

THE GODHEAD CONTROVERSY

The Pioneer Understanding
The Alpha and Omega Apostasies
The Trinity

ADVENTIST APOSTASY

“The Lord has pronounced a curse upon those who **take from or add to the Scriptures**. The great I AM has decided what shall constitute the rule of faith and doctrine, and he has designed that the Bible shall be a household book. **The church that holds to the word of God is irreconcilably separated from Rome**. Protestants were once thus apart from this great church of apostasy, but they have approached more nearly to her, and are still in the path of reconciliation to the Church of Rome. Rome never changes. Her principles have not altered in the least. She has not lessened the breach between herself and Protestants; they have done all the advancing. But what does this argue for the Protestantism of this day? It is the rejection of Bible truth which makes men approach to infidelity. **It is a backsliding church that lessens the distance between itself and the Papacy.**” *Signs of the Times*, February 19, 1894.

TAMPERING WITH THE WRITINGS—THE BIBLE

This is he that came by water and blood, *even* Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. For **there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one**. And there are **three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one**. 1 John 5:6–8.

“The Bible must be your counselor. Study it and the testimonies God has given; for **they never contradict His Word**. If the Testimonies speak not according to the word of God, **reject them**. Christ and Belial cannot be united.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 32.

EVANGELISM, 614-617

“I am instructed to say, The sentiments of those who are searching for advanced scientific ideas are not to be trusted. Such representations as the following are made: ‘The **Father** is as the light invisible: the **Son** is as the light embodied; the **Spirit** is the light shed abroad.’ ‘The **Father** is like the dew, invisible vapor; the **Son** is like the dew gathered in beauteous form; the **Spirit** is like the dew fallen to the seat of life.’ Another representation: ‘The **Father** is like the invisible vapor; the **Son** is like the leaden cloud; the **Spirit** is rain fallen and working in refreshing power.’

“All these spiritualistic representations are simply nothingness. They are imperfect, untrue. They weaken and diminish the Majesty which no earthly likeness can be compared to. God cannot be compared with the things His hands have made. These are mere earthly things, suffering under the curse of God because of the sins of man. The Father cannot be described by the things of earth. **The Father is all the fullness of the Godhead bodily**, and is invisible to mortal sight.

“**The Son is all the fullness of the Godhead manifested**. The Word of God declares Him to be ‘the express image of His person.’ ‘God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’ Here is shown the personality of the Father.

“The Comforter that Christ promised to send after He ascended to heaven, is the Spirit in **all the fullness of the Godhead**, making manifest the power of divine grace to all who receive and believe in Christ as a personal Saviour. **There are three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit**—those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized, and these powers will co-operate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ.”

“I slept well during the past night, from seven o’clock until half-past two. It is the Sabbath of the Lord, and I shall speak in the church at St. Helena this morning. My health is very good. I attend to my writings continuously, that everything may be in readiness if I should be taken away at a moment’s notice. I do not regard that time with any fear or distrust. I am heeding to the best of my knowledge the message that Christ came from heaven to give John, as recorded in the first, second, and third chapters of Revelation.

“But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden. But that which ye already have hold fast till I come. And he that overcometh, and keepeth My works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of My Father. And I will give him the morning star. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.’

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“There will have to be a second conversion in the hearts of some of our leading medical fraternity, and a cutting away from the men who are trying to guide the medical ship into the harbor, else they themselves will never reach the haven of rest. Christ calls, Come out from among them, and be ye separate.

“I write this because any moment my life may be ended. Unless there is a breaking away from the influence that Satan has prepared, and **a reviving of the testimonies that God has given**, souls will perish in their delusion. They will accept fallacy after fallacy, and will thus keep up a disunion that will always exist until those who have been deceived take their stand on the right platform. All this higher education that is being planned will be extinguished; for it is spurious. The more simple the education of our workers, the less connection they have with the men whom God is not leading, the more will be accomplished. Work will be done in the simplicity of true godliness, and the old, old times will be back when, under the Holy Spirit’s guidance, thousands were converted in a day. When the truth in its simplicity is lived in every place, then God will work through His angels as He worked on the day of Pentecost, and hearts will be changed so decidedly that there will be a manifestation of the influence of genuine truth, as is represented in the descent of the Holy Spirit.

“The Holy Spirit never has, and never will in the future, divorce the medical missionary work from the gospel ministry. They cannot be divorced. Bound up with Jesus Christ, the ministry of the word and the healing of the sick are one.

