

*The Reformation* 

IMS VANCOUVER

591-3111

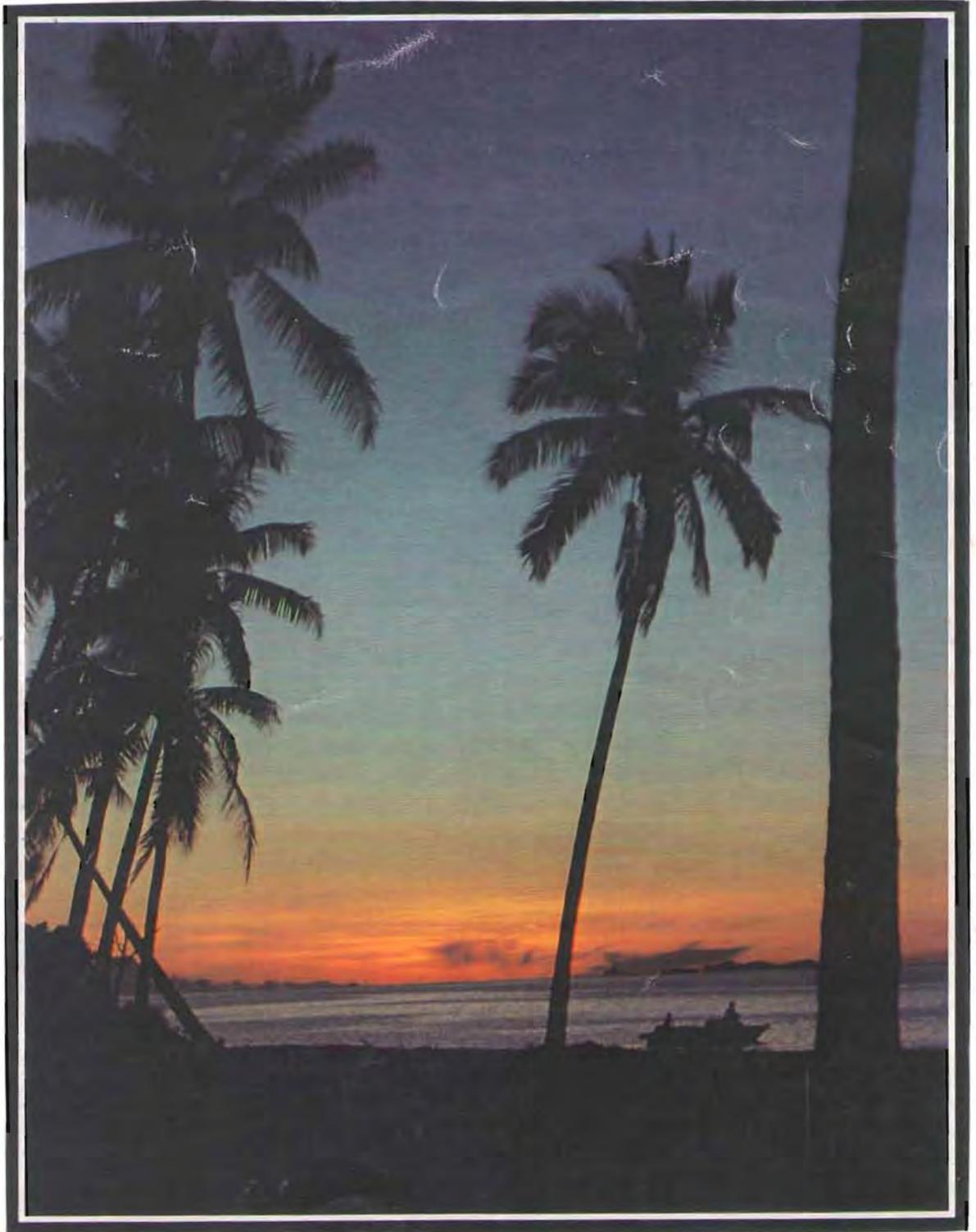
# Messenger

*Volume 6, Number 4*

*April 1999*

*International Missionary Society of S.D.A. Church Reform Movement*

F  
I  
J  
I





# THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE 1844 SEALING MESSAGE

By Idel Suarez, Jr., Ph.D., Tampa, FL, USA

In Revelation chapter 7, the sealing message, the Sabbath and the 144,000 are presented. Traditionally, Adventists have advocated that the sealing started in 1848 with the "winds" of revolution in Europe. Although Uriah Smith and J.N. Loughborough may have held such beliefs, it is not entirely correct. The sealing and Sabbath messages started in October of 1844, not in 1848. Here are three strong historical arguments for a pre-1848 sealing message commencement.

T.M. Preble, an Adventist who kept and preached about the Sabbath, published a booklet in March 1845, which I have in my possession, titled, "A Tract, Showing that the Seventh-Day Should be Observed as the Sabbath, Instead of the First Day; According to the Commandment." Brother Preble solidly defended the Seventh-day Sabbath truth in his publication and included a relevant fact stating that he was convicted of the Sabbath truth in October of 1844. On page nine of his tract he says, "A word now in relation to the history. As far as I have been able to examine, during the last six months, since I became convicted on this point, I find the following to be true." Is it not significant that he was convicted about the Sabbath six months prior to March 1845--which takes us back to 1844?

Brother Joseph Bates obtained and read Preble's tract and was convicted and converted on the Sabbath truth in 1845. Later in 1846, Brother Bates published his own 48-page tract defending the Sabbath truth. He, like Preble, was a Seventh-Day Sabbath keeping Adventist and preacher before 1848.

Brother and Sister White, although at first resistant to Brother Bates' position on the Sabbath, read his tract in the summer of 1846, and were convicted of the Sabbath truth and started observing the Sabbath in the autumn of 1846. "In the autumn of 1846 we began to observe the Bible Sabbath, and to teach and defend it." Test. Vol. 1, p. 75.

Like Preble, Bates and the Whites, many more Adventists were keeping the Sabbath before the famous six Sabbath conferences in 1848. The sealing message with the Sabbath truth started in 1844, not 1848. Thus, at least seven relevant and vital truths simultaneously started on the antitypical day of Atonement, October 22, 1844.

1. The Investigative Judgment. Daniel 7:9, 10, 13.
2. The Seventh Trumpet. Revelation 11:15-19.
3. The Seventh Church Period, also known as the Laodicean Period. Revelation 3: 14-21.

4. The Sealing of the 144,000. Revelation 14:9-13.
5. The Re proclamation of the Seventh-Day Sabbath Observance. Revelation 11:19; 12:17; 14:12.
6. The Third Angel's Message. Revelation 14:9-13.
7. The end of the 2,300 years and the entrance of Jesus into the Most Holy Place in the Heavenly Sanctuary. Daniel 8:14.

Think about it, an 1844 Sealing Message fits into the symmetry of God's perfect redemption plan. May the Lord help you to "study to shew thyself approved of God... rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15.

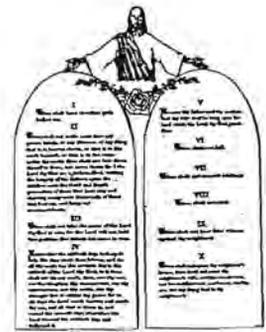
AMEN

## NEW ZEALAND

In the recent past, some very good changes have taken place in our church in New Zealand. First of all they have recently finished renovating the church building that they had purchased and have received a local council registration for public worship. Secondly, they now have a Minister from Bulgaria to serve in the church for them. Brother Antony Salavior has moved with his wife Maria, and 17 year old son Evan, to the city of Christ Church, where our church building is located. The members are enthused to have him among them and Brother Ernie Gale will be assisting him in his missionary work and in his English. Although the church is small right now, Brother Ernie tells us that Brother Antony has great plans for missionary endeavors to fill the church. Let us pray for them as it is not easy for a family to move so far away to a foreign country especially when you don't have a perfect understanding of the language.



# REFORMATION PART 2



## REVIVAL AND REFORMATION

Many have tried to bring about a reformation without revival and have failed each time. It has led into fanaticism and normally lasts a short time. Besides this, it is a joyless and unhappy experience.

