

Future NEWS

Volume 7, No. 1

January 2003

A CALM, CONSIDERATE MANNER.

“The Lord gave you your work, not to be done in a rush, but in a calm, considerate manner. The Lord never compels hurried, complicated movements.” *Testimonies*, volume 8, 189.

“Through his devices, Satan, in many respects, has made the domestic life one of care and complicated burdens in order to meet the demands of fashion. His purpose in doing this is to keep minds occupied so fully with the things of this life that they can give but little attention to their highest interest.” *Confrontation*, 58.

“Do not be so busy you cannot give time to read the Bible and seek the grace of God in humble prayer.” *Daughters of God*, 160.

“The enemy is just as perseveringly at work now as he was before the flood. By the use of various enterprises and inventions, he is diligently working to keep the minds of men engrossed in the things of this world. He is employing all his ingenuity to lead men to act foolishly, to keep them absorbed in commercial enterprises, and thus to imperil their hope of eternal life. He devises the inventions that imperil human life. Under his leadership, men carry through that which he devises. They become so absorbed in the pursuit of wealth and worldly power that they give no heed to a ‘Thus saith the Lord.’” *Christian Service*, 218.

“The apprentices and the other workers must not be so rushed and hurried that they have no time to pray.” *Testimonies*, volume 8, 93.

“Many fail of imitating our holy Pattern because they study so little the definite features of that character. So many are full of busy plans, always active; and there is no time or place for the precious Jesus to be a close, dear companion. They do not refer every thought and action to Him, inquiring: ‘Is this the way of the Lord?’ If they did they would walk with God, as did Enoch.” *Testimonies*, volume 6, 393.

Future for America produces and mails out a monthly newsletter and audio presentation in English and Spanish. For information you may contact the following brethren who are affiliated with this work:

Future News

PO Box 7

Bonnerdale, AR 71933

Telephone: 888-278-7744

Circulation Manager—Kathy Pippenger

Editor & Speaker—Jeff Pippenger

JeffPippenger@msn.com

Contributing Editor—Pat Rampy

Patrick.Rampy@juno.com

Contributing Editor—Dean Ferrell

Seventhseal@firstVA.com

Spanish Department—Al & Lupe Perez

Futuro de America

PO Box 353

Glenwood, AR 71943

Telephone: 870-356-7049

aperez77@alltel.net

Future News—Canada

Phyllis Vallieres

RR 3, 2552 Cooper Road

Madoc, Ontario, K0K 2K0, Canada

Telephone: 613-473-5332

FAX 613-473-5630

phyllisv@primus.ca

Future for America—Great Britain

Russell & Charmaine Williams

29 Lascelles Close

Leytonstone, London

Telephone: 208-279-6903

judicium@aol.com

Future for America is a self-supporting 501-C3 non-profit corporation; funded by readers like you. The cost of this newsletter and audio-tape reaching a home is approximately \$3.50.

This publication is sent out free of charge. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

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.

Our evangelistic series in the Philippines begins on the 19th of this month and continues until February 1. We solicit your prayers and thank you for the finances to accomplish this work. We are now beginning the preparation of our next series in April. If the Lord impresses you to help in this effort, or any of the three remaining evangelistic series we are planning in 2003, please mark your offering as Philippines 2003.

Dear Jeff & Kathy,

Greetings! Thanks be to God that you are always behind us in our evangelism thrust for more than 6 years already. We are indeed blessed of your ministry. The Lord has really inspired you to organize *Future for America* ministry. Your ministry has contributed much in the Lord's work in many countries including the Philippines, particularly in Central Visayan Conference. I'm praying that our partnership will go on during this term of 3 years.

Your yearly support by God's help has greatly helped us in reaching more than 2,000 souls for four consecutive years already and leading in baptism among the 5 mission/conferences throughout the Union. We humbly praise the Lord of His marvelous grace that He has freely bestowed upon your ministry and for Central Visayan Conference.

Thank you and may God bless you in your ministry. More power! Your Cebu friend and brother in His service, Pastor Agapito J. Catane, Jr. President

Dear Jeff,

Greetings! "How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity."

The work in Cataingan, Masbate is wonderful, we had a baptism of about 80 souls for this year as a whole even if we have not enough Bible workers. We are looking forward for your plan to hold an evangelistic campaign this coming 2003. Hopefully this will be materialized through Gods help. We pray for your untiring ministry all over and to those brethren who are willing to give their financial support for Gods Cause.

Perhaps this is a surprise to you, we are expecting a baby girl this few days. Hopefully, there will be no problem during the delivery. As of now we are in CVC parsonage waiting for the expected date, because of poor hospital facilities and services in Cataingan. We have come to the city and I am now two weeks absent from work. By the way, we are so thankful for the motorbike you have bought for us. It is a great, great help in our ministry. Please extend my thanks to those who have donated that amount. My old motorbike has resigned its service [died] just a few weeks after we moved to Masbate. Best regards to Kathy and to your team, but keep the most of it. Thank you so much to all of you. More Power and God Bless! DDB—Philippines

We budgetted six thousand dollars per series and this amount does not include airfare for our speakers or any monies used towards supplemental literature that we bring to the meetings. We send three thousand of the budget three months before the series starts to pay for the ten Bible workers who work the area in advance for three months. The Lord provided more funds than necessary for the current January series and we are now watching for the initial three thousand to start the April series.

In 2003 we have invitations to speak in England, Germany, Philippines, Malaysia, Chile, Colombia, Krygyzstan, Uzbekistan, Russia and the Ukraine. We solicit your prayers as we seek the Lord's will in all these endeavors.

Hi Jeff & Kathy,

Once again I want to Thank you for your ministry. Please continue sending me and D your newsletter and tapes. You sent me a large box of audio series, which I have been passing around to church members. In general, only one person expressed reservation, but he was a Shepherd Rod, and I loaned him *The Judgement of the Living* series. Shepherd Rod adherents are hard to convince of their errors. May the Lord continue to bless, and reward your ministry, with many souls won to our Lord and Savior. With warm affection L&D

In December 2001 we printed a letter we recieved from brother RH. The following is that letter one more time—followed by a more recent letter from the brother’s sister.

Dear Sir,

I am a disabled police officer who was recently diagnosed with the terminal illness-ALS. There is a song that says something like “I’ve wandered far away from home, Lord I’m coming home.” I was raised a Seventh-day Adventist, but strayed away during my military career while a young man. In later years I filled my life with work and material things.

Now, having come face to face with my illness, I’ve grown to realize that the things of this world are meaningless without Christ. After a recent episode of severe illness resulting in a hospital stay where I came to the brink of death, I knew I needed peace that only God could give. I cried out to Him and He heard me.

Previously, my brother had sent me several books. One was entitled, *Steps to Christ for a Sanctified Life*, and *The Power of Prayer*, both by E.G. White. In my darkest hour, I rediscovered these books. How refreshing it was to be reminded of God’s love for me. Before long I found myself weeping in deep contrition and repentance.

Day by day I’m striving to grow closer to Christ and gain strength to cope with my illness. I’m like a new babe in the word of God. Despite the fact that I am mostly confined to my wheelchair and hospital bed, still I rise to get my spiritual food before I get the physical food. The Psalms have brought me the greatest comfort, especially when I am in severe pain.

Having recently appealed to a nearby Seventh-day Adventist church pastor to come by and pray with me. I was sadly disappointed when he promised to come, bring the elders and anoint me, but they never showed up. Nevertheless, I have not let this incident shake my faith and trust in the Lord. Please add my name to your mailing list that I might receive your monthly publication. Enclosed please find a small gift. Although I am on fixed and limited income, I want to return a donation. My arms and legs are nearly useless, yet I found out what a great effort you all are making to finish the work and hasten the soon return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I will be sending theses monies to you as often as I can. Thank you. Please pray for me. I have to get someone to write for me, but I look forward to hearing from you soon. Your Brother in Christ, RH—TX

Now the letter from his sister:

Dear *Future News*,

Peace and Grace be to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This letter has been a long time coming.

I write to thank you. Maybe you’re wondering what for? It all began with my brother RH’s recent illness. You printed his testimony which he dictated to me and I mailed. You published it in your Volume 5, #12 December 2001 issue. Since then, your staff sent Ronnie numerous tape sets and sermon notes. As one of his caregivers, I saw on a daily basis the change that was wrought in him as he devoured the messages and allowed the Truth to sink in.

