

DARE TO STAND

To God be the Glory ...for His Eruit

I have been a fan of AD for the last 4 years since God used Dr. Veith's ministry to snatch me from the jaws of atheistic evolution. I still cannot thank you enough for broadcasting his materials over the internet. If it had not been for your willingness to perform this ministry, I would still be an atheist and would probably have killed myself in despair by now. Thank you! - D.S.

All my searching for the truth came full circle when I discovered Prof. Veith's videos. At 59 years old I was baptized and am now a follower of Christ. - J.B.

I used to be a master mason, but after watching you define the secret societies I no longer belong to any lodge. - T.M.

From the tapes we have purchased and watched over and over, we have been able to share with our neighbours and church family we now have and are considering becoming members of the local SDA church. We thank you for your prayers. - J. A.

In my quest to move forward in my walk with God, I had reached the point that I was ready to scream if I heard one more explanation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Daniel 2! Your ministry has broken down that wall, and I am overwhelmed at the knowledge and wisdom that has been made available to me and the many others like me! Thanks. - R. W.

Celebrating **20 years** of Amazing **Discoveries**



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Our aim is to urge men and women to stand for truth and resist error. We pray that in times of serious compromise our ministry will equip you with solid information on current end-time issues and trends, and encourage you to live a life apart from worldly influences.

Volume 19 | Issue 2

Faith on the Line is published quarterly by Amazing Discoveries

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Subscription

\$25/yr for US and Canada \$30/yr for International

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We believe that God has entrusted us with the Three Angels' Message to spread to a world in great deception! It is a solemn and worthy calling and we recognize the honour entrusted to not only us, but to all God's people living in these last days. It is a privilege to be permitted to share this important message and to provide truth to the many souls ensnared in Satan's lies. We continue to pray for God to enable this message to reach further and further.

Calling 🖢

It was 20 years ago when the Goubej family said, "We have to do something more than just attend church on Sabbath." They asked the Lord to use their gifts, despite their limitations, and to show how they should serve. Soon after, they met Walter Veith, and God has kept their flame of passion for evangelism strong ever since. It has become a life calling, and the blessings of being in service for the Lord are precious.

Evangelism

We marvel at the 20 years of amazing ventures God has sent us on. Through the many evangelistic and revival series that have been led by our speakers, we have learned patience, endurance and trust in God, and have seen Him lead people to Himself. Pastor Victor Gill and his wife Nettie continue to faithfully lead missions in India and the Ukraine, but there is still so much help needed! "As long as God gives me the strength, I will go again," says Pastor Gill. Will you join him?

Blessings 7

Amazing Discoveries can only succeed because of God's countless blessings. Since His faithfulness during the very first lecture in 1993, to the donor last year who covered a year's cost of satellite broadcasting in Australia, God has shown us His goodness and continues to be our Provision and Guide.

Support

What could we do without you, our supporters and donors? With every prayer, every click on our website, and every program you view on our satellite station, you make Amazing Discoveries what it is. Whether through prayer, financial support, or simply sharing with your neighbor what you have learned through AD, your faithful support keeps us afloat in times of discouragement or economic uncertainty. Because of partners like you, demand for our work is growing, and the Three Angels' Messages are echoing through the soundwaves of the world.

Productions I

We are so blessed to have our amazing speakers who lend their voices and gifts of teaching to help us send God's powerful message across the globe. Because of the urgency of these last days, we've increased the number of recordings and series that are released each year on DVDs and aired non-stop via satellite.

Community

The work of Amazing Discoveries would not exist without its dedicated staff. We thank the Lord for their willingness to lend their hands, heads, and hearts, and let God use them as His instruments with enthusiasm in order to reach more people with the Gospel.

Fruit ***

Our two decades of working the soil have been rewarded by a harvest of souls coming to Christ, and countless others making life-reforming decisions. We are blessed to see many of our listeners and friends discovering physical and spiritual health through this ministry.



In 1992, Wenzel and Dagmar Goubej took their daughter Wendy and son Joshua on a vacation to South Africa with Dagmar's brother, Stan Sedlbauer, and his family. One Sabbath, they attended a German-speaking church where they were introduced to a newly-baptized Seventh-day Adventist and former atheist who had taught evolution theory and zoology at

various universities in South Africa. His name was Walter Veith.

After getting to know Walter a little better and hearing his personal testimony, the Goubej family was inspired to invite this dynamic speaker to come to Canada and share his Genesis Conflict and Truth Matters series with a secular audience. They felt impressed that this man's message and presentation style would ignite the world. After some thought and prayer, Walter accepted the invitation, and plans were set for a public campaign the following year: 1993.

With reckless faith, Wenzel, Dagmar and Wendy rented the Massey Theatre in New Westminster, BC, which had seating for 1260 people. The Goubej family was not alone in waiting for the evangelistic crusade with anticipation and excitement. A small group of like-minded laymen shared in the dream, inspired by the Goubej's story of this scientist turned creationist, and willing to step out in faith. The group prayed that God would impress people to attend. When

Walter started his creation seminar, the hall was filled to capacity for the first time in its long history!

God demonstrated His presence in some amazing ways during the series of presentations. One evening, a burly group of Hell's Angels, a motorcycle gang, strode down the aisle and sat down in the front row. "What would happen now? Were the bikers there to cause a disturbance?" Wenzel wondered. The bikers listened quietly to Walter's message that first night and returned to hear more the next night. It was obvious the Holy Spirit was working upon the hearts of these men.



TO GOD BE THE GLORY!





When Walter started to teach about the mark of the Beast and the identity of the Antichrist, he noticed that one seat was empty in the front row. Part way through the lecture, a side door opened and a young man with Down syndrome entered the theater. Walter also noticed that some people in the audience were not happy about his message. At intermission, they surged around him. One

grabbed the microphone and announced, "The Papacy is not the Antichrist. This man is the Antichrist!" Walter feared that he would be assaulted. But, God would not allow His messenger to be harmed.

As soon as the disruptions began, the Down syndrome youth climbed the stairs up to the stage, elbowed his way through the crowd surrounding Walter, and wrapped his arms around Walter in a protective embrace. No one dared assault him with this child blocking the way. Night after night, the young man was there. Consistently the same seat remained empty each night until he came. Night after night, he came up to Walter and shielded him from harm.

Walter wondered about his young protector. Each night he arrived alone. He must live very nearby, Walter thought, for him to come unescorted so regularly. Maybe he was part of the establishment. Near the end of the series, the presentations were moved to a church across the city. Walter felt sure he'd never see the young man again. How could a youth with such limited abilities navigate the large city on his own via public transportation? It would be impossible.

To Walter's surprise, on the last night of presentations at the new location the young man with Down syndrome appeared again, unescorted, making his way to the front of the church





to sit down in an empty seat. Afterward, when everyone had gone out to enjoy fellowship and refreshments, Walter found himself alone with the young man. As Walter put away the slides he'd used that evening, the young man came up to him and wrapped his arms around him, just as he'd done when the menacing crowds were threatening to assault him in the Massey Theatre.

Walter stopped what he was doing. He held the young man at arm's length and asked him, "Are you human or are you an angel?" Looking up, the youth pointed toward heaven. Then he turned and walked away.

Amazing Discoveries, the ministry that developed from the Goubej family's partnership with Walter Veith, is now celebrating its twentieth year. The growth of the ministry is a testament to God's continued protection and guidance. Watch for more of the Amazing Discoveries story in future issues.

To God be the Glory ...for His Fruit

I left the SDA church when I was around 17 years old, but came back to it when I was about 25. At this time, I began thinking a lot about the book of Revelation and the end times. I had a lot of questions and wanted to understand it. Unfortunately, the pastor at my church didn't really have answers for me, and it seemed no one talked about these things. My mom had given me some cassette tapes from church that went through the book of Revelation, but I still didn't find the answers to my questions. For example, I was curious: "Who was Babylon? If this is such an important figure in the last days, where is the loud cry? Why don't we know about it?"

I began reading everything I could get my hands on and listening to world events to try and fit the pieces together. I got my mom interested in all of this too, and it was through her research online that she found Amazing Discoveries and introduced me to your ministry. The first DVD series we watched was Total Onslaught by Walter Veith, which amazed me. Things made much better sense after this, and I learned many answers to my questions. My beliefs are strengthened and I am prepared for the shaking in the church that is coming. When I had left the church, I doubted that God was real. I am now 46, back in the church, reading my Bible and praying more, and am very much assured that there is a God who is real to me and always there for me.

Evangelism Update:

Longmont, Colorado Series

Report by Nettie Gill



astor Victor Gill and I travelled to Colorado for his most recent sermon series. We arrived in Denver on February 19th, 2013. Our series was held in Longmont, Colorado at the First Baptist Church, which the Vista Seventh-day Adventist Church rents each week for their worship services.

The Vista SDA Church has two evangelistic series every year. The church has grown from a very small group to about seventy-five members to date. The whole church is very involved in evangelism in their city and surrounding areas.

The first evening, the twenty-five non-members present received the message of Daniel 2 well. We were pleasantly surprised to find that three of our guests were former Seventh-day Adventists. There were a number of people present who had attended the previous series and some newly baptized members came to hear the message again and to become better acquainted with the messages of the Three Angels.

We were very delighted to see many of these people returning night after night. We prayed often for each of them by name. In addition to daily prayer, Victor set aside two days a week to fast and pray for those who were coming to the meetings.



We were delighted to see some people bringing their friends and family members. Others stopped coming altogether. This saddened us, but we continued to pray for them.

We contacted many of these people by phone and visited some of them to encourage them to continue to come and hear the last warning message for this world. Some of our guests had real issues to overcome. One young lady is an alcoholic and needed special prayer for her addiction. We visited her and prayed for her, claiming God's promises of deliverance and victory in her life. As far as we know, she has now been a month without alcohol. We continue to hold her up to the Lord, claiming victory in His name.

Another gentleman, also an alcoholic, claims that ever since he began coming to the meetings he has not had the urge to drink. His wife is so pleased that he doesn't come home drunk from work anymore! They are both planning on being baptized, but feel they need to study more, as they had missed a number of meetings due to the husband's work schedule.

Another man, Mark [not his real neame], had a grandfather who was a Seventh-day Adventist. This grandfather had been an elder in the church and gave Bible studies to the people in the community. When he died, Mark was the one who got the Bible and all the Bible study filmstrips that his grandfather had used. Mark attended the Vista series and felt God's Spirit calling to him.

Mark had a smoking problem and really didn't want to give it up because he enjoyed smoking so much. But by the time the series was over, he had given up his tobacco and was baptized along with his ten year old son.

Mark brought his mother along with him to several meetings. She had been a former Seventh-day Adventist, but had drifted away from the Church. At Mark's baptism, she was moved by the Holy Spirit and told me with tears streaming down her face that she needed to make her commitment to God's last day message and His remnant Church.

There was an older man who came quite regularly. He had worked for NASA for thirty years and was involved with the US shuttle program. Pastor Gill visited him in his home and learned that his parents had been Seventh-day Adventists. He was very attentive at the meetings and came faithfully until he got the flu. He became very ill before the series was over but we are confident that he will be part of the Vista SDA Church before too long.

On the last Sabbath, we had five baptisms and one attendee was accepted into fellowship by profession of faith. There are

Complete Restoration

by Dan Wilson

Exploring Biblical stories and prophecies from Genesis to Revelation, Dan Wilson uncovers God's ultimate message and desire for us in this 9-part, eye-opening series that spans human history and reveals God's "big picture" plan. Revelation 14 forms the key text for this investigation into where we've come from, where we're at today, and where we're going. God wants to completely restore us from brokenness back into His image.

DVD Series #880



DVD Titles:

881 - Babylon is Fallen

This introductory message to the series reveals where we stand in earth's history, where we came from, where we are going, and how that impacts how we live our lives today. (60 min)

882 - The Hour of His Judgement

Dan Wilson traces the theme of judgment from Genesis to Revelation, examining our future in the light of the events of the past and the promises of God. In its proper context, the judgment becomes the event most anticipated by the children of God. (60 min)

883 - The Everlasting Gospel

If we, the professed children of God, understood what this everlasting good news really is, it would reframe our picture of God and make us witnesses both by what we verbally share about God and the way we live our lives. (50 min)

884 - Restoration

We experience our brokenness and the brokenness of the world we live in day after day. What too few of us experience is the gift of restoration where life's experiences over time decrease our brokenness and reshape us back into the image of God. (60 min)

885 - Fear God?

Have you ever wondered why the life story of one man takes up so much of the Bible? Are you aware that the best way to study the Bible is through the lives of the people in it? Abraham is perhaps equal to none in teaching us what it means to fear God.(60 min)

Complete DVD set (9 videos): \$108.00 Singles: \$14.00

886- Give Him Glory

If you haven't climbed Sinai with Moses, you've missed out on seeing the glory of God. God knew that what Moses and the people needed was a clearer picture of Him. They needed to see His glory because people will never rise higher than the person they follow. The last message to the world delivered by the Three Angels includes giving God glory. How can we do that if we don't even know what it means? (55 min)

887 - Worship Him

By peeking into the past experiences of the true worshippers of God revealed to us in His word, we will learn clearly what God is looking for in His worshippers today. $(45 \, \text{min})$

888 - Maddening Wine

Despite all the labels, boundaries, borders, and prejudices dividing the human family, there are only two groups: one that is drinking the maddening wine of Babylon mentioned by the Second Angel in Revelation 14, and a group that is drinking something much more wholesome. (60 min)

889 - The Third Angel

Now we come to the most misunderstood portion of the Three Angels' Messages. How can this ominous message be understood as good news? (45 min)

order online at www.amazingdiscoveries.org | or call us at 1 866 572 9457

EVANGELISM UPDATE...- Continued from previous page

another ten whom we believe will be joining shortly and there are many interests that will be followed up.

The Vista Seventh-day Adventist Church has a fulltime Bible worker and a wonderful pastor who will be doing the follow up for this series. The head elder has a Bible Study at his home every Friday evening that will also be a wonderful asset to the follow up that will be happening here. We thank God for the way He has blessed during this series and we look forward to the time when the loud cry will go out and many more will be gathered in before Christ comes the second time.

Thank you for your continued support of Amazing Discoveries and the prayers that support this ministry! God bless you all! ■



Everyone goes to heaven or a better place when they die.

In our quasi-Christian North American culture, this expectation runs rampant. But what if we're not all going to heaven or a better place?

We have high expectations, but what if our expectations hinge on the choices we're making now?

Jesus Himself said the road to heaven is narrow and few find it. Just recently I attended a funeral for a lady who was so turned off by religion and angry at God that, when dying of cancer, she would not even permit the hospital chaplain to visit her

or let her Christian friends pray with her. Despite all this, her family held a Christian funeral for her where we were assured that not only was she going to heaven, she was already there.

We have high expectations, but what if our expectations hinge on the choices we're making now? What if they hinge on a choice that we as Christians aren't even considering?

The Rich Young Ruler

In Mark 10:17-22, the rich young ruler asked Jesus the question that many of us ponder today, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

Jesus responded, "You know the commandments...."

"'Teacher,' he [the ruler] declared, 'all these I have kept since I was a boy.'

"Jesus looked at him and loved him. 'One thing you lack,' He said. 'Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow Me.'"

In other words, the rich young ruler's thinking went something like this, "I'm religious, so I should be good to go. I'm a good person, yet something doesn't seem right."

Abram's Example

Abram, like the rich young ruler, also had everything. He was wealthy and successful. He lived in the most developed part of the world. Archaeologists tell us that he may have even lived in a two-storey home with indoor plumbing. His wife, Sarai, was so beautiful that two kings wanted her (Genesis 12:14; 20:1).

In addition, Abram had servants to spare. He lacked only one thing, a son. Despite his success, he was childless in a culture that valued children (especially a male heir) higher than anything else. It was precisely on this point that God tried him.

God said, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you" (Genesis 12:1-2).

Decades passed and Abram had followed God's instructions, but God appeared to not be fulfilling His promise. On several occasions, Abram attempted to accomplish God's promises on his own. He considered adopting his most trusted servant, Eleazar, but God stepped in and said, "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir" (Genesis 15:4).

Later, Abram even agreed with Sarai's plan that corresponded with the culture of the time and took Hagar, Sarai's servant, as a concubine so that he could have children with her, a form of surrogate parenthood. Hagar became pregnant and their son, Ishmael, was born.

Fruit of the Promise

When Abram was 99 years old, the Lord appeared to him and changed his name to Abraham. Genesis 17:15-18 tells us that God told him, "'As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.'"

"Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, 'Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?' And Abraham said to God, 'If only Ishmael might live under your blessing!'"

God always keeps His promises, and sure enough, Sarah and Abraham had their son Isaac right on schedule, born to a mother incapable of



bearing children and to a father who never thought the day would come.

Several years later, God again came to Abraham. He asked him to do something we in our culture can't understand, but which Abraham could. The pagan culture he grew up in sacrificed children to the gods. God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son as a burnt offering on Mount Moriah (Genesis 22:2).

Years before, Ishmael and Hagar had left because of the fighting and jealousy between Sarah and Hagar, and now God wanted Abraham to give Him his only remaining child, the only child he and Sarah had, the child of God's promise.

Abraham obeyed.

Parting company with his servants before he and Isaac climbed the mountain where Isaac was to die, Abraham told them, "We will go and we will return." On the mountain top, they built an altar, the wood was placed on it, and Isaac voluntarily became the sacrifice.

When Abraham raised his hand to slay his son, God intervened. "'Do not lay a hand on the boy,' He said. 'Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from Me your son, your only son'" (Genesis 22:12).

Abraham believed God would make it all work out. Abraham expected God to bring Isaac back to life (see Hebrews 11:19). He didn't know exactly what was going to happen or how it

would unfold. All he knew was that Isaac would be alive when it was over. Abraham believed God would make it all work out.

Is it possible that the events in Abraham's life were designed by God to lead up to this point? Abraham had one crucial lesson to learn, and we are no different. Abraham was successful by human standards on his own before he chose to follow God on the long journey.

He only lacked one thing. Abraham desperately wanted a son. It was the one thing he desired most, and yet he was completely incapable of acquiring it on his own.

