

FUTURE NEWS

VOL 21 - ISSUE 8 - AUGUST 2017

BECAUSE THOU SAYEST, I AM RICH, AND INCREASED WITH GOODS, AND HAVE NEED OF NOTHING; AND KNOWEST NOT THAT THOU ART WRETCHED, AND MISERABLE, AND POOR, AND BLIND, AND NAKED REVELATION 3:17

The Laodicean Church

It is by constant, unceasing effort that we maintain the victory over the temptations of Satan. *Review & Herald*, September 16, 1873.

It is difficult for those who feel secure in their attainments, who are believing themselves to be rich in spiritual knowledge, to receive the message which declares that they are deceived and in need of every spiritual grace. The unsanctified heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked.

God leads his people on, step by step. The Christian life is a constant battle, and a march. There is no rest from the warfare. It is by constant, unceasing effort that we maintain the victory over the temptations of Satan. We are, as a people, triumphing in the clearness and strength of the truth. We are fully sustained in our positions by an overwhelming amount of plain scriptural testimony. But we are very much wanting in Bible humility, patience, faith, love, self-denial, watchfulness, and a spirit of sacrifice. We need to cultivate Bible holiness. Sin prevails among the people of God. The plain message of rebuke to the Laodiceans is not received. Many cling to their doubts and their darling sins, while they are in so great a deception as to talk and feel that they are in need of nothing. They think the testimony of the Spirit of God in reproof is uncalled for, or that it does not mean them. Such are in the greatest need of the grace of God and spiritual discernment, that they may discover their deficiency in spiritual knowledge. They lack almost every essential qualification necessary to perfect Christian character. They have not a practical knowledge of Bible truth, which leads to lowliness of life, and a conformity of their will to the will of Christ. They are not living in obedience to all God's requirements

It is not enough to merely profess to believe the truth. All the soldiers of the cross of Christ virtually obligate themselves to enter a crusade against the adversary of souls, to condemn wrong, and sustain righteousness. But the message of the True Witness reveals the fact that a terrible deception is upon our people, which makes it necessary to come to them with warnings, to break their spiritual slumber, and arouse them to decided action.

Future News is the monthly newsletter from **Future for America**.

We also coordinate the **School of the Prophets** for the education of this final generation.

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is a self-supporting 501c3 nonprofit corporation. We are funded by readers like you. The cost to produce and mail this newsletter each month is \$4. This publication is sent out free of charge. Your donations are greatly appreciated.
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The ministry of Future for America is to proclaim the final warning message of Revelation 14 as identified by the prophecies of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. The end-time fulfillment of Bible prophecy is no longer future—for it is taking place before our eyes. The historic, prophetic understanding of Seventh-day Adventism is now present truth. We are the final generation. Our emphasis is on the prophetic word including all the counsel of God's Word. To know what lies ahead is useless if we do not possess the experience to stand during these solemn times. Through obedience to God's law, and faith in the promises of God's Word, we are to receive that experience.

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

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

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EXCLUSIVE INTERNAL GOSPEL: SYRO- PHOENICIAN WOMAN

Author Unknown

Introduction

The scope of this article is to give us a taste of Christ's mission on earth and also portray the duty for those Seventh-day Adventists who are living at the end of the world.

"Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me.'" *The Ministry of Healing*, 143.

As missionaries of Christ we are to stand under the example and precept of Christ. Christ's methods are the most effectual and we are to imitate Him. 1 Peter 2:21-22 says that He is our example. This article is dealing with a miracle that shows how Christ dealt during His mission, first to the Jews then to the Gentiles. So history repeats, that the message has to go first to Adventism then to the world.

The Miracle

And from thence he arose, and went into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and entered into an house, and would have no man know it: but he could not be hid. Mark 7:24

As the Savior was touring in His mission, He entered into Tyre and Sidon. Every location has a prophetic illustration because prophecy is depicted through symbols, names and figures. Tyre in the scripture represents the Papacy in Isaiah 23:15-18, the harlot that sings who was forgotten in 1798 but will soon reclaim her power. This prophetic marker is pointing us to a time when the Papacy will come back into history. Sidon is also a place where Elisha was sent to save the widow of Sarepta, and is just marking when the people of God are to

enter into contact with the Gentiles (Luke 4:26). Mostly Sidon is written with Tyre showing a time when the Papacy is beginning to rise into power and join hands. We see the illustration is also showing the time where Christ didn't want to be known, meaning He was tarrying but could not be hid. Christ is marking of the un-hiding of the faithful as they are to come into public attention as they prepare to meet the 11th.-hour workers.

The Canaanite Woman

And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. Matthew 15:22

A woman is representative of a church but a Canaanite is a Gentile who is representing a class of Gentile believers or those who are not Seventh-day Adventist (2 Cor. 11:2, Jer. 6:3). Mark 7:25-26 expounds that this woman was a Greek, and the Greeks represent those who are of the world, nations, kindreds and tongues. Sister White also concurs with that notion by the following statement:

"So these Greeks, representing the nations, tribes, and peoples of the world, came to see Jesus. So the people of all lands and all ages would be drawn by the Savior's cross. So shall 'many come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.'" Matthew 8:11. *Desire of Ages*, 621.

A daughter represents the last or fourth generation (Joel 1 & 2), and she was possessed by an unclean spirit. This is representing the nations or the 11th hour workers who are swept away by an evil spirit or false doctrine (Rev.16:13, John 6:63, 1 Sam. 16:14, 1 Kings 22:23). The words or doctrine of Christ are likened to the Spirit; so is the evil spirit linked to the false teaching of Spiritualism and customs of worldliness. Greeks were known for philosophies, sports and culture which have ensnared many in the world.



We see the mother is inquiring to Christ. Who is Christ? Jesus is represented by His faithful people at the end of the world who are to cast out all manner of worldliness by giving the message which exposes those in the bondage of Satan. In the parable of the goats and sheep, the Savior said "if you do good to the least of these My brethren you have done it to Me." Christ is representing the priests who are doing a work in Adventism since Peter highlights that we are a holy priesthood. John 8:31-32 depicts that it is the truth that sets one free from the pit of worldliness.

Tarrying Time

But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Matthew 15:23-24

When the Syro-Phoenician woman inquired to Jesus, He answered not a word and the disciples understood that it was not time to reach the Gentiles. The time since Christ was baptized began the tarrying time or a period in which the message was to go to the Jews first according to Daniel 9:25-27. Christ was to confirm the covenant with many for one week from AD 27 to AD 34 in which the work was more internally-based since it was their time of visitation.

"The disciples on their first missionary tour were to go only to 'the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' If they had now preached the gospel to the Gentiles or the Samaritans, they would have lost their influence with the Jews. By exciting the prejudice of the Pharisees they would have involved themselves in controversy, which would have discouraged them at the outset of their labors. Even the apostles were slow to understand that the gospel was to be carried to all nations. Until they themselves could grasp this truth they were not prepared to labor for the Gentiles. If the Jews would receive the gospel, God purposed to make them His messengers to the Gentiles. Therefore they were first to hear the message." *Desire of Ages*,

351.

Adventism, like the Jews, were to first grasp the message they were to proclaim to the Gentiles before they ran. The reason why Adventism is not being effective in these evangelistic efforts is because we are not sanctified by what we preach and also we don't really understand the message. The people of God were to be the first to hear this truth because the word was once distorted by the leaders of the Jews through their false teachings and theories (Matthew 15:14, Matthew 23). Through reverence for tradition and their blind faith in a corrupt priesthood, the people were enslaved. By perverting the Scriptures, the leaders blinded the minds of those who would otherwise have received a knowledge of Christ's kingdom, and that inward, divine life which is essential to true holiness. So in this history, we really need the message to revive Adventism because many depend on men instead of knowing the word of God for themselves.