R had a good mind. He couldn't turn the pages on the notes, so he memorized a lot of the tapes and shared the information with everyone he came in contact with. He was so filled with the Holy Spirit that when the Pastor and elders came to anoint him, Ron's testimony to them was so inspiring that they asked him to come to tell it at Church. He gladly accepted. He dictated a paper to me which I typed entitled *The Eminent Return* of Jesus Christ.

This trip to church was not an easy task as the ALS had taken control of his muscles and he was in an electric wheelchair. Yet, he did not hesitate. It took a long time to get him dressed and wait for the Metro lift bus to pick him up. Yet, he did that twice. He admonished the church members to "get ready" and to make sure that their calling and election were sure.

Well, Ron died this June, just 12 days after his 51st birthday. He testified until his speech was no more.

It has been difficult adjusting to life without him. We were very close and the only family each other had here in Texas. I miss him so much I spent almost everyday with him this last year and a half. Not hearing his voice or the words of wisdom he shared has left a void in my life especially during this holiday time. Nevertheless, I am using this holiday time and the season to thank-you for allowing God to use you. I don't know who it was who sent the tapes notes, etc. But I believe that God used your ministry to help save my brother. He is resting now. He said when he wakes up, the next face and voice he wants to see and hear is that of the Lovely Jesus. I wanted you all to know the comfort and blessed hope you gave to my brother.

So, now you know the reason for the absence of my time and contributions. It has been especially difficult for our dad in North Carolina. He will be 80 years old this February. (Lord willing.) He was unable to attend the funeral. I had to gather the flag and other personal belongings to take to him after the funeral. Please remember us in your prayers. We pray for your ministry as well. May God continue to bless you as you bless others with the precious gems from God's words. Sincerely, PL

Dear Brother Jeff,

Your December newsletter arrived on Tuesday and I began reading it after I sent you my last e-mail. It was a surprise to see our correspondence regarding the nature of Christ as one of the topics. It was good to know that I had misunderstood what Pastor Lin was saying regarding the nature of Christ.

You mentioned in one of your letters that you had a hunch that this topic is important in my mind. That is putting it mildly! I have never studied any topic in scripture with such diligence and now it seems most everything I look at in inspiration takes me back to this subject.

I have been confronted with dual applications of the prophecies as I am sure you have been. In studying the topic of dual application one of the references given to justify a false interpretation was *Testimonies to Ministers*, 112. I still haven't figured out how that one is used, however as I was researching it I went back and found the original articles that this chapter was compiled from. I am not an advocate of the original writings doctrine, but I wanted to read the statements in the context in which they were given. On page 113 sister White says, "When we as a people understand what this book means to us, there will be seen among us a great revival." As I read the different paragraphs from their source I was impressed with our need as a people and individually. We are in no better shape today than were the Jews when Christ came the first time. We are truly in a Laodicean condition. The banquet has been provided, we have been invited by the King but we are too engrossed with the cares of this world to partake of the feast—the bread of God's word.

Last weekend I went to a weekend study on Daniel eleven. During the study one thing that was said was that Sister White counseled us to study Daniel in connection with the minor prophets and she specifically mentioned Malachi. I have an EGW study Bible and so I turned to Malachi and glanced at some of her comments on Malachi and they were dealing with our need to have the character of God reproduced in us and that this will come when the word of God is enshrined in our hearts! Another closely related example:

The temptations of Jesus are very closely related to His nature. And as I have studied this subject the question has frequently been asked if He was different that we are how was He tempted in all points like as we are? That's a fair question and the Spirit of Prophecy has a very clear answer. Following is what I presented at church for special feature a couple months ago.

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 4:15.

Sister White speaks about a contract that Jesus made with his father regarding the plan of salvation.

“If Christ had been deceived by Satan’s temptations, and had exercised his miraculous power to relieve himself from difficulty, he would have broken the contract made with his Father, to be a probationer in behalf of the race.” *Review and Herald*, April 1, 1875.

The terms of the contract were that Christ would not use His miraculous power to relieve Himself from difficulty while He lived in humanity as a probationer for the race. Notice that in order for Satan to be successful in his temptations that he would first have to **deceive** Christ. Was this contract an easy thing for Christ to do?

“It was a difficult task for the Prince of Life to carry out the plan which he had undertaken for the salvation of man, in clothing his divinity with humanity. He had received honor in the heavenly courts, and was familiar with absolute power. It was as difficult for him to keep the level of humanity as it is for men to rise above the low level of their depraved natures, and be partakers of the divine nature. Christ was put to the closest test, requiring the strength of all his faculties to resist the inclination when in danger, to use his power to deliver himself from peril, and triumph over the power of the prince of darkness.” *Ibid*.

What was his temptation? To use His divine power to deliver Himself from peril. In the above quote Sister White is contrasting His temptations (keeping the level of humanity) with our temptations (rising above the low level of our depraved natures).

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 4:15.

INFIRMITIES #769 Strong’s Concordance—from #772; feebleness (of body or mind); by impl. malady; mor. frailty;—disease, infirmity, sickness, weakness.

“He pleads and reasons with the sinner, and in one sense—that of having Himself borne the weakness of humanity—He puts Himself on a level with him.” *Testimonies*, volume 4, 294.

The word points is not in the Strong’s Concordance but the dictionary defines it as:

POINT—1. Degree. 2. Punctilio; nicety; exactness of ceremony; as points of precedence.

PUNCTILIO—A nice point of exactness in conduct, ceremony or proceeding.

NICETY—Exactness in treatment.

TEMPTED # 3985 Strong’s Concordance—from 3984; to test (obj.) i.e. endeavor, scrutinize, entice, discipline:—assay, examine, go about, prove, tempt (-er), try.

TEMPTED—Enticed to evil; provoked; tried.

LIKE #2596 & 3665 Strong’s Concordance

LIKE #2596—a prim. particle; (prep.) down (in place or time), in varied relations (according to the case [gen. dat. or acc.] with which it is joined):—about, according as (to), after, against, (when they were) x alone, among, and , x apart, (even, like) as (concerning, pertaining to, touching), x aside, at, before, beyond, by, to the charge of, [charita-] bly, concerning, + covered, [dai-]ly, down, every, (+ far more) exceeding, x more excellent, for, from...to, godly, in (-asmuch, divers, every, -to, respect of),...by, after the manner of, + by any means, beyond (out of) measure, x mightily, more, x natural, of (up-) on (x part), out (of every), over against, (+ your) x own, + particularly, so, through (-oughout, -oughout every), thus, (un-) to (-gether, -ward), x uttermost, where (-by), with. In composition it retains many of these applications, and frequently denotes opposition, distribution or intensity.

LIKE #3665—from 3664; resemblance:—like as, similitude.

LIKE—In the same manner.

MANNER—Method.

We are told in inspiration that He was tempted, provoked, tried, in as much greater degree as His character is superior to ours and that He did not use any power to resist temptation that is not available to us! In other words He was treated exactly like we are when we are tempted.

How does scripture tell us that we are tempted?

But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. James 1:14.

LUST—Longing desire.

ENTICED—Allured or drawn by something that appears desirable.

Let's look at his first temptation in the wilderness. In *The Desire of Ages*, 117 Sister White tells us that in the first victory over appetite there were involved other issues that enter into all our conflicts with the power of darkness. How did Christ's first temptation "involve issues that enter into all our conflicts with the power of darkness." And how did he suffer being tempted in all points like as we are?

When he was faint and hungry from his long fast, **Satan appeared to him as an angel of light**, tempting him to employ his divine power in his own behalf." *Signs of the Times*, July 28, 1890.

THREE POINTS IN THIS STATEMENT:

Jesus was experiencing hunger to the point of being faint. He had the **longing** human **desire** to be relieved of hunger. Satan appeared as an angel of light. Deception. Satan tried to allure Him to use His divine power to satisfy His human **desire**.

Have you ever been tempted to work a miracle to provide for your needs? Why is it not a temptation for you? Can we still say though that he was tempted like as we are?

