

The Canadian-Caribbean Union 

Messenger

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Sanctification

Part 1

"What is sanctification? It is to give one's self wholly and without reserve--soul, body, and spirit--to God; to deal justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God, to know and to do the will of God without regard to self or self-interest; to be heavenly minded, pure, unselfish, holy, and without spot or stain." Our High Calling, 212.

The standard is high which we are called to reach. Humanly it is impossible, yet many try but fall short and therefore lose out in the end.

The foolish virgins slept peacefully not realizing their lack of oil, until it was too late. Many professed Christians fall into this category. They are blinded to their own spiritual condition the same way as the Laodicean angel. They are even flattering themselves that they are rich and have need of nothing while they lack every virtue.

"Those who receive the seal of the living God and are protected in the time of trouble must reflect the image of Jesus fully." EW 71. "I saw that none could share the 'refreshing' unless they obtain the victory over every besetment, over pride, selfishness, love of the world, and over every wrong word and action." EW 71. These testimonies should make us to tremble and to fall upon our knees in agonizing prayer to God.

Apostle Paul writes: "This is the will of God, even your sanctification." 1 Thess. 4: 3. If we pray that God's will be done in our lives, then we have only one purpose left to live for--and that is our sanctification.

God has provided ample means for sanctification and the first one is His word. "Sanctify them through Thy truth. Thy word is truth." John 17: 17. Bible reading sanctifies us. It purifies our thoughts and imaginations. When reading the Word of God we behold Him and His character and are changed to the same image as apostle Paul writes to us "from glory to glory".

All who are hungering and thirsting after righteousness will read the Bible daily with a longing in the soul for the bread of heaven. Satan wants to destroy this hunger and thirst by introducing worldly literature, television shows and entertainment which are broken cisterns and hold no water of life. How careful we should be in choosing the material what we see and hear that our minds would not be polluted and our sanctification be not reversed to corruption.

"Those who claim to be sanctified while they have no desire to search the Scriptures or to wrestle with God in prayer for a clearer understanding of Bible truth, know not what true sanctification is." SL 48-9.

Casual Bible reading is not searching the Scriptures as looking for a hidden treasure. It will not be blessed, neither will it sanctify us.

"The precious faith inspired of God imparts strength and nobility of character. As His goodness, His mercy, and His love are dwelt upon, clearer and still clearer will be the perception of truth; higher, holier the desire for purity of heart and clearness of thought. The soul dwelling in the atmosphere of holy thought is transformed by intercourse with God through the study of His Word. Truth is so large, so far reaching, so deep, so broad that self is lost sight of and subdued into humility, kindness, and love." ML 262.

If we would only understand the sanctifying influence of Bible reading we would not let one day pass without drinking from this fountain of life. We would carry the Word of God with us where ever we go and at every opportunity study these holy pages. At every temptation Jesus resisted the devil with "It is written". All who do not have thorough knowledge of the Bible truth have no protection against Satan's devices.

"No one with a spirit to appreciate its teachings can read a single passage from the Bible without gaining from it some helpful thought." ST, Sept. 19, 1906. These helpful thoughts will stay in our minds throughout the day that we received from our early morning worship Bible reading.

"We can be sanctified only through a knowledge of the Word of God and that word becomes part of our lives." RH, March 1, 1892.

If there would be another way to sanctification we would be told of it, but there isn't. Therefore, anyone who neglects the daily Bible study will neglect the needful preparation for the end, and will be found as foolish virgins whose lamps had gone out.

Apostle Paul gives us counsel: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. 2 Tim. 3: 16, 17.

The first step in our work of sanctification is to turn to the Bible reading and searching the truth as our life would depend on it. Then the light of heaven will illuminate our soul and prepare us for the second step.

AMEN.

"THE JOY OF THE LORD IS YOUR STRENGTH"

Neh. 8:10

There is so much sadness in our world today. Just take a look at the faces you meet on the street, at work, at school or in the shopping mall. Everyone is seemingly going about his/her own way with rarely a smile or a recognition of anyone who may cross their path. I have, over the years, seen several people while shopping who had a smile on their face for no apparent reason. It struck me as unusual because it was so different from what I am used to seeing. The natural expression on their face was a smile. They weren't smiling at me or anyone else. That is what we need. To have a natural smile, not one that is forced and only given at certain times to certain people. This really tells of inner peace and joy. Those people were a blessing for me without even realizing it.

Now according to Nehemiah we can find spiritual strength in joy and happiness and we all want to be strong Christians, don't we? Day by day we pass through different experiences that the Lord puts us through to test us and strengthen us. Many people react in different ways to these experiences. Some get angry and frustrated when things don't seemingly go the way they think they should. Others get sad and discouraged and even depressed. Then there are those who are able to smile through difficulties. It doesn't matter what Satan throws at them, they can still smile and say, "The joy of the Lord is your strength." "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13, and "Rejoice in the Lord alway; and again I say, Rejoice." Phil.4:4. They have learned that true strength in the Christian life is in joy and rejoicing.

"While the Christian's life will be characterized by humility, it should not be marked with sadness and self-depreciation. It is the privilege of everyone so to live that God will approve and bless him. It is not the will of our heavenly Father that we should be ever under condemnation and darkness. There is no evidence of true humility in going with the head bowed down and the heart filled with thoughts of self. We may go to Jesus and be cleansed, and stand before the law without shame and remorse. . . . The Christian's life should be one of faith, of victory, and joy in God." *Great Controversy*, p. 477.

The Apostle Paul

Paul never got tired of telling his followers that holy joy is one of the chief attributes and chief duties and privileges of the Christian. "Rejoice evermore." 1 Thess.5:16 "Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord." Phil. 3:1 And many other places throughout his letters you will find his encouragement to rejoice. It is one of the fruits of the spirit, "love, joy, peace,..." Gal.5:22.

