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Contend
for the faith
which was
once for all
delivered to the saints
Jude 1:3
I have adopted a vegan diet recently, and my parents are worried to see me thinner than I used to be. I am now 48 kg. I am aware that I am less than my recommended weight (height = 170 cm), but I am not aware of having any medical problems. I exercise almost every day, and I wonder whether there is anything I can do to gain some weight, or do you advise me on the kind of diet I should take? I would like also to know when a vegan needs to have B12 supplements. Thank you.

Hi! You need to take more energy foods such as nut creams and soymilk cream that you add to your foods. Make mayonnaises with sunflower seeds, soy milk powder, or nuts, and increase your fat intake. The vegan diet does not consist of only leafy foods. You need the grains, seeds, and nuts as well. Use a fortified soy milk to get B12, or use a supplement. Hope this helps.

- Dr. W.J. Veith

I am so grateful to God for bringing your website and message to my life. I am thrilled with the message of truth that you are presenting for these last days of this earth’s history. I believe that God is using the internet to speak and spread the truths that we have been taught.” - our remnant... Keep up the great work and keep producing and offering these materials.

Thank you for all the informative info on refined sugar and its effects on our bodies and our minds. I am very concerned about the form of Colas. I swore off sugar today and it hit me like a rock, but I will keep on keeping on. Again, thank you.

-AH.

Thank you for all the information given by Walter Veith on the web, in books, in videos too. It helped me to find a standpoint especially concerning certain topics at school. I hope other young people also use this source of information. You do not often find such clear explanations - answers to questions - and I would like to explain to others what you believe. God bless.

-MD (Germany)

Prepares To Meet Thy God Part 1

"Join (the Baptist) was to go forth as God's messenger, to bring to men the light of God. He must give a new direction to their thoughts. He must impress them with the holiness of God's requirements, and their need of His perfect righteousness... In preparing the way for Christ's first advent, he was a representative of those who are to prepare a people for our Lord's second coming." - DA 100, 101

Just as John the Baptist prepared the way for Christ's first advent, we - the generation living at the end of time - are to prepare the way for Christ's second advent. If we wish to succeed in this mission, it would seem logical to prepare ourselves and our children for this mission in the same manner that he prepared.

What kind of man was John the Baptist and what kind of life did he lead that prepared him for his great work?

When we study the Bible and Ellen White's writing about John the Baptist, we find some significant statements that could be applicable to our lives today. Let us take a summarized look at some points concerning John the Baptist and his similarity to our work.

In order to accomplish his mission, John had to be a holy man. He had to be a temple for the indwelling of the Spirit of God. He needed a sound physical constitution, and required mental and spiritual strength. To acquire these qualities, John was first of all, temperance (self-controlled) in his appetite and passions. From early days, his parents followed the instructions of the angel and fed him as they were instructed to do. John’s “diet, purely vegetable, of locusts and wild honey, was a rebuke to the indulgence of appetite and gluttony that everywhere prevailed… T3 p. 62.

In addition, John lived a life of simplicity - a life of self-denial and self-control. These habits he began in childhood, when the habits are forming, when the character is most impressionable. "These habits learned early decide whether a man will be victorious or vanquished, to win or lose the battle of life. It determines the character of the harvest - for this life and the life to come." DA 101

John did not attend regular school, for education was nature. But nature’s God, went out into nature frequently, and there studied nature, revelation, and the lessons of Providence. In other words, the standard for his education was the standard of the world he would live in. His parents did not consider the philosophy and psychology of the rabbinical schools of the day to be necessary or important for true education. He took his values from the Scriptures alone. He understood that "The Lord did not send him to the schools of the prophets and rabbis. He took him away from the assemblies of men to the desert... God did not desire him to have the mold of the priestly school. The Lord forbade him his message. Did he go to the priests and rulers and ask if he might proclaim this message? No, God put him away from them that he might not be influenced by the priest and teaching," Review & Herald vol. 2, p. 368.

The train...
ing of the rabbinical schools would have unfitted him for his work." DA p. 101

From childhood, his mission had been kept before him. His parents had let it be known that they expected him to grow up to be a rabbi. They had impressed him with his mission and his special calling from early childhood.

John lived in the country, actually the wilderness, shut in by God's presence and surrounded by the evidences of His power. And he spent time in solitude and prayer.

And last but not least, John distrusted his own power to withstand temptation, and shrank from constant contact with sin lest he should lose the sense of its exceeding sinfulness.

It stands to reason that as important as John's commission was in preparing people for Christ's FIRST advent, our commission is even more serious in that we are to prepare a world not only for Christ's second coming but also the END OF THE WORLD. Unlike Christ's first advent, from this event, there will be no second chances. One may have been unsure about Christ the Messiah at first, and chosen to accept Him much later after His heavenly advent event. On this event, there is no more time left. The urgency for this commission is far greater than that of John the Baptist.

If we are to prepare ourselves and our children to be the heralds of the loud cry, ought we not to also incorporate the same principles as found in John's life into ours and theirs? How can we do this? Here are some suggestions that I found beneficial for me personally:

1) First of all, we can take the health message seriously, and apply it to our diets and our lifestyle. "For years the Lord has been calling the attention of His people to health. It was one of the great branches of the work of preparation for the coming of the Son of man... Temperance in all things is to be connected with the message, to turn the people of God from their idolatry, their gluttony, and their extravagance in dress and other things." T3 p. 61,62.

2) Practicing simple foods in their natural state, drinking pure water, and applying the other laws of health is important for gaining victory over sin in our life. Ellen White states that "it is impossible for an intermarried man to be a patient man. First temperature, then patience." CP p. 95 In light of this, along with her many other statements, should not the health message be important to us if we truly desire to live a victorious Christian life?

3) We can begin in childhood training our children. Modelling and instructing habits of self-denial, kindness, dependence upon God, and usefulness will go a long way to helping our children find the path that will lead them to become a part of God's last-day work. If they have grown up already, we must do what we can with their remaining years.

4) We can keep before our children their important mission - their calling of God to be a part of His plan to proclaim the loud cry of His soon return. Each one of our children is to have a role to fulfill, to minister to God, and helping our children to choose careers that will put them in positions where they can do so is important. When our children choose careers, do they really mean that "I will work and pay" or what status the job will give them, rather than choosing jobs according to how useful they can be in spreading the three angels' messages? As parents we can begin early in helping our children base their decisions on choosing their life work.

5) We can consider seriously where we educate our children and how they are being educated there. If we can homeschool our children, or provide them with an education at a Christian school that will have the same principles we uphold, then our children will be better off. It is important, however, that as parents, we don't take it for granted that just because a school is "Adventist" or "Christian" it will automatically provide our children with the ideals that we wish to foster in their lives. A parent's duty is to investigate the school to which they are planning to send their children and to remain interested and interactive in their child's education at all times. Does it ever happen that parents think that because their children attend a "Christian" school, their "Christian" teacher will provide them with all the Christian education they require? Are we as parents filled into satisfaction because we think we have done our duty by depositing our precious trusts in God in the hands of an institution run by ungodly men? The Bible shows us that we are in danger of being neglectful of our duty, if we do so.