“The fifty-eight chapter of Isaiah contains instruction for today. ‘Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sin.’ God does not accept Dr. Kellogg as His laborer, unless he will now break with Satan. The work would not have been hindered as it has been for the past several years if Dr. Kellogg were a converted man. ‘**Come**,’ I call, ‘**come ye out and be separate** from him and his associates whom he has leavened.’ I am now giving the message God has given me, to give to all who claim to believe the truth: ‘**Come out from among them, and be ye separate**,’ else their sin in justifying wrongs and framing deceits will continue to be the ruin of souls. **We cannot afford to be on the wrong side.** We cannot afford to cover the truth with scientific problems. We urge that decided changes be made, and no more stumbling-blocks be placed before the feet of the people of God. Let every soul put on the gospel shoes. Let every soul pray and work, placing their feet upon the foundation Christ laid in giving His life for the life of the world.” *Special Testimonies*, Series B, No. 7, 61–64.

“Christ is **the pre-existent, self-existent** Son of God.... In speaking of his pre-existence, Christ carries the mind back through dateless ages. He assures us that there **never was a time** when He was not in close fellowship with the eternal God. He to whose voice the Jews were then listening had been with God as one brought up with Him.”

“The command given to Abraham to slay his son was **the most severe test** that could be brought upon him. But as he prepared in faith to obey God, there was opened before him the coming of the Just One, the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world for the sins of the human race. As by faith he grasped the promise, Christ revealed Himself to him. Abraham saw the incarnate Saviour, and rejoiced.

“Then said the Jews unto Him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast Thou seen Abraham?’ ‘Verily, verily, I say unto you,’ Jesus answered, ‘Before Abraham was, I am. Then took they up stones to cast at Him; but Jesus hid Himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.’ Their eyes were blinded that they might not see Him.

“‘Before Abraham was, I am.’ Christ is **the pre-existent, self-existent** Son of God. The message He gave to Moses to give to the children of Israel was, ‘Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.’ The prophet Micah writes of Him, ‘But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, tho thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of Thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.’

“Through Solomon Christ declared: ‘The Lord possessed Me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth. . . . When He gave to the sea His decree, that the waters should not pass His commandment; when He appointed the foundations of the earth; then I was by Him, as one brought up with Him; and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him.’

“In speaking of His pre-existence, Christ carries the mind back through dateless ages. He assures us that there **never was a time when He was not in close fellowship with the eternal God**. He to whose voice the Jews were then listening had been with God as one brought up **with** Him.

“Christ’s words were spoken with a quiet dignity and with an assurance and power that sent conviction to the hearts of the scribes and Pharisees. They felt the power of the message sent from heaven. God was knocking at the door of their hearts, entreating entrance. **But they refused to listen**. By their persistent rejection of warnings and invitations they caused Him to abandon them to their blindness and its results. Satan was working with all his power to secure them in his cause, and under his control they developed a stubbornness which brought upon them their ruin.”
Signs of the Times, August 29, 1900.

“He was **equal with God, infinite and omnipotent. . . . He is the eternal, self-existent Son.**”

“Christ was not compelled to endure this cruel treatment. The yoke of obligation was not laid upon Him to undertake the work of redemption. Voluntarily He offered Himself, a willing, spotless sacrifice. **He was equal with God, infinite and omnipotent.** He was above all finite requirements. He was Himself the law in character. Of the highest angels it could not be said that they had never borne a yoke. The angels all bear the yoke of dependence, the yoke of obedience. They are the appointed messengers of Him who is Commander of all heaven.

“No one of the angels could become a substitute and surety for the human race, for their life is God’s; they could not surrender it. On Christ alone the human family depended for their existence. **He is the eternal, self-existent Son, on whom no yoke had come.** When God asked, ‘whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?’ Christ alone of the angelic host could reply, ‘Here am I; send Me.’ He alone had covenanted before the foundation of the world to become a surety for man. He could say that which not the highest angel could say—‘**I have power over My own life. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again**’ [see John 10:18].”
Manuscript 101, 1897.