If our happiness and joy depended on our outward situation, then Paul had the least reason to rejoice of any man that lived on earth. He went through shipwreck, he was stoned, beaten, imprisoned, and so on. He knew that if our present situation is not the best then there is no need to worry because the Christian has abundant reason for

rejoicing in anticipation of future happiness and the blessed reward of eternal life. "I know both how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need." Phil.4:12. With forgiveness of sins his conscience is free, and peace fills his soul. He knew this promise to be true, "all things work together for good to them that love God..." Romans 8:28. Why be downcast? Those who are constantly complaining do not have genuine religion. "Paul and Silas suffered the loss of all things. They suffered scourging, and were in no gentle manner thrown upon the cold floor of a dungeon in a most painful position, their feet elevated and fastened in stocks. Did repinings and complaints then reach the ear of the jailer? Oh, no! From the inner prison, voices broke the silence of midnight with songs of joy and praise to God. These disciples were cheered by a deep and earnest love for the cause of their Redeemer, for which they suffered. As the truth of God fills our hearts, absorbs our affections, and controls our lives, we also will count it joy to suffer for the truth's sake. No prison walls, no martyr's stake, can then daunt or hinder us in the great work." *Test. for the Church, volume 3, p. 406.* "Though he was a prisoner, Paul was not discouraged. Instead, a note of triumph rings through the letters that he wrote from Rome to the churches." *Acts of the Apostles, p. 484.*

Ancient Israel

Many assume that all the ceremonies and rituals in the ancient Jewish system of service were a very gloomy experience. Nothing could be further from the truth. Its ritual and ceremonial regulations were indeed very detailed, and solemn, but there was much joy in the services. Their religious rituals included offerings of thanksgiving. "And thou shalt offer peace offerings, and shalt eat there, and rejoice before the LORD thy God." Deut.27:7. The times they were to gather for the various feasts was to be a time of rejoicing. The Sabbath day as it was originally created by God was not a gloomy day as some even today believe. Rather it is a day of spiritual delight, joy, and gladness. There was only one time when they were required to . . . "afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD." Lev.23:27. This time was just before the Day of Atonement. It was a very solemn time - a time that they were to reconsecrate their lives to God and if there was any sin left to their account they were cut off from the nation - "God's church" - and were sent away wanderers. The struggle over the sinful nature is a life and death struggle and not to be taken lightly, but that is no reason for us to not be joyful. In all the other gatherings they were to bring offerings of praise to God.

Health

"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones." Prov. 17:22 "God is the great caretaker of the human machinery. In the care of our bodies we must co-operate with Him. Love for God is essential for life and health. In order to have perfect health our hearts must be filled with hope and love and joy." *Counsels on Health, p. 587.*

Gloom

There are some who are afraid to be happy. They feel that they must constantly feel gloomy because of their sinful condition. They don't feel that they deserve to be happy. But we have more reason to rejoice than the worldly person that has no hope and no Redeemer. "We should never give the world the false impression that Christians are a gloomy, unhappy people. If our eyes are fixed on Jesus, we shall see a compassionate Redeemer, and shall catch light from His countenance. Wherever His spirit reigns, there peace abides. And there will be joy also, for there is a calm, holy trust in God." *Desire of Ages p. 152.*

"A half service, loving the world, loving self, loving frivolous amusements, makes a timid, cowardly servant; he follows Christ a great way off. A hearty, willing service to Jesus produces a sunny religion. Those who follow Christ the most closely have not been gloomy. In Christ is light and peace and joy forevermore. We need more Christ and less worldliness, more Christ and less selfishness." *Adventist Home*, p. 431.

While claiming to be following Christ we may actually be denying Him as verily as did the disciple Peter by looking to our situation and allowing our mind to "brood over our supposed hard lot and trials." *Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 3*, p. 332.

"Many suppose that in following Christ they will be obliged to be gloomy and disconsolate, because they are required to deny themselves the pleasures and follies that the world indulge in. The living Christian will be filled with cheerfulness and peace, because he lives as seeing Him who is invisible; and those who seek Christ in His true character have within them the elements of everlasting life, because they are partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." *Selected Messages, Vol. 1*, p. 137.

"By dwelling upon our trials, and making much of difficulties, we misrepresent God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent; for the path to heaven is made unattractive by the gloom that gathers about the soul of the believer, and many turn in disappointment from the service of Christ. But are those who thus present Christ believers? No, for believers rely upon the divine promise, and the Holy Spirit is a comforter as well as a reprovcr." *Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 175.

When working for the Lord

"But remember that happiness will not be found in shutting yourselves up to yourselves, satisfied to put out all your affection upon each other. Seize upon every opportunity for contributing to the happiness of those around you. Remember that true joy can be found only in unselfish service." *Ministry of Healing* p. 362.

"God's people will meet with turmoil, discomfort, and weariness. At times, uncertain and distracted, they are almost in despair. . . Difficulties will arise that will try your faith and patience. Face them bravely. Look on the bright side. If the work is hindered, be sure that it is not your fault, and then go forward, rejoicing in the Lord. Heaven is full of joy. It resounds with the praises of Him who made so wonderful a sacrifice for the redemption of the human race. Could not the church on earth be full of praise?" *Testimonies for the Church Vol. 7*, p. 244.

"There is more joy in the presence of the angels in heaven over one sinner that repents than over ninety and nine just persons who need no repentance. There is joy with the Father and with Christ. All heaven is interested in the salvation of man. He who is instrumental in saving a soul is at liberty to rejoice; for angels of God have witnessed his efforts with the most intense interest, and rejoice with him in his success." *Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 4*, p. 264.

"God calls for cheerful co-workers, who refuse to become discouraged and disheartened by opposing agencies. The Lord is leading us, and we may go forward courageously, assured that he will be with us, as He was in past years, when we laboured in feebleness, but under the power of the Holy Spirit. . . .

"Those who stand in the forefront of the battle see that the special warfare of Satan is directed against them, they will realize their need of strength from God, and they will labour in His strength. The victories that they gain will not exalt them, but will cause them to lean more securely upon the Mighty One. Deep and fervent gratitude to God will spring up in their hearts, and they will be joyful in the tribulation that comes to them while pressed by the enemy." *Gospel Workers*, p. 266.