6) We can choose to make our dwelling in such a natural setting as possible - preferably in the country, or at least to note that John the Baptist was not surrounded necessarily by beauty. The landscape where he lived was harsh and unforgiving in many ways. From this we may learn that it is not necessary to live in a beautiful location, and if one does not, to feel that one has not opportunity to learn from God's nature. John the Baptist learned from the dry environment object lessons that pointed him to the people's condition. All around him he saw barrenness, and he likened the gloomy, terrible aspect of nature in his wilderness home to the condition of Israel. John the Baptist also taught that when God worked in a place (which) had become a desolate waste. DA 103 But in all this, he also saw the mercy of God. "The clouds that gath- ered in tempest, were arched with the rainbow of promise." DA 102 Above the desert, the heavens bent bright and beautiful, and the rain made the hidden blooms come forth.

7) We have seen that John the Baptist shrank from constant contact with sin. Why? He did not wish to lose the sense of its exceeding sinfulness. Have we lost that sense?

"The forlorners of Christ did not expose himself to evil conversation and the corrupting influences of the world." R & H vol. 5, p. 287. By bringing tel- evision into our homes, radio into our cars, through all the filthy pictures and magazines one encounters even at the supermarket standing at the cashier (where the pictures are at eye-level for children) and the value of spiritual values (which are) being blemished? I can only think "yes".

Some may argue, "Well, that's the real world. We have to equip our children to tread the real world, therefore they must be exposed to the real world." Have you heard such an argu- ment? I have many times. But as I studied the life of John the Baptist, I realize that his parent was not obsessed with this. #1 reason why our children should NOT be exposed to the "real world", contrary to popular belief, is that if they are, their sensibilities will be blemished, sin will be made to look attractive, normal, ("everyone is doing it"), and our children will have a harder time choosing between good and bad. Their religious experience could even be made shallow because of it, and I for one, do not want to be an accomplice of Satan's tactics to destroy our children.

John the Baptist tried to close every avenue by which Satan could en- ter. This is an effective way to end his efforts, he was still as- sailed. Can we do the same for our children? They will have to fight Satan many times in their lives, can we not make his entrances into their lives as minimal as possible? Because of his strong and de- cisive character, with his clear spiritual perceptions, and with the aid of the Holy Spirit, John the Baptist was able to de- tect Satan's approaches and to resist his power. Perhaps if our minds and the minds of our children were not so bombarded by Satan's deceptions, we too could see Satan's approaches rather than realize we had been hit by temptation after we had suc- cumbed to it and realized too late that we had again failed.

In order to recognize the counterfeits, one must study the genuine, rather than the counterfeits. This applies even to common things such as counterfeits, money. Tellers study genuine money in great detail, so that they can recognize counterfeit money when it crosses their wicket.

As John the Baptist studied the genuine, he was unused by the man. Because he was completely unacquainted with Him, he was unused. Perhaps this is the best "self-esteem" building we can give our children. As he studied the scriptures and found scriptures to apply to what he saw around him, he began personally ac- quainted with Him, so that he became awed, self was forgotten. As he beheld the majesty of holiness, he felt ineffi- cient and unworthy.

The point is, it is my desire to not only equip my children for this world - its job requirements, skills, and its way of life - but most importantly, for the world to come. It is my desire that I and my children not see too much, nor be comforted in this world, that we are not prepared to leave it for something bet- ter, or not concerned to bring those we come in contact with along as well. May we all "examine ourselves, whether we are making this temporal world our pri- ority, rather than preparing our hearts, habits, and lives to help proclaim the most important message to be given to a world on a collision course with destiny. "Prepare to meet thy God!"
PROGRAMMED TO FALL

Using the senses to control the mind

by Brian S. Neumann

While claiming for himself perfect loyalty to God, he [Satan] urged that changes in the order and laws of heaven were necessary for the stability of the divine government. Thus while working to exact opposition to the law of God and to instil his own discontent into the minds of the angels under him, he was ostensibly seeking to remove dissatisfaction and to reconcile disaffected angels to the order of heaven. While secretly fomenting discord and rebellion, he with consummate craft caused it to appear as his sole purpose to promote loyalty and to preserve harmony and peace. PP, p. 38

As we consider what is taking place in the Omega apocalyptic (dealt with in the pre-employment of Lucifer, etc.), a may be helpful for us to take a page from the distant past, to go back to the original fall from grace and the method employed by Lucifer to capture the affections of the other angels. In the segment above, from Patriarchs and Prophets, we see Ellen White describing the two-pronged and subtle attack of Lucifer in heaven. One arm of his attack was his profession of, and, indeed, promoted loyalty to God and intimated that the changes he envisaged were necessary for stability of the divine government. The other arm — his real intention — was to destroy the government of God and set himself in the position of universal ruler.

In the guise of ‘truth’, Satan has always operated when trying to deceive and destroy God’s people and their efforts. Presenting himself as an angel of light, with the best interests of God’s plan at heart, he calculatedly and subtly uses his skills of mind and organization manipulation to turn the tables in his favour. Only when it is too late, when the fallacy has already infected themselves and worked their ‘devilish deeds’, is one able to see the results of Satan’s skillful use of truth in destroying truth.

In our previous articles, it has already become clear that this is exactly what the enemy is doing. Ellen White writes that, ‘So long as we are ignorant of their wiles [Satan and his angels], they have almost inconceivable advantage; many give heed to their suggestions while they suppose themselves to be following the dictates of their own wisdom’. Great Controversy, p. 516.

It is the studied purpose of this article to expose the devilish devices and cause us to realize that, even though it may be nice to believe our ideas and methods are our own or even God-inspired, they may very well be ‘seeds’ planted by the agencies of our archenemy. This is why it is of paramount importance to ‘test the spirits to see if they are from God’.

Although Satan has honed his skills of deception over thousands of years, he still uses the same principles of deception as he did in the very beginning. Through the powers of suggestion, insinuation and manipulation, he uses every vehicle possible to gain access, via the senses, to the mind. All first, his methods are subtle, secret and mysterious, until the human target is fully under control and is found in open rebellion against God.

It is a strange, evil, hypnotic power that he wields over the human psyche. There is no need for his subjects to be in the state of trance-like sleep, commonly associated with hypnotism. Satan has the ability to control and channel our thoughts and actions without us even being aware that we are being subtly and progressively programmed into fulfilling his will.

By suggesting ideas and planting ideas into our minds, he causes us to make decisions and take actions, that we, for all intents and purposes, consider being the inventions of our own imaginations. In modern, scientific terms, this technique would be called, ‘Neuro-Linguistic Programming’ (NLP).

In the world of advertising they know that it is possible to create (by using subliminal and hidden techniques), a demand for the product that they are trying to promote.

Wilson Bryan Kaye, PhD, the world’s foremost authority on subliminal persuasion in advertising, in the book The Age of Manipulation, writes about the fallacy that exists in the modern mind — that ‘we think for ourselves’. By using subtle techniques of persuasion on the collective unconscious (a media type of NLP), you can ultimately sell anything to the conscious level.

The engineering of consent assaults human perception at both conscious and unconscious levels, especially the latter. Once the group or collective consciousness is programmed into what has been called culture, virtually any bill of goods can be sold at conscious levels. The Age of Manipulation, Wilson Bryan Kaye, PhD, p. 4 – Madison Books.

This method of media manipulation is not something that happens by chance. The techniques/methods used are closely guarded secrets within the media industry.

