



*The Reformation*  
**Messenger**  
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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.

## **"CAUGHT UP"—WHEN?**

This simply does not add up!

I will seek in these first two paragraphs to briefly explain a theory that sees millions of fundamentalist evangelical believers using 1 Thessalonian 4:16–18 and Matthew 24:40–41 as their reason for preparing for a major phenomenon called "The Rapture" where, according to them, those in the "Church" who are ready, will suddenly disappear, essentially "snatched away" into the air. Pilots leaving planes unmanned; motorists in the middle of the highway—gone; two people together—one suddenly taken; housewives etc. nowhere to be found "caught up" in the air leaving behind absolute chaos. Why? Because, according to them, Jesus came in the first of a two-part coming, where in the first one He will secretly "snatch away" believers to avoid the cataclysmic, most dreadful experience known as "the Tribulation"—the ultimate apocalypse—ushering in the end of the world. Armageddon!

In the meanwhile, according to these spurious charismatic interpreters of prophecy, those who have not prepared themselves will be left behind on earth; given a second chance to be saved after the rapture out of which some having suffered greatly (fulfilling Revelation 9 as interpreted by them), repents and now seek to evangelize the others who also were left behind, lasting for a period of seven years. Jesus then comes again—this time visibly and audibly.

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### **ABOUT THE COVER**

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Shocking! I wonder who John Darby, the presumed founder of this atrocious theory, got his message from and why did men like Hal Lindsay in the 1970s, Harold Camping as late as 2011, self-made interpreters of prophecy, popularize it as gospel? I believe we know why and who really is the author behind it.

I turn to you, the Reader, does this sound logical to you? Is this truth? Do the Scriptures support this? Furthermore, if you look from cover to cover, would you find the word “rapture”? I assure you it is not found anywhere in the word of God—somewhere along the line it became synonymous with the word “caught up”. Finally, are these just misguided Christians? Could it be that it goes deeper than sincere believers, carried about with every wind of doctrine, seeking to follow; seeking at all cost to go to heaven, even going further than the overwhelming number of charismatic preachers, after swallowing this preposterous error, passes it on to unwitting church folks?

The whole idea is arguably, quite dangerous at best—unscriptural on all counts; mere sensationalism to those who know the truth. One thing, I must give credit where credit is due. Christ is indeed coming back the second time, according to the scripture—the prophetic way-mark, and, accordingly, God’s true commandment-keeping people will indeed be “caught up” to meet the LORD in the air, but what is in question is when and how, as on the other end of the spectrum millions have embraced a human erroneous theory and will argue to the bitter end, but can this flawed theory hold up to the searchlight of truth, where every column, when tested by the weighted evidence of truth of the Bible crumbles? The real question is: Is there a bigger player in the market of deception that is shrewdly behind this? As it were, an accomplished, calculating deceptive system? Could it be that this certain system, pushing this teaching is seeking to undermine a most far reaching, a most solid prophecy as found in Daniel 8:14 by taking the last seven years of the 490 years and putting it at the end of the 2300 days to take the heat off themselves, while telling unwitting sincere believers to look to the future—futurism at its finest—a sly way out? Could it be that Daniel 7:24-25 is hot on the trail of this

system, where the prophecy finds an answering chord, fitting every specification? Yet it is not convenient, as there is too much at stake, so, to ward off any possible connection, any pessimism, where the anti-Christ is squarely identified, then an erroneous theory had to be had—Darby’s theory was the answer—brought to the market place as “meat in due season” where the buyers gullibly without money, without price receives it; where it was never brought to market previously when Gods true people were traveling the old path.

In conclusion, in my opinion, the real need, “since the horse is already gone through the gate,” so to speak, is to seek sincere souls so that with the help of the Holy Spirit the whole truth and nothing but the truth be



told, where they will be taught that Christ’s return will be literal, audible and imminent; that there will be no second chance; that all who are fitting themselves up in righteousness will go through the great tribulation but our bread and water shall be sure; where they will understand the true meaning of 1 Thessalonians 4:17, namely: *“The LORD Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord”*. In addition, to let

them know that the “one” taken, as stated by Christ in Matthew 24:40–41 will undoubtedly be the wicked as in Noah’s day to which He earlier had used as an example. Finally, where they will find that that last week (seven years) of the 490 years is all about Christ and Him crucified, where between Him and His disciples, confirmed the covenant for one week—a wonderful study, where they will find that it is not an opinion but a Biblically supported fact, not put to the end of the 2300 days (years) but simple the completion of the 490 prophetic years.

It begs the question: Who will go, since many will need time to unlearn what they have learned. Who?

*-Rose Powell*



The image shows a white dove in flight, its wings spread wide, flying over an open book that lies on a green field. The background is a soft-focus landscape with a blue sky and distant hills. The title 'The Holy Spirit's Work' is overlaid on the image in a white, outlined, serif font.

# The Holy Spirit's Work

The night of Jesus' betrayal was a night when He needed the disciples more than any other night. He knew that beginning with this night and continuing through the Passover, He, as the Lamb of God, would die for the sins of the world.

In the Garden of Gethsemane, He felt the weight of the sin of the world. The disciples are sleeping when prayer was needed as it is written that, in the Garden, Jesus' "heart and soul are breaking under the load of sin." – *The Signs of the Times*, December 9, 1897. "The divine light of God was receding from His vision, and He was passing into the hands of the power of darkness. . . . The wrath that would have fallen upon man, was now falling upon Christ." – *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, p. 203

That night, of all the nights, He needed His friends more than at any other time. Have you ever been in a situation where you needed your friends to be with you for support? Have you ever felt the necessity of opening your heart and talking to your best friend? For Jesus, sadly, that night His friends, the disciples, were not connecting with what He was going through at all. Prior to this Jesus knew that they needed a friend after He would leave the earth, and so He began talking with them about the Holy Spirit. He shared with them how the Holy Spirit would be in His place—the true Vicar of Christ, and how He would ask for the Father to send the Holy Spirit to be with them. There are three chapters in the Gospel of John, chapters 14, 15 and 16, written

about the Holy Spirit and His work in us.

Jesus said in John 14:16 "And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever." And verse 17, the last part; listen to this statement made by Jesus Himself, "for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Now, this is an important statement, because Jesus initially said that the Holy Spirit will be with you, but now He says He will be (or dwell) "in you". This is an important change from "with" to "in".

The Holy Spirit was *with* them throughout the ministry of Jesus—now He would be *in* them after Jesus left. Wonder of wonders that God desires to live "in us"; not just "with us". In the Gospel of Matthew there is recorded a prophecy which was fulfilled regarding the coming of the Messiah that was first given through the prophet Isaiah 800 years earlier. "Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14. Regarding the name Immanuel we read in Matthew 1:23, last part; ". . . which being interpreted is, God with us." This was fulfilled when Jesus came and dwelt among them; and after His ascension Jesus promised to dwell in them through His representative, the Holy Spirit.

So that night, just prior to His Gethsemane experience, He promised that the Holy Spirit would come to dwell in them. He called the Holy Spirit, "the Spirit of Truth". The Spirit of Truth reveals Jesus and His truth. Jesus

said in John 14:6, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.”

Everyone who has decided to be more faithful to Jesus Christ, to show more kindness than before, to pray with tears for the work of God, has been moved by the Holy Spirit. This Holy Spirit is a wise and gentle part of the Godhead or Divinity. It is He that also inspired the writing of the Bible. Very little is said about Himself. Why? Because He exalts Jesus and His truth.

Why do we need the Holy Spirit? The Apostle Paul said to the Corinthians, “But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness to him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as to babes in Christ. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?” 1 Corinthians 2:14–15; 3:1, 3. Here we find much important truth. What the Apostle said is that there are three stages:

1. One is the sinful man or natural man.
2. The spiritual, or he that is spiritual.
3. The carnal person, or spiritual in theory, but sinful in practice.

For this reason Paul said to the Corinthians, I cannot speak to you as anything but carnal people—people who are professing to be Christians, but in their personal lives their behavior did not correspond with their profession.

We can break this down in these two ways as there are two natures leading to these stages of experience. The sinful nature leads to a carnal or fleshly experience. The spiritual nature is able to war against the sinful nature which will lead to a perfect and glorious nature.

Carnal people are people who are ambivalent, people who have not entirely surrendered to the Lord and hold back things to themselves, even though they appear to be religious. The trusting nature (or spiritual man) is a totally different nature and will eventually lead to a perfect man because his lifestyle is molded by the Holy Spirit.

This natural man needs to be brought into contact with Jesus just as Nicodemus did in his midnight conversation with Him. “Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. Jesus an-

swered and said to him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” John 3:5, 3. What Jesus is saying to us in these words is that we need to be born again, and this is clearly seen in the words of Jesus as referring to baptism and receiving the Holy Spirit, to fit us to walk with Jesus. To emphasize this point read Acts 2:37–39, where you will read of the magnificent preaching of Peter.