"But his most successful scheme in **deceiving man** has been to conceal his real purposes, and his true character, by representing himself as man's friend and a benefactor of the race. He flatters men with the pleasing fable that there is no rebellious foe, no deadly enemy that they need to guard against, and that the existence of a personal devil is all a fiction. While he thus hides his existence, he is gathering thousands under his control. **He is deceiving them, as he tried to deceive Christ, that he is an angel from Heaven doing a good work for humanity.** And the masses are so blinded by sin that they cannot discern the devices of Satan, and they honor him as they would a heavenly angel, while he is working their eternal ruin." *Selected Messages*, book 1, 270.

"The enticements which Christ resisted were those that we find it so difficult to withstand. They were urged upon Him in as much greater degree as His character is superior to ours." *The Desire of Ages*, 116.

“He . . . ‘suffered being tempted,’ suffered in proportion to the perfection of His holiness. . . . Would that we could comprehend the significance of the words, ‘Christ suffered, being tempted.’ While He was free from the taint of sin, the refined sensibilities of His holy nature rendered contact with evil unspeakably painful to Him.” *Review and Herald*, November 8, 1887.

Is it a sin to eat when we are hungry?

“He hoped that under the force of despondency and extreme hunger, Christ would lose faith in His Father, and work a miracle in His own behalf.” *Desire of Ages*, 119.

DESPONDENCY—A sinking or dejection of spirits at the loss of hope; loss of courage at the failure of hope, or in deep affliction, or at the prospect of insurmountable difficulties.

Since we do not possess divine power as Jesus did what example did he give us in resisting his first temptation in the wilderness? There are three:

1. He trusted in His Father’s word.

“The words from heaven, ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased’ (Matthew 3:17), were still sounding in the ears of Satan. But he was determined to make Christ disbelieve this testimony.” *Desire of Ages*, 119.

2. He rested in His Father’s love and used His Father’s word to answer Satan’s lie.

“Strengthened with the memory of the voice from heaven, He rested in His Father’s love. He would not parley with temptation. Jesus met Satan with the words of Scripture. ‘It is written,’ He said. In every temptation the weapon of His warfare was the word of God.” *Desire of Ages*, 119–120.

3. He denied self.

The inexpressible anguish which Christ endured was His example to us in self denial to submit our wills to God. (Paraphrased. See *The Desire of Ages*, 122, last sentence of second paragraph.)

“... the life of Jesus was one of laborious, **self-denying** effort to bring man back to his first estate by imbuing him with the spirit of divine benevolence and unselfish love.” *Amazing Grace*, 165.

“In man’s behalf, Christ conquered by enduring the severest test. For our sake He exercised a **self-control** stronger than hunger or death.” *The Desire of Ages*, 117.

“Satan had accused God of requiring self-denial of the angels, when He knew nothing of what it meant Himself, and when He would not Himself make any self-sacrifice for others. This was the accusation that Satan made against God in heaven; and after the evil one was expelled from heaven, he continually charged the Lord with exacting service which He would not render Himself. Christ came to the world to meet these false accusations, and to reveal the Father.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 406–407.

What self did Jesus deny, his humanity or his divinity? Both! Which one was more difficult?

“To keep His glory veiled as the child of a fallen race, this was the most severe discipline to which the Prince of life could subject Himself.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 5, 1081.

Think for a minute of someone that you love very dearly, someone very special to you treating you as Jesus is treated in the following paragraph. How would you react?

“Christ submitted to insult and mockery, contempt and ridicule. He heard His message, which was fraught with love and goodness and mercy, misstated and misapplied. He heard Himself called the prince of demons, because He testified to His divine Sonship. His birth was supernatural, but by His own nation, those who had blinded their eyes to spiritual things, it was regarded as a blot and a stain. There was not a drop of our bitter woe which He did not taste, not a part of our curse which He did not endure, that He might bring many sons and daughters to God. . . . Behold Him making the wants, the trials, the griefs and sufferings of sinful men His own. Can we not take home the lesson that God endured these sufferings and bruises of soul in consequence of sin?” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 253.

How did Jesus react? Did he have to deny self in these temptations? Which self did he deny? Did he give me an example? What was the example he gave me? In every temptation mentioned above Jesus denied self in his humanity and in his divinity!

“Self is our greatest enemy, and day by day each must strive for the victory.” *Signs of the Times*, August 26, 1897.

“The condition upon which God has ordained that man may obtain eternal life is self-abasement and cross-bearing. The repenting sinner may find comfort and peace in following in the footsteps of his self-denying Redeemer. The thought that Jesus submitted to humiliation, sacrifice, and such suffering as man will never be called upon to endure, should hush every murmuring voice.” *Review and Herald*, September 23, 1890.

JESUS IS MY EXAMPLE IN:

Believing in God’s word. Using God’s word when meeting temptations. Denying self. Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; (Hebrews 5:8) And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. (Philippians 2:8) Consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. (Hebrews 12:3)

TEMPTATION TO WORSHIP SATAN

“Intense worldliness has been one of Satan’s most successful temptations. He designs to keep the minds and hearts of men so completely filled with worldly attractions that there will be no room for heavenly things. He controls the minds of men in their love of the world. The inordinate attachment to earthly things eclipses the heavenly, and puts the Lord out of the sight and understanding of men. False theories and false gods are cherished in the place of the true.

“Men are dazed and charmed with the glitter and tinsel of the world. They are so attached to the things of earth that they will commit any sin in order to gain some worldly advantage. Satan thought to overthrow Christ on this point. He thought that the humanity of Christ would be easily overcome by his temptations. ‘And the devil taketh Him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showeth Him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; and said unto Him, All these things will I give Thee if Thou wilt fall down and worship me.’

“But Christ was unmoved; and He used only the weapons justifiable for human beings to use—the word of Him who is mighty in counsel, ‘It is written.’

“Had there been the least taint of sin in Christ, Satan would have bruised His head. As it was, he could only touch His heel. Had the head of Christ been touched, the hope of the human race would have perished. Divine wrath would have come upon Christ as it came upon Adam. Christ and the church would have been without hope. But Christ ‘knew no sin.’ He was the Lamb ‘without blemish and without spot.’” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 16, 118–119.

Other quotes from inspiration:

“She knew how offensive everything impure was to the **unsullied mind of Christ**, and she overcame her sin in the strength of her Saviour.” *Signs of the Times*, October 9, 1870.

UNSULLIED—Not disgraced; free from **imputation** of **evil**; not stained.

IMPUTE—To reckon to one what does not belong to him.

EVIL—Having bad qualities of a natural or moral kind.

“Do not set Him before the people as a man with the **propensities of sin.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 13, 18.

PROPENSITY—1. Bent of mind, **natural** or acquired; inclination; in a moral sense; disposition (tendency) to any thing good or evil, particularly to evil; as a propensity to sin; the corrupt propensity of the will. 2. Natural tendency.

“. . . not for one moment was there in Him an **evil propensity.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 13, 18.

“He was a mighty petitioner, **not possessing the passions of our human, fallen natures**, but compassed with like infirmities, tempted in all points even as we are.” *Testimonies*, volume 2, 508.

“He is a brother in our infirmities, **but not in possessing like passions.**” *Ibid.*

“As the sinless One, **His nature recoiled from evil.**” *Ibid.*

“Divinity and humanity were mysteriously combined, and man and God became one. It is in this union that we find the hope of our fallen race. **Looking upon Christ in humanity, we look upon God**, and see in him the brightness of his glory, the express image of his person.” *Signs of the Times*, July 30, 1896

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for **God cannot be tempted with evil**, neither tempteth he any man. James 1:13.

In the article in your newsletter *The Third Angel's Message*, A.T. Jones makes the following statements:

1. “Thus all the tendencies to sin that have appeared or that are in me came to me from Adam, and all that are in you came from Adam, and all that are in the other man came from Adam. So all the tendencies to sin that are in the human race came from Adam. But Jesus Christ felt in these temptations; He was tempted upon all these points in the flesh which he derived from David, from Abraham, and from Adam.”

2. “In Him there were things that reached Him from Adam . . .”

3. “Thus in the flesh of Jesus Christ—not in Himself, but in His flesh—our flesh which He took in the human nature—there were just the same tendencies to sin that are in you and me. And when He was tempted, it was the ‘drawing away of these desires that were in the flesh.’ These tendencies to sin that were in His flesh drew upon Him and sought to entice Him, to consent to the wrong.”

We inherit from Adam a selfish carnal heart which is governed by Satan. It is this selfish carnal heart that is the source of all our tendencies to sin. Jesus was not the son of Adam but the Son of God and He inherited in His humanity God's heart of love!