Media technicians cannot, however, develop credible illusions and fantasies accidentally. They cannot do one without the other. They must disguise from audiences what they are doing, or that they are doing anything beyond the superficially obvious. Ibid, p. 7

The methods used in NLP (both in the media and at other levels) can, in their more recent history, be traced back to Freudian psychology. In fact, the mind/inspiration behind NLP, Dr. Milton Erickson, was a disciple of Freud’s methods.

But, the ancient history of these techniques (from a purely ‘world-history’ perspective) can be traced back to the time of the Greek philosopher Protagoras (485 – 410 BC). Protagoras was the most famous of the sophists, known for his dictum, “Man is the measure of all things”.

Early Greek sophists were professional teachers of rhetoric; then, considered, in the words of Aristotle, to be “the available means of persuasion”. Sophists were attacked by Plato and Aristotle for not seeking objective truths. . . . Sophists sought to understand the structure of human societies, relationships between words and things, between observers and their observations, and between reality and perceptions of reality.” Ibid.

The term sophistry originates from this Greek word, which according to dictionary definition means, “the practice of deception”. It was by observation and experimentation that the sophists perfected their method of persuasion. Today, from the media to church organizations, the sophistry of NLP techniques to reach and manipulate the minds of the unsuspecting public, is practised — not through the plain, undisguised word, but by utilizing ‘sophisticated’ methods of persuasion.

Sigmund Freud, recognized the ability of the subconscious to assimilate and retain stimuli without any loss of information and to recall and impregnate the conscious in the dream state. Speaking about this ability, he writes that ‘Nothing can be brought to an end in the unconscious. Nothing is past or forgotten’. The Interpretation of Dreams.

The ability to subliminally affect the human subconscious — through a whole variety of techniques — has been an area of study and concern to the U.S. Treasury Department’s Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF). A definition of subliminal embedding (with relation to sexual aspects in advertising) was included in its August 6, 1984, “New Rules and Regulations” document.

One prevalent form of subliminal technique was described as the insertion of words or body forms (embeds) by the use of shadows or shading, or the substitution of forms and shapes generally associated with the body. . . . The consumer does not perceive them at a normal level of awareness, and thus is given no choice whether to accept or reject the message, as in the case of most known advertisement. This form of advertising technique is false and deceptive, and is prohibited by law. The Age of Manipulation, Wilson Bryan Kaye, PhD, p. 13

If, as Christians, we turn away from the truth (without mixture of sophistry in any form) and follow after fables (anything that does not give a clear, straight testimony and attempts to ‘fudge’/’fog’ the facts in any way), Satan will have the freedom to put us under his hypnotic spell:

...Continued on Page 8
The hypnotic influence of Satan will rest upon those who turn from the plain word of God to pleasing fables. BT 294 (1904). 2MCP 718.1

If we do not guard the five senses against all deceptive influences, then we will become easy prey to Satan’s devices:

Those who would not fall a prey to Satan’s devices, must guard well the avenues of the soul; they must avoid reading, seeing, or hearing that which will suggest impure thoughts. The mind must not be left to dwell at random upon every subject that the enemy of souls may suggest. The heart must be faithfully sentinel, or evils without will awaken evils within, and the soul will wander in darkness. Acts of the Apostles, p. 518

As we study, we will trace the roots of Satan’s “NLP” technique and other related concepts, from their spiritualistic/occult beginnings to their present-day absorption into the secular business world, education, Christianity and, finally, even Adventism. The roots of “NLP” can be traced back over six thousand years to Satan’s rebellion in heaven.

Leaving his place in the immediate presence of the Father, Lucifer went forth to diffuse the spirit of discontent among the angels. He worked with mysterious secrecy, and for a time concealed his real purpose under an appearance of reverence for God. He began to instinate doubts concerning the laws that governed heavenly beings, intimating that though laws might be necessary for the inhabitants of the worlds, angels, being more exalted, needed no such restraint, for their own wisdom was a sufficient guide. Pneumatics and Prophets, p. 37

The first step in the direction of open sin was one of leaving the presence of God—entering into a place or situation, against God’s will, where he could not offer Lucifer the full mental protection that he needed. Then, under a guise of reverence for God (false religion and worship), he began to practice his mysterious form of mental programming (NLP) that ultimately led to the fall of one third of the angels.

Later he finds him practising the same technique on Eve in the Garden of Eden. Through the power of insinuation, (a step by step process of impressing the mind with thoughts that you intentionally want your subject to imagine) he induced Eve (via the senses) into responding to his suggestions and, finally, pushed her over the precipice into committing human-kind’s first sin. Let’s turn in the inspiration of Ellen White, and hear her description of Satan’s “mind-science” and the Edenic fall:

In the hands of Satan, temptation has become a science. He is the god of this world because the world has chosen him as his master. . . . In his temptation of our first parents, Satan could not force them to transgress, but he could suggest allurements to sin, and the mind that is open to his suggestions is the medium through which he works to allure other minds. Signs of the Times, December 21, 1891

He must insinuate against God’s truthfulness and create doubt whether God did mean just what He said; next, he must excite their curiosity, and lead them to pry into the unsearchable plans of God—the very sin of which Satan had been guilty—and reason as to the cause of His restrictions in regard to the tree of knowledge. Early Writings, p. 146

The same process that Satan used in heaven he now put into practice on earth. But, it is interesting to notice that Eve, although not yet sedimented, shared in the situation in that God had warned her and Adam not to get into. In a sense, she left the direct presence of God and stepped into a zone where she was now open to the introduction of Satan’s “NLP” plan:

When Eve, disregarding the Lord’s admonition concerning the forbidden tree, ventured to approach it, she came in contact with her foe. Her interest and curiosity having been awakened, Satan proceeded with God’s word, and to insinuate distrust of His wisdom and goodness. To the woman’s statement concerning the tree of knowledge, “God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die,” the tempter made answer. “Ye shall not surely die: 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 3:3–5: Education, p. 23

Having awakened her interest by posing as a speaking serpent (the most beautiful of all the animals), he now began his plan of insinuation. “Did God really say . . . ? From Eve’s response: “. . . of the fruit of the tree which [is] in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it (God never said that if they touched it, they would die—only if they ate it, lest ye die; . . . )” he had a clear indication that Eve was open to his next move.

First, he had witnessed her venturing away from the area of safety. He then successfully caught her interest and posed a question (not suggesting insinuation) just enough doubt to cause her response to be less than accurate, and now, having seen her step by step journey into his trap, he was ready to make an outright charge against the wisdom and goodness of God:

Ye shall not surely die: 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.

In one quick decisive sentence, Satan made God out to be a liar and then, immediately, proceeded to tempt her with the ultimate temptation—the promise of god-realization within one’s self (by eating the forbidden fruit). Through this doctrine— that man is his own ‘god’ and that through some power of ‘mind-process’ on his own he can gain success—Satan prompted Eve to take the final, irreversible, step and eat (appealing to the senses, based on the tree of knowledge of good and evil).

In the King James, Genesis 3:6, reveals that Eve saw (sense of vision) that the fruit was good for food, and that she took (succeeding to the sense of touch) the fruit and ate it (no doubt, the fruit of the tree was also appealing to the sense of smell). The Hebrew in the original text simply states, ‘desire’. It can be rightfully concluded that the fruit appealed to the senses of sight, smell, and touch.

