

Sabbath Remnant VOICE

Sept-Oct 2016

Striving to be among the remnant of her seed

Life And Mission of John—No. 3, Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, January 21, 1873

Christ's life had been so retired and secluded at Nazareth that John had not a personal acquaintance with him, and he did not positively know that he was the Messiah. He was acquainted with the circumstances of his birth, and he believed him to be the promised One. The secluded life of Christ for thirty years at Nazareth, in which he gave no special evidence of his Messiahship, suggested doubts to John whether he was indeed the One for whose coming he was to prepare the way. John, however, rested the matter in faith, fully believing that God would in due time make it plain. The Lord had shown him that the Messiah would be pointed out to him by a distinct sign; when this should be done, then John could present him to the world as the long-expected Messiah, the Lamb of God that was to take away the sin of the world.

John had heard of the sinless character and spotless purity of Christ. His life was in harmony with what the Lord had revealed to him respecting one that was among them whose life was without the taint of sin. John had also seen that he should be the example for every repenting sinner. When Christ presented himself for baptism, John recognized him at once as the superior one revealed to him. He discerned, in the person and deportment of Christ, a character above every other man he had ever seen. The very atmosphere of his presence was holy and awe-inspiring. Although he knew him not as the Messiah, yet never had such a holy influence been realized by John from any one as when in the presence of Christ. He felt the superiority of Christ at once, and shrank from performing the rite of baptism to one whom he knew to be sinless. Many had come to him to receive the baptism of repentance, confessing their sins and crimes; but John could not understand why the only sinless One upon the earth should ask for an ordinance implying guilt, virtually confessing, by the symbol of baptism, pollution to be washed away. He remonstrated with Christ, acknowledging his superiority, and refused to administer the ordinance, saying, "I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?"¹ With firm and gentle authority, Jesus waives the refusal of John and his plea of unworthiness, saying, "Suffer it to be so now; for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness."²

Christ came not confessing his own sins; but guilt was imputed to him as the sinner's substitute. He

came not to repent on his own account; but in behalf of the sinner. As man had transgressed the law of God, Christ was to fulfill every requirement of that law, and thus show perfect obedience. "Lo, I come to do thy will, O God!"³ Christ honored the ordinance of baptism by submitting to this rite. In this act he identified himself with his people as their representative and head. As their substitute, he takes upon him their sins, numbering himself with the transgressors, taking the steps the sinner is required to take, and doing the work the sinner must do. His life of suffering and patient endurance after his baptism were an example to converted sinners of what they should endure and patiently suffer in consequence of their transgressions and sins. John finally yielded to the request of Christ, notwithstanding his feelings of unworthiness to baptize him, and performed the service. He led the Saviour of the world down into the river Jordan in the presence of a large concourse of people, and buried him in the water.

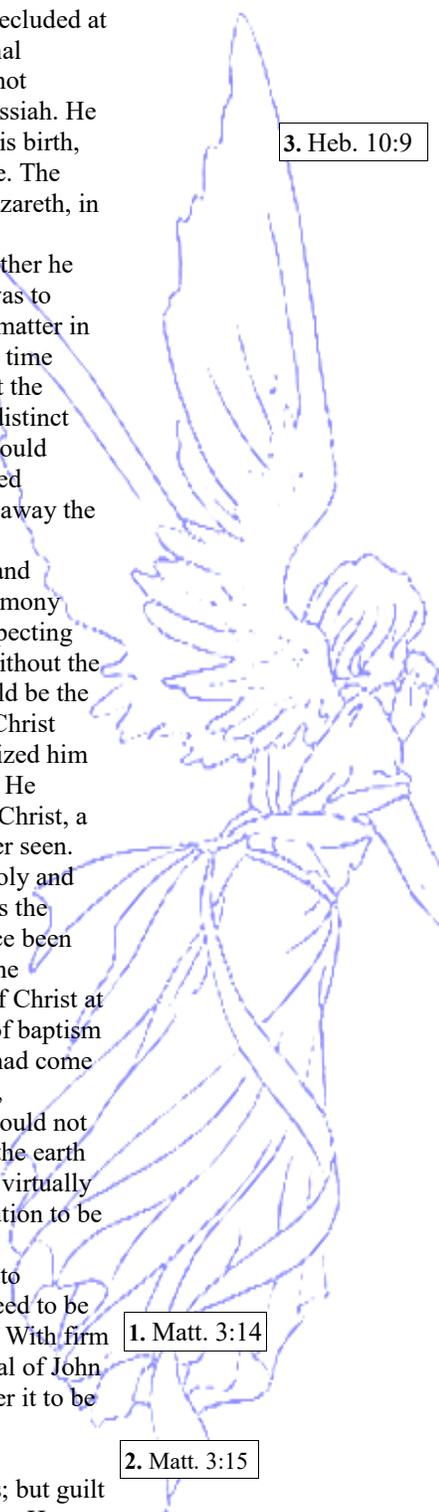
After Christ rose up from the water and from the hand of John, he walked out to the bank of Jordan, and bowed in the attitude of prayer. The eyes of John were fastened upon Christ with the deepest interest and amazement. His heart was stirred with emotion as he looked upon him thus bowed as a suppliant. Christ's hands were raised upward, and his gaze seemed to penetrate Heaven. As the believer's example, his sinless humanity supplicated support and strength from his Heavenly Father, as he was about to commence his public labor as the Messiah. Jesus poured out his soul in earnest prayer. A new and important era was opening before him. His former peaceful, quiet life is to here end. He had been happy in a life of industry and toil, while fulfilling the duties devolving on a son. He was an example to those in childhood, youth, and manhood. His deportment showed that he felt the importance and solemnity of the hour. He knew that trials, toils, conflicts, suffering and death, were in the path his feet had entered. He felt the weight of the responsibilities he must bear. He was about to engage in new and arduous duties. A sense of the sinfulness of men, and the hardness of their hearts, which separated them from God, convinced him that but few would discern his merciful mission, and accept the salvation he came from Heaven to bring them.

Never before had angels listened to such a prayer as Christ offered at his baptism, and they were

3. Heb. 10:9

1. Matt. 3:14

2. Matt. 3:15



solicitous to be the bearers of the message from the Father to his Son. But, no! direct from the Father issues the light of his glory. The heavens were opened, and beams of glory rested upon the Son of God and assumed the form of a dove, in appearance like burnished gold. The dove-like form was emblematical of the meekness and gentleness of Christ. While the people stood spell-bound with amazement, their eyes fastened upon Christ, from the opening heavens came these words: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."⁴ The words of confirmation that Christ is the Son of God were given to inspire faith in those who witnessed the scene, and to sustain the Son of God in his arduous work. Notwithstanding the Son of God was clothed with humanity, yet Jehovah, with his own voice, assures him of his sonship with the Eternal. In this manifestation to his Son, God accepts humanity as exalted through the excellence of his beloved Son.

4. Matt. 3:17

As John had now witnessed the heavenly dove resting upon Jesus, which was the promised token of the Messiah, he stretched forth his hand, and with assurance proclaimed before the multitude, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world!"⁵ From this time John had no doubt in regard to Jesus' being the true Messiah.

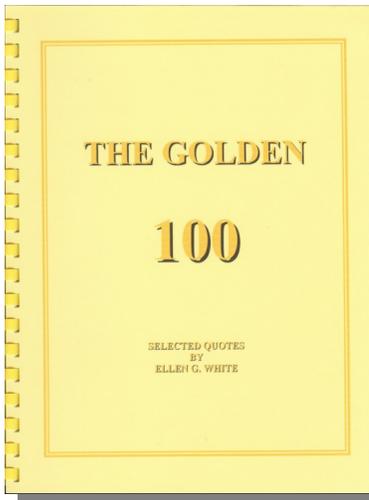
5. John 1:29

After this, Jesus withdrew into the wilderness, to be tempted of the devil forty days. His long fast ended, the victory won, he returns to the banks of the Jordan, mingling again with the disciples of John, yet giving no outward evidence of his special work, and

taking no measures to bring himself to notice.

Men were sent from the highest authority in Jerusalem to inquire in regard to the great agitation John was creating. He was calling whole cities and towns to listen to his voice of warning; and they would know the prophet's authority for thus claiming the attention of the people, and turning the world upside down. These messengers challenged John to tell them certainly if he was the Messiah. John confessed, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, What then? Art thou Elias? And he saith, I am not. Art thou that prophet? And he answered, No. Then said they unto him, Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias. John is then questioned as to his authority for baptizing, and thus agitating the people, when he does not claim to be Christ, or Elias, neither that prophet. The words, "That prophet," have reference to Moses. The Jews had been inclined to the belief that Moses would be raised from the dead, and taken to Heaven. They did not know that Moses had already been resurrected.

When John came, baptizing with water, the Jews thought that he might be the prophet Moses raised from the dead; for he seemed to have a thorough knowledge of the prophecies, and to understand the history of the Hebrews and their wanderings in the wilderness in consequence of their unjust murmurings and continual rebellion. They also called

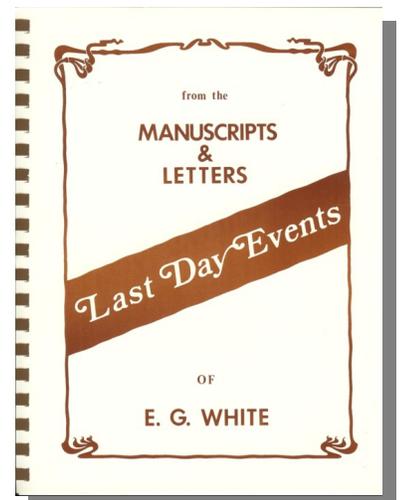


THE GOLDEN 100

The SRPA has a book available entitled "The Golden 100." It consists of 100 selected quotes by Ellen G. White. Its focus is on the apostasy in the SDA church and defining our position as the Remnant people of God. It is spiral bound, is about thirty pages, and is formatted with a 16 point font, so it will make a handy reference for mission workers in the field. We are asking a suggested donation of \$7.50 for each copy.