During the life and time of Sister White, "Reformation" was mentioned frequently. Many were eager to begin it in the church; and this prompted Sister White to write the following testimony: "A revival and a reformation must take place under the ministration of the Holy Spirit. Revival and reformation are two different things. Revival signifies a renewal of spiritual life, a quickening of the powers of mind and heart, a resurrection from spiritual death. Reformation signifies reorganization, a change in ideas and theories, habits and practices. Reformation will not bring forth the good fruit of righteousness unless it is connected with the revival of the Spirit. Revival and reformation are to do their appointed work, and in doing this work they must blend." Review and Herald Feb 25, 1902

When the church had fallen into a lukewarm condition and into hollow formalism, she wrote many stirring testimonies about the need of revival and reformation. In 1887 she wrote: "A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work." Selected Messages 1 p. 121

She continued, "We have far more to fear from within than from without. The hindrances to strength and success are far greater from the church itself than from the world." Selected Messages 1 p. 122

Revival is accomplished only by the Holy Spirit. It is the baptism of the Holy Spirit that bring the new life into the soul. Our heavenly Father is more willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than are earthly parents to give good gifts to their children.

Then we can expect that a revival is only answer to prayer. When we humble ourselves, confess our sins and repent, then true revival will take place. Revival by the Spirit of God fills us with divine power which enables us to work out a thorough reformation.

### FALSE REVIVALS

Warnings have been given us of false revivals. They are very common in apostate churches. These revivals appeal to the emotions and create a momentary effect which will soon die out.

"The enemy of souls desires to hinder this work; and before the time for such a movement shall come, he will endeavor to prevent it by introducing a counterfeit. In those churches which he can bring under his deceptive power he will make it appear that God's special blessing is poured out; there will be manifest what is thought to be great religious interest. Multitudes will exult that God is working marvelously for them, when the work is that of another spirit. Under religious guise, Satan will seek to extend his influence over the Christian world." The Great Controversy p. 464

This is a great deception. The emotions are aroused. Many seem to be converted, even in one meeting alone. Miracles will be done and this false religious excitement will have a hypnotic

influence over the people giving them a false security that God is with them while it is a work of Satan.

### REVIVAL IN THE TIME OF EZRA

Ezra arrived in Jerusalem 70 years after Zerubbabel and Joshua. The people had fallen into apostasy and married wives from the surrounding nations. The influence of these heathen wives brought sinful practices among them and even the leaders were guilty of it.

Seeing this condition among the people, Ezra rent his garment and fell upon his knees and earnestly prayed to God confessing the sins of the people. The sorrow of Ezra over the sins of the people wrought repentance. We read, "The people wept very sore." Ezra 10:1

The result of this was a desire to study the Holy Scriptures. Teachers were appointed to instruct the people; the law of God was exalted and made honorable. This revival was followed by reformation.

### WHAT MUST WE DO?

The heart must be touched by the Holy Spirit before true reformation can take place. When Jesus spoke to the two disciples on the way to Emmaus, they said, "Did not our hearts burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the Scriptures?" Luke 24:32

This kind of preaching we need in our churches today. The hearts must be touched so that they will burn within the hearers.

The prophet Joel calls us to deep heart searching, "Therefore now, said the Lord, turn ye even to Me with all your hearts, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth Him of the evil." Joel 2: 12-13

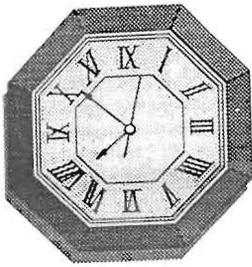
This kind of sorrow is godly sorrow, it will work out a repentance and reformation in our personal lives as well as in our churches.

"There is nothing that Satan fears so much as that the people of God shall clear the way by removing every hindrance, so that the Lord can pour out His Spirit upon a languishing church and an impenitent congregation. If Satan had his way, there would never be another awakening, great or small, to the end of time... Wicked men and devils cannot hinder the work of God, or shut out His presence from the assemblies of His people, if they will, with subdued, contrite hearts, confess and put away their sins, and in faith claim His promises." Selected Messages 1 p. 124

The Holy Spirit was poured upon the early church when they prepared their hearts by confessing their sins and putting away their differences and united in earnest prayer to God. We living in the last days, in the time of the latter rain must do the same and then there will be true spiritual revival and a thorough reformation in our ranks and the work of God will be finished in the mighty power of His Spirit.

May this be the earnest prayer of each one of us. AMEN

Timo Martin



## THE HOUR IS LATE

*“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” 1 Peter 5:8*

“The crisis is stealing gradually upon us. . . . Satan sees that his time is short. He has set all his agencies at work that men may be deceived, deluded, occupied and entranced, until the day of probation shall be ended, and the door of mercy forever shut.” DA 636.

How many of us seriously think of how late the hour is in the history of this world? There are many honest sincere ones who are keeping their eyes open and making sure there is oil in their lamps. “. . . the earnest efforts put forth by consecrated believers under the guidance of the Holy Spirit are to be accompanied by special tokens of divine favor.” AA p. 54. There are some though, who are coming to church as a habit and not giving serious thought to what is going on in heaven.

As we think of being late, I have often thought of those that show up late to church. It has troubled me that some make no effort to be on time. Some may be on time most every week, but once in awhile they are late due to unexpected circumstances beyond their

control. I am burdened with those consistently late. I often wonder, “Are they late for their jobs? Are they late for school? Do they take the extra effort to be on time for their worldly appointments?” I am sure they do. To be late for a job interview would mean perhaps the loss of a job opportunity. To be late for school in the elementary grades, often means a detention after regular school hours. Being late for your job may incur the wrath of your boss and if it is consistent enough, it may result in the termination of your employment. We make sure we are on time to these places because there are visible consequences. What about

going to church? Who will give you a detention for your tardiness? Will your membership be terminated? Will the doors be locked so that you cannot enter? Will the others look down on you? No, of course not. None of these would happen. The doors of the church are open wide for anyone to come when they come. Does that mean that being on time for church is less important than being on time for work or school? I hope not, but with some people, I wonder. If I had an appointment with Jesus, I surely wouldn't want to be late. And that is exactly what we have every Sabbath

morning. We are there, not only to meet with fellow believers but Jesus is there on time and we have an appointment with Him. He is the Unseen Visitor.

The trouble with us is that when we are weak in faith, we don't look into the unseen world. We only look at what we see. The unseen world is busy with activity. Intense activity. Sister White says that the faithful angels are seriously contending with the evil angels for each soul. If we only look at what our eyes can see, we become slothful in our Christianity. These minor points may not matter so much to us. If we are 2 minutes late one week, the next week it may be 5 minutes and then 10, then an hour or two, and finally we skip whole meetings without our conscience bothering us very much. The progression has been slow and subtle. Some do not follow this progression, they just come late – about the same time – every week. If the Latter Rain would fall in great abundance on God's church in the first 15 minutes of the Sabbath School, there will be some that will be left out because they could not make it on time.

I've heard all kinds of excuses, from “It is my children's fault. I can't get them up and ready on time.” I ask, who is in control? Is it the

parents or the children? God gave *us* our children to train for His kingdom; He did not give parents to the children for the children to train. It may sound ridiculous but I have often seen households where this happens, even with very young children. "I can't force them to take a bath, they have to decide for themselves." And of course then there is that age-old excuse of being too tired to get up earlier on Sabbath morning because of a grueling week at school or work.

I'd like to speak of this tiredness excuse, and compare it to another situation. If you are tired, but excited, for example in the case of a beloved relative who is coming to visit that you have not seen for a long time. You spend many late nights in preparation and are very tired, but you are so excited about seeing that relative that when s/he arrives your tiredness gets put aside and you spend late hours talking with them and filling in the lost years.

Yes, you may have had a very tiring week, but if you love the Lord enough, you will be excited about meeting with Him and His people on Sabbath morning. That excitement will overrule your tiredness.

The question is, "Is it a sin to be late?" Is it okay to be late week after week?" Perhaps it is not, that is for God to judge, but it certainly is a good barometer of the value you place on your meeting with Jesus. I will not place myself in God's judgement seat, that is between an individual and God. Everyone will have to answer to God in the judgement, not to me. Some have valid reasons for being late. Perhaps due to illness or age, they have difficulty sitting for two hours and therefore decide to come for the second hour of the service. Once in awhile also, people do have a bad night, making it difficult to get up early, but that is normally the exception and not the norm. Your reasons are between you and God.

