



*The Reformation*  
**Messenger**

VOLUME 28, NUMBER 10, OCTOBER 2021

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**WE BELIEVE:** The all-wise loving God created all things in the universe by His Son, Jesus Christ. He

is the Owner and Sustainer. He met the challenge to His loving leadership and authority by reconciling the world to Himself through the life, death, and resurrection of His Son, the Word made flesh. The Holy Spirit, Jesus' representative on earth convicts of sin, guides into truth, and gives strength to overcome all

unrighteousness. The Bible is the record of God's dealings with mankind and the standard of all doctrine, the Ten Commandments are the transcript of His character and the foundation of all enduring reform. His people, in harmony with God's word and under the direction of the Holy Spirit call all men everywhere to be reconciled to God through faith in Jesus. Bible prophecy reveals that earth's history will soon close with the visible return of Jesus Christ as King to claim all who have accepted Him as the world's only Redeemer and their Lord.

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darkest forest? Much less ought we to doubt the word of Jesus, who has said, "He that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." He will not leave those who trust in Him to fall under the temptations of Satan. This is not his way of dealing with His children. He has promised to lift upon them the light of His countenance." —*The Signs of the Times*, October 6, 1887

"We need to have more distinct views of Jesus,

"It is not the will of God that we should be gloomy or impatient; nor that we should be light and trifling. It is Satan's studied plan to push persons from one extreme to the other. As children of the light, God would have us cultivate a cheerful, happy spirit, that we may show forth the praises of Him who hath called us out of darkness into His marvelous light. A lady once lived in our family nine years, and during all this time we did not hear an impatient word or a light expression from her lips; and yet she was the most cheerful person I ever saw. Hers was not a life of darkness and gloom, nor of lightness and frivolity. In this respect our lives should be like hers. God would not have us live under a cloud, but as in the light of His countenance.

"Some are naturally of a reticent disposition; a smile is seldom seen upon their faces, and they seem more like statues than human beings. Such should open their hearts to the Sun of righteousness, and gather precious rays of light from Jesus, that they may reflect them to others. God wants you, brethren and sisters, to have this light in your hearts, and then you will be channels of light wherever you are. Like the sunflower, which turns its face constantly toward the sun, you must look continually toward the Source of light, that you may catch every ray possible.

"Many who profess to be followers of Christ are as worlds without the sun. If these would leave their darkness and unbelief, and press forward in faith, they would become light in the Lord. Who would think of distrusting a dear friend who promised that if we would follow Him He would lead us safely through the

and a fuller comprehension of the value of eternal realities. The beauty of holiness is to fill the hearts of God's people, and that this may be accomplished, we should seek for divine disclosures of heavenly things. Brethren, we should pray in all places, and under all circumstances. Our petitions may be only broken ejaculations, or they may be but secret thoughts of the heart, but whatever we have opportunity for, let the soul be drawn out and upward, that God may grant us a breath of His heavenly atmosphere. Let the spirit groan after God, and mingle faith with fervent desire. We should encourage gratitude and praise, and always be found warring against every unholy impulse, crushing out of the soul every unclean lust. This is the warfare that must be accomplished. We may keep so near to God that in every unexpected trial our thoughts may turn to God as naturally as the flower turns to the sun. The sunflower keeps its face sunward. If it is turned from the light, it will twist itself on the stem, until it lifts up its petals to the bright beams of the sun. So let everyone who has given his heart to God, turn to the Sun of Righteousness, and eagerly look up to receive the bright beams of the glory that shine in the face of Jesus. Thus we may educate the soul to press its way out of the corrupted moral atmosphere of the world, of sin and selfishness, into the atmosphere that is divine and health-giving." —*The Signs of the Times*, December 16, 1889

*Ellen G. White*



# The One Shall Be Taken and the Other Left

Who will decide who shall be taken? God will not decide it; Satan cannot do it. We ourselves must decide our destiny, if we will be taken to heaven or be left to perish in the lake of fire. God the Father, and Jesus will accept our decision, and this decision will stand for eternity.

Jesus said, "Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left." Matthew 24:40-41

In the world we have two and a half billion Christians, and they all expect to be taken to heaven; but the Bible says that only a small remnant will be saved. There will be only 144,000 of those who believe in the Three Angel's messages, who will be alive when Jesus comes that will be taken to heaven. The Great Multitude will be resurrected at Jesus' coming.

"And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel." Revelation 7:2-4

All professing Christians believe in God, go to church, pray, but only a small number of them will be sealed and taken to heaven because they are misled to believe that they do not need to keep all the commandments,

and they believe their religious teachers. In school, students have to pass exams, and if they get one point below the passing mark they fail and do not get the diploma. In the school of Christ, you must learn to keep all the commandments.

Jesus said, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Matthew 5:48

This is the passing mark that we must reach in order to be taken to heaven, and only a small number of professed Christians reach this passing mark. Only the children of light will reach the passing mark. "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." 1 Thessalonians 5:5

There is a great difference between light and darkness. Light is from God and darkness is from Satan. "He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes." 1 John 2:9-11

The difference between saved and unsaved Christians is that one loves everybody, even his enemies, and the other can dislike some people. Even the disciples of Jesus had Satan's spirit at times. "And they did not receive Him, because His face was as though He would go to Jerusalem. And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt Thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them,

even as Elias did? But He turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village." Luke 9:53-56

Jesus said to the Pharisees who did not believe in Him. "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." John 8:44

Sister White wrote of the Pharisees who were planning to kill Jesus. "The same evil spirit that tempted Christ in the wilderness, and that possessed the maniac of Capernaum, controlled the unbelieving Jews. But with them he assumed an air of piety, seeking to deceive them as to their motives in rejecting the Saviour. Their condition was more hopeless than that of the demoniac, for they felt no need of Christ and were therefore held fast under the power of Satan." -*The Desire of Ages*, p. 256

These unbelieving Pharisees were teachers of religion among the Jews, yet they were blinded by Satan. Yet everyone was not blinded by Satan, there were faithful members in the church. "Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch. Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith. And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people." Acts 6:3-8

The church had both faithful members who will be taken to heaven, and also unfaithful members blinded by Satan, like Ananias and Saphira, to whom Peter said, "Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?" Acts 5:3

When a person sins against the Holy Spirit, Satan's spirit enters in, and he may not realize it. "It is not God that blinds the eyes of men or hardens their heart. He sends them light to correct their errors, and to lead them in safe paths; it is by the rejection of this light that the eyes

are blinded and the heart hardened. Often the process is gradual, and almost imperceptible. Light comes to the soul through God's word, through His servants, or by the direct agency of His Spirit; but when one ray of light is disregarded, there is a partial benumbing of the spiritual perceptions, and the second revealing of light is less clearly discerned. So the darkness increases, until it is night in the soul. Thus it had been with the Jewish leaders. They were convinced that a divine power attended Christ, but in order to resist the truth, they attributed the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan. In doing this they deliberately chose deception; they yielded themselves to Satan, and henceforth they were controlled by his power.

"Closely connected with Christ's warning in regard to the sin against the Holy Spirit is a warning against idle and evil words. The words are an indication of that which is in the heart. 'Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.' But the words are more than an indication of character; they have power to react on the character. Men are influenced by their own words. Often under a momentary impulse, prompted by Satan, they give utterance to jealousy or evil surmising, expressing that which they do not really believe; but the expression reacts on the thoughts. They are deceived by their words, and come to believe that true which was spoken at Satan's instigation. Having once expressed an opinion or decision, they are often too proud to retract it, and try to prove themselves in the right, until they come to believe that they are. It is dangerous to utter a word of doubt, dangerous to question and criticize divine light. The habit of careless and irreverent criticism reacts upon the character, in fostering irreverence and unbelief. Many a man indulging this habit has gone on unconscious of danger, until he was ready to criticize and reject the work of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said, 'Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgement. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.'" -*The Desire of Ages*, p. 322-323

Millions of professed Christians live a lifestyle of sin, yet continue going to church, and are even fanatical about their faith. The Seventh-day Adventist church leaders decided allow their members to join the army and fight in the war, knowing very well the words of Jesus are to "love your enemies. . . and do good to them that hate you." Matthew 5:44

There are two different kinds of Christians, one is being sanctified, he is more holy every day, and every day he has a greater desire to do missionary work; from every



pay cheque he gives a little more to the church, he prays more than before, he is more patient than before, he is going in the right direction, led by the Holy Spirit.

Another Christian is losing ground and he is backsliding. He is not in every meeting anymore, he sees no value in them, he hardly does missionary work any more, his offerings are less than before, and he is easily irritated and offended. He may be weak and need encouragement to return. Some will return, while others remain defiant in their backsliding.

Two Christians may look alike from the outside, but one is spiritually blind, the other has spiritual eyesight. The Jews were blind, they saw nothing good in Jesus, and therefore they crucified Him, and they hated His disciples and persecuted them. Today there are millions of blind Christians. Many have heard the truth about Sabbath, and reject it. They choose to follow manmade teachings in fallen churches instead.

Two Christians seem alike from the outside. Both of them are righteous. One of them has Christ's righteousness, and the other has self-righteousness. Both of them look humble—one is proud of his humility, the other is humble even in his own heart. Self-righteous Christians look good, and faithful, but in reality they are filled with Satan's spirit, and are further from heaven than unbelievers, open sinners. Jesus said that "publicans and harlots go the kingdom of God before you" (Matthew 21:31–32).

Two Christians look similar, but are different; one of them has the fruits of the Spirit. He loves even his enemies, he has fulness of joy, nothing can make him unhappy. He has perfect peace—peace that passes understanding, he has long-suffering, goodness, faith, and gentleness.

