

Habakkuk's Two Tables #6

“The event exactly fulfilled the prediction. **When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation adopted by Miller and his associates, and a wonderful impetus was given to the advent movement.** Men of learning and position united with Miller, both in preaching and in publishing his views, and from 1840 to 1844 the work rapidly extended.” *The Great Controversy*, 334–335.

‘Those who are engaged in proclaiming the third angel’s message are searching the Scriptures upon **the same plan that Father Miller adopted.** In the little book entitled *Views of the Prophecies and Prophetic Chronology*, Father Miller gives the following simple but intelligent and important rules for Bible study and interpretation:—

“1. Every word must have its proper bearing on the subject presented in the Bible; 2. All Scripture is necessary, and may be understood by diligent application and study; 3. Nothing revealed in Scripture can or will be hid from those who ask in faith, not wavering; 4. To understand doctrine, bring all the scriptures together on the subject you wish to know, then let every word have its proper influence; and if you can form your theory without a contradiction, you cannot be in error; 5. Scripture must be its own expositor, since it is a rule of itself. If I depend on a teacher to expound to me, and he should guess at its meaning, or desire to have it so on account of his sectarian creed, or to be thought wise, then his guessing, desire, creed, or wisdom is my rule, and not the Bible.’

“**The above is a portion of these rules; and in our study of the Bible we shall all do well to heed the principles set forth.**” *Review and Herald*, November 25, 1884.

RULE IV—To understand doctrine, bring **all the scriptures together on the subject you wish to know**, then let every word have its proper influence, and if you can form your theory without a contradiction, you cannot be in an error.

RULE V—**Scripture must be—its own expositor**, since it is a rule of itself. If I depend on a teacher to expound it to me and he should, guess at its meaning, or desire to have it so on account of his sectarian creed or to be thought wise, then his guessing, desire, creed or wisdom is my rule, not the Bible.

RULE VI—God has revealed things to come, **by visions, in figures and parables, and in this way the same things are often time revealed again and again**, by different visions, or in different figures, and parables. If you wish to understand them, **you must combine them all in one.**

A KEY

“The apostle says, ‘All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.’ The Bible is its own expositor. **One passage will prove to be a key that will unlock other passages, and in this way light will be shed upon the hidden meaning of the word.** By comparing different texts treating on the same subject, viewing their bearing on every side, the true meaning of the Scriptures will be made evident.

“Many think that they must consult **commentaries** on the Scriptures in order to understand the meaning of the word of God, and we would not take the position that commentaries should not be studied; but it will take much discernment to discover the truth of God under the mass of the words of men. How little has been done by the church, as a body professing to believe the Bible, **to gather up the scattered jewels of God’s word into one perfect chain of truth!** The **jewels of truth do not lie upon the surface**, as many suppose. The master mind in the confederacy of evil is ever at work to keep the truth out of sight, and to bring into full view the opinions of great men. The enemy is doing all in his power to obscure heaven’s light through educational processes; for he does not mean that men shall hear the voice of the Lord, saying, ‘This is the way, walk ye in it.’

“**The jewels of truth lie scattered over the field of revelation; but they have been buried beneath human traditions, beneath the sayings and commandments of men**, and the wisdom from heaven has been practically ignored; for Satan has succeeded in making the world believe that the words and achievements of men are of great consequence. The Lord God, the Creator of the worlds, at infinite cost has given the gospel to the world. Through this divine agent, glad, refreshing springs of heavenly comfort and abiding consolation have been opened for those who will come to the fountain of life. **There are veins of truth yet to be discovered; but spiritual things are spiritually discerned.** Minds beclouded with evil cannot appreciate the value of the truth as it is in Jesus. When iniquity is cherished, men do not feel the necessity of making diligent effort with prayer and reflection, to understand that they must know or lose heaven. They have so long been under the shadow of the enemy that they view truth as men behold objects through a smoked and imperfect glass; for all things are dark and perverted in their eyes. Their spiritual vision is feeble and untrustworthy; for they look upon the shadow, and turn away from the light.” *Review and Herald*, December 1, 1891.

