

FUTURE FOR AMERICA

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January 1999

Faith Is The Victory

by John H. Yates

*Encamped along the hills of light, Ye Christian soldiers rise,
And press the battle ere the night Shall veil the glowing skies;
Against the foe in vales below, Let all our strength be hurled;
Faith is the victory, we know, That overcomes the world.*

*CHORUS: Faith is the victory! Faith is the the victory!
Oh, glorious victory, That overcomes the world.*

*His banner over us is love, Our sword the Word of God;
We tread the road the saints above With shouts of triumph trod;
By faith they, like a whirlwind's breath, Swept on o'er every field;
The faith by which they conquered Death Is still our shining shield.*

*On every hand the foe we find Drawn up in dread array;
Let tents of ease be left behind, And onward to the fray;
Salvation's helmet on each head, With truth all girt about,
The earth shall tremble 'neath our tread, And echo with our shout.*

*To him that overcomes the foe, White raiment shall be giv'n
Before the angels he shall know His name confessed in heav'n
Then onward from the hills of light, Our hearts with love aflame;
We'll vanquish all the hosts of night, In Jesus conqu'ring name.*

Future for America Mission Statement

The ministry of *Future for America* is to proclaim the final warning message of Revelation 14 as identified within the prophecies of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. The end-time fulfillment of Bible prophecy is no longer future—for it is taking place before our eyes. The historic, prophetic understanding of Seventh-day Adventism is now *present truth*. We are the final generation. Our emphasis on the **prophetic word** includes all the counsel of God's Word. To know what lies ahead is useless if we do not possess the experience to stand during these solemn times. Through obedience to God's law, and faith in the promises of God's Word, we are to receive that experience.

Coupled with the prophetic message, *Future for America* emphasizes all aspects of the **medical missionary work**. The "entering wedge"—medical missionary work—must be practiced by those who are to finish God's work in these final hours.

During this time period, **country living** becomes more essential with each passing moment. *Future for America* upholds and promotes this end-time truth. God's people must prepare for the coming storm, and that preparation includes the experience of learning how to survive in a simple fashion, away from the great centers of population.

Future for America intends to print and distribute **truth-filled literature**, while helping to establish lay-printing operations in parts of the Lord's vineyard where faithful brethren do not have the means to raise up a **printing operation** with their own resources.

Future for America

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*This is the victory that
overcometh the world, even our
faith.—1 John 5:4.*

Dear Friends of Future for America,

In order to get this issue to you in a timely manner we have decided to send out this small issue. This is our "We are in the process of moving" special!

Plans had been made to have the January 1999 issue centered on the issue of faith, and so we have kept this theme in this shorter version. Faith is the green cord which we need to take out and stretch so that it does not become tangled. It is the cord that comes down from an unseen hand to provide us with just the right measure of support. It is the cord that strengthens with use, until at the end we may put our whole weight upon it—with assurance that it will not fail, for it is our Saviour who holds the cord and it is His strength which will uphold us.

By the time you receive this newsletter we should have arrived in Wildersville, Tennessee, and be in the process of unpacking and settling in.

Thank you very much for all of your letters and phone calls wishing us traveling mercies, and continued support. Your encouraging words are very much appreciated.

During this transition time, we would also like to request that you give us a little extra time in which to fill orders and answer correspondence. As this move will have to be done in stages, there may be some delay in getting everything responded to as speedily as we would wish. But, with the help of the Lord, we will be back on schedule in as short a period of time as possible.

Once again I want to remind you that as of now, the *Future for America* address is: P. O. Box 10, Wildersville, TN 38388. Please address all correspondence to that address.

The toll free telephone numbers will be the same, and you can call us at those numbers. However, once again we ask your consideration for a couple of weeks while we are trying to get settled.

May God abundantly bless you as you stretch out the cord of faith, learning to lean on Him, and as you continue to seek His will in your life.