In Tribulation

"My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations." James 1:2. "From the story of Daniel's deliverance we may learn that in seasons of trial and gloom God's children should be just what they were when their prospects were bright with hope and their surroundings all that they could desire. Daniel in the lions' den was the same Daniel who stood before the king as chief among the ministers of state and as a prophet of the Most High. A man whose heart is stayed upon God will be the same in the hour of his greatest trial as he is in prosperity, when the light and favour of God and of man beam upon him. Faith reaches to the unseen, and grasps eternal realities." *Prophets and Kings*, p. 545.

"In all ages Satan has persecuted the people of God. He has tortured them and put them to death, but in dying they became conquerors. They revealed in their steadfast faith a mightier One than Satan. Satan could torture and kill the body, but he could not touch the life that was hid with Christ in God. He could incarcerate in prison walls, but he could not bind the spirit. They could look beyond the gloom to the glory, saying, "I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." "Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." Romans 8:18; 2 Corinthians 4:17, *The Mount of Blessing*, p. 30.

"God desired to bring all peoples under His merciful rule. He desired that the earth should be filled with joy and peace. He created man for happiness, and He longs to fill human hearts with the peace of heaven. He desires that the families below shall be a symbol of the great family above." *Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 290.

"While I adore and magnify Him, I want you to magnify Him with me. Praise the Lord even when you fall into darkness. Praise Him even in temptation. "Rejoice in the Lord alway," says the apostle; "and again I say, Rejoice." Will that bring gloom and darkness into your families? No, indeed; it will bring a sunbeam. You will thus gather rays of eternal light from the throne of glory and scatter them around you. Let me exhort you to engage in this work, scatter this light and life around you, not only in your own path but in the paths of those with whom you associate. Let it be your object to make those around you better, to elevate them, to point them to heaven and glory, and lead them to seek, above all earthly things, the eternal substance, the immortal inheritance, the riches which are imperishable." *Testimonies for the church, Vol. 2*, p. 293,294.

There is no joy in a legal religion in which the forms and ceremonies are carried out exactly as required if the Holy Spirit is lacking in your life. When we are filled to overflowing with the love of God, our light will shine to the world. We won't have to force a smile; force ourselves to walk in the light and witness to our friends. Christ will be our dearest friend and it will be a joy to give back to the Master all that we possibly can. We will surrender our lives and will to His way and it will not be a gloomy and sad experience. God's people will be filled with the fulness of joy and in this joy they will find strength to endure every trial and difficulty they will meet in life. It is my wish and prayer that each person who reads this has made (or is willing to make) this experience with Christ. AMEN

By Wendy Eaton

News from a Far Country

Prov. 25:25

It was with much prayer that I ventured to go to Calgary in the middle of October; not only because of the uncertainty of the weather but because I really didn't know what lay ahead spiritually. One of the faithful Adventist brethren I would be studying with I had never met face to face with until just about a week before and the other folks I hadn't really had much time to spend with when Br. Morris and I last visited there in the summer of 1994. Of course, there was also the fact of so many interested people in the Adventist church that Br. Morris and I had contacted with literature and our own personal witness that God still had a faithful church, but what would they say now that I had an opportunity to meet them and follow up on the literature we had shared with them? So as I got on the plane, these were some of the many questions that were agitating my mind.

When I left Vancouver, it was raining and overcast but as we neared Calgary we could see that the clouds started to give way to beautiful clear skies. Since I couldn't reach my first contact that afternoon, I had just the time I needed to do some house-to-house visitation. The Lord richly blessed the time spent in canvassing with much literature and many nice talks to leave behind. When I next made a call to my first contact she was there and happy that I had arrived safely. Mary Hess is the wife of our dear friend, the late Gus Hess who died in January of 1994 of a heart attack. I had a good opportunity to share God's love with Mary and her daughter Margaret, who are both searching in their own ways for deeper meaning in life. Since Gus left behind such a faithful witness to the Present Truth, sharing the message with them was a joy and comfort to all, I believe.

My next stop was to some faithful believers who have been studying the Reform message for the last two years since Br. Morris and I were there. They very graciously let me stay on their farm, which I thoroughly enjoyed. The natural setting was good to constantly call our minds to the things of the Lord as we studied His word. Please pray for these faithful souls who are earnestly seeking for the truth. I have shared much Reformation material with them over the last two years or so and now we wait for the harvest of the Holy Spirit.

The next dear brother in the faith had many questions about the raising of children since he has two little ones, just 3 and 2 years old. Two very active little boys can be quite a handful while you are studying the Bible, but the Lord blessed us to have the opportunity to share many things in exchanging our testimonies and looking more deeply into the things of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Please pray for all of these sincere and faithful souls that they may go all the way to take their stand with God's people.

Oh yes, I cannot forget the visit that I paid to the Adventist church on Sabbath. I had several opportunities to share brief overviews of Adventist history and the fulfillment of prophecy in the rise of the Reform Movement. And as I was invited for lunch to a brother's place, I had essentially the rest of the afternoon to share the truth of the foundation of the SDA Reform Movement with a whole group of about 10 people. I had an audience who couldn't say one word against us - Praise God for the simplicity and purity of our message.

Finally, Sabbath evening I was invited to a "Shepherd's Rod" meeting in Calgary. We had a lively discussion about the 144,000, the millennium and the nature of Christ's kingdom and then it was time to part. [I have since sent the group some material outlining a few of the differences between their theology and basic Adventist understanding of prophecy, history and eschatology.]

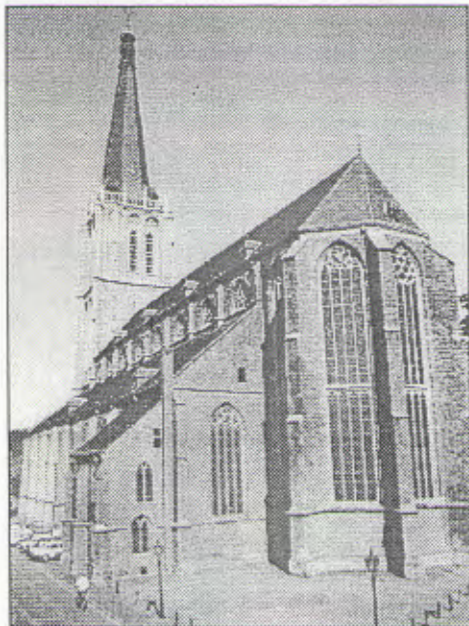
I must say that the Lord was very good to me and answered my prayers in many ways. I went to Calgary not knowing what to expect, but He had it all under control from the start. [For the most part, even the weather was beautiful the whole time I was there with many days warm and sunny - not to mention all of the warm Christian fellowship that I experienced.] I'm reminded of Jesus' words: "Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses. Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat. And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence. And when ye come into an house, salute it. And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you." Matt. 10:9-13

by Jerry Eaton

1997 WORLD ASSEMBLY

It is with great joy that we invite the brothers, sisters and friends of the Seventh-day Adventist Reform Movement to attend the 1997 World Assembly to take place in Holland.

