

The Reformation *Messenger*

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



“And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD;
and great shall be the peace of thy children.”
Isaiah 54:13

Children at the
Canadian Conference 2010

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Patrick, Organizer of the Church in Ireland



CHILDREN'S CORNER

Patrick (CAD 360 - 461)

Most of you have heard about St. Patrick. Every March there is a day named in his honor where people wear green and you see lots of shamrocks. Patrick is known as the father of Irish Christianity. We can be grateful for Dr. Wilkinson's research that is so different from what is written in most books today. As we study about this early hero of truth you will hear a history that only careful searching could have uncovered. Some of what we learn you may not have heard before because in a way there are two "Patricks" – the one that belonged to the Church in the Wilderness and then the fictional Patrick.

Patrick belonged to the Celtic race that lived in what today are England, Scotland and Ireland. History tells us that the Celts were descendants of Gomer, a grandson of Noah. Celtic Christianity came from churches in Asia Minor which sent missionaries to France and also to what we call today Great Britain. These Christians were known as the British Celtic Christians.

You may find it interesting that this well-known Irishman was not born in Ireland. Although many places have been listed as the birthplace of Patrick, Dr. Wilkinson believes that he was born in the kingdom of Strathclyde which was part of England, then referred to as "the Britains." Rome controlled this area and Patrick was probably born a Roman citizen, like the apostle Paul. His grandfather had been a presbyter (a high church leader) and his father took an active role as a deacon. Although surrounded by Christian influences, Patrick was young when he turned his back on God. When he was almost sixteen years old he was captured and carried away to Ireland.

Of this time Patrick says, "I did not know the true God; and was taken to Ireland in captivity with many thousand men in accordance with our deserts, because we walked at a distance from God and did not observe His commandments." (This was taken from his writing, Confession.) During his seven years of captivity he learned to know, love, and obey God through the school of affliction. Like the prodigal son, he worked for his captor taking care of animals. He experienced hunger and nakedness, which turned his thoughts and heart back to his family and what he had been taught about God as a child. When he escaped and returned to his former home

he was a truly converted Christian.

During his years as a captive Patrick became fluent in the Irish form of the Celtic language, which would be very important in his later preaching and teaching. He felt that God was calling him to spread the gospel to the people of Ireland who were living under the superstitions and practices of the Druids. These people believed in reincarnation (the belief that people come back again and again to the earth and live sometimes as animals or people or trees), they did divination (telling the future) and would use magic to cast spells.

Many of the Druid's pagan holidays were not destroyed but rather were changed into the Roman Church's holy days. For instance the Druid's Winter Solstice became Christmas; the festival Ostara, named after the goddess Istar, became Easter; Samhain – when they honored the dead, became Halloween and All Saint's Day; and Imbolc – which was held on February 2nd was moved to February 14th as St. Valentine's Day.

Patrick knew the strong influence of the Druids and he knew that for Christianity to grow in the future, education was very important. He established training centers like Bangor, Clonard, and Armagh. These were Bible schools where the gospel was taught so its students could go and continue to spread the gospel. The Itala Bible, which Patrick used, was the first translation from Greek to Latin three hundred years before the Latin Vulgate was translated. Part of the students' studies included the copying of scripture so that others could have God's Word to study and memorize.

By the seventh century much of Europe was heading into what we call the Dark Ages when most of the people lived in poverty, illiteracy (they couldn't read or write) and superstition. In contrast, Ireland was known at that time as the "land of saints and scholars." Much of the credit for the literate population, the busy schools, and the beautiful copies of the Itala Bible (which are famous even today for their gorgeous penmanship and artwork) goes to Patrick. It is believed that as many as 350 churches were established, and over 120,000 people were converted. Although most of Europe was falling into the Dark Ages, Ireland continued to be a beacon of light as its people were taught the scriptures.



Canadian Field Conference

JULY 23-25, 2010

"MOTTO: MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR THEE"

Friday July 23, 2010

On a beautiful summer evening in Toronto, Br. Morris Lowe, the Canadian Field president, opened our 2010 Canadian Field Conference with Titus 2:11-14, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."