Peter writes about a true Christian: "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption of the world through lust. And beside this, given all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins." 2 Peter 1:4–9

Two Christians look alike, but one of them continues in a lifestyle of sin, while the other is striving to overcome sin. "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." 1 John 3:8–9

Two men stood side by side, Jesus and Barrabas; both of them claimed to be the Messiah. Barrabas had excited sedition against the Roman government. He was exactly what the Jews wanted, therefore they all cried, "Give us Barrabas, and crucify Christ."

Today, the same thing is happening among the Christians; they claim that they obey Christ, but in reality they obey Satan. "Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity." Matthew 7:21–23

Two Christians look alike, one is thankful and satisfied, appreciating the blessings that God has given him. The other is complaining and unhappy. We need to be thankful even if we have only little material things. Whatever we have is more than what we deserve.

God is purifying His church by shaking. There will not remain anyone who is almost saved, almost perfect, almost holy; no, every member who remains in the church after the shaking will be taken to heaven. No one will be left in the church that has Satan's spirit. Then the church will receive the Latter Rain.

There is a true religion, full of power, full of love, joy, and peace. God will give to His church "the unsearchable riches of Christ." Ephesians 3:8. It is the hidden treasure that God has promised to give us; we will be full of happiness, and clothed with Christ's righteousness. Let us make sure that we will be taken to heaven and not left to perish in the lake of fire. Amen.

*Timo Martin*





# Wisdom for Money Management Part 3

"It is my money, I worked for it, and I'll spend it as I want." Have you ever spoken such words? Or heard someone else say them? This attitude shows that the person does not have a proper biblical understanding of finances. They need to be taught: "The earth is the LORD'S, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24:1. How we earn and spend our money tells a lot about who we are and what we consider important in life. How we manage money also affects our relationship with God and the people around us. We need a good understanding so that we may be able to put money in its proper place, where it serves as a tool for God's purposes, not as a god that rules us. Thus we can be a good support for each other as we put God first in our lives, worshipping Him alone.

In part one we studied about the power of money and how God owns everything. In article number two, the wisdom in earning, using and investing was written about.

Part three will bring it all together, showing the importance of a good Christian's attitude regarding money, what to do about debts, why and how to avoid debts.

## DEBTS AND LOANS

"It is not wisdom to become involved in debt. You are a wise man, and do not need this reminder. A debt is a yoke,—a binding, galling yoke." —*Christian Service*, p. 274

The dictionary defines "debt" as "money that a person is

obligated to pay to another." This includes money owed to credit card companies, bank loans, money borrowed from relatives or friends, the house mortgage, and past due bills. Scripture does not say that debt is a sin, but it discourages the use of debt. The first part of Romans 13:8 says, "Owe no man any thing." *The Amplified Version* says, "Keep out of debt and owe no man anything."

"Debt" can be defined as "Borrowing to buy now, with intent to pay later at prescribed times." It is a promise to make payments until the debt is paid off. Generally, borrowing involves also paying interest on the money. The problem arises when people purchase items they covet, but do not need, and are unable to pay at the moment, hoping to pay at a later date.

"Many, very many, have not so educated themselves that they can keep their expenditures within the limit of their income. They do not learn to adapt themselves to circumstances, and they borrow and borrow again and again, and become overwhelmed in debt, and consequently they become discouraged and disheartened." — *The Review and Herald*, December 19, 1893

### *Bible verses regarding debt:*

"The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth." Psalm 37:21. "Say not unto thy neighbor, Go, and come again, and to morrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee." Proverbs 3:28. "The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender." Proverbs 22:7. "Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he pos-

sesseth." Luke 12:15

Many people are in debt above what they are able to repay. The home and the church are affected by this.

- **Debt compared to slavery.** Proverbs 22:7
- **Commanded not to be slaves of others.** 1 Corinthians 7:23
- **Examples of hardship of debt.** 1 Samuel 22:1-2; 2 Kings 4:1; Nehemiah 5:1-5; Psalm 109:11; Isaiah 50:1
- **Being debt-free was positive.** Jeremiah 15:10
- **Debt was considered a curse.** Deuteronomy 28:15, 43-45
- **Being debt-free was considered a blessing.** Deuteronomy 15:4-6; 28:1-2, 12
- **Godly people repay debts.** Proverbs 3:27-28
- **Wicked people do not repay debts.** Psalm 37:21
- **The Lord can supernaturally provide resources to get out of debt.** 2 Kings 4:1-7
- **Forgiveness of debts every seventh year—a law for Old Testament believers.** Deuteronomy 15:1-11; 31:10-11; Nehemiah 10:31

Let us examine this *"debt is considered slavery"*. When we are in debt, we are in a position of servitude to the lender. And the deeper we are in debt, the more like servants we become. We do not have the freedom to decide where to spend our income, because our money is already obligated to meet these debts. The warning of the Apostle Paul to the Romans is applicable to us today: "Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law." Romans 13:7-8 (ESV). Two things stand out regarding debt: Paying your debts and avoiding debt of any kind except the debt of love. God Himself does not want you to be burdened with debt.

"The eighth commandment condemns manstealing and slave dealing, and forbids wars of conquest. It condemns theft and robbery. It demands strict integrity in the minutest details of the affairs of life. . . . and requires the payment of just debts or wages." *—Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 309

None "should manage his affairs in a way to incur debt. . . . When one voluntarily becomes involved in debt, he is entangling himself in one of Satan's nets which he sets for souls." *—Counsels on Stewardship* p. 254



Do not cooperate with **"A Demoralizing Practice.** The practice of borrowing money to relieve some pressing necessity, and making no calculation for canceling the indebtedness, however common, is demoralizing. The Lord would have all who believe the truth converted from these self-deceiving practices. They should choose rather to suffer want than to commit a dishonest act." *—Ibid.*, p. 255

**"Counsel to a Colporteur.** In your letter you complain of the yoke of debt. But there is no excuse for your being in debt. . . . Your freedom in borrowing, with no reason to suppose that you will be in a position to repay it, is doing great injustice to others, robbing them of their little all, and bringing reproach upon the cause of God. If you realized what you were doing at the time of your action, you would stop. You would see the sinfulness of robbing men, believers or unbelievers, and bringing them into strait places in order to relieve your present necessities." *—Ibid.*, p. 256

#### GOING INTO DEBT—WHY?

It is true that many people may have debts in their lives, but their reasons for going into debt may differ. "Through lack of experience, and miscalculation, we may be entrapped into the incurring of large debts, because the buildings and improvements cost two or three times as much as was estimated." *—Manuscript Releases*, vol. 10, p. 210

*Here are some reasons why people may be in debt:*

**Lack of Discipline.** They see, they want, and they buy. Their idea is: "I must have it, and have it now." So, they run up their debt beyond safe limits. This is simply, **"Unwise spending."** The Bible says that the foolish squander their money (Proverbs 21:20). It is to overspend and not feel responsible. It implies the failure to think things through.

**Selfishness and Greed.** These two are at the root of many unwise debts. They spend more than they make for greed, not caring about future repayment. Then, unfortunately, they are unwilling to accept the blame for their decisions. To buy indiscriminately is to fail to plan for future needs and expenses. No real control is placed on spending.

**Unfortunate Circumstances.** Some debt may be beyond our control such as a prolonged sickness, a loss through the forces of nature or loss of a job

#### WISDOM AND FREEDOM FROM DEBT

"Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of



men." 1 Corinthians 7:23. Our Heavenly Father made the ultimate sacrifice by giving His Son to die for us and pay the debt for our sins. And now He wants His children to be free to serve Him, not burdened down with debt. Getting out of debt requires commitment and hard work.

We must accept responsibility for dealing with our debts. If we made the debts then we are responsible before God for them (Romans 13:8). We need to humbly and penitently seek God's help, His wisdom, and His strength (James 4:6). Everyone should want to have the joy of being free of debt.

For some, it will be fairly simple and quick to be free of debt. But for others, it will be a real challenge. But the feeling of joy at the end is worth the price to be paid. Budget your spending. Commit to get out of debt. It is possible for a person to be free of debt.

**Be generous in giving.** "I have showed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35

Although you may be overburdened with debt, consider this. God said that those who are faithful in paying their tithes will have more than enough. He will protect their work so that it will not be unprofitable or fail. The enemy who devours their money and their labour will be rebuked by the Lord Himself (Malachi 3:8-13). However, if you are not faithful with your tithes and offerings, the enemy will be permitted to steal from you. If God made all these promises to you upon your faithfulness in tithing what do you have to lose?

"Those who are selfishly withholding their means need not be surprised if God's hand scatters. That which should have been devoted to the advancement of the work and cause of God, but which has been withheld, may be entrusted to a reckless son, and he may squander it. A fine horse, the pride of a vain heart, may be found dead in the stable. Occasionally a cow may die. Losses of fruit or other crops may come. God can scatter the means He has lent to His stewards, if they refuse to use it to His glory. Some, I saw, may have none of these losses to remind them of their remissness in duty, but their cases may be the more hopeless." -*Testimonies*, vol. 2, p. 661-662

I encourage you to be generous and give more than just your tithes. Jesus says that you will receive according to what you give (Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8).

Sometimes all you may have is the "widow's mite" but that "little" is a large amount in the eyes of God because you are giving sacrificially and not from a great abundance.



The key to remember is that giving leads to increase ("good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over") to help you do good works. Therefore if you have not been faithful with your tithes, start now. If you are a grudging giver, ask God to change your heart so that you become a cheerful giver. As you use your finances to help fulfill the Great Commission, God will honour your obedience and faith and provide help to get you out of debt.