“While God’s Word speaks of the humanity of Christ when upon this earth, it also speaks decidedly regarding His **pre-existence.** The Word existed as a divine being, even as the **eternal** Son of God, in union and oneness with His Father. From **everlasting** He was the Mediator of the covenant, the one in whom all nations of the earth, both Jews and Gentiles, if they accepted Him, were to be blessed. ‘The Word was with God, and **the Word was God.**’ Before men or angels were created, **the Word was with God, and was God.**”

“Christ did not make believe take human nature; he did verily take it. He did in reality possess human nature. ‘As the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same.’ He was the son of Mary; he was of the seed of David according to human descent. He is declared to be a man, even the Man Christ Jesus. ‘This Man,’ writes Paul, ‘was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honor than the house.’

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“The world was made by him, ‘and without him was not anything made that was made.’ **If Christ made all things, he existed before all things.** The words spoken in regard to this are so decisive that no one need be left in doubt. **Christ was God essentially, and in the highest sense. He was with God from all eternity, God over all, blessed forevermore.**

“The Lord Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God, existed from eternity, a distinct person, yet one with the Father. He was the surpassing glory of heaven. He was the commander of the heavenly intelligences, and the adoring homage of the angels was received by him as his right. This was no robbery of God. ‘The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way,’ he declares, ‘before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth; while as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth.’”
Review and Herald, April 5, 1906.

“Christ shows them that, although they might reckon His life to be less than fifty years, yet **His divine life could not be reckoned by human computation. The existence of Christ before His incarnation is not measured by figures.**”

“The scribes and Pharisees accused Christ of blasphemy because **He made Himself equal with God.** But He promptly met and **denied** their accusations. ‘Art Thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead?’ they asked Him; ‘whom makest Thou Thyself?’ Jesus answered: ‘If I **honor Myself**, My honor is nothing; it is My Father that honoreth Me; of whom ye say, that He is your God; yet ye have not known Him, but I know Him; and if I should say, I know Him not, I shall be a liar like unto you; but I know Him, and keep His saying. Your Father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it, and was glad. Then said the Jews unto Him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast Thou seen Abraham? Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.’

“Here Christ shows them that, altho they might reckon His life to be less than fifty years, yet **His divine life could not be reckoned by human computation. The existence of Christ before His incarnation is not measured by figures.**

“‘Before Abraham was, I am.’ Abraham greatly desired to see the Messiah in His day. He offered up the most earnest prayer that he might see Him before He died. ‘He looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. . . . Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the seashore innumerable. These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.’” *Signs of the Times*, May 3, 1899.

“Jesus declared, ‘I am the resurrection, and the life.’ In Christ is life, **original, unborrowed, underived.** ‘He that hath the Son hath life.’ The divinity of Christ is the believer’s assurance of eternal life.”

“Jesus encouraged her faith, saying, ‘Thy brother shall rise again.’ His answer was not intended to inspire hope of an immediate change. He carried Martha’s thoughts beyond the present restoration of her brother, and fixed them upon the resurrection of the just. This He did that she might see in the resurrection of Lazarus a pledge of the resurrection of all the righteous dead, and an assurance that it would be accomplished by the Savior’s power.

“Martha answered, ‘I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.’

“Still seeking to give a true direction to her faith, Jesus declared, ‘I am the resurrection, and the life.’ **In Christ is life, original, unborrowed, underived.** ‘He that hath the Son hath life.’ 1 John 5:12. **The divinity of Christ** is the believer’s assurance of eternal life. ‘He that believeth in Me,’ said Jesus, ‘though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. Believest thou this?’ Christ here looks forward to the time of His second coming. Then the righteous dead shall be raised incorruptible, and the living righteous shall be translated to heaven without seeing death. The miracle which Christ was about to perform, in raising Lazarus from the dead, would represent the resurrection of all the righteous dead. By His word and His works He declared Himself the Author of the resurrection. He who Himself was soon to die upon the cross stood with the keys of death, a conqueror of the grave, and asserted **His right and power to give eternal life.**” *The Desire of Ages*, 530.

“When they [Israel] came to Sinai, He took occasion to refresh their minds in regard to His requirements. Christ and the Father, standing side by side upon the mount, with solemn majesty proclaimed the Ten Commandments.”

