

The cover of 'The Reformation Messenger' magazine features a scenic view of Dubrovnik, Croatia, seen through the stone arches of a building. The view includes a large white building with a red-tiled roof and a green dome, a harbor with several boats, and a blue sea under a clear sky. The magazine title is written in a large, white, cursive font across the top, with a small white dove icon above the letter 'g'. Below the title, the volume and issue information is printed in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

The Reformation
Messenger

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 7, July 2014

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WE BELIEVE: The all-wise loving God created all things in the universe by His Son, Jesus Christ. He is the Owner and Sustainer. He met the challenge to His loving leadership and authority by reconciling the world to Himself through the life, death, and resurrection of His Son, the Word made flesh. The Holy Spirit, Jesus' representative on earth convicts of sin, guides into truth, and gives strength to overcome all unrighteousness. The Bible is the record of God's dealings with mankind and the standard of all doctrine, the Ten Commandments are the transcript of His character and the foundation of all enduring reform. His people, in harmony with God's word and under the direction of the Holy Spirit call all men everywhere to be reconciled to God through faith in Jesus. Bible prophecy reveals that earth's history will soon close with the visible return of Jesus Christ as King to claim all who have accepted Him as the world's only Redeemer and their Lord.

ABOUT THE COVER

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Isaiah --

Old Testament Evangelist



In the eighth century B.C., a spiritual leader emerged among God's people to dominate a troubled era. The man was Isaiah, his name meaning "Yahweh saves." His ministry lasted for about 60 years, spanning the reigns of four kings of Judah—Uzziah, Jothan, Ahaz, and Hezekiah (Isaiah 1:1).

The book of Isaiah in the Bible was written solely by this prophet. It is richer in vocabulary than any other Old Testament book. A glossary of the 66 chapters would list more than 2,000 individual words. His writing style and majestic expression make his book one of the literary masterpieces of all Hebrew literature. It is interesting to note that there are 66 books in the Bible and 66 chapters found in the book of Isaiah. The last chapter of Isaiah touches upon the New Earth as does the last book of Bible—Revelation.

Isaiah's understanding of the Messianic role of Israel in the first coming of Christ and the establishment of God's kingdom earned him the title of Messianic and Gospel Prophet. It was Isaiah who foretold the coming of the Messiah or Redeemer of Israel and His mission.

The prophecy of Isaiah falls into two sections, the first of which (chapters 1 to 39) for the most part deals with the problems then facing God's people. Foremost is the problem of sin and the deliverance from Israel's political foes, Syria and Assyria. Isaiah urged that it was only through repentance, reformation, and faith in the Almighty that deliverance could be obtained.

The second section, chapters 40 to 66, deals with the deliverance from Babylon, the glorious destiny that awaits spiritual Israel, the coming of the Messiah, and the establishment of His eternal kingdom. This section can be arbitrarily divided into three major parts: future deliverance and restoration (chapters 40 to 53), the Jewish nation as a light to the world (54 to 62), and the establishment of the Messianic kingdom (63

to 66).

Despite the apparent differences in subject matter, a fundamental unity of thought pervades the book of Isaiah. The earlier chapters record the messages by the prophet during his youth; and the latter chapters reflect the insight, depth of thought, and majesty of expression characteristic of age.

Too often, many so-called New Testament Christians place little or no value on the Old Testament. Because Isaiah deals with the historical facts of Judah and Israel, it is possible to overlook the texts relating to salvation. In order to understand the New Testament book of Revelation, it is important to study Isaiah carefully. The symbolism and the language of certain passages in Isaiah are very similar to those in Revelation. To grasp the significance of certain texts from Revelation, one needs to study the events, places, and names and apply them properly in their setting. How, then, could anyone discard the Old Testament when so much of it is drawn into the New Testament?

Note the following parallel phrases and symbols:

Isaiah 47:1
"Sit in the dust."

Revelation 18:1
"Cast dust on their heads."

Isaiah 47:2
"Take the millstones."

Revelation 18:21
"Took up a stone like a great millstone."

Isaiah 47:8
"I am, and none else beside me; I shall not sit as a widow, Neither shall I know the loss of children."

Revelation 18:7
"I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow."

Isaiah 47:9

*"In a moment
in one day."*

Isaiah 47: 9

*"The multitude of
thy sorceries."*

Isaiah 47:15

"Thy merchants."

Revelation 18:8, 10, 17, 19

"In one day," "in one hour."

Revelation 18:23

*"By thy sorceries were
all nations deceived."*

Revelation 18:23

*"Thy merchants were the great
men of the earth."*

The book of Isaiah contains a host of references in regard to Christ and His first coming. These texts are fulfilled in the New Testament, which supports and confirms what the prophet wrote. The prophecies were fulfilled in every particular and lie behind us in the form of history. "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place." 2 Peter 1:19

Let us look into the writings of Isaiah the prophet and find out what he foretold under inspiration about the life and character of the true Messiah. At the same time, let us also see how these prophecies met their fulfillment. The first prophecy we want to consider is found in Isaiah 7:14: "Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel." This prophecy was fulfilled exactly, as repeated in Matthew 1:23: "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

As the prophet was shown the future hundreds of years from his time, he predicted accurately that Jesus would be conceived by a virgin. How unthinkable, but true, that a baby boy would be born miraculously of the Holy Spirit! Even His name, Immanuel, was mentioned. Jesus was divine—God on earth among His people.

Isaiah 53 is one of the most outstanding chapters of inspiration in reference to the Messiah, for it clearly stated His mission at His first advent. The first verse reads: "Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?" This verse is also found in John 12:38. John the Beloved showed the fulfillment of Isaiah's writings in his accounts of Christ's life.

Because of man's sins, Christ suffered, was humiliated, and was exalted. Who would have believed this report? The Lord's arm or power is manifested for the salvation of men. God gave His only Son for a ransom, a substitute and surety for lost mankind.

"For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.

"Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted." Isaiah 53:2–4

In the eyes of the world, He possessed no beauty or attraction that they should desire. Men looked for a Messiah who would display great power in freeing the Jewish nation from Roman servitude. The Jews wanted a temporal kingdom set up on the earth, exalting them above every other nation.

Some men were attracted to Christ, not because of His supernatural glory but by the beauty of a righteous character. His glory was veiled; His greatness and majesty were hidden so He might draw near to sorrowful, tempted men.

"The King of glory stooped low to take humanity. Rude and forbidding were His earthly surroundings. His glory was veiled, that the majesty of His outward form might not become an object of attraction. He shunned all outward display. Riches, worldly honor, and human greatness can never save a soul from death; Jesus purposed that no attraction of an earthly nature should call men to His side. Only the beauty of heavenly truth must draw those who would follow Him. The character of the Messiah had long been foretold in prophecy, and He desired men to accept Him upon the testimony of the word of God." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 43

Throughout His life, Christ knew what it was to be hated, reviled, and rejected. Taking upon Himself humanity, Christ became sensitive to every pain, sorrow, anguish, and disappointment known to man (Hebrews 2:16–17). Not only was He a man of sorrows, but He endured all the temptations by which man is beset (Hebrews 4:15).

Practically the whole Jewish nation rejected Christ as the Messiah. The ill treatment and malice of wicked men reached a climax in His trial and crucifixion. The disciple Matthew repeated the prophecy concerning Christ in Matthew 8:17: "That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." This verse refers to Isaiah 53:4.

Reading on in Isaiah 53, we come to the following verse: “He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth: He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He openeth not His mouth.” Satan was constantly tempting Christ to cause Him to waver, lose hope, and thus commit even one trivial sin. Not yielding to Satan’s crafty ingenuity, Christ reigned supreme over the powers of darkness. He sinned not in thought, word, or deed. Though in a world of sin, He walked without guile in His mouth and was holy, harmless, and undefiled. He was unjustly and wrongfully accused, yet He opened not His mouth to justify Himself. For the fulfillment of this prophecy, see Matthew 26:63; 27:12, 14. “But Jesus held His peace.” “And when He was accused of the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing.” “And He answered him to never a word.” How victorious this behavior proved to be on our account! Jesus lived a perfect life for our redemption!

Isaiah 53:10 reads: “Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him.” God was not overjoyed to see Jesus suffer the penalty of sin, but in view of the eternal welfare of every human being who will be redeemed it pleased the Lord, in the sense that Christ’s sacrifice was the divine will of God. Only in this way could the plan of salvation be carried out. The sufferings of Christ were an integral part of the eternal plan of salvation (see Acts 2:23; 3:18).

“He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied.” Isaiah 53:11. The sacrifice on Calvary was not in vain, for many would find peace and eternal joy. The end result would justify the death of one man—Jesus Christ.