Jesus said, in John 16:7–8, something remarkable regarding the work of the Holy Spirit. In v. 7 He says that it is to your advantage that I go away. How could Jesus say that “it is better if I go than if I stay?” It is because, if Jesus goes then the Holy Spirit will be given to them in full measure. Jesus said, I will send Him to you “the church,” but He will convict “the world”. How do we explain that God is sending the Holy Spirit to “the church” in the process of convicting “the world”? He does not say that He is going to send the Holy Spirit to the world; He said that the world will be convicted by the Holy Spirit. What Jesus is saying is that the Holy Spirit is given to “the church”, “to you”.

This will be manifested as such: as He convicts His people and the disciples are converted, the world begins to notice. The world says, “Wait a minute, there is something in your life that is different; something is different about you. And the world will be convicted of their own sin as they watch the people of God surrender all to Jesus.

“I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do them.” Ezekiel 36:27. In other words, it will be a natural outflow of the work of the Holy Spirit in my life to be obedient to Him, to follow Him, to want to do what He wants me to do. Does this not happen to you? When you really love somebody and you care for them you do not count the cost. You long for opportunities to be blessed. “And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be My people, and I will be your God.” Ezekiel 36:28. Is this not wonderful? In our relationship with God we can read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and it will be revealed that there is a condition that is required if we wish to be one of God’s people. We must accept God’s standard and obey it with all our heart, mind and soul, and it is the Holy Spirit who leads us to obey!

Do not let anyone tell you otherwise. Do not let anyone say to you that we are people of the Spirit, therefore we do not need to obey God. No! It is because we are



people of the Spirit that we want to obey Jesus. Because He (the Holy Spirit) exalts Him (Jesus) before us. He draws us to Him.

Can anyone reject the Holy Spirit? David said, “Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.” Psalm 51:11. David seemed to know that it was possible for him to reject the Holy Spirit. He said, “Do not take the Holy Spirit from me.” In Genesis 6:3 we read: “My Spirit shall not always strive with man.” Noah, for 120 years, preached that there was one more chance for the people of God to be saved. Unfortunately most rejected the message and then it was too late because that door was closed by an angel of God.

We all need to examine ourselves and ask, “How long it has been since God has been talking to us about something that we have hesitated to respond to?” Even the Devil himself will recognize his need to have surrendered to God. How many appeals did God make to you based on what you know you should surrender? It is important to yield to Him right now—not next week, or tomorrow, or even in an hour. That is why the people in Noah’s time committed the unpardonable sin. They rejected God’s messengers and mocked them. We see from the Bible that the unpardonable sin is not murder (as did Moses), is not lying or deception (as did Jacob).



Is it denying Christ? Peter said, “Even if they will deny You I will go to prison for You; I will die for You.” What did Jesus tell Peter? “Before the rooster crows two times you are going to deny Me three times.” We may

be great sinners but we have an even greater Saviour. Amen! We have a wonderful Saviour, my friends.

What is the unpardonable sin? The Bible does mention it. In 1 John 5:16, the Bible clearly teaches us that there is a sin that will lead unto death, and there is sin that does not lead unto death. “If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death; I do not say that he shall pray for it.” However, we do not always know if someone has committed the sin unto death, so continue to pray for your loved ones who are not in the faith. One day they may turn back.

In Matthew 12:31–32 we read of the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. “Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.” What is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit? Remember, it is the Holy Spirit that convicts us of sin. In John 16:8 it says that He will convict the world of three things. He convicts of sin, righteousness and judgment. The Holy Spirit is the One who exalts Jesus and is the One who leads us to Jesus. So the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is saying “no” to the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts. “I am not going to listen to God anymore. I do not care anymore about Jesus and His truth spoken through God’s messengers.”

There is a point beyond which a sinner cannot be restored, for he no longer responds to the pleadings of the Holy Spirit.



You do not want this happen to anyone, do you? It is easy to think that it will not happen to anyone that we know (especially in the church), but we need to recognize that if we understand something clearly from the Bible, and refuse to move forward with it, we are playing with fire. We are saying that we do not really want to listen and respond to that counsel—a continued, sin-hardening of the heart. That is the unpardonable sin; the sin against the Holy Spirit.

We have the example in the Bible of Saul, the first king of Israel. Samuel, the prophet of God, came to him, informing him of the verdict from God for what he had done. Saul knew very well that only the priests were allowed to offer sacrifices. The prophet of God rebuked

the king, asking him what he had done. Samuel wanted the best for this man. In 1 Samuel 15:22 we read that honouring what God says is really the most important thing; more important than sacrifice. "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams."

After Samuel died Saul was very distressed and the Bible says that the Spirit of God no longer walked with him. He was on his own. And because he was on his own he did something that was clear in his mind that was wrong.

He knew that there was no life after death, and that Samuel was actually dead, but he still went to a witch, asking for Samuel to be brought back. He needed some counsel. He knew in his mind that this did not happen, and that it was a demon who would impersonate Samuel. "But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him." 1 Samuel 16:14

I encourage you to not let this happen to you. Every time the Holy Spirit talks to you and appeals to your heart and you close it, saying, not today, maybe tomorrow—maybe when the situation changes or maybe when it is a more convenient time for me, then I will

pay attention to it.

There is another example in the Bible in Acts 24:25, where we read of a man named Felix, having the opportunity to receive the truth; to receive Jesus. But when Paul told him about righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered; "Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." The Bible records nothing about this man having a more convenient time. No call was made for Paul to come speak to him again. His time and opportunity was right there at that moment but he refused the



opportunity to be saved.

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Corinthians 6:2. When you read the Bible you feel convicted by the Holy Spirit to respond to God. The time to do it is now—today—this very moment. It is now that He is speaking to you and you are listening to Him.

May our loving Father and Saviour Jesus Christ give us all the ability to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit at all times when He speaks to us. AMEN!

*Nicholas Anca*

**"Pure love is simple in its operations, and separate from every other principle of action. When combined with earthly motives and selfish interests, it ceases to be pure. God considers more with how much love we work, than the amount we do. Love is a heavenly attribute. The natural heart cannot originate it. This heavenly plant only flourishes where Christ reigns supreme. Where love exists, there is power and truth in the life. Love does good, and nothing but good. Those who have love bear fruit unto holiness, and in the end everlasting life. 'By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous.'" – *The Youth's Instructor*, January 13, 1898**



# New Birth

Being born again is the greatest miracle performed by divine power. We cannot understand how it happens, we only believe it. "The new birth consists of having new motives, new tastes, new tendencies. Those who are begotten unto a new life by the Holy Spirit have become partakers of the divine nature, and in all their habits and practices, they will give evidence of their relationship to Christ. . . . The command, 'Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect,' would never have been given if every provision had not been made whereby we may become as perfect in our sphere as God is in His. We are to be ever advancing from light to a greater light, holding fast what we have already received, and praying for more." —*Lift Him Up*, p. 123

When the Holy Spirit comes upon us we will be born again into a different person. "And the Spirit of the Lord will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man." 1 Samuel 10:6. This new birth is necessary for us in order to enter heaven and to have eternal life.

Jesus explained to Nicodemus how it works. "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and wither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." John 3:8

"The change of heart by which we become children of

God is in the Bible spoken of as birth. Again, it is compared to the germination of the good seed sown by the husbandman. In like manner those who are just converted to Christ are, 'as new-born babes,' to 'grow up' to the stature of men and women in Christ Jesus. 1 Peter 2:2; Ephesians 4:15. Or like the good seed sown in the field, they are to grow up and bring forth fruit." —*Steps to Christ*, p. 67

When we are born again, that moment we become the children of God. That moment the Holy Spirit baptizes us and enters to live in us. Now our names are written in the book of life. After we are born again we start growing. This is called sanctification.

Being born again and being converted means that same thing. Both mean the start of a new life. And this new life is possible through the power that we receive from God. But there are many professing Christians who have not been born again. Their religion will not bring salvation to them.

"Communion with God imparts to the soul an intimate knowledge of His will. But many who profess the faith know not what true conversion is. They have no experience in communion with the Father through Jesus Christ, and have never felt the power of divine grace to sanctify the heart. Praying and sinning, sinning and praying, their lives are full of malice, deceit, envy, jealousy, and self-love. The prayers of this class are an



abomination to God.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 534

“Are your recreations such as to impart moral and spiritual vigor? Will they lead to purity of thought and action? Impurity is today widespread, even among the professed followers of Christ. Passion is unrestrained; the animal propensities are gaining strength by indulgence, while the moral powers are constantly becoming weaker. Many are eagerly participating in worldly, demoralizing amusements which God’s word forbids. Thus they sever their connection with God and rank themselves with the pleasure lovers of the world. The sins that destroyed the antediluvians and the cities of the plain exist today—not merely in heathen lands, not only among popular professors of Christianity, but with some who profess to be looking for the coming of the Son of man. If God should present these sins before you as they appear in His sight, you would be filled with shame and terror.