"The Lord does not now work to bring many souls into the truth, because of the church members who have never been converted, and those who were once converted, but who have backslidden. What influence would these unconsecrated members have on new converts? Would they not make of no effect the God-given message which His people are to bear?" *Counsels on Diet & Foods*, 455.

When the seer of the remnant church writes that God cannot work now to bring new converts into the church because they will not learn anything from the stubborn and rebellious Adventists who are not converted by the sacred truth they have, she is in complete agreement with the scriptures.

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves. Matthew 23:15

Israel First

God chose Israel as the repository of the truth not because they were better but He wanted to save



them by giving them a work. When God chooses His vessel, He first makes sure that the vessel is ready to do the appointed task. Naturally one can not save a neighbour without first attending to the salvation of his household.

But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

1 Timothy 5:8

The principle is that the house of God is the first to be dealt with especially in terms of the message, because God wishes to use them. Israel cannot give what he doesn't have and what he hasn't experienced. The great apostle to the Gentiles has some epistles, which shed some light on the subject.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16

Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile. Romans 2:9-10

As the gospel is to be proclaimed it is associated with the Jew first then the Greek. The judgments and rewards concerning those who disobey and obey the word of God are in the same nature. The question comes to the mind of the reader why the house of Israel first before the Gentile.

Judgment Must Begin In Israel

For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? 1 Peter 4:17

Judgment is inevitable to the church of God because they have the privileges, which other nations don't have. It must start among the people of God and if it hits the remnant so hard, how then will it be for those who are disobedient? Ezekiel gives us the vision, which he sees, in the plain in order to substantiate the same subject agitated by the prophets. The spirit

of the prophets is subject to the prophets, meaning they speak of the same thing.

And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof. And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house. And he said unto them, Defile the house, and fill the courts with the slain: go ye forth. And they went forth, and slew in the city. And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem? Then said he unto me, The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceeding great, and the land is full of blood, and the city full of perverseness: for they say, The LORD hath forsaken the earth, and the LORD seeth not. Ezekiel 9:4-9

The above passage is a sobering and heart searching, showing that when the Lord executes His stroke upon Israel, it will be grievous. Ezekiel is shown that the destroying angels were to start in the sanctuary and upon the leaders then the laity. The woe, which the son of man saw, was so grievous that he couldn't stand to perceive it in vision. It is because the cup of Adventism will be full at the Sunday law and if they have not improved their characters in relation to the light given, serious judgments will scourge them. To whom much is given, much is expected. Seventh-day Adventists are judged first before the world so it has to be worked first.

And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them. For thou art not sent



to a people of a strange speech and of an hard language, but to the house of Israel; Not to many people of a strange speech and of an hard language, whose words thou canst not understand. Surely, had I sent thee to them, they would have hearkened unto thee. But the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto me: for all the house of Israel are impudent and hardhearted. Ezekiel 3:4-7

God wants the messengers of His gospel to go and give it to Adventism not to other nations because Adventism is impudent, stubborn, rebellious and hard hearted. If the message was to go to the Gentiles they would listen, but God is specific with Israel. 2 Chronicles 29:34 and 2 Chronicles 30:3 highlights that the priests were not ready or sanctified for their work but the Gentiles were. It is the problem with Laodicea who is boastful with her privileges yet is failing to show that she has light.

Children's Bread

Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. Matthew 15:25, 26

The poor woman persisted to the saving of the daughter who was in bondage of the devil. Christ continued to mention that it is not proper to take children's bread and cast it to the dogs. The children is representing the fourth and final generation who are in the most degenerate age, who really need bread. Matthew 18:3 & 1 Corinthians 14:20 give us insight that children are those who are converted and those who are separate from malice. The bread is the message of Christ which is free to those who ask in faith to receive and which is to test the people of God (John 6:48-49, Matt4:4, Exodus 16:4). Bread of heaven is to fill all who are hungry until they want no more.

Dogs-Gentiles

Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest

they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you. Matthew 7:6

Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision. Philippians 3:2

Christ in His discourses had to show that the holy things are not to be given to the dogs lest they be trampled under feet. It is the two desolating powers, Paganism and Papalism, which trample under feet the holy things. Dogs are also those that go back to their vomit who are vacillating and are not yet settled in the fold of God. The apostle adds more truth that dogs are evil workers, those who are actually in opposition to the children as referenced in the scripture. The dogs who persecuted Christ, who did not understand the benefit of His ministry were the Gentiles of Pagan Rome (Psalm 22:16).

Truth

And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Matthew 15:27

The message was to be given to the Jews but if a penitent and contrite heart was to cry for aid, Christ as the tender and loving Savior would not leave them crying. It is the truth which this church really longs for because only the truth can set us free. We see in the story of Ruth, who was a Moabitess, that she was given privilege to eat the gleanings of corn in the field of Boaz, who is a type of Christ. It was a Levitical custom that in the time of harvest they were not to reap all in the corners but that was to be for the gleaning of the strangers or the poor (Leviticus 19:9-10, 23:22, Ruth 2:1-8). We see this is also illustrating the experience of the joining of the two sticks or the interaction between the Adventists and the 11th hour workers.

Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions: And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become



one in thine hand. And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these? Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand. Ezekiel 37:16-19

The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim. Isaiah 11:13

Judah represents the children of God who were the two tribes and Ephraim or Samaria represented the other ten tribes which represents the Gentiles. This is marking a time when Seventh-day Adventists are to connect or interact with the other denominations in advance of the loud cry of the Three Angels' messages. The envy of Ephraim will be no more and Judah shall no longer vex Ephraim. This is deep but not the focus in this scripture. It is emphasizing that the controversy between the Seventh-day Adventists and the Gentiles will be lessened because some will be seeking the Balm of Gilead which is in Israel.

The Table

Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils. Do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? are we stronger than he? 1 Corinthians 10:21, 22

The dogs are given the privilege of eating under the table of the children who are the faithful repository of truth. Then ultimately it is the table of the Lord, which the Gentiles are seeking to for truth to those who have light.

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain

upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith. Habakkuk 2:1-4

The vision is to be made plain upon tables, which is to be read and held as the watchmen is to be contended or argued with. Sister white mentions that the 1843 and 1850 charts were a fulfillment of this scripture. The truths portrayed on these charts are the foundations of Adventism and they comprise such subjects from Daniel and Revelation as 7 Trumpets, 1260, 1290, 2300, 1335, Seven Times of Leviticus, the Sanctuary and the Sabbath, etc.

These tables were to be made plain, or were to work in the Tarrying time, which is the period we are now in when the virgins of Matthew 25 are sleeping waiting for the Midnight Cry. But when the Midnight Cry occurs and the virgins will be awakened, some will be foolish and others wise. The foolish will then be replaced by the Gentiles who will be called into the glorious church of God to eat at the table of the Lord.

We see this truth also in the story of the Table of Shewbread, which was in the Sanctuary. David ate the bread, which was lawful only for the priests to eat, illustrating that this message is only for a certain class to eat. But in the time of inquiry, the strangers are to be given some of the bread too, as was given to the Syro-Phoenician woman.

Great Is Thy Faith

Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour. Matthew 15:28

The faith of the 11th hour workers is very tremendous as they will be drawn into the controversy but will have to decide as they see.