When we study the 66 chapters of Isaiah, we find the whole plan of salvation revealed. Let us therefore not shy away from the Old Testament, particularly the book of Isaiah, just because it was written hundreds of years before Christ’s birth. There are many precious, inspired gems revealed for our learning, otherwise the Lord would not have entrusted us with this book. Christ said, “Search the Scriptures,” and at that time it meant the Old Testament that existed in scrolls.



One of the very first steps in seeking after salvation is to recognize one’s spiritual condition. “All we like sheep have gone astray” (Isaiah 53:6); and “Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more; the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness it; . . .” Isaiah 1:5–6. “But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags.” Isaiah 64:6. These verses portray a distasteful picture of man. Every one is considered a sinner, no matter what his education, heritage, color or nationality—all men are sinners and the “wages of sin is death.” Romans 6:23

Do you recognize your condition? How do you know that you are a sinner? It is only by looking into the perfect law of liberty that we see our failings. Isaiah 42:21 states that “He will magnify the law, and make it honorable.” “O that thou hadst hearkened to My commandments!” Isaiah 48:18

And, of course, the Sabbath commandment found in Isaiah 58 almost everyone in this world is either unwittingly or willfully transgressing. These verses of Isaiah about the law are also mentioned in the New Testament.

Once we realize our condition, the Lord does not forsake us nor let us continue to struggle to overcome by ourselves. How simple and inspiring the following texts are: “Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat: yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.” Isaiah 55:1. “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.” Isaiah 1:18. Here is the remedy. The Lord does not just condemn us by the law but provides a solution so we may obtain salvation.

Isaiah speaks about every phase of salvation. He is in complete harmony with all the New Testament writers. We should not be ignorant concerning the messages of hope which his book presents to us. Salvation can be found in the Old as well as the New Testament. May God bless us as we search the Book of Isaiah.

Henry Dering

Who Are The Persecuted Remnant?

“And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

Revelation 12:17



The woman about which Revelation 12:17 speaks is the Church of God. The remnant of her seed are the remnant of the people of God, those who are living in the last generation, that is, today. Against these the dragon was wroth and made war with them; the great dragon, that old serpent, . . . the Devil, and Satan. The devil, being thus defeated in his designs upon the universal church of God, now turns his rage against particular persons and places; his malice against the woman pushes him on to make war with the remnant of her seed. But the warning is given of the distress and calamity that should fall upon the inhabitants of the world in general, through the wrath and rage of the devil. For though his malice is chiefly bent against the servants of God, yet he is an enemy and hater of mankind as such; and being defeated in his designs against the church, he is resolved to give all the disturbance he can to the world in general: “Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, and the sea!” Revelation 12:12. The signs, therefore, of the people of God and of their distinctions herewith are:

1. They keep the Commandments of God;
2. They have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

The Commandments, that is the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), are, in the highest sense of the term, the expressions of God’s Law: His Character. These differ from all other laws, since God had given them with His own mouth (orally). (Deuteronomy 4:12). He wrote them with His own hand upon the tablets of stone. (Deuteronomy 4:13; Exodus 31:18). He separated them from all other laws, as He commanded that they be placed in the ark of the covenant, and this ark again He placed in the Most Holy Place. (Exodus 25:21; 26:34; Hebrews 9:4). From this Law, Jesus said: “And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail.” Luke 16:17. The Apostle speaks of this Law: “Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.” Romans 3:31

Only this law can tell us the difference between right and wrong; truth and error. “For by the law is the knowledge

of sin.” Romans 3:20. This law was acknowledged again as sacred through the believers, when they found their way back to the sanctuary. “And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in His temple the ark [in which was placed the law] of His testament.” Revelation 11:19. Since that time, the true Christians are carrying again the seal or sign of distinction of the true worship of the great Creator by bringing faithful obedience to the Law of God, and also:

THE SABBATH

—as kept in the days of Christ and the Apostles (Matthew 24:20; Acts 13:14, 42-44).

Besides this decided position toward the Law of God is the testimony of Jesus, the other sign of God’s people today. In another place it is stated of these people, that they “keep the Commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” Revelation 14:12

Just as the Commandments of God contain the holy, unchangeable desire of The Great Law-Giver, so does the testimony of Jesus contain the everlasting gospel or the joyful news of preserving from sin (transgression of the law), through Christ. The Apostles preached the testimony of Jesus: “Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: so that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 1:6–7. The Apostles were not ashamed of the testimony of Jesus, and suffered willingly, therefore, all tribulation and shame. “Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me, His prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God.” 2 Timothy 1:8

In the first part of the book of Revelation, the Apostle speaks of “the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus.” Revelation 1:2. The Martyrs were shedding their blood for the cause of the Word of God and the testimony they had of Jesus (Revelation 6:9). The testimony of Jesus in-

cludes the spirit of prophecy, as a special gift. When John fell down before the angel, to worship him, he said: "See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." Revelation 19:10

The spirit of prophecy is the spirit of Christ (1 Peter 1:11). "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His." Romans 8:9. "No man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost." 1 Corinthians 12:3. "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit... But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will." 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

When the fullness of the Spirit at the time of the Apostles, according to the promise of Christ was here (Acts 1:5), then all the gifts appeared and wonders were performed (Acts 3:1-11).

We find in the history of the Old and New Testament people of God, that these spiritual gifts were present: and henceforth they must be found also among the true believers of today. No sooner did these spiritual gifts set in, than the discernment of the law was present; God then blessed the loyal obedience of His children with the gift of prophecy. Joel had

spoken of this before: "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy." Joel 2:28. Especially now in our days of great deceptions, of false prophets, is the gift of the spirit of prophecy for the people of God of great value.

Solomon had said: "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Proverbs 29:18. This has often been seen in the history of the Old Testament people of God, and has been set for our admonition (1 Corinthians 10:11-12). The church of God is in more danger from heretics than from persecutors; and heresies are as certainly from the devil as open force and violence.

Also, among the fervent believers, Satan has not been dormant for the past 100 years. At every great spiritual awakening, believers stood firm in full view of the world

by protecting the fundamental principles of God (the Law); but soon a change came. The voice of the Spirit was ignored by partaking of the spirit of the world, and the people uniting more and more with the world. At the commencement of WWI (1914), when the days of storm broke out, the nations of this world also required homage from the people of God by demanding even the seal: that is, the mark of the sign of the true children of God's adoption—the Sabbath. Great numbers, who once claimed the faith of the third angel's message, accepted to be part of Babylon. By partaking of the spirit of the world, man at last viewed matters in an earthly light; and when the time of decision came, many began to choose the easier, popular side—the wide road.

Here is the anti-picture of the true church. The mother of all fornication or apostasy is brought here before our eyes. In the days of Emperor Constantine I of Rome, the Church became Catholic or Universal. The Church tried to please the world, and constantly more unconverted people were accepted by her. It

carried the truth of Christ into the grave. Out of heathen Rome arose a "Christian Rome," but it was only a change in form. When persecution ceased and Christianity entered the courts and kingly palaces, then the humble simplicity of Christ and that of the apostles were exchanged with the pomp and pride of the heathen priests; in place of the commands of God, human theories and conclusions of

finite reasons were made supreme.

The conversion of Emperor Constantine I in the early part of the 4th century caused great joy; and all Christians were thankful when he gained control of the Empire in his defeat of Emperor Maxentius at the Milvian Bridge on October 28, 312 A.D. Was Constantine a Christian at that time? Well, he was tolerant of the Christians, but heathen emblems continued to be used on his armor and coins. And he retained the pagan title of Pontifex Maximus, which meant he was the supreme priest of the pagan religion of the Empire.

Constantine, however, felt that his end was near. Believing that baptism, by itself, washed away all the sins of one's previous years, years earlier Constantine decided that he would not be baptized until just before his death. Yet, only eleven years earlier, he had his favorite son, Crispus—who had helped him so much in his cam-



paigns—put to death. Shortly thereafter his second wife, Fausta, was slain at his command.

His life was over but the effects of that reprobate life reaches down to our own time. Constantine had made Sunday-keeping official in the empire (March 7, 321 A.D.); and in the process, he made the local church of the pastor at Rome into the State Church of the Empire! The people were commanded to keep the “venerable day of the Sun”; that is, the sacred day dedicated to the Sun god.

“In the fourth century at The Council of Laodicea (approx. 336 A.D.), this church council, for the first time, decided that worship on the seventh day of the week was forbidden, by an official decree of the Church. The Council of Laodicea marked the beginning of a new era. This Council of Laodicea issued the first conciliar legislation for that day: Constantine I issued the first civil legislation.” Priest Vincent J. Kelly, *Forbidden Sunday and Feast-Day Occupations*, p. 203 [Roman Catholic]

So the world, clothed with the appearance of righteousness, boldly entered into the church. Now the work of pollution made rapid progress. Heathenism, which appeared to be conquered, became victorious. Its spirit ruled the church. Its teaching, habits, and superstitions were substituted in place of the faith and worship of God, by the professed followers of Christ. Since those days, the woman is arrayed with earthly grandeur and tinsel. Christ repelled the deceiver when he proposed to Him the kingdoms and riches of this world (Matthew 4:8–9). Now Satan had success with the followers of Christ.