“And what has caused this alarming condition? Many have accepted the theory of the truth who have had no true conversion.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 218

Every Christian can be born again if it is their desire. Yet sadly so few only desire it and receive it. “The new birth is a rare experience in this age of the world. This is the reason why there are so many perplexities in the churches. Many, so many, who assume the name of Christ are unsanctified and unholy. They have been baptized, but they were buried alive. Self did not die, and therefore they did not rise to newness of life in Christ.” –*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 6, p. 1075

There is also a false new birth. Their feelings were aroused and they call it a new birth. But it did not change their lives, they are deceived by Satan.

“Many who speak to others of the need of a new heart do not themselves know what is meant by these words. The youth especially stumble over this phrase, ‘a new heart.’ They do not know what it means. They look for a special change to take place in their feelings. This they term conversion. Over this error thousands have stumbled to ruin, not understanding the expression, ‘Ye must be born again.’

“Satan leads people to think that because they have felt a rapture of feeling they are converted. But their experience does not change. Their actions are the same as before. Their lives show no good fruit. They pray

often and long, and are constantly referring to the feelings they had at such and such a time. But they do not live the new life. They are deceived. Their experience goes no deeper than feeling. They build upon the sand, and when adverse winds come their house is swept away.” –*Messages to Young People*, p. 71

Many have been baptized into the church, but their lives have not changed. Years later they do the same sins as before. The Laodicean church is in need of the new birth. The lukewarm professors of the truth who feel satisfied in themselves are deceived by Satan. They are deceived by the false conversion. They do follow the outward ceremonies and rules, including the Sabbath, but they do not love God above all, nor their fellow men.

Jesus saw a fig tree that had leaves, but no fruit. What



did He say? “And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And His disciples heard it. And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.” Mark 11:14, 20

This will happen to all professing Christians who do not bear fruit. They are lovers of their own selves. They watch television more than they read the Bible. Missionary work they do not. Their conversation is more from the world than from heaven.

One who is born from the Holy Spirit does not complain nor feel dissatisfied because he knows that what he has is more than he deserves. The old Israelites murmured in the wilderness, therefore God said, “Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against Me.” Numbers 14:29

Paul is speaking of unconverted Christians in Romans chapter 7. What I want to do, I do not. What I do not want to do, that I do. The most miserable person is the unconverted Christian. He does not enjoy the pleasures of the world, and neither heaven, nor eternal life. We can be members of the church, and never be born again.

When we are born again, from that moment on, mira-

cles start to happen. All our past sins will be forgiven. Also healing takes place (John 12:40). We can overcome every sin (1 John 5:18). We enter into the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 18:3). Sinful thoughts are put away (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 173). The fruit of the Spirit will be given to us (Galatians 5:22–23). Missionary spirit will be aroused (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 7, p. 11). Murmuring and complaining will stop (*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, p. 101).

Many other changes will take place in our lives. What are we waiting for? Let us pray for the new birth today. It is an answer to all our failings, problems, and difficulties. “When truth becomes an abiding principle in the life, the soul is ‘born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.’” —*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 520

“Unbelievers have inquired, ‘Why are not miracles wrought among those who claim to be God’s people?’ Brethren, the greatest miracle that can be wrought is the conversion of the human heart. We need to be recon-verted, losing sight of self and human ideas, and beholding Christ, that we may be transformed into His likeness. When this the greatest of all miracles is wrought within our hearts, we shall see the workings of other miracles.

“God cannot work through us miraculously while we are unconverted. It would spoil us; for we would take it as an evidence that we were perfect before Him. Our first work is to become perfect in His sight, by living faith claiming His promise of forgiveness. ‘Ask what ye will,’ Christ declared to His disciples, ‘and it shall be done unto you.’ . . . ‘Abide in me, and I in you. As the

branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.’ Those who see Christ by living faith, those who abide in Him, will have power to work miracles for His glory.

“Man can accomplish nothing without God, and God has arranged His plans so far as to accomplish nothing in the restoration of the human race without the cooperation of the human with the divine. The part man is required to sustain is immeasurably small, yet in the plan of God it is just that part that is needed to make the work a success.” —*Manuscript Releases*, book 4, p. 113

Now our most important work is our new birth. Also our brothers and sisters need to be born again, even our children and other family members, and then the conversion of the world. Sister White writes that six converted members can do more than 60 half-converted.



When visitors come to our churches, they will be impressed to see the love and unity amongst us. Then we will be a glorious church. “That He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.” Ephesians 5:27

When this takes place, then the latter rain will be poured upon us and thousands will be converted daily. The work of God will be finished in power and glory, yet by humble instruments, by men, women, and children who reflect the image of Jesus fully, who have overcome the world by their faith. Amen.

*Timo Martin*

**“Every soul is to minister. He is to use every physical, moral, and mental power, through sanctification of the Spirit, that he may be a laborer together with God. All are bound to devote themselves actively and unreservedly to God’s service. They are to cooperate with Jesus Christ in the great work of helping others. Christ died for every man. He has ransomed every man by giving His life on the cross. This He did that man might no longer live an aimless, selfish life but that he might live unto Jesus Christ, who died for his salvation. All are not called upon to enter the ministry, but nevertheless, they are to minister. It is an insult to the Holy Spirit of God for any man to choose a life of self-serving.” —*Mind, Character and Personality*, vol. 1, p. 344–345**



# Let Jesus be Your Harbour Pilot

His work consists in directing large ships into a port where there are specific deep water channels surrounded by shallower flats. Without his services there would be a real chance of running aground and damaging the ship and the cargo. He is on call, around the clock, every day. This made me realize, that Jesus wants to be our spiritual harbour pilot. He is very familiar with

the currents and shallow banks of our life and knows the best way out of it.

“He understands every circumstance of our life. He sees and knows how we are situated. He is acquainted with all our sorrows and griefs. He knows us each by name, and is touched with the feeling of our infirmities; for he has been tempted in all points like as we are, and knows how to succor those who are tempted. Jesus is our helper, and He will have a care for all those who trust in Him.” —*The Review and Herald*, August 25, 1885, par. 12

He doesn't want you to run ashore like the cruise ship Costa Concordia did in January 2012 because it had been steered too closely to the rocks of an island. His promise in Isaiah 43:1, 2 is still valid for you today: “Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by name; thou art Mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee.” When you fully trust Him, He will get your ship safely into port. “They then are glad because they [the storm] be quiet; so He bringeth them unto their desired haven.” Psalm 107:30

In your life Jesus wants to be the harbour pilot who helps you to bring your ship to your heavenly destination.

**Manuela Di Franca**

**Steer the ship of my life, Lord, to Your quiet harbor, where I can be safe from the storms of sin and conflict. Show me the course I should take. Renew in me the gift of discernment, so that I can see the right direction in which I should go. And give me the strength and the courage to choose the right course, even when the sea is rough and the waves are high, knowing that through enduring hardship and danger in Your name we shall find comfort and peace.**

**Saint Basil of Caesarea (ca. 330-379)**

In 2013 I spent my summer holidays on Sardinia, an Italian island in the Mediterranean Sea. First we drove to the port of Genoa and from there we took the night ferry to the port of Olbia. Instead of spending the night in a cabin, we preferred sleeping on deck. While I was lying there, wrapped up in my sleeping bag, I looked into the starry night and listened to the sound of the waves and the strong breeze. My thoughts went back to Jesus on the Sea of Galilee.

He had lied down in the back of the boat, on the low bench where the steersman sometimes took rest. He must have been very exhausted! So much was demanded of Jesus, it is not surprising that, when He eventually did get some rest, He would fall into a very deep sleep indeed. The disciples were sailing happily across the lake, when a storm whipped up out of nowhere. They were scared for their lives. They thought they were about to sink. And, in the midst of all the problems, Jesus continues sleeping in the back of the boat. Finally, Jesus wakes up and orders the wind, and immediately it dies down. A great calm comes upon the waters.