“Some urge that it is of no consequence whether we keep the Sabbath or not; but we say that from the Bible standpoint it is a matter of great importance. Had it not been important, God would not have wrought in so marvelous a manner to deliver his people from Egyptian bondage. It was because he saw that they could not obey his commandments in their servitude, that he revealed his mighty arm in bringing them into a place where they could serve him. When they came to Sinai, he took occasion to refresh their minds in regard to his requirements. **Christ and the Father, standing side by side upon the mount**, with solemn majesty proclaimed the Ten Commandments, placing in the very center of the Decalogue the Sabbath command. Again and again the Lord told the people that if they would keep his Sabbath he would take them to himself to be his chosen people; and again and again sorrow and shame were brought upon them because they failed to keep it. He also told them that the Sabbath should be a sign between him and them forever, that they might know that he was the Lord their God. Therefore it is of great importance that the Sabbath be regarded according to the commandment.

“**We want to know the truth, the whole truth as it is in Jesus. We cannot afford to cherish error on any point.** Those who take their stand firmly upon the truth will know what affliction and persecution are. Few at the present time have any experimental knowledge of what these are. They may think they are having a hard time, but God is simply testing them to see if they have root in themselves. He is proving them, as he proved Adam and Eve in Eden, to see if they will obey him.” *Historical Sketches*, 232.

“The eternal heavenly dignitaries—God, and Christ, and the Holy Spirit—arming them [the disciples] with more than mortal energy, . . . would advance with them to the work and convince the world of sin.”

“‘Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter’ [Revelation 1:19]. Here message after message is given.

“‘Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith He that holdeth the seven stars in His right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; I know thy works, and thy labor.’ And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; and unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; and to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; and unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write. Revelation 3:14–22.

“These messages Christ did not withhold from His followers—that they must do their work amid trials and exposure to persecution and life itself. But they must not become dim or cease to shine as lights amid the moral darkness, to irradiate the dense gloom of immorality and sin. They are to unite in bearing one another’s burdens. ‘Ye are the light of the world.’

“There was kept before them that His people must be a combined, united power in love and efficiency, to become a light amid the moral darkness. By these combined forces [He] specified that they all may be one. **Hear it**, everyone who is a Seventh-day Adventist; **hear it**: ‘As Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me. . . . I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that Thou hast sent Me, and hast loved them, as Thou hast loved Me’ [John 17:21, 23].

“The Lord Jesus described the difficulties they should meet. Having called their minds to rise to an eminence, He bids them behold the vast confederacy of evil arrayed against God, against Christ, against all who unite with these holy powers. Christ tells them they were to fight in fellowship with all the children of light; that satanic agencies would combine their forces to extinguish the light of the life of Christ out of their ranks. But they were not left to fight the battles in their own human strength. The angelic host coming as ministers of God would be in that battle. Also there would be **the eternal heavenly dignitaries—God, and Christ, and the Holy Spirit**—arming them with more than mortal energy, and would advance with them to the work, and convince the world of sin.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 16, 204.

“We need to realize that the Holy Spirit, **who is as much a person as God is a person**, is walking through these grounds.”

“‘I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.’

“The Lord says this because He knows it is for our good. He would build a wall around us, to keep us from transgression, so that His blessing and love may be bestowed on us in rich measure. This is the reason we have established a school here. The Lord instructed us that this was the place in which we should locate, and we have had every reason to think that we are in the right place. We have been brought together as a school, and we need to realize that **the Holy Spirit, who is as much a person as God is a person, is walking through these grounds**, that the Lord God is our keeper, and helper. He hears every word we utter and knows every thought of the mind.” *Manuscript 66*, 1899, 4.

“**The Holy Spirit is a person**, for He beareth witness with our spirits that we are the children of God. When this witness is borne, it carries with it its own evidence. At such times we believe and are sure that we are the children of God. . . .

“**The Holy Spirit has a personality**, else He could not bear witness to our spirits and with our spirits that we are the children of God. He must also be **a divine person**, else He could not search out the secrets which lie hidden in the mind of God. ‘For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.’”

“The Holy Spirit always leads to the written word. **The Holy Spirit is a person**; for He beareth witness with our spirits that we are the children of God. When this witness is borne, it carries with it its own evidence. At such times we believe and are sure that we are the children of God. What strong evidence of the power of truth we can give to believers and unbelievers when we can voice the words of John, ‘We have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.’

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“The prince of the power of evil can only be held in check by the power of God in **the third person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit.**”

“Before he offered himself as the sacrificial victim, Christ sought for the most essential and complete gift to bestow upon the world, which would act in his place, and bring the boundless resources of grace within the reach of his followers. ‘I will pray the Father,’ he said, ‘and he shall give you another Comforter, that **he** may abide with you forever; even **the Spirit of truth**; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth **him** not, neither knoweth **him**: but ye know **him**; for **he** dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.’