From these days of apostasy originated the deep rooted errors of the church—The Christianity of today; Sunday-keeping; Mass as a daily celebration; Doctrine of purgatory; Holy water; Wax candles; Sale of indulgences; Auricular confession to priests instead of God; Saint-worshipping; Holy-days; Confirmation; Christening; Absolute infallibility of pope; Prayers for the dead; Apocryphal books added to Bible; National pride; Christian Patriotism, etc., etc. (*The Fabulous First Centuries of Christianity*, Vance Ferrell, Harvestime Books, 2006, p. 472–473).

The Christian life disappeared more and more, leaving only an outward form, until even this disappeared from the original form. In the same manner as the believers were honored by the world, have they yielded and committed “fornication” through their friendship with the world. Such has it been always, and Satan has won more

souls through flattery (Christians in name only) than he has brought to fall by force.

The next step, which the worldly minded churches took were to assure favors for the enforcement of unbiblical teachings and laws. In this project the Protestant churches and denominations have been making wonderful progress.

Over the last years the European powers have also persecuted the present people of God. During the years of war (**WWI: 1914–1918; and WWII: 1939–1945**) **loyal believers received severe prison penalties for their obedience toward the Commandments of God.** The fourth commandment, as well as the sixth commandment of God’s Law, are not acknowledged by the “Christian” nations of today; and all the existing churches and denominations did not regard Christ as their King. And as such “they have turned the world upside down and walk contrary to the law of Caesar;” the true believers were scourged.

The Apostle Paul met with the same experience, by proclaiming Christ as his King (Acts 17:6–7). All true Christians are submissive to the higher powers that be and “render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar’s.” Luke 20:25. (Romans 13:1; Luke 20:24–25; Matthew 22:17–21)—but also “unto God the things which be God’s” (Luke 20:25)—“Therefore love is the fulfilling of the Law [and] “love worketh no ill to his neighbor.” Romans 13:10



That this is well-pleasing to God is shown by the tender care and help from the great God, which was allotted to Daniel through his protection in the lion’s den. It was also witnessed in the experience of the Apostles, of the ancient Christians, that God desired and sanctioned this unyielding position. A “thus said the Lord,” should not be set aside for a “thus said so-and- so.” The crown (diadem) of Jesus must be elevated—always!

“The Albigenses, who were first by Emperor Dioclesian (284–316 A.D.) driven up into barren and mountainous places, and afterwards cruelly murdered by popish rage and power for several generations; and for no other reason than because they kept the commandments of God and held the testimony of Jesus Christ. Diocletian’s intense persecution of the Christians began in February 303 A.D. —*Eusebius Church History*, bk. 8, ch. 5. As you might expect, by the end of Diocletian’s persecution the true Christians were anxious for an Emperor who could bring them peace!

Ah! But then came a dramatic change—one which would radically affect the Christian church all the way down to our own time. Christianity was about to walk into the halls of kings and be changed into a State Church!!

“The Waldenses, likewise, suffered a similar fate. This group was active in northern Italy as early as the time of Emperor Constantine I. Their fidelity to God and Christ, in doctrine, worship and practice, was that which exposed them to the rage of Satan and his instruments. These faithful witnesses for the truth strongly opposed the pagan superstitions of the papacy. Eventually, the Waldenses withdrew to mountain valleys of the Piedmont, today known as the Italian Alps, where they were persecuted for their faith throughout most of the Dark Ages and beyond, until about 1850.

“There were many groups later who arose and who were determined to maintain Biblical principles. These included the Petrobrusians, Henricians, Humiliati; and such men as Arnold of Brescia, Tenhelm, Eudo, Marsilius of Padua, and Peter Celcicky. But the most influential reformers before the 16th century Reformation were John Huss, and Jerome of Bohemia and their followers (Bohemian Brethren), and John Wycliff of England and his followers (the Lollards).” —*The Fabulous First Centuries of Christianity*, Vance Ferrell, Harvestime Books, Altamont, TN 37301, 2006, p. 338, 433, 437, 453, 463, 477–478, 504

Such fidelity will expose men still, more or less, to the end of the world, when the “last enemy shall be destroyed.” 1 Corinthians 15:26. “If we suffer, we shall also reign with Him.” 2 Timothy 2:12

But, even so, there’s an oft overlooked demonic trinity at work in the turbulent world today:

- 1) Satan;
- 2) The first beast—out of the sea (The Antichrist, Revelation 13:1);
- 3) The second beast—out of the earth (False prophet, Revelation 13:11).

The first beast is against God (Revelation 13:5–6)—he is energized by Satan. . . He possesses world-wide power and he persecutes the saints of God (Revelation 13:7) “The dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.” Revelation 13:2. It is almost unbelievable that the whole earth will worship both the dragon and the beast (Revelation 13:3–4).

There will be much religion on earth, but it will be godless and blasphemous. Who would now deny that the

stage of world history is rapidly being set by tendencies that will ultimately lead to the rule and adoration of such a monster? All who do not belong to the Lamb of God (Jesus) will worship the beast.

“Do we not see today that image being set up in nation after nation upon the earth by the power of propaganda and lies? . . . Have we not heard the raucous voice of that beast blaring and shouting over the radio and television, and read his boasts and threats on the pages of the world press? . . . All that can be done apart from Jesus Christ is to give a fresh disposition to unbelief, to give organic or subtle shape to human evil and pride and selfishness. . . All the time the latent evil in the world is setting up its image and making its imprint upon the persons and minds and deeds of men.” Professor T. F. Torrence (1913–2007), scientist, theologian, evangelist, author, Christian. op.cit., p. 88–89) (Whose theology is thoroughly and self-consciously Reformed). —*Wikipedia—the Free Encyclopedia*

Nicholas Berdyaev, Russian philosopher, writing on the bestiality of modern man, says: “Movement toward super-humanity and the superman, toward super-human powers, all too often means nothing other than a bestialization of man. Modern anti-humanism takes the form of bestialism. It uses the tragic and unfortunate Nietzsche as a superior sort of justification for dehumanization and bestialization. (Nietzsche (1844–1900); philosopher, religious critic—“God is Dead”)

“. . . A bestial cruelty toward man is characteristic of our age, and is more astonishing since it is displayed at the very peak of human refinement, where modern conceptions of sympathy, it would seem, have made impossible the old barbaric forms of cruelty. Bestialism (or bestliness) is something quite different from the old, natural, healthy barbarism; it is barbarism within a refined civilization. Here the atavistic (appearance of ancestral not parental characteristics in human beings), barbaric instincts are filtered through the prism of civilization, and hence they have a pathological character. Bestialism is a phenomenon of the human world, but a world already civilized. (Nicholas Berdyaev, (1874–1948; religious and political philosopher).” —*The Fate of Man in the Modern World*, Hesperides Press Pub., 2006, p. 26–29

History is the progression of prophecy!

That is the response to the question, “**Who Are the Persecuted Remnant?**”

Amen. <>< <>< <><

John Theodorou U.S.A.

The Price of a Moment



In terms of time measurements, a moment is so short and perhaps the most volatile. This volatility tends to lessen as you move from a minute to an hour, a day, etc. Because a moment of time is the most volatile, it is perhaps the most important in our lives. Once an action is done, it shortly becomes history and thus it also becomes impossible to undo, for that moment is gone. No wonder, as we are to see shortly, one moment may be enough to decide one's destiny!

In this line of thought, Sister White in the book *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p.61, asks the solemn question: "Who can know, in the moment of temptation, the terrible consequences that will result from one wrong step?" We also read: "In one moment, by the hasty, passionate, careless tongue, may be wrought evil that a whole lifetime's repentance cannot undo." —*Education*, p. 236

Space is limited to furnish all possible Biblical examples here. Perhaps only this portion will do:

"A short time at most would have secured him [Esau] food in his father's tents, but to satisfy the desire of the moment he carelessly bartered the glorious heritage that God Himself had promised to his fathers. His whole interest was in the present. He was ready to sacrifice the heavenly to the earthly, to exchange a future good for a momentary indulgence." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 179

Regarding his brother Jacob, it resulted in a great deal of contrition on his part; he suffered remorse from a sin which he had repented of and received pardon. His mother also, through her artifice, was punished in that she was no longer able to see her beloved son.

Surely, it is real! An action may be done in a moment but the results may be enormous and long-lasting. That one action may be a key to great things that would follow afterwards (good or bad). One may sow just a few seeds, but the harvest is always greater than the sowing. Many

lives today are in total misery and slavery of sin because of just one action that they did in their life. If they will not, by faith, cry and trust in the grace of Jesus, they will perish.