Our God is a God of order. What if He was late with the sunshine day after day? What if the earth was late in its orbit around the sun and

took 370 days instead of the usual 365? Would it matter? Yes, these things matter because the result could upset the balance of nature (more so than what man has done anyway). God does things exactly and on time. Does He expect that from us? If a worldly employer or school teacher will not tolerate tardiness, do you think God will? Thankfully we have a merciful and loving God who does not punish us immediately and will pardon and forgive us. This tends to lead people two different ways. They will either greatly appreciate God's mercy and strive to improve or else they will become complacent seeing as there is no immediate punishment for their sin. Unfortunately for this second group, the end result will not be what they expect.

In Ancient Israel, especially in their wilderness wanderings when the visible presence of God was seen above the tabernacle, I doubt very many people were late for their religious gatherings. The trouble arises when the visible presence of God is not seen. Thomas doubted that Jesus had risen from the dead even though he had heard the testimony of the other disciples. He doubted until he put his hands in the nail prints of Jesus. Jesus reproved him for his unbelief and said, "Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." John 20:29. We must believe, even though we don't see with our physical eyes. We must believe that Jesus is at church – on time.

The five foolish virgins had no oil in their lamps when the Bridegroom came. They figured that it would be okay to be a little late. The five wise virgins urged them to go buy oil. What else could they do? They went to buy the oil, but when they returned it was too late to come in.

Those who are neglecting the needful preparation today, one of which is the discipline of coming to church on time, may find themselves to be too late someday also. They are not filling their lamps with oil - the Holy Spirit which is a part of the Early Rain

and the needful preparation prior to receiving the Latter Rain. "The blessings received under the former rain are needful to us to the end. . . . Divine grace is needed at the beginning, divine grace at every step of advance, and divine grace alone can complete the work. There is no place for us to rest in a careless attitude. We must never forget the warnings of Christ, "Watch unto prayer," Watch and pray always." A connection with the divine agency every moment is essential to our progress. We may have had a measure of the Spirit of God, but by prayer and faith we are continually to seek more of the spirit, It will never do to cease our efforts. If we do not progress, if we do not place ourselves in an attitude to receive both the former and latter rain, we shall lose our souls, and the responsibility will lie at our own door." RH, 1897-03-02.

NB

We need to have the Holy Spirit to fill our entire being and lead and guide us into the pathway of righteousness. If we don't, then when the Latter Rain falls, and we realize too late, that we have neglected some important preparation, we may rush out to buy some oil, but then it will be too late.

We may not think of arriving to church on time as a big issue. We may think of it is just a small matter but to God it is important. He is on time every week. Some would not be late for a get-together with a worldly monarch, but will be

bold enough to be late for a get-together with the Heavenly Monarch. I think they have it a little backwards.

And most importantly what is it we are teaching our children? They are learning that it is not so important that they be on time. They lose respect for spiritual matters. I see some talking during services at conference time, and there often are a few children (and even adults) outside during afternoon meetings.

Is our church meant to be a social club? It is time to ask ourselves how seriously we really take our salvation.

The hour is late. "Perilous times are before us. Every one who has a knowledge of the truth should awake, and place himself, body, soul, and spirit, under the discipline of God. The enemy is on our track. We must be wide-awake, on our guard against him. We must put on the whole armor of God. We must follow the directions given through the Spirit of Prophecy. We must love and obey the truth for this time. This will save us from accepting strong delusions." T8, p. 298

*"A storm is coming relentless in its fury. Are we prepared to meet it?" T8, p. 315*

Wendy Eaton

**IMS Publishing**  
54 NewCastle St.  
Toronto, Ontario, M8Y 1A3  
Canada  
Tel:(416)252-1197  
(416)235-0667  
Fax:(416)252-6625  
E-mail: tmartin@netcom.ca  
Web Sites:  
<http://members.truepath.com/ims/health.html>  
<http://www.geocities.com/hotsprings/spa/1270/church.html>

EG  
438  
6881



# REVEALING TRUTH

## (Series 3-7)

Many do not realize what they must be in order to live in the sight of the Lord without a high priests? **Revealing Truth** Series 3 reviews this question, other concerns and outlines the following subtitles; Time of Trouble, Sealing, Preparation, and Power From Above.

**Revealing Truth** only presents the scriptures and the testimonies. Your solemn challenge is “study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2Tim 2:15. Proceed with pray and the discernment of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord abundantly bless each reader.

### TIME OF TROUBLE

“For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in His pavilion; in the secret of His tabernacle shall He hide me; He shall set me upon a rock” (40)

The people of God will then be plunged into those scenes of affliction and distress described by the prophet as the time of Jacob’s trouble. “Thus saith the Lord: We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace... All faces are turned into paleness. Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.” Jeremiah 30:5-7. (41)

“Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.” (42)

Satan is now using every device in this sealing time to keep the minds of God’s people from the present truth and to cause them to waver. I saw a covering that God was drawing over His people to protect them in the time of trouble; and every soul that was decided on the truth and was pure in heart was to be covered with the covering of the Almighty. (43)

**I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus’ work was done in the sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues. These plagues enraged the wicked against the righteous; they thought that we had brought the judgments of God upon them, and that if they could rid the earth of us, the plagues would then be stayed.**

A decree went forth to slay the saints, which caused them to cry day and night for deliverance. **This was the time of Jacob’s trouble.** Then all the saints cried out with anguish of spirit, and were delivered by the voice of God. The 144,000 triumphed. Their faces were lighted up with the glory of God. **Then I was shown a company who were howling in agony.** On their garments was written in large characters, “Thou art weighed

in balance, and found wanting.” I asked who this company were. The angel said, “These are they who have once kept the Sabbath and have given it up.” I heard them cry with a loud voice, “We have believed in Thy coming, and taught it with energy.” And while they were speaking, their eyes would fall upon their garments and see the writing, and then they would wail aloud. I saw that they had drunk of the deep waters, and fouled the residue with their feet-trodden the Sabbath underfoot—and that was why they were weighed in the balance and found wanting. (44)

I saw that many were neglecting the preparation so needful and were looking to the time of “refreshing” and the “latter rain” to fit them to stand in the day of the Lord and to live in His sight. Oh, how many I saw in the time of trouble without a shelter! (45)

## SEALING

I saw that Satan was at work in these ways to distract, deceive, and draw away God’s people, just now in this sealing time. I saw some who were not standing stiffly for the present truth. Their knees were trembling, and their feet sliding, because they **were not firmly planted on the truth, and the covering of Almighty God could not be drawn over them while they were thus trembling.**

Satan was trying his every art to hold them where they were, until the sealing was past, until the covering was drawn over God’s people, and they left without a shelter from the burning wrath of God, in the seven last plagues. God has begun to draw this covering over His people, and it will soon be drawn over all who are to have a shelter in the day of slaughter. God will work in the power for His people; and Satan will be permitted to work also. (46)

I also saw that many do not realize what they must be in order to live in the sight of the Lord without a high priest in the sanctuary through the time of trouble. **Those who receive the seal of the living God and are protected in the time of trouble must reflect the image of Jesus fully.** (47)

“And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out their places.

And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?” (48)

These men followed on step by step in the very fulfilment of prophecy, and those who have not had a personal experience in this work, are to take the Word of God and believe on “their word” who have been led by the Lord in the proclamation of the first, second

Another word  
for sanctification.  
The work of humbling  
ourselves, repenting  
asking Father to change us

and third angels' messages. These messages, received and acted upon, are doing their work to prepare a people to stand in the great day of God. (49)

When the truth for these last days came to the world in the proclamation of the first, second, and third angel's messages, we were shown that in the education of our children a different order of things must be brought in; but it has taken much time to understand what changes should be made.

Our work is <sup>REFORMATORY</sup> reformatory; and it is the purpose of God that through the excellence of the work done in our educational institutions the attention of the people shall be called to the last great effort to save the perishing. (50)

## PREPARATION

To prepare a people to stand in the day of God, a great work of reform was to be accomplished. **God saw that many of His professed people were not building for eternity, and in His mercy He was about to** send a message of warning to arouse them from their stupor and lead them to make ready for the coming of the Lord...