We then sang our conference theme song, Marvelous Grace.

Br. Morris gave a special welcome to Jesus, the Holy Spirit and all of the angels to our Canadian Field Conference 2010. He also welcomed members from near and far.

If we are to receive the grace of God then we need to be living in obedience to God's law. We can only have God's grace if we accept it.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved." John 3:16-20,

Because of God's love He provided grace through Jesus Christ to save us. But many are called and few are chosen. Many do not accept God's grace, God's love. If we do not accept God's grace we will perish. It's that simple.

God just ratifies the decision that we make. God would like all men to be saved. The Bible says that those that are lost will be like the sands of the sea. God has room for all people but some do not choose to accept His offer. It cost God a lot to give us grace. God can feel deep sorrow.



Canadian Field Conference Photos

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“And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.” Genesis 6:5-6.

One day God is going to turn the lights out, to shut the door just as He did in the Ark in Noah’s time.

When Noah heard all of the screaming and crying at the door maybe he would have opened the door to let a few in. But God didn’t leave that responsibility to Noah. No, God closed the door Himself. God’s Spirit will not always strive with man. The summer is past, the harvest is ended and I am not saved. Do you want this to be you? Please choose God’s grace. Choose Jesus Christ.

It says, “But Noah found grace in God’s sight.” I pray, my brothers and sisters, that you too will find grace in God’s sight. Choose Jesus Christ.

Sabbath Opening

To begin our Sabbath opening service, the group from the Hamilton church sang, “Someday the Silver Cord Will Break.”

The Sabbath opening service was then brought to us by Br. Pablo Hunger. Br. Hunger brought greetings to everyone and he said “I am very happy to be finally here, a place where I’ve wanted to come for many years.”

A Special song was then presented to God’s glory by Br. Hunger’s children “Christ Liveth In Me”.

The Title of Br. Hunger’s message was, “The Moment of Decision.”

Br. Hunger spoke of an impending attack on a settlement where the watchmen had to see the enemy coming from afar in order to be

faith, and say that the advent movement was of Satan.’ But God’s word declared: ‘If any man draw back, My soul shall have no pleasure in him.’ To renounce their faith now, and deny the power of the Holy Spirit which had attended the message, would be drawing back toward perdition. They were encouraged to steadfastness by the words of Paul: ‘Cast not away therefore your confidence;’ ‘ye have need of patience,’ ‘for yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry.’ Their only safe course was to cherish the light which they had already received of God, hold fast to His promises, and continue to search the Scriptures, and patiently wait and watch to receive further light.” GC.408.

I feel that one who is impressed by the Spirit will understand and map out his or her duty in the foregoing testimony from the Great Controversy. Only to say that our disappointed brethren walked as it were by sight. Why was this so? It was because they had seen the signs being fulfilled in their sight as per the period given in the foregoing (1755-1833). So, what have we been admonished to do? We need to walk by faith, which means we should “watch and pray” (Luke 21:26) is our Saviour’s admonition as well.

Brethren and sisters, wherever you are, time is far spent! It is time to wake up or otherwise continue to “enjoy” sleeping and then only to be surprised when suddenly destruction strikes. As has already been mentioned, we need to watch and pray; let us as well remember that God desires obedience more than sacrifice. See 1 Sam. 15:22. So, it is possible we pray and go to church every Sabbath, but we have lacked obedience in one or two areas. This is what will bar us from eternity that is very soon to be ushered in by our Lord at His return. Can you repent your ways NOW when there is still a little time left? Are you ready to give up everything for Christ and meet Him soon in happiness? Maybe He has not yet come because of you? It is not too late to get back now!

“And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this [is] our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this [is] the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.” (Isaiah 25: 9). Will you be among those to say these words? May the Lord help each one of us to fulfill the conditions for eternity and meet Him when He comes in power and glory is my wish and prayer. **Amen**

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on the Mount of Olives: "But of that day and hour knoweth no [man], no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." (Matt. 24:36). This emphasizes to us that in answering the above question no exact date can be given as this is not in our power, let alone knowledge. We are not to be time setters!