Among the vital gifts which man was endowed with by God at creation is willpower— being a free moral agent— thus granting man the power to make independent decisions. Truly, without this trait, man would be a mere automaton or robot.

"To man alone, the crowning work of His creation, God has given a conscience to realize the sacred claims of the divine law, and a heart capable of loving it as holy, just, and good; and of man prompt and perfect obedience is required. Yet God does not compel him to obey; he is left a free moral agent." —*Selected Messages*, vol. 1, p. 216

"God had power to hold Adam back from touching the forbidden fruit; but had He done this, Satan would have been sustained in his charge against God's arbitrary rule. Man would not have been a free moral agent, but a mere machine." —*The Review and Herald*, June 4, 1901

"Without freedom of choice, his obedience would not have been voluntary, but forced. There could have been no development of character. . . . [Also] "His affections were pure; his appetites and passions were under the control of reason." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 49, 45

What a state that was! After his fall, man became depraved and had an inclination toward evil. In his own strength he lost the power to resist evil.

"When man transgressed the divine law, his nature became evil, and he was in harmony, and not at variance, with Satan." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 505

"His nature became so weakened through transgression that it was impossible for him, in his own strength, to resist the power of evil." —*Steps to Christ*, p. 17

As a result of their sin Adam and Eve had forfeited the Eden home.

"After their sin Adam and Eve were no longer to dwell in Eden. They earnestly entreated that they might remain in the home of their innocence and joy. They confessed that they had forfeited all right to that happy abode, but pledged themselves for the future to yield strict obedience to God. But they were told that their nature had become depraved by sin; they had lessened their strength to resist evil and had opened the way for Satan to gain more ready access to them." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 61

While we need to acknowledge the condition of man as stated above, Christ, the second Adam, has given the first Adam and his posterity (those that would remain faithful)

an assurance of the return to the lost paradise. He says that even though man sold his kingdom to Satan, He will give it back to him and his posterity, this time, in a more glorified state than in the beginning.

“Christ is called the second Adam. In purity and holiness, connected with God and beloved by God, He began where the first Adam began. . . .

“Christ was tempted by Satan in a hundredfold severer manner than was Adam, and under circumstances in every way more trying. The deceiver presented himself as an angel of light, but Christ withstood his temptations. He redeemed Adam’s disgraceful fall, and saved the world. . . . He lived the law of God, and honored it in a world of transgression, revealing to the heavenly universe, to Satan, and to all the fallen sons and daughters of Adam that through His grace humanity can keep the law of God. . . .

“Christ’s victory was as complete as had been Adam’s failure. So we may resist temptation, and force Satan to depart from us.” —*God’s Amazing Grace*, p. 42

Through the condescension, death and resurrection of Jesus, Satan was surely defeated. Now we can be overcomers! Through the power of the Holy Spirit combined with our willpower we can once more make right decisions!

“Realize every moment that you must have the presence of the Holy Spirit; for it can do a work that you cannot do of yourself.” —*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 310

You and I are now travelling to the heavenly home and have a great desire to reach there. But our enemy is doing whatever it takes to prevent us from reaching that abode from which he himself is forever banished. The call for us is to be careful how we use every moment of our lives. The sacred writings give us high expectations. Let us use our moments to search the scriptures.

“You are not secure a moment against the attacks of Satan. You have no time to rest from watchful, earnest labor. You should not sleep a moment at your post. This is a most important warfare. Eternal consequences are involved. It is life or death with you and your family.” —*Child Guidance*, p. 185

“You should not for one moment give place to an impure, covert suggestion, for even this will stain the soul, as impure water defiles the channel through which it passes.” —*The Adventist Home*, p. 333

The story of Joseph depicts a situation that shows how much value a moment has in our lives:



“Joseph’s faith and integrity were to be tested by fiery trials. His master’s wife endeavored to entice the young man to transgress the law of God. Heretofore he had remained untainted by the corruption teeming in that heathen land; but this temptation, so sudden, so strong, so seductive—how should it be met? Joseph knew well what would be the consequence of resistance. On the one hand were concealment, favor, and rewards; on the other, disgrace, imprisonment, perhaps death. **His whole future life depended upon the decision of the moment.** Would principle triumph? Would Joseph still be true to God? With inexpressible anxiety, angels looked upon the scene.

“Joseph’s answer reveals the power of religious principle. He would not betray the confidence of his master on earth, and, whatever the consequences, he would be true to his Master in heaven. Under the inspecting eye of God and holy angels many take liberties of which they would not be guilty in the presence of their fellow men, but Joseph’s first thought was of God. ‘How can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?’ he said.

“If we were to cherish an habitual impression that God sees and hears all that we do and say and keeps a faithful record of our words and actions, and that we must meet it all, we would fear to sin.” —*Conflict and Courage*, p. 75 [emphasis mine]

The Lord admonishes us through His servant: “Do not stop for one moment to reason. Satan would rejoice to see you overthrown by temptation. Do not stop to argue the case with your weak conscience. Turn away from the first step of transgression.” —*Counsels on Health*, p. 587

If we stay at the place of temptation and take a step into sin, we will finally find ourselves far from God. The way of return may be so hard that, more often than not, people have lost their way and perished.

Conclusion: “The pleasures of sin are the cords with which Satan binds men in his snares. Those who would rather die than perform a wrong act are the only ones who will be found faithful.” —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 53

Now is the time to re-think our position. Now is the time to draw closer to God than ever before. There is no time to waste. Let us take care of every moment. Overcoming one temptation is one step heavenward and prepares us for great victories in life. May God help us to do this and we will be with Him in the heavenly Canaan. Amen.

Joel Msiska

How Are the Mighty Fallen!



It often happens in a Christian's life that faithful men and women who have stood faithful for many years suddenly fall and lose the power of God and even become enemies of their former companions.

The fall happens suddenly, but before it occurs there has been a preparation for it. This is as the leaves of the trees which are green throughout the summer; then when the temperature gets colder in the autumn they fall off the trees. But before they fall there has been a change in their colour. They are not green anymore, but have changed their colours to brown, red and yellow. This change of colour takes time, while the fall is sudden.

This same process happens often in a Christian's life also. Slowly they lose their interest in missionary work, they do not pray to God as much as before, Bible reading becomes intermittent, and attending all the church meetings is not important anymore.

This happened in the time of Samuel. We read in 2 Samuel chapter 1, verses 19, 27: "How are the mighty fallen!"

The mightiest of all of God's creation was Lucifer. He was the wisest, and the most intelligent of all the angels, but he fell from the perfect, pure, and holy being into Satan, the Devil, the father of lies, and a murderer. He was able to deceive the third part of the angels in

heaven to join with him in his rebellion against God. He deceived Adam and Eve into disobedience toward God and today more than seven billion people in the world are on his side, while God has only a small flock who are still on His side.

Who can fall? Only he who is standing; the others have already fallen. "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." 1 Corinthians 10:12

Our message that we are proclaiming today is, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen." Revelation 18:2

The churches that are teaching errors are fallen, and from what have they fallen? "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace." Galatians 5:4

These religious organizations with millions of members have been built on the foundation of sand, and therefore they could not stand when the storms and rains came upon them. In the World Wars, members of the churches were pointing their weapons often against members of the same church to which they belonged.

The angel of the Laodicean church has fallen from grace, therefore God said, "I will spue thee out of My mouth." Revelation 3:16. And after this, what is left in the church? Only a form, and name, and empty ceremonies. Then it is true that, "the glory is departed from Israel." 1 Samuel 4:22

At the Minneapolis conference in 1888, two faithful young men proclaimed a powerful message to the nearly 100 delegates, of which not even one accepted their message at that time. But the sad thing is that both of these young men also lost their faith later on. E.J. Waggoner divorced his wife and remarried and was separated from his employment in the church. A.T. Jones, after 20 years of faithful employment for the church was separated from his employment and later from church membership.

A few years later the mighty truly did fall. In Europe, 98% of the members joined with their leaders in apos-

tasy while 2% remained faithful to God and refused to join the military service. And this 2% who did not fall became the foundation of our church, the International Missionary Society of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Reform Movement.

“As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel’s message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren. When Sabbathkeepers are brought before the courts to answer for their faith, these apostates are the most efficient agents of Satan to misrepresent and accuse them, and by false reports and insinuations to stir up the rulers against them. —*The Great Controversy*, p. 608

Ministers and pastors who for years had defended the truth, now became bitter enemies of those who stood faithful to God; professed Christians who had rejoiced in the truth now suddenly took their stand against the truth and against God.

Or was it suddenly? The change in colours had taken a longer time and then the fall took place suddenly. What had taken place earlier was that they lost their love to God and to their fellow men. “Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.” Revelation 2:4

Without this first love they could take weapons in their hands to kill their enemies.