Your sister in His service,

Denise Matlean

*For Your Information

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST

Part 2 of 2

by Ellen G. White

CHRIST says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life;" (John 14:6) and it is the privilege of every soul to make Christ his personal Saviour. You need not wait to grow good; you need not think that any effort of yours will make your prayers acceptable, and bring you salvation. Let each man and woman pray to God, not to man. Let each one come to Christ in humility, speak to Him with your own lips. The request, "Will you pray for me?" has become simply a form of speech; you should pray to God for yourself, believing that He listens to every word you utter. Lay bare your heart for His inspection, confess your sins, asking Him to forgive you, pleading the merits of the atonement, and then by faith contemplate the great scheme of redemption, and the Comforter will bring all things to your remembrance.

The more you study the character of Christ, the more attractive will He appear to you. He will become as one near you, in close companionship with you; your affections will go out after Him. If the mind is molded by the objects with which it has most to do, then to think of Jesus, to talk of Him, will enable you to become like Him in Spirit and character. You will reflect His image in that which is great and pure and spiritual. You will have the mind of Christ, and He will send you forth to the world as His spiritual representative. He will be your only glory. You cannot affiliate with the world without becoming a partaker of its spirit, without becoming guilty of treason against the Lord who has bought you.

It is the privilege of every earnest seeker for truth, and righteousness, to rely upon the sure promises of God. The Lord Jesus makes manifest the fact that the treasures of divine grace are placed entirely at our disposal, in order that we may become channels of light. We cannot receive

the riches of the grace of Christ without desiring to impart them to others. When we have the love of Christ in our hearts, we shall feel that it is our duty and privilege to communicate it. The sun shining in the heavens, pours its bright beams into all the highways and by-ways of life. It has sufficient light for thousands of worlds like ours. And so it is with the Sun of Righteousness; His bright beams of healing and gladness are amply sufficient to save our little world, and are efficacious in establishing security in every world that has been created. Christ declares that Our Heavenly Father is more willing to give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than earthly parents are to give good gifts to their children. The day of Pentecost furnished a wonderful occasion. In the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, what a testimony was given to the abundance of the grace of Christ! Why is it that those who claim to believe advanced truth, live so far beneath their privileges? Why do they mingle self with all they do? If they will cast out self, Jesus will pour into the thirsty soul a constant supply from the river of life. How can our ministers become the representatives of Christ, when they feel self-sufficient—when by spirit and attitude they say, "I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing"? Revelation 3:17. We must not be in a self-satisfied condition, or we shall be described as those who are poor, and wretched, and miserable, and blind, and naked.

Since the time of the Minneapolis meeting, I have seen the state of the Laodicean Church as never before. I have heard the rebuke of God spoken to those who feel so well satisfied, who know not their spiritual destitution. Jesus speaks to these as He did to the woman of Samaria: "If thou knewest the gift of God, and

who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldst have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water." John 4:10.

Like the Jews, many have closed their eyes lest they should see; but there is as great peril now, in closing the eyes to light, and in walking apart from Christ, feeling need of nothing, as there was when He was upon earth. I have been shown many things which I have presented before our people in solemnity and earnestness, but those whose hearts have been hardened through criticism, jealousy, and evil surmisings, knew not that they were poor, and miserable, and blind, and naked. Those who resist the messages of God through His humble servant, think they are at variance with Sister White, because her ideas are not in harmony with theirs; but this variance is not with Sister White, but with the Lord, who has given her her work to do.

Those who realize their need of repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ, will have contrition of soul, will repent for their resistance of the Spirit of the Lord. They will confess their sin in refusing the light that Heaven has so graciously sent them, and they will forsake the sin that grieved and insulted the Spirit of the Lord. They will humble self, and accept the power and grace of Christ, acknowledging the messages of warning, reproof, and encouragement. Then their faith in the work of God will be made manifest, and they will rely upon the atoning sacrifice. They will make a personal appropriation of Christ's abundant grace and righteousness, and He will become to them a present Saviour; for they will realize their need of Him, and with complete trust will rest in Him. They will drink of the water of life from the divine, inexhaustible fountain. In a new

and blessed experience, they will cast themselves upon Christ, and become partakers of the divine nature. The human and the divine will cooperate every day, and the heart will well up in thanksgiving and praise to Christ. Heavenly inspiration will have a part in the Christian experience, and we shall grow to the full stature of men and women in Christ Jesus.