In May 1996, a circular letter and flyer were mailed to the headquarters of all the fields and unions under the



The Martinikerk in Doesburg, Holland, is the site of the 1997 World Assembly.

General Conference, so they could inform their members of the dates. Now we wish to provide more details concerning these important meetings.

The delegates' meetings are scheduled to begin Monday morning, July 7, 1997, and end Friday noon, August 1, 1997, at the headquarters of the Dutch Field in Ellecom, Holland. A special information package will be mailed to the delegates whose names are submitted to the General Conference offices in Mosbach by the secretaries of the respective fields and unions. Information will be given concerning travel, visas, and other matters. Proposals to be considered by the delegates must reach the General

Conference by November 30, 1996.

It was originally announced that an International Youth Conference would take place for just two days—August 4 and 5, 1997, at the Martinikerk in Doesburg, Holland. However, because many people desire a longer Youth Conference, it will begin Friday evening, August 1, and continue through Tuesday evening, August 5.

The Public Conference will begin Wednesday evening, August 6, and continue through Sabbath evening, August 9, 1997, at the Martinikerk in Doesburg, Holland.

For both the Youth Conference and the Public Conference, lodging is available not far from the Martinikerk. On the attached Reservation Form, you will find various types of lodging from which you may choose. Please make your reservation early, and definitely if you wish to obtain low-cost lodging. One option is a youth hostel (1-8 persons per room), called "Alteveer," in Arnhem, approximately 11 miles from Doesburg. Another is a dormitory-style building (4-20 persons per room) about 3 miles away. Breakfast and morning and evening bus transportation are included in the lodging price for this type of accommodations. Hotel accommodations, including breakfast, are also available, as shown on the Reservation Form; transportation is not included. Holiday houses and camping facilities are also available.

Beginning Sabbath, August 2, lunch will be served. Although originally it was desired to offer the midday meal at no cost, it is necessary for us to charge for this in an amount of 30 Guilders (U.S. \$20) per person for the 4 days of the Youth Conference and an additional 30 Guilders (U.S. \$20) for the 4 days of the Public Conference. Please check the box on the Reservation Form if you wish midday meal

service. For the evening meal, fruit and bread will be available for purchase. There are shops and restaurants not far from the Martinikerk, but it will take more time to obtain food from these places.

Location

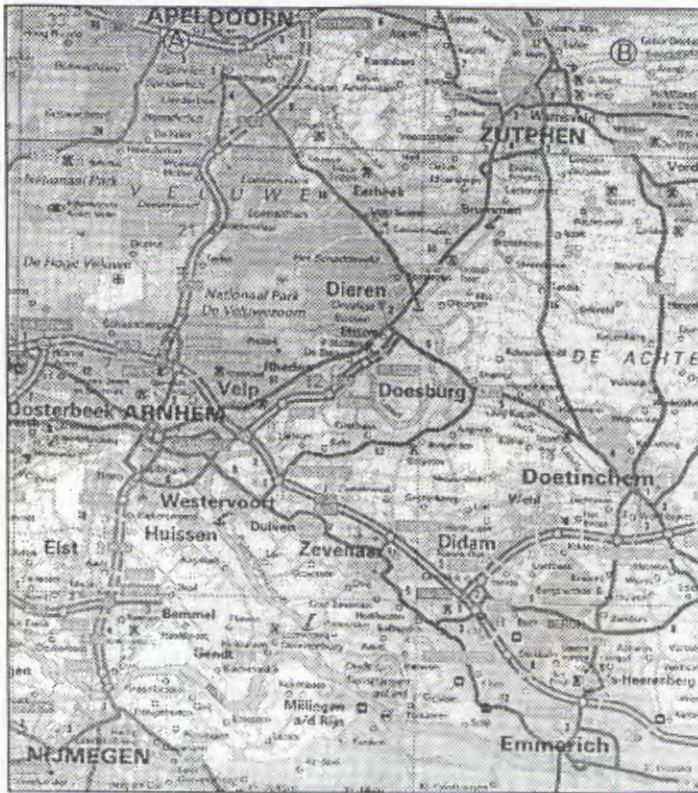
Doesburg is a small town in southern Holland, located just a few miles from the Dutch Field headquarters. Like most European cities, its history goes back as far as 500 years. There are shops and small parks near the conference location where the conference attendees can sightsee and enjoy the company of their brothers, sisters and friends from around the world. The Dutch people are very friendly and helpful, and the believers in Holland are ready to make our stay happy and memorable.

As for the landscape and climate, Holland is quite flat; and because it is close to the sea (parts of the country are below sea level, because the country has actually reclaimed land from the sea), the weather can be cool, even in the summer. Wind and rain are frequent, and so it is wise to expect the weather to be changeable.

For visitors who wish to stay for a longer time and make excursions to other countries before or after the Conference, special train passes (Eurail) are available through your local travel agent. To give you an idea of distances, by car from Arnhem, a trip to Berlin takes approximately 6 hours; to Mosbach, 5 hours; to Paris, 6 hours; and to Rome, 17 hours.

Travel and Visas

To travel to Holland, generally speaking, visitors from all countries outside the European Union (EU) and the United States and Canada need a



Schengen Visa. Contact the Dutch Embassy (or the embassy of whichever country you plan first to visit) to see if you need an invitation and, if so, check the box on the reservation form. Those for whom no visa is required may stay for three months. This is true for virtually all the countries in western Europe (European Union-EU).