Faithful men, who were **obedient to the promptings** of God's Spirit and the teachings of His word, were to proclaim this warning to the world. They were **those who had taken heed** to the "sure word of prophecy," the "light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the daystar arise." 2 Peter 1:19 **They had been seeking** the knowledge of God **more than all hid treasures**, counting it "better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold." Proverbs 3:14. And the **Lord revealed to them** the great things of the kingdom. "The secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him; and He will show them His covenant." Psalm 25:14.

It was not the scholarly theologians who had an understanding of this truth, and engaged in its proclamation. Had these been faithful watchmen, diligently and prayerfully searching the Scriptures, they would have known the time of night; the prophecies would have opened to them the events about to take place. But they did not occupy this position, and **the message was given by humbler men**. Said Jesus: "Walk while ye have light, lest darkness come upon you." John 12:35. Those who turn away from the light which God has given, or who neglect to seek it when it is within their reach, are left in darkness. But the Saviour declares: "He that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12. **Whoever is with singleness of purpose seeking to do God's will, earnestly heeding the light already given, will receive greater light; to that soul some star of heavenly radiance will be sent to guide him into all truth. (51)**

There is a great work for us to do before success will crown our efforts. There must be **decided reforms** in our homes and in our churches. Parents must labor for the salvation of their children. (52)

Time is too short now to accomplish that which might have been done in past generations. But even in these last days we can do much to correct the existing evils in the education of youth. And because time is short, we should be in earnest, and work

zealously to give the young an education consistent with our faith. **We are reformers.** We desire that our children should study to the best advantage. In order to do this, employment should be given them which will call into exercise the muscles. Daily, systematic labour should constitute a part of the education of youth even at this late period. Much can now be gained in this way. In following this plan the student will realize elasticity of the spirit and vigor of thought, and in a given time can accomplish more mental labor than they could by study alone. **And thus they can leave school with constitutions unimpaired and with strength and courage to persevere in any position where the providence of God may place them.** (53)

“Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.” (54)

**Reformers are not Destroyers. They will never seek to ruin those who do not harmonize with their plans and assimilate them. Reformers must advance, not retreat. They must be decided, firm, resolute, unflinching; but firmness must not degenerate into a domineering spirit. God desires to have all who serve Him firm as a rock where principle is concerned, but meek and lowly of heart, as was Christ, Then, abiding in Christ, they can do the work He would do were He in their place. A rude, condemnatory spirit is not essential to heroism in the reforms for this time. All selfish methods in the service of God are an abomination in His sight.** (55)

*Lets reform ourselves first!*

#### POWER FROM ABOVE

*RESURRECTION POWER!*

**Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers.** For there is no power but of God; the powers that be are ordained of God.

**Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God:** and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? Do that which is good, and thou shall have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.” (56)

**David's power had been given him by God, but to be exercised only in harmony with the divine law.** When He commanded that which was contrary to God's law, it became sin to obey. “The powers that be are ordained of God” (Roman 13:1), but we are not to obey them contrary to God's law. The apostle Paul, writing to the Corinthians, sets forth the principle by which we should be governed. He says, “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.” 1 Corinthians 11:1 (57)

“Something great and decisive is about to take place!” That was the awakening message that came before the outbreak of World War I.

Just as one illustration of ways in which it was sought by the gift of prophecy to forewarn of crises to be met, we may well speak of counsels that preceded the great war of 1914-1918. (58)

“Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, **We ought to obey God rather than men.**” (59)

Years before this, also, the gift of prophecy had evidently forewarned of just such times as came upon the nations with the great conflict. Of a view of coming conflict which was caused to pass before her, Mrs. White wrote:

The tempest is coming, and we must get ready for its fury, by having repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord will arise to shake terribly the earth. We shall see troubles on all sides. Thousands of ships will be hurled into the depths of the sea. Navies will go down, and human lives will be sacrificed by millions. (60)

Whatever may be their professions, it is only those who are world servers at heart that act from policy rather than principle in religious things. We should choose the right because it is right, and **leave consequences with God.** To men of principle, faith, and daring, the world is indebted for its great reforms. **By such men the work of reform for this must be carried forward.** (61)

We are to recognize human government as an ordinance of divine appointment, and teach obedience to it as a sacred duty, within its legitimate sphere. But when its claims conflict with the claims of God, we must obey God rather than men. **God's word must be recognized as above all human legislation.** A “Thus saith the Lord.” is not to be set aside for a “Thus saith the church” or a “Thus saith the state.” **The crown of Christ is to be lifted above the diadems of earthly potentates.** (62)

*nothing here about Holy Spirit James*

Thus we acknowledge God, and recognize His law, the foundation of His government in heaven and throughout his earthly dominions. His authority should be kept distinct and plain before the world; and no laws are to be acknowledged that come in collision with the laws of Jehovah. If in defiance of God's arrangements the world be allowed to influence our decisions or our actions, the purpose of God is defeated. However specious the pretext, **if the church waver here, there is written against her in the books of heaven a betrayal of the most sacred trusts, and treachery to the kingdom of Christ.** (63)

REFERENCES:

40 - Psa 27: 5	50 - 6T 126. 1	59 - Acts 5: 29
41 - GC 616. 1	51 - GC 311. 2	60 - TGOP, W.A. Spicer
42 - Jer 30: 7	- GC 312. 2 & 3	- ST.1890-04-21.011
43 - EW 43. 2	52 - 5T 383. 0	61 - GC 460. 2
44 - EW 36. 2	53 - 6T 179. 3	62 - AA 69. 0
45 - EW 71. 2	54 - 1 Cor 16: 13	63 - TM 16. 2
46 - EW 44. 1	55 - 6T 151. 1	
47 - EW 71. 1	56 - Rom 13: 1 - 7	
48 - Rev 6: 14 - 17	57 - PP 719. 3	
49 - 2SM 111. 2	58 - The Gift of Prophecy by W.A. Spicer	



## **Internet: Beast or Friend ?**

Written by: Radek Dobias

The Word of God presents the most glorious scenes ever revealed to a mortal man. Perhaps none as glorious as the life of the Messiah. The Son of God became a son of man and came down to seek out the lost sheep, to challenge the supremacy of Satan in this world. Daily, he had to endure trial and conflict with the fallen cherub. At one point, Satan took him to the top of the world. And let us pause here and ponder. Were **you** ever taken to the top of the world? What a strange question, isn't it brethren? How impossible that sounds. Perhaps you will re-consider after reading this article.

Things have changed. Globally. Unbelievably. Looking down through the ages, the word of God states that "knowledge shall be increased". It can truly be said that God's prophet, Daniel, did not fully understand the extent of these words. Did he see the inventions of electricity, telephone, cars, planes etc. ? Perhaps. Yet, none was as big as what was to come in our time. You see it in the newspapers, billboards, news, ads, schools etc. We are bombarded with the word 24 hours a day. Internet. So much meaning and significance in one word. Yet people, especially God's people, have some misconceptions about what actually the Internet is, and how it can be used for a good cause. I will try to clear up some of these.

### **Divine or Demonic Origin ?**

Some people have asked me: "Is the Internet good or bad?". I usually reply with a counter question: "Is fire good or bad?". Much like any talents or means, it can be used to glorify the Creator or glorify the flesh and self. It may surprise people that the Internet has been around for over 30 years. It just didn't go public until the 1990s. It started off in the 1960's as a Pentagon military project. Today, it's an information superhighway for all.

### **Tree of Knowledge of Evil**

There is no question that Satan is doing a great deal of his work through this medium. Pornography, on-line gambling, terrorist literature and suicidal tips are all freely, readily available. One time I came across a manual on how to blow up international airports. Anything goes. This may surprise some, but there is no one who controls the Internet. To be more precise, all users control their tiny bit of the Cyberspace. What we see is just the overall result, a reflection of common, fallen, human mind. Governments tried to restrict Internet in some countries, without any success at all. Internet could be compared to a self-evolving virus. And there is no stopping it. The words of Satan are spoken over and over again to sons of Adam: "Ye shall be as gods..." The temptation of Christ, as pointed out in the beginning is experienced by his disciples in these last days. Through the Internet, man is carried to places far away. Satan promises a state of "higher

consciousness" by experiencing new exciting things. He puts the world at our fingertips. **All knowledge** is quickly becoming available to **all people** through this. Satan doesn't have to carry us to the top. No. We can do that ourselves in the comfort of our own bedroom.