LAST DAY EVENTS
(non-conference edition)

In this spiral bound book you will find over 200 pages of unpublished letters and manuscripts of E.G. White concerning the last days. **English & Spanish** versions available! Suggested donation of \$13.00 per copy.



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to mind the peculiar circumstances of John's birth, and wonderful manifestation of God to Zacharias, his father, in the temple, by the visitation of the angel from the presence of God, and the power of speech being taken from Zacharias, because he did not believe the words of the angel, and the unloosing of his tongue at the birth of John. These important facts had in the past thirty years been measurably forgotten. But when John appeared as a prophet, the manifestation of the Spirit of God at his birth was called to mind.

When the messengers of the highest authority in Jerusalem were communing with John in reference to his mission and work, he could have taken honor to himself, had he been so disposed. But he would not assume honors that did not belong to him. While conversing with the messengers, suddenly his eye kindled, his countenance lighted up, and his whole being seemed stirred with deep emotion, as he discovered the person of Jesus in the concourse of people. He raised his hand, pointing to Christ, saying, "There standeth one among you whom we know not. I have come to prepare the way before him whom ye now see. He is the Messiah. He it is who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose."⁶

"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me; for he was before me. And I knew him not; but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from Heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. And I knew him not. But he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. And I saw and bare record, that this is the Son of God. Again, the next day after, John stood, and two of his disciples; and looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!"⁷ And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. Then Jesus turned and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? The disciples confessed that they were seeking Christ, and that they desired to become acquainted with him, and to be instructed by him at his home. These two disciples were charmed with the deeply impressive, yet simple and practical, lessons of Christ. Their hearts had never been so moved before. Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of these disciples. He was interested for his friends and relatives, and was anxious that they also should see Christ, and hear for themselves his precious lessons. Andrew went in search of his brother Simon, and with assurance claimed to have found Christ, the Messiah, the Saviour of the world. He brought his brother to Jesus, and as soon as Jesus looked upon him, he said, Thou art Simon, the son of Jona; thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation a stone. The next day Christ selected another disciple, Philip, and bade him follow him. Philip fully believed that Christ was the Messiah, and began to

8. John 1:29

6. John 1:26,27

9. John 1:45-48

10. John 1:49-51

7. John 1:29-36

search for others to bring them to listen to the teachings of Christ, which had so charmed him. Then Philip found Nathanael. He was one of the number who heard John proclaim, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."⁸ He felt deeply convicted, and retired to a grove, concealed from every human eye, and there meditated upon the announcement of John, calling to his mind the prophecies relating to the coming of the Messiah and his mission. He queried thus: Could this indeed be the Messiah for whom they had so long waited, and were so desirous to see? Hope sprang up in the heart of Nathanael that this might be the one that would save Israel. He bowed before God and prayed that if the person whom John had declared to be the Redeemer of the world was indeed the promised deliverer, that it might be made known to him. The Spirit of the Lord rested upon Nathanael in such a special manner that he was convinced that Christ was the Messiah. While Nathanael was praying, he heard the voice of Philip calling him, saying, "We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph. And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see. Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig-tree, I saw thee."⁹

Nathanael's wavering faith was now strengthened, and he answered and said, "Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel. Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto thee, I saw thee, under the fig-tree, believest thou? Thou shalt see greater things than these. And he said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see Heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."¹⁰

In these first few disciples the foundation of the Christian church was being laid by individual effort. John first directed two of his disciples to Christ. Then one of these finds a brother, and brings him to Christ. He then calls Philip to follow him, and he went in search of Nathanael. Here is an instructive lesson for all the followers of Christ. It teaches them the importance of personal effort making direct appeals to relatives, friends, and acquaintances. There are those who profess to be acquainted with Christ for a life time who never make personal effort to induce one soul to come to the Saviour. They have left all the work with the minister. He may be well qualified for his work; but he cannot do the work which God has left upon the members of the church. Very many excuse themselves from being interested in the salvation of those who are out of Christ, and are content to selfishly enjoy the benefits of the grace of God themselves, while they make no direct effort to bring others to Christ. In the vineyard of the Lord there is a work for all to do, and unselfish, interested, faithful workers will share largely of his grace here, and of the reward he will bestow hereafter. Faith is called into exercise by good works, and courage and

hope are in accordance with working faith. The reason many professed followers of Christ have not a bright and living experience, is because they do nothing to gain it. If they would engage in the work which God would have them do, their faith would increase, and they would advance in the divine life.

Jesus was pleased with the earnest faith of Nathanael that asked for no greater evidence than the few words he had spoken. And he looked forward with pleasure to the work he was to do in relieving the oppressed, healing the sick, and in breaking the bands of Satan. In view of these blessings which Christ came to bestow, he says to Nathanael, in the presence of the other disciples, "Hereafter ye shall see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."¹¹ John 1:51

Christ virtually says, On the bank of Jordan the heavens were opened before me, and the Spirit descended like a dove upon me. That scene at Jordan was but a token to evidence that I was the Son of God. If you believe in me as such, your faith shall be quickened, and you shall see that the heavens will be

11. John 1:51

opened, and shall never be closed. I have opened them for you, and the angels of God, that are united with me in the reconciliation between earth and Heaven, uniting the believers on the earth with the Father above, will be ascending, bearing the prayers of the needy and distressed from the earth to the Father above, and descending, bringing blessings of hope, courage, health, and life, for the children of men.

The angels of God are ever moving up and down from earth to Heaven, and from Heaven to earth. All the miracles of Christ performed for the afflicted and suffering were, by the power of God, through the ministration of angels. Christ condescended to take humanity, and thus he unites his interests with the fallen sons and daughters of Adam here below, while his divinity grasps the throne of God. And thus Christ opens the communication of man with God, and God with man. All the blessings from God to man are through the ministration of holy angels.

—Ellen G White

Editorial—Fear & Fearful

Revelation 14:7 states: "Fear God and give glory to Him." In modern day English, many would think this really means to be afraid of God. But the King James translation of the Bible uses Shakespearean English, and 'fear,' in this instance, means to respect God, to give honor and reverence unto Him. In fact, when you look up the word 'fear' in the dictionary, it has quite a few meanings that revolve around honoring and respecting or worshiping God.

Another form of the word 'fear' used in the Bible that may sound strange in our modern usage is: 'fearfully.' Psalm 139:14: "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully [and] wonderfully made." The dictionary defines

this meaning as: "In a manner to impress admiration and astonishment." That makes the use of the word 'fearfully' very meaningful and beautiful. Our heavenly Father fashioned each one of us in a most wonderful and amazing way, and deserves all the praise, admiration and reverence that we can give Him in return. Our hearts should be continually full of love and gratitude for everything He has done for us.

But sometimes the word 'fear' in the Bible really does mean 'to be afraid.' There are many instances in Scripture when the usage of the word is exactly what we would understand it to be if spoken today. Here is a list of the different forms of the word 'fear'

used in the Bible, and how many times each is used: fear-385, feared-72, fearest-3, feareth-20, fearful-11, fearfully-1, fearfulness-3, fearing-8, fear-4.

For our education, especially in these last days, we would do well to make a careful study of these words so that we may understand the correct form and meaning of each where it is used. For instance, what does it mean in Revelation 21:8 where "the fearful" are the first ones who will be lost? 'Fear' may seem like such a simple word, but it has various and deeper meanings which will enhance our study and bring us ever closer to our Lord and Saviour.

**In this time of well-nigh universal apostasy,
God calls upon His messengers to proclaim His law
in the spirit and power of Elias.
As John the Baptist, in preparing a people for Christ's
first advent, called their attention to
the Ten Commandments, so we are to give,
with no uncertain sound, the message:
"Fear God, and give glory to him;
for the hour of his judgment is come."
With the earnestness that characterized
Elijah the prophet and John the Baptist,
we are to strive to prepare the way
for Christ's second advent.
The Faith I Live By p-290.5**

Recipe—Rice Pudding

2 1/2 c. cooked Brown Rice
1/4 tsp. grated Orange rind
1 1/4 c. Nut Milk of choice
2/3 c. chopped Dates or Raisins
1 tsp. Coriander
1 tsp. Vanilla
1/4 tsp. Salt
2 tbsp. Honey
COMBINE all ingredients and transfer to a 2 quart casserole dish.
BAKE at 350° for 45 minutes.
This is very good and tasty!
A great dessert, too!

*Lifestyle to Health Recipes-
Heartland Wellness Center*

Children's Story—A Soft Answer

"Winnie, that is mine; you shall not have it." So said little Arthur Harcourt, as he snatched a box of toys from his younger brother. Winnie was but a baby, and began to cry most heartily, as he toddled after his brother and attempted to regain possession of the playthings.

"Come, Master Arthur, give him the toys, there's a good boy," said nurse, rising to interfere between the quarreling children.

"No, I shan't," cried Arthur angrily; "they are mine; and he spoils all my things. I say he shall not have these."

"Then you are very, very naughty," exclaimed nurse, as she took little Winnie on her knee, and tried to console him for the loss of his toys.

Arthur began to mutter something of which only "don't care" was audible, when the door opened, and a little girl entered.

"Winnie, darling," she said, "what is the matter? Look! Sissy has brought you such a pretty book full of pictures. If there isn't Arthur sitting on the ground! What has happened, nurse?"

The cause of the quarrel was soon explained, and good-natured little Emily, in another second, was kneeling by Arthur's

side, her arm clasped round his neck, and her cheek pressed to his, as in her own sweet way she was endeavoring to pacify him.

"You know, Artie, darling, mamma did so hope we should not give kind nurse any trouble while she was away; I am sure you would like to please her. Besides, it was such a little thing to quarrel about, and I am sure baby would have given you the box if you had asked him gently, and had let him have something else. But come now, Arthur, and be friends, and then I will have a game with you." Artie, however, did not stir. "Now do, Artie," entreated Emily; "I think I must remind you of that little verse mamma so often repeats to us:

'Do to another as you'd have
Another do to you;
What you're unwilling to receive,
Be sure you never do.'