"Thousands upon thousands will listen who have



never heard words like these. In amazement they hear the testimony that Babylon is the church, fallen because of her errors and sins, because of her rejection of the truth sent to her from Heaven. As the people go to their former teachers with the eager inquiry, Are these things so? the ministers present fables, prophesy smooth things, to soothe their fears, and quiet the awakened conscience. But since many refuse to be satisfied with the mere authority of men, and demand a plain "Thus saith the Lord," the popular ministry, like the Pharisees of old, filled with anger as their authority is questioned, will denounce the message as of Satan, and stir up the sin-loving multitudes to revile and persecute those who proclaim it." *The Great Controversy*, 606.

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Revelation 18:4,5

A time is coming when the people of God in other fallen churches will be called to stand on the side of the faithful wise virgins of Adventism. The call out of Babylon is to be made at the Sunday law, showing that now is not the time for that work. Those from Babylon should come out to the church purified, and this will be done through the power of God. At that time Daniel 11:41 will be fulfilled which highlights that those who are in the hand of the Papacy will escape.

The faith of the Syro-Phoenician woman is illustrating the serious faith of those who, like Cornelius and Ruth, are willing to obey the leadings of God through His appointed faithful messengers.

Conclusion

"The work of the Holy Spirit is to convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. The world can only be warned by seeing those who believe the truth sanctified through the truth, acting upon high and holy principles, showing in a high, elevated sense, the line of demarcation

between those who keep the commandments of God and those who trample them under their feet. The sanctification of the Spirit signalizes the difference between those who have the seal of God and those who keep a spurious rest day." *SDA Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 980.

The ONLY serious testimony for the truth is a sanctified life, which has high and holy principles that will make the unbelievers stand with the people of God. This time now is for us to tarry for the spirit of God in order that we may go forth as clean vessels, conquering and to conquer.

WHY DO I HAVE TO STUDY MYSELF?

Author Unknown

As a people we have become used to sitting down and listening to what another person presents. This occurs when we are sitting in front of the TV watching the news, when we sit in school listening to the teacher, and in church listening to what the pastor has to say. This attitude leads to a mindset where we do not think for ourselves anymore, but simply accept what other people, who are 'learned', say. This phenomena we see in the dark ages, when the catholic church ruled the world. They kept the people in darkness where they had to believe what they were told by the priests and rulers. But as the time of enlightenment came, people started to think for themselves. This was the beginning of the reformation. They started to question what the church and the corrupted leadership said. They freed themselves from the darkness. But over time, our church has slipped into the laodicean condition, and we are back at the point where we just sit down and listen to what other people tell us. We do not think and study for ourselves anymore . Therefore we are in darkness. But since 1989, the time of the end, Christ has been sending light to His people, that they might come out of the darkness. The problem is that often we want others to take us with them, instead of walking our selves. Instead of working out our own salvation, we want others to do it for



us. Why is it so important that I study for myself, especially in this present truth movement? This is what we want to talk about in the next few pages.

A Promise

"The Saviour's instructions to His disciples were given for the benefit of His followers in every age. He had those in view who were living near the close of time when He said: 'Take heed to yourselves.' It is our work, each for himself, to cherish in the heart the precious graces of the Holy Spirit.

"The great crisis is just before us. To meet its trials and temptations, and to perform its duties, will require persevering faith. But we may triumph gloriously; not one watching, praying, believing soul will be ensnared by the enemy." *Counsels for the Church*, 342.

Sister White tells us that we all have an individual work to do, but she also gives us the hope, that none who will watch and pray will fall. Everyone who is on his guard individually will prevail over trials and temptations. After seeing this promise, we want to consider our present condition.

Lack of Understanding

"I have been shown that many who profess to have a knowledge of present truth know not what they believe. They do not understand the evidences of their faith. They have no just appreciation of the work for the present time. When the time of trial shall come, there are men now preaching to others who will find, upon examining the positions they hold, that there are many things for which they can give no satisfactory reason. Until thus tested they knew not their great ignorance. And there are many in the church who take it for granted that they understand what they believe; but, until controversy arises, they do not know their own weakness. When separated from those of like faith and compelled to stand singly and alone to explain their belief, they will be surprised to see how confused are their ideas of what they had accepted as truth. Certain it is that there has

been among us a departure from the living God and a turning to men, putting human in place of divine wisdom." *Testimonies for the Church*, volume 5, 707.

Who will not have evidence for their beliefs? Nominal Adventist? No, she says 'those who profess to have a knowledge of present truth.' She is talking about those who are Adventist and believe in the present truth of the third angel's message. She is talking about us. We do not have enough evidence for our faith. This is our present condition. And when will we recognize it? When we will be in front of higher authorities, separated from the likeminded in faith.

It was at Midnight that Christ was taken captive. He had to be in front of the Jewish and Roman counsels. Christ being our example in all things, the priest, here at the end of the world will be in front of higher authorities in-between Midnight and the Midnight Cry. The Levites will come in the same situation between the Midnight Cry and the Sunday Law and the 11th hour worker from the Sunday Law to the close of human probation. Christ foretold this already. "But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them. And the gospel must first be published among all nations. But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost." Mark 13:9-11. Jesus tells us here that we do not have to worry about what to say, God will speak through us. We do not have to plan out a speech or answers which we can give to the people who will examine us. But God can not tell us what to say if we have not put His words in our memory banks beforehand. It is like studying for a test in school. If I have not learned before the test, storing the material in my memory bank, how can I remember what the right answer is during the



test? If I have not done the preparation work for the test beforehand, most likely I will fail the test. It is the same with our spiritual life. If we do not prepare ourselves now, storing the bible knowledge in our memory bank, Christ can not bring it to our memory when we are in the third test. Can I draw from the knowledge of someone else's memory after they have studied? No, we individually have to do this for ourselves. We have to stop just sitting in the lectures listening, we also have to individually start to understand for ourselves.

Individual Students of Prophecy

"Whatever may be man's intellectual advancement, let him not for a moment think that there is no need of thorough and continuous searching of the Scriptures for greater light. As a people we are called individually to be students of prophecy. We must watch with earnestness that we may discern any ray of light which God shall present to us. We are to catch the first gleamings of truth; and through prayerful study clearer light may be obtained, which can be brought before others." *Testimonies for the Church*, volume 5, 708.

Why do we individually have to be students of prophecy? So that we can discern the light Christ gives us and obtain more. And what happens when light comes? The darkness disappears. Prophecy is the light which brings us out of the darkness but this is an individual work.

The Need of a Personal Experience

The education to be secured by searching the Scriptures is an experimental knowledge of the plan of salvation. Such an education will restore the image of God in the soul. It will strengthen and fortify the mind against temptation, and fit the learner to become a co-worker with Christ in His mission of mercy to the world. It will make him a member of the heavenly family; and prepare him to share the inheritance of the saints in light.

"But the teacher of sacred truth can impart only that which he himself knows by experience. 'The sower sowed his seed.' Christ taught the truth

because He was the truth. His own thought, His character, His life-experience, were embodied in His teaching. So with His servants: those who would teach the word are to make it their own by a personal experience. They must know what it is to have Christ made unto them wisdom and righteousness and sanctification and redemption. In presenting the word of God to others, they are not to make it a suppose-so or a may-be. They should declare with the apostle Peter, 'We have not followed cunningly devised fables when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eye-witnesses of His majesty.' 2 Peter 1:16. Every minister of Christ and every teacher should be able to say with the beloved John, 'The life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and show unto you that eternal life which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us.' 1 John 1:2." *Christ's Object Lessons*, 42, 43.

"Our confession of His faithfulness is Heaven's chosen agency for revealing Christ to the world. We are to acknowledge His grace as made known through the holy men of old; but that which will be most effectual is the testimony of our own experience. We are witnesses for God as we reveal in ourselves the working of a power that is divine. Every individual has a life distinct from all others, and an experience differing essentially from theirs. God desires that our praise shall ascend to Him, marked by our own individuality. These precious acknowledgments to the praise of the glory of His grace, when supported by a Christ-like life, have an irresistible power that works for the salvation of souls." *The Desire of Ages*, 347.