And having not yet experienced the act of the sinner (Eve) becoming an agent for the tempter by causing someone else (Adam) to sin as well. (Genesis 3:1–6) Satan attempted to cause the fall of Christ by using the same methods— but failed. He still does this today with great success. Through the media, in its various forms, he directs messages, via the senses to the brain and thus controls, to a large degree, the collective body of humanity.

In ages past, and at present, Satan used massive institutions, like the Papacy, to accomplish his aims. Through her power, riches, Satan procured our earthly and awe-inspiring music, the devil enticed rulers and common people to be sucked into the vortex of her sickly religion.

Protestants little know what they are doing when they propose to accept the role of Rome in the work of Sunday exaltation. . . . Let history test of her artful and persistent efforts to infiltrate herself into the affairs of nations; and having gained a foothold, to further her own aims, even at the ruin of princes and people [THREE DECRETALIA-] (GC 580.2)

Thus Paul could say, of the man of sin, in 2Thessalonians 2:9-10: [Even him], whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

It is exactly this same method of ‘mind control’ that Satan is using on you and I every single day of our lives. Slowly but surely indoctrinating us through the expert use of his “NLP” technique, until we are willing to commit just about any sin. And, if he cannot get us to do it, he will at least persuade us that it is okay to watch it. Either way, we are programmed for defeat.

Satan will come in a very plausible manner to such as he can deceive, and will insinuate himself into their favor, and lead them almost imperceptibly from God. He wins them under his control, cautiously at first, until their skepticism is blunted, and then he will make bolder suggestions, until he can lead them to commit almost any degree of crime. Conflict and Courage p. 172

Either the evil angels or the angels of God are controlling the minds of men. Our minds are given to the control of God or to the control of the powers of darkness. Manuscript 17, 1893

Satan will insinuate himself by little wiges, which widen as they make a place for themselves. The specious devices of Satan will be brought into the special work of God at this time. Manuscript 16, 1890.

Satan will insinuate himself little by little, until he can have a controlling influence on the soul, and induce men gradually to adopt worldly policy. Review and Herald, January 24, 1893

In the alpha apostasy, discussed earlier, Satan used Dr. J. H. Kellogg, to capture A. T. Jones and others in the threads of deception that were being woven around them. Here—taken from the Biography series— is some interesting and profound advice that he gave Brother Jones, warning him not to go see Kellogg. Unfortunately Jones thought that he knew better:

She counselled him (Brother Jones) not to go. He promised her that he would not afford the time. She had been warned in vision that such a move on his part would lead to his downfall. She wrote
Programmed to Fail (Continued from Page 9)

of it thus: "In vision I had seen him [A. T. Jones] under the influence of Dr. Kellogg. Fine threads were being wove around him, till he was being bound hand and foot, and his mind and his senses were becoming captivated." Ellen White reported this to Brother Jones just before he went to Battle Creek; she could see "that his perceptions were becoming confused, and that he did not believe the warning given. She said, 'The enemy works in a strange, wonderful way to influence human minds.'" But Jones, a man with a great deal of self-confidence, was sure that he would not fall by the way.

Ellen White watched the inevitable results and agonized for his spiritual welfare. His plan to stay in Battle Creek only one year was soon forgotten as he became more and more entrenched there.

The men who sustain Dr. Kellogg are in a half-mesmerized condition, and do not understand the condition of the man. They honestly believe that he is to be trusted. 6 BHO, p. 72

Today we need to guard against the same hypnotic methods that Satan used during the alpha of SDA apostasies. If we bring anything into our Adventist 'repertoire' that has roots that are in any way traceable to spiritualism, then we are taking the first steps onto enchanted ground and cannot expect the protection and blessing of Christ.

Take not a particle of interest in Spiritualistic theories. Satan is waiting to steal a march upon everyone who allows himself to be deceived by his hypnotisms. Letter 123, 1904. See Ministry of Healing pp. 242-244; Medical Ministry pp. 110-112; 2 Selected Messages p. 349,350,353; EW 298 for further reading on this subject.

Ocult Origins

Today when we think about the ancient mystic arts, we rarely make any connection between what they practiced and what is going on around us today in the guise of modern psychology. In Eastern religion these same practices reveal themselves in labels such as, transcendental meditation, yoga, astral projection, etc. The modern techniques used in the field of parapsychology, like hypnosis (including self-hypnosis), ESP, Visualization, NLP, etc, may give one the impression that these are studies of true science, but they are not. They are spiritualistic practices that have been exercised for thousands of years in various forms of occultism.

In this part of our study we want to concentrate more on the 'New Age Psychology' origins of NLP (Neuro-Linguistic Programming) and its present-day use, because of the bearing that it has on our own Adventist situation.

Neuro-Linguistic Programming is a proven set of mental techniques designed by studying people who have achieved effectively. NLP was developed in the early 1970's by an information scientist, Richard Bandler, and a linguistics professor, John Grinder, at the University of California, Santa Cruz. From their studies of successful people, they created a way to analyze and transfer human excellence resulting in the most powerful practical psychology ever developed.

Through NLP you can: Learn how to excel in any area... Develop real rapport with friends; Improve your communication skills and get better response; Change your feelings from resourceless to resourceful; Resolve conflicts between people, within yourself and others: Assist others in making changes in behavior, thought and feelings; Achieve many other goals. NLP Comprehensive resource Guide. 1985, p. 1 - Emphasis supplied

A superficial reading of this may even lead one to conclude that this sounds like a good program, but consider more carefully what is actually being said and a whole different picture unfolds.

The very term 'programming', as used in the NLP title, tells you that you are able to 'program or re-program' your brain so that you can improve your communication skills, change your feelings, resolve conflicts, assist others in making changes in behaviour, thought and feelings, etc.

In the New Age Catalog under the section title, 'Brain Mind Technology, there is a report on NLP:

In the early 1970's Dr. Richard Bandler and Dr. John Grinder through a careful study of acknowledged masters of communication and change such as Drs. Milton Erickson, Virginia Satir, Gregory Bateson, and Fritz Perls, discovered what made these individuals so effective and in the process developed a field of Neuro-Linguistic Programming. . . . Additionally there is a growing body of patterns for accomplishing specific desired changes in emotions, beliefs, thinking strategies, and behavior. In accomplishing all of this, ...Continued on Page 12

when champions are few - this will be our test. At this time, we must

AMAZING DISCOVERIES UPDATE

NORWAY UPDATE:
Sixteen people met on Dec 11, 2002 to evaluate the evangelistic meetings that were held in Holefoss, Norway during the fall of 2002 with speaker Walter Veith. Present at this meeting were representatives from the Norwegian Union, the East Norwegian Conference, Honefoss church, Tyrifjord church, Tyrifjord Academy, the Matteson school and the Heartgood Foundation.

It was a blessing that 2 students from the academy had been invited to share their experience. Their report was so enthusiastic and positive that it set the tone for the whole discussion. Gutwerg commented, "As youth, we are sick of all the cliches we've heard for so many years. This was totally new, well documented and interesting. Spiritually inspiring!" Ian told us that his spiritual life had skyrocketed. "This was great! Veith is the best lecturer I've heard! He presented the topics in a very interesting way."