"And, Artie, mamma says that if we do not love and forgive one another, we shall never go and live with Jesus. Do you remember how gentle and kind Harry was? He never made Winnie cry." Artie's eyes filled with tears. "I am very sorry," he murmured. "Then come and tell nurse so,

and kiss Winnie." So saying, Emily took the little boy's hand, and led him toward his brother. All was soon peace again; and, a short time afterward, the merry peals of laughter which came from the nursery testified that all unpleasantness was forgotten.

Ah! If little boys and girls who read this story, only knew and felt the influence of kind words, how many a scene of strife might be prevented, how many evil passions be effectually subdued! Even in the nursery, as in the school-room, and during after life, a gentle tone, a soft answer, will benefit those by whom we are surrounded. None are too young to do good. Remember, example is better than precept. And you, my little friends, who have younger brothers and sisters, take care to utter no harsh words, but, like Emily, soothe the angry feelings, and gently point out the errors into which they may fall; for does not the Bible assure us that "A soft answer turneth away wrath"?

—The Youth's Instructor October 15, 1870

Health Nugget—What Is Celery Good For?

Homily on Celery

Botanical name: *Apium graveolens*

A crunchy snack all by itself or with peanut butter added to round out the nutrients, celery is one of the most versatile vegetables in the garden, useful for its flavorful seeds and pale green leaves and stalks. It's a direct descendant of wild celery and a member of the *Apiaceae* family with parsnips, fennel and parsley, possessing in appearance or flavor some of those characteristics. Celeriac or knob celery (*A. graveolens rapaceum*) is an example, although this cultivar has a light brown exterior with crisp, white, aromatic flesh inside. Each year, the U.S. produces a billion pounds of celery, 80 percent from California, Michigan, and Florida.

Because it's a veggie with high water content, celery requires fertile, moisture-rich soil. This may explain why this plant's origin has been traced from Sweden, south to

Algeria, Egypt, and Asia and into the Caucasus Mountains of India. A large region in the Punjab is dedicated to celery seed production for export into Europe, where it's used as a condiment. Pascal is the celery variety seen most often in the States. Blanched celery, having been deprived of light for a paler, more tender consistency, is more popular in Europe.

Celery is a cool-weather crop, so it's best planted early in climates where the winters get cold and summers are hot. Because the seeds are tiny, they should be covered lightly with soil and watered evenly for three to eight weeks, or started indoors to be transplanted after about two months. Once they begin proliferating, thin them to a few inches per row, and they can grow one to two feet tall. When purchasing celery, make sure the leaves and stalks are crisp, not wilted or rubbery.

Celery is a great addition to tuna or egg salad. Stir fries are an excellent way to enjoy

this vegetable, mixed with carrots, bell peppers, and onions, and teriyaki or orange sauce. It also adds an aromatic flavor to pot roast and vegetable soup.

However, when celery is boiled or blanched (dipped in boiling water) in soup, more than a third of the nutrients can be lost. To keep the most of its goodness intact, steaming is the best method. Studies show that steaming for even as long as 10 minutes retains 83 to 99 percent of the antioxidants celery is known to be loaded with. You can refrigerate raw celery for five to seven days, but they tend to absorb the odors of other foods, so keep them separated with a sealed container.

Health Benefits of Celery

In case you didn't notice it in the nutritional profile, celery is incredibly low in calories—only 16 per one-cup serving. This is one reason why it's so popular for dieters. The reputation celery has for being a "negative calorie" food may actually be

deserved. At the same time, celery is worth its weight in fiber, which moves food through the digestive tract more quickly, and therefore helps lower your risk for colon cancer.

An interesting tidbit about this vegetable is the many different vitamins and minerals it offers - a little bit of a lot for a good balance: nine percent each of the DV in vitamin A and folate, eight percent of the potassium, and between two to five percent in manganese, copper, phosphorus, magnesium, and calcium in the minerals category. In vitamins: vitamin C, pantothenic acid, vitamin B6, niacin, and riboflavin. Vitamin K plays the most dramatic role – 37 percent of the daily value per cup.

Celery is a rich source of flavonoids like zeaxanthin, lutein, and betacarotene, which studies have shown lowers inflammation as well as the risk of heart disease, enhances the immune system, and inhibits the growth of abnormal cancer-causing cells. Antioxidants in celery include natural phenolic dihydrostilbenoids, such as lunularin, and furanocoumarins like bergapten and psoralen. The flavonols quercetin and kaempferol also are present.

Celery leaves (which contain the most vitamin C, calcium, and potassium) and seeds also contain a number of little-known volatile oils, such as terpenes (which consists mostly of limonene), and the sesquiterpenes β-selinene and humulene. The compound 3-n-butyl phthalide, which gives celery its fresh, earthy essence, may play a part in both reducing cholesterol and blood pressure levels by relaxing blood vessel muscles. Coumarins help thin the blood, and linoleic acid is an omega-6 fatty acid. What all these and other compounds do for the body is pretty impressive.

Celery Nutrition Facts

Serving Size: 3.5 ounces (100 grams), raw
% Daily Value* Amount Per Serving

Calories	16	
Calories from fat	2	
Total Fat	0g	0%

Saturated fat	0g	0%
Trans fat	0g	0%
Cholesterol	0mg	0%
Sodium	30mg	3%
Total Carbohydrate	3g	1%
Dietary Fiber	2g	6%
Sugar	2g	
Protein	1g	
Vitamin A	0%	
Vitamin C	77%	
Calcium	2%	
Iron	2%	

*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet.

Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie intake.

Studies on Celery

Memory loss could be suspended with the addition of celery to the diet, according to a 2010 study at the University of Illinois. Luteolin, a nutrient in celery, was tested on two-year-old mice and withheld from mice aged three to six months. Results showed that the expected brain inflammation and subsequent memory loss in the older mice were not present. In fact, they performed learning and memory tasks better than the younger mice. Scientists believe the data suggests that the luteolin content in celery may also boost memory and halt age-related brain inflammation in humans to result in better cognitive health.¹

The apigenin in celery and parsley was also shown to dramatically inhibit breast cancer cells in a celebrated study done at the University of Missouri. Scientists found apigenin shrank a certain breast cancer tumor stimulated by progesterin, a synthetic hormone taken by women for menopausal symptoms.²

While apigenin was shown to be the natural flavonoid compound responsible for inhibiting breast cancer cells, it had not been tested against pancreatic cancer. Scientists undertook the study, noting that many chemotherapeutic agents had been used to treat pancreatic cancer without success. At

the conclusion, apigenin also was reported as having the ability to inhibit growth in four pancreatic cancer cell lines.³

Celery Fun Facts

In the 9th century medicinal annals, celery is noted for its use first as a medicine rather than a food. During the Middle Ages, celery became a common vegetable in Europe, and was only introduced to U.S. consumers in the 1900s.

Summary

Aromatic and crispy, celery is one of the most widely eaten and enjoyed veggies on the planet. Great in salads, stir fries, and soup as well as all by itself, this pale green garden offering is also highly nutritious. For centuries, Ayurvedic medicine has used celery and celery seed as a treatment for colds and flu, poor digestion, arthritis, and liver and spleen disorders. Today, it's known as a diuretic, which only stands to reason with all the moisture it holds. Studies also indicate its effectiveness in deflecting mosquitoes. But eating it is the real key.

Celery is rich in electrolytes and has a cooling effect on the body, which may relate to its ability to fight inflammation. You can also count on celery to lower oxidative stress in the heart and help clear the digestive system. Studies also found that the apigenin in celery has the ability to inhibit breast and pancreatic cancer, and the luteolin to boost cognitive function. Those items alone are good reasons to up your celery intake.

<http://foodfacts.mercola.com/celery.html>

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- <http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2012/0515-breast-cancer-effectively-treated-with-chemical-found-in-celery-parsley-and-spice-by-mu-researchers/>, Breast Cancer Effectively Treated with Chemical Found in Celery, Parsley by MU Researchers, Jan 2013
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**We need to make use of the youth who will cultivate honest industry, who are not afraid to put their powers to task. Such youth will find a position anywhere, because they falter not by the way; in mind and soul they bear the divine similitude. Their eye is single, and constantly they press onward and upward, crying, Victory. But there is no call for the indolent, the fearful and unbelieving, who by their lack of faith and their unwillingness to deny self for Christ's sake, keep the work from advancing.
RH, March 10, 1903 par. 8**

King of the North—Part 10

A Humanitarian Catastrophe

The evidence from the Bible, Sister White, and the historical teaching of the Adventist church point to the end of the Ottoman Empire in 1922 as the commencement of the “time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation.” *Daniel 12:1*. The previous articles in this series have clearly pointed this out.

“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... 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: ‘And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book...’” *Manuscript Releases Vol. 13 page 394*

Does the history of the 20th century back this conclusion up? Let’s take a closer look at this history and find out. The very first thing we find when we start researching the history of the 20th century is that all historians agree that it was the worst century in human history. They call the century a “humanitarian disaster.” This is interesting, when we consider that most Adventists do not think of the 20th century as being mentioned in prophecy at all. We have been taught to look to a future Sunday law for the time of trouble, but the events of the last one hundred years are not considered significant enough for God to have mentioned in prophecy.

What will the time of trouble consist of?

“...In the time of trouble, when **sword, famine, and pestilence** are in the land...” *Early Writings, page 56*.

“The judgments of God are in the land. The **wars** and **rumors of wars**, the **destruction by fire and flood**, say clearly that the time of trouble which is to increase until the end, **is already in the world**.— Letter 93, 1904, pp. 7, 8. (To W. C. White,

February 21, 1904.)” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 4, page 89*.