COMPARING SCRIPTURE WITH SCRIPTURE

“The truth and the glory of God are inseparable; **it is impossible for us**, with the Bible within our reach, to honor God **by erroneous opinions**. Many claim that it matters not what one believes, if his life is only right. But the life is molded by the faith. **If light and truth is within our reach, and we neglect to improve the privilege of hearing and seeing it, we virtually reject it; we are choosing darkness rather than light.**

“‘There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.’ Proverbs 16:25. **Ignorance is no excuse for error or sin, when there is every opportunity to know the will of God.** A man is traveling and comes to a place where there are several roads and a guideboard indicating where each one leads. If he disregards the guideboard, and takes whichever road seems to him to be right, he may be ever so sincere, but will in all probability find himself on the wrong road.

“God has given us His word that we may become acquainted with its teachings and **know for ourselves** what He requires of us. When the lawyer came to Jesus with the inquiry, ‘What shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ the Saviour referred him to the Scriptures, saying: ‘What is written in the law? how readest thou?’ **Ignorance will not excuse young or old**, nor release them from the punishment due for the transgression of God’s law; because there is in their hands a faithful presentation of that law and of its principles and claims. **It is not enough to have good intentions; it is not enough to do what a man thinks is right or what the minister tells him is right.** His soul’s salvation is at stake, and **he should search the Scriptures for himself.** However strong may be his convictions, however confident he may be that the minister knows what is truth, this is not his foundation. He has a chart pointing out every waymark on the heavenward journey, and he ought not to guess at anything.

“It is **the first and highest duty of every rational being to learn from the Scriptures what is truth, and then to walk in the light and encourage others to follow his example.** We should day by day study the Bible diligently, weighing every thought and **comparing scripture with scripture.** With divine help we are to form our opinions for **ourselves** as we are to answer for **ourselves** before God.

“The truths most plainly revealed in the Bible have been involved in doubt and darkness by learned men, who, with a pretense of great wisdom, teach that the Scriptures have a mystical, a secret, spiritual meaning not apparent in the language employed. These men are false teachers. It was to such a class that Jesus declared: ‘Ye know not the Scriptures, neither the power of God.’ Mark 12:24. **The language of the Bible should be explained according to its obvious meaning, unless a symbol or figure is employed.** [Miller’s eleventh rule.] Christ has given the promise: ‘If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine.’ John 7:17. If men would but take the Bible as it reads, if there were no false teachers to mislead and confuse their minds, a work would be accomplished that would make angels glad and that would bring into the fold of Christ thousands upon thousands who are now wandering in error.

“**We should exert all the powers of the mind in the study of the Scriptures and should task the understanding to comprehend, as far as mortals can, the deep things of God; yet we must not forget that the docility and submission of a child is the true spirit of the learner. Scriptural difficulties can never be mastered by the same methods that are employed in grappling with philosophical problems.** We should **not** engage in the study of the Bible with that self-reliance with which so many enter the domains of science, but with a prayerful dependence upon God and a sincere desire to learn His will. We must come with a humble and teachable spirit to obtain knowledge from the great I AM. Otherwise, evil angels will so blind our minds and harden our hearts that we shall not be impressed by the truth.

“Many a portion of Scripture **which learned men pronounce a mystery, or pass over as unimportant, is full of comfort and instruction to him who has been taught in the school of Christ.** [Miller’s fourteenth rule.] One reason why many theologians have no clearer understanding of God’s word is, they close their eyes to truths which they do not wish to practice. An [1888 edition] understanding of Bible truth **depends not so much on the power of intellect brought to the search as on the singleness of purpose, the earnest longing after righteousness.** [Miller’s second rule]” *The Great Controversy*, 597–599.

INDIVIDUALLY CALLED TO BE 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.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 708.

INDIVIDUALLY TESTED

“It does not seem possible to us now **that any should have to stand alone**; but **if God has ever spoken by me, the time will come when we shall be brought before councils and before thousands for his name’s sake, and each one will have to give the reason of his faith**. Then will come the severest criticism upon every position that has been taken for the truth. We need, then, to study the word of God, that we may know why we believe the doctrines we advocate. We must critically search the living oracles of Jehovah.” *Review and Herald*, December 18, 1888.

