their genuine lustre."

--*Testimonies, Vol. 5:80-81.*

This is exactly what is happening right now: Those who are rejecting the message that is announcing the Judgment for the Living; those who "did not keep pace with the light," and are satisfied to stay in antitypical Egypt; the Seventh-day Adventists' ministry are to be discharged (unhitched); and the "hidden" ones, those represented by the bay horses, the Davidian Seventh-day Adventists' ministry, are coming to the front. They are now being "disclosed to view," and are getting ready to take the chariot! Then as soon as they are told to "Go," they will unhesitatingly and speedily move on "to and fro through the earth" with the message of the hour, the Judgment for the Living.

Now let the founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination concretely

explain what and where the south country is:

"I am filled with sadness when I think of our condition as a people....The church has turned back from following Christ her Leader, and is steadily **retreating toward Egypt**. Yet few are alarmed or astonished at their want of spiritual power. Doubt and even disbelief of the testimonies of the Spirit of God, is leavening our churches everywhere. Satan would have it thus. Ministers who preach self instead of Christ would have it thus. The testimonies are unread and unappreciated. God has spoken to you. Light has been shining from his word and from the testimonies, and both have been slighted and disregarded. The result is apparent in the lack of purity and devotion and earnest faith among us." --*Testimonies, Vol. 5:217.*

What will unhitch the grisled horses from the chariot?—Isaiah the prophet has the answer:

Isa. 66:16, 17, 19, 20—"For by fire and by His sword will the Lord plead with all flesh: and the slain of the Lord shall be many. They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the Lord....And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard My fame, neither have seen My glory; and they shall declare My glory among the Gentiles. And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the Lord out of all nations upon horses, and in

chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to My holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the Lord, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the Lord."

Here is projected a slaughter, taking place among those who have been instructed to abstain from unclean meats, but among whom many are violating God's command. The disobedient, those whose bellies are their gods, including those who sanctify and purify themselves, (the self-righteous) in the gardens behind one tree (behind their Truth-hating minister, verse 17, margin), are by the Lord Himself removed from among His Truth-seeking ones.

After the transgressors are thus removed, then those who are left, the "remnant," the escaped ones, become the servants of God and are sent to all the nations, especially to those who have not as yet heard either of God's fame or the good news of His Kingdom. These escaped ones are to bring to the house of the Lord all their brethren, all that will be converted to Christ—"a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues." They shall stand "before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands." Rev. 7:9.

Thus will the Gospel be finished by those who escape from the Lord's slaying (Isa. 66:15, 16) and God's people be quickly gathered from the 4 corners of the earth, happily brought as an offering to the house of the Lord (verses 19, 20).

Now is everyone's chance to decide to be either on the one side or on the other, either to reform and be led by the faithful bay horses, or to cling to the self-important grisled horses and stay by them in the south country, there to perish. Here is indeed a momentous decision to be made by every member of the Denomination. It calls for action that will decide the future destiny of the laity as well as of the ministry.

Now is your opportunity to act, and it is my wish and prayer that you, and every member of the denomination, choose to be on the side which this unveiled paradox of the ages plainly and definitely instructs you to be on. Do not let the grisled horses deceive you any longer. Meet their fair speeches with "Thus saith the Lord." You take them to task on this strictly Biblical Truth.

—2 *Timely Greetings*, No. 22.

Food For Thought

"God's law is written by His own finger upon every nerve, every muscle, every faculty which has been entrusted to man." -*Letter*, August 30, 1896.

"To make plain natural law, and urge the obedience of it, is the work that accompanies the third angel's message to prepare a people for the coming of the Lord." -3 *Testimonies*, 161.

"It is the duty of every human being, for his own sake and for the sake of humanity, to inform himself or herself in regard to the laws of organic life, and conscientiously to obey them...It is the duty of every person to become intelligent in regard to disease and its causes." -*Letter*, December 4, 1896.