**Lower your standard of living to the necessities of life.** Evaluate everything you have and cut out all unnecessary foods and material things and learn to live simply. (1 Corinthians 15:58; 2 Peter 1:6; James 1:2-4). A quiet, simple life is the safest environment for us to be able to invest enough time to nurture our relationships with others and with the Lord. "Study strive to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands." 1 Thessalonians 4:11

**Get counsel** "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise." Proverbs 12:15. "Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established." Proverbs 15:22

**Learn financial knowledge.** "By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures." Proverbs 24:3-4. None of us are perfect at making decisions, but we all can learn by experience and we can profit by our mistakes, unless we are too wise in our own eyes (Proverbs 3:7, 13).

**Be responsible with whatever you have. Do not ignore the little things.** "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much." Luke 16:10

**Understand what your true needs are. Be patient.** "Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny Thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain." Proverbs 30:8-9. "But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit

with patience.” Luke 8:15

**Be organized.** “Let all things be done decently and in order.” 1 Corinthians 14:40

**Carefully follow a budget.** “For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him.” Luke 14:28–29. Know well the condition of your life (Proverbs 27:23–27).

**Do not borrow. Eliminate Debt.** “Be determined never to incur another debt. Deny yourself a thousand things rather than run in debt. . . . Avoid it as you would the smallpox. Make a solemn covenant with God that by His blessing you will pay your debts and then owe no man anything if you live on porridge and bread. It is so easy in preparing your table to throw out of your pocket twenty-five cents for extras. Take care of the pennies, and the dollars will take care of themselves. It is the mites here and the mites there that are spent for this, that, and the other, that soon run up into dollars. Deny self at least while you are walled in with debts.... Do not falter, be discouraged, or turn back. Deny your taste, deny the indulgence of appetite, save your pence and pay your debts. Work them off as fast as possible. When you can stand forth a free man again, owing no man anything, you will have achieved a great victory.” – *Christian Service*, p. 257

**Do not co-sign for someone else’s loan.** “A man void of understanding striketh hands, and becometh surety in the presence of his friend.” Proverbs 17:18

**Do not strive to get rich.** “But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” 1 Timothy 6:9–10

**God has a plan for your life.** “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.” Jeremiah 29:11

There are legitimate reasons for debt when used wisely. But there are questions that we should ask before going into debt: Are we (married couple) in agreement regarding the debt? Can we have spiritual peace of mind over this debt? Am I meeting my financial goals with this debt? Why am I going into debt? Is it a wise or an unwise debt? Is it a sinful debt? A sinful debt is when we

make a debt having no intentions of paying it off. This is dishonesty and lying.

There are many consequences to unwise debts. It will create psychological issues such as family arguments, and physical and mental abuse. It is one of the five major causes of breakups of marriages. It leads to many crimes, mental breakdowns, and suicide. It causes neglect of caring for one’s family (read 1 Timothy 5:8). It can bring financial bondage. It can cause us to lose our desire to work. It can destroy our self-worth. It can cause our income to be insufficient to do what it should be able to do. As debt increases, we can become easily irritated with our family. We become angry with our “successful” friends and our self-esteem can be destroyed.

### CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE IN MONEY MANAGEMENT AND PRINCIPLES FOR TRUE HAPPINESS

The Christian should be more concerned about his attitude towards money, how he acquires it, how he manages it, and how he fulfills God’s will in his use of it. When financial wisdom is lacking, it is hard for Christians to be faithful servants. Things do not go well at home, and often, they do not go well at church either. The lost will not be reached. God will not be glorified with you. Your soul can be in jeopardy and Satan wins the battle, not God.

Those who wisely manage the money given to them will hear one day: “Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.” Matthew 25:21. The one who did not manage the money well will be surely condemned: “Thou wicked and slothful servant,...” Matthew 25:26. Therefore, this Bible principle should be followed: “Cease to do evil; Learn to do well.” Isaiah 1:16–17

**Learn to be content.** Contentment is mentioned often in Scripture, usually in reference to possessions. Paul wrote to Timothy, “And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.” 1 Timothy 6:8. To the Philippians he wrote: “Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.” Philippians 4:11

The path to contentment has three steps: 1) “learning” what God requires of us in handling money and possessions; 2) “doing” those requirements, and; 3) “trusting” God to provide exactly what He knows is best for us. True Christian contentment is an inner peace that accepts what God has chosen for our financial situation.

**Do not Covet.** Coveting means to crave another’s prop-



erty, and it is prohibited throughout Scripture. The tenth commandment begins with, “Thou shalt not covet . . .” and ends with, “any thing that is thy neighbour’s.” Exodus 20:17

A covetous person is an idolater. If you find yourself in this position of coveting others, ask the Lord to change your heart. “Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall He not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Matthew 6:30–33

**“Mind not high things.”** Romans 12:16. Do not determine your lifestyle by comparing it to others. Some use comparison to justify spending more than they should. Paul warned the Corinthians, “but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.” 2 Corinthians 10:12

Prayerfully submit spending decisions to the Lord.

**Success is meaningless apart from serving the Lord.** Nothing can replace the value of our relationship with the Lord. Ask yourself this question: Am I sacrificing a close relationship with Christ in the pursuit of wealth? “For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?” Mark 8:36

**Have courage to make a difference.** If you are seeing some things that need to change, have courage and do not delay making the change.

**“Be not conformed to this world.”** Romans 12:2. In the most affluent countries in the world, people are constantly bombarded with advertising to encourage them to spend money. Advertisers strive to send a very clear message—the happy, beautiful, life can be yours if you are willing to buy it. Author George Fooshee states it so well, “People buy things they do not need with money they do not have to impress people they do not even like.” An expensive lifestyle claims to satisfy some people’s deepest needs. When they want to live this counterfeit dream but cannot afford it, they suffer discontentment. If you seek the Lord’s guidance and godly counsel when making a spending decision you will not find yourself in this dilemma.

Covetousness, or the love of money causes evil in the lives of many. How many have robbed God of what

should have been given to His Cause and Kingdom (Malachi 3:8–10)? How many have robbed the lost of hearing the gospel because they did not give liberally to help spread it throughout the world (Romans 10:14–15)? How many have been led from the faith by the love of money (1 Timothy 6:10)?

Money cannot solve all problems, or buy happiness (Luke 12:15), but it is unwise use can destroy friendships and isolate families. The apostle Paul stated that covetousness is idolatry. When we have an unhealthy desire for possessions, we let money become our god (Colossians 3:5; Matthew 6:24).

You love money too much when you become insensitive to the needs of those about you. The apostle John says that God’s love does not abide in us when we do not show compassion to the needy about us (1 John 3:17).

“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?” Mark 8:36. Our failure to view our present lives through the lens of eternity is one of the biggest hindrances to seeing our lives and assets in their true light. Yet, Scripture states that the reality of our eternal future should determine the character of our present lives and the use of our money and possessions. People who do not know the Lord look at life as a brief interval that begins at birth and ends at death. With no eternal perspective, they think, “If this life is all there is, why deny myself any pleasure or possession?” But those who know Christ have an entirely different perspective. We know that life is short, and it is the testing time that will determine our fitness for heaven. “The days of our years are threescore and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years . . . for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. . . . So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” Psalm 90:10, 12

May the Lord give us wisdom as we humbly submit our will to His. “Cease to do evil; Learn to do well.” Isaiah 1:16–17. God knows what your basic needs are—food, clothing, shelter, health, education, transportation, etc. and He promises to provide for those who put their trust in Him and make service to Him first in their lives.

*Victor Shumbusho, DR Congo*





## Keep Your Eye Single

“Brethren, I entreat you to move with an eye single to the glory of God. Let His power be your dependence, His grace your strength. By study of the Scriptures and earnest prayer seek to obtain clear conceptions of your duty, and then faithfully perform it. It is essential that you cultivate faithfulness in little things, and in so doing you will acquire habits of integrity in greater responsibilities. The little incidents of everyday life often pass without our notice, but it is these things that shape the character. Every event of life is great for good or for evil. The mind needs to be trained by daily tests, that it may acquire power to stand in any difficult position. In the days of trial and of peril you will need to be fortified to stand firmly for the right, independent of every opposing influence.” —*Counsels on Health*, p. 404

“The Lord has a special work to do for us individually. As we see the wickedness of the world brought to light in the courts of justice and published in the daily papers, let us draw near to God, and by living faith lay hold of His promises, that the grace of Christ may be manifest in us. We may have an influence, a powerful influence, in the world. . . . We are to have an eye single to the glory of God. We are to work with all the intelligence that God has given us, placing ourselves in the channel of light, that the grace of God can come upon us to mold and fashion us to the divine similitude. Heaven

is waiting to bestow its richest blessings upon those who will consecrate themselves to do the work of God in these last days of the world's history.

“Personal influence is a power. It is to work with the influence of Christ, to lift where Christ lifts, to impart correct principles, and to stay the progress of the world's corruption. It is to diffuse that grace which Christ alone can impart. It is to uplift, to sweeten the lives and characters of others by the power of a pure example united with earnest faith and love.” —*God's Amazing Grace*, p. 272

“This life is full of gracious opportunities, which you can improve in the exercise of your God-given abilities to bless others, and in so doing bless yourself, without considering self in the matter. Trivial circumstances oftentimes prove a decided blessing to the one who acts from principle and has formed the habit of doing right because it is right. Seek for a perfect character, and let all you do, whether seen and appreciated by human eyes or not, be done with an eye single to God's glory, because you belong to God and He has redeemed you at the price of His own life. Be faithful in the least as well as in the greatest; learn to speak the truth, to act all times the truth. Let the heart be fully submitted to God. If controlled by His grace, you will do little deeds of kindness, take up the duties lying next to you, and bring



all the sunshine into your life and character that it is possible to bring, scattering the gifts of love and blessing along the pathway of life. Your works will be far-reaching as eternity. Your lifework will be seen in heaven, and there it will live, through ceaseless ages, because it is found precious in the sight of God.