“Christ points us to the key of all His suffering and humiliation, —the love of God.” *Review and Herald*, July 17, 1900.

There was much in the last part of brother Jones' message on the righteousness of Christ that was excellent but the statements similar to what he made above don't seem to agree with inspiration. May God bless you as you continue to turn the people to Jesus. Your sister in Christ, PN-OR

"One million people"—Number of people per state who could be vaccinated in the first 10 days of a smallpox epidemic, (according to a new government plan).

"Four"—The number of days after exposure to smallpox within which a vaccine must be administered. *Time*, October 7, 2002.

SMALLPOX SHOTS: MAKE THEM MANDATORY.

. . . If smallpox were a threat to individuals, then it could be left up to individuals to decide whether or not they want to protect themselves. When it comes to epidemic diseases, however, we don't leave it up to individuals to decide. The state decides.

Forget about smallpox. This happens every day with childhood disease. No child can go to school unless he's been immunized. Parents have no choice. Think of it: we force parents to inject healthy children with organisms—some living, some dead—which in a small number of cases will cripple or kill the child. It is an extraordinary violation of the privacy and bodily integrity of the little citizen. Yet it is routine. Why? Because what is at stake is the vulnerability of the entire society to a catastrophic epidemic. In that case, individuals must submit.

Which is why smallpox vaccinations were mandatory when we were kids. It wasn't left up to you to decide if you wanted it. . . .

Today the case for mandatory vaccination is even stronger. This is war. We need to respond as in war. The threat is not just against individuals, but against the nation. . . .

This is why conscription in wartime is justified. We violate the freedom of individuals by drafting them into combat, risking their lives—suspending, in effect, their right to life and liberty, to say nothing of their pursuit of happiness—in the name of the nation.

Vaccination is the conscription of civilians in the war against bioterrorism. . . .

If it is determined that the enemy really has smallpox and might use it, we should vaccinate everyone. We haven't been called upon to do very much for the country since September 11. We can and should do this. *Time*, December 23, 2002

Editor's note: This twisted logic is sustained by fear and upheld with patriotism. AIDS is an epidemic that is already devastating many countries, yet the only country to treat it in the fashion that the author suggests is Cuba. [Cuba places AIDS patient in isolation. It is also the only country to have success with controlling the disease.] But the fear mixed with patriotism to sustain the removing of the fundamental principles of the Constitution echo of the same reasoning that was employed by Hitler, pre-World War II.

AND THERE SHALL BE PESTILENCES

A report last summer from the *Department of Health and Human Services*; titled *Scientific Evidence on Condom Effectiveness for Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention*, listed the number of new cases of STD's in the year: 63,000 new cases of HIV/AIDS, 70,000 new cases of syphilis, 650,000 new cases of gonorrhea, 1 million of genital herpes, 3 million of chlamydia, 5 million of trichomoniasis and 5.5 million of human papillomavirus.

The study then coldly concluded that there is "no clinical proof" of the effectiveness of condoms in preventing genital herpes, syphilis, chancroid, trichomoniasis or chlamydia, and no clinical proof of their effectiveness in preventing gonorrhea in women. [However,] condoms do provide 85% protection against the HIV/AIDS virus, or roughly the same odds as those of surviving Russian Roulette with a six-shooter with one chamber lethally loaded. Thus, according to our own government, condoms are a fraud. . . . and partly because they believed that fraud, 45 million Americans now suffer from herpes, for which there is no known cure, and 900,000 suffer from HIV/AIDS.

Dr. James Dobson of *Focus on the Family* said to *Fox News*, "The federal government has spent \$3 billion in the last 30 years to promote the safe-sex ideology, and it's been a disaster. At the time they started, there were only two sexually transmitted diseases that were at an epidemic level, and there are now more than 20. One-third of Americans over 10 years of age has a sexually transmitted disease."

Also, according to Dr. Dobson, *The Journal of the American Medical Association* suggests that even this astronomical number may be low.

Former Congressman Dr. Tom Coburn of Oklahoma makes the charge against the Atlanta-based *Centers for Disease Control*, "The failure of public-health efforts to prevent the STD epidemic in American is related to the CDC's safe-sex promotion and its attempt to withhold from the American people the truth of condom ineffectiveness. The CDC has systematically hidden and misrepresented vital medical evidence regarding the ineffectiveness of condoms to prevent the transmission of STD's. The CDC's refusal to acknowledge clinical research has contributed to the massive STD epidemic." As the Bible says, so it remains: The wages of sin is death. *The Conservative Chronicle*, March 13, 2002.

19.2 million—Number of woman worldwide with HIV, about half the total number of adults with HIV.

58%—Percentage of those with HIV who are woman in sub-Saharan Africa.

20%—Percentage of those who are woman with HIV in North America. *Time*, December 9, 2002.

EURASIA AND THE EPIDEMIC

The world's current AIDS death toll is about 3 million a year. So far, AIDS has killed about 25 million. A mild epidemic would kill 43 million in India, China and Russia by 2005. Their combined populations would be 90 million fewer than anticipated, absent the epidemic, and 44 million of those deaths would be among the "economically active" population between the ages of 15 and 64. *Newsweek*, November 11, 2002.

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY ARGUES AGAINST BIBLE FOR SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS

The new Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, says there is a case for "acknowledging faithful same-sex relationships." In a *BBC* documentary, *An Archbishop Like This*, to be broadcast next Sunday, Archbishop Williams says the Bible doesn't forbid all homosexual activity. He says, "If the Bible is very clear—as I think it is—that a heterosexual indulging in homosexual activity for the sake of variety and gratification is not following the will of God, does that automatically say that that is the only sort of homosexual activity there could ever be?" He continues, "What about those people who—with prayer and thought and seriousness and adulthood—say 'I've never known anything different'? What are we to say to them?" The Archbishop said he didn't want to talk about gay marriage as that "isn't appropriate language" but he said he could "see a case for acknowledging faithful same-sex relationships." The archbishop's comments have angered conservative evangelicals who have recently challenged him to recant his liberal views or resign. The Reverend Rod Thomas, a spokesman for the evangelical network *Reform*, told the *Daily Telegraph* that even the *Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement* accepted that the Bible condemns all homosexual activity, not just that performed by heterosexuals. He said that, by making the comments, Williams was breaking his own pledge to keep his views private and not to campaign on the issue. November 25, 2002, *CWNNews.com*

While in London I read an article from a local newspaper that was written by an openly gay reporter. His editorial was about what the proper legal name for homosexuals should be. He discussed the different labels: homosexual, gay, queer, faggot, fag and gave the pros and cons of legally identifying any of these. The point of his article is that it is time to pick a legal uniform name for homosexuals that can be used in a standardized way as laws are put in place concerning homosexuals. His final paragraph is where he sets forth his choice for the legal name for homosexuals:

"The word that might do is rather a frightful one, but it does meet quite a lot of objections. It has a historical and cultural origin; it refers to what people do, and not what people are; it has a ring to it; and, it hasn't been made up five minutes ago. Let's return to our roots, and start talking about "sodomites". *The Independent*, November 26, 2002.

GAYS EARN STATURE IN STATE CAPITOL

When Sheila Kuehl arrived in Sacramento eight years ago as California's first openly gay lawmaker, she was given a cartoon that poked fun at her solitary status: A waiter welcomes her to a dinner of lesbian and gay lawmakers, announcing, "Table for one!"

This week, the Los Angeles Democrat was greeted by an entirely different scene when she turned up for the coming-out party of the new lesbian and gay caucus. Hundreds of supporters crammed into a stuffy Mexican restaurant near the Capitol to honor the five lawmakers, including the first two openly gay male legislators whose election last month helped give California one of the largest gay and lesbian caucuses in the nation.

By shattering barriers and stereotypes, the Democratic legislators hope to change hearts, minds and—most importantly—laws.

In subtle and serious ways, the trailblazers—including John Laird, the new assemblyman from Santa Cruz—are expected to press both colleagues and Californians to confront their own prejudices and accept gays and lesbians as citizens on an equal footing.

"We're here, we're queer, we're proud, and we're going to work," San Francisco Assemblyman Mark Leno said between hugs and handshakes.

It has been scarcely 10 years since activists pelted then Governor Pete Wilson with oranges at Stanford University after he rejected a gay-rights bill. Since then, there has been a sea change in Sacramento as openly gay leaders have moved into positions of power. . . .