While this is true, what about signs--have they not been given? Well, in His amazing love Christ has never left His faithful followers in darkness. He gave them all the signs that will be the token of His coming. What a loving Father we have! But unless we have the true facts about these signs, and a special spiritual awakening from our stupor we are not going to recognize how this event is stealthily coming upon us. Listen to the following words of inspiration:

"The end is near, stealing upon us so stealthily, so imperceptibly, so noiselessly, like the muffled tread of the thief in the night, to surprise the sleepers off guard and unready. May the Lord grant to bring His Holy Spirit upon hearts that are now at ease that they may no longer sleep as do others, but watch and be sober."--General Conference Bulletin, 1893, pp. 132, 133. (ChS p.41)

You can clearly see in this testimony that a spiritual awakening and discernment are required to know in which time we are living. It is a fearsome thing that very few really recognize these things and that many will soon be taken unawares!

Two thousand years also have passed since our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ went to Heaven. To the judgment of the human mind this period seems just too long, but Christ himself strongly said "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." (Matt. 24:35). Between the Year 1755 and the year 1833, a number of signs that Christ talked about got literally fulfilled. On the other hand the times of the end began in the year 1798. Now, the Advent Movement led by William Miller expected Christ in the year 1844, but were disappointed as He did not come. This is quite a familiar topic among us. What lesson(s) does that experience teach us?

With keen interest let us consider Hebrews 10:37-39: "For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if [any man] draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul."

These verses have a solemn warning unto us. To establish this clearly, let us again turn to what Sister White writes as to their application. (Writing about the experience of the advent movement and how the quoted text suited them and the church today):

"God did not forsake His people; His Spirit still abode with those who did not rashly deny the light which they had received, and denounce the advent movement. In the Epistle to the Hebrews are words of encouragement and warning for the tried, waiting ones at this crisis: 'Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any [man] draw back, My soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.' Hebrews 10:35

"That this admonition is addressed to the church in the last days is evident from the words pointing to the nearness of the Lord's coming: 'For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come and will not tarry.' And it is plainly implied that there would be a seeming delay and that the Lord would appear to tarry. The instruction here given is especially adapted to the experience of Adventists at this time. The people here addressed were in danger of making shipwreck of faith. They had done the will of God in following the guidance of His Spirit and His word; yet they could not understand His purpose in their past experience, nor could they discern the pathway before them, and they were tempted to doubt whether God had indeed been leading them. At this time the words were applicable: 'Now the just shall live by faith.' As the bright light of the 'midnight cry' had shone upon their pathway, and they had seen the prophecies unsealed and the rapidly fulfilling signs telling that the coming of Christ was near, they had walked, as it were, by sight. But now, bowed down by disappointed hopes, they could stand only by faith in God and in His word. The scoffing world were saying: 'You have been deceived. Give up your

effective. If the watchman didn't blow the trumpet the people would not have awakened and been able to defend the city. The watchman could not fight by himself; he needs help. We are also in danger, and God wants to save us, but the watchman must do his work. The spiritual watchmen are to be wide awake. The watchman needs to be humble, he needs help, and he cannot do everything himself. We often think we can fight the danger ourselves. But we need to depend on the grace of the Lord.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6:12

If they go forth in faith then they will be under the shield of omnipotence. Go to the farthest ends of the globe and you can have the confidence that I will be with you.

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1

The Lord wants to be our strength, to be that very present help in the time of need. We need to open our eyes to see the danger, to depend upon God's grace. In every moment of our life we must be with the Lord.

Br. Hunger closed with 2 Peter 3:18, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen."

Sabbath July 24, 2010

On a bright sunny day, we began the Sabbath morning with the Sabbath School, led by Br. Leone Chiatto, with a scripture reading from Joshua 6:17, 25, "And the city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and





all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent... And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho."

Divine Service

Br. Idel Suarez opened the Divine Service by telling a story to the children about an old man walking and leading a donkey with a little boy riding on the donkey. They entered into a town and when people saw this they criticized the boy for riding the donkey while the old man walked. They went to the next town but this time the old man was riding the donkey while the little boy walked. Again the people criticized them but this time for making the boy walk. On they went to the next town, except this time both the old man and the boy were riding the donkey. Again they were criticized by the people who saw them but this time it was because both were riding the poor donkey. On to the next town they went but this time no one was on the donkey and the people now criticized them because no one was using the donkey, what a waste!