By human standards, we too can be successful without following God. However, there is one thing none of us can do. We cannot produce a character like God's. Just as it was impossible for Sarah to have a baby in her old age, it is fundamentally impossible for us to change our nature (see Jeremiah 13:23).

A Subtle Deception

The delusion of religion is that it lowers the standard of what God's character is actually like. (Note the contrast between the religion of the religious elite in Jesus' day, and the exalted walk to which Jesus called them in Matthew 5.) And then, after having lowered the standard, the delusion leads us to believe we can make it on our own.

The undertone of most religions is that you cannot even get to God or the gods until you first become good. Herein lies the failure of religion and the subtle deception many Christians find themselves laboring under.

Abraham desired to have a son and had the will and determination to make it happen at any and all costs. He even wished God could be satisfied with Ishmael. We may have the desire to be good, and may even try everything to achieve it.

Recognizing that even our best efforts fall short, we hope God can be satisfied with less than perfect.

The root of this deceptive thinking is unbelief. We simply do not believe that God can do what He says He will do. It is this unbelief that causes us to make choices we think will make us "better" faster.

Unbelief will even make things opposed to God's clear instructions appear logical—like taking a second wife to have a child. Unbelief is what keeps us out of heaven.

Christ will Lead Us

How do I know if I believe or not? If my opinions and views don't agree with God's Word and I default back to my personal views and opinions, I'm an unbeliever.

What must I do to be saved if I find myself an unbeliever? I must let go of all my baggage, ideas, and opinions in order to follow Christ.

He will lead me on a journey that will end with a mountain top realization that despite all the odds and impossibilities: *Jehovah Jireh*—"The LORD Will Provide."

Do not worry about your imperfections. Worry about what path you are on. Jesus bids you, "Come and follow Me" (Matt. 4:19). And you can be "certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ

the day when Christ Jesus returns" (Philippians 1:6).

It's a lot more frightening to follow God into the unknown than it is to be religious, but the results are infinitely better. Heaven is not for everyone. It is onl

for everyone. It is only for those who believe God can do anything, and then demonstrate this belief by following Him anywhere He leads.

These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb (Revelation 14:4).

Dan Wilson is a speaker at Amazing Discoveries and and a Pastor in Nova Scotia, Canada. He has a BA degree in theology/preministry. His newest series of lectures, "Complete Restoration" has just been released and is available at amazingdiscoveries.org. You can also order it by calling 1-866-572-9457 (see previous page for ad).



Do not worry

imperfections.

what path you

Worry about

are on.

about your

MAY WE RECOMMEND..



Messages from Heaven (DVD)

A Biblical examination of the apparitions of the Virgin Mary in the end-times.

This DVD has 5 different language audio tracks so you can watch it in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, or Polish!

Running Time: 79 min



Adullam Films - Tares Among the Wheat (DVD)

"Tares Among the Wheat" will likely challenge what most scholars believe about Bible history, and the origins of the current wave of new translations that have flooded churches around the world.

Running Time: 2.5 hrs



Answer: King Agrippa





To God be the Glory ...for His Fruit

In response to a poster I saw featuring the apocallyptic beasts in October 2010, I entered a Seventhday Adventist church for the first time, hoping to find out who they thought the Antichrist was and what they thought the book of Revelation really meant. My introduction to Nebuchadnezzar's dream convinced me that the Bible really is the inspired Word of God. I was leaning toward the conviction that this may have in fact been His remnant church. The four nights I planned to attend turned into fifteen. I could think and talk of nothing else!

It was there that I met the F---- family, who invited me to their home to watch Pastor Veith's *Total Onslaught* Series. I was amazed to discover that the conspiracy theories I believed in were not only reality, but that they explained man's inhumanity to man and our purpose here! Soon once a week turned into twice, and Bible Study was added to our feast. It was amazing to discover that the New Age beliefs and practices that I had held were the work of the secret societies, so I instantly dropped them.

When I explained that I assumed God had created the world through evolution, I was given *The Genesis Conflict* to amaze and convince me. I'll never forget the awe I felt at seeing the microscopic beauty and perfect timing of our Creator's work in The Genes of Genesis. I needed Amazing Discoveries to tie Bible truth into current events in order to realize I had finally found the great mission to fulfill my life order to realize I had finally found the great mission to fulfill my life that I yearned for. With AD's help, I had become a converted Christian and learned there was no time to spare. Seven months from my first introduction, I am so grateful to report that I was baptized into The Avon Park Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The F---- now invite a bunch of us to their home. I am among those making dietary changes based on Life At Its Best. I had to catch up with them on my own, since they had already seen *Rekindling the Reformation*. How inspired I am by these otherwise forgotten martyrs of God.

I am gratefully preparing to meet Jesus by watching Total Transformation and have joined a Bible Outreach team that shares present truth including Amazing Discoveries DVDs with new and prospective members.

I am so grateful to God for Amazing Discoveries and for our dear, gifted Pastor Walter Veith. I pray for you all and for our continued successes as we share in the victory of Jesus Christ.

T.M.



















ONCE AGAIN, CREATION MOVIE ATTRACTS WIDE INTEREST

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The Creation movie produced by Henry Stober, an Adventist film maker, has been touring Europe for the past 2 years. Using stunning photography, the creation story of Genesis is enacted and presented to a standing-room only secular audience. For the first time in a long time, Europeans are showing interest in Biblical themes as the origin of the world is depicted in beautiful cinematography. Henry Stober's team along with Amazing Discoveries Europe arranged for public viewings of the film in major halls in cities across Germany. Following the film, Walter Veith presented a short presentation and FAQ on the evolution-creation controversy. As a result, many secular Europeans announced their interest to study the Bible further and find out what it has to say not only on the origin of the world, but also for their personal lives. Amazing Discoveries Europe has been blessed abundantly to see so many of secular Germany turning to God. Following is a report by Henry Stober about the presentation of his Creation movie in Holland, translated into Dutch.

BY HENRY STOBER

First Angel's Message in Secular Holland

Among the people watching the Creation movie in Aurich, Germany in the fall of 2010 were visitors from Holland. They had heard about the presentation through Amazing Discoveries Europe and decided to take this special trip to see if this film could be a good evangelistic tool in their native country. Two of the three Dutchmen had been introduced to the Adventist faith through lectures given by Walter Veith and had been baptized only a few years ago. Thrilled by what they saw at Aurich, they had but one question: Would God make just as powerful an impression in secular Holland? In the meantime, they set up the ministry Adventmedia and were highly motivated to set things in motion in their home country.

In May 2011, I [Henry Stober] received an invitation to Holland. Approximately 25 people from the Netherlands Union, plus the small, highly committed group met to discuss the possibility of introducing the

Creation movie to secular Holland. Four hours later, the talks had wrapped up for the day and there seemed to be no point in pursuing further collaboration. Why? Because of the "professor from Africa." His message was not supposed to be spread in Holland. Anyway, one might just as well resort to any other movie readily available – after all, countless movies are out there that could be shown to people with just as much success. Sadness spread among the members of the small group. But they had already determined in their hearts: "We won't be stopped."

Johan, one of the three, came to Germany, and together he and I spent four days working on a marketing campaign for Holland. We produced literally everything, from start to finish. Would the congregation be willing to extend invitations to friends and acquaintances... maybe even to their secular relatives?

Several days later, the first city busses started rolling through Apeldoorn, adorned with posters of the Creation Tour. Not any old non-descript hall had been chosen to present the event, but a rather impressive, very large auditorium called the "Orphesus House." This was meant to send a signal. The same strategy was not only used in Apeldoorn, but in all other cities hosting the tour. In Emmen, it was the "Utopolis," a facility that opened up only three years ago (they even rented it out three times in a row), in Meppel the "Ogterop," and in Groningen the famous "Martini Plaza."

Posters inviting people to watch the *Creation* film were put up everywhere. Three presentations were sold out.

In the meantime, I was still working on the production of the Dutch version of the *Creation* movie. The language still presented a hurdle. Then, emails and calls started coming in with information on how things were progressing locally: Radio interviews were scheduled (with stations contacting us), followed by a 30-minute TV appearance featuring Johan and a local SDA preacher. It had become a very public event. It was no longer stoppable. Even the Adventist congregations took notice. But not only them - the Union

To God be the Glory
...for His Fruit

I was born in Germany and grew up a Catholic. Even in my teen years, I knew that this was not the true religion. All my life I was looking for something

more true to the core of the Bible and the Gospel message, and I always say I had to come to Canada to fill this hole in my soul. In 2004, my husband and I received a flyer that came to all Penticton homes in BC advertising Dr. Walter Veith's Total Onslaught series. My husband was particularly interested in the political side of these seminars. Regretfully, we could only be there for four evenings but it changed our lives. This was our first introduction to the Seventh-day Adventist Church and was the truth I had been searching for. As a result of the meetings, we joined a local SDA church. I am so thankful the Holy Spirit led me and my husband to attend Dr. Veith's well-researched seminars. Since my husband passed, I was baptized by Victor Gill and now have a mission to live for at age 75.

leaders were surprised and delighted and now wanted to get involved after all... but with a bit of caution and from the sidelines, as it were. God is powerful! He touches hearts and moves people, including the leaders.



Brothers and sisters in the faith would regularly meet, praying for the tour to be successful, for wisdom when meeting other people, and for faithfulness, because each and every piece of marketing material included the sentence: "Organizer: Seventh-day Adventists". But this was not all. The Apeldoorn preacher told me, "Before, when we planned an event as a congregation and wanted to distribute 3,000 flyers, most of those flyers never moved, nobody would make an effort. When the 20,000 flyers for the Creation Tour were laid out for distribution and

I wanted to take some for myself, they were all gone. The congregation was so into it; they were so dedicated. It was incredible."

I then was approached by another preacher, and we talked a long time about his event in Groningen that was scheduled for the following week. He said, "Henry, I would never have thought that such a thing would be possible in our country. Last Sabbath we took Communion. Usually there are hardly any people there who join us for that. But last Sabbath, everyone had come!" His eyes welled over with tears. "When we had to make a decision which hall to use for the showing of the *Creation* film, one that has 900 seats or one that seats 1500, a young girl piped up saying, "Do we trust in God, or do we trust in ourselves?" So, the decision was made right there and then. You know, we've never experienced anything like this before. The congregation pulls together, we all pray together. For now, it has been a true blessing, and I would never have thought this possible. God does powerful things."



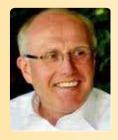
Sunday, March 11, 2012 arrived - the day when it was all supposed to start. The local radio station had sent someone over. He did not only come for the interview in the morning. He stayed for lunch, watched the last minutes of our preparations, sensed the anticipation through the microphone, and listened to us pray. He recorded everything and asked many questions. He even joined us in prayer. A few days later, his interview was broadcast and reached thousands of people.

At 4:30 in the afternoon, the SDA members were sitting in this enormous movie theatre with tears in their eyes. They could not understand what was happening. The brand new, powerful projector was set up at a distance of 50 m and that was good, because the screen measured 200 square meters. The Evangelism director of the Netherlands Union was also there. He was beaming, and we hugged each other. He could not believe what he was seeing. His hands trembled as he took a photo of the crowd. God is powerful! Every seat was taken! Many people even had to be turned away. The lecture started, and when Johan and I had to leave after the opening talk to drive to Apeldoorn where the next event was scheduled to start at 8 that same evening, we were met by the entire congregation. The brothers and sisters in the faith had not found a seat or had vacated their seats for visitors. They were forming a large circle and were holding hands. We prayed and thanked God for this miracle. Among them, the Director of Evangelism; he, too, had given up his seat for one of the visitors.

E.S.

Driver for the Swiss government becomes Adventist

BY GERHARD PADDERATZ



Richard Häberlin

Richard Häberlin works as a professional driver for the Swiss government. Occasionally, he will even drive the Swiss President, Ms Doris Leuthard. On February 18, 2012, Richard was baptized into the Adventist congregation of Bern. His path to Christ and to the Adventist congregation is a good example of the successful efforts of the self-supporting ministries of ASI Europe and what happens when Adventist congregations cooperate with these ASI ministries. Prior to the showing of the first *Creation* movie in Switzerland, Richard

had already listened to online lectures by Walter Veith. As we know, Amazing Discoveries made the virtual lectures given by the South African preacher and professor of Zoology available to as many people as possible.

When the movie – and with it, Henry Stober and Walter Veith – arrived in Bern, Richard was one of the attendees. Afterwards, he wanted to learn more about the message that held such fascination for him. So he attended more events offered by the congregation. Over time, a friendship developed between him and Christoph and Erika Gysin, a married couple. While Christoph manages the ministry Amazing Recordings, Erika looks after the Swiss chapter of Amazing Discoveries.

Richard eventually reached the point where he had to take a stand: Would his employer respect his wish to not work on the Sabbath? He did. With God's help, he overcame all difficulties. He could hardly wait to be baptized. Now, he is ecstatic to finally be a Seventh-day Adventist and to belong to the remnant church.

Gerhard Padderatz is President of ASI Europe and has recorded a series of presentations with Amazing Discoveries. Watch for the series coming out at the end of 2013.

surrounded by many people and was answering questions. The owner of an evangelical TV station in Holland walked up to Johan. He and his wife attended the event and were deeply touched. He now offered to arrange, on his TV network in September, a complete Creation day, featuring interviews, talks by scientists,

In Apeldoorn, 55 volunteers wore sport

shirts with the logo "De Schepping" (The Creation). The manager of the "Orpheus"

was not optimistic. Who would come to an event like this? The theatre held

many seats. Would it be a full house? At 8 p.m. the lobby was filled with visitors.

There were 1200 people in the theatre.

In Apeldoorn – as in all other cities – the

largest auditorium was filled to the last

seat. Many interested in attending had

to turn around and go home because

there was not a single seat left. I do not

have words to adequately describe how

I felt then. I was literally blown away

by the certainty of God's presence, by

the crowds of people, and by the quality

of the event. There were three secular

camera teams milling around, recording

everything. During the intermission,

people talked to each other in the lobby.

Many had questions. Among them were

young people who were searching for the

truth and openly admitted that they had

After the presentation, I found myself

been touched by the presentation.



and much more. This channel reaches thee million people. Incredible! God is powerful. He has big plans for Holland and beyond! A few people approached me later, saying: "Henry, Holland is by far the most secular country of the entire Trans-European Division. What happened here will also work in all other countries, God willing." Truly encouraging, this thought!

I thank God for *Amazing Discoveries Europe* and for their connection to Walter Veith. The background work completed by *Amazing Discoveries Europe* for this project was outstanding. I could never do this kind of work by myself.

People ask me: "Large theatres, crowds of people in attendance, not a single seat left – is that all? Is this the goal of the Creation Tour?" A justified question, for sure. We often expect (frequently in the context of the *Creation* film) that visitors will join our churches immediately after the lectures, that they will want Bible studies, and will get baptized. But usually things don't work that way – or very rarely. People need time to ponder their

decision for God, time to have it ripen in their minds. And what they also need during this time is us – contacts, friends willing to talk about all the questions they struggle with. Because if there is no personal connection to us, there won't be any conversations about faith. And if there are no conversations about faith, there is no hope. It is only through our personal experiences with God that we can truly touch and convince others. In Mark 16:15, Jesus says: "Go into the entire world and preach the gospel to EVERY creature".

The full report is available at <u>www.ad-europa.org</u>

To God be the Glory ... for His Fruit

After visiting all the flavors of churches or religions, my husband and I became dissatisfied with the "milk" that was being taught. While searching and reading the Bible on our own we found the important keys or "meat" of Scripture instead of "milk" that is preached in most churches today. Because of our hunger for the truth, we were led to a group that studied in their home. We had one fellow who was a disgruntled ex-Adventist who taught us some of the truths of the Scriptures. We learned that Saturday was God's established Sabbath, we learned the Hebrew name of God, and then we started to learn about Revelation. Wow! We could feel ourselves becoming more Christ-like and wanting to worship on His day and keep His Commandments.

As the happy years of this group study came to an end, as all good things seem to do here on earth, some members passed on and we moved to a different state. We felt we would never again find a more perfect situation until we prayed. Then we came across the information offered by Walter Veith. We started listening to him on YouTube and found his style of teaching crisp, clean and to the point. We then purchased the series, Total Onslaught. We loved how he gave facts and listed the references to back up whatever he said. We studied his research and checked his references and learned much more from Walter Veith than we ever could have from any other speaker. Some of the topics that Mr. Veith speaks of in his lectures, "The Secret Behind Secret Societies", "A Woman Rides the Beast", "Changing the Word", and all the corruption that results from mixing truth with error, were things we had heard about on our journey, but we did not know where we could find more evidence on these topics until now. We hope to one day shake Mr. Veith's hand and thank him. We have ordered the whole Total Onslaught series and have learned much more from the materials we received. We feel that we are prepared for what is to come when the Lord is ready. We know this, because our faith has been strengthened by the Truth!

We purchased and listened to many of the health lectures that are provided by Amazing Discoveries and have now learned the health message. As a result, we have adjusted our lifestyle for the next part of our journey. Our health journey started with just slowly but surely eliminating one bad thing from our diet at a time, until the results convinced us that we were on the right track. We shopped in health food stores and found it unnecessary for healthy eating to be so expensive. We became creative and ate wisely over a five-year period. I have learned to make unforgettable cheese and created my own recipe for the most delicious vegan potato soup. You would not know it is vegan! We recommend all the wonderful educational truths that Amazing Discoveries has to offer.

In closing, you will be happy to know that with our nose in the Scriptures and Walter Veith's DVD's and being out of debt, off the grid, and living a simple life, we are waiting upon the Lord. We hope that whoever reads this testimony goes out and forges their own way through the muck and mire that Satan has used to delude us all. We hope our testimony helps you to find direction in the Lord's true way so that you may find harmony for the remainder of your stay on this earth.

A.W.T.



Eternal

n these final scenes of Earth's history, anyone who stands faithful and true to Jesus to the very end will be wearing a very unique pair of spiritual shoes. These powerful shoes are designed and crafted by the Eternal Airlift Gospel Shoe Company with a heavenly patent.