Those traveling by plane should book their flights to Schiphol International Airport in Amsterdam. If you are able to travel by train without difficulty, here are the directions from the airport to the Conference location:

1. From Schiphol, take the stop train to Hilversum, Amersfoort and get off at Duivendrecht.
2. At Duivendrecht, take the intercity to Utrecht, Nijmegen and get off at Arnhem CS.
3. At Arnhem CS, take the stop train to Zutphen and get off at Dieren, or take the fast train to Zutphen, Zwolle and get off at Dieren.

If you arrive in Holland before August 1 and cannot find lodging, please telephone the Dutch Field Headquarters at 0313-416222 from the train station in Dieren. Someone will then help you. Beginning August 1, you will find someone at the Dieren

train station carrying a big sign reading "IMS 1997 World Assembly." He will give you information as to how to proceed.

If you are unable to travel from the airport by train, be sure to indicate on the Reservation Form that you need to be picked up at Schiphol International Airport and provide your flight information.

Arrangements will be made for someone to meet you. In Schiphol, please wait at a central meeting/information

point (there are two of these). If we have been informed of your arrival time, you will find someone there with a sign that says "IMS 1997 World Assembly" to help you and take you to your lodging place. We will drive from Schiphol to Doesburg two or three times each day. If we do not know your arrival time, please call the Dutch Field headquarters at 0313-416222.

The map above shows the location of Doesburg in reference to northwestern Germany.

Reservations

Please fill out the Reservation Form and return it as soon as possible. Your cooperation in making your reservation early will be greatly appreciated so the conference coordinators will not be overburdened and thus also have an opportunity to enjoy the special days of the Public Conference. You can also fax the Reservation Form to Country Code 49, 6261-14327. The final date for submission of the Reservation Form is April 30, 1997.

A deposit of 25% of the total cost of lodging and accommodations is required to reserve lodging. Bank

checks made out in German Marks, Dutch Guilders, or U.S. Dollars will be accepted. If you fax your reservation, you may want to make a bank transfer for your deposit (Sparkasse Mosbach, Bank No. 67450048, Acct. No. 3022530). The cancellation date for full deposit refund is May 30, 1997. A confirmation with final fee estimate will be sent to you.

A warning

Even though travel in most western Europe countries is quite safe, it is wise for visitors to be constantly careful and never leave their belongings unattended, whether it be in a bus, train, airplane, or locked car.

We welcome you!

We long with all our hearts for many to attend this opportunity for spiritual revival. Those who have attended General Conference Youth Conferences and Public Meetings in the past can attest to the great joy at meeting like precious believers from many corners of the globe. Such a World Assembly occurs only once every 4-5 years, and who knows how many more such opportunities there will be before the final tests break upon God's church?

But do not come just for yourself. Bring a blessing with you, and come with the purpose of becoming enlivened for the special tasks God is placing upon His people today. Let us willingly accept the chastening hand of God in trial and struggle, pray for the Holy Spirit to dwell within us and daily practice that faith which works by love.

Especially for the young people, these meetings are a unique opportunity to see God's church from a unique perspective. They will never forget this experience. So, come, parents; come, children; come, young people; come, middle-aged; and come, elderly folks. You are all warmly invited to come, share, see, and take home with you a blessing that will strengthen you in your Christian service for a long, long time! ww

RESERVATION FORM

Family Name _____

Given Name _____ Male Female

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____

Nationality _____ Passport Number _____

Language(s) spoken _____ Invitation letter needed for visa

Additional family members if travel and lodging arrangements are identical:

Family Name _____

Given Name _____ Male Female

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____

Nationality _____ Passport Number _____

Language(s) spoken _____ Invitation letter needed for visa

Family Name _____

Given Name _____ Male Female

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____

Nationality _____ Passport Number _____

Language(s) spoken _____ Invitation letter needed for visa

Family Name _____

Given Name _____ Male Female

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____

Nationality _____ Passport Number _____

Language(s) spoken _____ Invitation letter needed for visa

Family Name _____

Given Name _____ Male Female

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____

Nationality _____ Passport Number _____

Language(s) spoken _____ Invitation letter needed for visa

Address/City/Postal Code/Country _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

TRAVEL

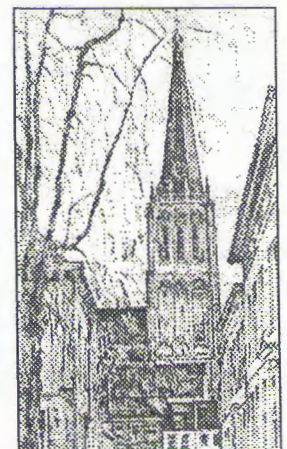
Date/Time of Arrival _____

in Amsterdam Arnhem Dieren Doesburg

Via Train Bus Car Plane

Please have someone pick me up

My travel arrangements are as follows (e.g., Airline and Flight Number): _____



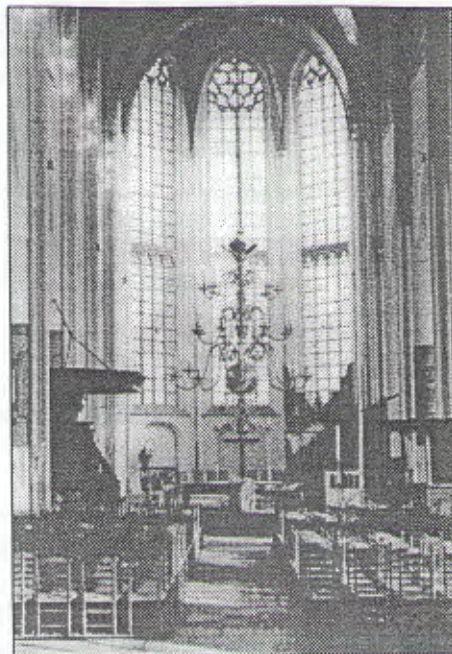
LODGING AND MEALS

I (we) need lodging for the following dates:

- Friday, August 1, 1997
- Sabbath, August 2, 1997
- Sunday, August 3, 1997
- Monday, August 4, 1997
- Tuesday, August 5, 1997
- Wednesday, August 6, 1997
- Thursday, August 7, 1997
- Friday, August 8, 1997
- Sabbath, August 9, 1997
- Sunday, August 10, 1997

Type of lodging desired:

- Youth Hostel @ 35 Guilders (U.S. \$23) per day per person
- Dormitory @ 29 Guilders (U.S. \$19) per day per person
- Low-budget hotel @ 45-65 Guilders (U.S. \$30-\$43) per day per person
 - Single Room Double Room
- One-star hotel @ 45-65 Guilders (U.S. \$30-\$43) per day per person
 - Single Room Double Room
- Two- or three-star hotel @ 70-85 Guilders (U.S. \$46-56) per day per person
 - Single Room Double Room
- Four-star hotel @ 90-110 Guilders (U.S. \$60-73) per day per person
 - Single Room Double Room
- Mid-day meal: @ 30 Guilders (U.S. \$20) per person for 4 days of Youth Conference
- Mid-day meal: @ 30 Guilders (U.S. \$20) per person for 4 days of Public Conference
- I will secure my own meals



The Martinikerk, in Doesburg, Holland, will see many of God's children assembled to praise Him during the 1997 Youth Conference and Public Conference.

ESTIMATED FEES

Calculation for _____ number of person(s) listed above:

Lodging	Number of persons X number of days X fee for desired lodging =	_____
Mid-day meal	Number of persons X 30 (U.S. \$20) Guilders each during Youth Conference =	_____
	Number of persons X 30 (U.S. \$20) Guilders each during Public Conference =	_____
	TOTAL	_____
	Deposit Enclosed (25% of Total)	_____

(Note: For ease of conversion, please use the exchange rate of 1.5 Guilders per U.S. Dollar and 1.5 German Marks per U.S. Dollar. The final calculations will be done in Guilders, and it is anticipated that the rate will continue to be somewhat higher in 1997.)

Please mail this Reservation Form with your deposit to: International Missionary Society, Postfach 1310, D-74803 Mosbach/Baden, Germany. Reservation deadline: April 30, 1997.

INVITATION TO MISSIONARY SCHOOL

Dear Brethren in Christ:

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

Early this month, following the graduation of the first class to finish a course of study at Bethel Theological Institute in Hungary, the brethren discussed various matters concerning the next course and particularly the composition of the students. We would very much like to have a cultural mix of students. And since the primary language of the school is English and many of the students will be learning English there, it is of great interest to us to have at least two students whose first language is English.

Would you please consider who of the young people in your Union might be candidates for a course of study to stretch from March 1997 to September 1998. The period from March to June is primarily for those who need to learn English. If the students from the Canadian-Caribbean Union would want and need to come later (late May or early June), that would be feasible, as they could catch up quickly on the course work that had already been done during the time the other students were learning English.

God bless you richly, and thank you for assisting us in this matter.

God's richest blessings to you.

Sincerely,

Larry Watts



Getting ready for a Cooking Class

FEED MY SHEEP

ELLEN G. WHITE

"So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee.....Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep." John 21:15,17.

"When Christ preached, His message was like a sharp, two-edged sword, piercing the consciences of men and revealing their inmost thoughts. The work that Christ did, His faithful messengers will have to do. In simplicity, purity, and the strictest integrity they are to preach the Word. Those who labour in word or doctrine are to be faithful to their charge. They are to watch for souls as they that must give an account. Never are they to clothe a "Thus saith the Lord" with enticing words of man's wisdom. Thus they destroy its living energy, making it weak and powerless, so that it fails to convict of sin. Every word spoken by the direction of the Holy Spirit will be full of the deepest solicitude for the salvation of souls." *Selected Messages*, Vol. 2, p. 159.

"We do not want to lose sight of the peculiar sacredness of this mission of ministry in the word and doctrine to the people. It is the work of the Minister to speak the words of truth to the people, solemn, sacred truths. Some form the habit of relating anecdotes in their discourses, which have a tendency to amuse and remove from the mind of the hearer the sacredness of the Word which they are handling. Such should consider that they are not giving to the people the Word of the Lord. Too many illustrations do not have a correct influence; they belittle the sacred dignity that should ever be manifested in the presentation of the Word of God to the people." *R&H*, Feb. 22, 1887.

"Unless ministers are guarded, they will hide the truth under human ornamentation. Let no minister suppose that he can convert souls by eloquent sermons. Those who teach others should plead with God to imbue them with His Spirit, and enable them to lift up Christ as the sinner's only hope. Flowery speeches, pleasing tales, or inappropriate anecdotes do not convict the sinner. Men listen to such words as they would to a pleasant song. The message that the sinner should hear is, "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." *Gospel Workers*, pp. 154, 155.

"By tamely presenting the truth, merely repeating the theory without being stirred by it themselves, they can never convert men. If they should live as long as did Noah, their efforts would be without effect. Their love for souls must be intense, and their zeal fervent. A listless, unfeeling manner of presenting the truth will never arouse men and women from their deathlike slumber. They must show by their manners, by their acts and words, and by their preaching and praying, that they believe that Christ is at the door. Men and women are in the last hours of probation, and yet are careless and stupid, and preachers have no power to arouse them; they are asleep themselves. Sleeping ministers preaching to a sleeping people!" *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 2, p. 337

"Would that every minister might realize the sacredness of his office and the holiness of his work, and show the courage that Elijah showed. As divinely appointed messengers, ministers are in a position of awful responsibility. They are to reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long-suffering. In Christ's stead they are to labour as stewards of the mysteries of

Heaven, encouraging the obedient, and warning the disobedient." *Review and Herald*, Sept. 11, 1913

"Ministers who are preaching present truth should not neglect the solemn message to the Laodiceans. The testimony of the True Witness is not a smooth message. The Lord does not say to them, You are about right, you have borne chastisement and reproof that you never deserved, you have been discouraged unnecessarily by severity, you are not guilty of the wrongs and sins of which you have been reprov'd." *Ibid*, Sept 16, 1873

"Some ministers choose for their sermons subjects that will please the people and offend none. This is shunning the cross of Christ. You see one man selfish; another controlled by pride or passion; another robbing God in tithes and offerings; and another doubting and unbelieving. Do not leave these deceived ones to remain blinded by the enemy in regard to their own spiritual standing. For each of these there is a special message in the Word of God. Pray for wisdom that you may be able so to present the instructions of the sacred Word that all may see wherein their characters are defective, and what is required of them in order to conform to the true standard. Win their confidence and affection. Bring the truth as it is in Jesus to bear upon their hearts; for there is no other power that can keep the soul steadfast." *Ibid*, June 17, 1884.