“**The time of trouble has already begun**. We hear continually of **riots** and **accidents**, of **murders** and **robberies**. Human life is no longer safe unless under the protection of God. God’s servants must not be surprised that they meet with **great difficulties** and **persecution** at this time. In His day, the world’s Redeemer, the Son of God, was shamefully treated by the people He came to bless. He had to go from city to city to ensure His safety, and this persecution followed Him until His work on earth was accomplished.” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 21, page 101, Written September 3, 1907*.

“Fearful tests and trials await the people of God. The **spirit of war** is stirring the nations from one end of the earth to the other. **But in the midst of the time of trouble that is coming – a time of trouble such as has not been since there was a nation** – God’s chosen people will stand unmoved. Satan and his angels cannot destroy them, for angels that excel in strength will protect them.” *Selected Messages Vol 2 page 55(1904)*.

“**The time of trouble, which is to increase until the end, is very near at hand**. We have no time to lose. The world is stirred with the spirit of **war**. The prophecies of the eleventh of Daniel have almost reached their final fulfillment.” *Review and Herald Nov. 24, 1904*

“The world is becoming more and more **lawless**. **Soon great trouble will arise among the nations—trouble that will not cease until Jesus comes**.” *Review and Herald Feb. 11, 1904*.

Remember the words of the historian in reference to the end of World War I? “The war to end all wars was ended by the peace treaty that ended all peace.” Seems to fit very well with this quote doesn’t it?

“The present is a time of overwhelming interest to all living. Rulers and statesmen, men who occupy positions of trust and authority, thinking men and women of all classes, have their attention fixed upon the events taking place about us. They are watching the relations that exist among the nations. They observe the intensity that is taking possession of every earthly element and they recognize that something great and decisive is about to take place—that

the world is on the verge of a stupendous crisis.” *Prophets and Kings page 537 (1914)*.

“We are standing on the threshold of the crisis of the ages. In quick succession the judgments of God will follow one another—**fire**, and **flood**, and **earthquake**, with **war** and **bloodshed**.” *Prophets and Kings page 278 (1914)*.

What does the Time of Trouble consist of? Not just the enforcement of Sunday sacredness (the Mark of the Beast). It consists of—nations getting angry, lawlessness, wars and rumors of wars, destruction by fire and flood, everything in the world being in a state of agitation, the Spirit of God withdrawing from the earth, calamity following calamity by sea and by land, tempests, hurricanes, tornadoes, cloudbursts, earthquakes, fires, floods, murders of every grade, insecurity and lack of assurance in anything human or earthly, the world being stirred with the spirit of war, the spirit of war stirring the nations from one end of earth to the other, a period of stormy times for God’s people, a time of trial, riots, accidents, robberies where Human life is no longer safe unless under the protection of God. It is a time of great difficulties, persecution, suffering, with the state of society being in an unsettled condition, with the agencies of evil combining their forces and consolidating and strengthening for the last great crisis, with great changes taking place, the final movements being rapid ones, having perplexities that were scarcely dreamed of, with all these things forecasting events of the greatest magnitude. Let’s take a few minutes and consider these things in the light of 20th century history.

When we consider warfare in history we immediately find that the most destructive wars in history have occurred in the last one hundred years.

“World War I involved more countries and caused greater destruction than any other war except World War II.” *World Book Encyclopedia, Vol. 21, 1991, page 454*.

“The total number of military and civilian casualties in World War I were over 35 million. There were over 15 million deaths and 20 million wounded ranking it among the deadliest conflicts in human history.

“The total number of deaths includes about 10 million military personnel and about 7 million civilians. The Entente Powers (also known as the Allies) lost about 6.0 million soldiers while the Central Powers lost about 4.0 million.” *Wikipedia, World War I casualties (parenthesis supplied by Wikipedia).*

Compare this to the Napoleonic Wars of the previous century. “Civilian deaths are impossible to accurately estimate. Whilst military deaths are invariably put at between 2.5 million and 3.5 million, civilian death tolls vary from 750,000 to 3 million. Thus estimates of total dead, both military and civilian, can reasonably range from 3,250,000 to 6,500,000.” *Wikipedia, Napoleonic Wars casualties.*

This was only a fraction of what we saw in World War I.

Now compare these numbers to World War II. “World War II killed more people, destroyed more property, disrupted more lives, and probably had more far-reaching consequences than any other war in history.” *World Book Encyclopedia, 1991, Vol 21, page 470.*

“World War II fatality statistics vary, estimates of total dead ranging from 50 million to over 70 million. The sources cited in this article document an estimated death toll in World War II of 62 to 78 million, making it the deadliest war in world history in absolute terms of total dead but not in terms of deaths relative to the world population.” *Wikipedia, World War II casualties.*

Never before in history have we had two such devastating wars within 100 years, yet these two wars occurred within 30 years of each other. Since World War II, and even before it, there has been one war after another. Between the two world wars, we had the Russian Civil war, costing up to

9 million lives, and before that the Mexican Revolution, in 1911, which killed 2 million. In 1950 the Korean War killed 3,500,000. Then we had Vietnam with 6,200,000. The second Sudanese War from 1983 to 2005, costing 2 million. The Iran-Iraq war of 1980 to 1988, with 2 million. The second Congo War of 1998 to 2003, with 5,400,000. The war on terror itself has claimed more than 4 million lives. When you add these figures together the total is 146,920,000. This makes the last 100 years the deadliest century in history, just from warfare and there were many more conflicts during this time that we didn’t even mention!

To put these numbers in perspective consider that the the 19th century saw about 82 million deaths from warfare. Also consider that the Crusades which covered a span of 200 hundred years killed up to 9 million and the Mongol invasions lasted for 300 years and killed up to 60 million.

In addition to warfare we can’t forget the genocides we’ve seen in the last century. We are all familiar with Hitler who killed up to 14 million people he did not approve of. Then there was the Ukraine in 1932, 8 million dead. Cambodia in 1975-79 killed 3 million. There were 3 million Germans who died in the aftermath of World War II. The Rwandan Genocide of 1994 killed 1.5 million. The Armenian Genocide killed 1.5 million. The Greek Genocide of 1915 to 1918 killed 800,000. There was the Don River in Russia in 1919 with 500,000. The Assyrian Genocide of 1915 to 1918 with 750,000. The Ustashe in Croatia, 1941-1945 with 655,000. The atrocities in Bangladesh in 1971 killing 3 million. There are many other genocides all of which have occurred during the last century. But just with what we have listed here the total is almost 36 million people

killed by genocide.

“There will be **crimes greater than any now on record**. There will be weeping and lamentation and woe... **Already sprinklings from the vials of God’s wrath have been let fall upon land and sea**, affecting the elements of the air. The causes of these unusual conditions are being searched for, but in vain... These things are the result of drops from the vials of God’s wrath being sprinkled on the earth, and are but **faint representations of what will be in the near future**. Earthquakes in various places have been felt, but these disturbances have been very limited... And the religious world too is to be terribly shaken; for the end of all things is at hand. —Ms 24, 1891. (Written about January 1, 1890.)” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 5, page 15-16*

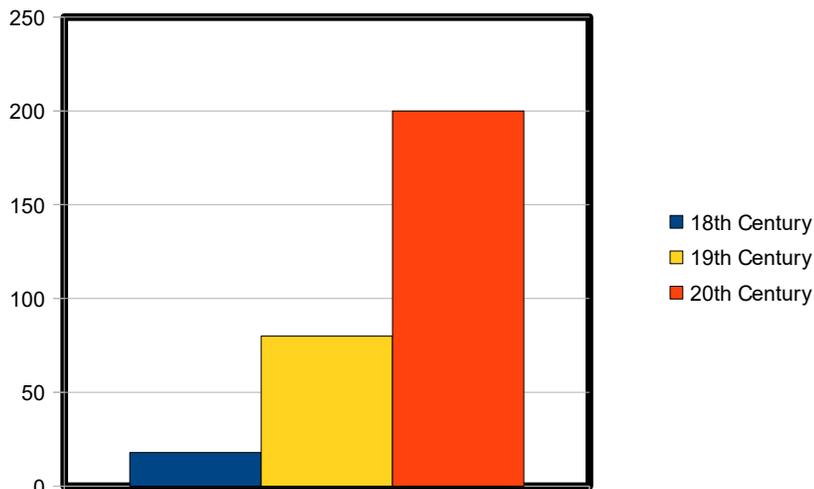
Was not the Holocaust a crime greater than any on record in 1890? When the totals of dead from warfare and genocide are combined, and remember I’ve only mentioned some of the most notable ones, we come close to 200 million dead by the sword in the last century. Why isn’t any of this bloodshed in prophecy? The answer is, it’s there, we’ve just been too blind to see it. Take a look at this in the Testimonies.

“I was shown the inhabitants of the earth in the utmost confusion. War, bloodshed, privation, want, famine, and pestilence were abroad in the land. As these things surrounded God’s people, they began to press together, and to cast aside their little difficulties. Self-dignity no longer controlled them; deep peace. Once more the inhabitants of the earth were presented before me; and again everything was in the utmost confusion. Strife, war, and bloodshed, with famine and pestilence, raged everywhere. Other nations were engaged in this war and confusion. War caused famine. Want and bloodshed caused pestilence. And then men’s hearts failed them for fear, ‘and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth.’” *Testomonies, Volume 1, page 268.*

Most Adventist believe that this is predicting wars that are still future, but is it not a perfectly accurate description of World Wars I and II? A terrible conflict, then a time of peace followed by a more terrible conflict with more and different nations involved. Don’t forget that sister White wrote those words during the civil war. The world at that time had never seen conflicts like the World Wars. The civil war was thought to be horrible and it killed 700 thousand. Have we not seen men’s hearts fail them for fear of a nuclear holocaust ever since World War II?