We learn about these spiritual shoes in Ephesians 6:15:

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

The reason our feet must be shod—or "shoed"—with the preparation of the Gospel is that without accepting the Gospel of Christ, we have no foundation to stand on while fighting the battles of life. We have no godly peace, and we get in painful trouble when traveling over rocky, thorny ground.

Paul calls this Gospel of peace, "the gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20:24).

A Definition of Grace

What exactly is this amazing grace that makes up the Gospel?

Webster defines grace as, "The influence of the Spirit in renewing the heart and restraining from sin." 1

The Bible gives us another clue about grace in Romans 1:16 where Paul says this:

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Putting Acts 20:24 together with Ro-

 Noah Webster, American Dictionary of the English Language (San Francisco, California: Foundation for American Christian Education, 1967).





Airlift Gospel Shoe Company

By Pastor Dan Gabbert

mans 1:16, we see that "the gospel of the grace of God," or "the gospel of Christ" is "the power of God unto salvation." In other words, God's grace is His unlimited, forgiving, transforming power to save us from sin's guilt and power. Notice how *Evangelism* puts it:

Divine grace is **the great element of saving power**; without it all human effort is unavailing (629, emphasis added).

God's grace is His unlimited, forgiving, transforming power

How important is God's grace for each of us? Ephesians 2:8-9 tells us this:

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

No one has been or will ever be saved apart from God's grace (see Acts 15:11). So

then, how is God's grace—His wonderful power to save—revealed in the life of a believer in Christ?

The Gospel's Two Shoes

God's power to save is revealed in two basic ways, because Ephesians 5:15 tells us our *feet* must be shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace.

Just as both of my physical feet have to be shod, both of my spiritual feet must be shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace in order for me to not have a lopsided, shaky walk with Christ.

Eternal Airlift Gospel Shoe #1: The Forgiveness of Past Sins

The first spiritual foot that needs to be shod by the grace of God is my sinful past. If I'm not covered in this area I will struggle with persistent guilt and unhappiness. Romans 3: 24-25 describes this spiritual shoe:

Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness **for the remission**

of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God (Romans 3:24-25, emphasis added).

When we personally accept by faith that Christ's death on the cross is the forgiving, healing, saving sacrifice for our sins, the death penalty we deserve is laid upon Christ. We are free, forgiven for our past, justified, and reconnected to God!

This is the first shoe—the grace of God's loving favor for a people who don't deserve it. This spiritual shoe enables us to stand unflinchingly under the devil's accusations and suggestions that we cannot be forgiven for what we've done wrong.

Saved by God's Work, not Ours

When we receive the grace of God to forgive our sins because Jesus died to pay our death penalty, we become brand new by the work of God's grace upon our hearts.

Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 5:17-19 that we even become Christ's ministers of reconciliation, regardless of our physical or social status.

Do you feel like Christian living means striving to follow a set of impossible rules in an attempt to please God and obtain forgiveness? God is gently calling you right now. Quietly, in the privacy of your thoughts, God is asking you to put on shoe number one of His healing Gospel.

Tell God you accept Christ's death on the cross for your sins and thank Him for His amazing unlimited, unmerited favor in forgiving you for the sins of your past.

God is gently calling you right now.



Eternal Airlift Gospel Shoe #2: The Power to Obey

Gospel shoe number two is found in Romans 1:5: By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name (Romans 1:5, emphasis added).

The Gospel of God's grace also provides "obedience to the faith," that is, power to obey (Romans 16:26). Ephesians 2:10 tells us that through Christ, the born again believer is created unto good works. Whose works? The works of Jesus!

The second shoe of God's grace provides the power and sufficiency to work out what the Lord works in us by His Holy Spirit—to actually live the life of faithful obedience Jesus lived here on earth, fueled by the saving power of God (Philippians 2:12-13).

Obedient Attitudes



Do you find yourself in a constant up and down Christian experience of accepting God's grace of forgiveness, but missing the grace of God's overcoming power to put to death your earthly attitudes of anger or fear?

Consider Romans 6:14-15:

For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid).

Surrender to the convicting power of the Spirit of grace laboring through the Word of God for your heart.

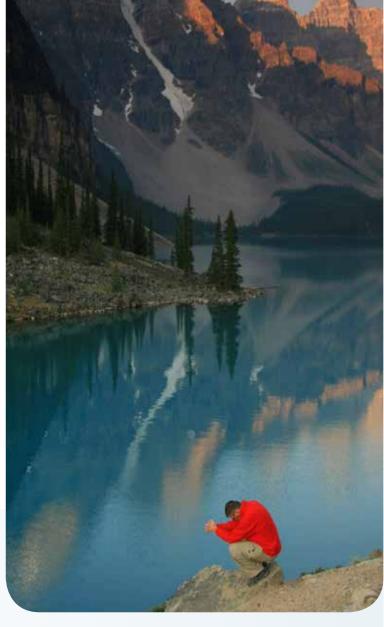
God's grace provides the power to work out what He works in us by His Holy Spirit.

We are told in 2 Corinthians 9:8 that, "God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work."

Could this really be the way it is with God's grace? Yes, a thousand times yes! Ephesians 3:20 assures us of God's desire to supply us abundantly with the power of His saving, healing, and transforming grace.

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.

If you find yourself dealing with sinful attitudes that won't seem to go away, recognize that God is calling you not only to surrender the controlling sin of your life and receive Christ's death on the cross for that sin, but also to accept the empowering grace of God to obey Him. Allow Him to fill you with new love and power to obey His Word. He will give you your heart's desire.



Growing in Grace

Reach for the two wonderful shoes of the Eternal Airlift Gospel of God's grace today:



Shoe #1: Unmerited favor for forgiveness for our past.

Shoe #2: Unlimited power to experience the "obedience of the faith of Jesus."

So, how can you grow in grace?

1. By faith, study to know Christ
Jesus better. As you behold His
life, you are giving the Holy Spirit
the right to infuse your heart with
Gods' love and transform your heart to be like
Him (see 2 Corinthians 3:18 and Romans 5:5).





Volunteer Discoveries



on and Marlene Sinclair were trying to sell their Saskatchewan fruit farm. After Marlene had been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, management of the farm was becoming too difficult. They prayed fervently for God to show them what to do.

Answers to Prayer

A speedy answer to their appeals arrived in the form of an unconditional cash offer to buy the farm. Don and Marlene were thankful one part of their prayer had been answered. But what next? They had always wanted to move to British Columbia (BC), but was it God's will?

One night Marlene dreamt that she and Don were living in BC and volunteering at Amazing Discoveries (AD). This dream drove them to the decision to visit the province and meet some of the people. While visiting the area, Don and Marlene agreed upon a sign: they would believe the Lord wanted them at AD only if they were asked to stay.

After church one Sabbath, their sign was fulfilled when they were invited to visit AD and asked if they would be willing to volunteer for the Ministry. They were thrilled that God had led them to yet another amazing opportunity to experience His blessings through volunteer work.

A History of Blessing

Previous to their time here at AD, Don and Marlene taught English in Russia, and worked with an evangelistic team in India.

The Sinclairs have been to over 20 different countries and have led busy and successful professional and personal lives

Don and Marlene are blessed with two children, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

In high school, Don hoped to become a radio and television technician. However, a sudden opportunity to study aviation led him to focus on this area. He met Marlene while working in aviation in Edmonton, Alberta, and the pair has been happily married for 53 years.

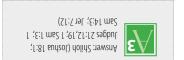
Coming Full Circle

Today, Don believes his hopes and aspirations have come full circle through his volunteer work at AD. He is happy that he is able to use his skill as a technician to help produce and construct the media center for AD.

Marlene is blessed daily by her ministry to those in need of prayer and has many stories of incredible answers and interventions as she handles prayer requests for the Ministry.

Although the Sinclairs have only been at AD for one year, they have already seen exponential growth in the program, as well as the staff and production rate. They are proud to be a part of a Ministry that is truly trying to reach people with a message of hope, and Amazing Discoveries is grateful for their vital contributions to the Ministry's work. They have become an integral part of our mission.

May the Lord continue to lead and bless you, Don and Marlene, as you serve Him!



Chapter 13

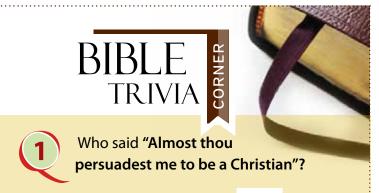
Should Christians be Members of Secret Societies? by Ellen White

Introduction

Early in her sojourn in Australia (1891-1900), Ellen White was called upon to give counsel to a prominent worker in our publishing house who had become deeply involved in the activities of the masonic lodge. The counsel she presented to this brother led him to sever his connections with the lodge in spite of the fact that he had attained the highest degree of honor in the organization.

Without condemning, Mrs. White pointed out that the Christian cannot serve two masters, or render allegiance to two authorities. Our brother, who had become so involved in lodge activities that his work for the church had been sadly neglected, recognized the simple truth in the Ellen G. White counsels, and his confidence in the message was confirmed as Mrs. White--unbeknown to herself--gave the secret sign used only by members of the lodge. He promptly surrendered his membership in the lodge, although he had stoutly affirmed on a number of occasions that nothing would shake his confidence in the fraternal organization or lead him to break with it. Looking back to this experience in later years, he testified that the Spirit of Prophecy message completely changed his life.

At this time and in this connection, Mrs. White wrote quite fully concerning the relationship of Seventh-day Adventists to such organizations. This was published under the title, "Should Christians be Members of Secret Societies?" In pamphlet form, it had wide circulation in Australia and in the United States, but it has long been out of print. This pamphlet is reprinted here in its entirety.



For correct answer search pages for this icon:



The second chapter is composed of counsels from the pen of Mrs. White relating to the attitude that Seventh-day Adventists should take toward labor organizations. This material was published in 1946 as section ii in the pamphlet, *Country Living*. It appears here in this permanent form for continued and prayerful study.--White Trustees.

[REPRINTED FROM A PAMPHLET BY THIS TITLE PUBLISHED IN 1893.]

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? and what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty" (2 Cor. 6:14-18).

The Lord's injunction, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Cor. 6:14), refers not only to the marriage of Christians with the ungodly, but to all alliances in which the parties are brought into intimate association, and in which there is need of harmony in spirit and action. The Lord gave special direction to Israel to keep themselves distinct from idolaters. They were not to intermarry with the heathen nor form any confederacy with them: "Take heed to thyself, lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land whither thou goest, lest it be for a snare in the midst of thee: but ye shall destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves: for thou shalt worship no other god: for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God" (Ex. 34:12-14).

"For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: but because the Lord loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers. . . . Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God,

which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations" (Deut. 7:6-9).

Again the Lord declares through the prophet Isaiah:

"Associate yourselves, O ye people, and ye shall be broken in pieces; and give ear, all ye of far countries: gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces; ... Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought; speak the word, and it shall not stand: for God is with us. For the Lord spake thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying, Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid. Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread" (Isa. 8:9-13).

There are those who question whether it is right for Christians to belong to the Free Masons and other secret societies. Let all such consider the scriptures just quoted. If we are Christians at all, we must be Christians everywhere, and must consider and heed the counsel given to make us Christians according to the standard of God's Word.

Cooperation With Divine Agencies

The people of God on earth are the human agents that are to cooperate with divine agencies for the salvation of men. To the souls that have joined themselves to Him, Christ says, "You are one with Me, 'labourers together with God'" (1 Cor. 3:9). God is the great and unperceived actor; man is the humble and seen agent, and it is only in cooperation with the heavenly agencies that he can do anything good. It is only as the mind is enlightened by the Holy Spirit that men discern the divine agency. And hence Satan is constantly seeking to divert minds from the divine to the human, that man may not cooperate with Heaven. He directs the attention to human inventions, leading men to trust in man, to make flesh their arm, so that their faith does not take hold upon God.



"The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!" (Matt. 6:22, 23).

And when our light becomes darkness, how shall we be a light to the world?

The work of our personal salvation also depends upon our cooperation with the divine agencies. God has imparted to us moral powers and religious susceptibilities. He has given His Son as a propitiation for our sins, that we might be reconciled to God. Jesus lived a life of self-denial and sacrifice, that we might follow His example. He has given the Holy Spirit to be in Christ's stead in every place where help is needed. He employs the heavenly intelligences to bring divine power to combine with our human efforts. But we must accept the gift of God, we must repent, and believe in Christ. We must watch, we must pray, we must obey the requirements of God. We must practice self-denial and self-sacrifice for Christ's sake. We must grow up into Christ by constant connection with Him. Whatever turns the mind away from God to trust in man, or conform to a human standard, will prevent us from cooperating with God in the work of our own salvation. This is why the Lord forbade His people to form any alliance with the heathen, "lest it be for a snare in the midst of thee" (Ex. 34:12). He said, "They will turn away thy son from following me" (Deut. 7:4). And the same principle applies to the association of Christians with the ungodly.

In Covenant Relation

When we accepted Christ as our Redeemer, we accepted the condition of becoming laborers together with God. We made a covenant with Him to be wholly for the Lord; as faithful stewards of the grace of Christ, to labor for the upbuilding of His kingdom in the world. Every follower of Christ stands pledged to dedicate all his powers of mind and soul and body

Continued on page 2



- 2. By faith, choose to hide His Word in your heart through reading and memorizing. Scripture is the key tool to use against the enemy's tempting suggestions to disobey God (see 2 Corinthians 10: 3-5 and Psalms 17:4).
- **3.** By faith, choose each day to walk in Jesus' footsteps by responding to life's situations according to His will, not your own (see 1 John 2:6 and Luke 22:42).

Let's go to the throne of grace, to the entrance of the Eternal Airlift Gospel Shoe Company, and ask for a free pair of shoes of the gospel of the grace of God, and put both shoes on, so we don't have to struggle with a lopsided, shaky walk with Jesus.

About the Author: After 25 years of full-time ministry and a Masters degree in Christian Counseling, Dan Gabbert is focusing his energies upon helping others understand and apply the principles of mental and spiritual restoration found in the world's #1 best-selling book, the Rible

Dan and his wife Patsy, are currently practicing Biblical Response Therapy® as mental/spiritual health coaches for the Black Hills Health and Education Center.

to Him who has paid the ransom money for our souls. We engaged to be soldiers, to enter into active service, to endure trials, shame, reproach, to fight the fight of faith, following the Captain of our salvation.

In your connection with worldly societies are you keeping your covenant with God? Do these associations tend to direct your own mind or that of others to God, or are they diverting the interest and attention from Him? Do they strengthen your connection with the divine agencies, or turn your mind to the human in place of the divine?

Are you serving, honoring, and magnifying God, or are you dishonoring Him and sinning against Him? Are you gathering with Christ or scattering abroad? All the thought and plan and earnest interest devoted to these organizations has been purchased by the precious blood of Christ; but are you doing service for Him when uniting yourselves with atheists and infidels, men who profane the name of God, tipplers, drunkards, tobacco devotees?

While there may be in these societies much that appears to be good, there is, mingled with this, very much that makes the good of no effect, and renders these associations detrimental to the interests of the soul. We have another life than that which is sustained by temporal food. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4). "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, ye have no life in you" (John 6:53). Jesus said, "Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life" (John 6:54). Our bodies are built up from what we eat and drink. And as in the natural, so in the spiritual economy; it is that which our minds dwell upon which sustains the spiritual nature. Our Saviour said, "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:63). Spiritual life must be sustained by communion with Christ through His Word. The mind must dwell upon it, the heart must be filled with it. The Word of God laid up in the heart and sacredly cherished and obeyed, through the power of the grace of Christ can make man right, and keep him right; but every human influence, every earthly invention, is powerless to give strength and wisdom to man. It cannot restrain passion, or correct deformity of character. Unless the truth of God controls the heart, the conscience will be warped. But in these worldly societies the mind is turned away from the Word of God. Men are not led to make it the study and the guide of life.

Is God Honored?

I ask you who take pleasure in these associations, who love the gathering for indulgence in wit and merriment and feasting, Do you take Jesus with you? Are you seeking to save the souls of your companions? Is that the object of your association with them? Do they see and feel that there is in you a living embodiment of the Spirit of Christ? Is it manifest that

To God be the Glory ...for His Fruit

We have three children and our entire family was baptized as Seventh-day Adventists in 1972. Our son D___went to a Seventh-day Adventist school in Ohio. Through his experience there, he became disillusioned with his faith and fell away from the church. Despite all our prayers, it was hard to get him interested again in the faith he was brought up in. We had to surrender our worries about D___ over to God and trust that God would watch over him like He does with each and every one of us.

Our oldest daughter and her husband gave us a satellite dish and we were impressed to get one for our son and younger daughter. We didn't even know Amazing Discoveries existed then, but D___ soon found out because once he set up his dish, God got his attention with Amazing Facts and Amazing Discoveries programming that he began to watch on a daily basis. God faithfully answered our prayers, using His speakers to get through to our son in a way that we couldn't. D___ especially loved the solid Biblical teachings from Doug Batchelor (Amazing Facts) and Dr. Walter Veith (Amazing Discoveries) and attributes these men and their lectures as being responsible for the change that occurred in his life. About two years ago, D___ returned to the SDA church. He says if he's not SDA, he wouldn't want to be anything else. As a result of AD's health programs, D___ is now a vegan and likes teaching us about what he is learning on there. We have also grown tremendously in our own faith because of the messages presented on Amazing Discoveries. We praise the Lord for your ministry and for the blessed change God has brought about in our son's life. P & V.I.

you are a witness for Christ, that you belong to a peculiar people, zealous of good works? Is it manifest that your life is governed by the divine precepts, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Matt. 22:37), and, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Matt. 19:19)? To speak to the hearts and consciences of those that are ready to perish, is beyond the power of one who does not himself surrender all for Christ. But where do your fluency and warmth of speech show that your interest is centered?

In these societies what are the favorite subjects of conversation? What are the themes that excite interest and give pleasure? Are they not the gratification of the senses --eating and drinking and pleasure seeking? The presence of Christ is unknown in these gatherings. No reference is made to Him. His companionship is not desired. Where and when is God honored by such associations? Wherein is the soul in the least benefited? If you do not influence your companions for good, are they not influencing you for evil? Will it do to lay aside the lamp of life, God's Word, and mingle freely with this class of associates, and come to their level? Do you think you can find something to satisfy the hunger of the soul apart from truth and the favor of God? Shall those who profess to believe the truth for this time be at home in such scenes, when God is not in all their thoughts?