"To exalt a minister as perfection because he has not displeased any one by reprov'g errors, not only brings a snare upon the minister, but brings disaster upon the people." *Review and Herald*, July 25, 1893.

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." John 10:11

"It is in the labour out of the pulpit, among families, that the richest and most valuable experience is gained, and that the minister learns how he can feed the flock of God, giving to each his portion of meat in due season. If there is a backslider, the shepherd knows how to present the truth in such a manner that the soul will be convicted. He will leave the ninety and nine, and seek the lost sheep. But if the shepherd does not visit his flock, he knows not their condition, he knows not what truths to set before them, nor what is appropriate to their case." *Appeal and Suggestions to Conference Officers (ph 2)* 18.

"God will work mightily with His ministers when their hearts are filled with love for the poor lost sheep of the house of Israel. Hunt up the backsliders, those who once knew what religion was, and give them the message of mercy." *Counsels on Health*, p. 533

"The shepherd's life is one full of peril. If he is a trustworthy shepherd, he will not be careless and study his own ease, but he will search for the straying sheep amid storm and tempest. Perhaps he will find the lost sheep slipped into some crevice of the rock, where he cannot find his way out. He is beset with fears on every hand. The good shepherd does not come with a harsh voice, scolding the poor frightened sheep, but he speaks in pitiful, soothing, winning tones, so that when the sheep hears his voice, he will follow, unless he is imprisoned in the rocks or tangled in the brambles. Then the only means by which the shepherd can find the sheep is by following up the bleat of distress that the wanderer sends in answer to his call. And when the good shepherd finds the lost one, he puts the weary wanderer upon his shoulder, and brings him back to the fold, rejoicing at every step." *Youths Instructor* April 28, 1886.

"In this fearful time, just before Christ is to come the second time, God's faithful preachers will have to bear a still more pointed testimony than was borne by John the Baptist. A responsible, important work is before them; and those who speak smooth things, God will not acknowledge as His shepherds. A fearful woe is upon them." *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol.1, p. 321.

ANGELS

"The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them." Psalm 34:7

"A guardian angel is appointed to every follower of Christ. These heavenly watchers shield the righteous from the power of the wicked one." *Great Controversy*, p. 512. "God commissions His angels to save His chosen ones from calamity, . . ." *Acts of The Apostles*, p. 153 "Only the sense of God's presence can banish the fear that, for the timid child, would make life a burden." *Education*, p. 255

How blessed we are to have the protection of our guardian angel by our side where ever we go. Many times we may forget that they are there or perhaps we just take them for granted. They protect us from many unseen dangers - some of which escape our notice. Once in awhile, when in real danger, they are there to work in a marvellous manner in our behalf.

Recently in our household we had just such an experience. It happened one evening this past November. I was finished my dinner and had gone downstairs to do some work on the computer. Jerry was not home and Richard and Sharon were still finishing up their dinner. Their dessert had gotten cold and they decided that they wanted to warm it up in the microwave oven. Now they had used the microwave oven many times before, so when Sharon told me that her dessert was cold, I simply told her to go warm it up in the microwave. All was well, or so I thought. It wasn't until about 15 minutes later that I heard a loud "bang" upstairs, like the sound of a chair being knocked over. I just muttered to myself, "Oh, those children, why do they have to be so hyper, can't they just quietly eat while I quickly finish the work I am doing? What are they knocking around now." Then Sharon came down and meekly said to me, "Mom my bowl exploded in the kitchen." "WHAT!!!!!!!!!!!" I jumped to my feet. Now I was mystified, how could this happen?

In the kitchen there was glass all over the kitchen floor. After clean-up I made a closer inquiry as to what really happened. This is the story from the children's mouths:

First of all, Sharon had left her fork in her bowl (it was a clear glass dessert bowl), not realizing that it was a problem. She put the microwave on for 10 seconds and was a bit frightened by the sparks flying around in the microwave. After the 10 seconds she tested her food with her finger. It was not warm enough for her liking. She decided it needed 10 more seconds. Well the fork

was still left in the bowl and the microwave started whirring. The sparks were flying even higher now. By this time both children were staring through the microwave door at this strange sight. After only five seconds, Sharon decided that there was definitely a problem so she stopped the microwave. They opened the door and both put their faces right into the microwave door and stared at the bowl, too frightened to touch it. Their faces were side by side staring into the microwave at this strange sight. Then all of a sudden right in front of their faces, this bowl exploded spraying glass all over the kitchen. Why were the children not hurt? Why did they not have any glass imbedded in their faces? Not one piece of glass pierced their skin. A split second before the explosion both children were thrown out of the way of the spraying glass. They had no idea that it would explode but someone did and that Someone sent his angels to throw the children out of the way of the glass a split second before the explosion. Afterward there were so many small pieces of glass in the kitchen that Sharon had to put her shoes on to walk over the glass, to rescue the cat from the corner of the kitchen.

Yes, truly we are thankful for the ever watchful care of our guardian angels. We do not want to even think of the consequences had they not been there for our children.

"The angels appointed to minister to the children of God have at all times access to His presence." *Great Controversy*, p. 512. What a comforting thought. The angels, the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit all have a genuine concern for the faithful believers.

***"Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of My Father."
Matthew 18:10***

By Wendy Eaton



A group of believers in the Peruvian Mountains

SPROUTS

"Sprouting seeds is one of the fastest methods of improving the nutritional value of food. Some of the seeds that can be sprouted are alfalfa, parsley, radish, rye, rice, corn, oats, millet, wheat, barley, lentils, garbanzos, soybeans, peas, mung beans, and sunflower seeds - hulled or unhulled.

