

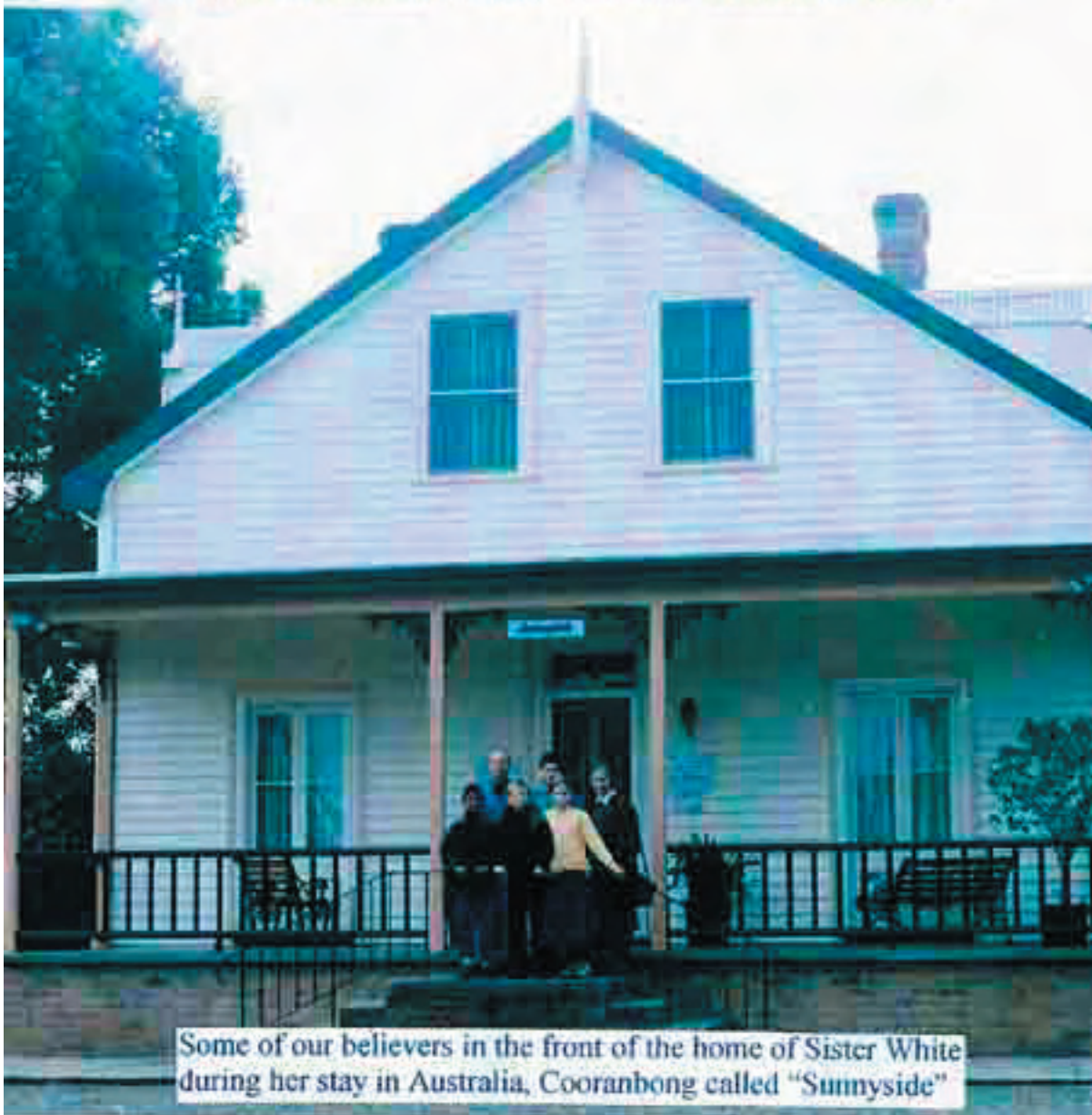
*The Reformation* 

# Messenger

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Some of our believers in the front of the home of Sister White during her stay in Australia, Cooranbong called "Sunmyside"

## SATAN'S LAST DAY DECEPTIONS

For 6000 years Satan has deceived the people, therefore he has become very skilful in his deceptions. Now he knows also that his time is short, therefore he is working harder than ever to deceive, if possible, the very elect.

The target of his attacks is the people of God - you and me. He knows the human nature and the weaknesses of each one of us, and consequently these are the points in which he is tempting us especially.

The world belongs to him. Sinners are his captives. The lukewarm professors of religion are his victims. They are tempted by their own inclinations and by their lusts and passions that are imbedded in their flesh. But the honest souls that are struggling to overcome sin he tries to deceive especially the ones who are involved in the soul saving work.

At the same time, while Satan has become more skillful in his deceptions, the human race has become weaker mentally and physically. Satan has found that he is more successful in deceiving the people with false religion than with atheism. He is offering eternal life with less sacrifice and self-denial than what the word of God teaches. Therefore he is hiding under the garb of Christianity.

“We are approaching the end of this earth’s history, and Satan is working as never before. He is striving to act as director of the Christian world. With an intensity that is marvelous he is working with his lying wonders. Satan is represented as walking about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. He desires to embrace the whole world in his confederacy. Hiding his deformity under the garb of Christianity, he assumes the attributes of a Christian, and claims to be Christ Himself.” Last Day Events p. 155

## HERESIES

So easily Satan has deceived the churches to believe an error. The great confusions in the popular churches are the result of Satan’s deception. There are over 1000 different churches in the world, and they all teach something different, and not one even by accident has learned the truth of the Bible.

So often a church of God in the past has fallen into false teachings and heresies, that God has had to call His honest children out of it and establish a new church from them. The one church that God has in this world is still holding on to the truth, but Satan is constantly trying to introduce errors into its teachings. Members and even the leaders are often confused and try to introduce false teachings into the Church of God. Therefore we must be continually watching for them and lift up the banner of truth that no honest soul would be led away by some heresies.

“We have far more to fear from within than from without. The hindrances to strength and success are far greater from the church itself than from the world. Unbelievers have a right to expect that those who profess to be keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, will do more than any other class to promote and honor, by their consistent lives, by their godly example and their active influence, the cause which they represent. But how often have the professed advocates of the truth proved the greatest obstacle to its advancement! The unbelief indulged, the doubts expressed, the darkness cherished, encourage the presence of evil angels, and open the way for the accomplishment of Satan’s devices.” 1 SM p. 12.2

## SIN

The reason for spiritual blindness is sin. Sin in its many forms grieves the Holy Spirit: and finally He will leave the soul to the deceptions that he loves. A professed Christian can put on a pious front, but behind there can be hidden sins which God only sees.

“The strongest bulwark of vice in our world is not the iniquitous life of the abandoned sinner or the degraded outcast; it is that life which otherwise appears virtuous, honourable, and noble, but in which one sin is fostered, one vice indulged. .Genius, talent, sympathy, even generous and kindly deeds, may thus become decoys of Satan to entice souls over the precipice of ruin,” Ed. P. 150

One sin in our life that is practiced can make us Satan’s agents to deceive others. This sin can be indulged appetite, gossiping, neglected duties, sensual thoughts or acts, idleness, evil speaking, love of amusement, and a thousand other things which people practice and which separates them from God.

### **EVIL ANGELS IN HUMAN FORM**

To Eve Satan appeared in the form of a serpent to deceive her. Today Satan takes on human form to carry on his deceptions. We have no idea how often we have talked to a person who in reality was Satan appearing in human form.

“Satan will use every opportunity to seduce men from their allegiance to God. He and the angels who fell with him will appear on the earth as men, seeking to deceive. God’s angels also will appear as men, and will use every means in their power to defeat the purposes of the enemy.” Last Day Events p. 160

“Evil angels in the form of men will talk with those who know the truth. They will misinterpret and misconstrue the statements of the messengers of God.” 3 SM p. 411

“Evil angels in the form of believers will work in our ranks to bring in a strong spirit of unbelief. Let not even this discourage you, but bring a true heart to the help of the Lord against the powers of satanic agencies. These powers of evil will assemble in our meetings, not to receive a blessing, but to counterwork the influences of the Spirit of God.” 2 Mind, Character and Personality p. 504

When the church members come together to plan for the work of God, Satan in human form will disturb the meeting to discourage and to divide the believers.

### **MIRACLES DECEIVE**

Satan will deceive many by the miracles that he is performing. Sick are healed, unknown tongues spoken, deceased relatives appear, and many other supernatural events will take place.

“For there shall arise false christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.” Matt. 24:24

“Men under the influence of evil spirits will work miracles. They will make people sick by casting their spell upon them, and will then remove the spell, leading others to say that those who were sick have been miraculously healed. This Satan has done again and again.” 2 SM p. 53

When a person professing religion performs a miracle, many automatically account it to God. Yet if this person does not obey the law of God, we know that it was the power of Satan that performed the miracle.

There is a difference in the miracles that God does and what Satan does.

When the early church received the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, they spoke with tongues that made everyone understand them. When Satan gives the gift of tongues no one understands, not even the person who is speaking.

## FALSE REVIVALS

Many are deceived by false revivals. They are emotional experiences and people think that it is the work of the Holy Spirit.

“I saw that God has honest children among the nominal Adventists and the fallen churches, and before the plagues shall be poured out, ministers and people will be called out from these churches and will gladly receive the truth. Satan knows this; and before the loud cry of the third angel is given, he raises an excitement in these religious bodies, that those who have rejected the truth may think that God is with them.” EW p. 261

Satan is presenting the counterfeit revivals. There is much commotion, excitement, and emotional expression of feelings. These false revivals are the strong delusion which God allows to come upon those who did not love the truth. (2 Tess. 2: 10-12)

Also, these false revivals precede the latter rain which God has promised to His people. Because of them many will leave the church of God to join in these revivals.

## SATAN PERSONATES CHRIST

“As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Saviour’s advents as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation (Rev. 1:13-15). The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. The shout of triumph rings out upon the air: ‘Christ has come! Christ has come!’