"If there were more praying among us, more exercise of a living faith, and less dependence upon someone else to have an experience for us, we would be far in advance of where we are today in spiritual intelligence. What we need is a deep, individual heart and soul experience. Then we shall be able to tell what God is doing and how He is working. We need to have a living experience



in the things of God; and we are not safe unless we have this. There are some who have a good experience, and they tell you about it; but when you come to weigh it up, you see that it is not a correct experience, for it is not in accordance with a plain, Thus saith the Lord. If ever there was a time in our history when we needed to humble our individual souls before God, it is today. We need to come to God with faith in all that is promised in the word, and then walk in all the light and power that God gives." *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 531.

"The mere hearing of sermons Sabbath after Sabbath, the reading of the Bible through and through, or the explanation of it verse by verse, will not benefit us or those who hear us, unless we bring the truths of the Bible into our individual experience. The understanding, the will, the affections, must be yielded to the control of the word of God. Then through the work of the Holy Spirit the precepts of the word will become the principles of the life.

"As you ask the Lord to help you, honor your Saviour by believing that you do receive His blessing. All power, all wisdom, are at our command. We have only to ask.

"Walk continually in the light of God. Meditate day and night upon His character. Then you will see His beauty and rejoice in His goodness. Your heart will glow with a sense of His love. You will be uplifted as if borne by everlasting arms. With the power and light that God imparts, you can comprehend more and accomplish more than you ever before deemed possible." *Help in Daily Living*, 62.

A personal experience is what we need. I shared once with a lady that the 144,000 will be the ones who sing the song of Moses and she said I can sing the song of Moses to you, I made a song out of it. What does the bible mean when God says they will sing the song of Moses. Why can no-one else sing it? Because it is not a literal song but it is an experience. A song in the bible is an experience.

Even in the world when songs are sung they always tell of an experience. Will the 144,000 be in heaven because someone else had an experience? No, they will be in heaven because every single one had their own experience with the lamb of God. How do we obtain that experience? John had to take the little book out of the angels hand and eat it. It was first sweet and then bitter. He had an experience, and how? By eating the little book. Starting from 9/11, we are also to eat the little book and make this message our personal experience. If we do not do this, then what sister White saw in her first vision, will happen to us.

Sister White's First Vision

"While I was praying at the family altar, the Holy Ghost fell upon me, and I seemed to be rising higher and higher, far above the dark world. I turned to look for the Advent people in the world, but could not find them, when a voice said to me, "Look again, and look a little higher." At this I raised my eyes, and saw a straight and narrow path, cast up high above the world. On this path the Advent people were traveling to the city, which was at the farther end of the path. They had a bright light set up behind them at the beginning of the path, which an angel told me was the midnight cry. This light shone all along the path and gave light for their feet so that they might not stumble. If they kept their eyes fixed on Jesus, who was just before them, leading them to the city, they were safe. But soon some grew weary, and said the city was a great way off, and they expected to have entered it before. Then Jesus would encourage them by raising His glorious right arm, and from His arm came a light which waved over the Advent band, and they shouted, "Alleluia!" Others rashly denied the light behind them and said that it was not God that had led them out so far. The light behind them went out, leaving their feet in perfect darkness, and they stumbled and lost sight of the mark and of Jesus, and fell off the path down into the dark and wicked world below. Soon we heard the



voice of God like many waters, which gave us the day and hour of Jesus' coming. The living saints, 144,000 in number, knew and understood the voice, while the wicked thought it was thunder and an earthquake. When God spoke the time, He poured upon us the Holy Ghost, and our faces began to light up and shine with the glory of God, as Moses' did when he came down from Mount Sinai." *Counsels for the Church*, 33.

We see here two groups demonstrated. The ones who made the light their own and the ones who denied it. What lead some walking in the path to deny the light behind them while others did not? We saw that when the first disappointment hit the Millerite movement that 150k left their faith. And at the second disappointment only fifty people were left. What caused that to happen? The fifty which were left had made the truth their own. They did not deny the light when the disappointment hit, because they knew that it was true and it was from God. But the other ones did not have this experience. They had not made the truth their own. So it is the same today. If you are not sure about your faith, if you do not prove the evidence for yourself, that this light is from God, that it is the right path, you will be in danger of denying that this light is from Him, and you will fall off the path. Studying and knowing as an individual is a safeguard for yourself. Proving for yourself that this light is from God will prevent you from denying it and falling of the path. There is also another aspect to it. Sister White comments that the 144,000 will know and understand God's voice but the others will only hear thunder and an earthquake. Knowing this light is to be able to understand God. If we do not understand God we will be like the people of Israel who said they could not stand hearing God's voice, that Moses should be the one talking to Him. Was that what God wanted? No. He wants to have a personal relationship with everyone as He had with Adam and Eve. He has done His part, he gave us the Bible and the spirit of prophecy. He is ready to talk with us but we need to be the ones to accept this and spend time with him individually.

So-called New Light Will Deceive Many

"Satan hopes to involve the remnant people of God in the general ruin that is coming upon the earth. As the coming of Christ draws nigh, he will be more determined and decisive in his efforts to overthrow them. Men and women will arise professing to have some new light or some new revelation whose tendency is to unsettle faith in the old landmarks. Their doctrines will not bear the test of God's word, yet souls will be deceived.

"False reports will be circulated, and some will be taken in this snare. They will believe these rumors and in their turn will repeat them, and thus a link will be formed connecting them with the archdeceiver. This spirit will not always be manifested in an open defiance of the messages that God sends, but a settled unbelief is expressed in many ways. Every false statement that is made feeds and strengthens this unbelief, and through this means many souls will be balanced in the wrong direction.

"We cannot be too watchful against every form of error, for Satan is constantly seeking to draw men from the truth." *Counsels for the Church*, 344.

This is another reason why we have to study ourselves. People will arise and say that they will have new light. But how can we discern from whom that 'light' is coming? False new light will always unsettle the faith in the old landmarks. It will deny the light which was once established. This is how we can discern if the 'new light' is sent from God or if it is a false message. So, in order to discern this 'new light' we need to know what the old waymarks are. We need to go back to the old path. We need to know what truth already has been established. If we do not know why we believe what we believe, then someone can come and bring supposed 'new light' and we will not be able to discern if it is true or false and we can easily be swept away.

Heresies Will Separate The Chaff From The Wheat

"God will arouse His people; if other means fail,



heresies will come in among them, which will sift them, separating the chaff from the wheat. The Lord calls upon all who believe His word to awake out of sleep. Precious light has come, appropriate for this time. It is Bible truth, showing the perils that are right upon us. This light should lead us to a diligent study of the Scriptures and a most critical examination of the positions which we hold. God would have all the bearings and positions of truth thoroughly and perseveringly searched, with prayer and fasting. Believers are not to rest in suppositions and ill-defined ideas of what constitutes truth. Their faith must be firmly founded upon the word of God so that when the testing time shall come and they are brought before councils to answer for their faith they may be able to give a reason for the hope that is in them, with meekness and fear." *Testimonies for the Church*, volume 5, 706, 707.

"It is necessary that something should be done to guard the interests of those who believe the truth for this time. Christ has given many warnings to the effect that false doctrines, false prophets, and false christs would arise and deceive many. From the light that God has been pleased to give me, His humble servant, I know that these prophecies have been fulfilling, and testimonies have not been few that have been given to meet these things as they have come up all along through our religious experience. Great delusions will arise, and even 'of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.' Even Satan will disguise himself, and appear as Christ." *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 152.