Br. Suarez then read Hebrews 11:5, "By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God."

Br. Suarez explained to the children that we need to please God and not people.

Br. Newby's children, Sarah, Michael, Cyrus and Stephen then said the books of the Bible from memory. This was followed by a special song by the Woodbridge choir.

Br. Idel Suarez began the service with a story; an old chief was converted to Jesus, and some friends came to him and wanted to know what it was like to be converted. The old chief picked up a worm and put it in the middle of some dead leaves. Then he asked for a match. Then he lit the match. And he went around the dead leaves and started the fire. The little worm huddled together. As the fire came close



For ages this question has been sounded from the lips of Christ's followers. Its basis has been the abundance of evidence presented in the Bible that He will "surely come quickly"! (Rev 22:20). Even back in the Old Testament times, the second coming of Christ had been foretold by many prophets. A good example of these prophets is Enoch. (Jude 14-16)

"Enoch was the first prophet among mankind. He foretold by prophecy the second coming of Christ to our world, and his work at that time... His prophecy is not found in the writings of the Old Testament. We may never find any books which relate to the works of Enoch, but Jude, a prophet of God, mentions the work of Enoch." 1BC 1088.

Despite this profound evidence, many, as time passes, have grown the spirit of the evil servant saying in their hearts, "My lord delayeth his coming." (Matt. 24:48) and thus have lost sight of this important event. How then is our position today regarding this question when posed to us personally?

Being so desperate for Christ's kingdom of glory, the disciples asked to know the time of its establishment (of course, while still thinking of an earthly kingdom) (Acts 1:6). Christ told them very plainly that it was not up to them "to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power." (v.7) Even this too is not strange to us, as it is just an emphasis on what was already said





In this warfare between these kingdoms, Satan's kingdom has caused much suffering to the soldiers of God's kingdom, but in reality they have only helped them to develop perfect characters. In these trials and sorrows, they have learned lessons that an easy life and prosperity would never have taught them.

Paul said, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" Rom. 8:31.

Paul also writes, "All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." 2 Tim. 3:12.

Sister White writes, "Why is it, then, that persecution seems in a great degree to slumber? The only reason is that the church has conformed to the world's standard and therefore awakens no opposition... Let there be a revival of the faith and power of the early church, and the spirit of persecution will be revived, and the fires of persecution will be rekindled." GC 48.

In this warfare we have help offered to us. "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." Rev. 12:11.

To lose our lives in this war is not a defeat but a victory. Our victory is when we answer kindly to angry words. It is when we suffer trials and abuse quietly, without complaining. A humble and quiet spirit, and patience are attained by many victories that we have gained against selfishness and pride.

In these last moments of this war that has been raging for 6,000 years, we are not to show cowardice, but to go boldly against our enemy and gain prisoners from the ranks of the enemy and bring them to the camp of Jesus. Our prayer, "Thy kingdom come," will soon be fulfilled and the enemy will be defeated. The only reminder of this terrible war will be the nail marks in the hands of Jesus. These scars in His hands are the guarantee that sin will never more enter into His kingdom of peace. Let us, meanwhile, be faithful soldiers in the army of our beloved Master and the final victory will soon be gained. **AMEN.**

Timo Martin, Canada

he grabbed the worm. He said to his friends, I was that worm, destined for hell fire. Jesus put in his hand to take me out of the fire and burnt Himself in the process. What great love Jesus has for us. That is God's grace. We want to learn how we can receive God's grace.

"It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not." Lamentations 3:22

This is the compassion of God, His mercy, His willingness to take us out of the flames. "And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?" Zechariah 3:2

Br. Idel continued with a story of a man who opened a door for a woman, and for his effort the woman told him off. She told the man that she could open and close doors for herself, she did not need him to do it.

The man replied after the woman had finished, "With all due respect I opened the door not because you are a lady but because I'm a gentleman."

It is God's grace, His compassion that pulls us out of the fire.