What about this statement? “John

Deaths by Sword (In Millions)



writes, 'I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne.' Angels were united in the work of Him who had broken the seals and taken the book. Four mighty angels hold back the powers of this earth till the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads. The nations of the world are eager for conflict; but they are held in check by the angels. When this restraining power is removed, there will come a time of trouble and anguish. Deadly instruments of warfare will be invented. Vessels, with their living cargo, will be entombed in the great deep. All who have not the spirit of truth will unite under the leadership of satanic agencies. But they are to be kept under control till the time shall come for the great battle of Armageddon." *Bible Commentary, Volume 7, page 967.*

This was written in 1900. Think about it. The airplane had not yet been invented. Today we not only have war planes, but incendiary bombs, nuclear bombs, napalm bombs that burn with white hot heat, laser weapons that reduce their targets to the molecular level, and a host of other instruments of warfare that could not even have been conceived of in her day! They are the most sinister and deadly weapons ever known. It is not impossible that there will be worse weapons invented, though it is hard to conceive of weapons worse than these.

Now think about this one,

"In India, China, Russia, and the cities of America, thousands of men and women are dying of starvation. The monied men, because they have the power, control the market. They purchase at low rates all they can obtain, and then sell at greatly increased prices. This means starvation to the poorer classes, and will result in a civil war. There will be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation...—Ms 114, 1899." *Manuscript Releases, Volume 5, page 305.*

Russia was the first of the nations mentioned to see civil war in 1917. This was followed by the division of India in 1947. Then we had China in 1949. We have not seen civil war in the cities of America although some could argue that this was fulfilled in the civil rights movement and the events of the 1960's and 1970's.

Just the number of wars has increased. "The 'Human Security Report 2009/2010' a project led by Mack and funded by several governments, is a worldwide examination of war and violence and has been published as a book. It cites jarringly low numbers. While the number of wars has increased by 25 percent, they've been minor ones." *Bombings, beheadings? Statistics show a*

peaceful world,
http://www.msn.com/id/44999572/ns/world_news/

Isn't it interesting that even those who are trying to prove that we are entering an age of peace are forced to admit that we are experiencing more conflicts than ever before? Can we brush this fulfillment of prophecy aside as insignificant?

"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... Let all read and understand the prophecies of this book, **for we are now entering upon the time of trouble spoken of:** '...and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time...' Daniel 12:1-4" *Manuscript Releases, Volume 13, page 394, 1904.*

How about fires? "In the visions of the night a very impressive scene passed before me. I saw an immense ball of fire fall among some beautiful mansions, causing their instant destruction." *Christian Service, page 111.*

"On August 6, 1945, the first choice target, Hiroshima, was having clear weather. At 8:15 a.m. (local time), the Enola Gay's door sprang open and dropped "Little Boy." The bomb exploded 1,900 feet above the city and only missed the target, the Aioi Bridge, by approximately 800 feet.

"Staff Sergeant George Caron, the tail gunner, described what he saw: 'The mushroom cloud itself was a spectacular sight, a bubbling mass of purple-gray smoke and you could see it had a red core in it and everything was burning inside... It looked like lava or molasses covering a whole city...' The cloud is estimated to have reached a height of 40,000 feet.

"Captain Robert Lewis, the co-pilot, stated, 'Where we had seen a clear city two minutes before, we could no longer see the city. We could see smoke and fires creeping up the sides of the mountains.' Two-thirds of Hiroshima was destroyed. Within three miles of the explosion, 60,000 of the 90,000 buildings were demolished. Clay roof tiles had melted together. Shadows had imprinted on buildings and other hard surfaces. Metal and stone had melted." <http://history1900s.about.com/od/worldwarii/a/hiroshima.htm>

Does this event fit the prophecy? Remember, the people in Ellen White's day had never seen, or even heard of the atomic bomb.

How about this one? "In the night I

was, I thought, in a room but not in my own house. I was in a city, where I knew not, and I heard expression after expression. I rose up quickly in bed, and saw from my window large balls of fire. Jetting out were sparks, in the form of arrows, and buildings were being consumed, and in a very few minutes the entire block of buildings was falling and the screeching and mournful groans came distinctly to my ears. I cried out, in my raised position, to learn what was happening: Where am I? And where are our family circle? Then I awoke. But I could not tell where I was for I was in another place than home. I said, Oh Lord, where am I and what shall I do? It was a voice that spoke, 'Be not afraid. Nothing shall harm you.'

"I was instructed that destruction hath gone forth upon cities. The word of the Lord will be fulfilled. Isaiah 29:19-24 was repeated. I dared not move, not knowing where I was. I cried unto the Lord, What does it mean? These representations of destruction were repeated. Where am I? 'In scenes I have represented that which will be; but warn My people to cease from putting their trust in men who are not obedient to my warnings and who despise My reproof, for the day of the Lord is right upon the world when evidence shall be made sure. Those who have followed the voices that would turn things upside down will themselves be turned where they cannot see, but will be as blind men.'" *Manuscript Releases, Volume 11, page 361.*

Have you heard of what happened to Dresden Germany at the end of World War II? Dresden was a cultural center, a beautiful city, full of art and music, with no military targets. The Red Cross was assured by the Allies that the city was not a target and would not be bombed. Because of this, thousands of refugees flocked there till the population swelled to over 1 million people. Then when the city was so full that people were sleeping in the streets, the bombers came.

"My grandmother would always begin the story of Dresden by describing the clusters of red candle flares dropped by the first bombers, which like hundreds of Christmas trees, lit up the night sky—a sure sign it would be a big air raid. Then came the first wave of hundreds of British bombers that hit a little after 10 p.m. the night of February 13-14, 1945, followed by two more intense bombing raids by the British and Americans over the next 14 hours. History records it as the deadliest air attack of all time, delivering a death toll that exceeded the atomic blasts on Hiroshima and Nagasaki... Altogether, the British dropped nearly 3,000 tons of

explosives that shattered roofs, walls, windows, whole buildings, and included hundreds of thousands of phosphorous incendiaries, which were small firebombs that sprinkled unquenchable fire into every crevasse they rolled into, igniting the inferno that turned Dresden into a ‘hurricane of flames.’

“By the time the Americans flew in for the third and last air raid, smoke from the burning city nearly obliterated visibility. One American pilot recollects, ‘We bombed from 26,000 feet and could barely see the ground because of clouds and long columns of black smoke. Not a single enemy gun was fired at either the American or British bombers.’

“The Americans dropped 800 tons of explosives and fire bombs in 11 minutes. Then, according to British historian David Irving in his book, *The Destruction of Dresden*, American P-51 fighter escorts dived to treetop level and strafed the city’s fleeing refugees.

“My grandmother described the horrific firestorm that raged like a hurricane and consumed the city. It seemed as if the very air was on fire. Thousands were killed by bomb blasts, but enormous, untold numbers were incinerated by the firestorm, an artificial tornado with winds of more than 100 miles an hour that ‘sucked up its victims and debris into its vortex and consumed oxygen with temperatures of 1,000 degrees centigrade...’ Dresden, the capital of Saxony, a centre of art, theatre, music, museums and university life, resplendent with graceful architecture—a place of beauty with lakes and gardens—was now completely destroyed. The city burned for seven days and smoldered for weeks... It took more than three months just to bury the dead, with scores of thousands buried in mass graves... German estimates of the dead ranged up to 220,000, but the completion of identification of the dead was halted by the Russian occupation of Dresden in May...

“Elisabeth, who was a young woman of around 20 at the time of the Dresden bombing, has written memoirs for her children in which she describes what happened to her in Dresden... ‘the screams were very frightening... The memory that has remained so vividly in my mind was seeing and hearing humans trapped, standing in the molten, burning asphalt like living torches, screaming for help which was impossible to give... The Dresden experience has stayed with me very vividly through my entire life. The media later released that the number of people who died during the bombing was estimated in excess of two hundred and fifty thousand—

over a quarter of a million people. This was due to all the refugees who came fleeing from the Russians, and Dresden’s reputation as a safe city. There were no air raid shelters there because of the Red Cross agreement.”

<http://proliberty.com/observer/20030402.htm>

“‘You guys burnt the place down, turned it into a single column of flame. More people died there in the firestorm, in that one big flame, than died in Hiroshima and Nagasaki combined.’ ...Others hiding below ground died. But they died painlessly—they simply glowed bright orange and blue in the darkness. As the heat intensified, they either disintegrated into cinders or melted into a thick liquid—often three or four feet deep in spots.”

<http://www.rense.com/general19/flame.htm>

Gruesome? Yes. Horrific? Yes. It defies the imagination, and yet it is history. Was this part of what sister White saw in vision? Wouldn’t you expect to see scenes like this during the time of trouble? Remember, we have only been describing the destruction of one city. There have been hundreds of others bombed in similar fashion. Almost the entire island of Japan was fire bombed before the the dropping of the atomic bombs. Bombing towns and cities has become an almost everyday thing in this world. Where you aware that the United States President is constantly shadowed by a man who carries a briefcase containing the codes to launch a nuclear strike anywhere in the world? It would only take one word from the President and untold suffering and destruction would occur almost immediately.

“Last Friday morning, just before I awoke, a very impressive scene was presented before me. I seemed to awake from sleep but was not in my home. From the windows I could behold a terrible conflagration. Great balls of fire were falling upon houses, and from these balls fiery arrows were flying in every direction. It was impossible to check the fires that were kindled, and many places were being destroyed. The terror of the people was indescribable. After a time I awoke and found myself at home.—Letter 278, 1906.” *Evangelism page 29.*

An incendiary bomb dropped from an airplane, appears like a ball of fire dropped from the sky with fiery arrows flying out in all directions, causing fires that are unquenchable. Remember, incendiary bombs were not dropped from airplanes until after World War I, more than 10 years after Ellen White received this vision.

“Four mighty angels hold back the powers of this earth till the servants of God

are sealed in their foreheads. The nations of the world are eager for conflict; but they are held in check by the angels. When this restraining power is removed, there will come a time of trouble and anguish. **Deadly instruments of warfare will be invented.** Vessels, with their living cargo, will be entombed in the great deep. All who have not the spirit of truth will unite under the leadership of satanic agencies. But they are to be kept under control till the time shall come for the great battle of Armageddon.” *Maranatha page 257.*

Since this was written, we have invented machine guns, airplanes, tanks, atomic bombs, incendiary bombs, Hydrogen bombs, napalm, white phosphorous, laser weapons, and a host of others, each more deadly and terrible than the last.