THE STORY OF REDEMPTION

Ellen G. White

The Death of Moses

Moses was soon to die, and he was commanded to gather the children of Israel together before his death and relate to them all the journeyings of the Hebrew host since their departure from Egypt, and all the great transgressions of their fathers, which brought His judgments upon them, and compelled Him to say that they should not enter the Promised Land. Their fathers had died in the wilderness, according to the word of the Lord. Their children had grown up, and to them the promise was to be fulfilled of possessing the land of Canaan. Many of these were small children when the law was given, and they had no remembrance of the grandeur of the event. Others were born in the wilderness, and lest they should not realize the necessity of their obeying the Ten Commandments and all the laws and judgments given to Moses, he was instructed of God to recapitulate the Ten Commandments, and all the circumstances connected with the giving of the law.

Moses had written in a book all the laws and judgments given him of God, and had faithfully recorded all His instructions given them by the way, and all the miracles which He had performed for them, and all the murmurings of the children of Israel.

Moses had also recorded his being overcome in consequences of their murmurings.

Final Instruction to Israel

All the people were assembled before him, and he read the events of their past history out of the book which he had written. He read also the promises of God to them if they would be obedient, and the curses which would come upon them if they were disobedient.

Moses told them that, for their rebellion, the Lord had several times purposed to destroy them, but he had interceded for them so earnestly that God had graciously spared them. He reminded them of the miracles which the Lord did unto Pharaoh and all the land of Egypt. He said to them, "But your eyes have seen all the great acts of the Lord which He did. Therefore shall ye keep all the commandments which I command you this day, that ye may be strong, and go in and possess the land, whither ye go to possess it." Deut. 11:7,8.

Moses especially warned the children of Israel against being seduced into idolatry. He earnestly charged them to obey the commandments of God. If they would prove obedient and love the

Lord and serve Him with their undivided affections. He would give them rain in due season and cause their vegetation to flourish, and increase their cattle. They should also enjoy especial and exalted privileges, and should triumph over their enemies.

Moses instructed the children of Israel in an earnest, impressive manner. He knew that it was his last opportunity to address them. He then finished writing in a book all the laws, judgments, and statutes with God had given him, also the various regulations respecting sacrificial offerings. He placed the book in the hands of men in the sacred office and requested that, for safe keeping, it should be put in the side of the ark, for God's care was continually upon that sacred chest. The book of Moses was to be preserved, that the judges of Israel might refer to it if any case should come up to make it necessary. An erring people often understand God's requirements to suit their own case; therefore the book of Moses was preserved in a most sacred place, for future reference.

Moses closed his last instructions to the people by a most powerful, prophetic address. It was pathetic and eloquent. By inspiration of God he blessed separately the tribes of Israel. In his closing words he dwelt largely upon the majesty of God and the excellency of Israel, which would ever continue if they would obey God and take hold of His strength.

The Decease and Resurrection of Moses

"And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that is over against Jericho. And the Lord shewed him all the land of Gilead, unto Dan. And all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim, and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah, unto the utmost sea, and the south, and the plain of the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, unto Zoar. And the Lord said unto him, This is the land which I sware unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither. So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord. And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Beth-peor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day. And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated." Deut. 34:1-7.

It was not the will of God that anyone should go up with Moses to the top of Pisgah. There he stood, upon a high prominence on Pisgah's top, in the presence of God and heavenly angels. After he had viewed Canaan to his satisfaction, he lay down, like a tired warrior, to rest. Sleep came upon him, but it was the sleep of death. Angels took his body and buried it in the valley. The Israelites could never find the place where he was buried. His secret burial

was to prevent the people from sinning against the Lord by committing idolatry over his body.

Satan exulted that he had succeeded in causing Moses to sin against God. For this transgression Moses came under the dominion of death. If he had continued faithful, and his life had not been marred with that one transgression, in failing to give God the glory of bringing water from the rock, he would have entered the Promised Land, and would have been translated to heaven without seeing death. Michael, or Christ, with the angels that buried Moses, came down from heaven, after he had remained in the grave a short time, and resurrected him and took him to heaven.