Many causes for the fall are recorded in the Bible. “The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.” Proverbs 11:5

Another cause for the fall is riches. “He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.” Proverbs 11:28

Pride has caused many to fall, even spiritual pride, feeling that he is better than others. “Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.” Proverbs 16:18

Paul writes, “To day if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts.” Hebrews 3:7–8

“Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief.” Proverbs 28:14

Even the prophets fall sometimes. “Therefore shalt thou fall in the day, and the prophets also shall fall with thee in the night.” Hosea 4:5

Now the question comes, who shall be able to remain standing?

“But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for he is like a refiner’s fire, and like fullers’ soap.” Malachi 3:2

“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. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” Ephesians 6:12–13

Terrible is our enemy against whom we must fight and to remain standing. Paul wrote, “having done all to stand.”

Nothing less is sufficient. We must do all. And then we can stand. If anyone of us happens to fall, we do not need to remain fallen.

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord : and he delighteth in His way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with His hand.” Psalm 37:23–24

“The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down.” Psalm 145:14

Anyone that may have fallen down The Lord tells them, “Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.” Isaiah 60:1

Arise, shine; for the light of heaven has come upon us. We are to let this light shine all around us. We do not need to fall; the promise of God is to help us to remain standing. “Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.” Jude 24

We need to be like the evergreen trees. In the summer’s warmth and as well as in the winter’s cold they do not change their colours. We also can remain faithful in a time of peace as well as in the time of trial and persecution; we need not fall. Amen

Timo Martin

The Eye: Part 3

Nutrition for Eye Health



Protecting the health of your eyes begins with the food on your plate. Good nutrition helps our eyes to grow, repair wear and tear, protect against infection and to function properly.

A group of pigments or phytochemicals known as carotenoids provide foods with the colours yellow, orange and red. The most common carotenoids in the North American diet are alpha-carotene, beta-carotene, lutein, zeaxanthin, and lycopene. All of the carotenoids have been shown to improve the health of our eyes.

An eye condition called xerophthalmia, which is a common cause of childhood blindness in developing countries, is a good example of how nutrition and eye health go hand in hand. This condition is caused by a lack of vitamin A in a person's diet and could be prevented by eating fresh vegetables, fats and proteins which are high in vitamin A.

Most people have heard of beta-carotene as the main food source

that protects our eyes. Beta-carotene is actually a form of Vitamin A that gives foods like carrots their orange colour. Other good food sources of beta-carotene include sweet potatoes, yams, apricots, squash and pumpkin.

Lutein and zeaxanthin are the only carotenoids that are found in the macula region of the retina and in the lens of the eye, and are believed to absorb damaging light. These carotenoids are looked on as a natural sunblock. They absorb blue light, which is especially harmful to

the retina. The results of studies suggest that diets rich in these two carotenoids may help slow the development of macular degeneration and cataracts. These nutrients also help the eye detect contrast better, so eating foods rich in these compounds not only improves vision, but they help maintain your vision.

Leafy green vegetables such as spinach, collards and kale are packed with zeaxanthin and lutein. They are not the typical colour of carotenoids; actually the orange-coloured carotene is disguised as dark green by the chlorophyll in their leaves. Because these carotenoids are fat soluble, eating your greens with olive oil will help ensure that you absorb more of them. Just one cup of either of these cooked veggies is packed with more than 20 milligrams of lutein and zeaxanthin. Other sources include

turnip greens, mangos, corn, broccoli, green peas, oranges, romaine lettuce, eggs, and green beans.

Tomatoes are full of carotenoids, including lycopene, which give

tomatoes their vibrant red colour. If lycopene is present in eye tissues, it helps to prevent light damage to the retina and other areas of the eye. Lycopene is not easily absorbed from fresh tomatoes. Processed tomato products such as tomato sauce, or fresh tomatoes eaten with a little olive oil will help boost the absorption of lycopene. These nutrients also help the eyes detect contrast better, so eating foods in with these chemicals not only improves vision, but they help maintain your vision long term. Since both of these carotenoids are



fat-soluble, eating your greens with olive oil will help ensure that you absorb more of them. Tomatoes are also a good source of Vitamin C.

Zinc helps release Vitamin A from the liver so that it can be used in eye tissues. A zinc deficiency can cause deterioration of the macula at the center of the retina. Legumes such as chickpeas, lentils, and kidney beans are a good source of zinc in your diet. Egg yolks contain high concentrations of all three of the eye protective chemicals, including lutein, zeaxanthin and zinc.

Since all carotenoids are fat-soluble, foods containing these phytochemicals should be eaten with fats to ensure that you absorb more of the eye healthy compounds.

As we age, the small blood vessels in the eyes are very easily damaged by free radicals. Free radicals are formed as a byproduct of metabolism. As we get older the amount of free radicals in our bodies increases, contributing to many of the age-related diseases that mankind suffers from. To counteract this free radical damage, we need to have a diet rich in antioxidants.

In various studies, antioxidant vitamins found in certain foods have been linked with eye health. They help to maintain healthy cells and tissues in the eye. The main focus has been on the anti-oxidant vitamins A, C and E.

Vitamin C is a top antioxidant. Grapefruit, strawberries, Brussels sprouts, papayas, oranges and green peppers are superior sources of Vitamin C. In addition to its high content of vitamin C, broccoli (as well as many other fruits and vegetables) has been associated with decreased inflammation in the body through its abundance of antioxidant compounds. This, in turn, can improve overall eye health.

Vitamin E has also been shown as vital to eye health. Most people do not get enough Vitamin E in their diet. Good sources of Vitamin E are found in foods such as almonds, pistachios, pecans, sunflower seeds, wheat germ oil, and vegetable oils. Eat just one ounce of sunflower seeds or almonds, and you'll earn more than a third of the recommended daily value of vitamin E. Pistachios are the only nut to contain any significant amounts of the lutein and zeaxanthin so they are the healthiest of the nuts. They also contain significant amounts of vitamin E. The fats in pistachios also helped to boost the absorption of carotenoids. Selenium increases the effectiveness of vitamin E in the body. Brazil nuts are the highest source of selenium in the world, because of the soil that they are grown in. Mushrooms,

asparagus, tofu, brown rice, sesame seeds, sunflower seeds, cabbage and spinach are also good sources of selenium.

People who supplemented their diet with these foods experience about a 25% reduction in the risk of developing macular degeneration. Researchers also say that eating foods rich in antioxidants is better than taking supplements. With a good balanced diet that includes sufficient fresh fruits and vegetables there should be no need to use supplements.

Garlic And Onions: Sulphur-rich garlic and onions are important for the production of glutathione, which is an important sulphur-containing protein that acts as an antioxidant for the lens of the eye. Raising one's glutathione levels is key to prevent and heal visual problems such as macular degeneration, glaucoma or cataracts.

Blueberries: Eating blueberries has been associated with the reduction of eye fatigue. As well as having the eye-healthy carotenoids lutein and zeaxanthin, blueberries contain anthocyanins, phytochemicals which have been shown to improve night vision. They also contain flavonoids like rutin, resveratrol and quercetin which may have preventative effects on macular degeneration. Blueberries also contain minerals necessary for proper vision including selenium and zinc.



However, research has shown that many people do not get enough vitamins and minerals from their diet. Some people might consider taking a supplement for their general and eye health when:

- their diet does not include enough fresh fruit and vegetables
- diet does not include enough vitamins and minerals
- vitamins and minerals from food are not adequately absorbed by the body
- It is hard to obtain or prepare fresh fruit and vegetables
- they have been told to take a supplement by their doctor or nutritionist.

However, experts agree that taking supplements is not a substitute for a healthy diet.

Foods to avoid, to protect our eye health are trans fats and saturated fats. These fats damage blood vessels all over our body by creating areas of clots and plaque, restricting the blood flow. Because our eyes are so full of very small blood vessels, our eyes can be easily damaged when blood flow is reduced to the vital areas of the eyes. On the other hand, Omega-3 fatty acids can help protect the tiny blood vessels in our eyes. A healthy source of fats is olive oil. Not only is olive oil free of trans fats and is low in saturated fats, research shows that those who consumed the most olive oil were 48% less likely to develop macular degeneration.

SUPPLEMENTS

There are also many supplements that can boost eye health, especially in those people who have a family history of eye disease or if they have worsening eyesight for whatever reason. Anyone who wants to boost their diet in eye-healthy nutrients can

take supplements such as Lutein, beta-carotene, Vitamin A, C, E, copper or zinc. There are supplements available that specifically promote eye health, containing all the various essential vitamins, minerals and phytochemicals that enhance eyesight, therefore you can get all what you need for eye health in just one bottle.

If you take a supplement of Vitamin A, do not take more than the Recommended Daily Allowance unless recommended by your doctor. High doses of Vitamin A have been associated with birth defects, lower bone density, and liver problems. However, beta-carotene does not have the same toxic effects as "preformed" Vitamin A (from animal sources) and there are no suggested upper daily limits on beta-carotene. Check your supplement bottle to determine whether the vitamin A is from a beta-carotene source or a preformed source.