“**The members of the church will individually be tested and proved**. They will be placed in circumstances where they will be forced to bear witness for the truth. Many will be called to speak before councils and in courts of justice, **perhaps separately and alone**. The experience which would have helped them in this emergency they have neglected to obtain, and their souls are burdened with remorse for wasted opportunities and neglected privileges.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 463.

CONTEXT

“Peter exhorts his brethren to ‘grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.’ Whenever the people of God are growing in grace, they will be constantly obtaining a clearer understanding of His word. They will discern new light and beauty in its sacred truths. This has been true in the history of the church in all ages, and thus it will continue to the end. But as real spiritual life declines, it has ever been the tendency to cease to advance in the knowledge of the truth. **Men rest satisfied with the light already received from God’s word and discourage any further investigation of the Scriptures**. They become conservative and **seek to avoid discussion**.

“The fact that there is no **controversy or agitation** among God’s people should not be regarded as conclusive evidence that they are holding fast to sound doctrine. There is reason to fear that they may not be clearly discriminating between truth and error. When no new questions are started by investigation of the Scriptures, when no difference of opinion arises which will set men to searching the Bible for themselves to make sure that they have the truth, there will be many now, as in ancient times, who will hold to **tradition and worship they know not what**.

“**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.**

“**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.**

“**Agitate, agitate, agitate.** The subjects which we present to the world must be to us a living reality. It is important that in defending the doctrines which we consider fundamental articles of faith we should never allow ourselves to employ arguments that are not wholly sound. These may avail to silence an opposer, but they do not honor the truth. We should present sound arguments, that will not only silence our opponents, but will bear the closest and most searching scrutiny. **With those who have educated themselves as debaters there is great danger that they will not handle the word of God with fairness.** In meeting an opponent it should be our earnest effort to present subjects in such a manner as to awaken conviction in his mind, instead of seeking merely to give confidence to the believer.

“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.

“When God’s people are at ease and satisfied with their present enlightenment, we may be sure that He will not favor them. It is His will that they should be ever moving forward to receive the increased and ever-increasing light which is shining for them. The present attitude of the church is not pleasing to God. There has come in a self-confidence that has led them to feel no necessity for more truth and greater light. We are living at a time when Satan is at work on the right hand and on the left, before and behind us; and yet as a people we are asleep. God wills that **a voice shall be heard arousing His people** to action.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 707–708.

TRACE THEIR WORKING

“**The Bible is its own expositor** [Miller’s fifth rule.]. **Scripture is to be compared with scripture.** The **student** should learn to view the word as a whole, and to see the relation of its parts. He should gain **a knowledge** of its grand central theme, of God’s original purpose for the world, of the rise of the great controversy, and of the work of redemption. He should understand the **nature of the two principles** that are contending for supremacy, and **should learn to trace their working** through **the records of history and prophecy**, to the great consummation.” *Education*, 191.

TRACE, v.t. [L. tracto, from traho; Eng. **to draw**, to drag.] 1. To **mark out; to draw or delineate with marks**; as, to trace a figure with a pencil; to **trace the outline of anything**. 2. To **follow by some mark that has been left by something which has preceded**; to follow by **footsteps** or tracks. 3. To follow with exactness. *Webster’s 1828 Dictionary*.

TRACE THE LINES OF PROPHECY

“We must have a **knowledge of the Scriptures**, that we may **trace down the lines of prophecy**, and understand **the specifications given by the prophets**, and by **Christ and the apostles**; that we may not be ignorant; but be able to see that the day is approaching, so that with increased zeal and effort, we may exhort one another to faithfulness, piety, and holiness.” *Review and Herald*, July 31, 1888.

THE POINT OF REFERENCE

“In the Revelation all the books of the Bible meet and end.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 585.

THE SAME LINE OF PROPHECY

“Revelation is a sealed book, but it is also an opened book. It records marvelous events that are to take place in the last days of this earth’s history. The teachings of this book are definite, not mystical and unintelligible. In it **the same line of prophecy is taken up as in Daniel. Some prophecies God has repeated, thus showing that importance must be given to them. The Lord does not repeat things that are of no great consequence.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 9, 7–8.

REVELATION 12

“**The line of prophecy** in which these symbols are found begins with Revelation 12, with the dragon that sought to destroy Christ at His birth.” *The Great Controversy*, 439.