As Christ and the angels approached the grave, Satan and his angels appeared at the grave and were guarding the body of Moses, lest it should be removed. As Christ and His angels drew nigh, Satan resisted their approach, but was compelled, by the glory and power of Christ and His angels to fall back. Satan claimed the body of Moses, because of his one transgression; but Christ meekly referred him to His Father, saying "The Lord rebuke thee." Jude 9. Christ told Satan that He knew Moses had humbly repented of this one wrong, that no stain rested upon his character, and that his name in the heavenly book of records stood untarnished. Then Christ resurrected the body of Moses, which Satan had claimed.

At the transfiguration of Christ, Moses, and Elijah who had been translated, were sent to talk with Christ in regard to His sufferings, and be the bearers of God's glory to His dear Son. Moses had been greatly honored of God. He had been privileged to talk with God face to face, as a man speaketh with his friend. And God had revealed to him His excellent glory, as He had never done to any other. (*The Story of Redemption, chapter 22, pp. 170-174*). To be continued.

FROM THE GOLDEN BOWL

"We are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. Prophecies are fulfilling. The last great conflict will be short, but terrible. Old controversies will be revived. new controversies will arise. We have a great work to do. Our ministerial work must not cease. The last warnings must be given to the world. There is a special power in the presentation of the truth at the present time. How long will it last? Only a little while....

"The inquiry of everyone should be, Whose am I? To whom do I owe allegiance? Is my heart renewed? Is my soul reformed? Are my sins forgiven? Will they be blotted out when the time of refreshing shall come? -3 Selected Message, p. 419.

**God is our refuge
and strength,
A very present
help in trouble. Ps. 46:1.**

Signs of the Times

Brothers and sisters, prophecy is being fulfilled all around us. In light of the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington D.C., these words of Inspiration from the pen of Ellen White--written over 100 years ago--should have special meaning for us today.

"I have seen the most costly structures in buildings erected and supposed to be fireproof. And just as Sodom perished in flames of God's vengeance, so will these proud structures become ashes...The flattering monuments of men's greatness will be crumbled in the dust, even before the last great destruction comes upon the world. Only by being clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness can we escape the judgments that are coming upon the earth." -3 *Selected Messages*, 418-419.

"Men will continue to erect expensive buildings, costing millions of money; special attention will be called to their architectural beauty, and the firmness and solidity with which they are constructed; but the Lord has instructed me that despite the unusual firmness and expensive display, these buildings will share the fate of the temple in Jerusalem." 7-A *SDA Bible Commentary*, Vol. 5, p. 1098.

"The destruction by fire of the stately buildings supposed to be fireproof is

an illustration of how in a short time earth's architecture will lie in ruins."
-*This Day With God*, 152.

"In the night I was, I thought, in a room but not in my own house. I was in a city, where I knew not, and I heard explosion after explosion. I rose up quickly in bed, and saw from my window large balls of fire. Jetting out were sparks, in the form of arrows, and buildings were being consumed, and in a very few minutes the entire block of buildings was falling and the screeching and mournful groans came distinctly to my ears. I cried out, in my raised position, to learn what was happening: Where am I and where are our family circle? Then I awoke. But I could not tell where I was for I was in another place than home. I said, Oh Lord, where am I and what shall I do? It was a voice that spoke: 'Be not afraid. Nothing shall harm you.'" -11 *Manuscript Releases*, p. 361.

Message to Our Cities:

"His message must be given in Greater New York. The people must be shown how it is possible for God, by a touch of His hand, to destroy the property they have gathered together against the last great day." -3 *Manuscript Releases*, p. 311.

"On one occasion, when in New York City, I was in the night season called upon to behold buildings rising story after story toward heaven. These buildings were warranted to be fireproof, and they were erected to glorify their owners and builders....