In the same room where these societies have had their gatherings, the congregations have met to worship God. Can you

during the sacred hour of divine service forget the scenes of merriment and feasting, and indulgence in the wine cup? All this God writes in His book as intemperance. How does it blend with eternal realities? Do you forget that at all these pleasure gatherings there is a Witness present, as at the feast of Belshazzar? Could the curtain that separates us from the invisible world be rolled back, you would behold the Saviour grieved to see men absorbed in the pleasures of the table, in hilarity and witticism, that put Christ, the center of the world's hope, out of their thoughts.

Those who cannot discern between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not, may be charmed with these societies that have no connection with God, but no earnest Christian can prosper in such an atmosphere. The vital air of heaven is not there. His soul is barren, and he feels as destitute of the refreshing of the Holy Spirit as were the hills of Gilboa of dew and rain.

At times the follower of Christ may by circumstances be compelled to witness scenes of unholy pleasure, but it is with a sorrowful heart. The language is not the language of Canaan, and the child of God will never choose such associations. When he is necessarily brought into society that he does not choose, let him lean upon God, and the Lord will preserve him. But he is not to sacrifice his principles in any case, whatever the temptation.

Not of Christ

Christ will never lead His followers to take upon themselves vows that will unite them with men who have no connection with God, who are not under the controlling influence of His Holy Spirit. The only correct standard of character is the holy law of God, and it is impossible for those who make that law the rule of life to unite in confidence and cordial brotherhood with those who turn the truth of God into a lie, and regard the authority of God as a thing of nought.

Between the

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Between the worldly man and the one who is faithfully serving God, there is a great gulf fixed. Upon the most momentous subjects—God and truth and eternity—their thoughts and sympathies and feelings are not in harmony. One class is ripening as wheat for the garner of God, the other as tares for the fires of destruction. How can there be unity of purpose or action between them?

"Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (James 4:4).

"No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (Matt. 6:24).

But we are to beware of indulging a spirit of bigotry and intol-

erance. We are not to stand aside from others in a spirit that seems to say, "Come not near me; I am holier than thou." Do

not shut yourselves away from your fellow men, but seek to impart to them the precious truth that has blessed your own heart. Let it be manifest that yours is the religion of love.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 5:16).



But if we are Christians, having the Spirit of Him who died to save men from their sins, we shall love the souls of our fellow men too well to countenance their sinful pleasures by our presence or our influence. We cannot sanction their course by associating with them, partaking in their feasts and their councils, where God does not preside. Such a course, so far from benefiting them, would only cause them to doubt the reality of our religion. We should be false lights, by our example leading souls to ruin.

I lately read of a noble ship that was plowing its way across the sea, when at midnight, with a terrific crash, it struck upon a rock; the passengers were awakened only to see with horror their hopeless condition, and with the ship they sank to rise no more. The man at the helm had mistaken the beacon light, and hundreds of souls were at a moment's warning launched into eternity. If we present a phase of character that misrepresents Christ, we present a false light, and souls will surely be misled by our example.

Danger of Spiritual Declension

And Christians who connect themselves with worldly associations are injuring themselves as well as misleading others. Those who fear God cannot choose the ungodly for compan-

ions, and be themselves unharmed. In these societies they are brought under the influence of worldly principles and customs, and through the power of association and habit the mind becomes more and more conformed to the worldling's standard. Their love for God grows cold, and they have no desire for communion with Him. They become spiritually blind. They can see no particular difference between the transgressor of God's law and those who fear God and keep His commandments. They call evil good, and good

evil. The brightness of eternal realities fades away. The truth may be presented to them in ever so forcible a manner, but they do not hunger for the bread of life, or thirst for the waters of salvation. They are drinking at broken cisterns that can hold no water. Oh, it is an easy thing, by association with the world, to catch their spirit, to be molded by their views of things, so that we do not discern the preciousness of Jesus and the truth. And just to the degree that the spirit of the world dwells in our heart, it will control our life.

When men are not under the control of the Word and the Spirit of God, they are captives of Satan, and we know not to what lengths he may lead them in sin. The patriarch Jacob beheld those who take pleasure in wickedness. He saw what would be the result of association with them, and in the Spirit he exclaimed, "O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united" (Gen. 49:6). He lifts up the danger signal, to warn every soul against such associations. The apostle Paul echoes the warning: "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness" (Eph. 5:11). "Be not deceived: Evil company doth corrupt good manners" (1 Cor. 15:33, R.V.).

The soul is deceived when it trusts to worldly policy and human inventions instead of trusting in the Lord God of Israel. Can man find a better guide than the Lord Jesus? a better counselor in doubt and trial? a better defense in danger? To set aside the wisdom of God for human wisdom is a soul-destroying delusion.

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If you would see what man will do when he rejects the influence of the grace of God, look to that scene in the judgment hall, when the infuriated mob, headed by Jewish priests and elders, clamored for the life of the Son of God. See the divine Sufferer standing by the side of Barabbas, and Pilate asking which he should release unto them. The hoarse cry, swelled by hundreds of passionate, Satan- inspired voices, is, "Away with this man, and release unto us Barabbas" (Luke 23:18)! And when Pilate asked what was to be done with Jesus they cried, "Crucify him, crucify him" (Luke 23:21)!

Human nature then is human nature now. When the divine Remedy that would have saved and exalted human nature is despised, the same spirit still lives in the hearts of men, and we cannot trust to their guidance and maintain our loyalty to Christ.

God Looks Beneath the Surface

These societies, that are not controlled by the love and fear of God, will not be found true and upright toward man. Many of their transactions are contrary to justice and equity. He who is of too pure eyes to behold evil will not, cannot, be a party to many things that take place in these associations. Your own conscience will bear witness to the truth of what I say. The talent and skill and inventive power with which God has endowed men are, in these associations, too often perverted to instruments of cruelty, of iniquity, of selfishness in practicing fraud upon their fellow men.

Of course all this is denied by the members of these bodies. But God looks beneath the pleasant, attractive appearance, to the secret, underlying motives and the real working of the association. While some of them claim to make the Word of God in a certain sense the basis of their organization, they depart far from the principles of righteousness. The vows imposed by some of these orders require the taking of human life when the secrets of the order are divulged. Members are also pledged, under certain circumstances, to clear the guilty from deserved punishment. Toward those who work against the order, they are required to pursue a course that is not at all in harmony with the law of God.

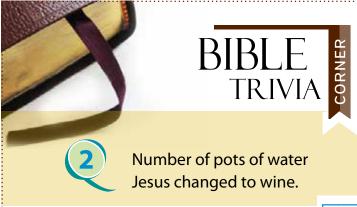
We cannot swerve from the truth, we cannot depart from right principles, without forsaking Him who is our strength, our righteousness, and our sanctification. We should be firmly rooted in the conviction that whatever in any sense turns us aside from truth and justice in our association and partnership with men, cannot benefit us, and greatly dishonors God. Every species of deceit or conniving at sin is abhorrent to Him.

Fraud runs all through these secret associations, and none can be bound up with them and be free men before God and

> **heaven.** The moral nature is dragged down to that which God pronounces unjust, which is contrary to His will and His commandments. One who professes to love God, may in these associations be placed in positions which are called honorable, but in the eyes of God he is tarnishing his honor as a Christian, and separating farther and farther from the principles of righteousness and true holiness. He is perverting his powers, that have been purchased by the blood of Jesus. He is selling his soul for nought.

In the revelation of His righteous judgments, God will break up all these associations; and when the judgment shall sit and the books be opened, there will be revealed the un-Christlikeness of the whole confederacy. Those who choose to unite with these secret societies are paying homage to idols as senseless and as powerless to bless and save the soul as are the gods of the Hindus.

These societies offer some advantages which from a human point of view appear like great blessings, but not so when



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judged by the Lord's measurement. Behind their apparent advantages are concealed satanic agencies. The larger the income drawn into the treasury, the more and deeper is the evil. The

The ungodly gain which has enriched these societies will, when traced out in all its bearings, be seen to be a curse.

ungodly gain which has enriched these societies will, when traced out in all its bearings, be seen to be a curse. The words which Eliphaz spoke to Job are true in respect to these associations: "I saw him 'taking root,' but I 'cursed his habitation" (Job 5:3). They are Satan's traps, his net to entangle souls.

A Question of Loyalty to God

No man who truly

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Very many things are sanctioned and upheld by the world when they are an offense to the Holy One of Israel. It was seemingly a small thing for Eve to depart from God's specified restrictions and do the thing He told her not to do, and for Adam to follow her example; but that very thing was planned by the archdeceiver to destroy the souls of men by leading them to follow their own imaginations rather than the revealed will of God. So in these associations principles are held that bring men under the deceptive power of Satan, leading away from safe paths into rebellion against God and disregard of His holy standard of righteousness. "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation" (Mark 14:38), is the oft-repeated injunction of our Saviour. Watch, watch with diligence and care, lest Satan succeed in ensnaring the souls of those for whom Christ has paid the ransom money of His own blood.

God calls upon you who would be His children to act as under the divine eye, to adopt the holy standard of righteousness. His justice and His truth are the principles that should be established in every soul. He who preserves his integrity toward God, will be upright toward man. No man who truly loves God, will, for the sake of a bribe of gold and silver, of honor, or any other earthly advantage, expose his soul to temptation. "What shall it profit a man, if

he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:36, 37).

Christians must sever every tie that binds them to these secret orders that are not under the control of God. They cannot be loyal to these organizations and loyal to God. Either the connection with these bodies must be severed or you will assimilate more closely to them, and as the result will come to unite more fully with them, and will sever the ties that bind you to those who love and fear God. The Christian will abandon those things which are a hindrance to his spirituality, be the sacrifice ever so great. Better lose money, possessions, and life itself, than to imperil the vital interests of the soul.

Stewards of God

You who have connected yourselves with these secret societies are trusting in a staff that will be broken in pieces; you do not trust in the Lord God of Israel, diligently searching to know His will and to follow in His way. When you invest money in these organizations, you do so in the hope of making provision for the future. You have given them time and thought and labor and money, while the cause of Christ has been neglected. Every dollar paid into these organizations is as truly turned away from the cause of God as if sunk in the ocean. But was not this capital entrusted to you of God to use in His service, for the salvation of your fellow men? By investing it where it cannot honor God or benefit men, you are repeating the sin of the slothful servant who hid his Lord's talent in the earth.

The Lord had entrusted to the unfaithful servant not a large capital, but only one talent. That one talent the man did not invest for the interest of God; he hid it in the earth, complaining that the Lord was a hard Master, reaping where He had not sown, and gathering where He had not strown. The selfishness he manifested, and the complaints he made, as though God would require of him that which He had no right to claim, showed that he did not know God, or Jesus Christ, whom He had sent. Everything he possessed was the Lord's own property, and was entrusted to him to use for God. When he says, "I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth" (Matt. 25:25), he acknowledged that the talent was from God.

And what saith the Lord?--"Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where

I have not strawed" (Matt. 25:26). Here He repeats the servant's words, not acknowledging their truth, but showing what, even according to his own account, the servant ought to have done. The Lord virtually says: You made no effort to trade upon My entrusted capital, and to gain an increase to promote My glory in the earth. "Thou oughtest... to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given, and

he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not {traded on his Lord's goods} shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness" (Matt. 25: 27-30). To every soul to whom the light of truth has come is this lesson given.

We should never forget that God has placed us on trial in this world, to determine our fitness for the future life. None can enter heaven whose characters are defiled by the foul blot of selfishness. Therefore God tests us here by committing to us temporal possessions, that our use of these may show whether we can be entrusted with eternal riches. It is only as the self-

sacrificing life of Christ is reflected in our life that we can be in harmony with heaven, and be fitted to enter there.

Where Are We Placing Our Treasures?

But the great study and ambition of the world is to obtain material, temporal advantages, to the neglect of spiritual good. Thus it is with some members of the church. When at last they shall be called to render their account to God, they will not only

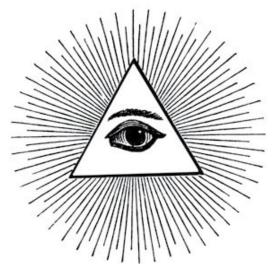
be ashamed but astonished that they did not discern the true riches, and have not laid up treasure in the heavens. They have bestowed their gifts and offerings upon the enemies of truth, expecting a time to come in this life when they would receive the returns for what they have invested. They could entrust their means to secret societies, but when the cause of God is in need of the means He has committed to His human agents, they feel no interest, they do not consider the gift that the Lord has made to them. They are blinded by the god of this world.

They say: "I have nothing to give to this enterprise; for I shall receive no returns. In paying to the lodge, I am providing for the future, and, besides this, I must bear my share of expense for the entertainments that gratify my taste. I cannot give up these enjoyments. Why does the church look to me to help meet these constantly recurring demands? 'Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: and I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth' {Matt. 25:24, 25}, expecting that some time I would be benefited by it."

To God be the Glory ... for His Fruit

I was very glad to find your website. I am a former Baptist who recently found out that all that we have been taught (the futurist view) is wrong. I've been a Christian for 40 years and all that time I never knew the truth! So for quite a while now I've been reading a lot on the historicist beliefs which I believe represent the truth. It's so exciting to me.

S.S.



The Saviour bids us: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:19-21).

Many are laying up their treasure in these secret societies, and can

we not see that their heart is there? However powerful may be the evidences of truth, little by little it loses its brightness, loses its force, heaven fades from the mind, the eternal weight of glory, the gift of God for a life of obedience, appears a matter unworthy of notice in comparison with the supposed benefits to be realized in laying up earthly treasure. Souls are starving for the bread and water of life; but what is that to him whose heart is set on this world? Many a man is saying by his actions, if not in words, "I cannot let go my interest in these earthly treasures, to secure that which is eternal. The life

The fascination of the club room, the suppers, and the world-loving associates, has led, as did Belshazzar's feast, to forgetfulness of God and dishonoring of His name.

to come is too remote for me to count upon. I choose the earthly goods, and I will run the risk of the future. God is good and merciful." Slothful servant! Your portion is just as surely appointed with hypocrites and unbelievers as you continue to pursue this course. The fascination of the club room, the suppers, and the world-loving associates, has led, as did Belshazzar's feast, to forgetfulness of God and dishonoring of His name.

Will You Cooperate With God?

There is a blindness upon human minds that is willful. Jesus said, "This people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (Matt. 13:15). The work of God for the salvation of men is the one work of supreme importance to be carried forward in our world; but many do not see this, because their interest is more with the ranks of the enemy than with the loyal soldiers of Christ. They do not see the necessity of the cooperation of the human with the divine agency. The Lord has bidden us: "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both

your stories...

to will and to do of his good pleasure" (Phil. 2:12, 13). This is the plan which God has revealed to us to guide us in all the plans and purposes of life. But while men pray, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10), many reject the very means by which God would establish His kingdom.

When they are willing to count all things but loss that they may win Christ, their eyes will be opened to see things as they really are. Then they will turn away from the earthly attractions to the heavenly. Then they will see the true nature of the worldly, selfish enjoyments that they now value so highly, and these things that they now hold so dear will be given up.

All heaven is looking upon you who claim to believe the most sacred truth ever committed to mortals. Angels are waiting with longing desire to cooperate with you in working for the salvation of souls. Will you refuse this heavenly alliance in order to maintain your connection

with society where God is not honored, where His commandments are trampled upon? How would the truth ever have been brought to you if others had felt so little interest in its advancement as some of you manifest? The cause of God demands our help, that it may be established upon a proper basis, and that the truth may be carried forward into new fields, to those who are ready to perish.

All heaven is looking upon you who claim to believe the most sacred truth ever committed to mortals.

Can you who claim to be sons of God refuse to aid in this work? Will you, in order to receive an earthly return, withhold your means from the treasury of God, and let His work be shamefully neglected? It is grievous to consider what might have been accomplished in the saving of souls if the heart and service of all who profess to believe the truth had been undividedly given to God. Work has been negligently done. If self had been hid in Christ, sinners might, through wise, ingenious methods, have been won to the truth, and today be in cooperation with God.

Now, before the time comes when you must render up your account to God, I urge you to give heed to His word, "Lay up for yourselves" a "treasure in the heavens" (Matt. 6:20; Luke 12:33), not in secret societies. Consider that there is only one Proprietor of the universe, and that every man, with his time, his intellect, his resources, belongs to the One who has paid the ransom for the soul. God has a righteous claim to constant service and supreme affection. God's will, not your pleasure, is to be your criterion. And though you should accumulate a fortune less rapidly, you are laying up treasure in heaven. Who of the church is resolved to maintain his spirituality? Who will develop an experience that reveals Christian fervor, persevering energy? Who, like Jesus, will not fail nor be discouraged,

To God be the Glory ...for His Fruit

My wife was baptized on July 4, 2009, as a result of watching Dr. Veith's DVD series. We really appreciate his ministry. - L. B.

Walter Veith lectures opened my eyes to Jesus Christ and showed me the difference between Christianity and paganism. I joined the Seventhday Adventist church in Corpus Christi, TX. - J.C.

We thank God (Jesus) for you Pastor. We have watched Total Onslaught, Life at its Best, Rekindling the Reformation supplied by my neighbor. I had broken my heel and it would take 12 weeks for it to heal. Being an active man, I needed something to do. Left on my own, I would probably get into trouble! God took the opportunity to grow my faith! After four weeks of watching Total Onslaught, I decided to worship on the Sabbath. I knew a few people that were Seventh-day Adventists. We are now watching Total Transformation. Spot on! - B & M.M.

Thank you so much for your presentations, work and effort, and remaining true to the Gospel and writings of EGW. We are truly blessed. After 35 years of prayers for my parents, they received (from non SDAs!) Dr. Veith's DVDs. Along with some other miraculous happenings and leading by the Holy Spirit, they accepted Jesus as their personal Savior and were baptized a few years ago. Amazing Discoveries played a key role in their salvation, and I truly thank you for this. - C. C.

not in grasping means for the service of self, but in laboring together with God?