"And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." 2 Corinthians 12:7-9

God allows us to get burned so that we do not become proud. Paul was given a thorn in the flesh. He was burned. It was God's grace that allowed this in Paul's life.

"Then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands." Matthew 26:67





Jesus did this for you and for me. It is important to understand that the Greek word for buffet means to punch. Jesus was punched for you and for me. It was God's grace that this happened to Jesus.

Children And Youth

After lunch the Children then presented a wonderful program of speech and song. This was followed by the Toronto Youth program, which called to remembrance some of the martyrs who gave their life for Jesus. These people paid the ultimate price for their Heavenly Father and one day will be rewarded with a white robe of righteousness and will follow Jesus wherever He goes.

The Woodbridge Youth presented a multimedia program that showed different creatures and how they defy evolutionist theories. Some of the creatures were Desert Rats, the Great Grey Owl and the Bombardier Beetle. They also presented God's wonderful creation of the Human Being.

Sabbath Evening Services

A highlight of the conference was the Baptismal Candidate review in which eleven souls pledged their life to Jesus. This was followed by another special occasion, the ordination of Br. Errol Fletcher. Br. Pablo Hunger then charged Br. Fletcher to "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." Acts 20:28

This service was then followed by a testimony and praise meeting led by Br. Timo Martin. Many people told of how God had worked wonderfully in their lives and thanked Him for all of His blessings.

Br. Jerry Eaton then had the Sabbath closing service. He focused our attention on the



known existed. Jesus taught the principles of heaven to the people. He said, "But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant." Matt. 20:26, 27.

In this war between these two kingdoms, many faithful Christians were put to death by the kingdom of Satan. But the result was different than what the enemies of God's kingdom expected. These martyrs were now safe from the temptations of Satan, and when one was put to death, history tells us that twenty took his place when they saw his faith and love to his heavenly Master, who also was killed for them.

Jesus stood before Pilate and the angry Jews, without speaking one word in His defense. He had no lawyer defending Him. He had left His life into the hands of His Father and was willing to accept that His will be done. Jesus knew that, "All things work together for good to them that love God." Rom. 8:28.

The principles that Jesus taught to His followers include: "whosoever shall smite thee on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain." Matt. 5:39-41.

These are the rules that we use in this warfare against the kingdom of Satan.

Jesus saw the corrupt government in the country but He attempted no civil reforms. Everywhere there were crying abuses, extortions, intolerance, grinding cruelty. Jesus did not interfere with authority or administration of those in power. He clearly indicated that His kingdom is not of this world, yet He recognized that His Father in heaven controls everything here. Jesus answered to Pilate, "Thou couldest have no power at all against Me, except it were given thee from above." John 19:11.

The terrible misfortune to Job happened because it was allowed from above, from God.

Sister White was in a boat during a terrible storm, fearful that they would not make it safely to land. She was then shown a vision that rather every drop in the ocean would be dried up than that she would die, because her work was not yet finished.





this world to teach us the principles of His kingdom.

But the Jewish people rejected His teachings and hated Him and finally put Him to death. Today the principles of heaven are rejected as much as it was rejected in the time of Christ. Jesus came to fight the kingdom of Satan, and the weapons that He used are the same that we are using today.

Our main weapon is love. We are to love even our enemies, also the people from other churches and even atheists. Apostle Paul was a member of the Jewish church and he was told that the Christians who believe in Jesus must be put to death, and he became fully involved in this persecuting work, until he met Jesus Himself on the way to Damascus.

When Jesus kindly asked him, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" there was no anger or hatred in His voice. That moment Paul realized that there is a completely different religion, a religion of love. The religion of Satan killed millions belonging to the kingdom of God in the middle ages. All churches joined in the army in the First and Second World Wars, except the church of God. Young men in the religion of love could not point a gun toward another human to kill him. They rather accepted the death penalty upon themselves. Love unites and lack of love separates.

When the separation took place in the church of God in 1951, the love had to die first, then the separation was possible. Selfishness kills love toward other human beings, and even toward brothers. Families are broken up when love has died. Love is like a cement that holds us together firmly. New souls are brought into church fellowship by love that we show to them, rather than arguments of doctrines.