“The striking feature of divine operations is the accomplishment of the greatest work that can be done in our world, by very simple means. It is God’s plan that every part of his government shall depend on every other part, the whole as a wheel within a wheel, working with entire harmony. He moves upon human forces, causing his Spirit to touch invisible chords, and the vibration rings to the extremity of the universe.

“The prince of the power of evil can only be held in check by the power of God in **the third person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit.**” *Special Testimonies*, Series A, No. 10, 37.

“We are to co-operate with **the three highest powers in heaven,—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost**,—and these powers will work through us, making us workers together with God.”

“The time will come when I must speak much more plainly, and warn our brethren in plain tones not to be led astray with the false theories of *Living Temple*. I have been shown the seductive nature of the sentiments it contains, and that which has been declared over and over again, I need not repeat. **These representations are said to be in harmony with the sentiments in Sister White’s published works.** Those who make statements such as this are doing my books great injustice. **Let all bear in mind that statements from my books may be taken out of their setting, and placed in such connection as to make it appear that the sentiments in *Living Temple* are sustained by Sister White’s very words.**

“A sense of duty to my Lord leads me to speak. The time for action has come. I have had much to say of the glory of God as seen in His created works, but never have I left the impression that our God Omnipotent, who ruleth in the heavens and fills all the heavens, is to be found in flower, and leaf, and tree. What I have said of God’s works in nature, was meant to lead the mind from nature to nature’s God, to show that all the glory should be given to Him who ruleth in the heavens, controlling all things in heaven and in earth. Men are to discharge their duty to God. They are to have reverence for, and a knowledge of, a personal God. They are to praise and glorify His name as the One who has placed many beautiful things in this sin-corrupted earth, that from the child to the man and woman of mature years, all may see that God loves His family here below. He so loves us, that He gave us a tangible proof of His love, by sending His only begotten Son to bear the sin of the world, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. God desires us to think of the height and depth and breadth of His measureless love, which is without a parallel, and to remember that we are His purchased possession. ‘Ye are not your own; for ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.’ We are to act as in the sight of the heavenly universe, conscientiously discharging our obligations to our Creator.

“The world is to be taken captive by Satan’s deceiving representations. Where then is our security? How shall we guard against Satan’s bewitching artifices?—By reading the Word of God with an intensity of desire to know Him in the light of revelation which He has left on record of Himself; by meditating upon His precepts diligently. **We are to obey His commands, afraid to venture out of the path of divine revelation, and to indulge in fallacious reasoning.**

“We are to realize that if we work the works of Christ, we shall not unite with the world. The Holy Spirit will give us a clear, distinct message to the world. If we will come into close relation to Christ, we shall have a part to act in carrying forward the work of present truth for this time. **We are to cooperate with the three highest powers in heaven,—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,**—and these powers will work through us, making us workers together with God. **But when a man goes forth in human sufficiency, then the enemy comes in and inspires him, and he knows not what manner of spirit he is of.** The Lord saw this, and instructed me that at the General Conference held in Oakland, I should hold no conversation with you.” *Special Testimonies*, Series B, No. 7, 50, 51.

I WILL CHOOSE THEIR DELUSIONS

“One who sees beneath the surface, who reads the hearts of all men, says of **those who have had great light**: ‘They are not afflicted and astonished because of their moral and spiritual condition.’ Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations. **I also will choose their delusions**, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before Mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not.’ **‘God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie,’ because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved,’ ‘but had pleasure in unrighteousness.’** Isaiah 66:3, 4; 2 Thessalonians 2:11, 10, 12.

“The heavenly Teacher inquired: ‘What stronger delusion can beguile the mind than the pretense that **you are building on the right foundation** and that God accepts your works, when in reality you are working out many things according to worldly policy and are sinning against Jehovah? Oh, it is a great deception, a fascinating delusion, that takes possession of minds when **men who have once known the truth**, mistake the form of godliness for the spirit and power thereof; when they suppose that they are rich and increased with goods and in need of nothing, while in reality they are in need of everything.’” *Testimonies*, volume 8, 249–250.