The Internet is certainly more dangerous than television because it is more interactive and addictive. (in fact, television will become soon available through Internet) It provides, theoretically, opportunity to contact anyone in the world. Perhaps the greatest future threat is that banking will be done exclusively through the Internet. And no one man, who doesn't have the mark of the beast, will be able to buy or sell.

Let us do some simple math to see the extent of the Internet. There were about 320 million web sites on the Internet in early 1998. It is safe to assume that there are at least 400 million now. Suppose you browse the Internet at the speed of one site every 2 minutes. That's 30 sites in an hour, 720 in a day, and 262800 sites in a year. (provided of course, that you do nothing else and take no breaks). Since there are 400 million sites, it would take you **over 1500 years** to see them all. However, this assumes that the number of web sites is not growing. Of course the number of web sites is growing at astonishing rates. It would be impossible to see all even if you had an **infinite** amount of time, since the Internet is growing at a faster rate than you can see it. Astounding. Satan is certainly no dummy, when it comes to distracting people from preparation.

### Tree of Life

Yet, the Internet can be used in God's work. In Canada, brethren and I set up a few web sites. They are quite successful and the Lord is blessing the work. We were able to distribute lot of literature through this media. Please, pray for this work.

### What MUST we do ?

"The final movements will be rapid ones." 9T p.11. We should discern these and prepare. There are people in God's church who are doing **absolutely nothing** for the cause. How can they ever receive the latter rain if they are not working **now**? How can we ever expect to sit next to great men of God in God's kingdom, who **lived and died** for the cause? Some of our selfish lives don't measure up to God's standard. How zealous are we?

**"May the Lord give no rest, day nor night, to those who are now careless and indolent in the cause and work of God.** The end is near. This is that which Jesus would have us keep ever before us - the shortness of time." Letter 97.

"The inquiry should be made, **'What am I and what is my WORK and MISSION in this time?** On which side am I working - Christ's side or the enemy's side ?" Ms 87

Let us not forget that a lukewarm church, is a rejected one. Revelation 3:16

May God help us.

Amen.



## THE BLESSING OF A CONTRITE HEART

Christ has offered to come into our hearts and to sup with us and we with Him. (1) It is not about what we offer Him, but what He offers us. A change of heart is the best experience that any human soul could have, as God abides in us. We no longer need to worry if our works are pleasing to Him because it is Him who works in us.

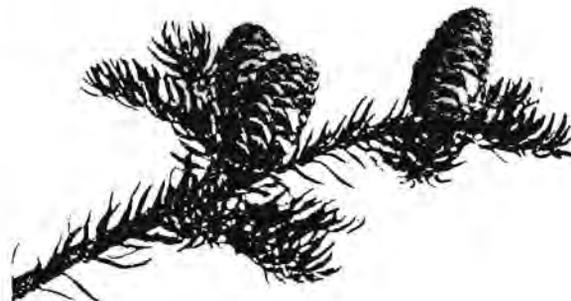
But to have this wonderful experience, we need to have another (2). "But why?" you may ask yourself. How can it be a blessing? He that covereth his sins shall not prosper, but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy (3). To only think about the pain that we cause our Saviour should make us think twice or even twenty times before committing it again. If in our hearts we hear the still voice that is telling us "you did wrong, repent" mercy still longs for us. But be not deceived because you don't know when that still voice will stop warning you to repent. Spiritual death is the result.

David was a man after God's own heart. Yet he made mistakes for which he asked for repentance. God sent a prophet to awake him from his terrible sin. His soul was broken (heart), he felt the terrible weight of sin upon himself for the mistakes he did. During his confession to God he asked "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me" (4) He also made aware his natural state as a man born in sin, "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me" (5). David knew that a miraculous work must be done in him, a work that cannot be done by human efforts. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (6). It is impossible for us, of ourselves to escape from the pit of sin in which we are sunken. Our hearts are evil, and we cannot change them. "Who can bring a clean out of an unclean? Not one." "The carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." "The Saviour said, 'Except a man be born from above,' unless he shall receive a new heart, new desires, purposes and motives, leading to a new life, 'he cannot see the kingdom of God.'" (7) "O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from this body of death?" Such is the cry that has gone up from burdened hearts in all lands and in all ages. (8) David approaches Christ in whom he could be redeemed. John wrote, "Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God"(9). "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord my strength, and my redeemer." (10) Come to Christ. Don't delay any longer.

The blessing of a contrite heart leads us to Christ. Only when we die to self can Christ come to our rescue. Our thoughts, words, and actions are now a work of Christ's spirit in us. Soon, very soon, Christ will come. It is time that our hearts are immaculate. Not one trait of self should remain in our hearts. When He is manifested in us then we can say like the psalmist "My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed." (11) May this be your experience. Amen

George Williams

1. Revelation 3:20
2. Psalms 51:17
3. Proverbs 28:13
4. Psalms 51:10
5. Psalms 51:5
6. Romans 6:23
7. Steps to Christ, p. 18
8. Steps to Christ, p. 19
9. Psalms 19:14
10. 1 John 3:21
11. Psalms 57:7





### Major Evangelicals Unite with the Pope (and the SDA Connection)

From [www.whidbey.net](http://www.whidbey.net) "Pat Robertson and Bill Bright participated in a papal mass in New York's Central Park during John Paul II's October visit to the United States. According to the *Religious News Service*, Pat Robertson marched at the head of an ecumenical procession (which included Bright) to the papal altar and was seated with Protestant, Orthodox and other Christian leaders. Robertson is the Charismatic head of the 700 Club and Bright is the head of Campus Crusade for Christ.

"Robertson's seat of honor at the Mass was engineered by New York's Cardinal John O'Connor. Bright sat next to Robertson.

"One discerning writer described the awful compromise involved with such an action:

"The Mass is still a terrible ritual. It shouts out by Romish word and Romish sacrament that Christ's death on the cross was not enough to save mankind. It was a partial redemption which must be supplemented by the other Romish sacraments, penance, purgatory, priestly absolution, and good works. Further, the whole Romish system of salvation invests its priests with the superhuman power, which no one else has, to transubstantiate bread and wine into the actual body and blood of Christ. No news media reporters I heard in their coverage of the Pope's visit to New Jersey and New York even doubted the truthfulness of Rome's claims. One asked whether a Papal Mass was more significant than a regular parish Mass. The priest commentator replied that the Mass is the Mass is the Mass whether said by the Pope or the lowest priest.

"Biblically speaking, in Roman Catholicism, we find a fake priesthood performing a fake ritual producing a fake sacrament with the jingling of bells and the adoration of the faithful gullible producing no saving faith and receiving no true forgiveness of sins. The whole system requires you to use a mediator to approach the one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus.

"The meeting of a large number of 'evangelical' leaders with the Pope earlier that same

day and the participation of some of them in a papal mass is historic. The last days apostasy is like a river flowing towards Rome. Those who do not resist the flow and paddle up stream will be swept away at a rapid pace.

"The apostasy is also like a strong wind. In the Northwest, where we live, we have powerful winds which sweep in off the Pacific Ocean during the winter season. This Editor lives on an island and our house is located only a mile from the western shore. We have learned that unless you stake a newly planted tree, it will be bent by the winds and will remain bent and crooked. That is similar to what happens today if a Christian does not actively resist and separate from the spirit of error.

"Behold Billy Graham, Chuck Colson, Bill Bright, Jack Van Impe, James Robison, Pat Robertson, and a myriad of other so-called evangelical leaders who have compromised with Romanism through ecumenical activities and have become sympathetic with Rome and blinded to the horror of its blasphemous errors. They admit that Roman Catholicism teaches error, but they do not have heartfelt convictions about the blasphemous character of those errors.

"Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners" (1 Corinthians 15:33) "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." Galatians 5:9

In the last ten years, there have been many ecumenical Easter Sunrise services with SDA leaders and people participating together with other denominations. Recently, in the large SDA church in Lincoln, Nebraska there was an ecumenical council to discuss all the things that SDAs have in common with other denominations and how they do indeed share communion – a major ecumenical link. Several 'evangelical' leaders addressed the SDA people and urged them on in the ecumenical pathway. They also discussed there how the SDA church should soon accept the baptism of other denominations the same as they now accept communion with other churches. And then all of the participants shared an ecumenical communion together.