“The people prostrate themselves in adoration before him while he lifts up his hands and pronounces a blessing upon them, as Christ blessed the disciples when He was upon the earth. His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed.” GC p. 624

So powerful will be Satan’s deceptions in the last days that without the help of the Holy Spirit we cannot recognize nor escape them. We need the eyesalve which the True Witness to the Laodicean church is offering to us, to open our eyes to see them.

May the Lord help each one of us to escape these deceptions of Satan and have clear eyesight to see the Lord’s leading and remain loyal to Him. AMEN

Timo Martin

## DARE TO BE DIFFERENT

***“Christian life is more than many take it to be. It does not consist wholly in gentleness, patience, meekness, and kindness. These graces are essential; but there is need also of courage, force, energy, and perseverance. The path that Christ marks out is a narrow, self-denying path. To enter that path and press on through difficulties and discouragements requires men who are more than weaklings.”MH, p. 497.***

To be different is very difficult for many people, especially if that difference is noticed by others and perhaps made a sport of. It is more difficult with children and young people as they are looking to be accepted by their peers but when we grow into adults those feelings may still be present. It is not easy to be different, but it is only those who have the courage to be different whom God will use.

## PETER

Let us take the case of the disciple Peter, he told Jesus, "Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death." Luke 22:33. Yes, he spoke these words with great boldness, but what do we see him doing a few short hours later? In Pilate's judgment hall we see him denying this same Jesus with swearing and cursing. Peter had the courage to fight for Jesus, but he did not have the courage to hear censure, rebuke and mocking. This was too difficult for him to handle. "If he had been called to fight for his Master, he would have been a courageous soldier; but when the finger of scorn was pointed at him, he proved himself a coward. Many who do not shrink from active warfare for their Lord are driven by ridicule to deny their faith. By associating with those whom they should avoid, they place themselves in the way of temptation. They invite the enemy to tempt them, and are led to say and do that of which under other circumstances they would never have been guilty. The disciple of Christ who in our day disguises his faith through dread of suffering or reproach denies his Lord as really as did Peter in the judgment hall." DA, p. 712.

Young people today feel a need to be accepted by their peers.-When I was a young child in school at about the age of 7, I remember trying to make friends. My friends would ask me what I did on the weekend. I never had the courage to tell them I went to church for fear that they would no longer be friends with me, or worse yet, that they would ridicule me. Then I can remember other times them asking me if I watched a particular TV program the night before. Well I had no TV in my home so of course I did not, but I did not have the moral courage to tell my friends this. I simply agreed with them, "Yes that was a good show" and went on to try and change the subject. I was afraid to appear different -I had no moral courage to stand for Jesus and for what is right.

## THE ELIJAH MESSAGE

Jesus is looking for young people today who have the courage to be different. We are called to preach the Elijah Message for our time. In looking at the Elijah message, we read in Malachi 4:5,6. "Behold, I send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." The Jewish believers expected Elijah to come personally to the earth in later times, however this prophecy is of someone who was to come in "the spirit and power" of Elijah. Luke 1:17. Someone would come who would preach a message similar to that of Elijah. Before the first coming of Christ, this work was done by John the Baptist and before the second coming of Christ a similar work will be done by those who preach the three angels' messages to the world. We are told that Elijah must come.

"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they have listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them. Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist." Mat. 17:11-13.

We today are to bring the Elijah message again just prior to Christ's Second Coming. "The message preceding the public ministry of Christ was, Repent, publicans and sinners; repent, Pharisees and Sadducees; "for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Our message is not to be one of peace and safety. As a people who believe in Christ's soon appearing, we have a definite message to bear, - 'Prepare to meet thy God.'

"Our message must be as direct as was that of John. He rebuked kings for their iniquity. Notwithstanding the peril his life was in, he never allowed truth to languish on his lips. Our work in this age must be as faithfully done..."

"In this time of well-nigh universal apostasy, God calls upon His messengers to proclaim His law in the spirit and power of Elias. As John the Baptist, in preparing a people for Christ's first advent, called their attention to the Ten Commandments, so we are to give, with no uncertain sound, the message: 'Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come.' With the earnestness that characterized Elijah the prophet and John the Baptist, we are to strive to prepare the way for Christ's Second Advent (SW March 21, 1905)." *SDA Bible Commentary*, "Ellen G. White Comments", Vol., 5 p. 1184.

If we are to bear the message in the "Spirit and Power of Elijah" perhaps it would be good to look at the lives of these two men, Elijah and John the Baptist, so we can learn what is expected of us today. I find it interesting to note how the evil King Ahaziah recognized Elijah. King Ahaziah was sick. He had just fallen

from a second floor balcony when a lattice gave out and therefore he sent messengers to Ekron to ask of Beelzebub as to whether he would recover. On their mission, the messengers met Elijah who had a message for the king. The messengers returned to King Ahaziah with Elijah's message, without going to Ekron. The king asked his messengers who was the man they met? They could not tell his name, they could only describe him and they described him like this, "He was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins." The King immediately responded with, "It is Elijah the Tishbite." 2 Kings 1:8. How did the King know who it was? From his appearance. Obviously Elijah must have been different in appearance than any ordinary citizen of the country.

How was John the Baptist described? "And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins;" Mat. 3:4. There was a dress code for prophets. Most of the rest of the men in the nation wore wool or linen clothing, but prophets wore a distinctive dress. (Zech. 13:4) We too must dress for the Lord - different from the world, so that people, just by looking at us, without us uttering one word, can see we are different - in a positive way. We have a Dress Reform message, not that we purposely dress differently. Worldly people follow worldly customs and fashions, some are very immoral and we are not to copy the world.

John's diet is also mentioned in Mat. 3:4, "and his meat was locusts and wild honey." Our diet must also be different - we eat and drink to the honour and glory of God, for optimum health and clearness of our minds, not for gluttony.

"John separated himself from friends and from the luxuries of life. The simplicity of his dress, a garment woven of camel's hair, was a standing rebuke to the extravagance and display of the Jewish priests and of the people generally. His diet purely vegetable, of locusts and wild honey, was a rebuke to the indulgence of appetite and the gluttony that everywhere prevailed... Those who are to prepare the way for the second coming of Christ are represented by the faithful Elijah, as John came in the spirit of Elijah to prepare the way for Christ's first advent. The great subject of reform is to be agitated, and the public mind is to be stirred. Temperance in all things is to be connected with the message, to turn the people of God from their *idolatry*, their *gluttony*, and their *extravagance of dress* and other things." 3T, p. 62.

These men were very bold in bringing a message that was very different from anything the people had ever heard before - a call to repentance, "How long halt ye between two opinions, If the Lord be God follow Him, but if Baal, then follow him..." I Kings 18:21. And John's message was "Repent and be baptized..." This was startling. Today we have a startling message also for the people - a call to repentance because Jesus is coming again and He is coming soon. We are to bring the people back to the Ten Commandments, especially the fourth. The time is coming when the test will come to every soul. Sunday worship will be forced by law. The contest will be between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. "Those who have yielded step by step to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs will then yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death. At that time the gold will be separated from the dross." PK, p. 188. We must wake the people up out of their comfort zone and show them the danger they are in. The Lord needs men and women of courage today. He will only find a few since there will only be a remnant. In the time of Elijah and John the Baptist there was not very many preaching the message. In fact there was only one man preaching, yet the whole nation heard the message, through this one preacher, and was called to repentance.

## DANIEL

There are many faithful men in the Bible who stood for the Lord at the peril of their lives. There was Daniel; although it was forbidden to pray to any one else except the king for 30 days, Daniel bravely continued his prayers as before. He could have gone into the innermost room of his house and locked himself away before praying. No, he continued, as had been his manner of praying in the past - with his window open facing Jerusalem - with his face lifted up to the heavens. He was placed in the den of lions but the Lord saved him. "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 favor of God and of man beam upon him. Faith reaches to the unseen, and grasps eternal realities." PK, 545. "Through the courage of this one man who chose to follow right rather than policy, Satan was to be defeated, and the name of God was to be exalted and honored." PK, p.544.

## THE DARK AGES

In the Dark Ages there was a fierce battle going on between truth and error. If you were found to have a Bible it would be your death sentence. Many chose the pathway of least resistance and followed the cruel Papal power in order to save their lives. However there were also some bright stars that shone in the midst of the spiritual darkness of those days. Martin Luther comes to mind. In reading the story of his life and work we see how many times his friends urged him not to go to certain places for surely he would not return alive. He went fearlessly, trusting in the Lord and he always returned. Even though the Papal leaders thirsted for his blood, his life ended by natural causes and not at the hand of his enemies.

We too will face difficult times in the future. Will you my friend be ready? Have you trimmed your lamps and filled them with the oil of the Holy Spirit so that when the Bridegroom comes you will not be found without any oil? We must ask for courage, strength and perseverance - it is said, "He that endureth to the end shall be saved." Mat. 10:22. This is no easy task. "We are to do all that we can do on our part to fight the good fight of faith. We are to wrestle, to labor, to strive, to agonize to enter the strait gate. . . . Help has been provided for us in Him who is mighty to save." FW, p. 48.

The Lord has promised to be with us, but we have to be willing to be different - willing to bring a message that may cause our friends to ridicule us. And even if we are not called to preach, we are called to live a life that is different from those that are living in the ways of the world. We must be willing to have the courage to also look different by wearing a different type of dress, even if we are the only female in our school or workplace dressed in a skirt. We will stand out for Jesus in a calm and peaceful manner, showing we refuse to follow worldly customs. When the Lord calls us to bring His message, let us pray that we will have the boldness to preach it and not shy away.

One of my favourite songs in our Church Hymnal is Song 513, "Once to Every Man and Nation, Comes the moment to decide." The second and fourth verses read like this:

"Then to side with truth is noble When we share her wretched crust,  
Ere her cause bring fame and profit,  
And 'tis prosperous to be just;  
Then it is the brave man chooses,  
While the coward stands aside,  
Till the multitude make virtue  
Of the faith they had denied.

"Though the cause of evil prosper,  
Yet 'tis truth alone is strong;  
Though her portion be the scaffold,  
And upon the throne be wrong;  
Yet that scaffold sways the future,  
And, behind the dim unknown,  
Standeth God within the shadow,  
Keeping watch above His own."

Yes, the cause of evil may seem to prosper on this earth and it will gain strength in the near future, but only the brave and courageous will dare to stand on the side of God and He will watch over them.