All who are striving for the crown of everlasting life will be tempted as was their Master before them. He was proffered the

kingdoms of the world if He would pay homage to Satan. Had Christ yielded to this temptation, the world would have passed forever under the sway of the wicked one. But, thank God, His divinity shone through humanity. He did that which every human being may do in the name and strength of Jesus. He said, "Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve" (Matt. 4:10). If this is the way you meet temptation, Satan will leave you, as he left Christ, and angels will minister unto you, as they ministered unto Him.

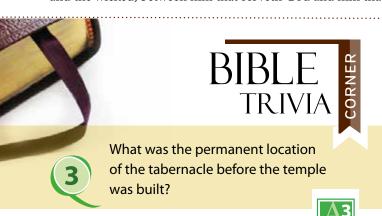


To those who have thought and talked of the great advantages to be gained by worldly association, the Lord declares, through the prophet Malachi:

"Your words have been stout against me, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee? Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the Lord of hosts? And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered" (Mal. 3:13-15).

These are the thoughts of many, if the words are not spoken.

"Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that



serveth him not. For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch" (Mal. 3:16 to 4:1).

Here are the people that in the world are judged to be greatly favored; but there comes a time when the children of God are distinguished as those who are honored of God because they have honored Him.

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he

is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure" (1 John 3:1-3).

The Better Way

While temporal honor and riches and power are the great objects of ambition with the men of this world, the Lord points out something more worthy of our highest aspirations:

"Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: but let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord. Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will punish all them which are circumcised with the uncircumcised" (Jer. 9:23-25).

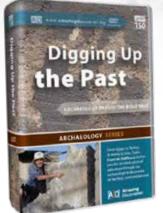
"Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, and a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light" (1 Peter 2:6-9).

"Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: but as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all

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SELECTED MESSAGES.... Continued from previous page

manner of conversation; because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy. And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear: for asmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (1 Peter 1:13-19).--Pamphlet published in 1893, Should Christians Be Members of Secret Societies?

Cannot Receive the Seal of God

Those who stand under the bloodstained banner of Prince Immanuel cannot be united with the Freemasons or with any secret organization. The seal of the living God will not be placed upon anyone who maintains such a connection after the light of truth has shone upon his pathway. Christ is not divided, and Christians cannot serve God and mammon. The Lord says, "Come out from among them, and be ye separate, ... and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty" (2 Cor. 6:17, 18). -Letter 21, 1893. ■



by Tammie Burak

This article is based on Dr. Rudy & Jeanie Davis' DVD presentation "Life in the Fast Lane - the 21-day Challenge" from the series Healthy From Inside Out.

aturopathic doctors Rudy and Jeanie Davis have developed a sensible do-it-yourself detoxification plan that they have successfully used for over a decade to help patients regain their health. Their 21-Day Challenge consists of three weeks of eating a well-balanced nutrient-dense diet followed by a three-day water fast.

Are you tired of doing the same things with the same poor results?

The 21-day diet supercharges the cells of the body with nutrients from a range of super-foods and kick-starts the body's cleansing process.

The three-day water fast, which follows the 21 days of healthy eating, frees up energy that would normally be spent on

digesting food and provides your body with time to use the nutrients you took in during the 21 days to repair and rebuild tissues.

Rudy Davis says, "People who have gone on this program say it has changed them forever." Are you tired of doing the same things with the same poor results? Are you interested in changing your life? Then maybe it's time you tried the 21-Day Challenge.

Part 1: The 21 Day Program

Here is what you need to do for the 21 days leading up to the fast.

- Increase Water

For 21 days increase the amount of water you drink to 6 cups per day. The brain is 85% water and even slight dehydration can raise stress hormone levels which, over time can damage both the brain and the body.

- Increase Raw Food Intake

Cooked foods dominate most eating plans. To vitalize your body and begin the restorative process, begin eating more raw foods than cooked. Raw foods should make up eighty to ninety per cent of your diet.

Cooked foods slow down life processes and accelerate aging. Eliminate all animal products, sugar, white flour, heat-damaged oils, and all processed foods.

- Eat Less

You should eat about two to three cups of well-chewed food per meal; no more.

- Consume Foods That Provide Optimal Nutrition

Eat a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables.

- Choose organic foods as much as possible.
- If you can't get organic foods or can't afford to buy organic foods, ask the Lord to bless your food. He can make it better than organic.

Consume Good Fats

DHA (docosahexaenoic acid) is an omega-3 fatty acid making up a large portion of the grey matter of your brain. Fatty acids are half the weight of the brain. During the 21 days of optimal nutrition, eat only good fats. Don't eat any margarine, butter, mayonnaise, or vegetable oil.

Include only cold-pressed nutritional oils to ensure optimal nutrition for your brain. If you're not getting enough essential fatty acids, you're not experiencing optimal brain activity. A good source of balanced fatty acids is Udo's DHA Oil Blend. The DHA comes from seaweed, not fish.

Other sources of good fats to include in your diet for 21 days are avocadoes, cashews, brazil nuts, flaxseed, green leafy vegetables, olive oil, walnuts, and sacha inchi oil. Sacha inchi oil is 54% omega-3. You can use it on your skin or eat it. Try putting it on your salad or on toast.

6 - Keep a Proper Balance of Carbohydrates, AminoAcids and Good Fats

Eat a wide variety of foods. Chew all your food until it is as smooth as apple sauce. Digestion begins in your mouth. When you chew your food until it is smooth and well-mixed with saliva, you save your other digestive organs from doing extra work. The saliva in your mouth contains ingredients that make the nutrients in food available to your body.

7 - Choose Brain Healthy Foods

Incorporate brain-boosing foods into a diet plan to ensure that you include them in your diet regularly. Foods that boost brain health supply the brain with antioxidants, glucose, and essential fatty acids. Some of these foods are: blueberries, cherries, apples, nuts & seeds, carrots, edamame, spinach, and avocados.

Avoid Snacking

Drink fresh vegetable/fruit juice combinations instead of snacking. Juices are not solid foods and won't stretch the stomach. You can have 4-5 cups of freshly made juice per day.

Remember, there is a difference between juice and a smoothie. Juice is made in a juicer which removes the pulpy fiber from the fruit or vegetable. A smoothie is made in a blender and is a whole food. Juices can be drunk between meals. Smoothies are part of a meal and should be included with your meal.

9 - Increase Consumption of Dietary Antioxidants

Antioxidants clean up free radicals. Normal, unheated food molecules have pairs of electrons. When heat destroys some of the paired electrons, these food molecules become unstable, free radicals. When free radicals steal electrons from cells in your body, they cause tissue damage. Antioxidants provide missing electrons to free radicals thus preventing further tissue damage.

Numerous studies have shown that increasing antioxidants from fruit and vegetables significantly reduces the risk of developing cognitive impairment.

Here are some excellent sources of antioxidants:

- Berries,
- Spinach,
- Broccoli,
- Beets,
- Cherries,
- · Oranges,
- Avocadoes,
- · Red grapes.



Foods and Juices that Detoxify the Body Best

Your body will heal with whatever foods grow near you, so you don't need to go to the Himalayas to find healing foods. After all, God provides healing for the rich and the poor.



But some foreign import foods have such exceptional healthgiving properties, that if you can afford it, they will be a great benefit for you:

• Beet juice. Fresh or powdered beet juice provides your body with the ingredients for creating good blood. If you have a food dehydrator, you can slice beets thinly, dehydrate them and grind the dehydrated beet slices to powder. You can sprinkle beet powder on salads or add it to meals. Drying only destroys 2-5% of the nutrients if you set the

heat between 116 and 119 degrees. Having dried beet juice on hand ensures that you have beet juice when you want it.

- **Powdered chlorella.** It doesn't smell great or taste great, but you'll hardly notice it in a smoothie and it provides super-potent nutrition for your body.
- Acai berries. Your body can use the nutrients in acai

berries to build new stem cells. (You can learn more about this in the DVD, *Your Body's External Thermometer.*) Stem cells are needed for repairing tissue cells in your body. So, if you're going to do some repairing over those three fast days, get acai berries.

Stem cells are needed for repairing tissue cells in your body.

- Wheatgrass juice. Use either fresh or powdered wheatgrass juice. It is 70% chlorophyll, which is considered to be the blood of plants. Chlorophyll closely resembles human red blood cells and supplies enzymes which do the work of rebuilding and repair in our cells. Wheatgrass juice can be an important addition to your diet if you're concerned about building healthy blood.
- **Spirulina** is a blue-green algae that contains 4000 nutrients. It smells like fish, but it supplies green chlorophyll to your body which can stimulate the creation of new blood cells.
- Chlorophyll. You can make your own chlorophyll drink simply by juicing a variety of fresh greens. Fill a quart jar with the juice and sip it for supper. Swish it around in your mouth, chew it and swallow it and by morning you'll feel like you've given your body a whole blood transfusion.
- Blueberries are very high in antioxidants and are great for promoting bowel health and protecting your body from free-radicals.
- **Dried apricots** help the body to retain and redistribute moisture to all your different cellular networks. Unless the moisture remains in the cells, your body will not have cells that are functioning optimally. Use organic dried apricots.







• Maca root. Powdered maca is made from a South American root vegetable. It rebalances the endocrine system, which is your body's hormonal system. It has a slightly sweet flavor. Add a tablespoonful to your smoothie.

• **Goji berries** are a complete protein, containing all 9 essential amino acids from which your body can build every protein it needs. Try eat-

ing dried goji berries with raw cacao nibs to take away the bitterness of the cacao.

 Cacao packs the highest concentration of antioxidants of any food on the planet. It feeds your brain and stops free radical damage.

Unless you understand food, you cannot understand disease. (Rudy Davis, ND).

Part 2: Three-Day Fast

After 21 days on your healthy eating plan along with regular exercise, you are ready to go on a three-day water fast. A three-day water fast will give your digestive organs a rest, which is very important for the healing of your body. Rather than spending time and energy digesting food, your body can focus its time and energy on repairing damage.

Warning: Do not fast more than three days without qualified supervision.

A Case Study on Fasting

Dr. Herbert Shelton had amazing results from fasting patients in his care. In his book, *Fasting Can Save your Life*, he documented the case of a patient he referred to as Mr. AB.

Mr. AB fasted for 42 days under the supervision of Dr. Herbert Shelton. During that time, his body healed itself of many



diseases that people generally consider to be incurable. Mr. AB suffered from asthma for 13 years and even though he was receiving medical treatment, he continued getting worse. So he checked into Dr. Shelton's clinic. Dr. Shelton took away all of Mr. AB's medications and gave him water and nothing else. He got no food in any form. All he got was water. The first night Mr. AB was at the clinic, he had an asthma attack around 3:00 am and called for the doctor. Dr. Shelton

checked him over, said he'd be alright and told him to go back to sleep. The asthma attack passed. Mr. AB went back to sleep and never had another asthma attack.

Within 24 hours, all asthma symptoms disappeared. Mr. AB was getting rehydrated after years of being chronically dehydrated. In most cases of asthma, it's dehydration that is happening. When the lungs are dehydrated, they produce mucous to keep the alveoli, the tiny air sacs of the lungs, from drying

out. The thick mucus in the lungs produces asthma symptoms. People with asthma are prescribed drugs which they inhale through a puffer. In the case of Mr. AB and many others, the simple solution to asthma is adequate amounts of water.

Mr. AB had an enlarged prostate for six years. Within six days, it was normal again.

Mr. AB had sinus problems for over 13 years. Within 25 days, his sinuses were cleared. He felt great because he could finally breathe clearly again for the first time in many years.

Mr. AB had been completely deaf in his left ear for 6 years. After 36 days of fasting, his hearing was completely restored. In fact, his hearing was so sharp he could hear the ticking of a lady's small watch at arm's length.

We usually think of deafness as being an irreversible condition. But that is not always the case. After 36 days of fasting, Mr. AB's body cleared out the clogged arteries leading to the ear which restored blood flow to the

ear. And suddenly, he could hear again!

Mr. AB was impotent when he checked into the clinic. He was no longer impotent after 42 days of water fasting.

At that point, the staff at the clinic put Mr. AB back on solid foods.

Warning: Do not fast un-supervised for more than three days. If you want to fast for more than three days, get a professional who is well trained in water fasting to help.

Why Mr. AB Had Such Remarkable Results

Digestion absorbs a massive amount of energy. When the body is not burdened with the task of digesting, it can spend its energy healing. The body has its own healing system. Often all we need to do is get out of the way and let the body heal itself.

The good news is, you don't have to go on as radical a fast as Mr. AB went on to get good results. You can get really good results from a three-day water fast following 21 days of supernutritious eating. When you go on this 21 day program, you begin by putting massive amounts of nutrients into your body. Then during your three days of water fasting, your body begins cleaning the system and repairing. Remarkable healing can result.

Once you've tried it, you could be so impressed with your results that you might want to do it again. You can repeat the 21 days of optimal eating and follow up with a 3-day fast again. You've got nothing to lose but disease. Feed your body and let it heal itself.

Why Fast?

Why would anyone choose to go without food for any length of time? Isn't eating regularly one of the body's most basic needs?

Many people choose to go without food for a given period of time for the health and spiritual benefits associated with fasting. You might think that fasting is a radical, new thing, but fasting has been around for a long time. There are many examples of fasting in the Bible.

Jesus is our example in all things. We know that Jesus fasted for 40 days and He didn't die. We can follow Jesus' example in fasting but remember: if you would like to fast for longer than three days do not do it without qualified supervision.

Physical Benefits

Have you ever lost your appetite during times of stress or illness? When your body is dealing with a crisis like severe stress or an illness, it will often shut down the hunger drive in order to focus energy on dealing with the problem. Instead of spending precious energy on digestion, your body will use this self-induced time of fasting to reestablish balance.

Even when you are not fighting an infection or a crisis of some kind, daily life exerts stress upon every cell in your body. Cells are damaged by stress hormones produced by your own body, poor food choices, environmental radiation, and a whole host of other events that are part of life on this planet.

When you choose to go without food, you allow your body to deal with the cumulative damage caused by daily living.

They should commence to relieve nature of the load they have forced upon her. They should remove the cause. Fast a short time, and give the stomach chance for rest. Reduce the feverish state of the system by a careful and understanding application of water. These efforts will help nature in her struggles to free the system of impurities. But generally the

persons who suffer pain become impatient. They are not willing to use self-denial, and suffer a little from hunger (Counsels on Diet and Food 304).

So often, we eat too much and work too much and we don't have balance in our lives. To get the results you've never had, you've got to do what you've never done.

Spiritual Benefits

Are you enjoying life? If you're not enjoying life, there's something wrong. Jesus said,

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light (Matthew 11: 28-30).

If you're feeling un-rested and out of control, then obviously what you're doing is not the will of God for your life and something needs to change. Fasting can help you see where you need to make changes and how to change.

God is not looking for perfectly healthy people. He is looking for perfectly surrendered people. If you want to cooper-

ate with God and are ready to make a fresh start, God will help you prepare your body to be a fit habitation for the Holy Spirit.

We are told in Romans 12:1-2 to present ourselves as a living sacrifice that God can use:

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies

of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

A surrendered body gives you that mind that hears the promptings of the Holy Spirit readily. Your conscience is your ability to realize that there is a moral and ethical aspect to your actions, combined with the urge to prefer right over wrong. That's the voice of God speaking to you.

There is no better way to prepare a sharp mind with the ability to respond to God's gentle voice than to embark on the 21-Day Challenge and follow-up with a three-day fast.



Getting Ready for the Three-Day Fast

There are several things you can do to get the best results from your fast.

- Plan for It

Check your calendar and be sure that at the end of the 21 days, you have no commitments and can plan three days that will be as stress-free as possible. Your body needs to rest and rebuild during your three water fast days, so arrange to have some time away from work. You might even want to go away for three days and do something completely different and relaxing.

- Prepare Psychologically

Your brain reacts to all situations whether they are real or created only in your mind. Even though the situations may not be real, your mind, by default, makes your body think they are; and your body responds accordingly.

Preparing psychologically is the most important thing you can do to get ready for your fasting days. If you're not prepared for the journey, don't go. If you haven't counted the cost, don't do it.

Facing Opposition

You will likely face some opposition to your get-healthy plan. Often family and friends will say things like, "If you don't eat you'll die," or "If you stop eating, you'll get weak." People don't like change and tend to fear what they don't understand. Do your best to educate those closest to you and help relieve their fears.

HEALTHY FROM INSIDE OUT by Doctors Rudy & Jeanie Davis



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How You Will Feel

The fact is fasting for three days won't kill you. You might feel hungry the first day. You might even feel weak. If you feel weak, rest.



Sleepiness can happen if your body is doing major restoration work in your vital organs. If you liver isn't working right, for example, you might have an overwhelming urge to sleep so that your body can repair damaged cells in your liver. If your body feels tired, give it the rest it needs.

We don't need to fear what's good for us. We should fear what's bad for us.

Guidelines for the Three-Day Fast

After taking 21 days to supercharge your cells with powerful nutrients, your body will be ready for three days of fasting. To get the greatest benefits from your fast minimize distractions, do some non-strenuous exercise, breathe deeply and have a positive attitude.

Minimize Distractions

- Take the 3 days off from work,
- Unplug the TV,
- Don't read the newspaper,
- Get rid of any annoyances or hindrances that might prevent you from resting and relaxing.

Exercise

Focus on gentle exercise like light walking and deep breathing during your fast. You should not do anything that requires massive amounts of energy.

Other Recommendations

- Make sure you've got lots of fresh air in the building you're in so you can breathe deeply throughout the day.
- Spend time outdoors, if possible.

Different Kinds of Fasting

If you feel you cannot do a water-only fast, consider trying one of these fasts. Your body will still receive nutrition, but it will also have some extra energy to devote to healing and repair work. The same guidelines given for doing the three-day water fast apply to each of these fasts.



Juice Fasting

You can enjoy fasting on freshly made juices for a whole day, a whole week or as long as you can do it.