Terje Bjerk, ... had received only positive responses about the meetings. He wants to support and encourage Walter Veith and the Heartgood Foundation to have a similar effort next year.

Svein Arland, the pastor of the Honefoss SDA church, said his church had been inspired and blessed by being a part of this. Three young people were baptized in the beginning of the 3-month evangelism course and four were baptized after the meetings. In addition, the pastor is following up four people with Bible studies and EBS students are studying with another six.

Concerning the preaching, Rolf Beckhaus reported that an elderly brother in the Lord had come to him and said, "Tell the ones attending that these lectures are excellent and that they exhibit a true protestors spirit." He had been inspired as he heard the old truths presented in such an enthusiastic and refreshing manner.

KARI 550 AM RADIO

For more than 4 months now, Amazing Discoveries has been broadcasting the three angel's message on the air from KARI 550 AM at 1:30 - 2:00 pm PST. Pastor Victor Gill has been presenting all of the precious truths from the Bible that are present truth for today. There have been many listening to his Christ-centered messages, and we receive on average about 3-5 calls per week from people requesting tapes of the broadcasts. Many have said they have never heard anything like this before, and want to study it further. Beginning in mid April, Brian Neumann's Voices of a Dying Planet series is being aired on the radio, with excellent response from listeners, who are delighted that someone is sharing scriptural insights into worship and music. The radio station reaches from Seattle, WA to Chilliwack, BC and the entire coastal islands off BC and WA. We praise God for this opportunity to provide the people of northwestern Washington and southwestern BC with the message of truth. To listen to the broadcasts out of the broadcast area, you may log in to our website at: www.amazingdiscoveries.org where you will find an archive of every radio broadcast thus far. Plans are underway for more speakers for this project, and we solicit your prayers for this new and important work. Please consider a donation to help support this project, or to help make these broadcasts available on other radio stations across the country. Your support is urgently needed.

Look for a report on Brian Neumann's 2003 spring tour in the next issue
Notice that there is the same emphasis in the new age document, NLP, as in co-founder Richard Bandler said, ‘teaches people to run their own brains.’ You are the one that can do it on your own. In Eastern religion this is called the process of ‘god realization.’ In other words, you are the god of your own destiny. NLP is a form of psychology that focuses on the human ability to change the life. This, according to Scripture, is not the true cure for mankind’s deficiencies, as logical and appealing as it may sound to the ‘natural man.’

What makes the roots of NLP even more suspect is that it is based on the type of psychotherapy called Ericksonian Hypnosis—developed by Dr. Milton Erickson, founder of the Erickson Foundation.

Those who are familiar with Dr. Erickson will tell you that he was a powerful man, and that he could make changes in others without even knowing it. This is what the ‘New Age Catalog’ says about his powerful techniques:

... Dr. Erickson also taught us how to utilize and bypass client resistance by embedding therapeutic interventions in seeming casual conversation.

In simple language, this means that you can bypass the conscious mind of an individual (they are not consciously aware of what you are doing) and plant thoughts in the subconscious that you intend to place there. Along with this therapy there are ways of ‘anchoring’ these thoughts in the mind once they are planted.

Dr. Erickson’s psychology relies on a methodology that teaches people to rely more on self than on God. Jesus Himself said: ‘I tell you of more things: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me’ (John 5:30).

Nowhere in Scripture do you hear of Christ or the apostles teaching a course in ‘subliminal messaging techniques’ so that people could heal themselves from mental, physical or spiritual ills. But, this is exactly what NLP promises can be done by using a deceptive method of ‘mind programming’ that will help you change people’s beliefs, and behavior. The Bible teaches that man can only find the answers to his problems in Christ/God.

To study a science that teaches man to capture the mind of another individual (to whatever degree) is tantamount to teaching them the same ‘NLP’ methods that Satan has used for more than six thousand years.

Men and women are not to study the science of how to take captive the minds of those who associate with them. This is the science that Satan teaches. We are to resist everything of the kind. We are not to tamper with mesmerism and hypnotism— the science of the one who lost his first estate and was cast out of the heavenly courts. Medical Ministry, p. 110, 111.

In the secular world, NLP is being used by Fortune 100 companies, therapists, consultants, sales people, teachers and health professionals. On the Benetton/Starlin University website, they advertised the eight-day NLP Practitioner Certification course (www.imagining.org/NLP.htm). On day one and two of the course they will teach you, among other things, how to: ‘change unwanted behaviours, how to quickly establish a connection with anyone, resolve internal conflicts, reveal limiting beliefs and effectively change your teaching. Creator of NLP for this institution, tells you that you will learn, ‘how to assist others in changing and how to tailor your own communications to become irresistible.’

Other lessons offered in the course are, ‘mind body healing techniques, mesmerizing and healing patterns of Jesus.’ They obviously recognize the potential dangers involved in learning and utilizing such obviously subliminal (hidden) methods of mind-manipulation, because they offer this consolation:

As a protection for you and for those around you, the Society of NLP now requires participants to sign a licensing agreement which guarantees that those certified in this technology will use it with the highest integrity.

On the International Teaching Seminars (ITS) website (www.nlp.com/community/coaching.html), they give UK NLP Coaching Certification Training. They teach that as an ‘NLP Coach, you are a guide’ that will help people navigate their way through the choices that face them in this 21st century. (coaching/coach is a common term used in the NLP profession for one who trains and directs others. Guide, is a common New Age term for someone who advises others in their spiritual course).

The ‘guide’ is taught to elicit the solutions from the real expert—the client, in by making the client believe that they had the ideas, when in fact, the guide planted the ideas by asking ‘thought-provoking’ questions. ITS, also tell us that “there is an increasing realization that we have the resources we need within us.” (‘You will be as gods.’ Genesis 3:5).

The Nature of NLP, New Age and eastern mysticism is unmistakable, and the connection between these philosophies, their mysterious, secret psychology practices and Satan’s original method of deception is indisputable. In fact, the very institutions that fund these courses recommend as reading material books such as: ‘Frogs in Princes, Magic Demystified, Practical Magic, Patterns of Hypnotic Techniques, Trance Formations and many more. The titles themselves give you clear indication where the roots of this practice lie.

Bridge to Christianity

Some of the key people who have played an important role in making the transition between NLP psychotherapy and Christianity are John S. Savage and Gene Rooney of LEAD Consultants, Inc. of Reynoldsburg, Ohio. John Savage first came into contact with NLP by reading a journal in 1981. Today, Savage has his certification as an NLP practitioner after taking most of his training from Dr. Gene Rooney, a pastor and his colleague at LEAD Consultants. Mr. Savage has lectured around the world and his books are available in several different languages.

Dr. Rooney teaches seminars and leads workshops on Neuro-Linguistic Communication Skills, Hypnosis, Visualization and more. Mr. Rooney received his training in the Neurolinguistics from the Neuro-Linguistic Institute in Kansas City, ‘Grinder–DeLozier Assoc.’ in Santa Cruz, CA, N.L.P. of Colorado in Boulder, and the Dynamic Learning Center in Santa Cruz. Dr. Rooney completed his training with Dr. Richard Bandler, Dr. Wyatt Woodsmall and Ted Jams.