## The Sunday/Sabbath Eucharist/ Communion Ecumenical Connection

In his recent encyclical letter, *Dies Domini*, quoted in a recent issue of *The Messenger*, the Pope has said that Sunday has been honored as the Lord's day since apostolic times, which shows a profound shift from the historic position of the Papacy. The Roman Catholic Church has always challenged Protestants to show one Scriptural reference for a change of the Sabbath. They have always claimed that the change of the Sabbath to Sunday was their act. Now the current ecumenical spirit has made it possible for the papacy to go in the same line of theological thought with all of the other lukewarm Protestant churches in uplifting his own commandment rather than the commandments of God. (It may remind you of Satan himself being converted after the modern order of things with so many people fascinated by the deceptions of spiritualism.) But this has all been planned, for the ecumenical movement is obviously leading everyone back to Rome.

"Through the two great errors, the immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness Satan will bring the people under his deceptions. While the former lays the foundation of spiritualism, the latter creates a bond of sympathy with Rome. The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience." *Great Controversy* p. 588

If we needed the Sunday to honor Christ's death, burial and resurrection why can we not find any evidence for this in the New Testament? And why did Jesus Himself give us the ordinances of the Lord's Supper and baptism to honor His death, burial and resurrection? These are two beautiful and very significant symbols that show us the blessing and privilege of being a member of the body of Christ – something which we cannot take lightly. If we do, we run the risk of going along with this ecumenical procession into Papal errors and Satanic superstitions. (God's word forbids giving the Lord's supper to those who are not members of His mystical body – the church. (Please see EW 124-5,

DA 655-6 and Exodus 12:43-49 for the Lord's Supper was the fulfillment of Passover.)

"The Scriptural ordinance of the Lord's Supper had been supplanted by the idolatrous sacrifice of the mass. Papal priests pretend, by their senseless mummery, to convert the simple bread and wine in to the actual "body and blood of Christ." – Cardinal Wiseman, *The Real Presence of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus in the Blessed Eucharist, Proved from Scripture*, lecture 8, sec. 3, par. 26. With blasphemous presumption, they openly claimed the power of creating God, the Creator of all things. Christians were required, on pain of death, to avow their faith in this horrible, Heaven-insulting heresy. Multitudes who refused were given to the flames." *Great Controversy*, p. 59

Will multitudes of God's people who refuse this ecumenical confusion of Sunday and spiritualism, the Eucharist and the Mass, the Pope and nominal Protestantism's error, be soon thrown to the flames? May God help you and I to prove faithful unto death, that we may receive a crown of life. Rev. 2:10 It is never a light thing to enter into a covenant with the Creator of the Universe – but He has promised to sustain His own and on that promise His people can always stand.

### NAFTA, MMT and Canada's Lost Sovereignty

from *The Guardian*,  
(London) August 13, 1998

"In July, something happened in Canada.

"A total of four column inches in the British newspapers was devoted to the event. The handful of people who read them would have learned that a company no one has heard of, which makes a product whose name no one can pronounce, received some money from the Canadian government and an assurance that it could continue making the product.

"The company is the Ethyl Corporation, and its product is a chemical called methylcyclopentadienyl manganese tricarbonyl, MMT.

"MMT is a fuel additive which is mixed with gasoline to prevent engine knocking. Many scientists believe it is also a dangerous neurotoxin.

"Manganese entering the body through the lungs causes nerve damage which can lead to psychosis, memory loss and early death.

“Until last year, Canada was the only country on earth in which MMT was sold. It is legal to sell it in most of the US, but surveys suggest that suppliers will not stock it, not least because it appears to damage car engines, causing the release of other pollutants.

### **The Power of Ethyl Corp**

“Canadian MPs questioned why their citizens should be exposed to this peculiarly unpleasant species of pollution. After a long and intelligent debate, the parliament voted to ban it in April 1997. Had the vote taken place three years earlier, the Ethyl Corporation would have had to abide by the decision. A sovereign parliament had decided to protect its citizens from a deadly poison. And that, you would imagine, would have been the end of the matter.

“But since 1994, corporations in Canada, the US and Mexico have enjoyed a new and astonishing power over elected authorities. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) entitles companies to sue governments they believe to be raising unfair barriers to trade.

“Ethyl sued the Canadian government for the “expropriation” of its “property” (namely its anticipated profits) and the “damage” to its “good reputation” caused by the parliamentary debate. It took its suit to NAFTA, where a secret tribunal, whose records are not disclosed and whose decisions cannot be appealed, began to assess the case.

“Last month, the Canadian government, realizing that its chances of success were approximately zero, settled with Ethyl.

“It agreed to allow the corporation to resume sales of MMT in Canada! It agreed to pay Ethyl \$13 million in compensation! It agreed, too, to mislead its citizens – it announced that “MMT poses no health risk.”

“The NAFTA rules allowing the Ethyl Corporation to sue the Canadian government are almost identical to the provisions of the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) which, if passed, will allow corporations to sue the governments which sign it.

### **MAI Muscle**

“The MAI was modeled on NAFTA, to “harmonize” investment standards in the rest of the world with North America.

“For the past year and a half, British ministers have said the MAI does “not affect the

rights of signatories to carry out normal regulation,” that it will “weaken neither environmental regulation or worker protection” and that it contain “nothing that gives investors the right to be compensated for lost profits.”

“They claim it simply establishes that foreign investors should be treated no less favorably than domestic investors. Yet MMT was banned in Canada irrespective of who produced it: the rules were precisely the same for foreign and domestic investors. This offered no protection at all to the sovereignty of the Canadian parliament.

“In March this year, (1998) a ragged band of voluntary bodies and direct activists won an extraordinary victory against the MAI. By exposing the monumental threat to democracy it posed, they forced the governments engaged in secret negotiations to postpone the agreement.

“Now Britain and the other negotiators are trying again. Again they will tell us that it presents no threat to the democratic process. Again they will tell us that it will not undermine the protection of workers, consumers or the environment. And again they will be wrong.”

Today, many do not realize that we are well on our way to one world church under the Pope and one world government under the U.S. Why didn't the U.S. have to submit to the same regulations that Canada did? Are they not subject to the same conditions of the NAFTA agreement, or do they get a special exemption because they, through their corporations, are actually the only sovereign government in the world today? For some time now the U.S.A has been speaking as a dragon militarily and now they are even doing so financially. The multi-national corporations are truly American in their spirit of arrogance and control. This is yet another way that America is exercising all the power of the first beast, the Papacy. The Pope has had his control in virtually all areas of society in the past, and now through television advertising and other forms of media hype, the U.S. corporations are exercising great powers of control and mind manipulation in preparation for the closing scenes in the last great drama – starting with the National Sunday Law in the U.S.

By Jerry Eaton



# IT MUST HAVE BEEN AN ANGEL!

By Idel Suarez, Jr., Ph.D., Tampa, FL, USA

On a normal Friday night, on January 22, 1999, I was busy studying the Bible and reviewing the Sabbath School lesson at my desk. Suddenly, I heard loud sirens go off which seemed to get closer and louder to my home. I thought maybe the ambulance cam next door or the house across the street was on fire. Then, I heard a loud crash! I ran to the door and opened it, only to be shocked to see seven police patrol cars on my property. The police officers were racing out of their cars and running towards my home. I looked to the left and there, only a few inches from my living room wall, was an empty black Mustang, with indications that its occupants had just recently left the vehicle. The officers ran past our door on the side of our property towards our back yard, chasing two teenagers who had run out of the dark Mustang and were apparently trying to get away. Fleeing young men jumped into the water. Soon the police officers ran back to their cars and sought to reach the other side of the creek over a nearby bridge. A police chopper with its bright lights and loud noise started to circle our home, seeking to find the fugitives.