Mono-food Fasting

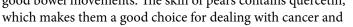
A mono-food fast is when you choose one food for its nutrient qualities and eat only that one food for the length of your fast. Consult a book like *The Whole Foods Companion*, which tells you the nutrients different foods contain. Then choose the

food you want to use for a day or two and watch your body go to work. Some foods that are especially good for mono-food





- Black grapes. Organic, black grapes with the seeds are a perfect food and great for mono-food or single-food fasting. Chew the seeds up really well to give your body the micronutrients contained in the seeds.
- Pears. Pears have about seven grams of fibre and are especially good for the digestive system. You need at least 25-30 g of fibre every day. Two pears give you over half the fibre you need for the day and cause good bowel movements. The skin of pears contains quercetin,



Alzheimer's.



• Melons are fantastic for cleaning the kidneys. Rudy Davis, ND, says, "I've seen blood pressure go from 185/135 to 110/70 with just melons, in three days." Melons are excellent for cleaning out the

kidneys and rehydrating the system. Melons are different than any other foods, because of their rapid digestion time. Here is the rule for melons: Eat them alone, or leave them alone.

One-Day- A-Week Fasting

Some people incorporate regular, short-term fasting into their lifestyle. You can choose water, juice, or mono-food fasting and do it one day each week. If you choose to do this, your body will benefit from a regular rest from digestive work and will be able to routinely commit energy to tissue repair.

There are some who would be benefited more by abstinence from food for a day or two every week than by any amount of treatment or medical advice. To fast one day a week would be of incalculable benefit to them (7T 134).

As you embark on this positive lifestyle change, consider the benefits not just for yourself, but also for those around you and for the glory of God.

Rudy and his wife, Jeanie, are naturopathic doctors who hold public health seminars across the country bringing the principles of health reform to many people who would otherwise pever enter a church

That You May Know You Have Eternal Life

by Chad Kreuzer



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Chad Kreuzer and his wife Fadia travel around the United States and Europe sharing the everlasting Gospel through Bible prophecy and creation meetings. They are founders of Anchorpoint Films, a ministry that produced a documentary series entitled Scripture Mysteries. Chad's most recent seminar is a life changing series on how to overcome personal habits and addictions.



This is the third article of a series.

Seeking After a Sign

I recently had a study on the gift of tongues with a new friend. My friend asked me to open my Bible to Acts 1:5, which reads, "For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."

My friend then had me turn to Acts chapter two, where the disciples spoke in tongues. He concluded that this tongue-speaking was the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

I thought for a moment and then asked if we could go back to Acts chapter one for some context.

Let us begin with Acts 1:5-8:

For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Three-Fold Purpose of the Holy Ghost

You will recall that the purpose of the Holy Ghost was three-fold: (1) Reprove the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment; (2) Guide us into all truth; (3) Glorify Christ.

As Jesus gave His disciples a commission (you and I were also included), He stated why the power of the Holy Ghost would

be given: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me." This is wonderful! It is in perfect harmony with the rest of Scripture in regard to the work of the Holy Ghost.

If we examine Acts chapter two a little more closely, we find that it was not the tongues that was amazing to the people, but the fact that they heard in their own languages the disciples telling "the wonderful works of God."

Jesus' commission to the disciples was to be witnesses unto Him, and this is exactly what the disciples were. The gift of tongues was given to provide the ability to communicate those wonderful words of truth to those who were in Jerusalem from other countries.

Tongues: Ecstatic Gift or Understandable Language?

So then we come to another question in our study of tongues, that being, What do we do with the references in 1 Corinthians?

What does Paul mean when he speaks of tongues of angels? How does this line up with our Biblical understanding so far?

Carefully read 1 Corinthians 13:1. I am often referred to this passage as evidence for ecstatic tongues being a gift of the Holy Spirit. The only problem with that is that the context of the entire chapter is love, not tongues.

Additionally, "tongues of angels" could be seen as poetic, but I prefer to take it literally. Do angels have a language? Most likely.

The question is, Why would you or I need to speak in the language of angels? They don't need to hear the gospel. They have watched it unfold, and are not in need of a Savior as we are. It would be a useless gift, just like the gift of prophecy - without love, it is

nothing. (See 1 Cor. 13:2.)

Why would you or I need to speak in the language of angels?

Look at chapter 14. This is where there is more context that relates to tongues. Here the Bible gives us a very clear understanding that glossa is a language to be understood, not a garbled string of consonants. Here

is the first portion of the chapter:

Follow after charity, and desire spiritual [gifts], but rather that ye may prophesy. For he that **speaketh** in an [unknown] tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth [him]; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men [to] edification, and exhortation, and comfort. He that speaketh in an [unknown] tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church. I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater [is] he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine? And even things without life giving sound, whether pipe or harp, except they give a distinction in the sounds, how shall it be known what is piped or harped? For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?

So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall speak into the air (1 Corinthians 14:1-9, emphases added).

I have highlighted a few points in this text to help our understanding. First, Scripture says that if someone is speaking in tongues they speak to God and not to man because "no man understandeth." So then, tongues are to be understood. They were understood by the multitude So then, tongues are to be understood.

gathered around the disciples in Acts 2, and in 1 Corinthians 14, Paul again indicates that tongues are to be understood, when he says "except he interpret."

The idea that tongues is a language not understandable by the hearers, nor the speaker, fails to consider this Scripture. Any doctrine must be based on an overall agreement of the entirety of all relevant Scriptures.

Who Benefits from the Gift of Tongues?

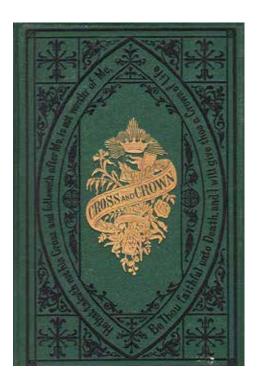
To be given a gift that does not benefit those that do not know Christ is no gift, but a hindrance. To be filled with the Holy Spirit is to have the Spirit of God moving upon your conscience and your will. Evidence of that Presence will be seen in a life that grows ever closer to the ideal set forth by Jesus Christ Himself. We may stumble, we may falter, but if our lives are given over to the control of the Holy Spirit we will get up, and move forward, realizing our desperate need of Christ in every area of our life.

The gift of tongues is a true sign, but only as it is expressed and used according to the parameters of God's unchanging Word.

Having served as lay pastor and pastor for six years in the Rocky Mountain Conference, Joel Kratzke has witnessed God bring many dear people to the Lord through the present truth of the Three Angels' Messages.

excerpt from Cross and Crown by James D. McCabe, Jr.

Anne Askew



here lived in Lincolnshire, in the reign of Henry VIII, a knight, of ancient and honourable family, Sir William Askew by name. He resided at Kelsay, his ancestral home, and was the father of several daughters and a son.

Close by him lived his most intimate friend, a Mr. Kyme, who was a man of great wealth. Mr. Kyme was the father of a son who was just entering upon manhood, and who would one day be the heir to his vast estate.

Wishing that the young man should marry and settle down early, he began to look about him, as was the fashion with parents in those days, for a wife for his son, and his choice fell upon the eldest daughter of his old friend, Sir William Askew. The young people were betrothed, but before the marriage could be solemnized, the lady, who had been greatly averse to the proposed union, died. Sir William then proposed to Mr. Kyme that his son should marry Anne, his second daughter, who was more beautiful and attractive than her sister had been.

The knight was not willing to lose the chance of an alliance with so much wealth, and Mr. Kyme, on his part, was very anxious that his son's wife should be a member of such a good old family. Young Kyme does not seem to have been very much concerned as to whom he married, but Anne Askew was earnestly opposed to becoming his wife. She begged her father not to compel her to marry a man whom she did not love, and who was personally disagreeable to her, but Sir William turned a deaf ear to her appeals, and in due time the marriage was celebrated.

Anne Askew was not only a beautiful and high spirited woman, but she was also well educated for a woman of her time, and was possessed of unusual mental gifts. She was a very pious woman, and having become a wife, she endeavoured faithfully to discharge her duty to her husband. They lived together in peace for some time, and she bore him two children. Yet she could not bring herself to love her husband, or even to feel attached to him, and there is very good reason for thinking that he was not worthy of such a feeling on her part. There were frequent causes of discontent between them, and their married life at length became entirely the reverse of happy.

About this time the English Bible was given to the people by means of the printing press, and one of these copies came into possession of Annie Askew, or Mistress Kyme. She read it with avidity, and it had the effect of working a complete revolution in her feelings and life.

Up to this time she had been a Romanist, but the perusal of the Scriptures opened her eyes to the errors of Rome, and she soon abandoned her old faith and became a convert to the religion of Jesus Christ as set forth in the Holy Gospel. Her Bible readings were watched with suspicion by the priests, who were quick to advise her husband to compel her to abandon a proactive which they declared to be full of danger.

Mr. Kyme, who was a bigoted Papist, endeavoured to compel her to discontinue her studies, and thus drew from her the avowal that she was no longer a Romanist, but a follower of the doctrines of the Reformation. Instigated by the priests, he ordered her to give up her religion and return to his own faith; but she refused, telling him that her conscience was not subject to his control. He treated her very cruelly on account of her change of faith, and at length finding that he could not force her into obedience to his tyrannical demands, turned her out of his house.

She at once repaired to London, where she found friends, and began a suit for a divorce from her husband. The probability is that she abandoned the suit, finding it would be impossible to obtain justice at the hands of the Roman Catholic judges by whom her case would be considered. She resumed her maiden name, however, and steadfastly refused to return to her husband, or to have anything to do with him. She found friends at Court, and the queen, Catharine Parr, became warmly attached to her, and is said to have made her one of her ladies in waiting.

It was at this time that the Romanist enemies of Queen Catharine were busily working to accomplish her ruin. They found it a difficult and a dangerous thing to attack the queen directly, for she still retained her influence over Henry. Her enemies hoped that by selecting one or more of her friends they might wring out of them by the torture, evidence enough to warrant them in bringing an accusation against her.

They, therefore, made common cause with Anne Askew's husband, and determined to make Anne the means of involving her royal friend and benefactress in the ruin they designed for every English Protestant. They accordingly surrounded her with spies, whose business it was to note and report every act or utterance upon which a charge of heresy could be based. One of those, a worthless wretch named Wadloe, took lodgings next door to her house, and even went so far as to enter her residence and watch her through the door of her sleeping apartment. He could discover nothing, however, and being conscience stricken went back to his employers with this confession: "She is the most devout woman I have ever known; for at midnight she begins to pray, and ceases not for many hours, when I and others are addressing ourselves to sleep and work."

The priests kept up their watch upon her, however. They wished to destroy her because of her renunciation of their creed and practices, and they also hoped to wring her from the agony of torture some confession which would be damaging to the queen. They were at length rewarded for their vigilance. She was heard to say she had rather read five lines in the Bible than hear five masses in the chapel. She also expressed her disbelief as to the efficacy of the sacrament of the Eucharist being dependent on the character or intention of the priest; and observed that whatever was the character or intention of the priest who administered to her the Eucharist, he could not prevent her from receiving spiritually the body and blood of Christ. These expressions were promptly reported to the priests, who obtained from the civil authorities a warrant for her arrest on the charge of heresy.

In March, 1445, she was brought before a commission in London, and examined concerning her belief. In this, as in all her subsequent examinations, the question most strongly pressed was, what her sentiments were as to the doctrine of Transubstantiation. She refused to answer some of the questions, knowing the malice of her judges, and not wishing to incriminate herself. Others she answered with great readiness and freedom. The chief examiner was Christopher Dare, who began by asking her, "Do you believe that the sacrament upon the altar is the very body and blood of Christ?"

If she had answered frankly according to her belief she would have rendered further examination useless, and her judges could have condemned her to death upon this confession. She was aware of this, and was determined not to gratify them, or to criminate herself, so she said to Christopher Dare:

"Please tell me why St. Stephen was stoned to death?"

"I cannot tell," replied Dare.

"Neither will I tell you whether I do or do not believe the sacrament upon the altar to be the very body and blood of Christ."

"Why did you say," asked Dare, "that you would rather read five lines in the Bible than hear five masses in the church?"

"I confess that I said no less," she answered, "because the one greatly edifies me, the other nothing at all." Then, without censuring the idolatry of the Mass, for she had no wish to deedlessly prejudice her case, she quoted in proof of the uselessness of performing the service connected with it in a tongue not understood by the people, the words of St. Paul (1 Cor. Xiv. 8), "If the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?" She also quoted the 19th verse of the same

chapter: "In the Church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue."

They asked her many other questions, among others what she thought of the book the king had written against Luther, and which had won him from the Pope the title of "Defender of the Faith."

They hoped she would answer that she did not approve it, and thus make the king her enemy, for he was merciless to those who failed to praise his book; but, fortunately for her, she also was able to answer, "I can pronounce no judgment upon it, as I never saw it." They also asked her, "Do you not think that private masses help souls depart?" "It is great idolatry," she answered, "to believe more in these than in the death which Christ died for us."

Finding it impossible to elicit anything from her, the examination was brought to a close, and she was sent to the Lord Mayor, who undertook to question her, but with no better success. He then committed her to prison, although there was no law to justify him in his act. Her friends endeavoured to procure her release on bail, but the priests took care to prevent it, and she lay for seven days in the Compter prison, no one being allowed to speak with her during that time save a priest who was sent by the Bishop of Winchester, the infamous Gardiner, to question her. He asked her this question:

"If the host should fall, and a beast should eat it, does the beast revive God or no?"

"Seeing you have taken the trouble to ask this question," she replied, "I desire you also take the trouble to answer it yourself: for I will not, because I perceive you all come to tempt me."



Her cousin Brittayne, who was much attached to her, now endeavoured to secure her release on bail. He appealed to the Lord Mayor to liberate her, but the magistrate told him that as this was the Church's matter he could not set her free without consent of the Bishop of London. Bonner, the prelate referred to, professed the greatest interest in her case, assured her cousin that he would do everything in his power to obtain her freedom, and urged him to advise her to speak her sentiments freely. The crafty bishop was fully resolved to burn Anne Askew, but he wished to beguile her into making an open confession of heresy, which he might use as a pretext for her murder. He had her brought before him on the 25th of March, and finding that he could not draw anything from her which would criminate her, taunted her with cowardly insinuation that her life was not as pure as Scriptures she read required. Looking him full in the face, she answered calmly:

"I would, my lord, that all men knew my conversation and living in all points; for I am so sure of myself this hour, that there is none able to prove any dishonesty in me. If you know any that could do it, I pray you bring them forth."

Finding it impossible to make her utter anything for which she could be punished, the bishop drew up a confession, which he ordered her to sign. This confession would have committed her to the very doctrines she condemned, and she refused to sign

it. At length, in compliance with the entreaties of her friends who were seeking her release, she wrote under the confession: "I, Anne Askew, do believe all the things contained in the faith of the Catholic Church." Bonner burst into a furious passion as he read this subscription, well knowing that by it she did not mean the Roman Catholic Church, and it was with difficulty that he could be brought to a sufficient degree of calmness to consent to her release. Bail was given, and she was set at liberty.

But the priests were resolved that she should not escape them. Her youth, her beauty, her intellectual attainments,

and her virtues were winning her too many friends, and she was too dangerous a heretic to be suffered to live.

In less than three months she was again a prisoner in their hands. She was brought before the Lords of the Privy Council at Greenwich, and by them sent to Newgate prison, to be dealt with according to the law.

The Lord Chancellor of England at this time was Thomas Wriothesley, one of the cruellest and

most bigoted Romanists that ever held power in England. He was intimately associated with the old Duke of Norfolk and Bishop Gardiner in all the measures brought forward by the Romanist party to throttle the Reformation. He now undertook the prosecution of the beautiful woman whose innocence and pure womanliness had no power to touch his cruel heart. He caused her to be brought before the council on the 25th of June, and subjected her to an examination which lasted for five hours. He asked her what was her opinion as to the bread in the Eucharist. She replied:

"I believe that as oft as I, in a Christian congregation, receive the bread in remembrance of Christ's death, and with thanksgiving, according to His holy institution, I receive therewith the fruits also of His most glorious passion."

Bishop Gardiner interrupted her, angrily, and ordered her to give a direct answer, and not to speak in parables, at the same time calling her a parrot.

"I am ready," she said, calmly, "to suffer all things at your hands; not only your rebukes, but all that shall follow besides, yea, all that gladly."

The next day her examination was resumed, and her answers not being satisfactory to Gardiner, that merciless prelate cried out to her, "You will be burned." She answered: "I have searched all the Scriptures, yet could I never find that Christ or His apostles put any creature to death."

Mr. Paget, one of the council, now asked her, more kindly than the others had done: "How can you avoid the very words of Christ, 'Take, eat, this is my body which is broken for you?'"

"Christ's meaning in that passage," she replied, "is similar to the meaning of those other places of Scripture, 'I am the door,'I am the vine,'Behold the Lamb of God,' That rock was Christ,' and such like. You are not in these texts to take Christ for

the material thing which He is signified by, for then you will make Him a very door, a vine, a lamb, a stone, quite contrary to the Holy Ghost's meaning. All these indeed do signify Christ, even as the bread signifies His body in that place. And though He said there, 'Take, eat this in remembrance of me, yet did He not bid them hang up that bread in a pix and make it a god, or bow to it."

She was sent back to Newgate, and the next day was very ill.

Believing that she was dying, she requested leave to receive a visit from the good Hugh Latimer, who afterwards proved so faithful a witness for Christ, that he might comfort her with his godly counsel, but her request was refused.

It was now very plain to her that her enemies were resolved upon her death. She was a brave woman, as all her history proves, and she was a sincere Christian as well. She turned for support and comfort to the only true source, and she found strength to bear all her trials with Christian fortitude and meekness. Her feelings are well described in the following poem, written by her during her imprisonment in Newgate:





Like as the armed knight, Appointed to the field, With this world will I fight, And Christ shall be my shield.

Faith is that weapon strong, Which will not fail need; My foes, therefore, among, Therewith will I proceed.

As it is had in strength And force of Christ's way, It will prevail at length, Though all the devils say nay.

Faith in the fathers old Obtained righteousness; Which makes me very bold To fear no world's distress.

I now rejoice in heart, And hope bids me do so; For Christ will take my part, And ease me of my woe.

Thou say'st, Lord, whoso knock To them Thou wilt attend; Undo, therefore, the lock, And Thy strong power send.

More enemies now I have Than hairs upon my head: Let them not me deprave, But fight Thou in my stead.