LINE UPON LINE

“**Prophecy** has been fulfilling, **line upon line**. The more firmly we stand under **the banner of the third angel’s message**, the more clearly shall we understand the prophecy of Daniel; for the Revelation is the supplement of Daniel.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 114.

THE TESTIMONIES NEVER CONTRADICT HIS WORD

“The Bible must be your counselor. Study it and the testimonies God has given; for they never contradict His Word.

“If the Testimonies speak not according to the word of God, reject them. Christ and Belial cannot be united.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 32.

LINE UPON LINE

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.

For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; **line upon line, line upon line**; here a little, and there a little:

For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

But the word of the Lord was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; **line upon line, line upon line**; here a little, and there a little; that

they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken. Isaiah 28:9–13.

Line: H6957—From H6960 (compare H6961); a *cord* (as *connecting*), especially **for measuring**; figuratively **a rule**; also a *rim*, a musical *string* or accord:—line.

H6960—A primitive root; to *bind* together (perhaps by *twisting*), that is, **collect**; (figuratively) to *expect*:— **gather (together)**, look, patiently, tarry, wait (for, on, upon).

H6961—From H6960; **a (measuring) cord** (as if for *binding*):— line.

THE LINE OF PROPHECY

“The burden of the warning now to come to the people of God, nigh and afar off, is the third angel’s message. And those who are seeking to understand this message will not be led by the Lord to make an application of the Word that will undermine the foundation and remove the pillars of the faith that has made Seventh-day Adventists what they are today. The truths that have been unfolding **in their order**, as we have **advanced** along **the line of prophecy** revealed in the Word of God, are truth, sacred, eternal truth today. Those who passed over the ground **step by step in the past history of our experience**, seeing **the chain of truth in the prophecies**, were prepared to accept and obey every ray of light. They were praying, fasting, searching, digging for the truth as for hidden treasures, and the Holy Spirit, we know, was teaching and guiding us. Many theories were advanced, bearing a semblance of truth, but so mingled with misinterpreted and misapplied scriptures, that they led to dangerous errors. Very well do we know how every point of truth was established, and the seal set upon it by the Holy Spirit of God. And all the time voices were heard, ‘Here is the truth,’ ‘I have the truth; follow me.’ But the warnings came, ‘Go not ye after them. I have not sent them, but they ran.’ (See Jeremiah 23:21.)

“**The leadings of the Lord were marked**, and most wonderful were His revelations of what is truth. **Point after point** was established by the Lord God of heaven. That which was truth then, is truth today. But the voices do not cease to be heard—‘This is truth. I have new light.’ But these new lights **in prophetic lines** are manifest in misapplying the Word and setting the people of God adrift without an anchor to hold them. If **the student of the Word** would take the truths which God has revealed in the leadings of His people, and appropriate these truths, digest them, and bring them into their practical life, they would then be living channels of light. But those who have set themselves to study out **new theories**, have a mixture of truth and error combined, and after trying to make these things prominent, have demonstrated that they have not kindled their taper from the divine altar, and it has gone out in darkness.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 103–104.

THEIR ORDER

“The first and second messages were given in 1843 and 1844, and we are now under the proclamation of the third; but all three of the messages are still to be proclaimed. It is just as essential now as ever before that they shall be repeated to those who are seeking for the truth. By **pen and voice** we are to sound the proclamation, **showing their order**, and **the application of the prophecies that bring us to the third angel’s message**. There cannot be a third without the first and second. These messages we are to give to the world in publications, in discourses,

showing in the line of prophetic history the things that have been and the things that will be.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 104–105.

PAST

“There are those now living who, in studying the prophecies of Daniel and John, received great light from God as they passed over the ground where special prophecies were in process of fulfillment **in their order**.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 101–102.

FUTURE

“All that God has in prophetic history specified to be **fulfilled in the past has been**, and all that is yet to come **in its order will be**. Daniel, God’s prophet, stands in his place. John stands in his place. In the Revelation the Lion of the tribe of Judah has opened to the **students of prophecy** the book of Daniel, and thus is Daniel standing in his place. He bears his testimony, that which the Lord revealed to him in vision of the great and solemn events which we must know as we stand on the very threshold of their fulfillment.