Today, not only ships sink in the ocean, but airliners do as well, with very few, if any survivors. Not only do we have fires started by man but there have been increasing numbers of fire storms all over the world. We’ve seen fire storms in the United States, Australia, and Russia. Things are fast heating up for the final crisis. Soon we will see the complete desolation of the earth.

“I was shown God’s people waiting for some change to take place—a compelling power to take hold of them. But they will be disappointed, for they are wrong. They must act, they must take hold of the work themselves and earnestly cry to God for a true knowledge of themselves. **The scenes which are passing before us are of sufficient magnitude to cause us to arouse and urge the truth home to the hearts of all who will listen. The harvest of the earth is nearly ripe.**” *Testimonies Vol. 1 page 261*

Famine seems to always follow in the wake of war and revolution. Were you aware that the worst famine on record occurred during the 20th century?

“The Great Famine of China, which took place from 1958-61, is one of the greatest tragedies of recorded history, killing between 14 and 40 million people. The typical estimate is generally placed around 30 million people. To compare this number with other major human death tolls, World War II may have killed 80 million people in total. But while these people were starving, information about the famine was greatly suppressed and what did get out about the harvest figures was manipulated. The true extent of what happened was only discovered decades later by the world and it is still difficult today to find information about this specific famine.”

<http://library.thinkquest.org/C002291/high/>

past/chinese.htm

In Russia, 17 million died in 1932-33, from famine. There were an additional 5 million in Russia who died of famine in 1921, 1 million in Leningrad during World War II and 1.5 million in Russia in 1947. The Bengal famine in India killed 4 million in 1943. More recently we have had the Somalian famine in 1991 with 300,000 dead and the North Korean famine of 1996 killed 3.5 million. These are only a few of the major famines of the 20th century and yet the total of just these is over 75 million. Today the world is facing the greatest threat of famine ever with the food reserves dangerously low, and with soaring food prices, we could be faced with worldwide famine on a scale never seen before. Is this not consistent with the time of trouble continually increasing in severity till probation closes and the world receives the wrath of God?

“The Lord has shown me repeatedly that it is contrary to the Bible to make any provision for our temporal wants in the time of trouble. I saw that if the saints had food laid up by them or in the field in the **time of trouble**, when **sword, famine, and pestilence** are in the land, it would be taken from them by violent hands and strangers would reap their fields.” *Early Writings, page 56.*

What about pestilence? Pestilence, or disease, always follows warfare and famine. What have we seen in the 20th century? The very first thing that comes to mind is the Spanish Flu of 1918. Beginning in World War I, it killed up to 100 million people in two years. Smallpox alone killed 300 million during the 20th century. But deaths from infectious diseases have declined steadily, supposedly due to vaccination, but mainly due to better sanitation and treatment practices. But the mass vaccination campaigns have led to a different type of pestilence.

“Mass vaccination campaigns of the 1950s and 1960s are now suspected in thousands of deaths per year via a cancer-causing virus contained in the early polio vaccines... Researchers discovered this deadly vaccine tragedy in 1994—when Dr. Michele Carbone found the SV40 virus in 60 percent of lung cancers (mesotheliomas) studied, 33 percent of osteosarcoma bone cancers and 40 percent of other bone cancers... Known as SV40, this virus came from dead monkeys whose kidney cells were used to culture polio vaccines. More than 98 million people in the U.S., plus more in other countries, were exposed to the contaminated vaccine... At the height of the polio epidemic in the early 1950s, the first polio vaccines were cultured in

monkey tissue. The vaccine was rushed to market and made mandatory because of government panic and public hysteria... Bernice Eddy, Ph.D., of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), discovered that 70 percent of hamsters injected with kidney cell cultures containing SV virus died without apparent cause. She later discovered that tumors could be passed easily from one animal to another over a long time period. The virus was dubbed SV40, meaning simian virus number 40... A group of Merck scientists led by Dr. Maurice Hilleman eventually proved both the Salk and Sabin forms were contaminated with SV40... SV40 is so virulent, it became a popular tool of cancer researchers awed by its ability to transform healthy animal cells into tumor cells. This tiny but mighty life form can completely disrupt cells, cause them to lose control of themselves and reproduce wildly... Researchers do not understand why SV40 is still spreading... SV40 appears in 61 percent of all new cancer patients, including patients too young to have received the vaccine 40 years ago.” *Lee Euler,*

www.cancerdefeatedpublications.com (Parenthesis supplied by website)

This is not the only disease that has been spread as a result of vaccination. Some claim that the AIDS epidemic, which has killed over 25 million people so far, is the result of mass vaccination campaigns in the Congo. Today the number of recommended vaccinations are more than double what they were 30 years ago and the rates of autism have gone from 1 in 1,000 to 1 in 100. Is there a connection? The evidence points to one and many people believe there is. Whether these things are a result of vaccination or not, the fact remains that while the numbers of deaths from formerly well known infectious diseases have gone down, the numbers of new, and chronic, diseases has steadily risen. Just in the US, out of a population of about 300 million, 100 million are chronically ill. Does pestilence rage in our land today?

“God has not restrained the powers of darkness from carrying forward their deadly work of vitiating the air, one of the sources of life and nutrition, with a deadly miasma. Not only is vegetable life affected, but man suffers from pestilences. Cholera and unexplainable diseases have broken out.” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 3, page 312. Written in 1890*

Vaccination isn't the only way chronic illness is introduced. What about all the environmental toxins we have today? Our food is tainted with pesticides, herbicides,

and chemical fertilizers, our air and water are polluted. Then there is radiation. Some estimates from the Chernobyl disaster claim that over 1 million people have died so far. We will never know for sure. We have no idea what the cost of Fukushima will be and these are only the accidents people know of. There have been many more during the 20th century that most people are not aware of because they were never told about them. Is not radiation a pestilence that “walketh in darkness”? What about the massive chemtrail campaign that was started in the United States about 15 years ago? There are reports that at one point the sky over Los Angeles turned red and the morgues were filled with thousands of people who had died from mysterious respiratory problems.

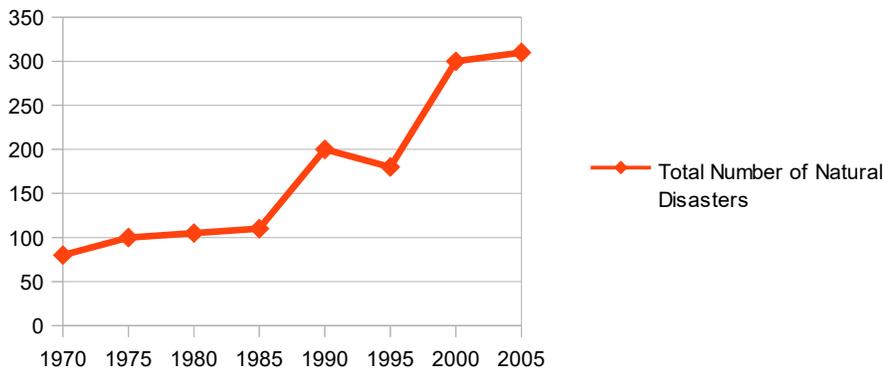
Just with what we've mentioned the total is 500 million deaths from disease in the 20th century alone. Ebola is another new disease with a 90-95% mortality rate. Malaria is killing more and more people every year. Many of the infectious diseases, like tuberculosis, that we thought we had under control, are coming back, mutated to resist the drugs we use to treat them. In many cases the treatment can be even more deadly than the disease itself. It is difficult to find the numbers of deaths from pestilence in previous centuries to compare these numbers to, but we do know that the black death killed 75 million people over a span of 5 centuries.

We've only been talking about the death rates. There have been many millions more injured, weakened, mutilated by these things, who did not die, but have suffered throughout the remainder of their lives as a result of these wars, famines, and pestilences. The amount of human suffering during the last century has been unprecedented. Is not this what we would expect to see during the time of trouble?

“Strife, war, and bloodshed, with famine and pestilence, raged everywhere. Other nations were engaged in this war and confusion. War caused famine. Want and bloodshed caused pestilence. And then men's hearts failed them for fear, 'and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth.’” *Testamonies Vol. 1, page 268*

So far we have covered the increase of war, fire, famine, and pestilence during the 20th century. Have we also seen a rise in floods? Consider this statement from the Spirit of Prophecy.

“The enemy has worked, and he is working still. He is come down in great power, and the Spirit of God is being withdrawn from the earth. God has withdrawn His hand. We have only to look



(Based on data from EM-DAT)

at Johnstown [Pennsylvania]. He did not prevent the devil from wiping that whole city out of existence. And these very things will increase until the close of this earth's history, because he has come down in great power, and he works with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish. What is he doing? Going about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. And when he sees those who are resisting the light, and that God does not shelter them, he will exercise his cruel power upon them. This is what we may expect." *Sermons and Talks, Volume 1, page 109.*

What flood was she talking about here? "On June 1, 1889, Americans woke to the news that Johnstown, Pennsylvania, had been devastated by the worst flood in the Nation's history. Over 2,200 were dead, with many more homeless... Johnstown in 1889 was a steel company town of Germans and Welsh... 3-mile long Lake Conemaugh was held on the side of a mountain—450 feet higher than Johnstown—by the old South Fork Dam. The dam had been poorly maintained, and every spring there was talk that the dam might not hold... But at 4:07 p.m. on the chilly, wet afternoon of May 31, 1889, the inhabitants heard a low rumble that grew to a "roar like thunder." Some knew immediately what had happened: after a night of heavy rains, the South Fork Dam had finally broken, sending 20 million tons of water crashing down the narrow valley. Boiling with huge chunks of debris, the wall of flood water grew at times to 60 feet high, tearing downhill at 40 miles per hour, leveling everything in its path."