Taking a zinc supplement may deplete the body of copper. Many zinc supplements include copper as an ingredient. Check to ensure that your supplement does contain both zinc and copper.

The Age-Related Eye Disease Study found that participants with some degree of Macular Degeneration reduced their risk of developing advanced MD by 25% by taking a daily supplement containing beta-carotene, vitamin E, vitamin C, zinc, and copper for 5 years. It would be very hard to obtain the large quantity of vitamins that the trial suggests from food. Therefore some people who have MD may consider supplementation

with vitamins and anti-oxidants. Such high dosages of vitamins and minerals might have possible side effects on the body. For this reason it is very important to consult your doctor first before taking a supplement.

Certain herbs and natural remedies can also be used. Marigolds are high in lutein, zeaxanthin and lycopene, and can be used as a tea (note that these are bright orange and yellow flowers), or as a compress to reduce swelling in inflamed or infected eyes.

An herb called eyebright (euphrasia) and charcoal poultices can be used for the redness, swelling, and visual disturbances caused by infections of the eyelid (blepharitis) and conjunctiva (pink eye). A way to treat eyestrain is to use eyebright. Take a towel and soak it in eyebright tea. Lie down and place the warm towel over your closed eyes and leave it there for 10 to 15 minutes. It will take your eyestrain away. Be very careful not to pour the tea directly into the eyes.



Extractions of bilberry, a berry similar to the blueberry, seem particularly useful in treating eye conditions. People with diabetic retinopathy that took bilberry extract showed signs of strengthening of blood vessels in the retina and reduced hemorrhaging. In addition they are used to treat cataracts, night blindness, and macular degeneration.

"The eye is clouded by ambition, avarice, and gain without godliness. . . . The soul starves and becomes dwarfed for want of spiritual food, the fresh manna from heaven." –*The Signs of the Times*, December 1, 1887

As our physical eye needs proper nourishment to maintain clear eyesight, our spiritual eye must be centered heavenward, and feed on spiritual food, otherwise it will become clouded by the things of this world and we will no longer be able to see with the eye of faith, the things which God is doing on our behalf in bringing us to salvation. "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in Me." Acts 26:18

REST

This morning as I was working on the things my heart sensed was right to do, I came across a Man, Oh, so serene. Lovingly, caringly He said to me, come; enter thou My rest dear one; whereas I see you are working very hard, but come, come into My rest.

Oh my Friend, said I, I cannot stop as I so want to do my part. Graciously, yet imploringly persisted He: Come, come into My rest and stop your works of righteousness.

Then He opened to me a plan already seemingly in place, assuring me that it is for all nations, kindreds, tongues and people. For proof He showed me the *scar* in His hand and side and told me that it was truly His labor of love.

What! I exclaimed, Friend, I pressed, I came to realize, though I was never ever told that we will need a sacrifice, but now I must just stop? Must I just render mere devotedness and go in without this sacrifice?

Yes, He earnestly replied; just enter now My rest and that is all you do, as no one else can do that work but me, and it is now complete.

This time He showed me His wounded feet and tenderly declared: Son, I had trodden it all alone.

**Wearily yet trustingly in faith and love I cried:
Oh My Savior and my God I believe, I now enter Your rest.**

Rose Powell

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CHILDREN'S CORNER

The Sabbath Throughout History

(Part 2)

THE SABBATH DURING THE DARK AGES

The time period from 538 A.D. to 1798 A.D. is known as the Dark Ages. During this time, the light of the truth was almost extinguished, as only a few had access to the word of God in their own language or had the learning to read Latin. The Roman Catholic Church reigned supreme, as church and state became united into one. Although there was little or no light of the truth, the Sabbath was observed throughout this time.

In the fourth century the Roman Emperor, Constantine and his followers converted to Christianity from Sun worship. In order to keep the favour of the heathen, Constantine took many heathen traditions and gave them Christian significance. The biggest and probably most significant was the changing of the holy Sabbath to Sunday. The Catholic Church adopted Sunday as their official day of worship in the fourth century A.D. The Council of Laodiceans “transferred” the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday. The Catholic Church instituted many idolatrous practices and marked them as Christian. Those are just a few of the new doctrines that the Catholic Church introduced. “And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.” Daniel 7:25

As time moved on, the Catholic Church gained power; so much power, in fact, that they were appointing the rulers and kings of the European nations at the time. This meant that they had a large amount of power over the common people. Laws were set into place that everyone who professed Christianity must worship on Sunday in the churches. All those who taught God’s word

were charged with heresy, tortured, put in prison or put to death. The Crusade for the extinction of heretics is a good example of how much power and influence the church had over the nations.

By the crusade for the extinction of heretics, as various as the explanations of this term may be, has been established the fact that some did keep the Sabbath of Jehovah. Rome spared no efforts to urge the princes to assist in the extinction of the heretics, and to prevent their spreading. When the princes of southern France could not consent to butcher thousands of industrious and orderly people, Pope Innocent III ordered a general crusade against the heretics, and full indulgence for their sins to such as would engage in this “holy” warfare. The observers of the Sabbath are classified here as the circumcised. King Louis IX published (A.D. 1229) the Statute “Cupientes”, in which he charges himself with the duty to clear southern France from heretics, and in order to bring this about he offers rewards for their discovery.

The Catholics sought to change God’s law. They removed the Second Commandment, changed the Fourth Commandment, and split the Tenth Commandment into two separate commandments.

Most of the people during these times did not know the true day on which to worship. The church did its best to hide God’s true law from the people. They changed the Bibles from the common languages to Greek and Latin, so that only the priests and others who had the education could understand them. Very few of these learned men ever tried to bring the truth to the common people. Those few who did only had little pieces of God’s full law. However, there were still a few who kept the true Sabbath. One of the first conversions recorded in

the book of the Acts is that of the Ethiopian eunuch, the treasurer of Queen Candace. Two Alexandrian missionaries are said to have founded the Abyssinian church in the fourth century. As time moved on, another religious sect, the Mohammedans, began to pressure this Sabbath-keeping church. Soon, the Abyssinians lost their doctrine, and the Bible became a dead book to them.

God's law has never changed. His word is everlasting and He is unchanging. The Sabbath law existed during the Dark Ages even if the Catholic Church and Satan tried to change the day and how it was observed. Although many people during these dark times never learned of the Sabbath, they still had some fragments of the truth. They will all be judged according to what they knew.

The seal of God in the Ten Commandments is the Sabbath. It shows who God is, what type of God He is and where He reigns. If we receive this seal, God will claim us as His own. The mark of the beast is given to those who worship on Sunday and truly believe it or those who do what the Catholic Church commands.

It is my wish and prayer that we may all obey the laws of the Sabbath, and that we will obey the Sabbath even when the Sunday law comes again, that we may not receive the mark of the beast. Amen.

Cyrus Newby

THE SABBATH LIGHT IN EARLY ADVENTISM

Washington, New Hampshire is generally regarded as the place where Sabbath-keeping was first preached by the Adventists. Rachel Oakes, a Seventh-Day Baptist, distributed publications among the Adventists there.

In 1846, Elder Joseph Bates rested on Saturday—the 7th day. He had travelled to Washington, New Hampshire and heard the message. He told Sister White that it was the true Sabbath. At the time she did not worship on the 7th day.

But then she had a vision and saw the sanctuary in heaven. She saw the ark of God covered with the mercy seat and the law of God. Jesus raised the cover of the ark and she saw the stone on which the Ten Commandments were written. She saw the 4th commandment in the very centre of the Ten Commandments with a soft halo of light encircling it.

Sister White was shown that if the true Sabbath had been kept, there would never have been an infidel or an atheist, but the 4th commandment has been trampled on and man thought to change times and laws by moving the day of worship from the 7th day to the 1st day of the week.



Originally, the Adventists kept the Sabbath from Friday at 6:00 p.m. to Saturday at 6:00 p.m. until it was understood, in 1855, that it was to be from sunset to sunset.

The importance of Sabbath keeping was shown to Sister White. True Sabbath keeping was to be a consecrated time and the edges of the Sabbath were to be jealously guarded. Friday was referred to as the “preparation day”.

Sister White says that the sick and suffering should be cared for on the Sabbath. All unnecessary work should be avoided.

While cooking should be avoided, it is not necessary to eat cold food. The meals, though simple, should be palatable and attractive and be regarded as a treat for the family that they do not have every day.

Sister White's family would gather around the family circle and welcome in the Sabbath on Friday evening with prayer and song. The Sabbath was a special day for worship—a day of joy for them and their children. They also visited the sick and needy.

James and Ellen White liked to sing and would often sing songs. Also, nature walks were done on Sabbath afternoons whenever they could go out.