“Remember that what is worth doing at all is worth doing well.” –*My Life Today*, p. 219

“Our simplicity will accomplish much in this work. We are not to try to climb up to high positions or to gain the praise of men. Our aim should not be to be the greatest. We are to have an eye single to the glory of God. We are to work with all the intelligence that God has given us, placing ourselves in the channel of light, that the grace of God can come upon us to mold and fashion us to the divine similitude. Heaven is waiting to bestow its richest blessings upon those who will consecrate themselves to do the work of God in these last days of the world's history. We shall be tested and tried; we may be called to spend wakeful nights; but let such times be spent in earnest prayer to God, that He may give understanding, and quicken the mind to discern the privileges that are ours.” –*The Review and Herald*, April 1, 1909

“Brethren, let us have an eye single to the glory of God. Let us not allow anything to interpose between us and Him. ‘If we follow on to know the Lord,’ we shall know that ‘His going forth is prepared as the morning; and He shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.’ If we are partakers of the divine nature, we shall reflect in life and character the image of our divine Lord. We cannot be indolent in seeking this perfection of character. We cannot yield passively to our surroundings, and think that others will do the work for us, ‘Every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure.’ We must be workers together with God. Life must become to us a humble, earnest working out of salvation with fear and trembling; and then faith, hope, and love will abide in our hearts, giving us an earnest of the reward that awaits the overcomer.” –*Historical Sketches of the Foreign Missions of the Seventh-day Adventists*, p. 135–136

“Carry on all your work on strictly religious principles. Let your earnest inquiry be: ‘What can I do to please the Master?’ Visit places where the believers need encouragement and help. At every step ask: ‘Is this the way of the Lord? Am I, in spirit, in word, in action, in harmony with His will?’ If you labor for God with an eye single to His glory, your work will bear the divine mold, and you will be carrying out the Lord's purposes.” –*Testimonies*

*for the Church*, vol. 9, p. 150–151

“Let us humble our souls before God. Let us work with an eye single to His glory. Let His praise be continually on our lips, for the benefits that He bestows are daily renewed, and should be acknowledged with thanksgiving. God is longsuffering and of tender mercy. Should He deal with us according to our perversity, according to our foolish, erratic course, our changeableness, where would we be? But ‘He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust’ (Psalm 103:14). Remember that no human being is of himself sufficient to stand against the wily foe. Hide in God, and be sure that the Holy Spirit is with you. You can conquer the enemy only as the Lord goes before you.” –*This Day With God*, p. 258

“The Lord leaves in darkness no man who has an ear to hear and a heart to understand. Let everyone keep the eye single to God's glory. Be not led astray by the snares of the wicked one. ‘Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall’ (1 Corinthians 10:12). Let the warnings that God has given in His Word be voiced by the watchmen on the walls of Zion and heeded by every soul in the Master's service.” –*The Upward Look*, p. 143

“Do not allow all your strength and energy to be given to worldly, temporal things during the week, and so have no energy and moral strength to give to the service of Christ on the Sabbath. There is earnest work to be done just now. We have not a moment's time to use selfishly. Let all we do be done with an eye single to the glory of God.” –*Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, p. 126

“Let every true, honesthearted worker be encouraged to work on, keeping in view the fact that every one will be rewarded as his works have been. Work with an eye single to the glory of God. Do not refuse to bear responsibilities because you have a sense of your weakness and inefficiency. God can give you strength and wisdom if you are consecrated to Him and keep humble. Let none through slothfulness refuse to work; and let none rush ahead, urging his service when it is not wanted.” –*Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, p. 70

“Remember that your works must stand the test of the Judgment. Let the eye be single to the glory of God, the heart pure, the thoughts brought into obedience to the will of God. Do something every day to improve, beautify, and ennoble the life that Christ has purchased with his own blood.” –*Gospel Workers*, p. 463

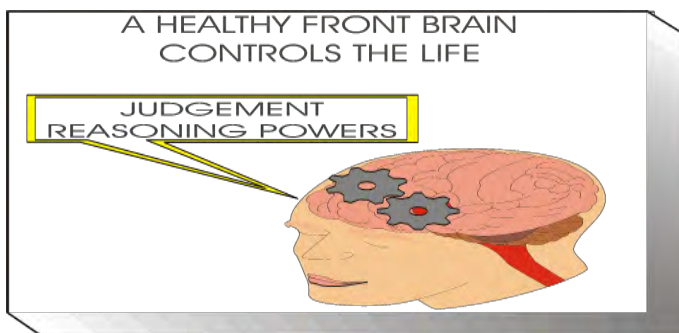
*Ellen G. White*

# THE BRAIN, THE MIND, & CONSCIOUSNESS



“To deal with minds is the nicest work in which men ever engaged.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 269

The brain is a complex organ that *controls thought, memory, emotion, touch, motor skills, vision, breathing, temperature, hunger and every process that regulates our body.* Together, the brain and spinal cord that extends from it make up the central nervous system, or CNS.



As a whole, the frontal lobe is responsible for higher cognitive functions such as memory, emotions, impulse control, problem solving, social interaction, and motor function. Damage to the neurons or tissue of the frontal lobe can lead to personality changes, difficulty concentrating or planning, and impulsivity.

**Brain Stem**—The brain stem is located beneath the limbic system. It is responsible for vital life functions such as breathing, heartbeat, and blood pressure.

“The brain nerves which communicate with the entire system are the only medium through which Heaven can communicate to man and affect his inmost life.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, p. 347

**Brain**—That soft whitish mass, or viscus, enclosed in the cranium or skull, in which the nerves and spinal marrow terminate, and which is supposed to be the seat of the soul or intelligent principle in man. The brain consists of the cerebrum, the brainstem and the cerebellum. It controls most of the activities of the body, processing, integrating, and coordinating information re-

ceived from the sensory organs, and making decisions.

It is divided above into a right and left hemisphere, and below into six lobes. It is composed of a cortical substance, which is external, and a medullary, which is internal. From the brain proceed nine pairs of nerves, which are distributed principally to the head and neck.

**Mind**—refers to all of those mental states, processes, and events that go on both consciously and unconsciously in the brain. Mind is the set of faculties responsible for mental phenomena. These faculties include thought, imagination, memory, will and sensation. They are responsible for various mental phenomena, like perception, pain experience, belief, desire, intention and emotion.

The intellectual or intelligent power in man; the understanding; the power that conceives, judges or reasons, e.g., I fear I am not in my perfect mind.

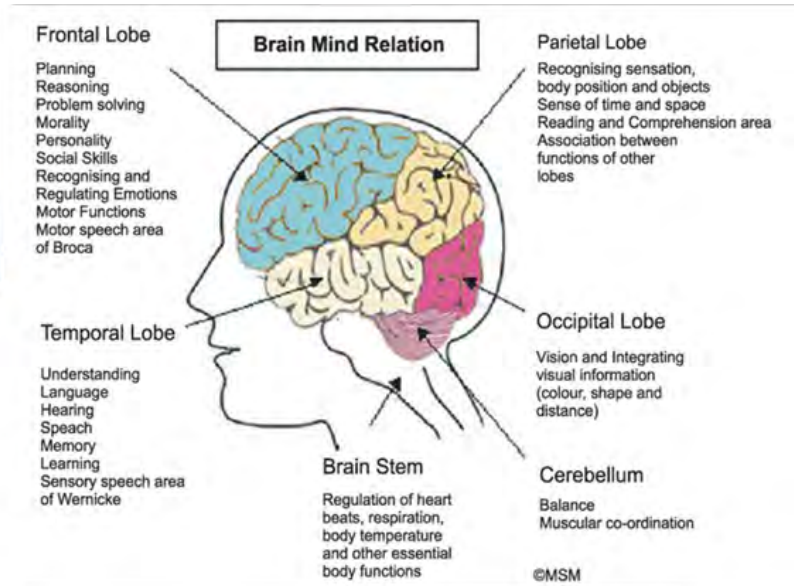
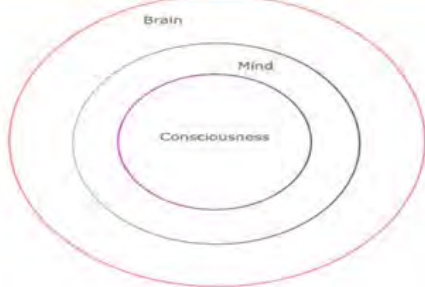
**Consciousness** refers to your individual awareness of your unique thoughts, memories, feelings, sensations, and environments. The knowledge of sensations and mental operations, or of what passes in one’s own mind; the act of the mind which makes known an internal object. Consciousness of our sensation, and consciousness of our existence, seem to be simultaneous. Consciousness must be an essential attribute of spirit.

Lots of animals besides humans have minds. We do not know how far down the phylogenetic scale consciousness goes, but it is clear that the higher animals are all conscious, and when we understand consciousness, we will see that it goes quite a long way down the scale. However, when you get down to the level of amoebae and paramecia, it is obvious that they are not conscious because they do not have the mechanisms essential for the creation of consciousness.

## THE THREE LEVELS OF THE MIND MODEL

The conscious, subconscious, and unconscious. Briefly,





consciousness defines our thoughts, actions, and awareness. Subconscious is defined as the reactions and actions we realized when we think of it. Unconscious is defined as the deep recesses of our past and memories.

### FREUD'S THREE LEVELS OF MIND

Freud delineated the mind into distinct levels, each with their own roles and functions.