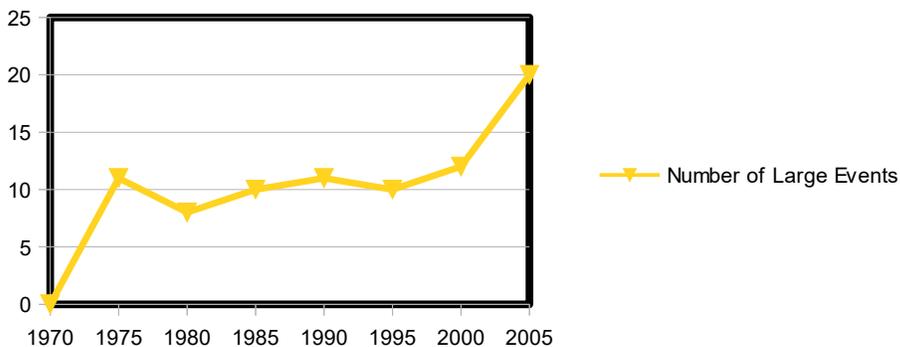
<http://www.johnstownpa.com/History/hist19.html>

How many died in this flood? 2,200. This doesn't seem like much when you compare it to the numbers we are familiar with today. In 1901 the Galveston Hurricane and flood killed up to 12,000.

What about the Central China Floods of the 1930's? "The 1931 Central China floods or the Central China floods of 1931 were a series of floods that occurred during the Nanjing decade in the Republic of China era. It is generally considered the deadliest natural disaster ever recorded, and almost certainly the deadliest of the 20th century (when pandemics and famines are discounted)... The human deaths are estimated from 145,000, to between 3.7 million to 4 million." *Wikipedia, 1931, China floods (parenthesis supplied by Wikipedia).*

In recent years we've had the tsunami in India in 2004 with 230,000 killed, Hurricane Katrina in 2005 killed almost 2,000 and caused \$81 billion of damage. The Myanmar flood of 2008 killed 138 thousand, and the tsunami in Japan in 2011, which was the worst tsunami there since the 1890's killed more than 20 thousand. Then we had extensive flooding in Australia and the mid western United States. It seems we are seeing more large floods than ever before. This is just what we would expect if we are in the time of trouble.

Note: A Large event is an event in which the intensity is above the mean of the normalized killed distribution (Data Based On EM-DAT)



"The judgments of God are in the land. The wars and rumors of wars, the destruction by fire and flood, **say clearly that the time of trouble, which is to increase until the end, is very near at hand.** We have no time to lose. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. The prophecies of the eleventh of Daniel have almost reached their final fulfillment" *Maranatha page 25.*

How about other natural disasters? Have they increased? In 1890, Ellen White had this to say. "I expect that during the year 1890 there will be great mortality. There will be crimes greater than any now on record. There will be weeping and lamentation and woe. During the past year, 1889, there has been brought to us almost daily the news of disasters by sea and by land—unusually destructive fires; earthquakes burying cities and villages with their inhabitants; railway accidents most terrible; tornadoes and floods that destroyed an immense amount of property, including the terrible Johnstown and Williamsport floods, which destroyed more than two thousand lives.

"The disasters of the past year in America have caused hearts to tremble, and similar disasters have fallen upon other countries. **Already sprinklings from the vials of God's wrath have been let fall upon land and sea,** affecting the elements of the air. The causes of these unusual conditions are being searched for, but in vain... These things are the result of drops from the vials of God's wrath being sprinkled on the earth, and are but **faint representations of what will be in the near future.** Earthquakes in various places have been felt, but these disturbances have been very limited... And the religious world too is to be terribly shaken; for the end of all things is at hand.—Ms 24, 1891. (Written about January 1, 1890.)"

Now take a look at this from 2010. “Just a few months into 2010, and Mother Nature has delivered a slew of costly and deadly natural disasters. From the catastrophic Haiti and Chilean earthquakes to the U.S. blizzard that descended on Washington, D.C., last month, which was mostly just inconvenient by comparison, 2010 is already above average in terms of natural-disaster casualties. In comparison to previous years, the number of casualties from natural disasters in 2010, which is already well above 200,000, is outside the norm... Over the decade from 2000 to the end of 2009, the yearly average was 78,000, according to the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR). For the 1990s, the average was 43,000...”

<http://www.livescience.com/6212-disastrous-year-2010-death-toll-abnormally-high.html>

Are we seeing the fulfillment of prophecy? Some will claim that it only appears to be worse than it was. These things have always happened, we just have better reporting now, so we hear about it sooner. Let’s think about that for a while. We have pretty good records of natural disasters around the world for the last 100 years. The evidence shows that the sheer number and frequency of occurrence has greatly increased.

“According to the EM-DAT(i) the total natural disasters reported each year has been steadily increasing in recent decades, from 78 in 1970 to 348 in 2004.”

<http://www.happyheartfund.org/disstat.php>

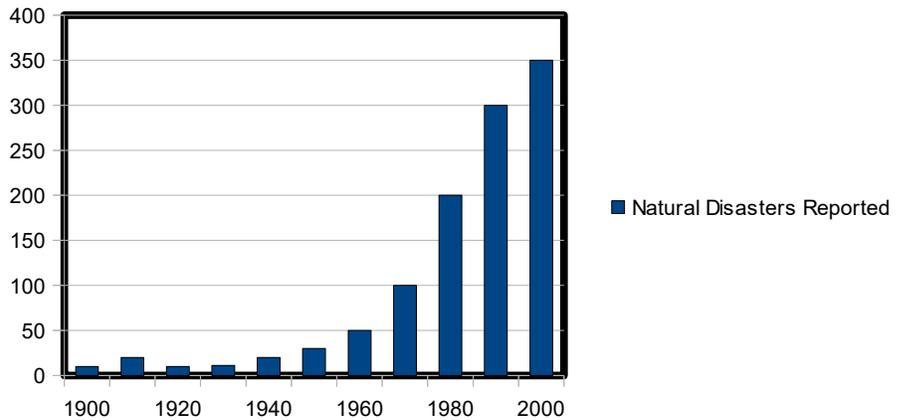
“Debarati Guha-Sapir, director of the Center for Research on Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED)(ii) in Brussels, Belgium, suggests that a portion of that increase is artificial, due in part to better media reports and advances in communications. Beginning in the 1980s, agencies like CRED and the US Agency for International Development (USAID) began actively looking for natural disasters. However, about two-thirds of the increase is real and the result of rises in so-called hydro-meteorological disasters. These disasters include droughts, tsunamis, hurricanes, typhoons and floods and have been increasing over the past 25 years.”

<http://www.happyheartfund.org/disstat.php>

“In 1980, there were only about 100 such disasters reported per year but that number has risen to over 300 a year since 2000.”

<http://www.happyheartfund.org/disstat.php>

Do these numbers have significance?



(Based on OFDA, CRED, and EM-DAT)

Are they a fulfillment of prophecy? Is there a reason why historians call the 20th century a humanitarian catastrophe? If this isn’t the time of trouble, what is it? When you consider that time periods of much less destruction have been predicted in the Bible, you realize that the 20th century had to be predicted too. God always warns His people of what is coming and He warned us of this too.

“These things are the result of drops from the vials of God’s wrath being sprinkled on the earth, and are but **faint representations of what will be in the**

near future. Earthquakes in various places have been felt, but these disturbances have been very limited... And the religious world too is to be terribly shaken; for the end of all things is at hand.—Ms 24, 1891. (Written about January 1, 1890.)”
Manuscript Releases, Volume 5, page 15-16

But what of persecution and the Sunday law? Have we seen an increase in religious persecution during the last 100 years? We will consider this in part 11.

—Rick & Virginia Markwell

**We are God’s workmanship,
and His Word declares that
we are “fearfully and wonderfully made.”
He has prepared this living habitation
for the mind; it is “curiously wrought,”
a temple which the Lord Himself has fitted up
for the indwelling of His Holy Spirit.
The mind controls the whole man.
All our actions, good or bad,
have their source in the mind.
It is the mind that worships God and allies us to
heavenly beings. Yet many spend all their lives
without becoming intelligent in regard to the
casket [the human body]
that contains this treasure.
CG 360.1**

Letters—Kenya

I wish to say to you that if God opens the way for the brethren in other parts of the world to help with publishing; then Spiritual and Eternal riches are our own, making Christ our own, and the promises of grace become wide open to all who read these messages presented to them, they are silent messengers. Let us be convinced of this, that these are truly rich oracles, and whoever is enriched in them is built in faith; and becomes rich towards God, rich in Christ, in the promises, and in the earnest of heaven knowing that we are united in passing out the last message of mercy without our physical presence! We are resolved to 'make to ourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations.'" Praise God in that even if Malaria had attacked me, I retained

the strength to do printing after only formatting to fit our paper size. I had to print out some booklets 'Caught Unprepared & Time of Trouble to be given out and also travel with some booklets to Kenya – E__ which I packed into 2 boxes of 300 each. Then, Elder J__ also sent some funds to add on some prints out. I added one box of the booklets 'The Government of God' part 1 & 2 which is new to our publications to help in organizing the Remnant Church worldwide.

I have considered posting half of it using snail mail address due to the fact that my [travel documents] passport expired on 10/08/2016 and I embarked on processing a new one so that I can make a physical follow-up soon when I am issued with one. I believe this is going to take about one month. G__ sent a soft copy to me as pdf

file and I use Microsoft publisher. As a minister of Christ loves to be united,—of one heart and one mind. I have liked counseling with [her] one another. I made sure that these prints have same paging even if none should require their brethren to labor exactly after their plan but each should preserve his individuality with God, and all laboring for the good of others, esteeming their brethren better than themselves. **Ev 685**. "Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" so do I labor. **Eph 4:3**

We thank our supporters for helping us to press to areas which we would not even manage to do. I pray for continual sustainability of these efforts so that we can get the wholly world enlighten with His glory.

—J N

Some are not naturally devotional, and therefore should encourage and cultivate a habit of close examination of their own lives and motives, and should especially cherish a love for religious exercises and for secret prayer.