The Whites made the Sabbath a day of delight. They talked about the wonders of God's creation and made it interesting for the children.

The Sabbath was a special day for the Advent people

and it continues to be a special day for God's people today. Amen.

Tiffany Bessec

THE SABBATH IN OUR TIME TODAY

Sabbath today, on the 7th day of the week, is the same as it was in Eden, in Israel and Jesus' time and kept by the Adventists in Sister White's time. It is *still* the *same* as before. Sabbath observance has not changed. It is part of God's law and that cannot change.

We are counseled that we need to be preparing for Sabbath during the week. Houses are to be cleaned and clothes repaired and cleaned. On Friday, cooking should be done and baths are to be taken *before* Friday sunset when the Sabbath starts. All secular work, business and school should be set aside.

On Sabbath, Sister White says, we should attend services for worship with other believers. This is why we come to church.

She also says to take children outdoors to view God in nature. Also deeds of mercy are in harmony with the Sabbath.

God will not hold us guiltless who neglects to relieve suffering on the Sabbath. God does not desire His creatures to suffer an hour's pain that may be relieved upon the Sabbath or any other day.

Another point Sister White makes is that unnecessary travel should be avoided.

Sabbath keeping has not changed, *but* today there are more temptations to break the Sabbath as has never been before.

We are counseled not to do our own pleasure or speak our own words. So, what are the temptations today that were not in Sister White's time or before? Well, we have the television and the Internet and many books, etc. It is so easy to text your friends or check your email. But is that not doing your own pleasure?

We should enjoy nature and read good books. Sister White says that God has given men six days wherein to labour and He requires that their own work be done in the six working days. Acts of necessity and mercy are permitted on the Sabbath. The sick and suffering are at all times to be cared for, and unnecessary labour is to be strictly avoided. The commandment includes all within our gates. Those living in your house are to lay aside their worldly business during the sacred hours.

All should unite to honour God by willing service upon His Holy day.

The person who keeps the Sabbath as God would have it kept must be at peace with God. Sabbath not only provides the body with rest, but the spirit. The body, soul and spirit must, for that day, be used in God's service and everything worldly be shut out.

So long as heaven and earth endure, the Sabbath will continue as a sign of the Creator's power. There will be people, 144,000 exactly, who stand justified and who have proven that the Sabbath can be kept under the most adverse circumstances.

In the New Earth, God's holy rest day will be honoured by all. "From one Sabbath to another" the inhabitants of the glorified new earth shall go up "to worship before Me, saith the Lord."

Let us always remember to keep the Sabbath day holy is my wish and prayer. Amen.

James Bessec

CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

"Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us." 1 Samuel 7:12

It is with great joy to extend this cordial and fraternal invitation to all believers in the same present truth to attend the upcoming Centennial Commemoration of Faithfulness to the Three Angel's messages.

This event will take place from July 30th to August 3, 2014 at the World Headquarters of the IMS SDA Church Reform Movement, 625 West Avenue, Cedartown, GA, USA. A program outlining the topics and speakers will be made available in the near future.

Evangelistic Outreach

London, Canada



We want to thank everyone for their prayers and support for our last Evangelistic Outreach in London. This series of meetings was held from May 20th to May 31st, 2014. Our theme, “Jesus Seeking the Lost” was based on Luke 15. At these meetings, the truth was presented that there is still opportunity for all who are lost to be found by Jesus in the study of His word, the Bible. There were ten new souls in attendance who had never been to any of our evangelistic meetings before. Through the messages we were blessed with hope and inspired to have courage to continue on our heavenward journey. Personally, I felt the Spirit of God moving on my heart while I presented the messages. My whole family, together with the little group here in London, have been blessed by God. I want to personally thank Br. Mike Newby and Br. Chester Cosby and their families as they responded to my invitation to come and help us on Sabbath. Also I thank Br. Evald and Sister Franziska Pedersen for their willingness to come during the week and encourage the work here in London as well as on Sabbath. And finally, I want to thank the Canadian Field for both financial and spiritual support. May God richly bless us as we continue to work for the Lord. Please pray for me and also for these new souls because my work has not finished—it has just begun.

In Christ,

Nicholas Anca





was established.” —*Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White*, p. 228

The Lord has planted His banner in Haiti; the Captain of our salvation is fighting the battle for His people that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

My journey to Haiti began long before the actual date of April 16, 2014, when I took the flight from Montego Bay to Miami and then finally to the capital city of Port-Au-Prince. It began when I received an email from Brother Larry Watts on behalf of the General Conference on Tuesday, March 25, 2014 asking if I could help in Haiti. I immediately answered the email and told him, “yes, I can help.”

“In vision I saw two armies in terrible conflict. One army was led by banners bearing the world’s insignia; the other was led by the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel. Standard after standard was left to trail in the dust, as company after company from the Lord’s army joined the foe, and tribe after tribe from the ranks of the enemy united with the commandment-keeping people of God. An angel flying in the midst of heaven put the standard of Emmanuel into many hands, while a mighty general cried out with a loud voice: ‘Come into line. Let those who are loyal to the commandments of God and the testimony of Christ now take their position. Come out from among them, and be ye separate, and touch not the unclean, and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters. Let all who will, come up to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty.’

“The battle raged. Victory alternated from side to side. Now the soldiers of the cross gave way, ‘as when a standard-bearer fainteth.’ Isaiah 10:18. But their apparent retreat was but to gain a more advantageous position. Shouts of joy were heard. A song of praise to God went up, and angel voices united in the song, as Christ’s soldiers planted His banner on the walls of fortresses till then held by the enemy. The Captain of our salvation was ordering the battle, and sending support to His soldiers. His power was mightily displayed, encouraging them to press the battle to the gates. He taught them terrible things in righteousness as He led them on step by step, conquering and to conquer.

“At last the victory was gained. The army following the banner with the inscription, ‘The commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus,’ was gloriously triumphant. The soldiers of Christ were close beside the gates of the city, and with joy the city received her King. The kingdom of peace and joy and everlasting righteousness

The preparation then began in earnest, booking the flight, getting the traveling bags etc., but there were many unanswered questions plaguing my mind, such as, “have I committed too quickly? Will I become sick with malaria, cholera or other diseases? Will there be an earthquake, flood or political upheaval? Will I be safe?” And still there were more questions. “What will I EAT? What are the citizens like, especially our members?”

As the time drew near for me to leave the warmth and love of my daughter, wife and church family in Jamaica there was great trepidation; however, this foreboding was minimized by prayers and support of my family and the believers. So, on April 16, 2014, I went to Haiti. I was met at the airport by Brother Simon Beaubrun who has become my uncle, guide and protector.

God in His infinite mercy had made a way to lessen my fear in Haiti. The driver of the van that took us to the place we were staying while in Port-Au-Prince had been in the USA for thirty years, he spoke perfect English and Jamaican also, because his girlfriend was a Jamaican and his brother married a Jamaican.

We spent the night of April 16th in Port-Au-Prince, waking up before daylight on the next day to travel to Cap-Haïtien. The first mode of transportation we took was in the back of a truck and then in a little van where seven people sat on either side facing each other. Brother Simon kept apologizing for the conditions of the state of transportation and other things but I was enjoying it. To reach Cap-Haïtien from Port-Au-Prince we had to travel more than six hours on the bus. The scenery in many of the places reminded me of Jamaica. Many of the trees, flowers and fruits are the same. The roads are in a state of disrepair and there is a roadway that goes around like a maze, however goes higher and

higher; there is a precipice below with no retaining walls.

Many of the houses are built in a rectangular shape giving them the appearance of a church building; you can see that the people are poor by the way they live. The streets are dirty. They have water and electricity problems. The infrastructure is atrocious but the people are strong, resourceful and kind. Brother Simon and I reached Cap-Haitien after 1 p.m. Brother Josaphat who is our Bible worker in that area met us at the bus stop and took us to the place where we would be staying for the weekend.

Throughout the rest of the day I had some meetings with Brothers Simon and Josaphat. We continued to have these meeting the following day, Friday, April 18, 2014.

Sabbath, April 19, 2014 was a very special day for the believers and friends of the Reform Movement in Cap-Haitien and Haiti. We were able to worship for the first time in a building which belongs to the International Missionary Society Seventh-day Adventist Church Reform Movement. The day began with beautiful singing led by Brother Simon. Brother Josaphat led out with the Sabbath School.

The second service was the dedication of the property to the glory of God, our Father, by whose favour we have bought this place to build His house, to the honor of Jesus, the Son of the Living God, Our Lord and Saviour, to the work of the Holy Spirit, Minister of life and light. We dedicated the place for the help of the needy, for the relief of the distressed, for the defense of God's Sabbath and for the hastening of the coming of Christ. With these words ringing in our ears we knew our Lord was near unto us. This service was rich with beautiful songs and hymns, the reading of the word of the Lord, the dedicatory sermon and the Act of dedication. At the end of the service refreshments were served. There were about 25 people in attendance.