**One way to gain courage is to sing.** In the time of King Jehoshaphat the kings of Ammon and Moab came against the nation of Judah. King Jehoshaphat was fearful at first but he took his fears to the Lord and the Lord promised them victory. To encourage his army, the following day, King Jehoshaphat sent out his singers before the army. "This was their battle song. They possessed the beauty of holiness. If more praising of God were engaged in now, hope and courage and faith would steadily increase. And would not this strengthen the hands of the valiant soldiers who today are standing in defense of truth?" PK 202.

**Courage to go to a new area for the Lord** - many fail here, they are used to their comfort zone. The things of this world are too dear to be sacrificed.... This is a very sad situation. When Paul heard the call of the Lord to go to Macedonia - he went. We see Jesus calling His disciples. He called Peter, James and John from their fishing boats. None of them questioned Jesus as to how their families will be provided for. Matthew was a wealthy man, a tax collector; he too left his employment in order to follow Jesus. None of these men saw their families perish from hunger. Jesus is also calling some individuals and families to step out by faith and go to new areas to bring the gospel message. They are not necessarily being called into full time missionary work, but there has been too much centralization in some countries with large churches in one area, while large areas of the country are left neglected. Where is the faith that God will provide another job in a new place if you are going to move for the Lord? Where is the faith that you will have a place to live - your children will have a good school? Do we get used to having the same familiar surroundings every Sabbath? We will miss our friends - we will be lonely on Sabbath if we move. Oh there are so many excuses but not one will stand up in the judgment day when you come before the Lord. What have you done for Jesus?

"From all countries the Macedonian cry is sounding: "Come over,... help us." God has opened fields before us, and if human agencies would but co-operate with divine agencies, many, many souls would be won to the truth. But the Lord's professing people have been sleeping over their allotted work and in many places it remains comparatively untouched. God has sent message after message to arouse our people to do something, and to do it now. But to the call, "Whom shall I send?" there have been few to respond, "Here am I; send me." Isaiah 6:8" 9T, p. 46.

We never were promised a life of ease and comfort if we decide to follow the Lord, "Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also." John 15:20. If we think we will end up in heaven by following any other pathway than the pathway Jesus walked then we are sadly mistaken. Martin Luther said, "He who desires to proclaim the word of Christ to the world, must expect death at every moment." GC, p. 135.

## COURAGE DURING SUFFERING

“Our Master was a man of sorrows; He was acquainted with grief; and those who suffer with Him will reign with Him. When the Lord appeared to Saul in his conversion, He did not purpose to show him how much good he should enjoy, but what great things he should suffer for His name. Suffering has been the portion of the people of God from the days of the martyr Abel. The patriarchs suffered for being true to God and obedient to His commandments. The great Head of the church suffered for our sake; His first apostles and the primitive church suffered; the millions of martyrs suffered, and the Reformers suffered. And why should we, who have the blessed hope of immortality, to be consummated at the soon appearing of Christ, shrink from a life of suffering? Were it possible to reach the tree of life in the midst of the Paradise of God without suffering, we would not enjoy so rich a reward for which we had not suffered. We would shrink back from the glory; shame would seize us in the presence of those who had fought the good fight, had run the race with patience, and had laid hold on eternal life. But none will be there who have not, like Moses, chosen to suffer affliction with the people of God. The prophet John saw the multitude of the redeemed, and inquired who they were. The prompt answer came: “These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.” IT, p. 78.

This doesn't mean we can never smile. Although Jesus was “a man of sorrows” He was the happiest Man whoever lived on earth. He found joy in the simple things of life. His great joy was in seeing sinners reclaimed from a life of sin. He was happy when He saw a lame man walk, or a blind man see. He found joy in helping others. This is true joy.

It is suffering that increases strength. It is easy to be happy when life is going well, but when life becomes difficult many, like Ancient Israel, begin to murmur and blame God for their difficulties. In order to strengthen your muscles you must exercise them and sometimes this causes pain, but it is beneficial pain – so also in our Christian life. The pain and suffering is all beneficial pain, for the strengthening of our faith. The truly happy person will not allow circumstances to decide his moods and feelings. If he/she finds peace in Christ, it doesn't matter what Satan throws their way; they will be at peace. This is the courage Jesus is looking for today in His people. Soon life will be very difficult for every true follower of Christ, and unless we start building our spiritual muscles today we will be without strength when we really need it.

“Heaven is very near those who suffer for righteousness' sake. Christ identifies His interests with the interests of His faithful people; He suffers in the person of His saints, and whoever touches His chosen ones touches Him. The power that is near to deliver from physical harm or distress is also near to save from the greater evil, making it possible for the servant of God to maintain his integrity under all circumstances, and to triumph through divine grace.” PK 545.

“God cannot use men who, in time of peril, when the strength, courage, and influence of all are needed, are afraid to take a firm stand for the right. He calls for men who will do faithful battle against wrong, warring against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. It is to such as these that He will speak the words: ‘Well done, good and faithful servant, ... enter thou into the joy of the Lord.’ Matthew 25:23.” PK. P. 142.

“God calls for men like Elijah, Nathan, and John the Baptist – men who will bear His message with faithfulness, regardless of consequences; men who will speak the truth bravely, though it call for the sacrifice of all they have.” GW, p. 150. This is not true only for the ministers, Bible workers and canvassers – it is true for every lay member in the church. Each has his own responsibility in his sphere of influence to bear the message for the Lord.

When Sister White was fearful of bearing the message of the Lord she received a frightening vision. “Presently an angel bade me rise, and the sight that met my eyes can hardly be described. Before me was a company whose hair and garments were torn, and whose countenances were the very picture of despair and horror. They came close to me, and rubbed their garments upon mine. As I looked at my garments, I saw that they were stained with blood. Again I fell like one dead at the feet of my accompanying angel. I could not plead one excuse, and longed to be away from that holy place. The angel raised me to my feet, and said: ‘This is not your case now, but this scene has passed before you to let you know what your situation must be if you neglect to declare to others what the Lord has revealed to you...’” IT, p. 74. What a frightening scene. Although we may not be called as a prophet of the Lord, nevertheless we could be just as guilty as she could have been, if we refuse to carry the truths of the Lord to our friends, neighbours, workmates, fellow students and strangers we may meet. We will be guilty of their blood. If we centralize in one city, those crying for help in other areas will be our responsibility. What will we do with this responsibility?

## ANCIENT ISRAEL

When the nation of Israel was on the border of Canaan for the first time, there were only two men among the congregation who had the courage to believe that God would fight for them and that they could conquer the Canaanites. The rest of the people were afraid. Because of their fear they were sent back to wander in the wilderness for 40 years and they eventually died in the wilderness. They paid dearly for their lack of courage. The long hoped-for new home in the “Land flowing with milk and honey” was not to be realized. When the Lord tells us to go



forward, we must go, believing that God can do the impossible. He will open the way before us. It is a fearful thing to refuse to do God's will due to our own fears.

"Men who ought to be as true in every emergency as the needle to the pole, have become inefficient by their efforts to shield themselves from censure and by evading responsibilities for fear of failure. Men of giant intellect are babes in discipline because they are cowardly in regard to taking and bearing the burdens they should. They are neglecting to become efficient." 3T, p. 495,496.

"The fearful and unbelieving, who are punished with the second death, are of that class who are ashamed of Christ in this world. They are afraid to do right and follow Christ, lest they should meet with pecuniary loss. They neglect their duty, to avoid reproach and trials, and to escape dangers. Those who dare not do right because they will thus expose themselves to trials, persecution, loss, and suffering are cowards, and, with idolaters, liars, and all sinners, they are ripening for the second death." 2T, p. 630.

"Opposing circumstances should create a firm determination to overcome them. One barrier broken down will give greater ability and courage to go forward. Press in the right direction, and make a change, solidly, intelligently. Then circumstances will be your helpers and not your hindrances. Make a beginning. The oak is in the acorn." 6T p. 145.

"We all know that the sin of many professing Christians is that they lack the courage and energy to bring themselves and those connected with them up to the standard." 9T, p. 45.

## THE TWO ROADS

There are only two roads to heaven and it takes great courage to travel the narrow road while the masses are flocking to the broad road. Yes, you will be ridiculed; you will be persecuted, but take heart because Jesus has traveled the road before you and He has promised to be with you every step of the way.

"Strive to enter in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.' These roads are distinct, separate, in opposite directions. One leads to eternal life, the other to eternal death. I saw the distinction between these roads, also the distinction between the companies traveling them. The roads are opposite; one is broad and smooth, the other narrow and rugged. So the parties that travel them are opposite in character, in life, in dress, and in conversation.

"Those who are traveling the narrow way are talking of the joy and happiness they will have at the end of the journey. Their countenances are often sad, yet often beam with holy, sacred joy. They do not dress like the company in the broad road, nor talk like them, nor act like them. A pattern has been given them. A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief opened that road for them, and traveled it Himself. His followers see His footsteps, and are comforted and cheered. He went through safely; so can they, if they follow in His footsteps.

"In the broad road all are occupied with their persons, their dress, and the pleasures in the way. They indulge freely in hilarity and glee, and think not of their journey's end, of the certain destruction at the end of the path. Every day they approach nearer their destruction; yet they madly rush on faster and faster. Oh, how dreadful this looked to me!

"I saw many traveling in this broad road who had the words written upon them: 'Dead to the world. The end of all things is at hand. Be ye also ready.' They looked just like all the vain ones around them, except a shade of sadness which I noticed upon their countenances. Their conversation was just like that of the gay, thoughtless ones around them; but they would occasionally point with great satisfaction to the letters on their garments, calling for the others to have the same upon theirs. They were in the broad way, yet they professed to be of the number who were traveling the narrow way. Those around them would say: 'There is no distinction between us. We are alike; we dress and talk and act alike.'" IT, p. 127,127.

As we near the close of this earth's history, evil is waxing worse and worse; false Protestantism is increasingly becoming more corrupt; the difference between the true followers of God and the world will become greater. God's people will be viewed as different and it takes great courage to stand for the Lord. Many fear losing friends, family, jobs, material goods, etc. if they decide to follow the pathway that our Savior walked. It is too straight and narrow, yet only those who are willing to sever every earthly tie, will be saved for time and eternity. Jesus is calling the youth to a great challenge today. He wants an army of youth to finish the work on this earth; He is looking for youth with courage, stamina, strength and no fear of being different. We must deny ourselves, pick up our crosses and follow the Lord today. It is my wish and prayer that we would each one, possess this courage that only the Lord can give and follow Him where He will lead us. AMEN.