“In history and prophecy the Word of God portrays the long continued conflict between truth and error. That conflict is yet in progress. **Those things which have been, will be repeated**.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 109.

“After these seven thunders uttered their voices, the injunction comes to John as to Daniel in regard to the little book: ‘Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered.’ These relate to future events which will be disclosed **in their order**.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 971.

PROCLAIMED IN THEIR ORDER

“I have had precious opportunities to obtain an experience. I have had an experience in the **first, second, and third** angels’ messages. The angels are represented as flying in the midst of heaven, proclaiming to the world a message of warning, and having a direct bearing upon the people living in the last days of this earth’s history. No one hears the voice of these angels, for they are a symbol to represent the people of God who are working in harmony with the universe of heaven. Men and women, enlightened by the Spirit of God, and sanctified through the truth, proclaim the three messages **in their order**.” *Life Sketches*, 429.

LOCATED BY THE WORD OF INSPIRATION

“The proclamation of the **first, second, and third** angels’ messages has been **located** by the word of Inspiration. Not a peg or pin is to be removed. No human authority has any more right to change the **location** of these messages than to substitute the New Testament for the Old.” *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 26–27.

PROPHETIC GUIDEPOSTS

“God speaks in his word, and fulfills this word in the world. We need now to seek to understand **the movements of God’s providence**. Said Paul, ‘Ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of

the day: we are not of the night nor of darkness.’ God’s people are not left to depend on man’s wisdom. **With prophetic guideposts God has marked out the way he wishes them to take.** These great **waymarks** show us that the path of obedience is the only path we can follow with certainty. Men break their word, and prove themselves untrustworthy, but **God changes not.** His word will abide the same forever.” *Review and Herald*, February 6, 1900.

WAY-MARK, n. [way and mark.] **A mark to guide in traveling.** *Webster’s 1828 Dictionary.*

Set thee up waymarks, make thee high heaps: set thine heart toward the highway, *even* the way *which* thou wentest: turn again, O virgin of Israel, turn again to these thy cities. Jeremiah 31:21.

MONUMENTS ALONG THE WAY

“Today Satan is seeking opportunities to tear down the **waymarks** of truth,—**the monuments that have been raised up along the way**; and we need the experience of the aged workers who have built their house upon the solid rock, who through evil report as well as good report have been steadfast to the truth.” *Gospel Workers*, 104.

PAST HISTORY TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE PEOPLE

“The dealings of God with His people should be often repeated. How frequently were the **waymarks** set up by the Lord in His dealings with ancient Israel! Lest they should forget the history of the past, He commanded Moses to frame these events into song, that parents might teach them to their children. They were to gather up memorials and to lay them up in sight. Special pains were taken to preserve them, that when the children should inquire concerning these things, the whole story might be repeated. Thus the providential dealings and the marked goodness and mercy of God in His care and deliverance of His people were kept in mind. We are exhorted to ‘call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions.’ Hebrews 10:32. For His people in this generation the Lord has wrought as a wonder-working God. **The past history of the cause of God needs to be often brought before the people, young and old.** We need often to recount God’s goodness and to praise Him for His wonderful works.” *Testimonies*, volume 6, 364, 365.

FOR HISTORY WILL REPEAT ITSELF

“Again and again I have been shown that the past experiences of God’s people are not to be counted as dead facts. We are not to treat the record of these experiences as we would treat a last year’s almanac. **The record is to be kept in mind, for history will repeat itself.**” *Publishing Ministry*, 175.

THE TIMES IN WHICH WE LIVE

“We should study the great **waymarks** that **point out the times in which we are living.**” *Last Day Events*, 14.

WE CAN KNOW

“Brethren and sisters, my faith is as strong as ever that the things of this world are about to close. It is stronger than when I saw you last. We can see the **waymarks** that are all along the

way. When we are traveling along a road alone, and see a guide board; **if we can read** we know that we are at such a place; so it is **if our minds are active and so consecrated to God that we can understand His workings, we can know just where we are in this world's history.** . . .

"We want to know where we are in history." *Sermons and Talks*, 48, 49.