In the time of persecution of the Christians, a soldier was taking a Christian man to prison and to death, as they crossed the lake covered in ice in the winter, the ice broke and the soldier was drowning in the water. The Christian could now have escaped and thanked God for the deliverance, but no, his love even to the enemy would not permit him to do that. He turned and pulled the soldier out of the water to save his life.

He practiced a principle that the soldier had never even

grace that God leads us with in our lives and that we are to be connected to Him directly. He is the vine and we are the branches. God's grace does not flow through anyone else. We are admonished by the Spirit of Prophecy to not look to any man no matter what their position might be but we are to rely completely upon Jesus.

Sunday July 25, 2010

In the early hours of Sunday morning, as the water lapped the shore of Lake Ontario, we were privileged, with all of the Angels and indeed all of Heaven, to witness the death and new birth of eleven dear souls as they made their covenant with the Lord in baptism.

When we arrived back at the church Br. Morris Lowe welcomed the new members and the rest of the congregation at the church with Luke 15:1-10.

Br. Morris asked, "What happens in God's heart? Does He get a chance to really rejoice very often?" When the few occasions arise, it is a big deal in Heaven. All the Angels in Heaven rejoice when there is a baptism, when someone gives their heart to God. But here we have eleven souls. There is a party in Heaven today. Today my new brethren, today your name has been written in the book of life! Today you have become Princes and Princesses of the Heavenly Kingdom.

With these words and the well wishes from the congregation the new brothers and sisters were welcomed into fellowship.

After lunch, Br. Idel Suarez revealed the danger of processed foods, which create a bomb inside us. This is not expedient for you to eat as it is harmful for your body. Sister White came up with a phrase "Whole Foods". They are fruits, nuts, vegetables, whole grains and cereals, herbs, honey, legumes, maple syrup, tubers, water, seaweed, seeds.

"For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer." 1 Timothy 4:4, 5





Br. Idel said that we need to go to Genesis to see what God created for our diet. He spoke of the perfect diet for man. We cannot serve two masters nor can we eat from two different tables at the same time.

“Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord’s table, and of the table of devils.”
1 Corinthians 10:21

Br. Oscar Oviedo conducted the closing service of the conference. Revelation 12:17 says that we are to keep all of His commandments, not by ourselves but it can only be done through the Faith of Jesus Christ. Only His grace is sufficient for us to meet such a high calling. Let us not think that the law cannot be obeyed, but neither that it can be done in our own effort. Let us receive Christ who is Our Righteousness. **Amen**

Canadian Field Secretary

The Canadian Field wishes to give a special thanks to all of the people who laboured behind the scenes to make the conference a blessing for all in attendance!



Our War

There is a terrible war going on in our world. In this war every nation is engaged. Every person, man, woman and child are participating in this war; and daily thousands of lives are lost forever.

This war is more terrible than the First and Second World Wars, and even more terrible than the feared third world war in the future.

This war is between the kingdom of God and the kingdom of Satan.

Millions of Christians who claim to be soldiers of Christ are falling in the battle field into the hands of the enemy and taken into captivity, into darkness and confusion of mind, into false religions, into a lukewarm condition, into self-righteousness, into the love of the world, and into spiritual death.

What makes this war so confusing is because we don't always know who is our friend and who is our enemy. Whom can we trust and who is out to deceive us?

People are confused about the laws and doctrines of these two kingdoms. There are about 2,700 different Christian churches, and they all believe different teachings and practices, and therefore they cannot unite. God has only one church on His side and Satan has the rest of them on his side.

The principles of these two kingdoms are different; Jesus came to





Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps." (1 Peter 2:21)

Moreover, Exercise yourself toward godliness. Be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Until Jesus comes, give attention to reading, (the Bible, Testimonies, Prophecy), to exhortation, to doctrine. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you. (1 Tim 4:8, 13-16)

Furthermore, "And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, *even* in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life." (1 John 5:20) You see, by knowing the True, we reject the false!

Moreover, God is love. Since we are His children we must walk in love. In fact, John says that if we do not love, we do not know God. Love is more than just words, it is action. Love is giving, not getting. Biblical love is unconditional in its nature.