They are often heard talking of doubts and unbelief, and dwelling upon the wonderful struggles they have had with infidel feelings.

They dwell upon discouraging influences as so affecting their faith, hope, and courage in the truth and in the ultimate success of the work and cause in which they are engaged, as to make it a special virtue to be found on the side of the doubting. At times they seem to really enjoy hovering about the infidel's position and strengthening their unbelief with every circumstance they can gather as an excuse for their darkness.

To such we would say: You would better come down at once and leave the walls of Zion until you become converted men and good Christians.

Before you take the responsibility of becoming ministers you are required of God to separate yourselves from the love of this world.

The reward of those who continue in this doubting position will be that given to the fearful and unbelieving.

2T 513.

Story—The Lost Inheritance

An elderly man was standing by the road-side gazing earnestly at a homestead. His dress was shabby, his shoulders were bent forward, a wistful longing was in his face, a gloomy shadow darkened his eyes, and he seemed absorbed in the deepest thought.

The farm land which attracted his attention was productive, and delightfully situated. On a slight elevation of ground that rose gradually before him stood an old-fashioned farm-house. The roof sloped down over the front, under which there was a spacious piazza. Everything about the place was trim, neat, and thrifty.

Beyond the house was a beautiful landscape, hill and sward and mountain and dell, with streams and a lake in the distance.

The stranger who was gazing so intently on the pleasant scene seemed lost in thought. There was something fascinating to him in every tree and flower. When he turned away, the tears were coursing down his face. It may seem strange that so much of beauty should excite emotions of grief.

He had gone but a short distance when a neighbor met him, and instantly recognized him as a former acquaintance.

“Why, Randolph,” said he, extending his hand, “how do you do? I’m glad to see you. It really seems as if you had a right here. Been to look at the old place, I

suppose?”

The gloom still rested on Walter Randolph’s face as he answered slowly: “Yes, I was on the main road, and thought I would walk down and take one more look. You see, they’ve got it away from me entirely. They have the family burying ground, too; but that, as yet, is undisturbed. Father and mother lie there, my two brothers and my sister, and three of my children. I could see the spot where they sleep on the hillock beyond. I would have gone in and sat down by the graves again, but something seemed to tell me that I was a stranger. These settlers have got it all, all, and...”

“But, Randolph, you can’t blame the present owners. They bought, the property of the mortgagee; and he, as you must know, had to bid it in at the foreclosure sale. I can’t see that anybody is to blame but yourself. Your brothers and sister died, and you were the only surviving heir. Your inheritance was a splendid one. You had lands and money enough. But, for some reason, you let the farm run down, the house go un-repaired, the fences get out of shape, and the barns have broken doors and dangling shutters. Besides, your wife and your two remaining children went away; and then you left, and the property had no one to take care of it. Now, won’t you let me ask you what was the cause of all this?”

Randolph was deeply moved; but, after a pause, he answered:

“I will tell you. I had, as you have said, a splendid property, a farm of two hundred and fifty acres, with good house, barns, implements, and everything in running order. I had also a kind father and mother, who pointed out to me early in life the right way. But, somehow, I fell into the habit of stopping at the village store, and I used to go over to the Shades saloon. Things were more lively there. I became a drinker, a gambler, and a swearer. The attractions of the Shades were more to me than home or family; and slowly but surely, though I knew it not, I was drinking up my inheritance. When my third child died, my wife’s reason was impaired, and in order to provide an asylum for her, I mortgaged my property; but I am ashamed to say that I squandered the money and neglected her. She is still insane. My remaining children are I know not where. My life is a ruin! My inheritance is lost!”

He turned from the neighbor; and as he went away, every beat of his heart seemed to echo, “Lost! lost! Lost!”

There is a greater inheritance that may be lost. The dreadful words, “Depart from me,” may be spoken. And then oh, sad departure! It may be added, “These shall go away into everlasting Punishment.”

— *Youth’s Instructor* March 28, 1883

God loves Sister Pierce. She is one of the timid, fearing ones, conscientious in the performance of her duty; and she will receive a reward when Jesus comes if she is faithful to the end. She has not made a display of her virtues, she has been retiring, one of the more silent ones; yet her life has been useful; she has blessed many by her influence. Sister Pierce has not much self-esteem and self-confidence. She has many fears, yet does not come under the head of the fearful and unbelieving, who will find no place in the kingdom of God. Those outside of the city are among the most confident, boastful, and apparently zealous ones who love in word, but not in deed and in truth. Their hearts are not right with God. His fear is not before them. The fearful and unbelieving, who are punished with the second death, are of that class who are ashamed of Christ in this world. They are afraid to do right and follow Christ, lest they should meet with pecuniary loss. They neglect their duty, to avoid reproach and trials, and to escape dangers. Those who dare not do right because they will thus expose themselves to trials, persecution, loss, and suffering are cowards, and, with idolaters, liars, and all sinners, they are ripening for the second death.

{2T 630.1}

Christian Service –Chapter 5 Continued

Responsibility for Providing the Training

When men of promise and ability were converted, as in the case of Timothy, Paul and Barnabas sought earnestly to show them the necessity of laboring in the vineyard. And when the apostles left for another place, the faith of these men did not fail, but rather increased. They had been faithfully instructed in the way of the Lord, and had been taught how to labor unselfishly, earnestly, perseveringly, for the salvation of their fellow men. This careful training of new converts was an important factor in the remarkable success that attended Paul and Barnabas as they preached the gospel in heathen lands.—The Acts of the Apostles, pp. 186, 187. {ChS 60.3}

As churches are established, it should be set before them that it is even from among them that men must be taken to carry the truth to others, and raise new churches; therefore they must all work, and cultivate to the utmost the talents that God has given them, and be training their minds to engage in the service of their Master.—Testimonies, vol. 3, p. 205. {ChS 61.1}

Missionary operations are constantly embarrassed for want of workers of the right class of mind,—workers who have devotion and piety that will correctly represent our faith. There are many who ought to become missionaries, but who never enter the field because those who are united with them in church capacity or in our colleges do not feel the burden to labor with them, to open before them the claims of God upon all their powers, and do not pray with and for them.—Counsels to Teachers, pp. 500, 501. {ChS 61.2}

Those who have the spiritual oversight of the church should devise ways and means by which an opportunity may be given to every member of the church to act some part in God's work. Too often in the past this has not been done. Plans have not been clearly laid and fully carried out, whereby the talents of all might be employed in active service. There are but few who realize how much has been lost because of this.—Testimonies, vol. 9, p. 116. {ChS 61.3}

In every church the members should be so trained that they will devote time to the winning of souls to Christ. How can it be said of the church, "Ye are the light of the

world," unless the members of the church are actually imparting light? Let those who have charge of the flock of Christ awake to their duty, and set many souls to work.—Testimonies, vol. 6, p. 436. {ChS 61.4}

Select Officers Qualified to Train

Great care should be exercised in selecting officers for the new churches. Let them be men and women who are thoroughly converted. Let those be chosen who are best qualified to give instruction, those who can minister both in word and in deed. There is a deep-seated necessity for work in every line.—Testimonies, vol. 6, p. 85. {ChS 61.5}

The elders and those who have leading places in the church should give more thought to their plans for conducting the work. They should arrange matters so that every member of the church shall have a part to act, that none may lead an aimless life, but that all may accomplish what they can according to their several ability. . . . It is very essential that such an education should be given to the members of the church that they will become unselfish, devoted, efficient workers for God; and it is only through such a course that the church can be prevented from becoming fruitless and dead... Let every member of the church become an active worker,—a living stone, emitting light in God's temple.—Review and Herald, Sept. 2, 1890. {ChS 62.1}

Church Members to Educate Themselves

Church members must work; they must educate themselves, striving to reach the high standard set before them. This the Lord will help them to reach if they will cooperate with Him.—Testimonies, vol. 9, p. 140. {ChS 62.2}

We should not let slip even one opportunity of qualifying ourselves intellectually to work for God.—Christ's Object Lessons, p. 334. {ChS 62.3}

The Divine Standard

The Lord desires us to obtain all the education possible, with the object in view of imparting our knowledge to others. None can know where or how they may be called to labor or to speak for God. Our heavenly Father alone sees what He can make of men. There are before us possibilities

which our feeble faith does not discern. Our minds should be so trained that if necessary we can present the truths of His word before the highest earthly authorities in such a way as to glorify His name.—Christ's Object Lessons, pp. 333, 334. {ChS 62.4}

Who have been preparing themselves to go and work in His vineyard? God is not pleased with novices. He wants us to make the very best and highest use that is possible of the talents that He has given us.—Review and Herald, April 2, 1889. {ChS 62.5}

Illustration

I had dreamed that a person brought to me a web of white cloth, and bade me cut it into garments for persons of all sizes, and all descriptions of character, and circumstances in life. I was told to cut them out, and hang them up all ready to be made when called for. I had the impression that many for whom I was required to cut garments were unworthy. I inquired if that was the last piece of cloth I should have to cut, and was told that it was not; that as soon as I had finished this one, there were others for me to take hold of. {ChS 63.1}

I felt discouraged at the amount of work before me, and stated that I had been engaged in cutting garments for others for more than twenty years, and my labors had not been appreciated, neither did I see that my work had accomplished much good. I spoke to the person who brought the cloth to me, of one woman in particular, for whom he had told me to cut a garment. I stated that she would not prize the garment, and that it would be a loss of time and material to present it to her. She was very poor, of inferior intellect, and untidy in her habits, and would soon soil it. The person replied, "Cut out the garments. That is your duty. The loss is not yours, but mine. God sees not as man sees. He lays out the work that He would have done, and you do not know which will prosper, this or that. It will be found that many such poor souls will go into the kingdom, while others, who are favored with all the blessings of life, having all the advantages of improvement, will be left out."—Testimonies, vol. 2, pp. 10, 11. {ChS 63.2}

Chapter 5 to be continued