Why does God allow heresies to come in? Because this is what separates the chaff from the wheat. If there would not be any heresies in the church, nobody would have to sit down and study for themselves. They would only need to accept what other people tell them. But that is not God's intention. He wants everyone to know for themselves, why they believe in Christ, why we are Adventist. A few years ago it was enough to see a preacher in front of the charts

preaching and I knew that this is a present truth believer and I'm 'safe' to listen to his teachings. Is this still valid today? No. God allowed a shaking to hit this present truth movement. Why? So that everyone would start to study for themselves, what is truth and what is not. It is not enough anymore to see people preaching in front of the charts. We need to hear what they are saying and discern if it is true or false. But if I don't know the truth for myself, how can I discern between true and false new light. True new light will never break down the foundation which was built before.

Sister White warns us, the closer we get to the close of probation, the more Satan tries to deceive us. It is now even more of a necessity to know for ourselves what is true and what is false. Satan is the master of deceiving people. Sister White says that even men from our ranks will arise; even people in this present truth message will be used by Satan to try to deceive God's faithful people. Now more than ever before we need to be on our guard.

False Sanctification

"The false theory of sanctification had threatened not only the unity and harmony of families, but the peace and prosperity of the church. Upon this subject I had a special testimony to bear.

"This false sanctification is most dangerous and deceptive in its influence upon all who accept it. A peculiar atmosphere surrounds them, an influence which, when brought in contact with others, if not discerned, is breathed in unconsciously by the receiver. This atmosphere is charged with poison which is death to spirituality. There are no snares of Satan more hard to be discerned and defined, and souls be rescued from, than this delusion.

"Those who accept this bogus sanctification do not hesitate to draw away from the body and set themselves up as criteria. They claim that the Lord is leading them, and do not seek counsel of the church, but move out independently, deceived in themselves and deceiving others. The poison of this so-called sanctification is inhaled, and the atmosphere, apparently so balmy, is intoxicating



and destructive to those who are charmed with it. Each individual will have an independence of his own, claiming to be taught of God; therefore no one must get in their way or interfere with their course of action. This is as Satan would have it. The voice of the church, God's delegated power upon earth, is set aside and despised. These professedly sanctified ones are filled with vain conceit, and with presumption move on in their own wisdom, exhorting others to come up to the exalted standard of themselves. They disregard the teachings and prayer of Christ that his disciples may be one as he was one with the Father, "that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." The unity and oneness of the church was to be the living epistle, known and read of all men. The world was to see in their harmony and love for each other the life of Christ exemplified.

"Individuals who will strike out upon some new light and some new truth, independent of the body, are pursuing a course directly contrary to the word of God. If they have any influence over others, it is to disaffect them and lead them away from the watchcare, counsel, and strength of the body. And the very ones who claim sanctification, have in their hearts insubordination, pride, envy, jealousy, and evil surmising of their brethren. They sit as judges upon the life and character of their brethren. These are the fruits generally to be found growing upon the tree of false sanctification. This class have graduated. They suppose they have come to the knowledge of the truth. If they attend camp-meetings, they will think they are so far ahead of the servants of God who labor in the meetings that they cannot learn anything, therefore the word or message of instruction God gives his servants for the people is not for them. They will generally be found drawing one or two away, holding them in conversation, imparting to them the great light they suppose they have; and thus some are deprived of hearing the message of God to the people. These self deceived men are drawing away souls from the body, scattering from Christ, and bringing in dissension and division.

Individual experience is set above the authority of the church, and their example leads others whom they deceive to regard lightly the voice of counsel and admonition of the church. This course has worked the ruin of very many souls in every age of the world. As children in the family of God we need the wisdom and experience of matured Christians to direct, to encourage, and to defend us in times of danger, and to lead on to constant growth in grace, and to seek daily attainments in the knowledge of the truth and true holiness.

"In the ministry of Christ and his apostles, those who were converted to the truth were brought into church relationship; and every stray, lost sheep that was found, was brought to the fold of the church, that under the direction of the Master, through the undershepherds, they might go in and out and find pasture. God has instituted his church and delegated to it his authority and power. He has given it the inspired oracles, provided it with pastors and teachers to carry forward his work on the earth when he should leave it. At a later date, when the church was weakened by its individual members being led into errors, and spiritual life was chilled and palsied by backslidings, the inspired apostle exclaimed, 'I am jealous over you with a godly jealousy.' 'But I fear lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.' Nothing is so demoralizing, so enfeebling to the church, as to have her individual members obtain a burden upon this false sanctification, which leads them away from the simplicity of the gospel of Christ. Satan always leads this class away from the church, and leads them to regard the church far behind them in spirituality and experience. The power and glory of God is revealed in His church. Here God gives the blessings of his grace. Here He reveals the mysteries of His will.

"There have been and always will be tares among the wheat, the foolish virgins with the wise, those who have no oil in their vessels with



their lamps. There was a covetous Judas in the church Christ formed on earth, and there will be Judases in the church in every stage of her history. But because there are such, it does not do away with the fact that God has a church. There were murmurers, envious and jealous ones in the tribes of Israel, journeying to the promised Canaan; but, notwithstanding, God led them by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. The deceitful hearts of individuals will lead them astray because they see imperfections in the church, but these very ones have defective characters that they do not discern. These very ones are capable of being useful in the church were they connected with the great Head of the church. But if they choose to be presumptuous, and in self-sufficiency draw off on some tangent, the church will move on without them. Every member of the church is bound by the most solemn vow to advance its interests and to labor unselfishly and devotedly for its success.

"The prosperity of the church depends upon the faithfulness, purity, and zealous action of its individual members. Christ 'loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.'

"If all who are ambitious for distinction above their brethren could estimate to what a depth of humiliation Christ submitted for their sakes, and learn from the cross of humiliation to be subject one to another, there would exist in the church a simplicity and power which would have a telling influence on the world. Through the cross we may learn the love we should have for our fellowmen, and the value of souls for whom Christ died, and our works, in self-denial to save the perishing souls around us will correspond with our faith." *The Signs of the Times*, October 23, 1879.

What is God's church? Is it the structure? No, it is those people who uphold his message. Those make up the church. Sister White is very clear that we are

not to separate ourselves from the church. This is the work of Satan. But what does she say is the prosperity of the church? It is the 'faithfulness, purity, and zealous action of its individual members.' The true church are people who are all individuals active and holding together as one body. We as one church are one body. But how can the body function if the left arm says to the right arm you can do my work for me. Or if one finger says to the other you can take over my work. Our body would not function in a correct way. So also the body of the church can only function and progress when every individual does their part.

"Again and again the angel has said to me, 'Press together, press together, be of one mind, of one judgment.' Christ is the Leader, and you are brethren; follow Him. Walk in the light as He is in the light. Those who walk in the footsteps of Christ shall not walk in darkness, but those who draw apart in unsanctified independence cannot have God's presence and blessing in the work . . ." *Christian Leadership*, 11.

Knowledge is the Foundation

"Like our Savior, we are in this world to do service for God. We are here to become like God in character, and by a life of service to reveal Him to the world. In order to be co-workers with God, in order to become like Him and to reveal His character, we must know Him aright. We must know Him as He reveals Himself.

"A knowledge of God is the foundation of all true education and of all true service. It is the only real safeguard against temptation. It is this alone that can make us like God in character.

"This is the knowledge needed by all who are working for the uplifting of their fellow men. Transformation of character, purity of life, efficiency in service, adherence to correct principles, all depend upon a right knowledge of God. This knowledge is the essential preparation both for this life and for the life to come. 'The knowledge of the Holy is understanding.' Proverbs 9:10." *The Ministry of Healing*, 409.