Wendy Eaton

## **NOT BROKEN! PIERCED!! WHY?**

Adam and Eve, our foreparents disobeyed the commandment of God and became one with Satan and therefore they lost their happy joyful life and had to live a life of trouble and tribulations.

In His love, our Father in heaven sent His Son, Jesus Christ to save the sin stricken people from destruction. When the animal was sacrificed, it was the first sign of atonement on the earth.

To save the world and to transform the character from its sinful condition to God's divine character, John the Baptist identified the Son of God—"Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29.

The animal sacrifice did not accomplish the real atonement. It was only a shadow of the real sacrifice, which was done on the cross by our Lord Jesus Christ, which is described thus, "But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs."

But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. (John 19:33,34) and to explain these two texts is the purpose of this article.

God made the world in six days and rested on the seventh day and blessed and sanctified it. The seventh day was ordained as a holy day and all who keep it are also blessed. (Genesis 2:2,3).

Also when Jesus had died, His body was not left on the cross over the Sabbath, but was buried before.

### **NOT BROKEN, WHY?**

To speed up the death of the ones crucified, the cruel Roman soldiers broke the bones of the two thieves crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus, they did not break His bones, because He was already dead, which was a surprise to them. (John 19:32).

The point to consider here is whether they did not break His bones because He was already dead or for some other reason.

The very night when the people of Israel left Egypt, they celebrated the symbolic atonement; similar to the sacrifice offered in the Garden of Eden.

It was the real atonement when Jesus shed his precious blood on Calvary for the remission of sins, and to deliver us from the bondage of sin and to gain entrance to the Garden of Eden again.

In a similar way, as the people of Israel left Egypt to travel to Canaan, we also have left the world to travel to heavenly Canaan; this is done only by Jesus Christ. "For there is no salvation in any other..." Acts 4:12.

"Without shedding blood there is no remission of sins." (Heb. 9:22). Our forefathers realized this, and therefore followed the sacrificial system by choosing a lamb without blemish for the sacrifice. We today celebrate the ordinance of the Lord's Supper in memory of Christ's sacrifice.

In the old Israel, the uncircumcised was not allowed to eat the flesh of the sacrificial animal. (Ex. 12: 43, 44). Likewise after Christ's death, those who are not baptized are not allowed to participate in the Lord's Supper. The person who is not baptized is comparable to a person who is uncircumcised and therefore a stranger.

In the old Israel, God commanded that the bones should not be broken of the sacrificial animal. (Ex. 12:46). In a similar way, the bones of Jesus Christ our Redeemer and sacrificial lamb were not broken.

### **PIERCED, WHY?**

People had no knowledge of the precious blood of Jesus, through which their sins could be forgiven. They only saw the inanimate things like the thorny crown, red robe, wooden cross, nails and spear.

He was mocked by offending words. He was nailed to the cross after his enemies spitting on His face and placing a thorny crown on His head.

After dying on the cross, He was pierced. Why? “One of the soldiers pierced His side, and immediately blood and water came out.” (John 19:34).

Why was He pierced in the rib? There are three reasons for it:

1. Medically the life of a person is in the blood. (Lev. 17:11). The heart is the organ that pumps the blood throughout the body.

The rib is near the heart. The spear of the soldier hit the rib of Jesus first and then the heart. The blood of Jesus had separated into water and blood.

2. God created the world to last eternally. All that He had created was very good.

Afterwards, God created man in His own image with the intention that he may live a happy and holy life with the fullest enjoyment of all the blessings that God had provided. God also created a helpmate to Adam from his rib bone.

Eve was to be one flesh with him. There was no evil in man. He was created in the perfect image of God. They lived in sweet harmony with their Creator.

Once Eve was alone, and Satan used this opportunity to tempt her into sin. In the form of a serpent, Satan told Eve that if she would eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, their eyes would be opened and they would be like God, knowing good and evil. (Gen. 3:5).

She took the fruit and ate and gave also to her husband. This gave great joy to Satan. “The tree of knowledge, which stood near the tree of life in the midst of the garden, was to be a test of obedience, faith and love of our first parents.” PP 48,49.

If they had lived a life of victory by overcoming the temptation of Satan, they would have had eternal life.

In the midst of the Garden stood the tree of life surpassing in glory all other trees. Its fruits appeared like apples of gold and silver, and had power to perpetuate life.

“The fall of man filled all heaven with sorrow. The world that God had made was blighted with the curse of sin and inhabited by beings doomed to misery and death. There appeared no escape for those who had transgressed the law. Angels ceased their songs of praise. Throughout the heavenly court there was mourning for the ruin that sin had wrought.” PP 63.

“The Son of God, the heaven’s glorious Commander, was touched with pity for the fallen race. His heart was moved with infinite compassion as the woes of the lost world rose up before Him.

“Before the Father He pleaded in the sinners behalf, while the host of heaven waited the result with an intensity of interest that words cannot express. Long continued was that mysterious communing ‘the counsel of peace’ (Zech. 6:13) for the fallen sons of men.” PP 63.

As decided on that day in heaven, Christ was born into this world and bore all of our sins and died on the cross of Calvary.

Even after knowing that He had already died, the soldiers pierced Him in the rib. To explain this in detail, piercing His rib had remitted the sin, which entered through the woman who had been made of the rib bone.

So for as Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive (1 Cor. 15:22) is the promise. “The wages of sin is death.” But all who go to the merciful Saviour can be free from the condemnation.

“Wrongdoers must repent of their sins and humble themselves before God, whose just wrath they have incurred by breaking His law, and they must also exercise faith in the blood of Christ as their only means of pardon. By repentance and faith they might be freed from the condemnation of sin and through the grace of Christ be enabled henceforth to render obedience to the law of God.” AA393.

3. Another reason can also be mentioned for the piercing of His rib. When God made the helpmeet to man, He did not use the dust of the ground, but a bone was taken from the central part of Adam's body. Then Adam's rib was broken in the Garden of Eden. So also the second Adam's rib was pierced when He was offered to bear the sins of many.

The apostle Paul testifies about the church in the following manner, "For I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." 2 Cor. 11:2. This indicates the strong tie between the bride and the bridegroom.

The main purpose of this article is that we should be like the wise virgins having oil and lamps burning to welcome the Bridegroom when He comes. This is also the burden of my soul. This explains why the bones of Jesus were not broken but His rib was pierced.

Christ gives an invitation to all who believe in His precious blood. He will blot out their wickedness and trespasses and give them a crown of glory when He appears the second time to meet His bride—the church. He will say, "Come ye blessed of My Father and inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." (Matt. 25:34).

"Moreover it is necessary to attain the perfection of the Christian virtues completely in the Christian life. By the sacrifice of Christ, provision has been made for the believer to receive all things that pertain to life and godliness. God calls upon us to reach the standard of perfection and places before us the example of Christ's character. In His humanity perfected by a life of constant resistance of evil, the Saviour showed that through cooperation with Divinity, human beings may in this life attain perfection of character. This is God's assurance to us that we, too, may obtain complete victory." AA531.

We need to know how to leave the life of sin and how to inherit eternal life. All who keep the commandments of God will receive the eternal life through the atoning blood of Christ.

Let us consider this world as our enemy and reach out to our heavenly home and to the life eternal is my wish and desire.

AMEN.

S. Raj Israel India

## **Agitate, Agitate, Agitate**

If we preach a peace and safety message today, what shall become of us? If we allow the professed Christian world to go along the pathway to destruction unwarned and unrebuked, what shall happen to us? Well, the same thing as what is happening to them - going further and further into lukewarmness and apostasy, so that is why we must agitate, agitate, agitate. "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day; we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober." 1 Thess. 5:2-6

**The whole world shall be agitated upon the law of God, especially the Sabbath. The only question is: will we be faithful and courageous enough to be the agitators?**

Only if we are faithful to the light, in other words, if our fallen human nature has been agitated and broken up by the Spirit of God and a new nature put in its place, can we truly keep the Sabbath of the Lord and thus be faithful to all His commandments.

At every step of the way, our experience must broaden and our repentance deepen. Jer. 12:5 If we cannot run with the footmen now, how shall we run with the horses? Now perhaps a definition of agitate is correct here, because there are really two different kinds of agitation.

The good kind of agitation happened to me at a Bible study the other night. We were studying about Daniel's prophecies, and the people were so excited to hear these new truths about the papacy being the anti-christ and how

everything fit together, that they wanted to come to church right away. That was good agitation, but there's bad agitation as well, when people always keep their minds in a kind of whipped up, emotional state. That's not what I'm talking about. We want the Holy Spirit to agitate us on the subject of the truth, not on man's speculation.

The Sabbath question was designed by the Lord to get people to look at their religion, their commitment to God in light of the truths of God's word. In and through this question we can see everything exposed in the world:

- 1) The inroads of the papacy to compromise the law of God.
- 2) The political lawmakers seeking to break down the separating wall between church and state
- 3) The whole world increasingly seeking unity with the papacy, whether religiously, socially or politically, behind the scenes, but more and more in the open.

**Actually, we have to have our consciences constantly agitated or else what happens to us? No matter how long we may have been in the church, we will lose our way.**

No, not the kind of agitation that would depend upon its own strength to lose our hold upon Christ and become wild-eyed or fanatic, but to tighten our grip upon Him when we see all these things approaching. Let me explain: we have to study and continually examine our positions to make sure they are correct and to make sure of how we can present the truth to others. And our human nature has to be continually agitated and broken up so that the Holy Spirit can dwell within us.

"Whatever may be man's intellectual advancement, let him not for a moment think that there is no need of thorough and continuous searching of the Scriptures for greater light. As a people, we are called individually to be students of prophecy. We must watch with earnestness that we may discern any ray of light which God shall present to us. We are to catch the first gleamings of truth; and through prayerful study, clearer light may be obtained, which can be brought before others.