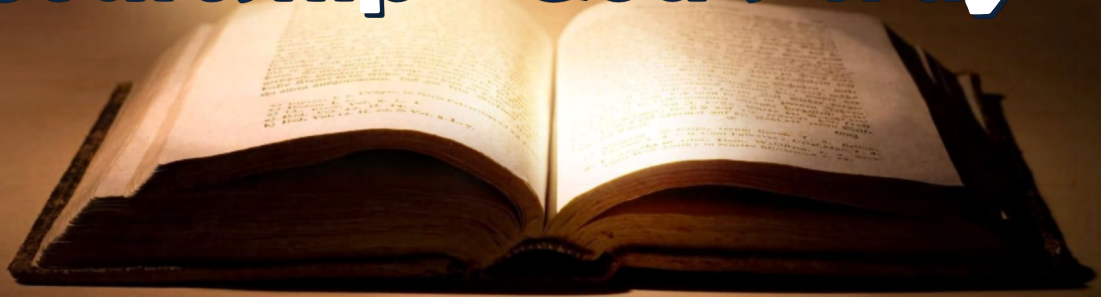
There are times in our lives when we feel at the mercy of the storm, when we feel as if our lives are as chaotic as the buffeting ocean. Perhaps a financial crisis, an illness, or the loss of a beloved person. And we pray and pray and pray but sometimes it is as if Jesus is asleep. It seems that He doesn't hear, no matter how loud we shout. . .

Back to my trip: The next morning I woke up early to witness a wonderful sunrise. From far away I was able to see our destination—the green coastline and the harbor of Olbia. All of a sudden I noticed a little boat coming from the harbour towards our direction and I was curious about what was about to happen. It came as close as possible to our ferry; I saw a man grabbing onto a rope ladder and climbing it. I was told that this was the harbour pilot. He is a boat pilot with specialized knowledge of the harbour.





# Courtship—God’s Way



**Courtship** is a special, romantic time in life when a couple gets to know each other more personally and can make a decision for or against marriage. During this interesting period, observations are made on both sides to determine whether the individuals concerned will be right for each other. A mutual agreement is made to forego special friendship with anyone else. There is a general understanding between the two parties that each occupies the place of highest esteem in the mind of the other. This period of going together is a preparation for married life. The time spent together should not be limited to formal occasions, but a good portion of it should be devoted to informal, everyday settings. That way the couple has an opportunity to properly observe each other in terms of practical living. It is good for the young lady to see her young man in work clothes. It gives her an opportunity to judge his industriousness and efficiency. And she may have on an apron preparing some dishes for her family when her boyfriend comes to visit her. The young man should observe her cooking skills carefully. After all, is he not considering eating at her table for the rest of his life? By coming into each other’s homes, each one can see much that would never be revealed in a formal setting. The relationships between the various members of the household tell much about a young man or lady. “Has my lover a mother? What is the stamp of her character? Does he recognize his obligations to her? Is he mindful of her wishes and happiness? If he does not respect and honor his mother, will he manifest respect

and love, kindness and attention, toward his wife?” — *Messages to Young People*, p. 450

Many of the character traits that are revealed during courtship—such as lack of respect for mother or father, inefficiency, disorderliness, or uncleanliness—are very apt to carry over into married life. In contemplating marriage it would be advisable to take an inventory of your prospective bride or groom. Note the following areas of concern very carefully:

1. Does she/he share your faith? “Be ye not un-equally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness: and what communion hath light with darkness?” 2 Corinthians 6:14
2. Are you proud of your prospective marriage partner, or are you ashamed of him/her and feel apologetic when seen in his/her company?
3. Can he hold a job, or is he lazy and unstable? Remember that the husband will be the main breadwinner, especially when the wife has little children to take care of.
4. Do you have common interests and goals?
5. Do your parents and friends admire your prospective fiancé? Parents may see many things to which the youth are temporarily blind. Their evaluation is valuable but not infallible.
6. Do you love him/her even though she/he has faults

of character? Can you disagree and still love him/her? Don't expect a *perfect* person. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Don't assume that his/her faults will automatically disappear when you get married.

7. Does she/he like children?
8. Is she/he usually happy, optimistic and cheerful?
9. Does she/he accept sound advice graciously, or does she/he indulge in heated arguments? Some feel they are always right in their opinion.

During courtship, it is wise to pay proper attention to those factors which tend toward marital happiness.

### THE ENGAGEMENT

This preparatory stage brings the couple one step closer to the culmination of marriage. It means that a solemn promise has been made between a young man and a young woman, indicating to their social group that the choice of a life's partner is now complete and that marriage is soon to follow. The word "soon" does not mean at the "spur of the moment," in a week or two. The length of engagement will vary, depending upon circumstances and preferences. "Be not in haste. . . Early marriages are not to be encouraged. A relation so important as marriage and so far-reaching in its results should not be entered upon hastily, without sufficient preparation, and before the mental and physical powers are well developed." —*Messages to Young People*, p. 438

An old saying, "Marry in haste—repent in leisure" is still applicable today. It is impossible to become acquainted with someone in just a few weeks or months. Take your time! Do not rush into this solemn relationship only to regret your mistake later. Make sure of what you are doing. Pray to God for the right decision. Surveys indicate that the highest percentage of successful marriages occur among those whose engagement is *relatively* long. This is a matter to be worked out to the mutual satisfaction of both parties. Too short an engagement—such as several weeks—does not allow for the joy of careful planning. But long engagements of many years can be an emotional drain and lead to unhappiness.

At the time of engagement, it is wise to discuss fundamental issues that pertain to marriage. The understandings reached serve as a basis upon which the couple can pledge their mutual faith. For instance, the subject of children—such as when and the number of chil-

dren that they would like to have—should be discussed. Even though their preferences may not be fulfilled through no fault of their own, or due to an illness that may develop later on, still the matter of children should be discussed to avoid serious misunderstanding later on. If one party desires children and the other does not, and the decision is made *after* marriage, it may threaten the stability of the home

Another subject frequently discussed is whether or not the wife should get a job to help the family income. The wife may prefer a career to homemaking, and it is only fair that she express her preference to her fiancé before marriage. It is important that both parties share the same views and sentiments in this important area.

Perhaps the relationship to one or the other's parents may be a crucial matter for some couples. If either party insists on living close to their parents, the decision should be thoroughly discussed and mutually agreed to before marriage. Planning and forethought in this area will prevent many unnecessary complications and upsets.

The total experience of courtship should be thrilling, providing good times. Yet the emphasis should be placed on a blending of the personalities rather than on the physical aspects of marriage. The sacredness and the strength of the marriage bond depend on mutual respect; therefore, no intimacies should be exchanged in violation of the divine law and the conscience. Courtship then is truly the important preparation for marriage. Courtship—God's way—helps lay the foundation for a truly happy, Christian home.

*Henry Dering*

## LOOKING FOR YOU...

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# They Sanctify Themselves

When we think of the word “sanctification”, we think of the second step in our Christian walk. After justification, which is the step where we come to Jesus and He instantly forgives us our sins when we repent, the sanctification process begins, which lasts a lifetime.

The Lord justifies in an instant when we pray, while sanctification takes a lot longer. Then we have the word perfection. Jesus is asking us to be perfect. Are we only perfect when the sanctification process is finished? “At every stage of development our life may be perfect; yet if God’s purpose for us is fulfilled, there will be continual advancement. Sanctification is the work of a lifetime.” – *Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 65

Firstly I would like to define the word sanctify as taken from several dictionaries.

## To sanctify means:

1. **To make holy. To purify or free from sin.** Jesus wants to make us holy—free from sin and pure. He wants us to be wholly and completely His. The Apostle Paul states that it is God who sanctifies the person. “And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Thessalonians 5:23. True sanctification involves the whole being. It is not possible to be partially sanctified by withholding certain areas of the life from being made holy. Every part of our lives must be submitted to the purifying power of God’s Spirit.

2. **To set apart as sacred; consecrate.** Jesus wants to set all His followers apart and consecrate them to His service, whether full time or on a volunteer basis. “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the

praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light.” 1 Peter 2:9. “Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.” Joel 2:16

3. **To entitle to reverence and respect.** In the Bible references are made to sanctify the Lord and the Sabbath. We are to reverence and respect both of these. “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.” 1 Peter 3:15. The word sanctify in this verse does come from the Greek word that can also mean reverence. The presence of Jesus in the heart provides un-failing stability. With Christ in the heart, we will always have an answer for our hope as is centred in Christ.

Regarding the sanctifying of the Sabbath we read, “And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the Sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me according to the greatness of Thy mercy.” Nehemiah 13:22. We are to give the Sabbath its rightful place and sanctify it very carefully.

4. **To sanction (an action or practice) as religiously binding:** to sanctify a marriage or at baptism. To sanctify by a vow. In this manner we are told to sanctify ourselves. We make an outward show (vow) of our decision to follow the Lord by baptism. We are willing to be bound to Jesus, letting go of all earthly ties.

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts,” 1 Peter 3:15. In other words, give God first place in your hearts.



## **FALSE SANCTIFICATION—they sanctify themselves.**

While true sanctification comes from Jesus, false sanctification—also called self-righteousness—is a sanctification that is made by a person in an effort to bring honour and glory to themselves. True sanctification is always talking about Jesus, and praising Him for all the good works He has wrought through us, while false sanctification is always talking about our own endeavours in the religious life as something wonderful that we did; great sacrifices we have made.