Our neighbours came up to the window and said, "We heard a loud crash and ran out to see if you were OK." I responded, "We are OK and I also heard a loud crash." Our friendly neighbour added, "I'll check to see if the car crashed into your wall or hit the front tree." She later returned saying, "Everything looks undamaged." One officer and a sergeant finally knocked on our front door and requested that I step outside. He said, "We have already caught the two young men. We would like you to inspect your wall and notice

that no harm was done." I walked up to the wall and saw that the car had raced onto the property and stopped within two inches of the wall. I had heard a crash, but where was the damage? The wall had been unscratched and the tree was untouched. I said to the sergeant, "Why, this is a miracle! an angel must have stopped the oncoming car from crashing into the wall. How is it possible that a speeding car could have stopped so close to the wall without hitting it?" the sergeant then inquired, "Do you believe that angels protect your home?" I quickly replied, "Yes, I believe that angels protect me." He looked wondering into my face and gave no further reply.

We had all heard the loud crash, and now could see the dark Mustang car only two inches (five centimeters) from the outside wall of our home. It was impossible that it could have stopped so fast and so exactly while seeking to escape and avoid being caught by pursuing police cars.

I wonder if the results would have been different if I had not been studying the word of God and meditating upon His word.

It must have been an angel. "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them." Psalms 34:7.

AMEN





## MISSIONARY VISIT TO FIJI

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 1999, Brother Jerry Eaton and I traveled to the islands of Fiji to visit the believers and do some missionary work.

We arrived in Suva, the capital city of the beautiful islands of Fiji on March 9<sup>th</sup> after about 30 hours of travel. The same day we visited our dear sister Frances and made plans for the time we would stay in Fiji.

The following morning we walked along the oceanfront and met a young man, Nacani, who immediately became interested in our message. He stayed the week with us, studying and canvassing in our neighborhood.

In Fiji most of the people speak English but they have their own Fijian language also, which is commonly used among the natives. To our surprise the people were extremely friendly and open to religious discussion. Every day we visited various families and studied our message with them. We hope that soon some of them will be ready for baptism.

On Sabbath we stayed together all day until the evening, continually studying with the members and visitors. We met interested people from the Seventh-day Adventist church, from the 1951 Reform and also from the Independent Ministries. There is a great potential for missionary work in Fiji.

The one week went by quickly and I had to bid farewell to the members and interested souls. Brother Jerry Eaton decided to stay two more weeks, while Pastor Keni was driving me to the Nadi airport (180 km).

Let us pray for the work in Fiji that many will take their stand with the remnant people of God.

Timo Martin.

In the next issue of the Messenger we will have a more detailed report from the missionary trip by Brother Eaton.

# TEACHING; AN EFFECTIVE WAY



In Christ's parable teaching, the same principle is seen as in His own mission to the world. **What does this mean??**

One answer is (i) That we might become acquainted with his divine character and life. (ii) Christ took our nature and dwelt among us. (iii) Divinity was revealed in humanity; invisible glory in human form (God is a spirit). (iv) Men could learn of the unknown through the known; i.e. Heavenly things were revealed through the earthly.

So it was in Christ's parable teaching, the unknown was illustrated by the known; i.e. divine truths by earthly things with which the people were most familiar. Just the same as 2,000 years ago, we too like them must understand the deeper meaning of these parables, as they relate to us on an individual basis. We each must seek and find forgiveness, mercy and righteousness from Christ. Not as a family, not as husband and wife, not as a group, but we must each individually plead to him to come and live in our hearts.

**Who gave the messages in the lilies?? Who created them?? Are there messages that the plant and flowers give to us also??**

We see Him speak of how the lilies clothing is even more beautiful than Solomon's (who was the richest man on the earth), and that He provided for the simple flowers (lilies), so therefore we are not plants, but human beings. Will He not much more look after our basic needs? He even knows how many strands of hair we have. Does anyone know how many strands he or she has or how many have fallen to the ground today without our knowledge??

When Christ spoke the parables among the multitude there were not only the children and youth, but also men and women full of worries and perplexities, and sore with disappointment and sorrow. He interpreted the messages which he (Christ) himself gave to the lilies and the grass of the fields. In every lily, flowers and grass he desires us to see his word as full assurance and this will help to confirm our trust in God.

Parable definition: By connecting His teaching with the scenes of life, experience, or nature, He secured the attention and impressed the hearts.

**What happens afterwards when we look upon the objects that illustrate the lessons we learn from Christ??** We can recall the lessons of Christ as the people did, to confirm our trust more deeply in Him.

**What were other purposes of the parables??**

(i) By using a variety of illustrations, the truth was presented in different phases. For example; the idle workers standing in the vineyard parable, the prodigal son and the wedding garment parables. (ii) The different parables appealed to different hearers; none who listened felt as if they were neglected or forgotten- the humblest, the most sinful heard in his teaching a voice that spoke to them in sympathy and tenderness.

We also today are different, we do not share similar interests, our minds are different so we react to the gospel as it is preached from the different angles or points of view with the same goal which is our salvation.

**(I) Who else was amongst the multitude gathered about Him?**

(ii) **What was their desire for Christ?** (iii) **How did Christ try to help these people of society through His parables?** Priests, scribes and elders, Herodians, rulers, world loving people, bigoted, ambitious men, lawyers and doctors etc. They desired to find some accusation against Him to bring him before the Sanhedrin. In parables He rebuked the wicked works of those who occupied high positions. In figurative language He clothed the truth of so cutting a character that had it been spoken in direct denunciation, they would not have listened to His word and would speedily have put an end to His ministry. So He evaded the spies and made the truth so clear that error was manifested, and the honest in heart profited by His lessons. He avoided much controversy so He could take the gospel of freedom from sin to others and not cut short His work.

It says in the book of Romans that through nature and experiences of life, men were taught of God. Rom. 1:20 R.V. "The invisible things of Him since the creation of the world, were "perceived through the things that are made, even His everlasting power and divinity."

The Parables that Jesus taught are an indication of what constitutes higher education. What do you think? **Is becoming an engineer, teacher, architect, professor or specialist doctor, what higher education consists of ??** If so, Christ might have opened to man the deepest truths of science. He might have unlocked mysteries which have required many years to penetrate. He might have made suggestions in scientific lines of thought and stimulus for inventions to the close of time. But did he do this??? No!!!

In Luke 12:15, here we have an example of a civil matter in which Christ would not intervene. What man needs is a change of heart, forgiveness and power not to sin. He does not need something to be fixed nor does he need science or philosophy.

He would say nothing to gratify curiosity or to satisfy man's ambition by opening doors to worldly greatness. This would not help man!!! Pride never does, only a humble man can truly appreciate and accept the help he needs. Even in religion he did not direct people to study men's theories about God, His word or His works.

**So what did He teach???** He taught them to behold Him as manifested in His works, in His word and by His providence. This is what our study must always be; the study of how to become a divine human.

Amen  
Mike Newby  
[excerpts from Christ Object Lessons].



Our new church in New Zealand



## Don't Give Up

It was bad enough being left until last when they chose sides for a game of soccer. Ted was used to that. But when he kept missing the ball, and someone called, "Ted, Ted, Should've-stayed-in-bed," Ted was furious.

Why couldn't he kick the ball properly? He was sure he could kick it farther than anyone else in the class – if only he could get the timing right. But it was always the same. Just as the ball came towards him, it seemed to stop, and the next second it was too late.

He sat at the edge of the field and picked at the grass. Tomorrow he would tell Mrs. Meyers. He wouldn't go back for any more therapy. It wasn't helping at all. He was no better at kicking or catching than he was three months ago. His math was just as bad. He still reversed the numbers in his answers. Why, only this morning he told the math teacher six times nine is 45, when he really meant to say 54. As for spelling – well his English teacher was ready to quit.

He gave up two afternoons a week for therapy. *Two whole* afternoons of his own time. It wasn't worth it! He was just dumb and that's all there was to it.

He felt a twinge of guilt because he knew Mrs. Meyers didn't like him to think of himself as dumb. But what other word was there for it when his writing looked like he did it during an earthquake and he couldn't spell the same word right two days running? But there *was* another word for it – a long word and Ted could hardly pronounce it, let alone spell it, *dyslexia*. But who'd ever heard of dyslexia? None of Ted's friends had.

Ted didn't know what it was or what caused it, but he knew that it made him get his letters and numbers in the wrong order. Even though he might have the right letters all set in his mind's eye, when he went to put it down on paper it came out wrong. Worse yet – it meant that he could neither kick a ball nor catch one properly. And he got mixed up with left and right, early and late, before and after, and – and Ted snatched up a handful of grass. Oh, what was the use!