Savage openly verifies that NLP is based on Ericksonian Hypnosis. He believes that while Christian meditation is a form of hypnosis and that there are different stages of altered state, from meditation to that of deep trance. He also sees no difference in the ‘psychic’ healing of a Christian healer and that of the psychic healers of the Far East.

In this case, some Christian institutions have offered NLP/Lab courses, like the one that was offered by the ‘Department of Marital, Family and Child Therapy’ of Loma Linda University, and instructed by Doug Moline in Griggs Hall #206, advertise that ‘the most important aspect of NLP as a powerful vehicle for personal, social, and structural change, is that it gets results quickly, dependably, and predictably.’ Recomended reading for students doing the course were books such as, ‘The Magician’s Secret, Linguistic Programming, and They Lived Happily Ever After.

A number of visualization/self-hypnosis techniques are to be found in the SDA 5 Day Plan to Stop Smoking. In the introduction it states:

... the new plan emphasizes lifestyle-modifi-

cation strategies such as values clarification, modeling, visualization, affirmation, positive thinking, and rewards.

Visualization is not an innocent technique. It is based on the method used in Yoga and is used to create a reality with the mind and achieve union with ‘The All’ (Brahma). In the book, ‘The Seduction of Christianity’, it states:

In a recent interview reported in The Journal of Transpersonal Psychology, the Dalai Lama declared that ‘the use of the imagination to generate or visualize an image in the mind’s eye’ is an integral part of tantric yoga; and he explains how this ancient practice is related to similar techniques recently adopted in modern psychotherapy.

Christian leaders who promote and defend visualization seem unwilling to admit that it lies at the heart of an age old devil’s tactic—demoni- cally inspired and unalterably hostile to Chris- tianity. They suggest that shamansic visualization is a counterfeit of God’s truth that they teach. However, there is no true visualization taught or practiced in the Bible for Satan to counterfeit; visualization is as absent from the scriptures as it has always been present in the occult.

Psychical healers Bill Henkin and Amy Wallace stress that “visualization is one of the most potent and widely used techniques in [psychic] healing.” Steller declares that the exercise of “visual imagination is a regular part of the training for psychics and healers in... Spiritist Churches, The Seduction of Christianity, p. 140-141 (Emphasis Supplied).

Yet in the Breathe Free Plan we read:

You can be the architect of your own self-image... St. Thomas Aquinas’ self-image acts on course, you will tap new strengths and energy to keep your life in harmony with your new self-image... Visualize yourself in de-tail as the person you intend to be... ‘We cre-at our life with our thought...’ By desiring, visualizing, and believing yourself to be a non-smoker, you can become one. The Breathe-Free Stop Smoking Plan, p. 28-32.

The focus of all our work should be to draw people to...Continued on Page 14
Christ, for He will be the strength they need. Today we are opting for a new method of changing lives that focuses on methodology. Conceived by man and demons. Practices that are the earmarks of occult religions and that have been part of Satan's manipulation techniques since the beginning.

If you can be 'the architect of your own self-image', then who needs God? If through 'hypotherapeutic' techniques such as NLP or visualization you can bring people to a greater knowledge and appreciation of themselves, and then in turn teach them how, through a method of mind manipulation, to affect and change the lives of others, then I fear we have missed the whole point of the Christian's dependence on the Holy Spirit.

If I can have this power through a method that quite clearly has its roots in the occult, and that is contrary to all the Spirit of Prophecy instruction given, then perhaps I should just stay in the same world. So if we do need to do the best we can to reach others and not expect God to do for us what we can do for ourselves but, when we start picking fruit from the orchard of Satan to accomplish our Christian ends, then we are making a mistake.

It may be said that we have adapted the whole NLP and Visualization program to fit the Christian program and that the negative aspects of this technique have been removed. It may also be said that there are some very positive ideas regarding human nature, communication skills, etc., that we can take from these teachings—admittedly this may be true—but it is likewise true that every deception of Satan mixes truth with error.

This has been his strategy since the first. If we start to borrow from this area of Satan's deception and trust that we are effectively sifting the good from the bad, then we might as well look into all questionable practices and start to take out what we feel will be fine for us. Unfortunately, this is exactly what we have been doing.

In the areas of music, worship, outreach methods, new theology etc., we are mixing the sacred with the profane and think that we can, with impunity, disregard the clear teaching of Scripture and the Testimonies.

As innocuous and innocent as many of these ideas seem, we always need to question the origins of these practices. Anything connected with NLP in any way, should be shunned. Anything that in any way gives you the impression that you are able to be the architect of your destiny and that you are able, through some method, to channel the lives of others, should likewise be avoided.

If a church would publicly advertise that they were training their evangelists in methods of NLP, would the average man on the street trust such a missionary? No church would make it common knowledge that they were training their people in this way, because anyone remotely knows that secular people, already suspicious of religion, would avoid such a person.

How would you respond, especially if you had gone through this type of training yourself, if someone approached you using a 'technique' that they had been trained in to convert you to their way of thinking?

If one knew that a major factor of influence in my conversion to Christ had been as a result of some 'technique' that someone trained in NLP (LAB 1 & 2) had used, then I don't doubt that they would be highly skeptical and suspicious of the institution that trained people to 'convert' others in such a way.

Christians should be as transparent and honest as possible. The truth must be told in simplicity, love and directness, without any use of psychological technique. It is not our work to convict, convert, or control—this is the job of the Holy Spirit. Our job is to preach the Word and leave the results with God.

To use even subtle mind-manipulative methods to win souls, heal or guide others is, in essence, purporting the sophisticated techniques that Satan used in the past and that are still being used by him and his agents today to steal the minds of people from God. We will indeed, without doubt, pay the price for mixing the wine of Babylon with the fountain of living water. This kind of spiritual blasphemy has always cost God's people dearly.

May God help us to turn from all deceptions of Satan and to refrain from attempting to play 'Holy Spirit'.

"Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." False speaking in any matter, every attempt or purpose to deceive our neighbor, is here included. An intention to deceive is what constitutes falsehood. By a glance of the eye, a motion of the hand, an expression of the face, the tongue, the countenance, a falsehood may be told as effectually as by words. All intentional overstatement, every hint or insinuation calculated to convey an erroneous or exaggerated impression, even the statement of facts in such a manner as to mislead, is falsehood. PP p. 309

NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW

THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY
2-Part Video Set
By Brian S. Neumann

This two part series helps us understand the way in which God communicates to His people through the prophetic gift. The reasons for why God chose this method of communicating with sinful man are explored from a solidly Biblical point of view. Most importantly, the Biblical tools for discerning a true prophet from a false one are clearly and satisfactorily presented. Part two of the series does a very specific study into the prophetic ministry of Ellen G. White. We deal with some tough questions regarding the role her messages played and still continue to play in the experience of the SDA Church. (2 video set) ........ 28.90US

NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW

Plants: After the fall, according to the Genesis account, the ground was cursed, and plants and animals were transformed. Some plants were to bring forth thorns and thistles, and it is to be presumed that changes in seasons could have brought about deciduous trees in order to cope with the new conditions. Weeds are nothing other than plants that compete strongly with cultivated forms. Isn't it strange that most of the plants that man uses for food are the plants that have to be nurtured and pampered in order to yield their crops, and if left to themselves, they rapidly get pushed aside by other plants which readily out-compete them? If all these plants existed so long before man, why are these food plants still around? It certainly seems as if sweat of the brow is what keeps the food supply coming in, and that hard work is what is necessary to ensure the survival of the necessary food plants. According to Genesis, work was also necessary before the fall because the plants were to be dressed and kept, how much more so after the fall.