False sanctification can be a cloak for hidden sin as seen in the lives of the religious leaders in Jesus' time. Jesus said to them, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity." Matthew 23:27–28

Yet, this was happening in Old Testament times also. We read that "They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the LORD." Isaiah 66:17. This is an interesting verse. These people "sanctify themselves." They are purifying themselves, but how? By eating swine's flesh in secret behind a tree. They are eating swine and mice—both unclean animals.

These apostates are mingling heathen rites with the worship of God. While trying to appear holy—they take a "holier than thou" attitude towards their fellow brethren. These men, "Which say, Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou." These people are "a smoke in My nose, a fire that burneth all the day." Isaiah 65:5

The lives of these people were shown to be steeped in corruption in secret, but they made lofty pretensions of holiness, regarding themselves as possessing a special sanctity above their fellow brethren and sisters. These people, and their vain pretensions, are offensive to God and a continual provocation to Him.

From the verse in Isaiah 66:17, where was it that they were making an attempt to sanctify themselves? Was it

in the temple of the Lord? No it was "in the gardens". In ancient times this was where the heathen worshippers had their idols—in the groves and gardens. God had commanded them repeatedly to destroy them, however, most of the time they did not, and they copied the heathen practices of worship.

They openly defied God "behind the tree" where perhaps they were hidden from view of mankind. The Jewish apostates exulted in throwing off all restraints and pretended to sanctify themselves by the very things God had said would defile them and render them unfit for fellowship with Him. In their affection of a superior sanctity they had sunk to the lowest depths of degradation.

Can we find these types of people in God's church today? Yes, there have always been those in the church who appear righteous on the outside but in their private lives they are living a life of sin. They speak of the high standard of righteousness while their own lives are far from pure and righteous. They make earnest efforts to appear righteous in the eyes of their fellow men. Although hidden from man, remember, "Be sure your sin will find you out." Numbers 32:23. One day it will all come to light. Jesus tells of a time when the



tares will be separated from the wheat. The angels gather the tares in bundles and burn them. (Matthew 13:25–30). The Lord will preserve and purify His church. It is the "apple of His eye" Zechariah 2:8. One day those secret sinners will either be shaken out or will repent.

Judas Iscariot is the classic example of one of these brethren. He even deceived the other 11 disciples and they thought Judas was such a blessing for the church; such a pious man—one that the church could not do without. However, Jesus read his heart and saw the evil within, although clothed with "righteousness". And in a time of crisis, his sin did find him out. What a disastrous end for this man—this deceiver.

The most dangerous people in the church of God are those that are in this condition as they can easily lead others astray. They bring honour and glory to themselves—broadcasting their own achievements—rather than bringing honour and glory to God who is the giver

of all life and strength and all blessings which we own. Thus men are drawn to them when they see their superior holiness. Rather, men's eyes should be drawn to Christ and not to the leaders of the church.

In the early Christian church Constantine became nominally converted and began to openly mingle heathenism and Christianity. This is exactly how the Papal Roman Empire became so strong in the Dark Ages. This mixture is a deadly poison. The Catholic Priests made an appearance of holiness and righteousness, but when Martin Luther made his first journey to Rome, he had a first-hand look at the reality of the lives of many of these priests and he was very disheartened.

The Jewish nation created hundreds of man-made rules and traditions as an interpretation of the laws given by God. They made religion a burden. And again, it is often those who are steeped in secret sin who love to exact extra rules and heavy burdens upon their fellow Christians. "There are duties and requirements in His word to humble the church and cause them to afflict their souls, and there is no need of making crosses and manufacturing duties to distress the body in order to cause humility. All this is outside of the word of God." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 205–206

Yet there is hope in Jesus. Jesus gave the parable of the Pharisee and the publican to illustrate the two types of believers in the church (Luke 18:10–14). There is hope for both if they repent. Although at the time when Jesus spoke this parable, He said that the publican went to his house justified. Apparently the Pharisee did not. Many of the Pharisees of Christ's day did repent after the resurrection. Many of those who were caught up in the mob crying for the crucifixion of Jesus were pricked in their hearts and repented. "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 22:36–38

"The Pharisee and the publican represent two great classes into which those who come to worship God are divided. Their first two representatives are found in the first two children that were born into the world. Cain thought himself righteous, and he came to God with a thank offering only. He made no confession of sin, and acknowledged no need of mercy. But Abel came with the blood that pointed to the Lamb of God. He came as a sinner, confessing himself lost; his only hope was the

unmerited love of God. The Lord had respect to his offering, but to Cain and his offering He had not respect. The sense of need, the recognition of our poverty and sin, is the very first condition of acceptance with God. 'Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.' Matthew 5:3

"For each of the classes represented by the Pharisee and the publican there is a lesson in the history of the apostle Peter. In his early discipleship Peter thought himself strong. Like the Pharisee, in his own estimation he was 'not as other men are.' When Christ on the eve of His betrayal forewarned His disciples, 'All ye shall be offended because of Me this night,' Peter confidently declared, 'Although all shall be offended, yet will not I.' Mark 14:27, 29. Peter did not know his own danger. Self-confidence misled him. He thought himself able to withstand temptation; but in a few short hours the test came, and with cursing and swearing he denied his Lord.

"When the crowing of the cock reminded him of the words of Christ, surprised and shocked at what he had just done he turned and looked at his Master. At that moment Christ looked at Peter, and beneath that grieved look, in which compassion and love for him were blended, Peter understood himself. He went out and wept bitterly. That look of Christ's broke his heart. Peter had come to the turning point, and bitterly did he repent his sin. He was like the publican in his contrition and repentance, and like the publican he found mercy. The look of Christ assured him of pardon." —*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 152

## TRUE SANCTIFICATION

How are we sanctified? It is not of ourselves at all.

**By the Truth.** Truth is reasonable and is never afraid. We must understand the truth before we can impart it to others. Therefore we need to be diligent students of the Word of God because it is His word that sanctifies. "Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy word is truth." John 17:17

**Jesus' Blood Sanctifies.** "Wherefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered without the gate." Hebrews 13:12

**When the Lord sanctifies it is seen by the keeping of the Sabbath.** "Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily My sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you." Exodus 31:13. "Moreover also I gave them My sabbaths, to be a sign between Me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them." Ezekiel

Although all the commandments are important, the Sabbath commandment, when kept in its truest sense, is the commandment that is associated with sanctification. You cannot keep the Sabbath in its truest sense and break any of the other commandments. True Sabbath-keeping can only be done by the strongest attachment to Christ. You can refrain from stealing, killing, and committing adultery, but you may still violate the Sabbath, however the reverse is not true. You cannot keep the Sabbath in its truest sense and kill, steal, lie and covet. "I was shown that if the true Sabbath had always been kept, there would never have been an infidel or an atheist. The observance of the Sabbath would have preserved the world from idolatry." –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 76

**Working together with Jesus.** We read in the Bible in several places that we are told to sanctify ourselves.

"And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." 1 John 3:3. From this verse it may seem that man can purify himself as this is what is asked of him. However, sinful man cannot cleanse himself; he is sold under sin and utterly dependent upon the Saviour for purity. "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9.

"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil." Jeremiah 13:23. Nevertheless there is a work for man to do for himself. "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure." Philippians 2:12–13. In these verses the Apostle Paul shows the united work of Jesus and mankind. This work requires diligent watchfulness and prayer. The central struggle is to maintain faith in the victory that Christ has gained for us, and to live believing that His grace is sufficient to give us the mastery over every besetment. "Man works and God works. Man is called upon to strain every muscle and to exercise every faculty in the struggle for immortality, but it is God who supplies the efficiency. God has made amazing sacrifices for human beings. He has expended mighty energy to reclaim man from transgression and sin to loyalty and obedience, but He does nothing without the cooperation of humanity. . . . It is by unceasing endeavor that we maintain the victory over the temptations of Satan." –*In Heavenly Places*, p. 159. This



is true sanctification.

Although, we are told that we must cleanse ourselves from every defilement and purify ourselves, the strength to do so comes from Jesus. In this work we must make a firm decision that we are willing to give up all sin and selfishness; anything that would separate ourselves from God. We see our impurity and we cry to God for deliverance. We make the choice and plead with the Lord as did Jacob when he wrestled with the angel. When we plead thus, the Lord comes to our rescue. He gives us strength to overcome all of our sinful tendencies. We will have nothing to glory in and of ourselves, as it is all from Jesus.

**Habitual communion with God.** "Sanctification means habitual communion with God. There is nothing so great and powerful as God's love for those who are His children." –*In Heavenly Places*, p. 129. Sanctification is not

the result of some arduous task. It is simple—communion with God, habitually. Ask yourself, how many things you suddenly think of that require urgent or immediate attention when it is time for prayer and worship. The enemy gets our minds busy with the cares of this life and the communion is broken. Yes, the Christian life is a struggle, and the greatest struggle is letting go of the world and all

that would separate us from the Lord. We need to cut loose from the world and let God fill our hearts.