"For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." (1 John 5:3).

Jesus, furthermore, promises, "if ye love Me, keep My commandments." (John 14:15).

Ah! But, "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him." (1 John 2:4, 5)

Finally, let us not be discouraged! Do not worry, watch and pray, "but seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."(Matt. 6:33)

Look up to Jesus and obtain **THE ETERNAL LIFE – PROMISES AND CONDITIONS. Amen!**

John Theodorou, USA

The Eternal Life – Promises And Conditions

"And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." Genesis 2:16, 17.

LIFE IN THE GARDEN

Here we have a glimpse of life in God's Garden. Man, "created from the dust of the ground," was given a promise and a condition. All the promises God had given us are also under a condition. The man in the garden was given a sober condition, and its consequences. Following this, the woman was created, as "she was taken out of Man." They both knew now the consequences if they were to eat of the "tree of knowledge of good and evil." They should "die!"

But it was a small test; just a single, small fruit in the center of the garden. It was assumed to be an apple (some say an apricot). They were forbidden to eat it! The book of Patriarchs and Prophets says, "Those who have a propensity for evil will say, 'why such a small test?'" It is possible that we, in our everyday lives, have seemingly small insignificant tests without any awareness of the same. Ah! But the big tests, for example, "Thou shall not kill or commit adultery," are foisted into our subconscious minds as evil; magnified as a transgression of the Law of God! Woe unto us!

But what can we say about lying? Do you lie sometimes? The





Apostle Peter, a devout disciple of Jesus, when accused to be a follower of Jesus said, "Woman, I know Him not!"(Luke 22:57). Eve looked at the tempting fruit. She thought it was merely a small matter, a small thing. She thereupon gave it to her husband, Adam, presuming it was still a small matter. But, this act of disobedience opened up the flood gates to catastrophic consequences; plummeting mankind into an abyss of sin. "Sin entered the world!" (Rom 5:12; 6:15, 16)(1 John 1:8)

BEWARE!

A young pastor asked a wavering believer "why don't you come to church and our fellowship meetings?" He paused and answered, "I don't like the formality or custom of shaking hands with women believers or guests." This to some may seem as a small, insignificant matter, or to others - extremism.

But, remember the Old Testament example from the scattered wilderness pilgrims in whom God was not pleased, "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (1 Cor. 10:12, 13). Furthermore, "take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes." (Song of Solomon 2:15) We have the pitiful example of David, Bathsheba, and Uriah. David, in lusting for Uriah's wife, Bathsheba instigated Uriah's death in the forefront of battle; "And when the mourning was past, David sent and fetched her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD." (2 Sam. 11:27). David was tested! David faulted!

APPETITE

Eve had a little test, but when she ate the fruit, knew she had sinned. She, however, believed that nothing would happen to her but perhaps imagined that she would be more beautiful – attractive, wiser, that she would be more attentive to her husband, and foremost, she lived... she did not die immediately as a promise and condition for partaking in such a sin. Why? And why do many today continue to freely sin... ignorantly and unafraid? The answer lies in Ecclesiastes 8:11; "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil."

The underlying cause that prompted her to eat of the forbidden fruit was... appetite! There are perplexing dangers and pitfalls in appetite

A friend was asked by a believer, "what do you believe?" He answered, "in the Church." The believer asked his friend again, "what does the Church believe?" The friend replied, "in what the Church believes." The believer asked again, "what does the Church believe? His friend said "in what the church teaches." What does the Church teach?" Answering again, the friend said, "in what the fathers teach." The believer asked his friend once more, "what do the fathers teach?" The friend finally answered, "in what the Church believes." Does this make any sense to you? Incredible!

You see, we are only to be "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Heb 12:2). Furthermore, to "Follow peace with all *men*, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." (Heb 12:14).

KNOW GOD!

Perhaps one of the most important passages in the Bible is John 17, Jesus' prayer to His Father, in which Jesus prays for Himself, His disciples, and for all believers. But it is here that we find the answer to eternal life, that we can claim His promises and fulfill the reverent conditions for an eternal life! Jesus spoke these words Himself, "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." (v-3)But, to know God we are to be living sacrifices to God, to heed His voice saying, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Rom 12:2).