- **The preconscious** consists of anything that could potentially be brought into the conscious mind.
- **The conscious mind** contains all of the thoughts, memories, feelings, and wishes of which we are aware at any given moment. This is the aspect of our mental processing that we can think and talk about rationally. This also includes our memory, which is not always part of consciousness but can be retrieved easily and brought into awareness.
- **The unconscious mind** is a reservoir of feelings, thoughts, urges, and memories that are outside of our conscious awareness. The unconscious contains contents that are unacceptable or unpleasant, such as feelings of pain, anxiety, or conflict.

Freud likened the three levels of mind to an iceberg. The top of the iceberg that you can see above the water represents the conscious mind. The part of the iceberg that is submerged below the water, but is still visible, is the preconscious. The bulk of the iceberg that lies unseen beneath the waterline represents the unconscious.

### DANGERS OF MEDIA AND SILENCING THE CONSCIOUS MIND

Subliminal and preconscious techniques.

*Neurolinguistic Programming* (NLP) derives much of its success from the techniques it uses to by-pass *conscious* mind activity and access the *unconscious mind*

The *subconscious mind* can handle much more information than the *conscious mind*. *Neuro-linguistic programming*, and *subliminal* messaging, and overriding conscious mind have a negative impact on our mind and behaviour.

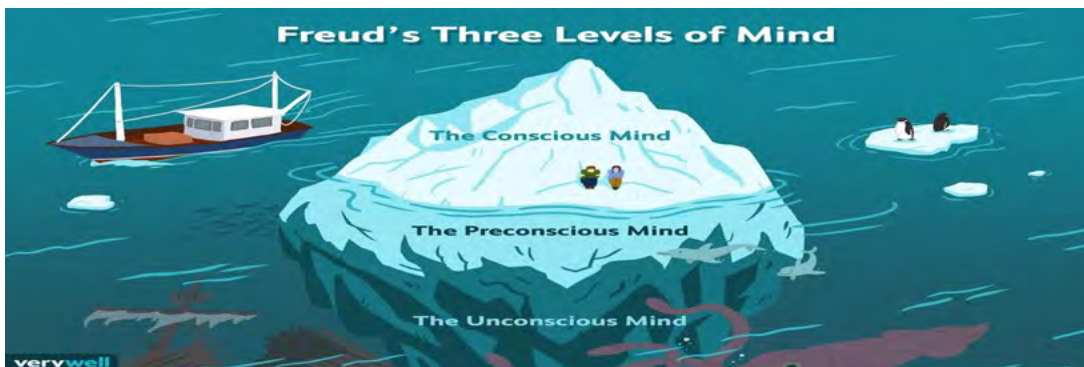
“The brain is the organ and instrument of the mind, and controls the whole body. In order for the other parts of the system to be healthy, the brain must be healthy. And in order for the brain to be healthy, the blood must be pure. If by correct habits of eating and drinking the blood is kept pure, the brain will be properly nourished.” –

*Medical Ministry*, p. 291

### THE DIVINE PLAN IN MAN'S CREATION

The thoughts and feelings combined make up the moral character.

Hence, we conclude that man was created with the character of God. Man



was possessed of the very thoughts and feelings of God before his fall.

“When Adam came from the Creator’s hand, he bore, in his physical, mental, and spiritual nature, a likeness to his Maker. ‘God created man in His own image’ (Genesis 1:27), and it was His purpose that the longer man lived the more fully he should reveal this image—the more fully reflect the glory of the Creator.” –*Education*, p. 15

### BEFORE THE FALL OF MAN

“God made man upright; He gave him noble traits of character, with no bias toward evil. He endowed him with high intellectual powers.” –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 49

### THE HIGHER AND LOWER POWERS:

#### Higher Powers:

**Intellect**—The faculty of the mind which receives or comprehends ideas communicated to it by the senses

–**Understanding**

**Conscience**—The faculty which decides (This is where the will is housed)

–**Moral sense**

**Reason**—The faculty to deduce justly, argue, convince, persuade or examine.

#### Lower Powers:

**Appetite**—A desire to satisfy some craving of the body

**Desire**—to wish or long for, crave or covet

**Passion**—A strong emotion that has an overpowering or compelling effect

*The voice of God can be heard only when our conscious is clear.*  
 “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath He set a tabernacle for the sun.” Psalm 19:1–4

### AFTER THE FALL



“When Adam came from the Creator’s hand, he bore, in his physical, mental, and spiritual nature, a likeness to his Maker. . . . But by *disobedience* this was forfeited. *Through sin the divine likeness was marred, and well-nigh obliterated. Man’s physical powers were weakened, his mental capacity was lessened, his spiritual vision dimmed.*” –*Education*, p. 15

“Satan is constantly on the alert to bring the race fully under his control. His strongest hold on man is through the appetite, and this he seeks to stimulate in every possible way.” –*Counsels for the Church*, p. 101

“The appetite and passions should be restricted and under the control of enlightened conscience, that the intellect may be unimpaired, the perceptive powers clear, so that the workings of Satan and his snares may not be interpreted to be the providence of God. Many desire the final reward and victory which are to be given to overcomers, but are not willing to endure toil, privation, and denial of self, as did their Redeemer. It is only through obedience and continual effort that we shall overcome as Christ overcame.” –*Counsels on Diet and Foods*, p. 59

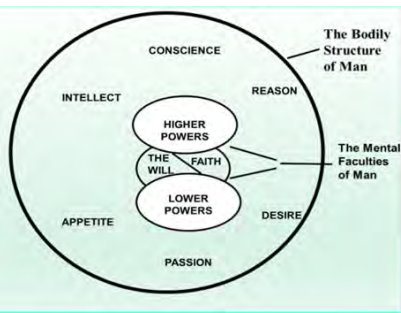
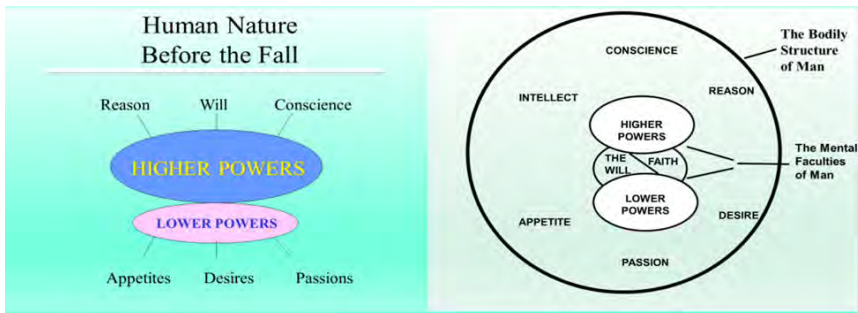
### OUR ROLE AS THE CHILDREN OF GOD

“To Know the Laws That Govern Mind and Body. It is the duty of every person, for his own sake and for the sake of humanity, to inform himself in regard to the laws of life and conscientiously to obey them. All need to become acquainted with that most wonderful of all organisms, the human body. They should understand the functions of the various organs and the dependence of one upon another for the healthy action of all. They should

study the influence of the mind upon the body and of the body upon the mind, and the laws by which they are governed.” –*Mind, Character, and Personality*, vol. 1, p. 3

### LAWS OF THE MIND ORDAINED BY GOD.

“He who created the mind and ordained its laws, provided for its development in accordance with them. [Note: There is perfect har-





mony between the Bible and true science. Psychology is the science and study of the mind and human behavior.]”  
 –Education, p. 41

“The Science of a Pure Christian Life—The science of a pure, wholesome, consistent Christian life is obtained by studying the Word of the Lord. This is the highest education that any earthly being can obtain. These are the lessons that the students in our schools are to be taught, that they may come forth with pure thoughts and clean minds and hearts, prepared to ascend the ladder of progress and to practice the Christian virtues.” –Manuscript 86, 1905

Surrounded with an atmosphere of peace, “all who are under the training of God need the quiet hour for communion with their own hearts, with nature, and with God. . . . We must individually hear Him speaking to the heart. When every other voice is hushed, and in quietness we wait before Him, the silence of the soul makes more distinct the voice of God. He bids us, ‘Be still, and know that I am God.’ Psalm 46:10. . . . Amid the hurrying throng, and the strain of life’s intense activities, he who is thus refreshed will be surrounded with an atmosphere of light and peace. He will receive a new endowment of both physical and mental strength.” –The Ministry of Healing, p. 58

**THE PLAN OF REDEMPTION**

“In returning to God, *the inclinations, the taste, the appetite, and the passions* are brought into higher, holier channels. The bias to evil is overcome through man’s determined effort, aided by the grace of Christ. The *faculties* that have been warped in a wrong direction are no longer misused, perverted, and misapplied. They are not wasted in selfish purposes, or fastened upon perishable things. The truth has been accepted, *has convicted the soul, transformed the character*, and there is a purification and elevation of all the powers of the being, and the God-given powers are no longer debased.” –The Review and Herald, March 1, 1887

“**Character building** is the most important work ever entrusted to human beings.” –Education, p.225

This work will involve the exercise of the mind in balancing, harmonizing, and perfecting all the various faculties and powers of our nature, recognizing and respecting all natural law and cause and effect relationships. Each power must be given its proper function and relation to all the other faculties for the sound and orderly working of the whole man. *Character* is developed through the exercise of these various powers of the mind in producing *thoughts and feelings*, which, as matter of law and natural course, find expression in behaviour and life. *And it is character that decides destiny.*