It is growth in knowledge of the character of Christ that sanctifies the soul. To discern and appreciate the wonderful work of the atonement, transforms him who contemplates the plan of salvation. By beholding Christ, he becomes changed into the same image, from glory to glory, as by the Spirit of the Lord. The beholding of Jesus becomes an ennobling, refining process to the actual Christian. He sees the Pattern, and grows into its likeness, and then how easily are dissensions, emulations, and strife adjusted. The perfection of Christ's character is the Christian's inspiration. When we see Him as He is, desire awakes to be like Him, and this elevates the whole man; for "every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." John 3:3.

I feel sad when I think how for long years there has been a gradual lowering of the standard. I have been shown that very few realize the constant presence of the divine Watcher who declares, "I know thy works." Revelation 3:15. Through the indulgence of sin, many have forfeited the favor of God, misrepresented Jesus, forgotten His presence, forgotten that they are living in His sight, and so have added evil to evil. All such are foolish virgins. They have no abiding consolation. The power of Christ is to be the comfort, the hope, the crown of rejoicing, of everyone that follows Jesus in his conflict, in his struggles in life. He who truly follows the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world, can shout as he advances, "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:4.

What kind of faith is it that overcomes the world?—It is that faith which makes Christ your own per-

sonal Saviour—that faith which, recognizing your helplessness, your utter inability to save yourself, takes hold of the Helper who is mighty to save, as your only hope. It is faith that will not be discouraged, that hears the voice of Christ saying, "Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world, and my divine strength is yours." (See John 16:33.) It is the faith that hears Him say, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:20.

The reason why the churches are weak and sickly and ready to die, is that the enemy has brought influences of a discouraging nature to bear upon trembling souls. He has sought to shut Jesus from their view as the Comforter, as one who reproves, who warns, who admonishes them, saying, "This is the way,

sins." Matthew 1:21. Jesus, precious Saviour! Assurance, helpfulness, security, and peace are all in Him. He is the dispeller of all our doubts, the earnest of all our hopes. How precious is the thought that we may indeed become partakers of the divine nature, whereby we may overcome as Christ overcame! Jesus is the fullness of our expectation. He is the melody of our songs, the shadow of a great rock in a weary land. He is living water to the thirsty soul. He is our refuge in the storm. He is our righteousness, our sanctification, our redemption. When Christ is our personal Saviour, we shall show forth the praises of Him who hath called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

This great spiritual destitution is not caused by any failure on the part of Christ doing all that is possible for

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walk ye in it." Isaiah 30:21. Christ has all power in heaven and in earth, and He can strengthen the wavering, and set right the erring. He can inspire with confidence, with hope in God; and confidence in God always results in creating confidence in one another.

Every soul must have a realization that Christ is his personal Saviour; then love and zeal and steadfastness will be manifest in the Christian life. However clear and convincing the truth is, it will fail to sanctify the soul, fail to strengthen and fortify it in its conflicts, unless it is brought in constant contact with life. Satan has achieved his greatest success through interposing himself between the soul and the Saviour.

Christ should never be out of the mind. The angels said concerning him, "Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their

the Church. Our Heavenly Father bestowed all Heaven in one gift—that of His dear Son. The work of the Holy Spirit is not to daub with untempered mortar, but it is to convince the world of sin, of righteousness, of judgment to come. Jesus says, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." John 12:32. The revelation of the Son of God upon the cross, dying for the sins of men, draws the hearts of men by the power of infinite love, and convinces the sinner of sin. Christ died because the law was transgressed, that guilty man might be saved from the penalty of his enormous guilt. But history has proved that it is easier to destroy the world than to reform it; for men crucified the Lord of glory, who came to unite earth with heaven, and man with God.—*The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, August 26, 1890. ☞