It is essential for us here at the end of the world to study for ourselves, for this is how we get to know God, this brings unity among Gods people and with God. This saves us from temptations and is a safeguard when Satan tries to bring in heresies. Studying for ourselves will prepare us for when we have to stand in front of higher authorities, that God can tell us what we should say, and we can give evidence for our faith. To the law and to the testimony, if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. Isaiah 8:20.

RAINDROPS CAUSE THE PATTERN

Tamina Blaesing

Have you ever watched rain or water drops fall into water, like a lake for example? What does it do? The water drop hits the surface of the water and causes several rings to appear and those rings grow bigger and bigger. What happens now when a lot of water drops fall into water? It causes many rings to appear, but these rings also clash or over lash with each other. One day I was watching this very phenomena of nature and it taught me a extraordinary lesson about the pattern of our prophetic lines. This is what we want to consider in this article.

Object Lessons For Us

First we have to ask our self the question what is a object lesson? If you look up the word object lesson in wikipedia, they tell you that a object lesson is a lesson taught (especially to young children) using a familiar or unusual object as a focus. It is an example from real life that typifies/explains a principle or teaches a lesson. And anything used as an example or lesson which serves to warn others as to the outcomes that result from a particular action or behavior, as exemplified by the fates of those who followed that course, let that be an object lesson to him, is an object lesson.

First The Natural Then The Spiritual

Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but

that wich is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. 1 Corinthians 15:46. The bible tells us that first comes the natural or we can also say, first comes the literal, followed then by the spiritual. First we have to understand the literal to understand the spiritual. God gives us phenomena in nature to teach us something spiritual. Therefore the phenomena of the raindrops causing circles, teaches us a spiritual lesson.

The Prophets Of God Spoke Less For Their Own Time

"The prophets of God spoke less for their own time than for the ages to come, and especially for the generation that would live amid the last scenes of this earth's history. "Not unto themselves but unto us they did minister the things which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the Gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven, which things the angels desire to look into." "All these things happened unto them for ensamples, and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." The prophets and apostles meet and unite their witness, testifying of the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. The wonderful events in the history of the children of Israel are not to be lost sight of or ignored because of the lapse of time. They are jewels of truth that have been placed in false settings. Christ came to redeem them from error, and to reset them in the framework of truth, that they might shine in their native purity and attractive loveliness. By Him they have been made to give forth a brighter and more powerful luster than ever before." *The Signs of the Times*, January 13, 1898.

Sister White tells us here that everything written in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy is written for us at the end of the world, to teach us, to warn us and to reveal the future to us. Therefore we see that the phenomena of the raindrops is also a lesson to us here at the end of the world. The raindrops are the literal application and when we watch them



and see them falling into the water, god tries to teach us something spiritual with this phenomena. Therefore we want to dig now a little deeper and see what those circles, which those raindrops cause mean.

There Is Nothing New Under The Sun

The thing that has been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done; and there is no new things under the sun. Is there any thing whereof it may be said, see, this is new? It hath been already of old time, which was before us. Ecclesiastes 1:9,10. We all know this passage of the bible very well in this present truth message. We use this passage to show that through out history we see always the same pattern in a line, which allows us to draw the reform lines line upon line. But lets see now the same truth from a different angle. A wheel represents the exact same concept. A wheel has a starting point and once it went all the way around it starts again at the same point. When a wheel is moving now we are able to see that a wheel demonstrates perfectly what Salomon says in Ecclesiastes 1:9,10.

Wheels Within Wheels Ezekiel 1

We saw that a wheel can represent the history of this earth. We are told there is nothing new under the sun and that which has been, shall be again. We want to look now at Ezekiel 1. The prophet Ezekiel has a vision in that particular chapter and in his vision he sees wheels. Before we want to talk about the wheels in this chapter, we want to first talk about the chapter it self and see some characteristics therein.

And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire. Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man. Ezekiel 11: 4,5. We are told here that Ezekiel

sees in his vision four living creatures, which we will proof later that those four living creatures are representing the four angels on our reform lines. These creatures have the same characteristic as the those four angels have. But as we progress in our study this will become more clear. Lets continue with the chapter.

And every one had four faces, and every one had four wings. And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot: and they sparkled like the colour of burnished brass. And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides; and they four had their faces and their wings. Their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went every one straight forward. Ezekiel 1:6-9. We are told here the likeness of the creatures. Their appearance has very similar attitudes as angels have. For example they have wings and faces and their likeness is as of a man. To us is told next, that those four creatures are "joined to one another", and we know that the angels messages are "joined to one another." You can not separate the first angels message from the other two ones. You can not just skip one or leave one out. They belong together and no man can separate them.

We see also that those creatures or angels don't turn when they went and everyone went straight forward. This symbolizes that they don't turn either side of from the path. Like in sister Whites first vision the Advent people were walking in the light of the Midnight Cry straight on the path unto heaven, having their eyes fixed on Jesus. And those who didn't walk "straight" fell of to the wicked world below. A reform line represents this path unto heaven on a line, and we see that every one of those angeles on our reform line are walking straight forward as well.

As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle. Ezekiel 11:10. Interesting is that these creatures have a



face of a man, a lion, an ox and an eagle. Back in the time of ancient Israel, when the people of Israel were on their journey through the wilderness and they would stop to camp, they would always organize their camp. There was no mess in the camp. God is a god of order and he wanted also his people to be organized. So he gave them specific instruction how they were to set their tents up. They divided the twelve tribes up and always the same three tribes would form a group, each group would place itself on each cardinal direction around the sanctuary. The sanctuary was always the center of the camp, representing that god is always the center in everything. And from the sanctuary outgoing were then three tribes in the north, east, west and south located. Each of these four groups had its own flag. And its not a coincidence that the animals Ezekiel saw in his vision are the very same animals which were used on the flags of the four groups of tribes. Ever tribe group had its on flag with one animal representing it. In those tribe groups was always one tribe the leading tribe. This means that when they were setting up the camp or were to break it down, this tribe would lead out and give the directions so everything would be well organized and a smooth array. We therefore see that the man, the lion, the ox and the eagle are representing a work of organization, leading out and giving structure. On our timeline we see that the four angels give a structure, they guide and lead, nothing on the time line is by coincidence, everything has its place, its proper order, everything is organized because we serve a god of order.

Thus were their faces: and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined one to another, and two covered their bodies. And they went every one straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went. As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps: it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning. And the living creatures ran and returned as the

appearance of a flash of lightning. Ezekiel 11: 11-14. We see here that gods spirit is guiding those creatures, just as the Holy Spirit guides the reform lines. And a little bit further down in the verse it says that the likeness of the living creatures was like the appearance of lamps which "went up and down among the creatures." This may represent the lamp of the Midnight Cry. In Genesis 15 god himself walks through the sacrifices Abraham is offering, as a burning lamp, which we mark as the Midnight Cry. A lamp also represents a church (Revelation 3) and we mark the beginning of the church triumphant at the Midnight Cry. As Sister White saw in her first vision, the Advent people were walking in the light of the Midnight Cry, which was the light set behind them and Jesus was at the end of the path and shed more light upon them. Through the principle of the beginning also being the end, we know that the light gods sheds upon us, is the Midnight Cry, it is a lamp unto us which enlightens our paths unto heaven.

In the same verse we are told that out of the fire comes lightning. In the next sentence we see that the creatures ran and returned and this action looks like a flash of lightning. We see lightning a few times in the bible. For example in Revelation 11, when the temple of god in heaven is opened.

Jacobs sees in his dream a ladder reaching from all the way from heaven to earth and he saw angels walking up an down.