Sprouting increases the amount of vitamins - such as vitamins A, B, C, D, E, G and enzymes.

There is more Vitamin C in some sprouts than others. The amount of Vitamin C in the sprouts before they are sprouted increases during sprouting, and also after they are sprouted. Usually, old seeds have lost most of their Vitamin C; so be sure to use fresh, good quality seeds.

Some favourite sprouting seeds, especially for the beginners are: Mung Beans, Alfalfa, Sunflower Seeds, Lentils.

Sprouting is a "Garden in your Kitchen." In the winter, especially when fresh produce is scarce from one's own garden or orchard and we must rely more on the market, sprouting is the most nutritious and economical. Our greens today are so sprayed and filled with poisons that sprouting avoids this contamination.

SUPPLIES FOR SPROUTING

1. Wide mouth jar
2. Wire screen, discarded nylon stocking or cheese cloth
3. Elastic band or jar ring

PROCEDURE

Place one Tablespoon of seeds in the bottom of the jar. Fill half full with water and place the wire mesh (cut to size) over the top of the mouth (or you can use the nylon stocking or cheese cloth) Screw the ring on or use the elastic band. Shake jar and drain off water. Do this several times to clean seeds. After last washing, leave water in for several hours. After seeds are swelled, drain and re-wash. Leave the jar upside down or on an angle to drain. It may be put in a dark place until starting to sprout. Place in the light to produce greenness. Rewash one to three times each day, depending on the weather and how soon the seeds have a tendency to dry out. Do not let them dry out. When the leaves are green the sprouts are ready to eat.

HOW TO USE SPROUTS

1. Alone with your favourite salad dressing.
2. With Avocado
3. Part of a full salad
4. As a garnish on sliced tomato or avocado
5. Add to any soup just before serving
6. As a sandwich filling in place of lettuce
7. As decoration on top of salads or other dishes.
8. Saute mushrooms, onions, celery, celery leaves, and bell pepper, all finely cut, in a little oil. When clear or cooked, add sprouts. Serve while still crunchy. Season with favourite herbs and salt.
9. Warmed as an entree, put oil in pan. Add sprouts, heat through, season with dash of garlic and onion salt, and soy sauce just before serving. Serve hot or cold. Sprouts need very little heat. (2 or 3 minutes).

HEALTHY LIVING

Satan entered our bodies which are the temple of the Holy Spirit. And he took all he wished to steal: our breath, our blood, our bones, our flesh, our eyes and our ears. But by eating healthy, fasting and prayer we will call back the Lord and His angels.

“Disease is sometimes produced, and is often greatly aggravated by the imagination. Many are lifelong invalids who might be well if they only thought so. Many imagine that every slight exposure will cause illness, and the evil effect is produced because it is expected. Many die from disease the cause of which is wholly imaginary.”

MH

“Sickness originates in the mind: A great deal of sickness which afflicts humanity has its origin in the mind and can only be cured by restoring the mind to health. There are many more than we imagine who are sick mentally. Heart sickness makes many dyspeptics, for mental trouble has a paralyzing influence upon the digestive organs.”

3T 184.

Christ heals--

“There is a soul sickness no balm can reach, no medicine heal. Pray for these and bring them to Jesus Christ.”

MS

Eating healthy is good, but to be truly healthy we must have well balanced minds. Our thoughts must be brought under control. Satan takes control of every mind that is not decidedly under the control of the Spirit of God. The mind is to be disciplined, educated and trained. Old and young are to form habits of thought that will enable them to resist temptation. Train and discipline the mind by study, by observation, by reflection.

Exercise in the open air--

“The whole system needs invigorating influence of exercise in the open air. A few hours of manual labour each day would tend to renew the bodily vigour and rest and relax the mind.” 4T

Air, air, the precious boon of heaven which all may have, will bless you with its invigorating influence if you will not refuse it entrance. Welcome it, cultivate a love for it, and it will prove a precious soother of the nerves. Air must be in constant circulation to be kept pure. The influence of pure, fresh air is to cause the blood to circulate healthfully through the system. It refreshes the body and tends to render it strong and healthy, while at the same time its influence is decidedly felt upon the mind, imparting a degree of composure and serenity. It excites the appetite, renders the digestion of food more perfect, and induces sound and sweet sleep.” EGW

“Unhealthful food stupefies the conscience. In health reform our people have been retrograding. Satan sees that he cannot have so great a power over minds when the appetite is kept under control as when it is indulged, and he is constantly at work to lead men to indulgence. Under the influence of unhealthful food the conscience becomes stupefied, the mind is darkened, and its susceptibility to impressions is impaired... Will our people see and fell the sin of perverting the appetite? Will they discard all hurtful indulgences, and let the means thus saved devoted to spreading the truth?” Und.Ms. 132.

I think that all the youth should read the books written by Ellen G. White; they help us understand things better and see everything in a clearer light.

Reyna Esther Conde Guerrara

How Readest Thou

*It is one thing to read the Bible through.
Another thing to read to learn and do.
Some read it with design to learn to read.
But to the subject pay but little heed.
Some read it as their duty once a week.
But no instruction from the Bible seek:
While others read it with but little care
With no regard to how they read, nor where.
Some read to bring themselves into repute,
By showing others how they can dispute:
While others read because their neighbours do,
To see how long t'will take to read it through.
Some read it for the wonders that are there:-
How David killed a lion and a bear:
While others read it with uncommon care,
Hoping to find some contradictions there.
Some read as if it did not speak to them,
But to the people at Jerusalem.
One reads with father's specs upon his head,
And sees the things just as his father said.
Some read to prove a preadopted creed,
Hence understand but little what they read:
For every passage in the book they bend
To make it suit that all-important end.
Some people read, as I have often thought,
To teach the book instead of being taught,
And some there are who read it out of spite.
I fear there are but few who read it right.
But read it prayerfully and you will see
Although men contradict, God's words agree:
For what the early Bible prophets wrote,
We find that Christ and his apostles quote.
So trust no creed that trembles to recall
What has been penned by one and verified by all.*