For at least a brief moment, though, the lawmakers are allowing themselves the luxury of looking at how far they have come and basking in the glow of their achievement.

"You get very emotional about these things because they represent real change, change we're not going to go back from," Assemblywoman Jackie Goldberg, Democrat Los Angeles, told supporters at this week's *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Caucus* celebration. "There's going to be hard times, and whenever there are hard times we are always targets.

But we are not going to go back. We're not going to go back into the closet." *Mercury News*, Sacramento Bureau, December 5, 2002.

US CREATED AIDS VIRUS

The US government created the deadly AIDS virus as a way of wiping out blacks and other minorities around the world, says a researcher who's fought for 10 years to bring his eye-opening charge to light. Boyd E. Graves, a lawyer and graduate of the US Naval Academy at Annapolis, says he has "irrefutable evidence of the United States' secret plan to cull world populations by unleashing a stealth biological microorganism."

Graves insists the AIDS virus was developed in an ultra-secret government project called the *Special Virus Program*.

"We believe HIV is the product of intent. We believe AIDS is the product of design," he said in a telephone interview last month from New York City, before addressing the *Black African Holocaust Conference*.

According to a report from the *US Centers for Disease Control*, African-Americans account for 38 percent of all AIDS cases in this country—yet they represent only 12 percent of the population. And the disease has attacked millions of people in Africa, which has suffered from the pandemic more than anywhere else in the world.

AIDS is one of the most important weapons in the government arsenal of biological terrorism, declares Graves. He has filed a lawsuit in US District Court in San Diego demanding an open review of the facts he's uncovered, including the two most shocking elements:

A Special Virus Flow Chart that details the government's "coordinated research program to develop a cancer virus that depletes the immune system."

A photograph of a manmade virus that's virtually identical to the AIDS virus. Yet this photograph was shot in 1971—14 years before the known AIDS virus was discovered. Graves also has documents from government and scientific leaders, which reveal sinister intentions on the part of scientists and government leaders. A 1948 memo from a top State Department official, for instance, urges colleagues to "get on with the task of dealing with the burgeoning populations of the Third World."

For those who think the US government would never do such a terrible thing to any of its people, Graves offers as evidence the horrendous revelations about the *Tuskegee Project*. In that infamous program, which began in 1932, government researchers secretly infected black men with syphilis so they could study the disease—even after a cure had been found.

"Between 1964 and 1978, the secret federal virus program spent \$550 million of taxpayer money to invent AIDS," Graves writes on his Web site, <http://www.boydgraves.com>

"It is now necessary to spend whatever it takes to dismantle an invention that has led to the greatest crime against humanity in the history of the world," he declares. <http://www.weeklyworldnews.com>

Editor's note: If AIDS was manmade, then those responsible will never allow that truth to be exposed. If though, enough people accept this theory it would certainly add to the hatred of the USA in a world that is already pounding war drums on every side.

"MEN POSSESSED OF DEMONS"

Germans woke up on Thursday to the traumatic news that a man had killed and eaten another man with the victim's approval. The deed was allegedly recorded on video.

For a day at least, Germans may have forgotten about their economic woes as the country found itself hitting the headlines over an altogether more frightening story.

Police have arrested a man who claims to have killed and eaten a friend and recorded the deed on video, allegedly with the victim's approval. The 41-year-old suspect from the picturesque Hessian town of Rotenburg told police that he met his 42-year-old victim, microchip engineer from Berlin, via the Internet. He said they shared homosexual and cannibalistic leanings.

Police said they found the video along with deep-frozen flesh and skeletal remains when they searched the suspect's flat. The video allegedly shows the suspect and the victim agreeing on the murder. Forensic experts are searching the house and surrounding areas for the remains of other possible victims.

Internet clue

The killing goes back to 2001. Police only stumbled across it after the man placed another ad in the Internet looking for a man willing to allow himself to be killed and eaten.

The man is being held on suspicion of murder which carries a life sentence. Should his story check out, he would only face a charge of so-called murder by demand. A conviction would be punishable by a maximum of five years in prison. *DW-WORLD.DE*

Dear Jeff I was reading your syllabus on the "daily" and found a statement by Ellen White that had me wondering about your need to bring this subject before the church. She says, "you have no call to hunt up the difference of opinion that is not a testing question, but your silence is eloquence. I have the matter all plainly before me. If the devil could involve any one of our own people on these subjects, as he proposed to do, Satan's cause would triumph. Now the work without delay is to be taken up and not a [difference] of opinion expressed."

With this Jeff, My question to you is—why do you address the subject of the "daily" with this type of counsel given? DD

Brother DD,

I have an answer to your question that contains a few interconnected points. The first point I would make is in terms of inspired statements themselves. In the appendix to *Testimonies to Ministers* there is a passage addressing a prohibition that was placed upon the purchase of bicycles. The appendix states:

“Page 83. Bicycle race: See also page 398. In 1895, Ellen White was given a view of happenings in Battle Creek. Among other scenes which passed before her was one involving bicycles used in racing, and a strife for the mastery. See also *Testimonies*, volume 8, 51–52. At the time this scene was presented, the bicycle was not known as an economical means of transportation, but was rather a rich man’s toy. Bicycles were being purchased by our young people in Battle Creek, not to provide needed transportation to work or school, but rather as a demonstration of superiority, for show, and in the seeking of supremacy. The young people were mortgaging their incomes for months in advance to buy what was then an expensive piece of equipment to be so used. Within a few years’ time, the bicycle became a useful and inexpensive means of transportation.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 525.

This is one example of the fact that inspiration is to be understood within its historical setting. I believe the passages on the “daily”, (and there are others which imply the same emphasis that you identify) must be considered in their historical setting.

When Sister White was addressing the controversy about the “daily” which took place from 1901 until her death, there were different dynamics within the historical setting than exist in Adventism today. If we are unwilling to recognize this, then it appears that to say anything about the “daily” is to oppose inspiration. One of the different dynamics was the *minority* and *majority* position.

In Ellen White’s day, by far the greatest almost unanimous position on the “daily” was the position William Miller and the pioneers identified. That being, the “daily” symbolized pagan Rome specifically and paganism in general. In the beginning of the controversy over the “daily” in Sister White’s day and age, two men began to promote a new view of the “daily”. Inspirations response to such a small minority introducing a new definition of the “daily” was simply that “silence is eloquence.”

Silence is eloquence is the basic response to a controversial crisis in a time period when a minority was promoting a erroneous understanding. When you go back into the recorded statements about this controversy you will find that the “silence is eloquence” approach is a general guideline during that time period, but, when the Spirit of Prophecy was being *specific* with the “silence is eloquence” position—it was directed at Brother Daniells and Prescott. They were the primary proponents of the new view of the “daily” initially, and the principle of silence was used directly and specifically towards them. Inspiration was saying to Adventism at large during that time, “Let’s drop the subject”, while specifically telling Daniells and Prescott that they should be quiet! In *Testimonies*, volume 5, 293 we are told:

“Brethren, as an ambassador of Christ I warn you to beware of these side issues, whose tendency is to divert the mind from the truth. Error is never harmless. It never sanctifies, but always brings confusion and dissension. It is always dangerous.”

Sister White knew that error was dangerous and that it brings “confusion.” Speaking of Daniells’ and Prescott’s view of the “daily” she stated that:

“At this stage of our experience we are not to have our minds drawn away from the special light given [us] to consider at the important gathering of our conference. And there was Brother Daniells, **whose mind the enemy was working**; and your mind and **Elder Prescott’s mind were being worked by the angels that were expelled from heaven**. Satan’s work was to divert your minds that jots and tittles should be brought in which the Lord did not inspire you to bring in. They were not essential. But this meant much to the cause of truth. And the ideas of your minds, if you could be drawn away to jots or tittles, is **a work of Satan’s devising**. To correct little things in the books written, you suppose would be doing a great work. But I am charged, **Silence is eloquence**. . . .