"The scene that next passed before me was an alarm of fire. Men looked at the lofty and supposedly fireproof buildings and said: 'They are perfectly safe.' But these buildings were consumed as if made of pitch. The fire engines could do nothing to stay the destruction. The firemen were unable to operate the engines." -9 *Testimonies*, p. 12-13.

"The ungodly cities of our world are to be swept away by the besom of destruction. In the calamities that are now befalling immense buildings and large portions of cities, God is showing us what will come upon the whole earth. He has told us, 'Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it [the coming of the Son of man] is near, even at the doors.' Matt. 24:32-33." -*Counsels on Health*, p. 268.

"Already His judgments have begun to fall upon the inhabitants of the land. He can touch the largest so-called fireproof buildings, and in two or three hours they are as nothingness, burned to the ground." -*The Publishing Ministry*, p. 190.

"O that God's people had a sense of the impending destruction of thousands of cities, now almost given to idolatry." -*Evangelism*, p. 29.

"We shall see troubles on all sides. Thousands of ships will be hurled into the depths of the sea. Navies will go down, and human lives will be

sacrificed by millions. Fires will break out unexpectedly, and no human effort will be able to quench them. The palaces of earth will be swept away in the fury of the flames. Disasters by rail will become more and more frequent; confusion, collision, and death without a moment's warning will occur on the great lines of travel. The end is near, probation is closing. Oh, let us seek God while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near! -*Messages to Young People*, 89-90.

"The world over, cities are becoming hotbeds of vice. On every hand are the sights and sounds of evil. Everywhere are enticements to sensuality and dissipation. The tide of corruption and crime is continually swelling. Every day brings the record of violence--robberies, murders, suicides, and crimes unnamable.

"Life in the cities is false and artificial. The intense passion for money getting, the whirl of excitement and pleasure seeking, the thirst for display, the luxury and extravagance, all are forces that, with the great masses of mankind, are turning the mind from life's true purpose. They are opening the door to a thousand evils. Upon the youth they have almost irresistible power." -*Country Living*, p. 5-6.

"Erelong there will be such strife and confusion in the cities, that those who wish to leave them will not be able. We must be preparing for these issues. This is the light that is given me." -*Ibid.*, p. 11.

"The work of the people of God is to prepare for the events of the future,

which will soon come upon them with blinding force. In the world gigantic monopolies will be formed. Men will bind themselves together in unions that will wrap them in the folds of the enemy. A few men will combine to grasp all the means to be obtained in certain lines of business. Trades unions will be formed, and those who refuse to join these unions will be marked men." -2 *Selected Mess.*, 142.

"There are not many, even among educators and statesmen, who comprehend the causes that underlie the present state of society. Those who hold the reins of government are not able to solve the problem of moral corruption, poverty, pauperism, and increasing crime. They are struggling in vain to place business operations on a more secure basis." -9 *Test*, p. 13.