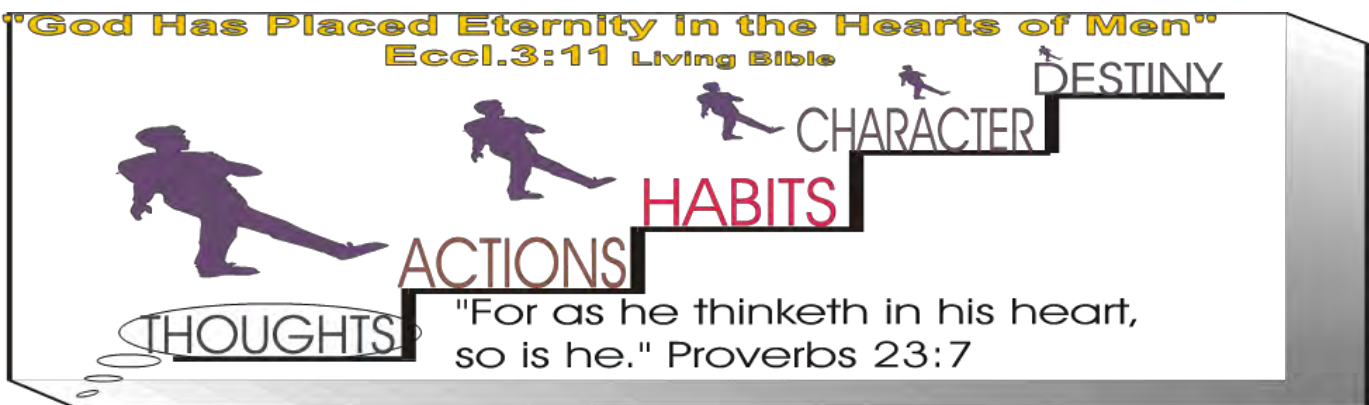
“The experimental knowledge of God and of Christ transforms man into the *image of God*. It gives man the mastery of himself, bringing *every impulse and passion of the lower nature under the control of the higher powers of the mind*. It makes its possessor a son of God and an heir of heaven. It brings him into communion with the mind of the Infinite, and opens to him the rich treasures of the universe.” –The Signs of the Times, September 12, 1906

“It is for you to yield up your will to Jesus Christ, and as you do this God will immediately take possession and work in you to will and to do of His good pleasure. Your whole nature will then be brought under the control of The Spirit of Christ, and even your thoughts will be subject to Him.” –Mind, Character, and Personality, p. 694

“You cannot control your impulses, your emotions, as you may desire, but you can control the will, and you can make entire change in your life. By yielding up your will to Christ, your life hid with Christ in God, and allied to the power which is above all principalities and powers. You will have strength from God that will hold you fast to His strength; and a new light, even the light of living faith, will be possible to you. But *your will must cooperate with God’s will.*” –Messages to Young People, p. 152. AMEN.

Daniel Kimeu

(all emphases in quotes supplied by the author)



**HEALTH MATTERS:**

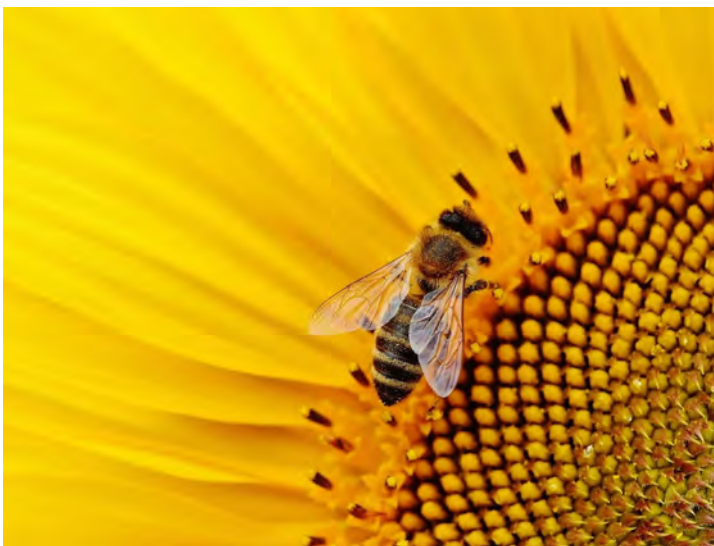
## Honey: Nature's Golden Liquid

The buzzing of bees in our gardens are a welcome sign for those who enjoy honey as part of one's diet. Honey is made by the aptly named honey bees. These bees gather nectar and pollen from plants. Nectar is used as an energy source, whereas pollen provides protein and other nutrients. The pollen that bees gather is usually used as food for larvae that eventually mature into bees. When bees fly from flower to flower when gathering nectar and pollen for themselves, they carry pollen on their legs. The pollen thus gets transferred from one flower to another while gathering food for themselves. This process is known as pollination; this process is necessary for any plant that contains seeds to produce flowers, which then produce fruit, vegetables or nuts. In plants, the male flower produces pollen. This pollen needs to be transferred to the female flowers for fertilization. This fertilizes the plant to grow fruit which contains seeds. What a wonderful system created by God! In feeding themselves, the bees also are instrumental in the growth and maturation of plants. Many of the crops

we rely on are pollinated by bees. Some examples are: almonds, beans, blueberries, cucumber, grapes, kale, peaches, squash, strawberries and many others. The majority of flowering plants are pollinated by bees and other animals, or the wind. About 80% of all flowering plants and over three-quarters of crop plants eaten by humans require animal pollinators.

Nectar is produced by plants in order to attract insects such as bees, to aid in pollination. It is a sugar-rich substance which provides a nutrient source for bees. Bees who collect nectar from plants also use it a food source for themselves. They also collect nectar to take back to their hives. The nectar is then used to make honey, which provides food for the bees in the colony. Honey is made by bees by reducing the moisture content of nectar from 70% to 20%. Bees store the honey in honeycombs over the winter months to provide food for the colony, especially baby bees, when food sources are scarce. Four pounds of nectar is needed to make one pound of honey. Each bee, in its lifespan of six weeks produces 1/12 of a teaspoon of honey; this requires 556 bees collecting nectar from about 2 million flowers to make one pound of honey. A typical beehive produces anywhere from 10 to 200 pounds (5–100 kg) of honey in a year. These are staggering statistics as to the amount of work that it takes to produce the jars of honey that we have in our homes. Bees are the only insect that produces food for humans.

The use of honey dates back to the beginning of the earth. Since ancient times honey has been used as a medicine and as a food. Honey has been found in the tombs of Pharaohs, some of it still edible. Honey is the only food that does not spoil as bacteria cannot grow in honey. The long life of honey is attributed to an enzyme





found in bees' stomachs which suppresses bacterial growth; thus, sealed honey can be kept almost indefinitely.

Honey was used as a food in early Bible times, with the first reference found in Genesis when Jacob commanded his sons to take of the best of the land to appease Joseph, as they journeyed to Egypt. When the Israelites left slavery in Egypt, they were promised a land that was "flowing with milk and honey". Even the manna in the wilderness was described as tasting like "wafers made with honey". Samson's famous riddle referred to the honey that was found in the lion's carcass that he had slain. John the Baptist's diet consisted of locusts and wild honey. In the book of Revelation, John referred to the little book as tasting sweet like honey in his mouth.

### **NUTRITIONAL CONTENT OF HONEY**

Honey has a very sweet taste, and is often used as a sweetener in many dishes in baking, cooking, desserts, as flavouring for teas, and as a spread on bread. Honey is also used as a medicine.

The actual taste, aroma, and colour of honey is dependent on the type of flowers that the bees find nectar from. Many honey lovers will choose honey derived from plants that suit their taste and preference. Generally, honey will be found in its liquid form; however, honey can also be found as creamed honey, raw honey, pasteurized honey, and many more.

Honey contains about 180 types of compounds, including water, sugars, free amino acids (protein), enzymes, essential minerals and vitamins, and several phytochemicals (compounds found in plants). One tablespoon of honey contains 64 calories and 17 grams of sugar, including fructose (38%), glucose (31%), with smaller amounts of maltose, and sucrose. Honey does not contain fat or fibre. Minor amounts of protein are present, mainly in the form of enzymes and free amino acids that come from the nectar and the pollen that the bees convert into food. It contains small amounts of some vitamins and minerals, such as B vitamins, Vitamin C, calcium, copper, iron, zinc, calcium, potassium, magnesium, and chlorine, to name a few, mainly derived from the plants that bees extract nectar from. Honey also contains several healthy phytochemicals and antioxidants.

Honey contains organic acids, which give honey its flavour. It also allows honey to work as an antimicrobial (kills viral, bacterial, fungal infections); honey is potent against many microorganisms that can cause illness or infection. Honey also contains phytochemicals known

as flavonoids, seen as potent antioxidants in preventing free radical damage in the body, assisting in the prevention of diseases such as heart attacks, strokes, and some cancers. Flavonoids also help regulate cell activity, which assists your body to function more efficiently while protecting against stress and external toxins. The flavonoid content of honey is derived from the plants from which the bees extract nectar. Various types of honey can be lower or higher in phytochemicals, depending on which plants the nectar comes from. Darker varieties of honey have higher levels of organic acids and flavonoids. Studies on buckwheat honey show that it can increase the antioxidant value of one's blood. Despite being mostly made up of sugar, because of the other properties of honey, it is a much healthier sweetener than table sugar.

### **HEALTH BENEFITS OF HONEY**

Raw or unpasteurized honey contains various compounds that are beneficial to our health. Once honey has been pasteurized, many of the beneficial nutrients such as helpful bacteria, enzymes, pollen, antioxidants, vitamins, and minerals are lost. Pasteurization is the process of heating honey to 158F and then rapidly cooling it. Most honey in grocery stores has been pasteurized because the heat gets rid of yeast that honey may contain. If the moisture content of honey is high enough, yeast will grow, and will ferment some of the sugars in honey. Avoid introducing water to your container of honey. Even though the honey is still good to eat if it has undergone fermentation, it changes the flavour of the honey. Pasteurization also improves the colour and texture, and prevents crystallization. Therefore, when buying honey products, look for raw or unpasteurized honey to obtain the benefits that this wonderful natural product can bring. Raw honey can be stored at room temperature; it will last longer if kept away from heat and sunlight. Most raw honey has a best by date of two years. Properly stored, raw honey can stay good for decades.