“And I was shown from the first that the Lord had given neither Elders Daniells nor Prescott the burden of this work. **Should Satan’s wiles be brought in, should this “Daily” be such a great matter as to be brought in to confuse minds and hinder the advancement of the work at this important period of time? It should not, whatever may be. This subject should not be introduced, for the spirit that would be brought in would be forbidding, and Lucifer is watching every movement. Satanic agencies would commence his work and there would be confusion brought into our ranks**. You have no call to hunt up the difference of opinion that is not a testing question; but your **silence is eloquence**. I have the matter all plainly before me. If the devil could involve any one of our own people on these subjects, as he has proposed to do, Satan’s cause would triumph. Now the work without delay is to be taken up and not a [difference] of opinion expressed. . . .

“Now, when I saw how you were working, my mind took in the whole situation and the results if you should go forward and give the parties that have left us the least chance to bring confusion into our ranks. Your lack of wisdom would be just what Satan would have it. Your loud proclamation was not under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. I was instructed to say to you that your picking flaws in the writings of men that have been led of God is not inspired of God. And if this is the wisdom that Elder Daniells would give to the people, by no means give him an official position, for he cannot reason from cause to effect. **Your silence on this subject is your wisdom**. . . .

“I have been instructed that such hasty movements should not have [been] made [such] as selecting you as president of the conference even another year. But the Lord forbids any more such hasty transactions until the matter is brought before the Lord in prayer; and as you have had the message come to you that the work of the Lord resting upon the president is a most solemn responsibility, **you had no moral right to blaze out as you did upon the subject of the ‘Daily’** and suppose your influence would decide the question.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 17–22.

Clearly the new view of the “daily” would create confusion. Error always does. Sister White was speaking to those men who were promoting error and she was telling them to “keep quiet!” They were a minority. Inspiration decided it was better to close the door to the discussion of their erroneous view by eliminating the platform for promoting the error through an open debate. She was also dealing with leaders in Adventism. She was attempting to bring them back into the work of the hour, which had nothing to do with rewriting the books where the pioneers had set forth the “daily” in agreement with William Miller. That is what she is addressing when she states “To correct little things in the books written, you suppose would be doing a great work.”

There was a time when purchasing a bicycle would have been a denial of sanctified stewardship before the Lord. Times have changed. I know several pastors in third world countries who accomplish much of their work on bicycles.

In the early 1900's the new view of the "daily" was an attempt to bring "Satan's wiles" into the work, and if successful, "Satan's cause would triumph." Times have changed. The "wiles" are here. Daniells' and Prescott's view of the "daily" is no longer the minority understanding in Adventism. It is the majority opinion. The inspired counsel, when a small minority of brethren were attempting to introduce error was to end any further discussion of this subject. Drop the subject. Provide no more forum for this error to be propagated. Times and circumstances have changed.

If this was the only reason to address the subject of the "daily" today, then perhaps "silence is eloquence" would still be appropriate; but there is another important understanding to the truth connected to the "daily". Sister White identifies the history of the "daily" as the primary pattern for understanding the final fulfillment of Daniel eleven.

"We have no time to lose. Troublous times are before us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. The prophecy in the eleventh of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated. In the thirtieth verse a power is spoken of that: **Daniel 11:30–36 quoted.**

"Scenes similar to those described in these words will take place. We see evidence that Satan is fast obtaining the control of human minds who have not the fear of God before them. Let all read and understand the prophecies of this book, for we are now entering upon the time of trouble spoken of: Daniel 12:1–4 quoted." *Manuscript Releases*, number 13, 394.

"Scenes similar" to the history found in verse thirty through thirty-six of Daniel eleven "will take place" as the "prophecy of the eleventh of Daniel" reaches "its complete fulfillment". That is what inspiration teaches! The history of the "daily" in the book of Daniel contains scenes that will be repeated as Daniel eleven is fulfilled. When we reach the time period that Daniel eleven begins to fulfill—we will see a parallel of the history that took place in connection with the "daily"—for verse thirty-one of Daniel eleven is identifying the "daily".

Before the time period when the final history of Daniel eleven began to fulfill, the subject of the "daily" did not have the same importance as it does now that the time period has arrived. The history of the "daily" is the pattern for the final verses of Daniel eleven. Truth sometimes changes to "present truth" at a certain point in history. The significance of truth can change with the times. This is the case with the "daily".

Daniel eleven verse forty describes the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1989, and the following verses continue until Michael stands up in Daniel 12:1. Since 1989, a correct understanding of the history identified by the "daily" is of supreme importance, if one seeks to understand the last six verses of Daniel eleven correctly.

"Daniel is standing in his lot and in his place. The prophecies of Daniel and of John are to be understood. They interpret each other. They give to the world truths which every one should understand. These prophecies are to be witness in the world. By their fulfillment in these last days, they will explain themselves." *The Kress Collection*, 105.

By the historical fulfillment of verse forty in 1989 the prophecy explains itself.

The history symbolized by the “daily” in the book of Daniel is describing the dynamics involved with the setting up and placing of the Papacy on the throne of the earth in the 508 to 538 time period. It is describing the denial by the pagan powers of their pagan heritage in preference for Catholicism. (The Catholicism they had previously opposed and persecuted.) The history also describes the warfare which the pagan powers accomplished against the three horns of the Heruli, Ostrogoths and Vandals in order to eliminate any resistance to the Papacy. In Daniel 11:40–45 a parallel history has begun.

The “daily” while symbolizing paganism and its historical connection of placing the papacy in power in the book of Daniel, is also prefiguring the role and work of Protestant America as she turns from her position of opposing Catholicism and begins the work of forcing all the world to worship the beast of Catholicism, as identified in Revelation 13.

Paganism submits to the papacy, and Protestantism submits to papacy. Paganism removes three powers in order to establish the papacy on the throne of the earth. The final fulfillment of Daniel eleven describes three obstacles for the modern papacy to overcome: “the king of the south”, “the glorious land” and “Egypt”. In verse forty the USA is symbolized by “ships”, “chariots” and “horsemen”. This is the characteristics of the USA in Revelation 13, as it uses its economic and military power to force the whole world into submission to the principles of the papacy. When Sister White emphasized that the history of the “daily” contain “scenes” that “will be repeated” it behooves us to pull together the available information in order to understand these events correctly. The USA parallels paganism as symbolized in the book of Daniel by the “daily”.

Maintaining the pioneer position of the “daily” in seeking to understand the final part of Daniel eleven would not require a great deal of discussion if all of Adventism still maintained the foundational understanding of the “daily” representing paganism, but that is not the case today. The identification of the “daily” in Adventism today is the position which Prescott and Daniells promoted so long ago that Sister White said would bring in “confusion.” Because of the differing circumstances in Adventist understanding today a correct understanding of Daniel eleven requires a correct understanding of the history pointed out by Inspiration as the pattern for the “final fulfillment” of Daniel eleven. Using the incorrect pattern will not produce the correct position.
Jeff

SALVATION ONLY BY CATHOLICISM

The Vatican reprimanded a Belgian theologian last year of suggesting in a book on religious pluralism that salvation might be achieved other than through the Catholic Church. *U.S. News & World Report*, May 6, 2002.

“The church that holds to the word of God is irreconcilably separated from Rome. Protestants were once thus apart from this great church of apostasy, but they have approached more nearly to her, and are still in the path of reconciliation to the Church of Rome. Rome never changes. Her principles have not altered in the least. She has not lessened the breach between herself and Protestants; they have done all the advancing. But what does this argue for the Protestantism of this day? It is the rejection of Bible truth which makes men approach to infidelity. It is a backsliding church that lessens the distance between itself and the Papacy.” *The Signs of the Times*, February 19, 1894.

REMEMBER EUROPE'S HERITAGE

Pope John Paul urged Europeans on Thursday to remember the "religious, cultural and spiritual heritage" of the continent as the EU prepares to expand to the east. With the EU redefining its main institutions and poised to admit new members from central and Eastern Europe, it was important to ensure the "common European house" was built with "the cement of that extraordinary religious, cultural and civic heritage that has made Europe great down through the centuries". For the domestic Italian audience, the pope reserved two particular appeals. Lamenting what he called "the crisis of the birth rate and demographic decline" in Italy, he suggested politicians should pursue policies aimed at encouraging married people to raise more children. *Financial Times, FT.com*

THE VATICAN AND THE WAR

Why does the Holy See now seek to support the UN and its role, when the Holy See and the UN—or certain powerful forces within the UN—have been in conflict over many issues for the past decade or so? We went into the Vatican to ask for an explanation.