"Sanctify the LORD of hosts Himself; and let Him be your fear, and let Him be your dread." Isaiah 8:13. Praise the Lord for victory in Christ. Unless the people of God recognize the infinite holiness of the Lord, they will never attain to holiness themselves. By beholding we are changed (2 Corinthians 3:18).

"But when He seeth his children, the work of mine hands, in the midst of Him, they shall sanctify My name, and sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and shall fear the God of Israel." Isaiah 29:23

May God help us to achieve this true sanctification which He offers. We cannot sanctify ourselves, but Praise the Lord that He is willing to take away our filthy rags and clothe us with His robe of righteousness. It is ours to accept and may we do so today. Amen.

**Wendy Eaton**





# “I Will Not Kill”

## The War-time experiences of Kurt Dering, father of Henry Dering

Several years ago, at the urging of his son, Kurt Dering made a cassette tape of the following experience.

I was only about 20 when I joined the reform church in Latvia. I determined to be obedient to the government in that country, as instructed in Romans, just as I want to obey the president here in America. In Latvia we had no freedom, however, like we do in this country (USA). There, if you didn't obey the Government you could be imprisoned until you died. I was prepared to do that if the Lord allowed it, but He saved me from many tribulations. He has done wonderful things for me.

When called to serve my country, I filled out the required papers. I indicated that I would kill no one, I would not even learn to use a gun, and I would rest on the Sabbath. "We will fix you," responded the general, "until you are willing to do all those things. "But the Lord had other things in mind for me, as He did for Joseph. All the generals and other officers were kind; they explained that my case would be decided in court, in three months.

At my hearing, 12 generals sat at a round table. They listened as I explained that we should not kill, but, instead, love our enemies. The men asked many questions. I answered with our beliefs. I said we should live as good citizens in our country but not kill people. I could not kill, I repeated, nor would I ever learn to kill. Neither would I lie by going through training and then only pretend to shoot the enemy.

The generals said they understood my beliefs but reiterated that I would have to learn to kill anyway. "I am sorry," I replied, "but I cannot do that. I will not kill." Shaking their heads, they warned, "you know what will

happen to you." After a short deliberation, the presiding judge sentenced me to three years in jail.

Soon afterwards I was imprisoned. Luckily my jail was not far away from home. My mother brought me food. She made all kinds, which I appreciated. Jail fare is not the best, especially when you are a vegetarian.

As you can imagine, the jail was not in good condition. It smelled terrible. All the windows were broken, and snow and rain came through them.

I was in a small cell, about 5' x 8' (1.5m x 2.5m). My bed was a blanket on the floor. The rats came in and had a good meal some time from the food my mother had given me. Still, I was happy to be alive and to be able to witness for the Lord by not bearing arms and killing other human beings.

After a while I was allowed to work in a carpenter shop. After eight hours of work each day, I went to my cell, read my Bible, and slept. Having my Bible was a great privilege. The time went by quickly during the next three months. When you can work, you are happy.

One time a young man, a murderer, came to share my cell. Others asked if I were afraid to be with someone who had kicked a policeman to death. "Why should I be afraid?" I replied. "The Lord can protect me if He wishes." He did.

After four months, the jail was condemned. The prisoners were transferred to an island. I was very sad because my mother could no longer visit me and bring me things to eat.

God, however, had better things in mind for me. The island reminded me of the one on which John the Be-

loved was confined, the Isle of Patmos. No one could escape from the island where I was. The jail was more secure than the one I had first been in.

The new commander, a kind man, asked each prisoner why he was in jail, then explained that the prisoners would not have to work so hard as they had before. He assured us we would be released sooner than if we had remained in the former prison. In three weeks, from my home, my mother came to visit me. In fact, shortly after he told us that we would be released. I was happy to hear that! Actually, I served only about five months of my three year term.

The commander soon told me I could return home and re-register. My heart was so light when I arrive at home! When I went to re-register, the commander asked if I would serve my country. "Will you shoot and kill?"

"I'm sorry," I replied. I went to jail already because I could not do that. I am very glad you have set me free." The commander said he didn't know what to do with me. Then he became more friendly. "I know you are a good young man. I don't want to spoil your life. Are you willing to do carpentry work, fixing windows and doors, putting in locks, and so on?" Certainly I was! "Why not?" I replied. "Everybody has to do something for his country. I want to also, as long as I don't have to kill anyone. I will not learn to carry a gun."

"We have other things for you to do too," he said. "You can feed and water horses and take care of those that are sick." For 18 months I did things other than learn to carry a gun. I was free on Sabbath. I went home and was very happy.

Then I met Ruth and later on married her. We thought we would live happily after that, but the Lord had more in store for us.

The Russians came. I could no longer stay in Latvia. Soon we went to Germany. I thought the Germans would be better than the Russians, but it was the opposite. In 1941 the commander asked me the same ques-

tion I had been asked in Latvia. "Will you serve in the army?" I didn't say "no," and I didn't say "yes". I stretched the time; for half a year I gave no answer. I was asked again if I would serve in the army and I found another excuse to delay answering. Three weeks later I began working (I had not found a job when I arrived in Germany so I could avoid being drafted).

After three more weeks, my father and I were taken before a Gestapo agent. I told him we were Adventists and would not fight. He closed the door behind us, saying we would never see daylight again unless we changed our minds.

For about four months, we were in jail, in much, much worse conditions than in Latvia. My wife and mother had to work very hard. My little sister went to school; no one could help the family. Try to imagine living in such conditions.

The bombs came down too! In 15 minutes the whole city was burned out. I kept thinking how easily a bomb could destroy my family. I would never again see my mother, my wife, and my sister.



But the Lord was wonderful. He protected and guided us. He helped us to endure. One day an important general visited Berlin. There was an emergency of some sort. Somebody came to my jail cell and said, "I know you are a piano polisher. Will you polish the general's car?" I answered, "why not?" I was happy, after five months, to get out in the fresh air. You can imagine how I looked after having only one potato and a piece of bread at each meal. I had lost about 50 pounds. I could barely walk when I was let out to polish the car. Because I was young, I was able to manage, but I know I couldn't do that today. Spiritually, however, I was strong.

In the jail my father was in a cell directly above me. To let each other know we were still alive, I knocked on the ceiling of my cell, and my father responded by rapping on the floor of his. Every day people from cells around us were taken to the gas chamber or to the gallows, or they simply disappeared. About once a week,



we saw my mother for a second or two. We encouraged one another to "Be faithful unto death."

The Lord took wonderful care of us in the jail. One day when I went to polish a piano, the Lord gave me special wisdom. My jailer forgot to lock me in my cell before he went to talk with a general. When the jailer returned, he found I had not run away. "You are a good man," he said. "You did not escape when you had the chance. Because of that, I will free you." Three or four days later, I was released.

I went home to see how my family was, then returned to the authorities. I asked that my father be released also, and he was. We quickly moved to another address.

Our only child, Henry, was born in Germany in 1947. My father died there when Henry was about five years old. My mother died in the United States many years later.

The Lord has wonderful ways, as with Daniel, who was let out of the lion's den after a couple of days. The Lord also protected Daniel's three companions from the fire. I had my experience of how wonderfully the Lord can help those who obey Him. We don't know whether we again will have to face conditions like I went through. Maybe I could have carried more. We know, however, that the Lord will never give us more than we can bear. Amen.



**"Sanctification is not the work of a moment, an hour, or a day. It is a continual growth in grace. We know not one day how strong will be our conflict the next. Satan lives, and is active, and every day we need to cry earnestly to God for help and strength to resist him. As long as Satan reigns we shall have self to subdue, besetments to overcome, and there is no stopping place, there is no point to which we can come and say we have fully attained." – Testimonies for the Church, vol. 1, p. 340**



# Health Seminars in Canada

## London

Brothers and Sisters, greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I would like to greet you with these words from Psalm 103:2–3 “Bless the LORD, O my soul and forget not all His benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases.”

In London, Canada we conducted a health seminar on September 24th and 25th, 2014. Sister Alina taught us about the eight laws of health, which are Nutrition or Diet, Exercise, Water, Sunlight, Temperance, Air, Rest and Trust in God.

### ***These are some of the things we learned:***

- It is very important what we eat.
- Walking and other forms of exercise allow our bodies to work properly.
- Water gives us life and it is a valuable source of healing, energy, and cleansing.
- Sunlight brings many health benefits when we enjoy it in moderation.
- Temperance means more than just moderation.
- Air is a key element for optimum health.
- Our bodies need rest in order to function properly, but also the quality and quantity of sleep are very important factors.