**"When God's people are at ease, and satisfied with their present enlightenment, we may be sure that he will not favor them.** It is His will that they should be ever moving forward, to receive the increased and ever-increasing light which is shining for them.

"The present attitude of the church is not pleasing to God. There has come in a self-confidence that has led them to feel no necessity for more truth and greater light. We are living at a time when Satan is at work on the right hand and on the left, before and behind us; and yet as a people we are asleep. God wills that a voice shall be heard arousing His people to action.

"Brethren, we must sink the shaft deep in the mine of truth. You may question matters with yourselves and with one another, if you only do it in the right spirit; but too often self is large, and as soon as investigation begins, an unchristian spirit is manifested. This is just what Satan delights in, but we should come with a humble heart to know for ourselves what is truth." CW P. 41

Once God's people settle down on their lees and start thinking they have all the truth - then what happens? We can be sure that God will not favor them.

In fact, this egotistic view is very offensive to those who name the name Christian in reality, because the truth is not a static, motionless thing, but is constantly unfolding, being constantly agitated itself, if you will, so we must follow the continually advancing light, if we would advance with it.

How does God look at truth? Well, it's like a Framework of truth, within the Bible and pen of inspiration. What must we do then? Well, I think Phil. 3 :11-14 puts it very well.... Continually forgetting those things that are behind and reaching toward those things that are before. This is agitation in a Biblical sense.

In the last days, we know the whole world will be agitated upon these themes: The commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

**Have you ever been asleep and suddenly awakened by an emergency situation? Maybe it was something scary, or life-threatening. Well, I don't like to be awakened that way.** I would much rather take my time and be prepared for what I have to do when I wake up, wouldn't you?

How many we have known, that got tired of the fight, tired of being agitated and just wanted to lay down and go to sleep, but this time is no time to be asleep spiritually. Let God's people sleep on a little longer, and we can be sure that Satan will have them...

EW p. 14-15. In this first vision of Sr. White, she looked for God's people in the world, but couldn't find them, then the angel told her to look a little higher....where the Loud Cry was, the message intended to wake people up...

An agitated, convicted German soldier said that there were two voices in him; one telling him to go on in sin and fear nothing; the other calling on him to reform and serve Christ.

Or take for example this situation: when Whitefield was preaching at Exeter, a man went with his pockets filled with stones, intending to throw them at the preacher. No sooner was the Bible text announced, than he pulled out a stone; but God sent the word to his heart. The stone soon fell to the ground, and after the sermon the man went up to Whitefield, confessing his intention, and saying, "Sir, I came here intending to give you a broken head, but God has given me a broken heart." The man afterwards became a Christian and preached to others what he wanted to destroy.

The only way we can prepare for Christ's second coming is by being agitated by the Spirit of God on the truth. And then we let the Lord use us as instruments to agitate others to the truths of His word. We better not sink down in sleep, because that is what Satan is trying to get us to do, rocking the people to sleep in the cradle of carnal security.

So what are we to do? The only safe course is to agitate, agitate, agitate....By Jerry Eaton

## **TO GOD BE THE GLORY -GREAT THINGS HE HATH DONE**

When we traveled home last year on our 1,000 km trip after a blessed happy conference, we felt rather annoyed after hitting a reflector post at the side of the road, which scraped off a lot of paint on the front bumperbar. Yet we continued our journey, trying to watch the road more closely.

After arriving home, our son Toby, having nothing much to do being unemployed, offered to sand and spray paint the bumperbar, which we gladly accepted. He did a beautiful job. Yes, this was actually our problem; Toby had been unemployed for quite some time, having only some part time work occasionally. *I* had prayed for him already for a long time, but my prayers seemed to be unanswered. If he only would pray too, I thought, maybe then the Lord would answer sooner. Yet I continued to pray for him, for the Lord is surely merciful.

A few weeks later, I brought home a heavy load of fencing material with the trailer, since we wanted to fence our three acre property, because our children had begged for a long time for a horse. As I slowed down in our steep driveway, going down to the house, the trailer coupling became undone and pushed into the tailgate of our station wagon. I was upset. The insurance company wanted two quotes before they would pay for the repair, so I told Toby, "You come with me to town, to look for work at the Panelbeater shops that I get quotes from," which he gladly did. We actually got four quotes, just trying to give Toby a better chance.

The manager at the first and largest Panelbeater shop was very impressed with Toby's spray painting of the bumperbar. Toby also showed him photos of previous cars he had painted. "We may give you a job, being so talented, come back after the weekend."

And still Toby did not get the job, to his great disappointment. "I'll never get a job," he lamented, "I think I'll retire." This is not an encouraging prospect for a young 23 year old.

I kept thinking of the Bible text, "If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you." This reads so easy, but sometimes we wonder why does everything seemingly have to go wrong? Why do some prayers never get answered? Yet I made up my mind to keep praying and trusting the Lord, and assuring Toby that he will have a job very soon, no matter how many people were unemployed.

Two months later he went back to the same Smash repairer and to his great joy they offered him a one-week work experience (unpaid). "That's a foot in the door," Toby thought, and he did his very best.

After the first day the manager said: "Today we got as much work done as we normally do in two days." And two days later he said in front of most of the 25 employees that Toby does a far better job than many qualified workers have done before and that he is employed full time from now on. Can you imagine how happy he was? And now three months later he is still happy there. It really showed me to persevere in prayer and to trust in the Lord when things seem to go wrong. He is working things out for our good and for His name's glory. I really want to praise Him for it.

Elvira Dammasch,

Australia.

## Youth Conference Australia

In Port Macquarie, N.S.W, on July 6-10, up to 20 youth and the young at heart came together to hear our theme, "Youth and the Latter Rain." The youth themselves got involved by presenting the Youth Week of Prayer readings about Friendships.

### Friday

We got started early Friday morning with Br. John Altwein answering the question: "What is the latter rain, and who will receive it?" He presented some testimonies and Bible verses explaining the fullness of the Holy Spirit poured out upon God's people. Br. John shared some personal experiences about being a child during Hitler's time in Germany and that it was hard, but the time of the end will be more difficult. Gideon started out with 32,000 men, but that was too many for God to work for them, so the halfhearted or un-consecrated ones were weeded out by the Lord.

Next, Sr. Jenny Nalder asked, "What do we have to do to prepare for the Latter rain?" She compared the Olympic games athletes' preparation with that which the Christian must go through. Is this easy? No, they do it to obtain a corruptible crown and God's people, an incorruptible. She appealed to the youth with timely quotes from the pen of inspiration and personal experiences to show that we must prepare today. Does Christ do it all for us? No, we must cooperate with divine agencies, through hard, stern battles with self. If our youth would be willing to be trained by the Holy Spirit, they could turn Australia upside down.

At 11:00 A.M. we had a panel discussion led by Br. Eaton on issues such as courtship and dating, creation versus evolution, and worldly success as compared to godly success. The correct Christian way was compared with what is acceptable in society today. A few cases were cited when Brothers or Sisters were searching first for the kingdom of God and the Lord provided a spouse from completely unexpected sources. Also, worldly success was contrasted with knowing the peace that passes human understanding.

After lunch we had a nature walk along the beach, only a five-minute drive away. Everyone enjoyed the bracing salt air and found shell treasures. The rest of the afternoon was occupied in preparing for the holy Sabbath.

Br. John Altwein opened the Sabbath with the texts from Luke 23, "And that day was the preparation, and the Sabbath drew on...And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the Sabbath day according to the commandment." Joseph of Arimathea wanted to do something special for Jesus but it was too late for doing anything for the living Jesus. He could only help Him in death.

The youth must remember this is a holy day from the first moment to the last. Br. John shared an experience from his own life when he was 12 or 13 and the harvest time came and everyone was expected to help out in the harvest.

But when the Sabbath came, he would not work. The Sabbath is the Lord's day - not ours. If we use it for our own pleasure, we are stealing and there will be no thieves in heaven. Our goal is to be in heaven and if we guard the Sabbath's edges zealously then the Lord will bless us.

### **Sabbath**

Sabbath morning, Br. Eaton led out in the second service with help from three young brothers, Markus Dammasch, Johan Nalder and Richard Eaton. Br. Jerry spoke about the "Power of a positive no." Sometimes Jesus tells us no, but He tells us positively the things that are for our own good. And if we accept His discipline, then we will be like letters from God to the world. 2 Cor. 3:2. The first prerequisite to enter heaven is to deny ourselves, to tell ourselves "no", pick up our crosses and follow Him.

Br. Markus then spoke on how we should be rich in good works, if our everyday life is like Jesus wants it be. Are we willing to be the example that Jesus wants us to be? We must know the doctrine, but we must also know Christ. 1 Tim. 6:18,19.

Br. Johan Nalder then challenged the congregation to consider how we must be in the world, but not of the world. 1 Jn. 2:15. We are not to associate with worldly people, unless it is to lead them to Christ. We must avoid sinners, people who choose not to follow the Lord. We cannot take them into our confidence, but rather make friends of God's children. Yet, we are to have a balance. We are to be in the world but not of the world.

Br. Richard Eaton asked us, "What does it mean to be alive?" Luke 15:24. The case of the prodigal son was cited because he was dead spiritually before he came back to his father's house. We must be dead to sin, but alive to righteousness. 1 Cor. 15:22. God is the source of all life, spiritual, mental and physical. Romans 1:18

For Sabbath close, Sr. Diane Lee appealed to us to consider how we don't seem too excited about Jesus' coming. It doesn't seem to be too much a priority in our lives. We need to pray and fast often, or we will be too excited about the things of this world. We seem to be living in a world of our own; we need to be concerned for others, pray for them and give ourselves to Jesus to be His instrument to reach others. In the early rain's comparison to the latter rain, we see that the latter rain will be much more abundant for it prepares for the harvest. But before we can receive the latter rain, we must receive the early rain. To receive the early rain, we must put away all strife for the supremacy, and strive to come into unity of thought, feeling and action.

### **Sunday**

Early Sunday morning, Sr. Nada Stefanovic compared the Latter Rain with the Loud Cry. The Loud Cry repeats the second angel's message and shows the additional corruptions that have been entering the churches since 1844. After the disappointment in 1844 only a small group went on to proclaim the 3<sup>rd</sup> angel's message, also not many were ready for the Loud Cry. We must preach all of the three angel's messages with a loud cry today. We must receive the Holy Spirit to be ready to go to heaven.