God said that thorns and thistles would appear. Thorns are really just modified stems in which the growth processes have been modified (differential expression of the developmental genes), and spines are modified leaves which have followed the same pattern.

There is no new information here, just a modification of the existing pattern. Original plants were altered by rising levels of subterranean water and by a morning mist. Such conditions are often simulated in greenhouses today where it has been found that watering the root systems alone prevents leaf fungus whereas wetting the leaves with sprayers can be detrimental. Misting of plants, however, has beneficial effects, and even micronutrients can be absorbed this way through the leaves. Early in the morning, the stomata of the leaf are open, and this allows for uptake of water and nutrients. What is very interesting is that even music has an effect on the capacity of plants to absorb moisture and nutrients through their leaves, and soft classical music or the music of birds tends to enhance absorption. Is it possible that the beauty of nature has been so designed to create such superb harmony, and that in many instances we see only a fraction of the original perfection?

Parasites and venemous creatures: Some organisms can become dangerous by just being placed in different habitats to which they are not accustomed. Bacteria, for example, are very specific as to where they live in the gastrointestinal tract and if they end up elsewhere they can wreak havoc by undergoing physiological changes which could induce them to produce harmful substances such as certain metabolites or proteins that can have negative effects, such as inducing diarrhea. Here is a mechanism for the development...
Creation to Restoration - 1

Continued From Page 15

...of disease organisms. Originally, bacteria could all have had highly specific roles to play in assisting numerous processes in the body and in the environment, just as the myriad of useful bacteria still do today, and their original role could have been only beneficial. Moreover, changes in bacteria that are already out of their original habitat could be rapid and ongoing, since the mechanisms for gene modification through plasmid transfers were already in place.

The same could be said for all the organisms that eventually turned to parasitism. A changing environment with a drastically altered habitat could induce organisms to exploit new and different food sources and thus parasitism and carnivory could develop. Protocozoa that assist in the nutrition of numerous animals could have been transformed into deadly pathogens and fungi that were to assist in the decomposition of plant debris (remember plants were created as food) could have parasitised living organisms. Parasitic worms show dramatic levels of degeneration of organs, and the tapeworm and numerous other species of parasitic worms have been transformed into sexually reproductive organisms. Saccidina, a para-site of crabs, has no digestive tract, but its larva is still a free-swimming nauplius larva. Instead of maturing into a normal barnacle, it is transformed into a mass of filaments in its crab host.

The loss of organs is not necessarily the result of mutations, but could just be the result of deactivation of the gene systems that are not required under the new circumstances. There is no evidence here of evolution, only of devolution. Insects that have been modified to develop mechanisms of defence and means of parasitism. Mosquitoes use their syringes-like mouthparts to suck blood from a host, but the male of the species uses the same mouthparts to extract plant juices from plants. It is possible that plant juice was no longer sufficient to provide the necessary energy that the female needs for the maturation of her eggs, and that the same apparatus that was used for sucking plant juices could be equally effectively employed to suck blood? The sting of a bee is nothing other than a modified ovipositor. The versatility of a bee's genome is demonstrated by the fact that the type of food that is fed to the larvae will determine whether a bee will develop into a worker or a queen. If a queen should die, then workers can develop into queens if fed differently, and this obviously activates latent gene systems that enable the non-reproducing worker to be transformed into an egg-producing queen. The various secretions associated with oviposition could well have been transformed into the venom that is injected by a bee’s sting.

Carnivores: Carnivores kill and eat other animals and are classified as such on the strength of their teeth. A carnivore is equipped with teeth that are necessary to rip apart and catch other animals, but this equipment need not necessarily have been designed for that purpose. Yes, possessing the equipment pre-adapt to an organism to become a carnivore but this need not have been its original disposition. Yard bear, for example, are classified as carnivores on the strength of their teeth, but they eat bamboo. The same type of teeth can kill and tear flesh, but as in the case of the Panda bear, that need not be what they were designed for. The same can be said for the whole family Ursidae, the bears, that subsist largely on a vegetarian diet eating mainly berries. It is true that they will eat fish if available and can be opportunistic carnivores, but they are equally at home on the fields grazing alongside buffalo. Carnivores are not only adapted for meat eating in terms of their teeth, but their intestines are also shorter than those of herbivores. It is very interesting that diet has an amazing effect on intestinal structure. Intestines have a tremendous capacity for growth, and if sections are removed during operations, some parts can regenerate and grow back to their original length. Carnivores have short intestines because meat does not contain fiber and a short intestine is thus advantageous so that the food does not remain trapped in the intestines for long periods of time. Also, the food of carnivores is high-energy food that is absorbed rapidly. Carnivores whose diets are changed to herbivorous diets adapt rapidly to these diets and subsist very well on them. Lions will also probably eat the contents of the rumen of a kilo of their foetus. The rumen contains fermented plant products, and there are numerous accounts of lions and other carnivores that were raised on plant diets such as grains and would not touch meat even if presented to them. Dogs and cats can also subsist very well on vegetarian diets and in fact live much longer and are less aggressive on such diets. The teeth of these animals that act as shears could equally well have been used to shred tough plants in the past, and the fact that they don’t do so now could simply be as a result of the destruction of their natural environment. The multiplicity of evidence in the palaeontological record that far greater varieties of plants existed in the past than exist today.

Destruction of habitat changes the diets of animals even in our day. Chimpanzees traditionally eat leaves and root not without reason. The chimpanzee has many food sources that are often becoming inadequate, so that these can be herbivorous animals tearing away at road kills to augment their diets with meat. This is a case of a herbivore becoming a meat scavenger as a result of changing circumstances.

Kea parrots in New Zealand ordinarily grab for roots, but dwindling food supplies will encourage them to attack sheep. They will use their sharp beaks, their beaks and claws, to tear open the backs of the sheep so that they can eat the fat around the kidneys. This is an amazing transformation, and if their habitat and food source is restored, they will go back to calmly eating their roots. They have the same equipment as birds of prey (sharp talons and a powerful beak) but they use them for harmless purposes. How did they know that tearing open the backs of sheep would provide the type of food they could subsist on? That is a mystery, but lack of needs normally leads to aggression and this could be one of the reasons why they aggressively attack a creature that will or cannot defend itself.

A further example of such change is found in the so-called Vampire Fiches of the Galapagos Islands. These normally vegetarian birds have recently been shown to raid nests and suck blood from nesting booby birds, a change in diet induced by increasing competition for vegetarian resources. The fiches feed on these sea birds during extended periods of drought. They peck at the base of the feathers until they rip it. Other fiches have bred and resume the process when the previous fichen is satisfied. This is a change in diet and behaviour induced by negative environmental circumstances and did not require millions of years to develop.