- And most importantly is that when we do something, we should do it with faith. Trusting in God with our mind and our bodies is very important.

Those who participated in these lectures went home with the sincere desire to do their best in order to achieve and enjoy an improved healthy lifestyle.

The Cooking Demonstration took place on September 28, 2014. Our Sisters in the Church presented some simple recipes for healthy meals. We had visitors in attendance, some of whom we give thanks to Brothers Richard, Danny and Jason, who invited some of their young friends.

I give thanks also to the brothers and sisters who responded to our appeals, taking their time and sacrificing of their means in order to come and make this event a blessing. Brother Evald and Sister Franziska, Sister Fanny, Sister Yohana, and, of course, Sister Teresita Barera with Sister Lorena.

I strongly encourage our brothers and sisters in the Canadian Field, and all over the world, to conduct health seminars more frequently as the health message is the entering wedge for many people. This will help us reach people with the present truth.

Sister Teresita Barera, the oldest sister in the Canadian Field, through God’s help, completed her 95th year this last Sunday, September 28, 2014 (see notice on inside back cover). Flowers and lovely hugs were given to her on this occasion. May God bless her with strong health and eternal life.

I take this opportunity also to thank the Canadian Field for their support and prayers.

In Christ,

***Nicholas & Alina Anca***



# Hamilton

On October 5, 2014 at the Hamilton church, a group of over 40 people attended a Health fair which focused on nutrition and natural healing methods. Not only were we provided with lectures on different topics, but we also received demonstrations of various methods of natural healing. Brother Jerry Eaton welcomed us all to the health fair.

The first speaker was Sister Helen Marttinen. She talked about the importance of nutrition in healing and in disease prevention. She gave the analogy of a car owner who has an owner's manual to know how to take care of the car and how to maintain it. Our bodies are also complex pieces of machinery, created by God, Who provided us with an owner's manual on how to take care of it. And that owner's manual is the Bible. The diet that God gave to His creation, which is solely plant-based, is both for prevention of disease and for healing.

Sister Wendy Eaton spoke on the topic of herbs. At creation, God provided every herb yielding seed for man's diet. When man fell into sin he was given herbs to be used for healing. Herbs are considered medicines from the earth. Each plant has its specific purpose.

She spoke of the benefits of herbs vs man-made drugs. Herbs are healthier for your body. But, herbs are still a medicine and should be used judiciously. If you are not an expert, use herbs under the care of a naturopath or herbalist. The beneficial effects of herbs take longer to come about. Drugs are a quick fix, and in emergency situations, drugs work fast and can save lives. But often man-made drugs are used only to treat the symptoms of disease; they don't actually cure or prevent disease. In long-term, chronic illnesses, herbs are generally not toxic, and work on treating the underlying condition.

The phytochemicals contained in herbs work to ensure the survival of the plant, by boosting its immunity against predators such as radiation, free radicals, insects, lack of nutrients, bacteria, viruses, and funguses. The survival mechanisms of these chemicals can also be used in human health, with the same results of protection from predators. Because each plant contains numerous phytochemicals that work in different ways, each herb can be used to treat a variety of ailments. Sister Wendy gave the example of peppermint and horsetail, two popular herbs that can treat illnesses such as digestive issues, memory problems, inflammation, infections, etc.

Sister Yohana Monsalve talked about hot and cold water treatments. She gave practical demonstrations on how to use water treatments for various problems. Bathing with

herbs can treat various conditions. The addition of Epsom salts into a bath can be very helpful for rheumatic problems and immune diseases.

Whenever you treat someone with hot and cold treatments, you always start with heat and end with cold. She also gave a demonstration on the steam bath, which is helpful for lung problems, blood cleansing, and also for cleansing the skin. Its heat opens the pores in the skin to allow the skin to breathe. After a steam bath a cool shower should be taken to close the pores up again. Other water treatments mentioned were alternating hot and cold showers (to lower blood pressure, and relieve stress for example), and alternating hot and cold foot baths to relieve migraines.



Enemas, another form of water treatment, help to relieve digestive problems, also problems caused by food poisoning, and constipation.

Hot and cold compresses can be applied to any part of the body, using wet towels. The use of compresses can relieve problems such as stomachaches, headaches and sore muscles.

A full body cold pack can be used to treat fever. A friction rub over the whole body with cold water also helps to decrease fevers.



She finally demonstrated the uses for a Sitz bath. The water can be cold, warm or hot, depending on the reason for the treatment. This can be used to treat hemorrhoids and digestive problems, amongst other things.

Water treatments are very cheap, and can treat a variety of conditions. These include: Acne; Arthritis; Colds; Depression; Diabetes; Headaches; Joint, muscle, and nerve problems; Stress.

Sister Shartery Garcia opened her demonstration with

reading John 9:6, "When He had thus spoken, He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay."

Earth has marvelous powers to cure. The use of clay cures conditions such as inflammation, kidney and liver problems, ulcers, tumors, nerves, Insect bites, broken bones, headaches, cancer, and acne. Clay can be used both externally and internally. Internally, it can control fevers. Externally, a clay poultice pulls out toxins from the part of the body that you are treating.

First you need to obtain clay from a clean place, without any impurities, like stones, etc. Let the clay soak in water for 4 hours to soften it, to make it into a paste. Preferably, use a glass container, and mix the clay with a wooden spoon. Use a plastic sheet or paper towel. Put the clay on and spread it out. Finally, put the clay on part of body that needs treating. Cover it with a towel to keep the clay moist. Leave it on for 3–4 hours or overnight. You can use multiple treatments of clay, but always use clean clay for each subsequent treatment. Clay can be used for long periods, until healing takes place.

Sister Shartery gave a demonstration on applying clay poultice on someone's arm. A member of the audience also gave a witness on how her child, with rheumatoid arthritis was treated with clay, and is now arthritis-free. We can be healthy without drugs. God is one who can cure through natural healing.



Sister Shartery then gave a demonstration on massage treatments. Massage is good for joints, muscles, and circulation.

Four techniques are used in massage: Stroking (use first to relax muscles); kneading, friction (apply steady pressure with elbow, thumbs, or 3 fingers; and chopping. Start either with the head or the feet and work systematically over the body. The purpose of natural healing methods is to treat

ourselves and to help others. We are to share the knowledge God has given us.

Brother Jerry Eaton presented next. He gave a brief overview about the chi machine that can help to relax muscles before chiropractic work is done, or even be used in the place of a chiropractor. He also showed us a sample of the plant, Portland spurge. He has used it personally to

successfully treat areas on his skin that had damage from the sun.

He also spoke about fasting and cleansing. The Bible says, "When you fast", not "If you fast". Fasting cleanses the body, spirit and mind. Most of the natural treatments talked about in the seminar work best when fasting

Vegetable juice fasts are the most common. For every three days you do a juice fast, you need to take one day to break the fast. When you break a fast, start with blended raw fruits, then raw vegetables, then lightly steamed vegetables, and finally brown rice. Do not use oil or condiments. Go slow with eating solid foods again. Fasting should be supervised if you have a medical condition, e.g. Diabetes.

A water fast or a fast which omits all oral intake are not beneficial. With a water fast, especially one that is longer than 2–3 days, the toxins will stay in the colon. If you fast completely, with no food or liquid intake, all the toxins come out in the nervous system, and you become shaky and weak.

The most widely used substance for cleansing is Bentonite clay. It draws out toxins from the body to the colon, and then is expelled.

Many people have tried to fast, but think that they can have a big feast when breaking their fast, so they end up feeling worse, not better from their fast. Brother Jerry went over the steps to take when breaking the fast- especially to encourage God's people to overcome physically, mentally and spiritually.

Brother Jerry concluded by saying that circulation and elimination are the two key aspects of natural healing.

The audience asked many relevant questions. Some gave examples of their own healing through natural methods. The speakers all spoke of the need for belief in God for healing to take place. After the lectures, everyone joined in a healthy, vegan pot luck supper.

**The Lecturers: Left to Right:  
Helen Marttinen, Wendy Eaton, Jerry Eaton**







# Miracles

## (Part 2)

### Miracles in Jesus' Time

#### Lazarus

Jesus liked to go to the house of Lazarus. One day Lazarus caught a sickness. Then Lazarus died. When he was dead Mary and Martha put him in a grave. Jesus received the message but still did not go to the house. The message was that Lazarus was dead. When two days had passed Jesus told the disciples that Lazarus was dead.

The next day Jesus told the disciples He was going to the house. When He arrived at the house of Mary and Martha He went to the grave site. While they were at the grave site, Jesus wept.

Jesus was not weeping for Lazarus because He was going to resurrect him.

Jesus was weeping because after He would raise Lazarus from the dead, the people would kill Him. He was also weeping because the people would not believe in Him and so they would die in their sins.