Sister Wendy Eaton followed by presenting how the Elijah message corresponds to the Latter Rain. In Malachi 4:5,6 we are told that Elijah the prophet will come before "the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD." This prophecy was first fulfilled by John the Baptist who was the forerunner of Christ at His first coming. He came in the spirit and power of Elijah. The prophecy will be completely fulfilled by those who are to bring the message before Christ's second coming. The lives of John the Baptist and Elijah were discussed in order to see what kind of lives we must live if we are to bring the message of the Latter Rain in the Spirit and Power of Elijah. It will not be a popular message but we must have the boldness and courage of John the Baptist and Elijah who had no fear in bringing the Lord's message even to the kings of the earth.

After an afternoon of recreation, we concluded our youth conference.

Jerry Eaton



## CANADIAN FIELD CONFERENCE

“The end is near...Redeem the time!”

**Friday, August 4, 2000**

We opened our annual field conference with words of welcome to all from the president of the Canadian Field, Br. Kanagarajah. We were blessed to have visitors from across Canada, the United States, El Salvador, Greece and even China.

Br. Neptali Acevedo told us a story about a wolf who wanted to become a sheep and joined in the herd. But he was different and eventually killed them and ate some. In the church we have sheep and wolves in sheep's clothes. In John 10:14 it says that, Jesus is the good Shepherd. The sheep of Christ know Him. The wolf does not know the voice of the shepherd. These who are in Christ have crucified the old man - the wolf, and a new man lives in him - Christ - the sheep. Sister White tells us that our inherited and cultivated tendencies must be changed and put away. We can become a living power for good. We can change and become sheep and not be wolves any more.

To open the Sabbath we were happy to have Br. Branko Cholich with us. He spoke about Revelation 13:15-17. The Sunday law will come. It has 3 stages. The first is like a beast with lamb's horns. The second like a beast with 10 heads and a crown and the third stage - the whole world will obey the beast and the Sunday law. It will not permit us to buy with our credit cards. The last stage orders us to worship on Sunday or be punished. Many in high authority will accept the Sabbath and go against the Sunday law. Many in our church will give up the Sabbath under pressure. May we remain true and faithful.

**Sabbath, August 5, 2000**

After our Sabbath school lessons we entered the divine service. Br. Kanagarajah welcomed all the visiting ministers and visitors from around the world. The Scripture reading was taken from Psalm 100. After the presentation of some special songs, we had the examination of the four baptismal candidates.

Br. Henry Dering spoke to us about “A Night to Remember” and how the Titanic has made an impact on society. It was built to be the strongest and most luxurious ship of all time. The passengers trusted fully in the Titanic but it went down in the icy waters of the Atlantic.

There are many “Titanics” today sailing the icy waters of life. It's too late when we see the iceberg; it's too late when the Sunday law comes. Each iceberg has a different name on the sea of life, pride, ego, desire for power, and many others.

When the Titanic hit the iceberg, the people were still not worried. Even when the porters were urging people to get onboard the lifeboats, some laughed, thinking it to be a joke. Some didn't want to get their fancy clothes dirty or to leave the comforts of their warm beds.

People today have good jobs, money and all that these can provide. They say Jesus is not going to come so soon and disrupt their lifestyle. There is still room on the lifeboat of God. The church is asleep. The people are sleeping. It will be too late one day. We need to step into God's boat of salvation. The doors are still wide open. Make sure you are on God's boat because all “Titanics” will sink. Look unto Jesus and I guarantee you will be saved. After lunch we held our Youth and Children's meeting which was led out by Sister Rose Powell. Br. Bob Johnson read to us Psalm 150:1-6. Every year we have this special program to praise our God. Sister White tells us that the youth especially must train their minds to be intelligent and have acceptable service.

The children and youth praised the Lord in songs, memory verses and instrumentals. The Streetsville youth held a slide show presentation about Daniel and his 3 friends in King Nebuchadnezzar's court. These youths chose a healthy vegetarian diet and the results showed these youth to be the wisest in the kingdom. All of us today need a healthy diet.

The Toronto church youth made a lively presentation about some of the early reformers and how they pursued

the truth, facing threats of death, suffering martyrdom at the hands of the Catholic Church. But the word of God could not be silenced. We were encouraged by the youth's musical songs as well.

Br. Timo Martin held the Missionary Experiences meeting. After reading Proverbs 25:25 "As water to a thirsty soul so is good news from a far away land", Br. Cholich spoke to us how he was able to get a visa to visit China. Also in South Korea he was able to accept 32 members. We must pray for the work in these new areas. Br. Cholich believes that the greatest potential is in China. There are people who are ready to accept the message. Reformation is not dead, but is going forward to new countries.

Next Mr. Song, from China, spoke to us how happy he was to be here with us. Prior to meeting Br. Cholich he had no knowledge of God. While travelling with Br. Cholich and staying at his house, Mr. Song got accustomed to worshipping and praying. He wants to continue studying.

Following dinner we were blessed to have Dr. John Theodorou visiting us from Athens, Greece to speak to us. Soon God will close the books on history. Millions and millions will be deceived; even the elect will be deceived. We need to go to the house of the Lord to edify one another. He wants us to be able to see that white throne of God. 2 Thess. 1:8. Jesus demands a commitment from us. We just can't give material things to Jesus; we need to give ourselves. There is no easy way into eternal life. The road to heaven gets narrower and narrower. The Lord wants us to finish the work here on this earth. There is a crown waiting for each one of us. In order to be a finisher you have to start. We can do it!

Br. Cholich then did the presentation of the new Field Officers. He requested that all members support these new officers.

Br. Lambert Hazelhoff from Virginia, brought us the Sabbath closing meeting. He said that "time flies when you're having fun". Coming to Toronto was like coming home for him because he had roots here. He spoke on the three ingredients that we need in our church. 1. Troublemakers. The disciples were troublemakers. They set the world upside down. 2. Integrity. People should know us by the way we live. People do take notice. To change the world we have to get out into the world. 3. Involvement. We have to get involved. "Get off your seat, get on your feet and get on the street." The responsibility of spreading the gospel is for all.

### **Sunday, August 6, 2000**

Br. Abel Conde opened the Health Meeting with a few words. The Lord did not forget anything. He even gave us the food that we need for life. Nowadays people are digging their graves with their teeth. We should ask the Lord for help to count our days.

Then Dr. Theodorou spoke about many different healthful choices that we should make in our lives. Our bodies are a miracle machine. When we eat an apple it turns into blood, muscle tissue and cells. Let us look to Genesis 1:29 for the foods we should eat. We should eliminate from our diet - everything **white!** Let us remember to eat 7 fruits and vegetables every day. Physiologically we are vegetarians. We are reformers; let us therefore reform our diets, thinking to win poor perishing souls out there.

Br. Henry Dering conducted the baptism on a cool, windy day with dark overcast skies. But all of heaven was smiling as 4 dear souls, Lucia Flores, Alberto Romero, Mauricio Flores and Raquel Conde, took their stand for the Lord in Lake Ontario. Br. Dering spoke to us back at the church that it is the happiest day of your life when you make a covenant with God through baptism. This means your name is recorded in the Book of Life. He encouraged those who hadn't made their commitment yet to the Lord to do so and to follow Jesus.

To close the conference we had many farewell messages. Mr. Song gave heartfelt thanks to all. We have found encouragement at this conference, he said. Br. Hazelhoff said that we have to pray - for our life depends on it. John 13:34, 35. Dr. Theodorou gave us the text of Philippians 1:6, We are important. We are kings, priests and ambassadors so get rid of those little secret idols. You receive a special blessing when you work for the church in any capacity. Don't say someone else will do it. Br. Acevedo spoke that if we have received a special blessing (Spirit) during the conference, it doesn't have to end. You can take the Spirit to your workplace, your school, your home etc. Br. Evald Pedersen read to us Philippians 4:4. We should always be happy and satisfied in life. May the Lord help us to make the right decisions. Br. Martin compared the conference to the Lord's Supper meeting that Jesus had with His disciples. We are all protected here in this church, outside there is a roaring lion waiting. But if Jesus is with us, we are not afraid. Enemies will fall but you will remain. The right way to leave

a conference is to be happy and singing praises to God.

Next, Br. Kanagarajah spoke on how the Passover brought spiritual healing to the people of Israel, so these conferences bring spiritual healing to mend our hearts, Br. Dering mentioned that there were so many services and nice music that we heard. May we pray for each other. God loves you. Don't forget that. Finally Br. Cholich read Hebrews 13:2. We all need brotherly love to continue. He asked for prayers for his journeys, and for all the duties that he has to perform.

With the final hymn "God be with you till we meet again" the conference closed with a final blessing by Br. Cholich.

Throughout the conference we were privileged to have many special songs of praise. Let us all who attended this conference remain in the spirit and share our experiences with others in my wish and prayer  
AMEN

*(Conference summary writ/en by the Canadian Field Secretary)*

## Current Scene

### **The pitter patter of the UN's little feet**

*National Post, October 1, 1999*

"Throughout Africa, people greet each other not by saying, 'Hello,' but by asking, 'How are the children?' The answer, sadly, is grim. Each day 35,000 children die from preventable illnesses.

"Ten years ago this fall, the United Nations unveiled its Convention on the Rights of the Child to combat this privation. A decade later, it is worth considering the convention's record.

"Earlier this week, Jeffery Wilson, a family lawyer in Toronto, expressed his exasperation on these pages at the fact the convention does not go far enough. Mr. Wilson argued it contains toothless enforcement provisions and brooks dissension by its very signatories, including Canada, which he claims 'ratified' the treaty and should be strictly bound by its contents.

"Mr. Wilson then listed the ways in which Canada flouts the convention: The provinces do not summon the opinions of illegal refugee parents when setting education policy; criminal law sanctions corporal punishment by parents and teachers; and the RCMP detains children who emigrate illegally into Canada.