"The Vatican looks at the international situation as one of codified relations between nations." A Vatican source told *Inside the Vatican* on September 14. "This set of codified relations seems to be breaking down now. The Vatican has hope in the United Nations as a way to help bring order and justice to nations. The UN hasn't reached this point yet because it has been bogged down in politics. It needs to become a family of nations, as the Pope said to UN delegates at the 50th anniversary in 1995." *Inside the Vatican*, October 2002.

MARY AS A BOOST FOR ECUMENICAL DIALOGUE

Mary seems to have become a reason for dialogue, rather than division, among separated Christians.

That was a view that arose at the 3rd International Forum on Mariology, which closed Sunday in Lecco, Italy. The initiative, organized by the Pontifical Marian Academy, was encouraged by John Paul II. In a telegram addressed to the participants, the Pope said he hoped the event would "inspire a renewed fervor of Mariological studies."

During the meeting, the person of Mary was analyzed from the biblical, theological, spiritual, liturgical and ecumenical points of view. Thus, the Lecco forum continued the kind of ecumenical reflection about Mary promoted by the French Dombes Group of Catholic and Lutheran theologians.

Among the speakers in Lecco was professor Renzo Bertalot, pastor of the Waldensian Church, a dissident group with roots in 12th-century France.

Quoting Martin Luther, the pastor, who is also a consultant of the Marian Academy, spoke of the way Mary made God's action possible through her listening.

Bertalot spoke with Vatican Radio today about the role Mary plays in the dialogue among separated Christians.

The "figure of Mary is the last of the five points that the present Pontiff proposes for ecumenical rethinking," Bertalot said. "On this point, notable progress has been made, moving from opposition to convergence, that is, examining the points of difficulty and those that are being surmounted."

The pastor said he agrees with the Dombes Group's suggestion, which he summarized with a motto: "It is necessary for Protestants to discover Mary in the Bible, and for Catholics to discover the Bible in Mary."

According to the pastor, Mary's example constitutes a message for people of our time.

"Mary," he said, "on her way to Elizabeth's home, can tell us not to lose sight of our salvation, not be discouraged by the conditions of our time because, among other things, Mary also experienced them, [for instance,] the flight to Egypt."

"Mary always gives us the message not to allow ourselves to be overwhelmed by all this and to put the promise to Abraham as a point of departure, which in any case is being realized," Bertalot added. "More than that, for us it is fulfilled." So we are able to experience the joy expressed in the Magnificat, which shows us the horizon of the Kingdom of God that is coming, and not the kingdom of confusion in which we find ourselves today. It is an answer to the despair of our time." November 25, 2002, *Zenit.org*

Dear Jeff,

Thanks for the good paper and tape you have sent. I'm retired and haven't been able to send money every month, but I get inspiration from your good leading. I go to regular Seventh-day Adventist church much of the time, simply because there's no historic church near by, but I attend camps of Independents when I can.

I recently sent anonymous letters and pamphlets on modesty to about 15 of the prominent members of the local Church including some of the women who were wearing very short dresses up in front in Church. The pamphlet was very clear quoting from the Bible on modesty & from EGW—stating the skirts should be at least to the knee (especially up front) & not crossing their legs exposing their thighs. I did this anonymously hoping to avoid controversy but several became offended and complained to the Pastor, so he announced to the Church that, “Anonymous letters were not acceptable and that peoples dress was their own business and that God would decide”. So that's modern Adventism. At any rate, keep up the good work and may God bless you, Sincerely PS—CA

Dear Brother Pippenger,

We have your magazine entitled *Time of the End* and have spent much time reading it. We feel we've learned a lot from it and have also passed some along to others who feel they have also gained new insight from it.

Now we have a question? We have been given a copy of the enclosed book, [*The Secret Terrorists*] which we find very interesting. Our radio station (Adventist owned) is giving a copy to all who request it. We wonder if you would have time to read it and advise if you think it is believable? We feel it is a eye opener but do not want to go off in a wrong direction. We have prayed about this and feel impressed to ask you. We appreciate your tapes. Thanks a lot. K&JT

Dear K&JT,

I have had several send me a copy of the book titled, *The Secret Terrorists*, by Bill Hughes, and ask for my evaluation. At the same time that I read the book, I also received three audio presentations by Bill Hughes that cover the material in the book. I appreciated the book more than the audio presentations. From my personal studies a great deal of the information in the book is just as I understand them, although there are a few areas where I am personally undecided. I do believe that the information in the book is something that would be beneficial for Adventists to understand. Sister White teaches:

“The Bible is its own expositor. Scripture is to be compared with scripture. The student should learn to view the Word as a whole and to see the relation of its parts. He should gain a knowledge of its grand central theme, of God's original purpose for the world, of the rise of the great controversy, and of the work of redemption. He should understand the nature of the two principles that are contending for supremacy and should learn to trace their working through the records of history and prophecy, to the great consummation. He should see how this controversy enters into every phase of human experience; how in every act of life he himself reveals the one or the other of the two antagonistic motives; and how, whether he will or not, he is even now deciding upon which side of the controversy he will be found.” *Mind, Character, and Personality*, volume 1, 346.

The information in the book is part of this very “history” that we are counseled to understand, yet with that been said—I do not believe that the message in the book is “the message for the hour”. The book provides background information, but is not the primary theme of the third angel's message. Please note though, that I would not even comment on the book, had I not been asked by many to do so. I have no personal burden about the book one way or another. Jeff

Dear Brother Pippenger,

I took a look at the notes you sent Brother DT on the “daily,” and a few other subjects, and I was wondering if you had some more information concerning the two Hebrew words for “vision” in Daniel 8. I tried looking up the two words the Strong’s Concordance, and in a Hebrew Lexicon, and I also looked at all the different times when those two words were used, but I couldn’t see the “snapshot,” “entire vision” concept. Furthermore, in Daniel 9:23, the Hebrew word for “vision” is the word “chazown” the word you defined as referring to “the entire vision,” but in your notes it is “the snapshot.” I’m sure it was just a mistake. I haven’t listened to the tape, but I would definitely like some more information on these two Hebrew words, and how you arrived at your conclusion. May God continue to bless you in your studies, as you seek to present the truth as it is in Jesus. Yours in the Blessed Hope, Brother CK

Brother CK,

The work by John Peters titled *The Mystery of the Daily* addresses the two words. We can run a copy of that study for cost if you like. It is twelve dollars plus shipping. The book is an excellent defense of the pioneer understanding of the “daily”, but it is a book of theology. It therefore takes a little concentration when you read it. Many who have heard me forewarn them about the difficulty of the book have commented later that even though it was a hard book, it was well worth the effort. Jeff

Dear Jeff,

This small offering will never truly explain our thanks to you and Kathy for your ministry work of benevolence. Thanks, thanks, thanks. BDL—CA

Dear Brother Jeff,

Just finished reading your newsletter. Really enjoyed it. I met you at JVD’s place here in California about a year and a half ago. I know that Satan is desperately trying to get us side tracked but the following verses seem to contradict your understanding of “literal blood line Israel”. How do you interpret Luke 21:24, And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled, and Romans 11:25–26, For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob.?

Could it be that Sister White simply bought into some of the popular but untrue theology of her day, just like John the Baptist did by believing that the Messiah was coming to deliver the Jewish nation from Roman oppression? Verily John was the greatest prophet that ever was and even he carried with him some of the bad theology of his day. Surely if it was possible for John to have some misconceptions of the Messiah’s ministry, Sister Ellen G. White could also have misunderstood the role of the literal blood line Israel. You put these quotes in your newsletter.

“The city of Jerusalem is no longer a sacred place. The curse of God is upon it because of the rejection and crucifixion of Christ. A dark blot of guilt rests upon it, and never again will it be a sacred place until it has been cleansed by the purifying fires of heaven. At the time when this sin-cursed earth is purified from every stain of sin, Christ will again stand upon the Mount of Olives. As His feet rest upon it, it will part asunder, and become a great plain, prepared for the city of God.” *Review and Herald*, July 30, 1901.