On Thee my care I cast, For all their cruel spite; I set not by their haste, For Thou art my delight.

I am not she that lists My anchor to let fall, For every drizzling mist, My ship substantial.

Not oft use I to write, In prose, nor yet in rhyme; Yet will I show one sight That I saw in my time.

I saw a royal throne, Where Justice should have sit, But in her stead was one Of moody, cruel wit.

Absorbed was righteousness, As of the raging flood; Satin, in his excess, Sucked up the guiltless blood.

Then thought I, Jesus, Lord, When Thou shalt judge us all, Hard is it to record On these men what will fall.

Yet, Lord, I Thee desire, For that they do to me, Let them not taste the hire Of their iniquity.

In all her previous examinations, Anne had avoided a direct answer to the question concerning her faith in the doctrine of Transubstantiation, but now feeling that her enemies were determined to kill her, and that she had no longer anything to gain by refusing to answer their questions, she wrote to the Privy Council a plain statement on her belief, in these words:

"That the sacramental bread was left us to be received with thanksgiving in remembrance of Christ's death, the only remedy of our soul's recovery, and that thereby we also receive the whole benefits and fruits of His most glorious passion."

On Monday, June 28th, she was taken to Guildhall to be examined again by the council. She was taunted with being a heretic, but she denied the imputation, and declared that she had done nothing for which she deserved death by the law of God. When they asked her if she denied the Sacrament of the Eucharist to be Christ's body and blood, she answered, without hesitation:

"Yes, for the same Son of God that was born of the Virgin Mary is now glorious in Heaven, and will come again from thence at the last day in like manner as He went up. And as to what you call your God, it is but a piece of bread. As an additional proof of this (mark it when you please), let it lie in the pix but three months and it will be mouldy, and so turn to nothing that is good. I am therefore persuaded that it cannot be God."

"Do you deny," she was asked, "the bread in the pix to be God?"

"God is a spirit," she replied, "and not a wafer-cake, and He is to be worshipped in spirit and in truth, and not by the impious superstitious homage paid to a wafer, converted, by Popish jugglery, into a God."

"Do you plainly deny Christ to be in the Sacrament?" she was asked again.

"I believe," she answered, "the eternal Son of God not to dwell there." She fortified her declaration--she quoted many passages of Scripture. "I neither wish death," she concluded, "nor fear his might. God have the praise thereof with thanks."

The council urged her to take the benefit of a priest, but she replied, with a smile, that she would confess her sins to God, from whom alone she could obtain absolution.

The Lord Mayor of London, Sir Martin Bowes, now asked and received permission to question her. "Thou foolish woman," he began, "sayest thou that the priest cannot make the body of Christ?"

"I say so, my Lord," replied Anne, "for I have read that God made man, but that man can make God I never yet read, nor I suppose ever shall."

"Thou foolish woman," continued the pompous magistrate, "after the words of consecration, is it not the Lord's body?"

"No, it is but consecrated or sacramental bread," she answered.

"What if a mouse eat it after the consecration?" asked the mayor, confident of annihilating her with this argument. "What shall become of the mouse? What sayest thou, foolish woman?"

Anne Askew gazed at him a moment, and then asked, quietly: "What shall become of it, say you, my lord?"

"I say that the mouse is damned," he answered, quickly.

"Alack! Poor mouse!" she exclaimed, with mock pity.

Some of the council burst into a laugh at these words, and seeing how badly their champion was faring at the hands of Mistress Anne, they put a stop to his questioning, and "proceeded," says Strype, "to the butchery they intended before they came thither."

By the law of England, Anne Askew was entitled to open trial by jury, but the Roman Catholic influence was strong enough in the council to deprive her of this right. The Lord Chancellor Wriothesley and Bishop Gardiner exerted themselves to induce the council to condemn her, and were successful in their efforts. There is nothing so hateful to Rome as civil freedom, and nothing which gives her greater delight than the trampling down of the barriers with which the laws of a country encompass that freedom.

On the 28th of June, Anne was condemned by the council in company with Christopher White, and a Mr. Adams, a tailor. They were all three informed that they had been found guilty of heresy by their own confessions. The lord chancellor then read to them the sentence of the council, which was that they should be burned at the stake. They were then sent back to Newgate.

Anne now appealed to the king for justice, but her appeal fell upon an ear of stone. Henry was too intensely selfish to care for the life of this poor woman, and he left her case in the hands of the priests, her sworn enemies. These people endeavoured to make it appear that her appeal was based

upon her fear of death; but this was not so.

She did not fear death, but she wished to have justice done her. She felt that the law was being violated in her case, and that her rights as an English woman were being trampled underfoot by the myrmidons of the Pope, and she was brave enough to contend for them to the last.

In a letter to her old tutor, John Lascels, who suffered with her, she thus meets this charge of cowardice: "O friend, most dearly beloved in God, I marvel not a little what should move you to judge in me so slender a faith as to fear death, which is the end of all misery. In the Lord, I desire of you not to believe of me such wickedness; for I doubt not, but God will perform His work in me, like He hath begun."

The Romanists now began to annoy her with efforts to induce her to recant. They sent to her Nicholas Shaxton, the apostate ex-Bishop of Salisbury, and others, who did their utmost, by promises of mercy and freedom, to move her. She remained firm, however, and told Shaxton to his face that it had been good for him if he had never been born.

When her visitors left her she was sent to the Tower of London--the day being the 13th of July--where, at three o'clock in the afternoon, she underwent a new examination. This examination was conducted by the Lord Chancellor Wriothesley, who wished to compel her to say something that would criminate the queen, or the Duchess of Suffolk, the Countess of Sussex, the Countess of Hertford, Lady Denny, or Lady Fitzwilliams, all of whom the Romanists were anxious to destroy.

Some of these ladies had been very kind to her since her imprisonment. The chancellor plied her with questions, but could discover nothing to the prejudice of these ladies. He then ordered her to be stretched upon the rack, in order to force her through sheer suffering to say something that he might twist into an accusation against the ladies mentioned. She was fastened to the rack, and the levers were turned, causing her the keenest sufferings. She bore the cruel torture without a cry or a murmur.

The chancellor was furious at not being able to extort anything from her, and ordered the torture to be increased; but the lieutenant of the Tower, Sir Anthony Knevet, ordered the jailors to release her. Wriothesley angrily commanded the lieutenant to obey him, but Sir Anthony told him that he commanded in the Tower, and reminded the chancellor that he had not the King's orders to put the prisoner to the torture, and that he, the lieutenant, was incurring a serious risk in allowing one of the king's subjects to be racked without express orders from the king.

Wriothesley was a true son of the Roman Church, and he was not to be stopped in his cruelty. He threw off his gown, and called on

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How many books are there in the Old Testament?

Richard Rich, who had accompanied him, and who was afterwards lord chancellor, to do likewise. Then these brutal men themselves seized hold of the levers. The chancellor, pausing a moment, asked Anne if she was with child.

"Ye shall not need to spare for that," replied the heroic woman. "Do your wills upon me."

The chancellor and Rich then applied themselves to their horrid task. The victim on the rack was a woman whose helplessness and gentleness might have moved any hearts but those hardened by the religion of Rome. They were merciless, and with their own hands they stretched her body until her joints were pulled asunder, and her bones almost broken.

She endured it all, however, and to the end refused to say one word which might compromise any one who had befriended her, or whom she had reason to think held the same faith as herself. Nothing but the fear that she would die under the torture made these wretches desist. As soon as she was released from the rack, she swooned from the awful agony.

Restoratives were applied and her consciousness returned. Then the brutal chancellor kept her sitting for two hours on the bare floor, while he urged her to renounce her faith. After this, she says in her touching narrative of her sufferings, "was I brought to a house, and laid in a bed, with as weary and painful bones as ever had patient Job; I thank my Lord God therefore."

Her words do not convey a fair idea of her condition. The torture had deprived her of the use of her limbs, which had been pulled apart, and her sufferings were intense. Her condition was such that she could have lived a short time at the best, for it was not possible for a human body to rally from injuries such as she had received.

The lieutenant of the Tower set out for the King's presence immediately upon the departure of the chancellor, who had threatened him with the royal displeasure for refusing to continue the torture. He reached the palace before the chancellor, and gave the king an exact account of the affair, declaring that he had not the heart to torture a poor woman when it was useless, without express orders from his majesty. Henry approved his conduct, and sharply censured the chancellor. There the matter ended, and he allowed the priests and their followers to work their will on the poor victim whom they had already brought down to the gates of death.

The chancellor and the Privy Council endeavoured to prevent their treatment of Anne from becoming known, but without effect. They were ashamed that their cowardly brutality should be made known to the people. The chancellor sent her a message that if she would change her

faith she should want for nothing, but that if she continued obstinate she should be sent to Newgate and put to death. She replied that she would rather die than break her faith.

Bonner and his associates, who were adepts at circulating false reports in such cases, endeavoured to damage their victim in the eyes of the people by printing and circulating the paper which he had written after her first imprisonment, and which she had refused to sign. The reader will remember that she had written under this paper, "I, Anne Askew, do believe all things contained in the faith of the Catholic Church."

Now, however, Bonner printed the paper with her unqualified signature to it, and with the names of upwards of a dozen of ecclesiastics and laymen appended to it as witnesses. It was a trick worthy of its author. She at once drew up an answer, in which she

utterly denied the geniuses of the document printed by Bonner and declared that she had never, at any time since her trials began, ceased to profess the faith she then held.

She was then committed to Newgate, and while she lay in prison there, suffering and sore from the effects of her torture, she drew up the following confession of her faith:

"I, Anne Askew, of good memory, although my merciful Father hath given me the bread of adversity and the water of trouble, yet not so much as my sins have deserved, do confess myself here a sinner before the throne of His heavenly Majesty, desiring His eternal mercy. And forasmuch as I am by the law unrighteously condemned for an evil-doer concerning opinions, I take the same most merciful God of mine, Who hath made both heaven and earth, to record that I hold no opinions contrary to His Holy Word. And I trust in my merciful Lord, who is the giver of all grace, that He will graciously assist me against all evil opinions which be contrary to His most blessed verity. For I take Him to witness that I do, and will unto my life's end, utterly abhor them to the utmost of my power.

"But this is the heresy which they report me to hold: That after the priest hath spoken the words of consecration, there remaineth bread still. They both say, and also teach it for a necessary article of faith, and that after those words are once spoken, there remaineth no bread, but even the selfsame body that hung upon the cross on Good Friday, both flesh, blood, and bone. To this belief of theirs, say I nay. For then were our common creed false, which saith, 'that He sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, and from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.' Lo, this is the heresy that I hold, and for it must suffer the death. But as touching the holy and blessed supper of the Lord, I believe it to be a most necessary remembrance of His glorious sufferings and death. Moreover, I believe as much therein as my eternal and only Redeemer, Jesus Christ, would I should believe.

"Finally, I believe all those Scriptures to be true which He hath confirmed witnessing the courage and hearing the Christian exhortations of the with His most precious blood. Yea, and as St. Paul saith, those Scriptures are sufficient for our learning and salvation that Christ hath left here with us; so that I believe we need no unwritten verities to rule His church with. Therefore look what He hath said unto me with His own mouth in His holy Gospel, that have I, with God's grace, closed up in my heart. And my full trust is, as David saith, that it shall be 'a lantern to my footsteps.'

"There be some that do say that I deny the Eucharist, or Sacrament of thanksgiving; but those people do untruly report of me. For I both say and believe it, that if it were ordered like as Christ instituted and left it, a most singular comfort it were unto us all. But as concerning your Mass, as it is now used in our days, I do say and believe it to be the most abominable idol that is in the world; for my God will not be eaten with teeth, neither yet dieth He again. And upon these words that I have now spoken will I suffer death."

Throughout the whole of her persecution Anne Askew had preserved the patient sweetness of her demeanour. All the cruelties of her enemies had been powerless to change this, or to wring from her one unChristian complaint or unwomanly word. She was only in her twentyfifth year, and life was very sweet to her, but not so sweet as to make it

worth the sacrifice of her conscience.

She did not desire martyrdom, but she did not shrink from it, and she bore all her sufferings with a firmness and gentleness never surpassed in the annals of Christian heroism. Not once did she revile her enemies, but like her blessed Master she prayed for her murderers, that they might be saved from the just punishment of their crimes.

At length the day of her execution arrived. Three stakes were set up in front of St. Bartholomew's Church at Smithfield, and the space surrounding them enclosed with a railing to keep off the crowd. A dense concourse of people filled the street, and lined the windows and housetops commanding a view of the stake.

A platform had been erected at the side of the church, and on this sat the Lord Chancellor Wriothesley, the old Duke of Norfolk, the old Earl of Bedford, the Lord Mayor of London, and several other leaders of the Papist party. Numerous monks and priests were scattered through the crowd, but there were also many friends and sympathizers of the

> martyrs, who had come as a matter of duty to witness the death of their friends, and to cheer them, if possible, with their prayers or their exhortations.

Anne Askew, being unable to walk or stand, in consequence of her torture upon the rack, was brought in a chair to the stake, where she was fastened to the post by an iron chain passed about her waist and was thus held up on it. Three other victims of Rome were brought out of die with her. They were, John Lascels, a former member of the king's household and Anne's old tutor, Nicholas Belenean, a priest of Shropshire, and John Adams, a tailor, all condemned for holding the opinions for which Anne was to suffer.

Anne was fastened to a separate stake, and the others to the remaining two. They spoke to each other constantly words for comfort and encouragement, and it is evident to all that the men became more intrepid and resolute on

beautiful woman who was to die with them.

As for Anne, her face was calm and peaceful. "She had an angel's countenance, and a smiling face," says one who witnessed her death.

When the preparation was completed, the renegade Bishop Shaxton mounted the pulpit which had been erected in the square, and began to preach to the martyrs, urging them to repent of their sins and be reconciled to the Church of Rome. His words were in vain, however.

In the eyes of the martyrs he was a traitor who had betrayed his Lord as basely as Judas had done, and he was the last man in the world that could have influenced them at such a time. Anne, in spite of her sufferings, followed him with marked attention throughout his discourse. When he spoke the truth she expressed her assent audibly, but when he advanced anything contrary to Scripture, she exclaimed: "there he misseth, and speaketh without the book."

The sermon being ended, the martyrs began their prayers--the last they were to utter on earth. Then the lord chancellor, in accordance with the law of Parliament, sent to Anne a letter sealed with the great





Phone Interview

with Walter Veith

April 14, 2013



Walter, what have you been doing in 2013 evangelistically?

I have just returned from the Transvaal camp meeting which was attended by between twelve and thirteen thousand people. Subsequent to this we conducted an evangelistic series in a large Dutch Reform Church which was recently purchased by the Seventh-day Adventist Church and thus offered a unique opportunity to reach out to the community. These meetings were regularly attended by between 300 and 400 guests and we could share the great truths which people need to hear for the times we live in. Francois du Plessis is continuing with the meetings and it is our prayer that many will embrace the truth and take their stand on the Lord's side.



In March, a new Pope was elected who is a Jesuit. It is not being kept secret, but even publicly praised. What is the significance that the new Pope is a Jesuit?

The new Pope is not only a Jesuit, which means that he is absolutely committed to ultramontanism, but he has been actively engaged in 'Social Justice' issues. His strong emphasis on the poor and marginalized means that the 'Catholic Social Agenda' is a high priority of his papacy. What exactly does this entail?

Ultramontanism was the Jesuit catchphrase of the Council of Trent which cemented papal power and authority. The Vatican II agenda was to sell this Ultramontanism (all power in one man) under the guise of openness to the religious world in general and Protestantism in particular. Again it was the Jesuits (under the leadership of Karl Rahner who incidentally worked together with Ratzinger and also trained Paul Knitter who wrote the book *No*



other Name?, which not only redefines salvation but opens the way for interreligious unity by reducing Christ's role to that of other religious founders) who had to sell the new "openness" to the world. Vatican II did however not relinquish one iota of the papal claim to supremacy or its claim to being the sole avenue for salvation. Numerous blatant statements by the Foundation on Doctrine and Faith and even by the then Cardinal Ratzinger (Pope Benedict) confirm this fact.



The Pope emeritus, Benedict, leaves behind a Catholic Church that is accustomed to power and prestige. In the media, we see that the Papacy is more pervasive than ever. What, in your opinion, did Ratzinger accomplish during his tenure as Pope?

Ratzinger continued the ecumenical agenda of his predecessor, and papal supremacy in the religious sphere has been virtually cemented through the various councils, agreements, charta's and interreligious bodies that have been set up. There are many examples of Protestant and world religious leaders and bodies bowing to this supremacy and even of Protestant leaders such as Rowan Williams kissing the ring of the Pope although he is supposedly subject to the Queen of Britain. The Pope has increasingly become the universal spokesman for world religions in their quest to tackle social issues but what remains is 'Universal Moral Supremacy' which has to be set up.

Ratzinger set the stage through his UN and German Parliament speeches calling for natural law to be the basis for governing human morality (this of course being the basis of Catholic moral ethics and incidentally the very reason why they believe that they can modify Divine Law). He claimed that 'natural law' formed the basis of human rights which in turn include the right to work, rest and family association, all of which were cornerstones of Benedict's Papacy. Workers' rights must be guaranteed by the state so that corporate greed cannot and will not interfere with these rights. That is why Benedict called for economic regulatory bodies to ensure economic ethical values and why he emphasized the family as the cornerstone of human society. All of these include "Sunday rest" as an integral part of their makeup which is why the "Sunday Movement" of the European Parliament lays such a heavy emphasis on the family and Sunday rest. This is Benedict's legacy, but many saw him as somewhat austere (an image he tried hard to counteract), but this image has been more than negated by the new Pope whose image has been elevated by euphoric media representations.



Other than the push for Sunday legislation, all the other aspects of the Papacy's goals sound so positive – to stand against social injustice, to work for a more just world – aren't those goals that Seventh-day Adventists should have?