Then he remembered Mrs. Meyers' words: "You don't really cure dyslexia. You learn to overcome it with patience and determination."

"Well, I don't have much of either", he decided angrily.

School over at last, Ted decided to bury himself in the TV cartoons so he could forget his problems for awhile. But his mother met him at the door.

"Do you remember the Smiths who used to live next door?" she asked, holding a letter in her hand.

"Sure I remember them", Ted replied. "I used to play with Julia. She's a year older than I am, isn't she?"

"That's right," mother said, and her face grew serious. "Julia was in a car accident nearly a year ago. She's confined to a wheelchair now, I think, from what her mother says."

Ted was shocked. He could remember Julia challenged him to bicycle races. The older boys always wanted her to play baseball with them. She could hit as far as any of them, and run a lot faster. He couldn't imagine her stuck in a wheelchair.

"They're coming back to town for a week," mother continued, "and want to drop by to see us on Tuesday. I guess you could miss your therapy class for once. I'm sure Julia would like to see you again."

Ted nodded. He didn't tell his mother he'd been planning to miss the class anyway.

By Tuesday, Ted hadn't changed his mind. Now all he had to do was convince his mother. He would start on that, he decided, as soon as the Smith's left.

In spite of the wheelchair, Julia hadn't changed a bit. She looked a little paler than Ted remembered, but when she began to tease him for his thick red hair, Ted knew she was still the same old Julia. In fact, the wheelchair hardly seemed to slow her down. She even let Ted push her around the old neighborhood. She didn't seem at all embarrassed by her wheelchair.

They had been outside for a couple of hours when Julia decided it was time to go in. Ted figured she must be tired and followed her into the house.

"Hey, Mom," she called, wheeling into the living room. "It's time for my exercises."

"Why don't you let them go for today," Mrs. Smith suggested. "You and Ted could find something to do till supper time."

Julia's lips met in a thin line. "No, mother," she said firmly. "Nothing's going to make me miss my exercise. Dr. Grey said that there's a chance I'll walk again if I keep it up. Well, I'm going to keep it up," she said emphasizing every word. "I *will* walk again. You'll see!"

"If determination has anything to do with it, you certainly will," her mother replied.

Gently Mrs. Smith lifted Julia out of the wheelchair and helped her stand up. Julia placed her arm around her mother's neck. Gathering her long pink skirt, she began to take a step. Slowly, painfully, she made three or four steps. Then she asked Ted for the wheelchair and sank down into it.

"I do this every day for 20 minutes or more, if I can," she explained, breathing deeply from the exertion.

"That's hard work!" Ted exclaimed admiringly.

Julia grinned. "It's nothing to what I do every morning with the physiotherapist. Now *that's* hard work, and it hurts too." She made a face. "Here, how about you getting on the other side of me. With two of you to help, I should make great progress."

At last Mrs. Smith insisted that she had done enough. "Okay," Julia agreed, "but the next time we come to see Ted, I'll be walking again."

Ted was sure she would. He didn't think Julia would *ever* give up until she was walking. He felt a stab of guilt, looking at her now sinking deep into the wheelchair. Dark shadows of exhaustion showed on her face. Suppose she knew I wanted to give up my therapy, he thought. "Quitter!" She would say. The guilty feeling grew and stayed with him for the rest of Julia's visit.

All the same, Ted was sorry to see her go, Julia waved and called through the car window, "See you next year."

Ted nodded. He turned to go back into the house. If he really was going to quit his therapy class, he had to convince his mom now. Tomorrow would be too late. His class was right after school.

“Mom, have you got a minute?” he began as they walked in to the living room. But then he stopped. He remembered Julia struggling to take those few steps across the rug. How could he quit his therapy knowing what it was costing Julia to learn to walk?

Mom was waiting for him to continue. “What is it, Ted?” she asked.

“Oh. . .” he hesitated. “Will you be sure to let Mrs. Meyers know I’ll be there tomorrow? I don’t want to miss both sessions this week.”

*“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might;” Eccl. 9:10*

*Oh Lord, when I am tempted to give up, give me the extra strength to continue even when the going gets rough. Please take away my discouragement and fill me with hope.*



## **Humble Onion is Good for you**

Returning from a recent skiing holiday to a empty larder save for a sack of potatoes and a bag of cooking onions, Anne Lindsay was stumped--but not for long. Her family was soon sitting down to steaming bowls of onion and potato soup.

“Besides being essential, onions have all sorts of hidden nutritional value,” says the Toronto-based nutritionist and writer. Yet onions are among the vegetable that we tend to take for granted, especially because they are inexpensive and always available.

Onions are members of the powerful allium family, which includes garlic, leeks and chives. They are important in detoxifying the body. Onions are also powerfully diuretic, dissolving and eliminating urea, thus making them useful in the treatment of rheumatism, arthritis and gout.

Half a cup of chopped onions has 28 calories. Onions contain some fiber (to relieve constipation, prevent hemorrhoids and help stave off colon cancer), folic acid (beneficial to pregnant women) and a generous dose of vitamin C. They also contain substances that seem to inhibit the formation of blood clots.

When buying onions, it’s helpful to know the differences among the varieties:

The most pungent and therefore the most commonly used in recipes where flavour is important is the cooking onions. These yellow onions are available year-round in mesh bags or loose in bins. They can be used in stir-fries or slow-cooked casseroles. They can be baked, braised, boiled, grilled and made into classic onion soup. “Slow, gentle cooking seems to bring out their sweetest flavour,” Lindsay says.

Large sweet Spanish and red onions, harvested from early September until the latter part of December, are the next most utilized. Because they are milder, they can be used in salads and sandwiches or on burgers.

When buying onions, choose those that are dry and firm, McDonald says. They should be free of visible decay or blemishes and shouldn’t have soft areas around the necks. The skin should be papery, almost brittle.

Store them in the mesh bag they are sold in for maximum air circulation.

“If kept cool and dry, they should last well for up to one month,” she says, but adds they shouldn’t be refrigerated unless cut because the air in the fridge is too moist.

**SIN  
BIG OR SMALL  
OR MODERATE,  
ALL OF THEM  
I REGRET**

By: Sharon Eaton



**Farewell get-together in Fiji**

**index**

The Commencement of the 1844 Sealing Message	2	It must have been an Angel	20
New Zealand	3	Missionary visit to Fiji	21
Reformation part two	4	Teaching; An effective way	22
The hour is late	6	Don't give up	24
Revealing Truth Series 3-7	9	The humble Onion is good for you	26
Blessing of a contrite heart	14	Sin	27
Internet: Beast or Friend	15	It's Jewish	28
Current Scene	17		

## "It's Jewish"

When we present God's holy law,  
And arguments from Scripture draw,  
Objectors say, to pick a flaw,  
"It's Jewish!"

Though at the first Jehovah blessed  
And sanctified His day of rest,  
The same belief is still expressed,  
"It's Jewish!"

Though creation with this began,  
And thence through all the Scriptures ran,  
And Jesus said 'twas made for MAN,  
"It's Jewish!"

Though not with Jewish rites – which passed  
But with the moral law 'twas classed:  
Which must exist while time shall last,  
"It's Jewish!"

If from the Bible we present  
The Sabbath's meaning and intent,  
This answers every argument –  
"It's Jewish!"

Though the disciples, Luke and Paul,  
Continue still this rest to call  
The "Sabbath-day," this answers all –  
"It's Jewish!"

The Gospel Teacher's plain expression,  
That "sin is of the law transgression,"  
Seems not to make the least impression –  
"It's Jewish!"

They love the day of MAN'S invention --- (SUNday)  
But if Jehovah's rest we mention,  
This puts an end to all contention –  
"It's Jewish!"

Oh, ye who thus God's day abuse  
Simply because 'twas kept by Jews;;  
The Saviour too, you must refuse –  
He's Jewish!

The Scriptures, then we may expect  
For the same reason you'll reject;  
For, if you'll stop to recollect –  
*They're Jewish!*

Thus the apostles, too, must fall:  
For Andrew, Peter, James and Paul,  
Thomas, and Matthew, John and all,  
Were Jewish!

So to your hapless state resign  
Yourself in wretchedness to pine;  
Salvation surely you'll decline –