“The Lord calls for a renewal of the straight testimony borne in years past. He calls for a renewal of spiritual life. The spiritual energies of His people have long been torpid, but there is to be a resurrection from apparent death. By prayer and confession of sin we must clear the King’s highway. As we do this, the power of the Spirit will come to us. We need the Pentecostal energy. This will come; for the Lord has promised to send **His Spirit** as the all-conquering power.

“Perilous times are before us. Everyone who has a knowledge of the truth should awake, and place himself, body, soul, and spirit, under the discipline of God. The enemy is on our track. We must be wide awake, on our guard against him. We must put on the whole armor of God. **We must follow the directions given through the Spirit of prophecy**. We must love and obey the truth for this time. **This will save us from accepting strong delusions**. God has spoken to us through His word. **He has spoken to us through the testimonies to the church, and through the books that have helped to make plain our present duty and the position we should now occupy. The warnings that have been given, line upon line, precept upon precept, should be heeded.** If we disregard them, what excuse can we offer?

“I beseech those who are laboring for God not to accept the spurious for the genuine. Let not **human reasoning** be placed where sanctifying truth should be. Christ is waiting to kindle faith and love in the hearts of His people. **Let not erroneous theories receive countenance from the people who ought to be standing firm on the platform of eternal truth**. God calls upon us to hold firmly to the fundamental principles that are based upon unquestionable authority.” *Gospel Workers*, 308, 309.

THE LAST DECEPTION FOR ADVENTISTS

“Satan is . . . constantly pressing in the spurious—to lead away from the truth. The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God. ‘Where there is no vision, the people perish’ (Proverbs 29:18). Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, to unsettle the confidence of God’s remnant people in the true testimony.

“There will be a hatred kindled against the *Testimonies* which is satanic. The workings of Satan will be to unsettle the faith of the churches in them, for this reason: Satan cannot have so clear a track to bring in his deceptions and bind up souls in his delusions if the warnings and reproofs and counsels of the Spirit of God are heeded.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 48.

ONE THING IS CERTAIN

“One thing is certain: **those Seventh-day Adventists who take their stand under Satan’s banner will first** give up their faith in the warnings and reproofs contained in the **Testimonies** of God’s spirit.” *Spalding and Magan*, 305–306.

“**Those who proclaim the third angel’s message**, must put on the whole armor of God, that they may stand boldly at their post in the face of detraction and falsehood, fighting the good fight of faith. They are to resist the enemy with the word, ‘It is written.’ They are to keep themselves where **the three great powers** of heaven—the **Father**, the **Son**, and the **Holy Spirit**—can be their efficiency. **These powers** work with the one who gives himself unreservedly to God. The strength of heaven is at the command of God’s believing ones. The man who makes God his trust is barricaded by an impregnable wall.” *Signs of the Times*, May 10, 1910.

“The prince of the power of evil can only be held in check by the power of God in **the third person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit.**”

GODHEAD, 1. Godship; deity; divinity; divine nature or essence; applied to the true God, and to heathen deities. 2. A deity in person; a god or goddess.

DIVINITY, 1. The state of being divine; Deity; Godhead; the nature or essence of God. Christians ascribe divinity to one Supreme Being only.
2. God; the Deity; the Supreme Being.
Tis the Divinity that stirs within us.

“**The divinity of Christ** is the believer’s assurance of eternal life.”

G3439—ONLY-BEGOTTEN: monogenēs—From G3441 and G1096; *only born*, that is, *sole*: - only (begotten, child).

“Christ is **the pre-existent, self-existent** Son of God. . . . He assures us that there **never was a time** when He was not in close fellowship with the eternal God.”

“In Christ is life, **original, unborrowed, underived.**”

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God *is* one Lord. Deuteronomy 6:4.

“The scribes and Pharisees accused Christ of blasphemy because **He made Himself equal with God**. But He promptly met and **denied** their accusations.”

“The Bible must be your counselor. Study it and the testimonies God has given; for **they never contradict His Word.**” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 32.

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Matthew 28:19.

“The Comforter that Christ promised to send after He ascended to heaven, is the Spirit in all the fullness of the Godhead, making manifest the power of divine grace to all who receive and believe in Christ as a personal Saviour. There are three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.”

THE ALPHA

“I have been instructed by the heavenly messenger that some of the reasoning in the book *Living Temple* is unsound, and that this reasoning would lead astray the minds of those who are not thoroughly established on the foundation principles of present truth. It introduces that which is nought but speculation **in regard to the personality of God and where His presence is**. No one on this earth has **a right to speculate on this question**. The more fanciful theories are discussed, the less men will know of God and of the truth that sanctifies the soul.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 201.