Aggression is a trait that potentially exists in all creatures, but it need not have been there in the beginning. Out of the wild species from which the domesticated varieties have been bred, there have been developed incredibly docile, friendly animals that resist the eating of dogs of all shapes and sizes. But selective breeding can also produce the most vicious killers out of the same gene pool. Aggressive natures thus have a genetic basis and can be reduced rapidly through selection. The capacity to defend oneself need not even be displayed if the need for defence should never arise. The Russian scientist Belovsky showed how researchers who studied the process of domestication of foxes found that changes in behaviour could be selected for rapidly. Out of a variety of foxes, those that responded without fear to humans were selected and the fearful ones discarded, and by the sixth generation the foxes were displaying behaviour patterns similar to domestic dogs, whimpering to attract attention and fluffing their tails. This behaviour could be increased to one per hundred in 6 by the tenth generation and to 3 per cent in 4 by the 30th generation. The changes were accompanied by anatomical changes and by a reduction in adrenal hormone secretions (fight and flight hormones) and increases in serotonin levels.

Serotonin is an important chemical (one of the monoamines that functions in neurotransmission, regulation of pain thresholds and modulation of cardiovascular and muscle activity function, and highly aggressive or schizophrenic people in mental institutions are known to have low serotonin levels and are treated to compensate for this condition. The development of aggression and fear of humans need not thus have developed over millions of years but could have come about very rapidly.

Transformation of animals into killing machines, seen...Continued On Page 18
Understanding Him and His creation will be our eternal study in the earth made new. Because of our imperfect knowledge here on this earth, there will always be hooks to hang one’s doubts upon. But soon that great day will come when all things will begin to be made clear.

"For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known." I Cor. 13:12

May your faith be strengthened as you look upon God’s marvellous creation and may we all continue in faith, hope, love and faithfulness until Jesus comes.

Professor Walter J. Veith

THE HEALTH MESSAGE

Health Reform

Indifference Toward Health Reform a Danger

"Let those who profess godliness regard with indifference the health of the body, and flatter themselves that intemperance is no sin, and will not affect the physical and the moral nature." Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 43

"Without health no one can as distinctly understand or as completely fulfil his obligations to himself, to his fellow beings, or to his Creator. Therefore the health should be as faithfully guarded as the character. . . . Though the facts of physiology are now so generally understood, there is an alarming indifference in regard to the principles of health. Even of those who have a knowledge of these principles, there are few who put them in practice. Inclination and impulse is followed as blindly as if life were controlled by mere chance rather than by definite and unvarying laws." (Ed 195)

Tune in to KARI 550 AM 1:30 pm PST

In Western Washington and southwestern British Columbia

to listen to Pastor Victor Gill, Brian Neumann, Stephen Bohr, Doug Batchelor, and other speakers from Amazing Discoveries throughout 2003!

For those outside the listening area, broadcasts are available on-line at:

www.amazingdiscoveries.org

Honor and Obey Our Lord

The Lord does not give light on health reform that it may be disregarded by those who are in a position of influence and authority. The Lord means just what He says, and He is to be honored in what He says. Light is to be given upon these subjects. It is the diet question that needs close investigation, and prescriptions should be made in accordance with health principles." (CD 294)

The Lord Cannot Work on Behalf of those who Refuse to Heed His Instruction

"There are those among Seventh-day Adventists who will not heed the light given them in regard to this matter. They make flesh meat a part of their diet. Disease comes upon them. Sick and suffering as a result of their own wrong course, they ask for the prayers of the servants of God. But how can the Lord work in their behalf when they are not willing to do His will, when they refuse to heed His instruction in regard to health reform? For thirty years [now 130 years] the light on health reform has been coming to the people of God, but many have made it a subject of jest. They have continued to use teas, coffee, spices, and flesh meat. Their bodies are full of disease. How can we, I ask, present such ones to the Lord for healing?" (CD 400)

petite will prove the ruin of thousands, when, if they had con- quered on this point, they would have had moral power to gain the victory over every other temptation of Satan. But those who are slaves to appetite will fail in perfecting Christ- character. The continual transgression of man for six thousand years has brought sickness, pain, and death as its fruits. And as we near the close of times, Satan’s temptation to indulge appetite will be more powerful and more difficult to overcome.” (CD 59)

“God requires that His people be temperate in all things. Unless they practice true temperance, they will not, they cannot, be susceptible to the sanctifying influence of the truth.” (CD 451)

We Must Practice What We Preach

“As we near the close of time, we must rise higher and still higher upon the question of health reform and Christian temper- ance, presenting it in a more positive and decided manner. We must strive continually to educate the people, not only by our words, but by our practice. Precept and practice combi- ned have a telling influence.” (CD 451-452)

For a review of the whole subject of health reform, see page 11 of this book. Also refer to "Health Reform," in the Bible Students’ Review, published in 1910. This article has been condensed for this book and appears on pages 12-22.

References


22 Islands of the Vampire Birds", ABC TV (Australia), broadcast October 13, 1999.


God Holds Us Responsible

“At the time the light of health reform dawned upon us, and since that time, the questions have come home every day, “Am I practising true temperance in all things?” “Is my diet such as will bring me in a position where I can accomplish the greatest amount of good?” If we cannot answer these questions in the affirmative, we stand condemned before God, for he will hold us all responsible for the light which has shown upon our path. The time of ignorance God winked at, but as fast as light shines upon us, He requires us to change our health-destroying habits, and place ourselves in a right relation to physical laws.” (CD 19-20)

Be Careful in Opposing the Health Message

“We have been given the work of advancing health reform. The Lord desires His people to be in harmony with one another.... Beware how you place yourself in opposition to the work of health reform. It will go forward; for it is the Lord’s message of lessening the suffering in our world, and of purifying His people. Be careful what attitude you assume, lest you be found causing division. My brother, even while you fail to bring into your life and into your family the blessing that comes from following the principles of health reform, do not harm others by opposing the light God has given on this subject.... The Lord has given His people a message in regard to health reform. This light has been shining upon their pathway for thirty years [now 130 years]; and the Lord cannot sustain His servants in a course which will counteract it. He is displeased when His servants act in opposition to the message upon this point, which He has given them to give to others. Can He be pleased when half the workers labouring in a place, teach that the principles of health reform are as closely allied with the third angels’ message as the arm is to the body, while their co-workers, by their practice, teach principles that are entirely opposite? This is regarded as a sin in the sight of God....” (CD 38)

A Work to Do

“God requires His people to cleanse themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord. All those who are indifferent and excuse themselves from this work, waiting for the Lord to do for them that which He requires them to do for themselves, will be found wanting when the meek of the earth, who have wrought His judgments, are hid in the day of the Lord’s anger.” (CD 33)

“Let no one think that he can do as he pleases in the matter of diet. But before all who sit at the table with you, let it appear that you follow principle in the matter of eating, as in all other matters, that the glory of God may be revealed. You cannot afford to do otherwise; for you have a character to form for the future immortal life. Great responsibilities rest upon every human soul. Let us comprehend these responsibilities, and bear them nobly in the name of the Lord.

To every one who is tempted to indulge appetite, I would say, Yield not to temptation, but confine yourself to the use of wholesome foods. You can train yourself to enjoy a healthful diet. The Lord helps those who seek to help themselves; but when men will not take special pains to follow out the mind and will of God, how can He work with them? Let us act our part, working out our salvation with fear and trembling, lest we make mistakes in the treatment of our bodies, which before God, we are under obligation to keep in the most healthy condition possible.” (CD 35)