Firstly we must understand the concept of Catholic social justice which is as far removed from the Protestant concept of social justice as the east is from the west. Catholic social justice is based on the philosophy of the thirteenth century philosopher and Catholic saint Thomas Aquinas. This philosophy was expanded by Jesuit thinkers such as René Descartes who elevated the human capacity of reason above that of any extraneous source, including divine revelation. This philosophy forms the basis of the Catholic 'natural law' philosophy which in turn dictates Catholic views on social justice. According to this view all goods are common and 'need' is the only factor which dictates their distribution. It is therefore not a crime, or a sin, if the poor take the goods of their neighbor as need has made them common. Moreover, if the state acts out this principle then it is also not a crime but a noble act, therefore the state has the right to take from those who have and redistribute as they deem fit. This philosophy is clearly outlined in the encyclical Rerum Novarum and has been echoed by various papal encyclicals of all the most recent Popes.

Social justice can never be achieved by taking from the rich and giving to the poor. Social justice can never be achieved by taking from the industrious and giving to the non- industrious. Social justice can never be achieved by equitable distribution of goods. Social justice cannot even be achieved by legislation. The very word, "justice" is violated when one attempts either of the above because one cannot violate the rights of one party in order to enhance those of another party without violating the principles of justice. To enact any of these procedures is to place human reason above divine revelation as the Scriptures clearly teach respect for "thy neighbor's goods."

There are many ways to enhance greater parity among peoples not least of which is education, education and education. Train a man to help himself and he can uplift others as well. True social justice can, however, only be achieved by uplifting the inner person, not by applying external band-aids. It can only be achieved by the transformation of the whole person and the renewing of the mind which in turn can only be done by God. A right understanding of the Gospel of salvation and a new life in Christ ennobles a person and lifts



him above the immediate circumstances and places his value as a person, in the light of the cross, in perspective.



We are seeing massive financial upheavals and crises, especially in the European Union, but also in other parts of the world. What role does the Vatican play in these if any? What can the Vatican gain from this upheaval?

Never underestimate the power of Catholic education. Through its vast educational systems (overt and covert), prestigious universities and even from its preaching rostrums and social media it has ever influenced minds and instilled its thinking into the mainstream. By working at grass roots level and aligning itself with the thinking of the disenfranchised (i.e. the Indignados) the Vatican has given us a clue as to how it will harness the wave of indignation sweeping the world in order to further its ends. The repeated papal calls for a 'New World Order' can only mean that the Vatican has already prepared its place in that new order. It is the masses that cry for social justice and the Vatican wants to be (and is) the moral voice of that movement. Out of the chaos they want to erect their kingdom, an earthly kingdom with earthly objectives, but a new order can only be erected if the old order has passed away. Once their morality is legislated, then the Biblical prophecies of Revelation will be fulfilled.



What role does the UN play in transforming society into a more "just" society?

According to the Vatican directives, corporate greed and inequitable distribution of goods are the issues that have brought about the economic crisis and this is why they share sentiments with the "Indignados" (even in their official document calling for an economic regulatory body). This together with the UN aim of ending poverty by 2015 by means of the UN Millennium Development Goals (http://www. un.org/millenniumgoals/) sets the stage for momentous developments in the near future. To reach these goals there will have to be a massive redistribution of wealth (social justice) and we are seeing the beginnings of these in the economic measures being introduced in Europe (which give governments the power to confiscate bank deposits and to enforce labor measures as in Greece and Cyprus). This is where a Pope who is a Jesuit and Ultramontanist and that stands for social justice fits into the picture and why it is not at all impossible that this Pope could be the very one that brings to a head what has been foretold

How did Odd Species Become Indigenous in Remote Regions?

he question is often asked, "How did endemic or indigenous species arrive at remote regions of the world? Can this be explained in a creationist, Bible-believing worldview?"

The simple answer is that as the animals left the ark, the peaceable, herbivorous species would have migrated to the far edges of the populated hub in the Mt. Ararat region to avoid the carnivores. The land was probably still connected in most areas, so travel would not have been a problem. After the Flood, during the Ice Age, the polar ice caps were much larger and the ocean levels would have been much lower than they are now. Land bridges would have connected places like Australia and Great Britain to the mainlands. And if you look at

conditions, since the warming could have brought about a reduced level of protective ozone in the atmosphere and more radiation from the sun, but also more hurricanes or hydrocanes and tornadoes. All this environmental upheaval would have made life difficult for humans and would have provided ideal conditions for the rapid spread of diseases. That would explain the shortened lifespans.

As the ocean levels rose during the time of Peleg, land masses were cut off by the growing oceans. Prey species were probably chased to remote regions by growing predator populations, and were then stranded there when the ocean levels rose.

But this is not the only method by which species were



the odd species of remote regions of the world like Australia, these species are almost entirely herbivores.

The Bible records in Genesis 10:25 that in the days of Peleg the earth was divided. We also notice that in the days of Peleg the average lifespan dropped by half. Average lifespans of four hundred to five hundred years dropped to two hundred years at this time. As the earth warmed, ice caps melted and the ocean levels rose. These changes caused worsening climatic

separated. It is likely that world commerce was established within several hundred years of the flood, and therefore, it is also likely that some species arrived in remote island regions due to shipping activities, etc. Either way, it is entirely reasonable that such phenomena can be explained within a creationist worldview.

About the Author: Joshua Joscelyn writes on a variety of topics, including creation, politics, history, and Biblical issues. He has worked with Creation Science Evangelism and other creation ministries as an apologist, writer, and publications coordinator.

in the "Great Controversy." Interestingly, the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon recently visited the new pope and invited him to the UN headquarters (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gvYVue4t-10) and also stated that the goals of the Pope and his choice of name sent a powerful message to the world which was in line with that of the UN regarding the millennium goals for 2015 (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CM011HIUtAk). It is out of the UN that a new world order has to evolve because what is 'good' for individuals must be good for nations as well. All nations must be brought into harmony with its charta and if they refuse they will be marginalized and if necessary forced to comply.



How does Sunday legislation factor in to the financial crisis?

The new bailout directives for European states ensure--no, enforce Sunday rest and provide the means of enforcing it. If the Pope calls for this social justice for the sake of the poor and marginalized and for the equitable distribution of wealth then the masses (in democracies the power lies with the masses not the minorities), through their respective states, will be ready to give their power unto the beast and to bring about the final confrontation in the battle between Christ and Satan.



The great controversy between Christ and Satan is coming to a climax. How should God's people respond and what is their mission?

Isa 58:1 Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

"In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light-bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the Word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import,--the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention. {Ev 119.3}

The most solemn truths ever entrusted to mortals have been given us to proclaim to the world. The proclamation of these truths is to be our work. The world is to be warned, and God's people are to be true to the trust committed to them. . . . {Ev 120.1}

Shall we wait until God's judgments fall upon the transgressor before we tell him how to avoid them? Where is our faith in the Word of God? Must we see things foretold come to pass before we will believe what He has said? In clear, distinct rays light has come to us, showing us that the great day of the Lord is near at hand, "even at the door."--Testimonies, vol. 9, pp. 19, 20. (1909) {Ev 120.2}"



Some call such talk of current events and the role of the Vatican and the UN "conspiracy theories". They are willfully blind to the meaning of current developments and the manipulation of the masses, even though their job as Adventists is to warn the world as these are taking place, so that people are not deceived. What warning is given in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy about such indifference and blindness among our own people?

"Unless we understand the importance of passing events, and make ready to stand in the great day of God, we shall be registered in the books of heaven as unfaithful stewards. The watchman is to know the time of the night. Everything is now clothed with a solemnity that all who believe the truth should feel and understand. They should act in reference to the great day of God. " {8MR 154.3}

It is hard to comprehend that there are those among us who fail to see that the events unfolding before our eyes are fulfillments of prophecy. Many are so blinded by the fair face of the modern Papacy that they would classify everything as 'conspiracy' which links the political and religious developments of our time to the great lines of prophecy of which we, as Seventh-day Adventists, have been granted the privilege of being the custodians. Conspiracy or no conspiracy, make no mistake, prophecy will be fulfilled. The kings of the world will give their power unto the beast, the image of the beast will be set up and it will speak like a dragon and make all, rich and poor, receive the mark of the beast. Those who refuse to be watchmen will just have to wake up one day to the overwhelming surprise of fulfilled prophecy.



Your last visit to Germany has made many people think. Just at the ASI convention in Hanover an estimated 3,000 people, entire communities even, watched the live stream broadcast of Amazing Discoveries Europe TV. There was a lot of positive feedback. It is also known that through the cooperation between you and Amazing Discoveries, many people have already found their way into the Adventist Church. No one would argue that you are the most successful evangelist in Germany. Nevertheless, there was again a liberal minority that leveled unpleasant criticism and character assassination against you, leading to a ban on speaking in Germany. How do you feel about it?

Luke 6:26 Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

My only aim was to defend the Advent position and to lead people into a better understanding of the Biblical criteria on which they are based; after all, salvation is at stake. To be misconstrued by one's own people is one thing but to be misrepresented is quite another. Fortunately, it is not for me to judge who falls into which category.

Thank you, Pastor Veith, for sharing your thoughts with us. ■



Answering Tough Questions



Is Ellen G. White's grave really an Egyptian obelisk? Also, she uses the phrase "all-seeing eye" in her writings. The all-seeing eye is an ancient pagan symbol and a Freemason symbol. Does this mean that Ellen White was a Freemason and Baal worshiper?

......you asked:

We must not look only at the symbols around a person, but what they teach and how they live. Take Robert Schuller for example. We don't look only at the symbols around him, but what he teaches. Robert

around him, but what he teaches. Robert Schuller teaches Masonic doctrine. If you need proof please watch the presentation *That All May Be One* on amazingdiscoveries.tv.

There are some who say that since Ellen White has an obelisk on her grave stone,

she must have been involved in the Masons. Our response is simply this: Did Ellen White teach Masonic doctrine? The obvious answer to that question is no! She constantly indicts Freemasons and secret societies in her writings. Each time she mentions them, she indicates that those who belong to such orders will be lost. In fact, that in and of itself validates her prophetic gift. Do Ellen White's statements make us think that she is a Freemason? No. Does she recommend people become Freemasons? No. Check out her thoughts on secret societies on page 16 of this newsletter. We can't assume she was a Mason or a Baal worshiper solely because she has an obelisk on her grave. Obelisks were a standard for gravestones during the time she lived. In fact, they were one of the cheaper options. Read more about gravestone use in the US here: Association for Gravestone Studies (http://www.gravestonestudies.org/faq. htm#Symbolism%20on%20Gravestones) and more about the use of obelisks as gravestones here: http://www.oldcem.bc.ca/gp_art_ m3.htm. Ellen White certainly had nothing to do with the obelisk on her own grave.

In the 1800's, obelisks were a very common grave marker. Check out this link: http://www.suite101.com/content/cemetery-grave-markers-can-reveal-era-by-their-shape-and-material-a368944 We do not judge Ellen White, or anyone else for that matter, solely

on a symbol or sign that might be placed on their tomb or even on certain terms or words they might use that may be associated with Freemasonry. We judge them according to their theology. Ellen White's

theology supports the Bible, and you can learn more about that in our article here: http://amazingdiscoveries.org/S-prophecy-Ellen_White-Word-law.

When Ellen White used the phrase "all-seeing eye", she was not referring to the New Age or pagan symbol. God's eye does see everything, and that's what she means by this statement. Don't forget that Lucifer's original and continuing plan is to be "like the Most High." He was the covering cherub; he knows what God is like. So to be like Him, Lucifer would

want to use symbols that mimic God.

We must be careful about becoming overzealous about symbols. Symbols are useful, but the devil uses many innocent symbols that people might use unknowingly simply because they exist. God made triangles, circles, shells, and the colors red and purple. Just because the devil has taken symbols over does not mean that we may never use them. As Walter Veith once said, "I drive a VW which has a pagan symbol and I use it to do the Lord's work. The devil must really hate that."

It's true that symbols can often point us to areas where something isn't right, or can help us see connections we couldn't see otherwise. So if we suspect something isn't right based on the symbolism, it's important that we go deeper and explore the theology of the person in question. But it's at the theological level that we must determine the soundness of a person's message.

There is a marked difference between Ellen White's writings and those of Albert Pike and others who write about Masonic doctrine. Check out this website, which responds to the false accusations against Ellen White: http://www.pickle-publishing.com/papers/jeremiah-films/video-1.htm. Bob Pickle obliterates allegations against Ellen White.He shows that most of the charges against her are blatant lies, and that the rest twist what she actually said.

seal of England, offering her the king's pardon if she would abjure her heretical opinions. She would not even look at the document, but waved the messenger back, saying, calmly and firmly: "I am not coming here to deny my Lord and Master."

The same offer was made to each of the other three martyrs, but they followed the example of their heroic sister in the faith, and refused to accept it. The messenger then returned to the platform on which the chancellor and the Roman Catholic nobles were sitting, and the Lord Mayor, rising to his feet, exclaimed with aloud voice: "Fiat justitia!"

The reeds were immediately kindled, and the martyrs were instantly enveloped in the flames and smoke. Powder had been placed about their persons for the purpose of ending their sufferings speedily, and in a little while this exploded, killing them all instantly.

Up to the time of the lighting of the fire, the sky had been fair and peaceful, but the torch had hardly been applied to the reeds when the heavens were suddenly covered with dark clouds. There was a sharp peal of thunder, and then slight shower of rain descended.

This strange occurrence produced a profound impression upon the multitude assembled about the stake. The Reformers who were present cried out that it was a manifestation of God's displeasure at the cruel murder of his servants; but the priests and monks standing by cried, ferociously: "They are dammed! They are damned!"

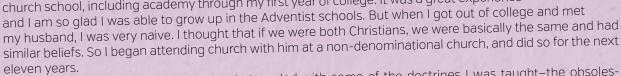
At the same time, they gnashed their teeth in important rage at the martyrs, whose lifeless bodies were being fast consumed by the flames; but whose souls had passed through the gates of affliction to the heavenly land, where the power and malice of Rome could not follow them.

So died Anne Askew, one of the noblest and purest witnesses of the truth of which the Christian Church can boast. She gave her life gladly for Christ, and she has her reward in the grateful reverence which is paid to her memory by the Church of Christ in every land.

This valuable, yet extremely hard to find book was first published in 1875. It is no longer available in a print form. You can download an electronic (e-book) version from Amazing Discoveries, free of charge at: http://pdf.amazingdiscoveries.org/eBooks/cross-and-crown.pdf

To God be the Glory ...in His Fruit

It must have been roughly five years ago that I heard about the Total Onslaught series from my mom. She kept telling me about these lectures I needed to hear. I felt pressured by her bringing it up again and again, although not for the reasons you may think. You see at the time, I was not part of the SDA church. I was raised in the church and attended church school, including academy through my first year of college. It was a great experience



However, through those years, I struggled with some of the doctrines I was taught—the obsolescence of the Sabbath, the state of the dead/immortal soul, and the Second Coming of Christ/ Rapture in particular. But when I would sit down with my friends to study these issues, I became even more confused. The doctrines I had been taught as a child that I thought were so clear in the Bible didn't seem so clear when I studied them.

I should mention that when I got married, my husband gave me a New International Version Bible as a gift. From that point on, I used it in place of the King James I'd had since childhood. But as I began to question the new doctrines I was being taught and to search out the answers in the Bible, I just got more confused, even to the point where I felt like I was in a spiritual fog. Nothing seemed clear; it was all sort of garbled. I even had moments of doubting God's existence and the divinity of Christ when I read the notes in my Bible stating that some of the earliest manuscripts do not have the account of Jesus' resurrection and the 40 days He spent on earth afterward.

Well, through a miracle of God, I was able to spend five weeks alone at my mom's house along with my two and three-year-old children while my husband was working out of state. During that time, I began to open up a bit and ask questions of my mom. She jumped at the opportunity to share the Total Onslaught DVDs with me. From the moment I watched them, I felt the fog lift off my mind. It was amazing! The first one she showed me was the Battle of the Bibles. I was astounded at what I learned and all the pieces began to fall into place. As I pulled out my old childhood Bible and began reading, immediately I saw and understood so much more—it's like the Bible had gone from one to three-dimensional. It was so much deeper and more amazing than I'd ever known. I felt a huge sense of relief and joy at finally hearing the truth—straight, direct, and beautiful.

Other DVDs in the series that were especially life-changing to me were The Crime of All Ages and Strange Fire. The current church I was attending was one of the churches on the Strange Fire DVD and I recognized many of the people in it. I particularly remember being at the meeting that was shown and feeling very uncomfortable about what was going on and what the preacher was doing. After watching these DVDs, I had a powerful conversion. I felt incredible sadness and remorse for all the years I had not honored God by not obeying His commandments. I remember crying hard tears and calling out to Him in repentance. And I felt a wonderful joy at knowing I was forgiven, loved, and cherished.

When I went back home, I knew my husband would be furious at my new-found faith and my return to Adventism. However, I couldn't put off my decision to keep the Sabbath. I was under such sure conviction. When I told him about my decision to begin going to church on Sabbath again, I was greeted with incredible anger and much persecution began. The first three years were so incredibly difficult I just don't know how I would have made it through without lots of love and support from my family and above all, my Lord.

My husband was exceedingly angry at the idea that I would make a decision about my own spirituality without his involvement and agreement. For quite a while, he wouldn't allow me to take my children to church although they cried when I left for church in the mornings. Over time, I became stronger and took them along. I let him know he would have to be the one to tell them they couldn't come with me. Since he wasn't willing to be the one who made them cry, they started coming with me. He was very angry for several years until I took my children and left him. We were separated for four months. During this time, we underwent intensive counseling.

Many things have changed now. My husband is not an angry person anymore and we work together with our differences in belief. He is a Christian too and I continue to pray his heart will be softened to hear and believe the truth. He has watched several of the Total Onslaught DVDs and I believe they are having an impact even though I cannot see it yet. My children are very involved in church now, singing in worship and playing their instruments for services. I am a Sabbath School teacher and my husband comes with us on many Sabbaths. I also attend church with him on Sabbath evening. The story is not yet over and I have faith that the Lord is still hard at work.

Anonymous

fact:

There are more end-time signs today than ever before in history.

We have a lot of work to do. Too many people are deceived by the devil's lies. Some see the increase in signs but others don't. We need to warn them to prepare for Jesus' soon return.



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neighbors, family members, colleagues – who are unaware of their need for Christ and the hope He offers. Our desire is to share this truth.

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