Raw honey may crystallize; however, it can be brought back to its liquid form by placing it in sunlight. Do not store honey in metal containers, as honey is an acid and it will cause the metal to corrode into the honey. Raw honey should not be given



to infants due to the risk of botulism poisoning.

As was mentioned, honey contains various phytochemicals. Because of these phytochemicals, honey has properties that can reduce the risk of heart disease; for example, it can lower the “bad” LDL cholesterol and triglycerides, while raising the levels of the “good” HDL cholesterol. High triglyceride levels lead to insulin resistance, which is another factor that contributes to type 2 diabetes. Keeping triglyceride levels in a normal range can combat diabetes. Lowering of cholesterol levels is important for people who have type 2 diabetes as they are at a higher risk of heart disease than the normal population. However, because honey is a sugar, it can increase blood sugar levels, but not to the level that refined sugar does. Therefore, even though it is a better sugar for diabetics, it still should be consumed cautiously.

Another factor in raising heart disease risk is high blood pressure. The antioxidants in honey have been linked to lower blood pressure values.

Because it is a rich source of certain antioxidants which have been proven to improve heart health, honey can reduce the overall risk for heart disease by helping the arteries in the heart to dilate and increasing blood flow to the heart. It also prevents clots from forming, which is a leading cause of heart attacks and strokes. Antioxidants also prevent free radical damage in the body which contributes to the aging process and to a host of chronic diseases.

Honey has been used topically as a treatment for wounds and burns for thousands of years; evidence for its use have been found in ancient Egyptian tombs. Many studies prove the ability of honey to assist in healing wounds and burns that have become infected. It also is an effective treatment for foot ulcers in diabetics, as often foot ulcers are the reason for diabetics needing amputations. Honey is able to heal wounds because of its antibacterial and anti-inflammatory properties. The antibacterial effects of honey is due to an enzyme produced by bees that produces hydrogen peroxide, which is an antibacterial agent. Honey is also able to nourish the surrounding tissue of wounds. It has also been proven to be effective with other skin conditions such as psoriasis and herpes.

Sore throats can be treated with honey; add it to a hot tea with or without lemon. It soothes and heals a sore throat. It is also effective for treating coughs. It has shown to be just as effective as over-the-counter medications. “I have already told you the remedy I use when

suffering from difficulties with my throat. I take a glass of boiled honey, and into this I put a few drops of eucalyptus oil, stirring it in well. When the cough comes on, I take a teaspoonful of this mixture, and relief comes almost immediately. I have always used this with the best results. . . . This prescription may seem so simple that you feel no confidence in it, but I have tried it for a number of years, and can highly recommend it.” – *Selected Messages*, book 2, p. 301

Honey is also effective as a treatment for *H. pylori* infections of the stomach, which can cause stomach ulcers. It is a potent prebiotic, which means it nourishes the good bacteria that we have in our intestines. Thus, contributing to healthy digestion.

### MANUKA HONEY

Manuka honey, a unique type of honey, has the same healing effects as other honeys, with added benefits. This honey is made by bees who collect nectar from the manuka plant. The manuka plant, a shrub, is native to both New Zealand and Australia. Its flowers only bloom for a few weeks a year, so the season for bees to collect manuka honey is very short. The leaves of the manuka shrub have been used by indigenous tribes for centuries for their healing properties. The plant contains a compound known as Methylglyoxal (MGO); it is this compound that gives manuka honey its healing and medicinal qualities.



MGO is known to be effective against at least 60 types of bacteria, including some of the so-called superbugs, such as methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) that have become resistant to antibiotics. Studies show that the use of honey decreases these bacteria’s resistance to antibiotics. It also helps boost the ability of white blood cells to fight an infection.

All honey contains antimicrobial properties; however, manuka honey has an added quality; the manuka plant contains phytochemicals that prevent the hydrogen peroxide in honey from being degraded over time, which happens with other honeys, reducing their antimicrobial effectiveness. This effect known as non-hydrogen peroxide indicates that the use of manuka honey to treat infections in humans is improved over other honeys because it contains this property. Also, when used, it does



not degrade at room temperature as other honeys do which also contain hydrogen peroxide, making it more effective. This property also ensures that certain enzymes in the human body do not destroy the antimicrobial effect of the honey.

Manuka honey can inhibit the growth of several bacteria that cause serious upper respiratory infections, and is often used in conjunction with antibiotics to enhance the effect of the antibiotics.

Medical-grade manuka honey is used in hospitals in many countries, and is accepted as a treatment for wounds that have not responded to other treatments. It is used to treat burns, pressure sores, rashes, boils, and skin ulcers. In the United States, the FDA has approved manuka honey as a recommended treatment option for wound healing. Not only is manuka honey applied directly to the wound, dressings containing manuka honey are applied to the wound. It reduces healing times, and greatly reduces the scarring that may occur from a wound. It has shown to be effective against two potentially fatal skin infections which have grown resistant to antibiotics. When manuka honey is used on these two types of bacteria, it prevents the bacteria from attaching to skin tissues, thus preventing the first step of the infection process. Manuka honey has also been used in treating wounds in horses. Because of the increase in antibiotic-resistant bacteria, remedies such as manuka honey have increased in favour.

As well as the other benefits that honey has to the digestive system mentioned above, manuka honey can also reduce the symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome, including abdominal pain and cramps, diarrhea, constipation and bloating. Manuka honey can also kill a type of intestinal bacteria known as *Clostridium difficile* (*C. diff*). This bacteria causes severe diarrhea, and is very transmissible from person to person. Outbreaks of *C. diff* can occur in hospitals and nursing homes, and routine hygiene practices aim to prevent such outbreaks.

Gingivitis is a gum inflammation that can result in swelling, bleeding, or pain. This can also lead to receding gums and loose teeth. Research has shown that putting manuka honey directly onto the gums will reduce the inflammation. Manuka honey reduces tooth decay. Other sugars raise the pH of the mouth which damage the enamel of teeth and lead to cavities. Because honey is considered acidic, it does not increase the pH of the mouth. Manuka honey prevents the formation of plaque and performs as well as antibacterial mouthwash-

es.

Manuka honey is a popular treatment for acne. The honey balances the pH of the skin, reducing inflammation, thus speeding up the healing of a current breakout, and also preventing future breakouts. It can also be used to clean the skin, without drying it out.

The content of MGO in manuka honey depends on whether bees solely derive their nectar from manuka plants, or if they derive nectar from other plants as well as the manuka plant. Thus, manuka honey is sold in different grades, the more MGO that the honey contains, the higher the grade and the more effective the honey is in fighting infections. However, with the higher levels of MGO, the honey becomes very expensive, with a small jar costing upwards of \$100 CAD. Jars of manuka honey will have a rating system of either the content of MGO (30+ up to 1100+) or UMF (Unique Manuka Factor, anywhere from 5+ to 24+). Manuka honey from bees that also collect nectar from other plants will have a rating from 30+ to 70+. Ratings above 100+ will be from honey made solely from manuka plants. These labelling guidelines were established to ensure that consumers were buying real manuka honey, as the sale of manuka honey around the world has become a lucrative business, and many honey products labelled as manuka honey are counterfeit.

Honey is not just “another sugar”. Because of its unique properties, honey provides many health benefits and can be used for both prevention of disease and for the treatment of various ailments.

“My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste.” Proverbs 24:13. “Pleasant words are as a honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.” Proverbs 16:24



# Modern Idols



If Jesus walking would today  
Down the city street, the park, the waterfront, the bay,  
He would see the people occupied with the cellphone in the hand,  
Or on the ear, or absorbed in looking on the screen  
Checking, texting all the while when walking.  
Others are with earphones listening engrossed  
While biking, jogging, strolling, even shopping.  
Instead of looking at the scenery, the clouds, the sky,  
Their eyes are glued on that gadget “magic”,  
This is indeed quite tragic!  
Their world the cellphone has become, a companion  
Constant, addicted to its loan  
Of pleasure giving sights and sound,  
An idol, captivating thought and mind.  
There are computer games most questionable,  
Masses being fascinated, not able breaking up the habit,  
Are enslaved in that crazy mania — of a popular, corrupt media.  
Many feed their mind on someone else’s fame,  
Who by success did get themselves a name,  
Put their affairs on Facebook, Instagram,  
Much is pride and vanity, and sometimes scam,  
Of boasting what they have and can,  
To make people curious and envy them.  
People crave today to be admired,  
Put up a channel to be followed,  
They think themselves to be important,  
Hope their voice be heard and constant.  
Thus stealing time of some who rather,  
Should be learning, studying, working, praying,  
And seek for better, higher goals, ideals,  
Of life’s noble, pure and true appeals.  
How can the Holy Spirit get an entrance to such minds,  
the word of God to enter, presence find,  
when the thoughts are occupied on the cellphone’s  
touching screen, to look to see some pleasing, yet unworthy scene?  
The youth today is much depressed, and seriously stressed,  
Too many kinds of worthless subjects strain,  
And influence the brain, that cannot digest,  
Work out the flood of information nor contain.  
And many turn to drugs — for their destruction sure,  
For which Jesus only is the cure.  
For their frontal lobe is damaged  
Indulgence of all kinds have ravaged,  
Dulled and taken the perception and desire for the higher  
Meaning of one’s life on earth —  
To seek the truth — God’s word in all its worth.  
To find true knowledge, wisdom and redemption,