"But contrary to what Mr. Wilson says, Canada never 'ratified' the convention. Ottawa signed it, but the treaty requires the approval of all the provinces since it touches on areas of provincial jurisdiction, notably health and education. And Alberta never approved the convention, despite immense pressure to do so. This cavalier indifference toward the democratic procedures of sovereign nations is typical of the convention's cheerleaders. A case in point is the scorn that Mr. Wilson reserves for corporal punishment, which in Canada was enacted democratically and continues to be supported by the vast majority of Canadians. If Mr. Wilson disagrees with this law, he need not spank his own children. But why is it imposing his vision on all parents a liberal or a democratic option?

"So far, Canada has been spared the worst of the convention's wrath. In 1997, the newly established 'Committee on the Rights of the Child'-essentially a roving Gestapo charged with enforcing the convention's ideology around the world -forced Australia to 'take all appropriate measures, including that of a legislative nature, to prohibit corporal punishment in private schools and at home.' England then came under fire for exempting children from public school programs -such as sex education - at the behest of their parents.

"Later this year Canada is scheduled for review by the same UN committee - which, incidentally, is comprised of 10 unelected bureaucrats, including some from countries with autocratic and Communist dictatorships.

"And when this happens Ottawa will happily submit to the committee's demands. Canada, after all, never misses a chance to boost the new globalism. According to Stephen Lewis, Canada's former UN ambassador, Canada often 'drives the agenda [at the UN].'

"To celebrate the treaty's 10<sup>l</sup> anniversary, Ottawa even plans to give every child under 18 the chance to select

what they consider their most cherished 'right.' 'At Election Central in Ottawa, experts and spokespersons will provide ongoing analysis,' reads the promotional pamphlet.

"And earlier this year, the Supreme Court of Canada revealed its new internationalist credentials. It ruled that an immigration officer's decision to deport Mavis Baker, a Jamaican immigrant who had given birth to four of her eight children in Canada, was 'biased' because the officer failed to pay due attention to the convention's obligation to give the 'best interests of the child' prime consideration. In so doing, the court defined liberty in such a way as to ignore Canada's sovereign right to control her borders and to choose who enters and who remains.

"Increasingly, however, sovereignty is an endangered intellectual species. Consider that the convention affords children 'autonomous rights,' such as freedom of thought, conscience and religion. Hence 13-year-olds have the right to refuse to go to church, sue their parents, join a gang, download pornography from the Internet, or have an abortion over the objections of their parents. The convention thus opens the door to bureaucratic interference in family matters and subordinates parent's rights to those of the state.

"So where does this leave the world's children? In most Third World countries, critical commodities such as antibiotics remain in short supply. Meanwhile, condoms in all the colours of the rainbow are widely available. And while the convention denounces child labour, many impoverished families desperately need the income of children, which in turn leads to better schools and reduced child poverty. All of which raises the question, Just whose interests did the UN have in mind when it drafted this convention?"

The globalist, papal-inspired agenda of the UN is becoming more and more clear. Can anyone with spiritual insight fail to see it? There is nothing more destabilizing to the family structure than "children's rights" (which give the child the way to rule over his parents), except perhaps very liberal divorce laws.

"As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths. The Lord standeth up to plead, and standeth to judge the people. The Lord will enter into judgment with the ancients of his people, and the princes thereof: for ye have eaten up the vineyard: and the spoil of the poor is in your houses. What mean ye that ye beat my people to pieces, and grind the faces of the poor? Saith the Lord God of hosts." Isaiah 3:12-15

When the family structure is broken, then the necessity for the fallen churches to step in to restore "order" and instruct a godless society in the ways of the Lord again, will seem providential to many who wring their hands at the upheaval and disorder in society. God will have the final word, though, since His authority has been flouted. "It is time for thee, Lord, to work; for they have made void thy law." Psalm 119:126

The structure, order and harmony that exist within true Christian homes and families, are a precursor to what God has ordained should exist in His church. The church is the apple of His eye and any treachery to it, is treachery against Him. AA 9-11. Finally, through the church will be made manifest that order and judgment that is the true foundation of any society, and indeed, the structure for the family itself.

The Roman Catholic Church is the largest, longest lasting cult in the history of the world, and thus through it, we can trace back every false doctrine and pagan idea that has come into Christianity. The very root of this problem with "children's rights" is questioning God's authority over our lives. It is in the Sabbath truth that we express our acceptance of His sovereignty over our time, and by extension, over our families and home lives as well.

Meat from Diseased Animals approved for consumers

*Scripps Howard News Service*, July 14, 2000 Washington - "The federal agency overseeing food inspection is imposing new rules reclassifying as safe for human consumption animal carcasses with cancers, tumors and open sores.

"Federal meat inspectors and consumer groups are protesting the move to classify tumors and open sores as esthetic problems, which permits the meat to get the government's purple seal of approval as a wholesome food product....

"In 1998, the inspections and safety system reclassified an array of animal diseases as being 'defects that rarely or never present a direct public health risk' and said 'unaffected carcass portions' could be passed on to consumers by cutting out lesions.

"Among animal diseases the agency said don't present a health danger are: Cancer, a pneumonia of poultry called airsacculitis, glandular swellings or lymphomas, sores, infectious arthritis, and diseases caused by intestinal worms.

"In the case of tumors, the guidelines state: 'remove localized lesion(s) and pass unaffected carcass

portions” (Editor’s note: another good reason to become a vegetarian.)

Edited by Jerry Eaton

## **GREETINGS FROM EL SALVADOR**

Greetings to you from the beautiful country of El Salvador. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

I am happy to be writing to you again and would like to encourage you to continue in the great work of publishing the eternal truth in these last days.

I would like to inform you of some of the activities that have taken place in Central America recently. The health department of the Western Central American Union had a series of training seminars for the personnel that work in the “Fountain of Health ELIM” in the months of April and May. The purpose of these seminars was to reestablish the principles of health as was done in Sister White’s day (by building sanitariums). The health director of the Western Central American union, our dear brother Alfredo Gessner, held these seminars. Brother Alfredo happily shared the knowledge he has acquired in his many years of experience with all the youth employed by “The Fountain” in El Salvador and Guatemala.

Other events that have taken place in this union (Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala) are the reorganization of the th

Associations: Honduras on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15 of June 2000, El Salvador on the 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2000, and Guatemala the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2000. The reorganization of the Western Central American Union was on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> - Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> of July 2000.

The minister who was responsible for the reorganization was brother Manual Bances M. the Regional representative of the General Conference. the

After each of the reorganizations, there was a joyful conference in each of the Conferences ending with the Central American Conference held in the city of Villa Nueva, Guatemala on the 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> of July, 2000.

Sincerely your brother in Christ, Oscar Archila

## **Swiss chard**

If you’re trying to eat more leafy green vegetables, branch out and reach for Swiss chard, an easy-to-love veggie that tastes like spinach.

### **About chard**

It has long, flat, celery-like stalks that can be wide or narrow, depending on the variety. The large leafy greens can be a foot long or more! They are flat or savoyed with white or red veins, depending on the variety. The most common variety has snow-white stalks and deep green leaves. Ruby varieties have red stalks and veins. A new variety called Bright Lights has brilliant multicolored leaves and stems.

### **Not Swiss**

The name Swiss chard remains a conundrum. No one really knows how it got its name, for this vegetable originated in the Mediterranean, probably Italy.

### **Buying and Storing**

Look for crisp stalks and perky leaves. The stalks should be heavy, not light, and the leaves should not be yellow, torn or wilted. Stored in the refrigerator crisper in a perforated plastic bag. It will last only a few days. Eat ASAP.

### **Tip**

Ruby varieties of Swiss chard, with their red stems and veins, stain just as beets do. Take this into consideration when cooking with other ingredients such as pasta or rice.

### **Prep tips**

Always separate leaves and stems before cooking. They can be tossed into the same dish but the stem requires more cooking than the leaves. The stems can be tough and may benefit from peeling. You can cut them crosswise, on the diagonal, or into long, lengthwise strips. The leaves can be cooked whole (for stuffing or wrapping), chopped coarsely, or stacked up and rolled, then sliced into thin ribbons.

### **Easy veggie**

Use Swiss chard leaves just like spinach. Saute them in extra virgin oil and spritz with lemon juice to serve hot or cold. Put Swiss chard into omelettes, soups, frittatas, quiches, ravioli or casseroles. Small, young leaves can be tossed into salads. Steam just the stems and serve with butter and herbs, or braise with wine.

### **Culinary companions**

Try Swiss chard with golden raisins, pine nuts and Parmesan cheese as a vegetable saute or pasta sauce. Teamed with mushrooms, Swiss chard is superb in a frittata or omelette. Complimentary herbs include basil, parsley, cilantro, oregano, sage and rosemary.

## **EATING NO MEAT CAN CUT THE RISK OF CANCER, STUDY FINDS**

### **Major report says dietary changes can reduce cases by 40%**

London - Cancer is preventable and eating no meat and more fruits and vegetables could reduce cases of the disease by as much as 40 per cent a year, medical experts said.

“Dietary imbalance is a cause of cancer,” Dr. Tony McMichael of the University of London told a news conference to launch a major report by the World Cancer Research Fund on nutrition and cancer.

“We are running the human biological engine on to the wrong type of food,” he added.

People should change to a more plant-based diet, and meat not eaten at all, said the study, the most comprehensive on diet and cancer ever undertaken.

He said the experts who compiled the report were convinced by several studies that the link between a meat-rich diet and the risk of bowel cancer was strong enough to justify recommending cutting off meat consumption.

The report supported the findings of a British government study, also released that suggested people should eat no meat to avoid bowel cancer.

Medical experts have long suspected links between high intake of animal fat and meat and development of cancer, but the authoritative research fund report is the first to examine food and cancer prevention from a global perspective.

Abstaining from alcohol consumption, reducing sugar and salts, and doing daily exercise can also help to prevent cancer, it said.

“At least 20 per cent of lung cancer, 33 per cent of breast cancers and 66 per cent of colon cancers are preventable by appropriate diets, together with the associated factors of regular physical activity and maintenance of healthy body weight.

“Together with no smoking, this means that 60 - 70 per cent of cancers are preventable,” the report said.

Every year as many as 10 million new cancer cases are diagnosed and 7 million people die from the disease. Unless action is taken, experts estimate the number of new cases and deaths will rise to 14 million by the year 2020.

“This is not an unimportant case of morbidity and it is preventable,” Potter said.