On Sunday, April 20, 2014 Brother Simon and I were on the road going to Saint Marc, about three hours from Cap-Haitien. Saint Marc is exhilarating and terrifying at the same time because in Saint Marc the public transportation is motorbikes. People rode them without any protective gear and sometimes there were four to five people on one motorcycle. Since there are scarcely any stoplights or road traffic police, every man is a law to himself.

For my protective uncle (Brother Simon) and I to get around, we had to ride on one of these things without

any protective gear. We had a lot to do in this city, people to study with and our church building to inspect, so, off we went, the two of us, as pillions on the back of one of these bikes to visit our building site just outside the city. Approximately three-



quarters of the church building is finished, however, it needs a few more blocks, windows, doors, roof, flooring and toilets. The people of Saint Marc are anxiously



waiting for the building to be completed, so that they can worship, as they don't believe in worship-

ping at homes but in a church building.

We went back to city after inspecting the building. We visited an Adventist home where a family of six has accepted our message. The father told me that he is one of the first people to accept our message and he is very happy; this family is helping with the construction of the building without asking for money. At this house about 14 people gathered to hear the word of God. Through God's power we were able to speak to them about the love of God and His beautiful Sabbath. They had questions about the Sabbath and other holy days. They were told that there were other holy days in the Bible but these pointed to Christ and His ministry and when He died they were nailed to the cross. There are great prospects in this city and we need to have a Bible worker stationed there to maintain the interest.

On Monday April 21, 2014 we were up early to travel to Port-Au-Prince. We made our final stops by visiting a few people and praying with them. We then took the motorbikes to the bus park to travel to the capital of Haiti.

The journey to the capital city was uncomfortable. In

the bus there were about eight or nine people at the front beside the driver. At the house in Port-Au-Prince we had a meeting with the household.

Following a good night's rest we were off to Fond Michel #1 where our Bible worker, Brother Andreus Joseph lives, and where most of our members in Haiti are. I had some meetings with Brother Andreus and visited a former sister who has gone to the '51 movement. It is the first time I have had a conversation with a person from that church. The Bible text of 2 Timothy 3:5-7 states, "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lust, ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth," came to mind when I look back at the situation.

On Wednesday, April 23, 2014, Brothers Simon, Andreus, the engineer and I visited the site where the General Conference plans to build a church. In conversation with the engineer (who is an Adventist from Saint Marc and has an interest in our message) and others, I suggested that we need to build a multipurpose facility and not just a church building. The believers are in dire need of a place to have rooms for a school, cooking classes, a children's Sabbath school class, and housing for visiting missionaries and official visitors.

The afternoon of Wednesday April 23 saw us climbing the hills of Fond Michel #2. The hills are steep and the view is breathtaking.



We arrived after stopping to meet Brother Raynold Estimat who is the leader and teacher of our church and school. The church building is 3/4 finished; the land where the church is

being built was donated to the Church by Brother Raynold's father.

To describe the school is very emotion-laden. The building is a shack about 10' 7" X 18', made with what seems to be rice bags, and houses approximately 45 students and two teachers. It has no restroom for the

children. They have to use the bushes behind the building to relieve themselves. No school like this should con-



tinue to be in our church and no child should have to learn in such conditions. Throughout the evening and early morning we had meetings with Brother Raynold and his family.

Early on April 24, we went to the school to meet the students and teachers. The children were decked out in their uniforms and well-groomed. It is heartening to see these children trying to learn under these conditions.

We all returned to Brother Raynold's home where we had something to eat, talk for a while and then we headed downhill to Fond Michel #1.

Friday April 25, 2014 was relaxing in comparison to the other days. We had morning worship and studied our Sabbath school lesson. During the day, we had a meeting with the secretary of the church and made preparations for Sabbath. To welcome the Sabbath we went to the place where they worship. This place is very small with one door and a few windows made from decorating blocks, located on the edge of a cliff with the main road below. It is very frightening, watching the children going to and fro.



Sabbath April 26, 2014, O day of rest and gladness! O day of joy and light! Indeed it was a high Sabbath as God's people gathered together at our little church in Fond Michel #1. We knew heaven was happy that the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel was planted in Haiti and that the gates of hell will not prevail. The building was filled to capacity with about 40 believers and friends.

We had a marvelous Sabbath School but there was no Sabbath School Class for the children because they had no place to go. Following the Sabbath School we journeyed about 16 miles to the river. The water was a little murky but this did not stop the four dear souls from making their covenant with the Lord through baptism. Only a few brethren could attend the service because of the distance and the lack of transportation. We had the acceptance of these four souls with three others; two were baptized in February by Brother Watts and one was from the Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

We were able to have a mini-baptism within the walls of the church. The old members and the newly baptized members were able to wash one another's feet and partook of the Lord's Supper. This wonderful service was followed by lunch, which the believers had to eat inside the church because they had no other place to go.

A band of believers traveled downhill to the piece of land the church has, where they hope, and I say, that the Church of God around the world *must* help, to build. (I do hope it will happen soon. They are in dire need). At the site we had a dedication service—*not* a ground-breaking service, since a ground-breaking service was not appropriate to be done on the Sabbath. This could be done in the future.

After the dedication service, the faithful people (I called them the people of sacrifice) slowly journeyed uphill to their little church, their haven, where we had a question-and-answer session. The questions were mostly about marriage and discipline in that matter. The close of the Sabbath came too quickly. They wanted to ask more questions, however, the session had to come to an end because of the lack of electricity and also because we were to have a member's meeting to deal with pressing matters. I will always remember the brethren of Fond Michel and the Sabbath I spent with them. They are poor but they are dignified and they treat others with respect. They bore their sacrifice with joy, love and a smile. They worship at a place where they have no restroom facilities, no space to do things we take for granted, but they worship the God of heaven with enthusiasm and love. They have little, but they give all.

I had to say good-bye to them which was very difficult

because I had come to love and respect them. Our last night in Fond Michel #1 went quickly and by 5:00 a.m. we were up to travel to Port-Au-Prince with Brother Andreus accompanying us. We reached our destination about two hours later.

In Port-Au-Prince, at the house of Brother and Sister Beaubrun Jostaine, we had a study with a group of 20 people. Three are already worshiping with the group in the capital city on Sabbath.

In Haiti the oldest male relative in the family has power over the rest of family. One of the three that worship with our people in Port-Au-Prince is the head of his family and is able to encourage the members of his family to worship with us.

The study was about the Signs of the Times and their relationship to the Sabbath. After the study, questions were asked and through the help of God, Brothers Simon, Andreus and I were able to answer their questions

On Monday, April 28, 2014, we said good bye to Haiti. I had no malaria, cholera or other diseases, and there were no earthquakes, floods or any other disasters. I returned home in good health. My foreboding was un-called for.

Who is willing to work in the Lord's vineyard in Haiti? Who will give of themselves, their time and talents? Who will answer, "Here am I, send me?" To whom will it be said "Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungred, and ye gave Me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took Me in: naked, and ye clothed Me: I was sick, and ye visited Me: I was in prison, and ye came unto Me." Matthew 25:34-36

I pray that the Lord will impress upon us the urgency of the need of our brethren in Haiti and that we will do all that we can to answer their call.

May the Lord richly bless us and Godspeed.

George Gowie, Jamaica (more photos next page)



Haiti Calling



**Children at school
in Fond Michel #2.
School building is
in the
background.**



**Above Left: Group in Cap-Haitien. Above Right: Believers in Port-Au-Prince
Below: Baptism in Fond Michel**



**Below Left: George Gowie
Jamaica**

**Below Right: Church members
in Fond Michel #1**



Workers Seminar, Nyangena, Kisii, KENYA



Roll it unto Christ!

Behold the striking golden glow
Spread over rolling, verdant hills,
That springtime caused to grow,
To give your eyes and heart glad thrills.

Come, see and take a closer look,
To learn from nature's lesson book.
Revealing the Creator's power,
On the face of every blooming flower.

They say: our presence is to cheer,
Wake hope, new joy in you to bring.
By His appointment we are here,
Arousing weary hearts to sing.

Though hail and rain may knock us down,
Blasting winds make known their frown,
We cannot flee from our given spot,
Thus we endure to stand our lot.

The Saviour's care is keeping us,
To shield from being broken,
Be still O soul, and yield to trust!
God's gift we are to you and token.

The crushing burden on your way
Roll unto Christ – to Him they're ease –
Unload yourself – cast them away –
Trust fully Him – the Prince of Peace!

By Edda Tedford, Canada



Composed for a friend in USA, where the hills in her surroundings are carpeted in spring with yellow Balsamorhiza flowers, to cheer her, or anyone troubled or discouraged.