“The subject of **speculation** regarding God’s personality we will not venture to express, **except in the language of the Word** which represents His personality. There is to be no discussion over this question lest God would give unmistakable revelation of what He is that would extinguish the one who dares venture on the holy ground in his speculative theories, **as some ventured to do in opening the ark to see what was in it as its power and how God was manifested.** The men were slain for their curiosity science.

“Let human beings consider that by all their searching **they can never interpret God.** When the redeemed shall be pure and clean to come into His presence, they will understand that all that has reference to the eternal God, the unapproachable God, cannot be represented in figures. It is safe to contemplate God, the great and wonderful God, and Jesus Christ, the express image of God. God gave His only begotten Son to our world, that we might through His righteous character behold the character of God. In heaven we shall be in the eternal presence of God.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 18, 222.

GODHEAD, 1. Godship; deity; divinity; divine nature or essence; applied to the true God, and to heathen deities. 2. A deity in person; a god or goddess.

“**The Father is all the fullness of the Godhead bodily . . . The Son is all the fullness of the Godhead manifested.** . . . The Comforter that Christ promised to send after He ascended to heaven, is the Spirit in **all the fullness of the Godhead**, making manifest the power of divine grace to all who receive and believe in Christ as a personal Saviour. **There are three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit**—those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized, and these powers will co-operate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ.”

“Let no one venture to explain God. Human beings cannot explain themselves, and how, then, dare they venture to explain the Omniscient One? Satan stands ready to give such ones false conceptions of God.

“To the curious I bear the message that **God has instructed me not to frame answers to the questions of those who inquire in regard to the things that have not been revealed.** The things that are revealed belong unto us and to our children. Beyond this, human beings are not to attempt to go. We are not to attempt to explain that which God has not revealed. We are to study the revelation that Christ, the Great Teacher, has given of the character of God, that in spirit and word and act we may represent Him to those who know Him not.

“In regard to the personality and prerogatives of God, **where He is, and what He is,** this is a subject which we are not to dare to touch. On this theme **silence is eloquence.** It is those who have no experimental knowledge of God who venture to **speculate** in regard to Him. Did they know more of Him, they would have less to say about what He is. The one who in the daily life holds closest communion with God, and who has the deepest knowledge of Him, realizes most keenly the utter inability of human beings to explain the Creator. . . .

“God always has been. He is the great I AM. The psalmist declares, ‘Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.’ He is the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity. ‘I am the Lord, I change not,’ He declares. With Him there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. He is ‘the same yesterday, and today, and forever.’ He is infinite and omnipresent. No words of ours can describe His greatness and majesty.” *Medical Ministry*, 92.

THEORIZING, SPECULATING & SO-CALLED SCIENCE

“Your knowledge of God and of His attributes has been lessened since you have begun to theorize regarding His nature and prerogatives.

“The church is now engaged in a warfare that will increase in intensity on the very point on which you have been misled. Not one pillar of our faith is to be moved. Not one line of revealed truth is to be replaced by new and fanciful theories.

“In clear lines truth has been given us. **Under the guidance of God, books have been prepared which state clearly the truth for this time.** If you will not believe these evidences, neither would you believe if one rose from the dead.

“You must make thorough work for repentance. Come before God in humiliation and contrition. There must be harmonious working among God’s people. We must know who is going to follow the light. ‘If the Lord be God, follow Him: but if Baal, then follow him.’

“Let no one beguile you into the belief that God is an essence pervading nature. Such an idea is a specious delusion. Let all be on guard against such suppositions. These subtle theories clothed in beautiful garments prepare the way for greater errors which, if accepted, will lead even conscientious believers in the truth away from their steadfastness, to false doctrines.

“From time to time we need unitedly to examine the reasons of our faith. It is essential that we study carefully the truths of God’s word; for we read that ‘some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils [demons].’ We are in grave danger when we lightly regard any truth; for then the mind is opened to error. We must take heed how and what we hear. We need not seek to understand the arguments that men offer in support of their theories, when it may be readily discerned that these theories are not in harmony with the Scriptures. Some who think that they have **scientific knowledge are by their interpretations giving wrong ideas both of science and of the Bible.** Let the Bible decide every question that is essential to man’s salvation.” *Medical Ministry*, 96, 97.