"Jacob in the night vision saw earth connected with heaven by a ladder reaching to the throne of God. He saw the angels of God, clothed with garments of heavenly brightness, passing down from heaven and up to heaven upon this shining ladder. The bottom of this ladder rested upon the earth, while the top of it reached to the highest heavens and rested upon the throne of Jehovah. The brightness from the throne of God beamed down upon this ladder and reflected a light of inexpressible glory upon the earth. This ladder represented Christ, who had opened the communication between earth and heaven.



"In Christ's humiliation He descended to the very depths of human woe in sympathy and pity for fallen man, which was represented to Jacob by one end of the ladder resting upon the earth, while the top of the ladder, reaching unto heaven, represents the divine power of Christ grasping the Infinite and thus linking earth to heaven and finite man to the infinite God. Through Christ the communication is opened between God and man. Angels may pass to and fro from heaven to earth with messages of love to fallen man, and to minister unto those who shall be heirs of salvation. It is through Christ alone that the heavenly messengers minister to men." *Confrontation*, 46.

Those angels give the heirs of salvation messages. These messages are truth, and truth is light. So the angels are bringing light down from heaven. And in both passages Ezekiel 11:14 and in the spirit of prophecy quote above we see that the angels run to and fro. In this action of bringing light down to the earth and going up again, the angels appear to be a flash of lightning.

Now as I beheld the living creatures, behold one wheel upon the earth by the living creatures, with his four faces. The appearance of the wheels and their work was like unto the colour of a beryl: and they four had one likeness: and their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel. Ezekiel 1: 15,16. Us is told in this passage of the bible, that "their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel." This is just another way how to define fractals. We see a patten/ structure on our reform line in a large picture, but we can also zoom in and see the same exact pattern/structure again.

When they went, they went upon their four sides: and they turned not when they went. As for their rings, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round about them four. And when the living creatures went, the wheels went by them: and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up. Whithersoever the spirit was to go, they went,

thither was their spirit to go; and the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. Ezekiel 1: 4-21. This passage contains a lot of details. We see here the close connection between the creatures and the wheels.

"And when the living creatures went, the wheels went by them: and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up". Even though they are two different things, the creature and the wheels, each demonstrating somethings different, they can't be separated. They are attached to each other and both follow the spirit wherever he goeth.

In the passage it says "The spirit of the living creature was in the wheels." This shows us that the Holy Ghost is in those wheels. As we pointed out in Ecclesiastes 1:9,10 there is nothing new under the sun, and therefore the prophetic history which repeats its self through out history can be represented by a wheel and we were just told, that the spirit is in the wheels. The Holy Ghost is in the wheel of prophetic history which repeats it self throughout history. He is the one guiding all the reform lines. "When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels." Imagine if we would draw this verse on a pice of paper. We would start drawing a line as they go forward, when they stood, they tarry, when they are lifted up from the earth we would draw something which looks like a way mark on our line. Therefore we see here that those creatures are actually drawing the reform lines as they go forward. Later on we will see more clearly how reform lines are connected with the wheels. But first we want to examine more closely the wheels.



What Is A Wheel?

What is actually a wheel? Again if we type in wheel in wikipedia we get the following information. "A wheel is a circular component that is intended to rotate on an axle bearing."

How Can A Wheel Be Within A Wheel?

We were told in Ezekiel 1 that ezeziel saw wheels within wheels. Lets brake this fact down in a very simple manner. Cogs are a type of wheels. Imagine our calendar being a cogwheel system. We would have a cog wheel for a minute, an hour, a day, a month and also one for the year. All those cogs are working individually but they also work together. As the cog wheel of the minutes turn and turns it slowly moves the bigger clog which has the time period of and hour and as this moves forward it turns the wheel for the day and so on. We can see here, that we can only calculate one year because all the cog wheels with shorter time periods work together. One is building upon the other. We can see it also as Ezekiel did, "cogs within cogs" or as Ezekiel says "wheels within wheels". And now you have different options to look at this picture. You can look at the system at its whole or you can zoom in and look more closely on the connection between a minute, a hour and a day. We will see the same structure as we lock closely, as we saw in the big picture. It teaches us only something different. One shows us a minute, the other explains to us an hour or the day. Or we can look at an entire month or the year. It is always the same structure, only teaching us different lessons. And this is how fractals on our reform line work. It is the same pattern in the big picture as in the litte picture, and depending at which level we are looking at it teaches us different things.

Turning Points

As we read earlier, a wheel can only function because it has a axle bearing. In other words a wheel is only a wheel because it has a turning point. Let's see what Sister White says about turning points.

"There are periods which are turning points in

the history of nations and of the church. In the providence of God, when these different crises arrive, the light for that time is given. If it is received, there is spiritual progress; if it is rejected, spiritual declension and shipwreck follow. The Lord in His word has opened up the aggressive work of the gospel as it has been carried on in the past, and will be in the future, even to the closing conflict, when Satanic agencies will make their last wonderful movement. From that word we understand that the forces are now at work that will usher in the last great conflict between good and evil—between Satan, the prince of darkness, and Christ, the Prince of life. But the coming triumph for the men who love and fear God is as sure as that His throne is established in the heavens." *Bible Echo*, August 26, 1895.

She says here that, at every turning point we receive more light which is to enlighten out path unto heaven. Do we reject the light "spiritual declension and shipwreck follows", but if we received it "there is spiritual progress." We see that every way mark on our reform line is a turning point for "history of nations and the church." Was 1989, 9/11 a turning point in the history of nations and the church? Indeed it was. Will the Midnight Cry and the Sunday Law be a turning point in the history of nations and the church? Indeed it will be! At every way mark we see a turning point which is the axle bearing of a wheel. We can see here the principle she addresses, that there are periods which are turning points. A wheel has a turning point, the axle but to actually turn the wheel it takes a period of time. Therefore we see around every way mark which is a turning point a wheel which is time period. And through the principle of repeat and enlarge or through fractals, those wheels on our reform line over lash/lap and then we see phenomena of "wheels within wheels" or the raindrops when they fall in the water. And just like our cogs wheels build upon each other in order to calculate a year, so do the wheels of our reform line build upon each other to give us the prophetic picture. And it is when Ezekiel sees this



vision that he falls to the ground (Ezekiel 1:28) and this needs to be our experience. We need to be humbled into the dust as all the prophets were and acknowledge how great God is.

When Ezekiel saw at first the "wheels within wheels" they seemed to be not in harmony but then as he looked closer he realized that they moved in perfect harmony. At first when we look at our reform line and we see all those different truths on there, all the different levels on which we can look at things, it seems very confusing to us but then, as we progress in the knowledge of God we see that there is perfect harmony within the wheels, there is perfect harmony in all the different levels of truth and we will realize that Lion of the Tribe of Judah is the one guiding everything and we are to follow wherever he goes. Sister White mentioned that at those turning points the light for this time period is given. What is the light? Is the light not a message, a true message? Is it not the present truth message which is given at every way mark? And what is present truth? It is the prophetic message.

Confusion But Still Perfect Harmony

In closing let us read through some Sister White quotes, in which she comments on the wheels in Ezekiel.

"The sixth chapter of Isaiah has a deep and important lesson for every one of God's workmen. Study it with humility and earnest prayer. The first and second chapters of Ezekiel should also be carefully studied. The wheels within wheels represented in this symbol was confusion to the finite eye. But a hand of infinite wisdom was revealed amid the wheels. Perfect order is brought out of the confusion. Every wheel works in its right place, in perfect harmony with every other part of the machinery." *Christian Leadership*, 26.