"By beholding Jesus Christ, we can become transformed into His image." So, fix your eyes on Jesus, lean on Jesus, seek Jesus, talk to Jesus, walk with Jesus, listen to Jesus – know Jesus! This is the only way to be an over-comer and acquire perfect obedience – both requisite conditions for an eternal life – or suffer the vengeance of eternal fire! (Jude 7). Jesus said, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in Heaven is perfect." (Math 5:48). See? You can be perfect! Thereby, by overcoming and perfect obedience you destroy your vile earthly nature and become a new creature in Jesus

Wait, there is more! If we want to acquire an eternal life, Jesus is our glorious example, "For even hereunto were ye called: because





But, many younger people suffer today from diseases that were reserved for the older generation; heart disease, circulatory diseases, cancer, arthritic symptoms, depression, suicidal tendencies, gastro-intestinal diseases (ulcers, etc.), diabetes, obesity, mental deficiencies, accident proneness, hearing and eyesight problems, impotence, and even Alzheimer disease, etc.

They eat and drink wildly, with abandon, knowing it is not good for their health, shunning the statistics and counsels so widely circulated on health reform, and they expect to have energy, clear minds, intelligence, success, and longer life-spans! Their peculiar behavior and conduct often attest to their deficiencies. Steps to Christ states, "God declares and commands perfect obedience to the commandments of God, but we do not have the strength or power to obey the commandments of God." We need to look to a supernatural force to extricate us from this state of helplessness.

THE SOLUTION

We're sinners! We're lost! We feel forsaken! It is almost a hopeless situation. Ah! "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9). And, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9).

What is said here? We are sinners – this is the condition! Jesus is our only hope! Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6). We are lost if we merely look to others; their ways, their images, their principles, their leadership. Jesus says, furthermore, first "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I *am* God, and *there is* none else." (Isaiah 45:22).

You see, Jesus Christ can give us the power we sorely need to avoid and repel the gnawing temptations that plague us daily; to overcome cravings, appetite, gluttony, obesity, destructive habits, pride, vanity, covetousness, lust, envy, aggressiveness, greed, gossip, a pompous mouth, folly, frivolous pleasures, haughtiness, and fear. Yes! All of these and more, and more, and, on and on! Through His grace we can overcome any impediment in our lives. But, this requires faith, and faith requires trust. If you don't trust, you can't believe. Therefore, trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.



and the perversion of appetite will be one of the leading and caustic stumbling blocks in the believer's pilgrimage journey as the last day events unfold. We have often heard it as it rings in our ears, "he eats too much!" Or, "he eats meat, or fish, or chocolate, sugar, milk, coffee, or cheese." But one says it's a small matter – a little thing. But in fact, a small lingering test!

One of the most difficult tests the wilderness Jews encountered was with food and drink. They murmured and complained against Moses, but the Lord tested them, "and said, "If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee." (Exodus 15:26). This required perfect obedience by the ancient Jews to the commandments of God for a disease-free existence and an eternal life. They were tested, but persisted in their stiff-necked ways.

What was their attitude? What is man's attitude today? Has it changed? No! No! "And behold joy and gladness, slaying oxen, and killing sheep, eating flesh, and drinking wine: let us eat and drink; for to morrow we shall die."(Isaiah 22:13). But what must our aims and attitudes be? "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Cor. 10:31).

HOW ARE YOU?

When God first created Man and Woman, the first living couple, He blessed them with all their needs and more! He provided them, furthermore, with clear precious water to drink... no other liquid, but water! "For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring." (Isaiah 44:3). What did the Lord say again? "And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." (Gen. 2:16, 17).

Now, can we eat and drink of everything in this life, in this world, in the "super markets?" God would shudder, and most likely say, "water only!" How is it said, again? "In the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die!" (v-17). Ah! But one brazenly says, "I eat everything!" Or, "but in moderation." Or, "I feel wonderful!" How can one strive for an eternal life by such beliefs? Remember there are conditions! "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" (1 Cor. 6:19).



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