British medical experts welcomed the report, saying it was a major step in improving people’s diets.

Fifteen scientists from nine countries worked on the report for three years. They assessed more than 4,000 studies on diet and cancer.

THE TORONTO STAR

*A pure, harmonious  
character, a sunny temper,  
reflecting light and  
cheerfulness, glorifies God, and benefits  
humanity. HR 1 June 1871*

## **VACCINE ALWAYS HARMS SOME**

Brain damage has always struck a few unfortunate children after vaccination. Scientists have come to expect neurological problems in vaccinated youngsters since the time of the first smallpox shot, Dr. James Cherry told the Ontario Supreme Court yesterday.

Colin and Donna Rothwell of Burlington are suing the Ontario government, two Burlington doctors and Connaught Laboratories Ltd. Connaught makes DPT-P vaccine, given to most Canadian babies for protection against pertussis (whooping cough), diphtheria, polio and tetanus.

The Rothwells contend that their son Patrick, who turns 9 next month, became blind and mentally disabled as a result of the vaccine. They say they were not adequately informed of possible dangers from the shot.

Cherry conducted a 1977-79 study on 6,000 immunized children. He found that reactions such as fever, vomiting, convulsions and severe crying are greater in youngsters vaccinated against whooping cough.

Though their suit is the first of its kind in Canada, the Rothwells head a group of 100 parents of children allegedly disabled by DPT-P, 30 of whom are waiting to pursue similar court action.

In earlier testimony, a Baltimore, Md., geneticist, Dr. Mark Geier told the court that Connaught and other firms have not marketed the safer serum because it is costlier to produce and would cut into profits.

Dr. Geier criticized the screening and storage process for pertussis vaccine in Ontario.

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### MISSIONARY TO CHINA

"We're drifting to that island and will surely be eaten by cannibals!" Said an officer on board the ship *Dumfries*.

"I don't think so," said Missionary James Hudson Taylor. "We have prayed, and God has assured me we'll arrive safely in Shanghai."

The officer looked at Taylor as though he thought he was crazy. "How can you say that when there isn't a cloud in the sky? How can we sail a ship without any wind?" he asked. "We will be floating here for days, and we are floating right towards the island with the cannibals."

But Hudson Taylor had learned to trust God. "Never mind," he said. "God's going to send a wind that will carry us away from that island, regardless of the way the current is flowing. Let down the corners of the main sail."

"What good will that do?" argued the officer.

"Just please do it," said the missionary. "Look! The wind is already here." A breeze was moving a corner of the topmost sail.

"It's only a small breeze and it won't last."

"A small breeze or not, let down the main sail," insisted Taylor.

The officer swore loudly and said it would not do any good, but grudgingly he had the main sail lowered. Immediately the wind rose, bearing the ship, against the current at the rate of about eight miles an hour, away from the island of cannibals.

On March 1, 1854, the *Dumfries* docked safely at a port in Shanghai. Hudson Taylor, at age twenty-one, had achieved a dream that had been his since he was a child. He was in China as a Christian missionary. "My heart felt as though it had not room and must burst its bonds, while tears of gratitude and thankfulness fell from my eyes," he said.

When young Taylor arrived in Shanghai he found a civil war in progress. An army of rebels, the "Red Turbans," fighting with the Imperial forces. Even noncombatants in the community were in danger. On one occasion the missionary had just moved away from a wall when a cannonball crashed through the wall where he had been standing. At another time a bullet tore off the arm of a chair in the room he occupied. He had several close calls, yet God was protecting him for the work ahead in China.

Often Hudson thought of an unusual experience he had had when he worked as a medical intern in London. During an operation he cut his arm slightly with a surgeon's knife. Thinking the wound a minor one, he gave it little attention. But a violent fever developed. And the surgeon who examined him said, "Go home and get your affairs in order, for you are a dead man."

But Hudson Taylor answered calmly, "I don't think so. For unless I am greatly mistaken I have work to do in China, and shall not die now." He probably came as near death as a man could have and yet live.

Upon arriving in China the missionary immediately began preaching and witnessing for God. His first convert



was Kuei-Hua. And this experience brought both of them unusual joy.

Anyone who would listen was a likely prospect for personal evangelism. On another boat trip, for instance, Hudson Taylor talked at length to a man about his soul's salvation, and the man was interested. Then the missionary went to his cabin to get some tracts, but while he was gone the man with whom he had talked fell overboard. No one made any attempt to rescue the man as the ship moved away.

When Taylor discovered what had happened he immediately leaped overboard to try to save the man, but he could not find him. In desperation the missionary called to some fishermen who were in an open boat nearby. These men had a dragnet with hooks which might be used to grapple the drowning man.

"Come over here and drag directly over this spot!" Taylor shouted. "A man is drowning here!"

"Veh bin," was the reply. In English this meant, "It is not convenient."

"Don't talk of convenience. Don't you understand? A man is drowning!" said the missionary.

"We're busy fishing and can't come."

"Never mind the fishing! I'll give you more money than many a day's fishing will bring. Only come - come at once!"

"How much money will you give us?" was the heartless response.

"We can't discuss that now! Come, or it will be too late. I'll give you five dollars."

"We won't do it for that," said the spokesman. "Give us twenty dollars and we'll drag." What an unusual time to bargain.

"I don't have that much, but please come quickly, and I'll give you what I have," promised Hudson Taylor.

"How much do you have?"

"I don't know exactly. About fourteen dollars I believe."

That offer brought the fishermen, slowly. They used the net and almost immediately found the man who had fallen overboard. But he could not be revived, probably because the fishermen thought more of a few dollars than of a human life.

J. Hudson Taylor valued human life, but of course he put a much greater value on a soul. Saving souls was his great mission in life. And his daily living was Christlike. One time he was beaten and robbed, and left hungry by the wayside. But he refused to "get even" with the servant who had done that. He followed his Master's command to resist evil with good. When another missionary, George Mueller, heard of this incident he was deeply and favorably impressed with Taylor's Christlike spirit.

In 1856 when Missionary Taylor visited Dr. Parker's hospital in Shanghai he met Maria Dyer, a teacher in Miss Aldersby's school. He fell in love with the pretty teacher, who was a daughter of a missionary and his wife who had died several years earlier. And she loved him, although Miss Aldersby objected to their marriage. "Hudson Taylor has no connection with any mission board, is without money, and shabbily dressed," said the woman principal.

"Furthermore, he is only a mystic, absorbed in religious dreams, waiting to have his work revealed. He is not idle, but aimless."

Hudson Taylor did not depend upon earnest prayer to support his missionary work, but he was not aimless. His entire purpose in life was to do the complete will of God.

Maria's guardian, who lived in England, did not share Miss Aldersby's negative opinion of the missionary, and the couple were married on January 20, 1858. Concerning this marriage he wrote home to his Christian parents, "When you have such a treasure as mine, it makes you happier, more humbly thankful to the Giver of all good, for the best of earthly gifts."

For about three years J. Hudson Taylor worked earnestly as a missionary in China. Then his health failed. It was discovered that he had tuberculosis. His doctors said he must leave China if he expected to live very long.

He could not understand the turn of events in his life, yet after praying much, he believed that God wanted him to return to England. But he still had China's interest at heart, and within five years was influential in sending five other Christian missionaries to the Orient. His book, *China's Spiritual Needs and Claims*, influenced several people to help missionary work in China financially. During this rest period in England he also revised the New Testament of Ningpo. In the meantime he had never abandoned his purpose of returning to China in person. By May 1866, he had regained his health sufficiently to make the venture, and on the twenty-fourth day of that month, he, his wife, and four children, with twenty-four other missionaries, sailed for China!

Of the ship's thirty-four crew members, twenty were converted to Christianity before they reached the port in China.

With new zest and spirit Hudson and Maria worked faithfully for their Saviour, but on July 23, 1870,

she died from cholera. Although it seemed as if part of his heart were gone, Taylor considered it to be another “blessed adversity,” because he had learned to trust God implicitly, regardless of what happened.

About five years earlier, Hudson Taylor had organized the China Inland Mission, which had an influence over a large area of China. Referring to this organization, Taylor wrote in a book titled *A Retrospect*: “Three hundred and ninety-four stations and out-stations have been opened and occupied either by missionaries or native workers. Since 1865, 12,964 converts have been baptized; and there are now (in 1900) 8,557 communicants in fellowship.”

J. Hudson Taylor, generally regarded as one of God’s most valuable servants, served his Saviour consistently until his death in June 1905. His last counsel to other missionaries was “Pray and put all your problems into the hands of God. There is nothing small, and there is nothing great. Only God is great, and we should trust Him fully.”

He rests now at Chinkiang, in China, the harvest field to which God called him in childhood.

God has a purpose for each one of you in your lives. Ask God what it is and then be willing to go anywhere He wants you to go and do anything He wants you to do. He promises to be with you wherever you are.

AMEN.

## ASLEEP IN JESUS

Our dear brother Hilton Blount passed away peacefully at the age of 91 in England, during his visit to see his daughters.

He was born in Guyana on December 6, 1906. Br. Hilton was the oldest of his brothers, yet he lived the longest of them all.

At the age of 20 he decided to become a carpenter and worked for Demarara Bauxite company until his retirement in 1965.

He married his beloved wife Ismay Rudder in 1955 and had six children, of whom three are still alive. His son, Ovid, lives in Canada and his two daughters, Desi.ee and Kesiree live in England.

Brother Hilton always loved the outdoors. He always wanted to spend time in nature, even in his old age.

He accepted religion at an early age and started to keep the Sabbath also.

Twenty-four years ago he came to Canada and upon his arrival he searched for a Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Br. Hilton called our Reform church and soon after he became a member of our church and remained faithful in the church to the end of his life.

Although he had already retired from his job, he started to work in Canada for Standard Patterns Ltd., where he continued to work for the next ten years. He was also involved in building the Bloor St. church in Toronto.

Brother Hilton left behind his wife Ismay and 3 children, 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

He will remain in our memories for a long time, but we have a blessed hope that we will soon again see our dear brother Hilton, at the coming of our Lord.

May the Lord comfort his relatives and church members with this blessed hope. AMEN

Timo Martin



Canadian Field Conference Aug. 4 - 6, 2000 in Toronto