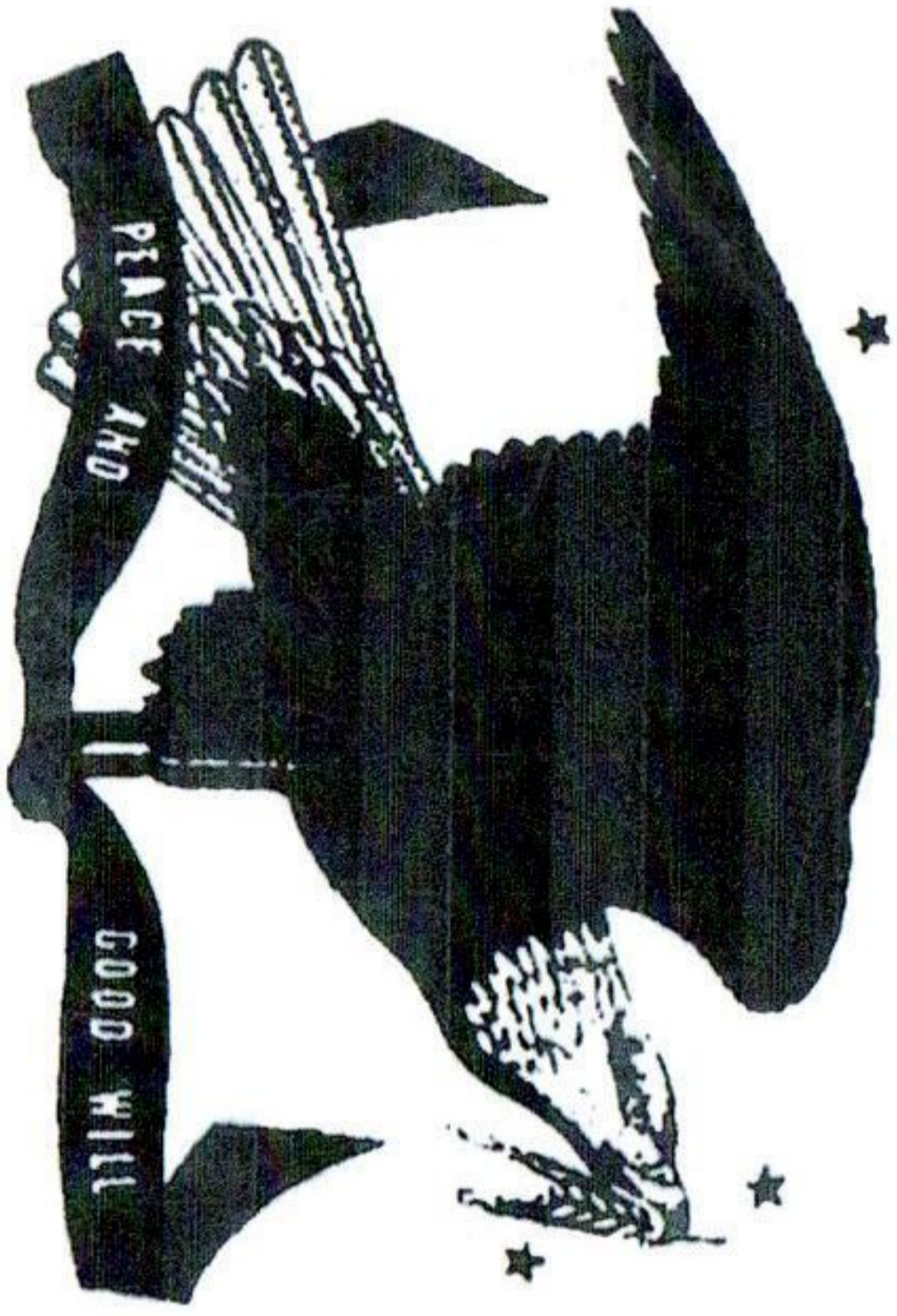
"As I consider the conditions in the cities that are so manifestly under the power of Satan, I ask myself the question, What will be the end of these things? The wickedness in many cities is increasing. Crime and iniquity are at work on every hand. New species of idolatry are continually being introduced into society. In every nation the minds of men are turning to the invention of some new thing. Rashness of deed and confusion of mind are everywhere increasing. Surely the cities of the earth are becoming like Sodom and Gomorrah." -*Evangelism*, p. 30.

"Through spiritualism, Satan appears as a benefactor of the race, healing the diseases of the people and professing to present a new and more exalted

system of religious faith; but at the same time he works as a destroyer. His temptations are leading multitudes to ruin. Intemperance dethrones reason; sensual indulgence, strife, and bloodshed follow. Satan delights in war, for it excites the worst passions of the soul and then sweeps into eternity its victims steeped in vice and blood. It is his object to incite the nations to war against one another, for he can thus divert the minds of the people from the work of preparation to stand in the day of God.

"Satan works through the elements also to garner his harvest of unprepared souls. He has studied the secrets of the laboratories of nature, and he uses all his power to control the elements as far as God allows....

"While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation. Even now he is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow. He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous. Destruction will be upon both man and beast." -*The Great Controversy*, 589-590.



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