In Jesus Christ's great offered gift—salvation.  
 Many disregard the gospel invitation,  
 Pleasure, entertainment is their satisfaction,  
 The mind is numb to Jesus' calling,  
 Spiritual values are to them appalling. —  
 As Jesus sees the shallow value  
 For what the people hurry after,  
 Always looking for some new excitement keen,  
 Get the adrenal rush even in some sports extreme,  
 Daring adventures, or whatever fancy is their dream.  
 With pity Jesus turns around,  
 In none described here He can find  
 A longing, searching, crying out for God,  
 Worldly ambitions, carnal pleasures are their lot.  
 Then looking at the faces of these people,  
 He does not notice, calmness, happiness,  
 But rather sadness, nervousness and stress.  
 Their eyes are dull, no sparks of joy in them,  
 Seeing, yet not finding life's precious joyous moments,  
 Because their senses have gone blind.  
 How can you reach these people,  
 Get their attention to events soon coming?  
 Jesus turns: "Where are My people?"  
 To warn them of the days now looming,  
 In the distance, casting shadows forward clear,  
 Days of trouble coming near, like never seen before,  
 That will shake the world and people to the core?  
 "Get up, wake up! I urge stand on your post!  
 Pray for the Spirit's power, reach the lost!  
 Will I find faith on earth when I will come  
 To take My faithful jewels home?  
 A great work to warn the world is to be done,  
 To save men out of the grand doom.  
 Forsake your idols, cling to Me, fix your eyes now unto Me,  
 To save yourselves warn others  
 Now to flee under the shadow of My wings,  
 Forsaking foolish, worldly things,  
 Prepare yourselves becoming priests and kings,  
 For My coming kingdom glorious,  
 So thrilling, bright and joyous,  
 Where you forever will discover,  
 New heights of thought, imagination,  
 In My new created world where its foundation  
 Is built on righteousness and holiness,  
 Pure love and peace, eternal bliss!" Amen.

*Edda Tedford, Canada*



*Note: There is nothing wrong with a useful and important use of these modern gadgets, but it is the misuse, the constant staring at the screens. This is not only distracting from some needed work to be done, but also because of the EMF emission dangerous to health. **E.T.***

## CHILDREN'S CORNER:

# Stay Away From Them



Young Delfin was born to a large family in a remote village in India. There was not much to do in the village, and, coming from a large family, Delfin, as the oldest son, was given quite a few responsibilities at an early age. Every day, he and the other Indian boys looked after the goats. Day after day, they led them to the same stream for water. They always went to the same hillside to search for firewood, and even their food was always the same. He was thankful for his friends whose company he could enjoy a little each day.

Only on fiesta days was there excitement in the village. The celebration for the new year was the most exciting of all. For three days the older folks would dance through the village down to the shrine and back again, to the sound of flutes, drums and the boom of firecrackers. Delfin had heard that the firecrackers would scare off the evil spirits of the new year. When the men brought dynamite to the fiesta, Delfin would shiver with a mixture of thrilling excitement and fear. This biggest of booms would surely drive away the evil spirits! After the fiesta, Delfin would take his goats back to the hillside to look for pasture.

On the quiet days in the pasture, Delfin had plenty of time to think, and he was a deep thinker. He greatly feared the evil spirits and was thankful for the fiestas where they drove them away.

But his mother also warned him about the gospel preachers, and if they should come, it would make the evil spirits angry. They often drove in jeeps and his

mother clearly warned him that if he saw a jeep, he was to run in the opposite direction and hide. Gospel preachers were the ones who would catch little boys, carry them away and cut off their ears. No, Delfin would never go near a jeep. This fear was deeply imbedded in his heart.

Poor Delfin wondered if he would carry this fear for the rest of his life. Is life to be lived in fear and feasting only?

The truth was never told to Delfin when he was young. He had never been told that the word "gospel" means "good news". He had never been told the truth that the preachers who came to tell the Indians who lived high in the mountains, actually preached about a God who loved them. They did not need to live in fear of evil spirits.

Sad to say, he had never heard that God's good news was that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15). No, Delfin had only heard the devil's terrible lies about the Gospel and gospel preachers.

But, there was not much reason to run and hide because few jeeps ever made their way high up into the mountains to the little village where he lived. Nothing very exciting ever happened.

Sometimes the Catholic priest would come to the village where Delfin lived. He liked that. His mother said the priest was ok. Everyone would go to the chapel and lis-



ten to the priest and hold a ceremony where they would light candles and kneel before the images to pray. The only time the chapel was used was the several days a year when the priest came by.

Delfin respected the priest and thought that someday he wanted to be like this important man. One day Delfin, using all his courage, told the priest of this secret desire in his heart. He knew there was a book called the Bible in the chapel that the priest sometimes read from. No one else had ever ventured to read from the Bible in the priest's absence.

"I would like to read the Bible and be a religious man like you," he said timidly.

"Boy," replied the priest sternly, "don't you ever read this book, the Bible! Those who read the Bible go crazy in their heads! Only the priests can read it."

*Crazy!* thought Delfin, terrified. *How awful!*

"If you want to be a religious man, then come and help me in the chapel," continued the priest more kindly. "You can clean the chapel and help to repair the images. And keep it clean when I am not here."

Delfin smiled. He would like that very much.

So began Delfin's new efforts to be religious. It was a strange mixture of faith and fear. His faith, sadly, was not in the Word of God, but in the images, the priest and in his own efforts to be good. And still there was fear. The fear of the evil spirits, the gospel preachers and now this new fear of the Bible itself did not go away as he tried to be good. If only someone could have told him that the Bible is God's own loving Word that "is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105).

One of Delfin's jobs at the chapel was to repair an image when it was broken. He would get a little plaster and form again the broken ear or arm of the image, then paint it again to match the other side. Once in a while a tiny thought would pierce the back of his mind—*If these images are our Saints and they are so powerful that we pray to them, then why can't they look after themselves? Why do they get a broken ear?* Delfin knew such thoughts must be wicked and that he should probably confess them to the priest. However, as he mixed the plaster for the images, those thoughts would come back again—*Why can't they fix their own hands?*

One day Delfin was alone in the chapel. The priest had gone for an afternoon visit. A daring thought entered his mind. *Do people really go crazy if they read the Bible? Is*

*it true?*

There was no Bible that he knew of in the whole village. No one was there to see him. Would he dare to read it? Would he dare to see for himself if it were true?

*Maybe I will read only a little,* he thought boldly, *then I will go only a little crazy.*

He hesitated. . . and then with his heart pounding he went over to the big Bible.

*I'll be careful,* he thought to himself. *I'll check exactly where all the images are and exactly which window the sun is coming in so that I'll know if I'm crazy.*

He checked carefully around. Trembling, he reached slowly for the Bible. He looked up quickly! The images were still there ... the sun was still shining in the same window. His heart pounded as he opened the Bible just a little. Quickly he looked up again ... no change in the images or the sun ... he wasn't crazy yet. With dread and yet wanting so much to see, Delfin opened the Bible just enough so that he could read a few words. The place that he opened to was just where the New Testament begins. For the first time in his life he was reading the Bible, and to his horror the first words he read were, "THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW." *The GOSPEL! ... Gospel preachers! ... the ones who cut off the ears of boys!* Delfin read no more. In terror he shut the Bible and ran out of the chapel shaking like a leaf. He ran and ran, and in his heart he said he would never again open a Bible.

As the days went by, his fright faded a little and he thought about it more calmly. One thought stood out above all others—he wasn't *crazy*. Not even a *little*.

Delfin had been a captive of Satan with chains of lies that held his heart in fear. He did not know that they were lies, but now he doubted if everything he had been told were true. God was in His own way working with Delfin. The deliverance from lies and fears and evil spirits was coming. The One whose love casts out fear had His eyes upon this young man in the middle of an isolated Indian village. The One who came to set Satan's captives free planned that one day Delfin would hear His Word, the Bible, even if he were afraid to read it.

When Delfin first saw the Gospel preachers he did not see a jeep so he did not know who they were. All he saw was a group gathered on the street corner in his village singing. No doubt Delfin did not understand much that he heard that day. But as he listened he heard one preacher reading the Bible, "Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but

they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: ... feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat. They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them" (Psalm 115:4-8).

Oh, how these words sank into Delfin's heart. How he knew the truth of them! Had he not repaired ears of images that could not hear? Had he not painted eyes that could not see? God in His love and grace poured the power of these words into Delfin's heart and he reached out for more. He listened to the wonderful words that told him of God's "good news": "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). Delfin believed and accepted Jesus Christ as his Saviour. He is now a grown man with sons of his own, but he has never forgotten that day when he learned that the "gospel" he had always feared was really God's "good news" especially sent to a poor Indian boy.

So many people in the world have been told lies about the truth of the Bible and about God's church. We need to go out and preach truth to these poor souls who are lost in fear and in the bondage of sin.

"Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).



# Madagascar





# Philippines




16 souls joined the family of God on September 3, 2021 in the Tigaon Church, in the Luzon Field, Philippines

# Haiti (Fond-Michel)







“The follower of Christ is not to live to himself. He who lives to himself is not a Christian. He has not been created anew in Christ Jesus. From the moment the sinner views Christ upon the cross, every barrier is broken down. He sees sin in its offensive character, and exercises repentance toward God, and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. He lays hold of the merits of a crucified and risen Saviour. Then all his transformed powers will be held as sacred to God's service. Every talent, every qualification, reason, knowledge, affec-

tion, speech, property, will be appreciated as a precious trust. He will live with an eye single to the glory of God. He will be a man of prayer, that he may have the spirit and wisdom of Christ to win souls from sin to holiness, from error to truth.” — *The Signs of the Times*, June 23, 1898