"To the prophet, the wheel within a wheel, the appearance of living creatures connected with them, all seemed intricate and unexplainable. But the hand of Infinite Wisdom is seen among the wheels, and perfect order is the result of its work. Every wheel, directed by the hand of God, works

in perfect harmony with every other wheel. I have been shown that human instrumentalities are liable to seek after too much power, and try to control the work themselves. They leave the Lord God, the mighty Worker, too much out of their methods and plans, and do not trust to Him everything in regard to the advancement of the work. No one should for a moment fancy that he is able to manage those things that belong to the great I am. God in His providence is preparing a way so that the work may be done by human agents. Then let every man stand at his post of duty, to act his part for this time, and know that God is his instructor." *Gospel Workers*, 489.

"There were wheels within wheels in an arrangement so complicated that at first sight they appeared to Ezekiel to be all in confusion. But when they moved, it was with beautiful exactness and in perfect harmony. Heavenly beings were impelling these wheels, and, above all, upon the glorious sapphire throne, was the Eternal One; while round about the throne was the encircling rainbow, emblem of grace and love. Overpowered by the terrible glory of the scene, Ezekiel fell upon his face, when a voice bade him arise and hear the word of the Lord. Then there was given him a message of warning for Israel." *Testimonies to the Church*, Volume 5, 751.

"God is acquainted with every man. Could our eyes be opened we would see that eternal justice is at work in our world. A powerful influence, not under man's control, is working. Man may fancy that he is directing matters, but there are higher than human influences at work. The servants of God know that He is working to counteract Satan's plans. Those who know not God cannot comprehend His movements. There is at work a wheel within a wheel. Apparently the complication of machinery is so intricate that man can see only a complete entanglement. But the divine hand, as seen by the prophet Ezekiel, is placed upon the wheels, and every part moves



in complete harmony, each doing its specified work, yet with individual freedom of action (Manuscript 13, 1898)." *Seventh Day Adventist Bible Commentary*, Volume 4, 1161.

"God has called His church in this day, as He called ancient Israel, to stand as a light in the earth. By the mighty cleaver of truth—the messages of the first, second, and third angels—He has separated them from the churches and from the world to bring them into a sacred nearness to Himself. He has made them the depositaries of His law and has committed to them the great truths of prophecy for this time. Like the holy oracles committed to ancient Israel, these are a sacred trust to be communicated to the world.

"The three angels of Revelation 14 represent the people who accept the light of God's messages and go forth as His agents to sound the warning throughout the length and breadth of the earth. Christ declares to His followers: "Ye are the light of the world." Matthew 5:14. To every soul that accepts Jesus the cross of Calvary speaks: "Behold the worth of the soul: 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.'" Mark 16:15. Nothing is to be permitted to hinder this work. It is the all-important work for time; it is to be far-reaching as eternity. The love that Jesus manifested for the souls of men in the sacrifice which He made for their redemption, will actuate all His followers. Christ accepts, oh, so gladly! every human agency that is surrendered to Him. He brings the human into union with the divine, that He may communicate to the world the mysteries of incarnate love. Talk it, pray it, sing it, fill the world with the message of His truth, and keep pressing on into the regions beyond." *Counsels for the Church*, 58.4, 5.

Gods people who except the message and sound the warning, represent the three angels of Revelation 14. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. Revelation 14:4. Christ is guiding the wheels and

is within the wheels himself. Christ is guiding the three angels messages, he is guiding us throughout history. Ezekiel 1 is teaching us that everything is connected with each other and it might cause confusion, but that which seems to be confusing is working in complete harmony. Therefore we should not give up if those lines seem confusing and contradicting each other unto us, but let us pray more and ask of God for more wisdom to understand his plan. As we grow in knowledge we become more one with him as he is one with his father.

Sanctify them through thy truth:thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; 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. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 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 4:17-23.

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"Every nation that has come upon the stage of action has been permitted to occupy its place on the earth, that the fact might be determined whether it would fulfill the purposes of the Watcher and the Holy One. Prophecy has traced the rise and progress of the world's great empires—Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. With each of these, as with the nations of less power, history has repeated itself. Each has had its period of test; each has failed, its glory faded, its power departed.



"While nations have rejected God's principles, and in this rejection have wrought their own ruin, yet a divine, overruling purpose has manifestly been at work throughout the ages. It was this that the prophet Ezekiel saw in the wonderful representation given him during his exile in the land of the Chaldeans, when before his astonished gaze were portrayed the symbols that revealed an overruling Power that has to do with the affairs of earthly rulers.

"Upon the banks of the river Chebar, Ezekiel beheld a whirlwind seeming to come from the north, 'a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the color of amber.' A number of wheels intersecting one another were moved by four living beings. High above all these 'was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it.' 'And there appeared in the cherubims the form of a man's hand under their wings.' Ezekiel 1:4, 26; 10:8. The wheels were so complicated in arrangement that at first sight they appeared to be in confusion; yet they moved in perfect harmony. Heavenly beings, sustained and guided by the hand beneath the wings of the cherubim, were impelling those wheels; above them, upon the sapphire throne, was the Eternal One; and round about the throne was a rainbow, the emblem of divine mercy.

"As the wheellike complications were under the guidance of the hand beneath the wings of the cherubim, so the complicated play of human events is under divine control. Amidst the strife and tumult of nations He that sitteth above the cherubim still guides the affairs of this earth.

"The history of nations speaks to us today. To every nation and to every individual God has assigned a place in His great plan. Today men and nations are being tested by the plummet in the hand of Him who makes no mistake. All are by their own choice deciding their destiny, and

God is overruling all for the accomplishment of His purposes.

"The prophecies which the great I AM has given in His word, uniting link after link in the chain of events, from eternity in the past to eternity in the future, tell us where we are today in the procession of the ages and what may be expected in the time to come. All that prophecy has foretold as coming to pass, until the present time, has been traced on the pages of history, and we may be assured that all which is yet to come will be fulfilled in its order.

"Today the signs of the times declare that we are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. Everything in our world is in agitation. Before our eyes is fulfilling the Saviour's prophecy of the events to precede His coming: 'Ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars... Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.' Matthew 24:6, 7.

"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.

"The Bible, and the Bible only, gives a correct view of these things. Here are revealed the great final scenes in the history of our world, events that already are casting their shadows before, the sound of their approach causing the earth to tremble and men's hearts to fail them for fear.

"Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof; . . . because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.



Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate.' Isaiah 24:1-6.

"Alas for the day! for the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come... The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered. How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate.' 'The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men.' Joel 1:15-18, 12.

"I am pained at my very heart;... I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled.' Jeremiah 4:19, 20.

"Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.' Jeremiah 30:7.

"Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, Even the Most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, Neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.' Psalm 91:9, 10.

"O daughter of Zion,... the Lord shall redeem thee from the hand of thine enemies. Now also many nations are gathered against thee, that say, Let her be defiled, and let our eye look upon Zion. But they know not the thoughts of the Lord, neither understand they His counsel.' Micah 4:10-12. God will not fail His church in the hour of her greatest peril. He has promised deliverance. 'I will bring again the captivity of Jacob's tents,' He has declared, 'and have mercy on his dwelling places.' Jeremiah 30:18.

"Then will the purpose of God be fulfilled; the principles of His kingdom will be honored by all beneath the sun."

Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. In the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of king Jehoiachin's captivity, The word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was there upon him. And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire. Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man. And every one had four faces, and every one had four wings. And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot: and they sparkled like the colour of burnished brass. And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides; and they four had their faces and their wings. Their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went every one straight forward. As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle. Thus were their faces: and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined one to another, and two covered their bodies. And they went every one straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went. As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps: it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning. Ezekiel 1:1-13