“Then I was pointed to some who are in the great error of believing that it is their duty to go to Old Jerusalem, and think they have a work to do there before the Lord comes. Such a view is calculated to take the mind and interest from the present work of the Lord, under the message of the third angel; for those who think that they are yet to go to Jerusalem will have their minds there, and their means will be withheld from the cause of present truth to get themselves and others there. I saw that such a mission would accomplish no real good, that it would take a long while to make a very few of the Jews believe even in the first advent of Christ, much more to believe in His second advent. I saw that Satan had greatly deceived some in this thing and that souls all around them in this land could be helped by them and led to keep the commandments of God, but they were leaving them to perish. I also saw that Old Jerusalem never would be built up; and that Satan was doing his utmost to lead the minds of the children of the Lord into these things now, in the gathering time, to keep them from throwing their whole interest into the present work of the Lord, and to cause them to neglect the necessary preparation for the day of the Lord.” *Early Writings*, 75.

Doesn't it seem as though Israel has been built up despite Sister White's prophecy? It appears to me that she is wrong on this particular prophecy, but maybe I do not understand what it is she is really saying here. Please explain to me what your understanding is of the concerns I have addressed above. Shalom, JEV [A Seventh-day Adventist and a seeker of truth.]

Dear Brother JEV,

You raise several questions. I personally reject your analysis of John the Baptist's bad theology. The fact that a prophet may have misconceptions about Biblical concepts does not mean that the Holy Spirit, who is the author of inspired writings, would allow that prophet to record error. There are no inspired writings where John the Baptists teaches that the Messiah would come and set up a literal earthly kingdom. A prophet's personal misconceptions, does not demonstrate that the writings of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy are slightly erroneous.

It is the Protestant world that normally tries to associate Luke 21 with literal modern day Jerusalem, although some Adventists fall into this ditch as well. The Protestant reasoning is that, Jerusalem was trodden down by Gentiles from AD 70 at the destruction of Jerusalem, until the Israeli war in 1967, when Israel captured Jerusalem from Arab control. They assume that from AD 70, until 1967, Jerusalem was trodden down by the Gentiles. This reasoning is fascinating—but does not agree with Scripture. As one of many examples on this subject that could be cited:

But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months. And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. Revelation 11:2-3.

Scripture teaches that the “holy city” is Jerusalem. Scripture also teaches that Jerusalem was to be “tread under foot” until the termination of the “forty-two months”, which is the termination of the 1260 years that the Papacy ruled the world. From 1798 through 1967, literal Jerusalem was controlled by Gentiles. Yet Scripture teaches the Gentiles cease to tread the holy city at the end of papal rule. The truth connected with the Gentiles treading down Jerusalem is connected with spiritual—not literal Jerusalem. The study of Luke 21 is much deeper than we can take up here, but we do address it in *The Prophetic Time* series.

Those in Adventism who (possibly unknowingly) attempt to apply Catholic rules of Bible prophecy to the Scriptures seem to manifest an inability to recognize some very simple truths found in the writings of Ellen White. One of those truths may be the difference in your and my understanding. (It is a Catholic prophetic rule that applies prophecy in a literal fashion at the end of the world.)

When Sister White teaches that literal Jerusalem is no longer the focus of Bible prophecy, you assume that the few places where she refers to Jerusalem in this light are errors that she didn't see in her time. Yet in her writings you will find literally hundreds, if not thousands of places, where she takes a passage from the Bible and applies it in a worldwide spiritual application at the end of the world. As a matter of fact it is the only way that she ever applies passages from Bible prophecy. She takes the literal Biblical nations, or cities, or kingdoms, or peoples, or kings, or men and places them in a spiritual application that encompasses mankind and the entire earth at the end of time.

Her statements about Jerusalem illustrate how she always applies end-time Bible prophecy. She sees the prophecies dealing with Jerusalem as applying to spiritual Jerusalem at the end of the world. She sees the prophecies dealing with Israel as dealing with spiritual Israel at the end of the world. She sees the prophecies of Babylon as dealing with spiritual Babylon at the end of the world. Her writings are completely consistent with the rules of Bible prophecy that William Miller adopted and used, and her writings agree with the rules of Bible prophecy that the Protestant Reformers used in order to identify the pope of Rome as the antichrist of Bible prophecy. It was because the Reformers were making this accurate identification of the man of sin that the Catholic Church purposely created erroneous schools of prophetic interpretation to undermine the ability of men to be clear about who and what is the antichrist.

In the Protestant world today you will find that one of their prophetic focuses concerning literal Jerusalem is connected with the time when the Jews of today will take control of the Dome of the Rock and once again start up sacrificial services. (They arrive at their conclusion by adopting the rules of prophetic interpretation invented by Roman Catholicism.) When it comes to the issue of the rebuilding of Jerusalem, the issue is the rebuilding of the temple. When Sister White states, "I also saw that Old Jerusalem never would be built up" I have to trust that this is absolutely accurate. In my understanding then she is simply stating that the Jews of today will never rebuild the earthly sanctuary. They may attempt to do so, but then again Saddam Hussein attempted to rebuild the city of Babylon and his efforts were cut short. Not because of the war the USA brought against him, but because Bible prophecy said it would never be rebuilt. When Sister White says Jerusalem will never be built up we need to accept the light by faith, even if it does not agree with our human understanding. Bible prophecy is not built upon private interpretations. Jeff

God Bless in your outreach. What is your thinking on the statement "For six thousand years Satan has had control of this world. Now God's people are delivered." It seems that reaches to 2004, but no definite, exact date. Then also that could be cut short. Would like a short synopsis. I really appreciate the tapes. AD

Dear AD,

I don't have anything to add to your evaluation. Six thousand years should conclude somewhere around 2004, give or take some, and I believe the Lord will cut short the work in righteousness, but who knows how short that is? Jeff

Dear Brother Jeff,

Several days ago a friend of mine sent me seven copies of *Future News*. I read the July 2002 issue first and that is why I am writing to you. In this issue you write that the “king of the north” is Rome. I guess I am a die hard, because I still hold to the fact that Turkey is the “king of the north”. When reading the history of this “secular”, but Islamic country, one reads that someone has always come to the aid of Turkey to keep it from total collapse. After all geographically speaking it is at a very pivotal location.

The “king of the north” is referred to as “he”. The papacy is referred to as the beast, the mother of harlots in Revelation 17. Mystery Babylon. Revelation 18:7, says she is a queen. Read it. How do you come to the conclusion that Rome is the “king of the north”, besides agreeing with James White, who was not infallible?

I have three books in my library that say that Turkey is the “king of the north” with a logical explanation. The books are: 1914 edition of Bible Readings for the Home, 1901 edition of Great Nations of Today, by A.T. Jones, Daniel the Prophet by S.N. Haskell written in 1905. Sister White died in 1915, and she never rebuked the authors or their books. She asked S.N. Haskell to write a book on Daniel and the Revelation.

Uriah Smith seems to be your target, what about Haskell, Jones and Bible Readings? Or don't you dare challenge more men than one? LS

Dear LS,

Uriah Smith is not a “target” for me. One of our targets though is that we should seek to be as the “Bereans”, “rightly dividing” the prophetic message. I have drawn my conclusion about the “king of the north” from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. I address the pioneers in order to clarify the discussion of the “king of the north”.

To share this truth publicly means you must address the subject in such a manner that hopefully would allow a new believer to follow along. From my experience Daniel chapters ten through twelve are the least understood of Daniel's prophecies among Adventists. Looking at the historical disagreement in Adventism on that particular subject simply allows you to spend time upon the subject, and therefore, it allows those who are unfamiliar to the subject to begin to process the information in a logical fashion. I am fully prepared (and have done so many times in the past) to demonstrate the “king of the north” as the papacy from “inspiration” alone.

It appears to me that you have not considered the many written and spoken presentations on this subject that we have provided over the last several years. If you were aware of these presentations you may very well still hold onto your opinion of the “king of the north”, but you wouldn't honestly be able to say that I base my opinion on James White's opinion. I don't think I have been unfair with Uriah Smith either. He was incorrect on some things. There are many who have decided that because Sister White endorsed the circulation of his book, Daniel and the Revelation, that “the endorsement” proves his book was error free. That position cannot be supported historically or by the Spirit of Prophecy. So, Let me ask you this. Why does Sister White say so many ways and so many times that we are to search the books of Daniel and Revelation, while promising that those who do so will bring forth “new light” from their studies? After all, If everything was correct in Smith's book, then why doesn't Sister White simply tell us to memorize Smith's conclusions, instead of emphasizing that we need to dig deep into the books of Daniel and Revelation. Logically there must have been some unrecognized truths that the pioneers had not yet come to understand. Jeff