Finally Jesus was about to resurrect him. So when He did, somebody opened the grave, and Jesus said "Lazarus, come forth." So Lazarus stood up and came out of the grave.

"The beholders are at first speechless with amazement. Then there follows an inexpressible scene of rejoicing and thanksgiving. The sisters receive their brother back to life as the gift of God, and with joyful tears they brokenly express their thanks to the Saviour. But while brother, sisters, and friends are rejoicing in this reunion, Jesus withdraws from the scene." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 536

#### The Hunchback Lady

Another miracle Jesus did was when a lady who had a hunched back was healed. The people were in the

church, then a hunchback lady came in. Jesus went to her and did something to her back and she got cured. This means she was born again. So the people got angry at Jesus because He did a miracle on Sabbath. We do not work on the Sabbath, but we can do good things for other people.

Jesus did these miracles so the people would believe in Him, so they could have eternal life.

It is my wish and prayer that we may believe in Jesus and not want to kill Him like they did when He was on the earth. If we are born again, we will be in the house of the Lord, in heaven and in the New Jerusalem. Amen.

*Sarah Newby*

### Miracles In The Apostle's Time

Let us look at some of the miracles that happened during the apostle's time. "And when the day of Pentecost was now come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound as of the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them tongues parting asunder, like as of fire; and it sat upon each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. And when this sound was heard, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speaking in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying, Behold, are not all these that speak Galilaeans?" Acts 2:1–7. These men who were in Jerusalem who were from other countries understood when Peter

said something in Galilaean and they heard it in their own language. If they were French they would hear it in French. If they were German they would hear it in German. If they were English they would hear it in English.

“Pentecost brought them the heavenly illumination. The truths they could not understand while Christ was with them were now unfolded. With a faith and assurance that they had never before known, they accepted the teachings of the Sacred Word. No longer was it a matter of faith with them that Christ was the Son of God. They knew that, although clothed with humanity, He was indeed the Messiah, and they told their experience to the world with a confidence which carried with it the conviction that God was with them.

“They could speak the name of Jesus with assurance; for was He not their Friend and Elder Brother? Brought into close communion with Christ, they sat with Him in heavenly places. With what burning language they clothed their ideas as they bore witness for Him! Their hearts were surcharged with a benevolence so full, so deep, so far-reaching, that it impelled them to go to the ends of the earth, testifying to the power of Christ. They were filled with an intense longing to carry forward the work He had begun. They realized the greatness of their debt to heaven and the responsibility of their work. Strengthened by the endowment of the Holy Spirit, they went forth filled with zeal to extend the triumphs of the cross. The Spirit animated them and spoke through them. The peace of Christ shone from their faces. They had consecrated their lives to Him for service, and their very features bore evidence to the surrender they had made.” –*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 45–46. This Early Rain allowed the disciples to speak in many different languages. They travelled from city to city, country to country spreading the word of Jesus and His love. They also performed miracles among the people.

One of the disciples who performed a miracle was Peter. “Now Peter and John were going up into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour. And a certain man that was lame from his mother’s womb



was carried, whom they laid daily at the door of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked to receive an alms. And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him, with John, said, Look on us. And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but what I have, that give I thee. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk. And he took him by the right hand, and raised him up: and immediately his feet and his ankle-bones received strength.” Acts 3:1–7. Peter

helped this man have the ability to walk.

Another apostle who performed *many* miracles was Paul. One day in a place called Troas on the coast of Asia Minor, Paul was visiting its church and gave a very big missionary speech. In the window there was a boy named Eutychus. He suddenly fell through the window, three stories down. Everyone ran outside to see the body. Paul came through the crowd and put his arms around the boy. After a prayer, Paul said “He lives.” How could this boy still be living after falling down a three-story building?

There is another miracle that Paul performed. Once Paul was on a boat crossing the sea when there was a shipwreck. They came to an island and made a fire to dry their clothing. Suddenly a venomous snake came upon Paul and bit him. But Paul did not drop dead. The natives of that island thought that Paul was a god because he didn’t die. But Paul said, no.



These men did not perform miracles for worldly things. They used them to help others and to help the church of God. If we grow to be like these men, during the latter rain, we will get the same power to speak different languages like these men and be able to speak to many people about Jesus. We will also see these prophets and disciples in heaven. This is my wish and prayer. In Jesus’ holy name, Amen.

**Stephen Newby**

# The Elderly

"Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the LORD." Leviticus 19:32

"The cause needs the help of the old hands, the aged workers, who have had many years' experience in the cause of God." –*Selected Messages*, vol. 2, p. 224

Two of the oldest members in Canada celebrated their birthdays on September 28th. We thank God for their good health and support in their local churches.

## **SISTER TERESITA BARRERA (95 years old)**

Sister Teresita is the oldest member in the London, Ontario church. She is originally from San Salvador, El Salvador. Sister Teresita heard about the Reform Church in her country 30 years ago. She was baptized by one brother named Alfredo (she does not remember the name exactly she but says that this brother was from Germany). She immigrated to Canada 18 years ago. She came by invitation of her son George (Jorge), who sponsored her. Sister Teresita is currently a blessing to the Church in London and is very active in doing things for others. We pray to the Lord to keep her alive and healthy and faithful to the Lord until the end of her life.

## **BROTHER TIMO MARTIN (83 years old)**

Brother Timo was three years old when his parents joined the Reform Church in Finland. He was baptized in 1946 by brother Muller. Brother Timo moved to Canada when he was 20 years old, in the year 1952. He has served voluntarily in the church for well over 50 years, with regular preaching, teaching and Bible Studies (as a lay member). He has been the church leader in the Toronto church for over 30 years. Many of the members in Canada can thank Brother Timo for his untiring missionary labour in their behalf. Today he still preaches regularly and conducts the afternoon Baptismal

class. He also serves as the General Conference Auditor.

"God has especially enjoined tender respect toward the aged. He says, "The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness." Proverbs 16:31. It tells of battles fought and victories gained, of burdens borne and temptations resisted. It tells of weary feet nearing their rest, of places soon to be vacant. Help the children to think of this, and they will smooth the path of the aged by their courtesy and respect." –*Child Guidance*, p. 144

"Those who have served their Master when the work went hard, who endured poverty and remained faithful when there were few to stand for truth, are to be honored and respected. The Lord desires the younger laborers to gain wisdom, strength, and maturity by association with these faithful men. Let the younger men realize that in having such workers among them they are highly favored. Let them give them an honored place in their councils." –*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 573–574

"The most tender regard should be cherished for those whose life interest has been bound up with the work of God. These aged workers have stood faithful amid storm and trial. They may have infirmities, but they still possess talents that qualify them to stand in their place in God's cause. Though worn, and unable to bear the heavier burdens that younger men can and should carry, the counsel they can give is of the highest value." –*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 573

Let us make good use of the knowledge available from our elderly ones while they are still with us today. It is our prayer that the Lord bless Brother Timo and Sister Teresita. Both are still able to manage living alone. Our Heavenly Father takes care of their health and strength to be a blessing to their family and to the Church.





## Some of the Ministers in the Church



**Above:  
Brother Shirima,  
Tanzania**



**Above: Brother De la Paz, Philippines  
With his wife Grace**



**Above: Brother Lowe, Canada,  
with son Adrian**

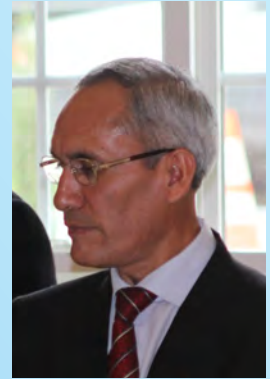


**Right:  
Brother Caputo,  
Italy**



**Right:  
Brother Alva,  
Peru**

**Left:  
Brother Monterroso,  
Guatemala**



## Legazpi City, Philippines





**“The vineyard includes the whole world, and every part of it is to be worked. There are places which are now a moral wilderness, and these are to become as the garden of the Lord. The waste places of the earth are to be cultivated, that they may bud and blossom as the rose. New territories are to be worked by men inspired by the Holy Spirit. New churches must be established, new congregations organized. At this time there should be representatives of present truth in every city and in the remote parts of the earth.” - *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 24**

## **After**

**After the sowing comes the glorious reaping,  
After the sadness comes harp and song;  
Eternal joy shall banish all our weeping,  
As we mingle with the blood-washed throng.**

**After the desert comes the land of beauty,  
And Marah's pool's forgot 'neath Elim's palms;  
After the prayer, the cross, the life of duty,  
Eternity's long, glad thanksgiving psalms.**

**After time's desert is the land immortal,  
Majestic mountains, smiling valleys green;  
The narrow way leads to the shining portal,  
And life's glad waters with their sparkling sheen.**

**L.D. Santee**