CONSTANTLY SEARCHING

"Our faith in reference to the messages of the **first, second, and third** angels was correct. The great **waymarks** we have passed are immovable. Although the hosts of hell may try to tear them from their foundation, and triumph in the thought that they have succeeded, yet they do not succeed. These pillars of truth stand firm as the eternal hills, unmoved by all the efforts of men combined with those of Satan and his host. **We can learn much, and should be constantly searching the Scriptures to see if these things are so.**" *Evangelism*, 223.

GUARDED

"The great **waymarks** of truth, **showing us our bearings in prophetic history**, are to be carefully guarded, lest they be torn down, and replaced with theories that would bring confusion rather than genuine light." *Selected Messages*, book 2, 101–102.

"At this time many efforts will be made to unsettle our faith in the sanctuary question; but we must not waver. **Not a pin is to be moved from the foundations of our faith.** Truth is still truth. Those who become uncertain will drift into erroneous theories, and will finally find themselves infidel in regard to the past evidence we have had of what is truth. **The old waymarks must be preserved**, that we lose not our bearings." *Manuscript Releases*, volume 1, 55.

MEN WHOM HE HAS APPOINTED

"God never leaves the world without men who can discern between good and evil, righteousness and unrighteousness. God has men whom he has appointed to stand in the forefront of the battle in times of emergency. In a crisis, **he will raise up men as he did in ancient times.** Young men will be bidden to **link up with the aged standard-bearers**, that they may be strengthened and taught by the experience of these faithful ones, who have passed through so many conflicts, and to whom, through the testimonies of his Spirit, **God has so often spoken, pointing out the right way and condemning the wrong way.** When perils arise, which try the faith of God's people, these **pioneer workers** are to recount the experiences of the past, when just such crises came, when the truth was questioned, when strange sentiments, proceeding not from God, were brought in.

"The experience of those aged workers is needed now; for Satan is watching every opportunity to make of no account **the old waymarks,—the monuments that have been raised up along the way.**" *Review and Herald*, November 19, 1903.

"We are God's commandment-keeping people. For the past fifty years every phase of heresy has been brought to bear upon us, to becloud our minds regarding the teaching of the Word—especially concerning the ministration of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary, and the

message of Heaven for these last days, as given by the angels of the fourteenth chapter of Revelation. Messages of every order and kind have been urged upon Seventh-day Adventists, to take the place of the truth which, **point by point**, has been sought out by prayerful study, and testified to by the miracle-working power of the Lord. But the **waymarks** which have made us what we are, are to be preserved, and **they will be preserved**, as God has signified through His Word and the testimony of His Spirit. He calls upon us to hold firmly, with the grip of faith, to the fundamental principles that are based upon unquestionable authority.

“But since the General Conference of 1888, Satan has been working with special power through unconsecrated elements to weaken the confidence of God’s people in **the voice that has been appealing to them for these many years. If he can succeed in this, then through misapplication of scripture he will lead many to cast away their confidence in the past work under the messages.** Thus he would set them adrift, with no solid foundation for their faith, hoping to bring them fully under his power. **Let the attention of our people be called to the special work of the Spirit of God as it has been connected with the rise and progress of the three messages,** and a blessing will result to the whole body. A revival of faith and interest in the testimonies of the Spirit of God will lead to the obtaining of a healthful experience in the things of God.

“Some of those who are newly come to the faith claim to have special light from God in regard to these messages; but their new light leads them to set aside the established truths that are the pillars of our faith. They misinterpret and misapply the Scriptures. They **misplace** the messages of Revelation 14, and **set aside the work which these messages have accomplished.** Thus they reject **the great waymarks** which God Himself has established. Since their new light leads them to **tear down the structure which the Lord has built up, we may know that He is not guiding them.**

“The experience of those newly come to the faith, if the Lord is working upon their minds, will be **in harmony with the word of God, and with His past dealings with His people,** and **the instruction** He has given them. **He will not contradict Himself.**

“God has given **the messages of Revelation 14 their place in the line of prophecy,** and their work is not to cease till the close of this earth’s history. **The first and second angel’s messages are still truth for this time, and are to run parallel with this which follows.** The third angel proclaims his warning with a loud voice. ‘After these things,’ said John, ‘I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power, and the earth was lightened with his glory.’ In this illumination, the light of all the three messages is combined.” *The 1888 Materials*, 803, 804.