



"The sheep follow Him, for they know His voice." John 10:4

VOL. 41

RIVERSIDE, CALIF., JULY-AUGUST, 1958

No. 4

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THE GATHERING CALL

50 Cents Per Year — P. O. Box 566, Riverside, California

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Published Bi-Monthly at Riverside, California
 Entered as second-class matter, June 29, 1915, at the post office at Riverside, California, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

BE YE TRANSFORMED

"And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." —Romans 12:2.

The Greek word from which "transformed" is translated is "metamorphosis." Few people, aside from students of Biology, know what "metamorphosis" means. We will, therefore, explain it by an illustration. In the east our tomato plants were often infested with a very large green worm. It was most repulsive looking and I never touched one of them. The same worm, I understand, is commonly found on tobacco plants.

But, that repulsive looking worm is later transformed, or metamorphosed, into one of the most beautiful butterflies that fly. Paul certainly used an apt illustration in using the word "Metamorphosis," in this Scripture passage.

Paul had this experience, for on the way to Damascus he was preparing to put Christians to death, and was exceedingly in earnest in trying to destroy the Christian influence. But, God appeared to him, and when Paul left Damascus, he was a transformed or metamorphosed man. He gave his whole life to building up that which he

tried to destroy in previous years.

We have an abundance of modern illustrations of this transformation. Jerry Macauley was one of the worst characters that New York city ever had to deal with. He was known as a "river rat," stealing from the boats that came into the harbor. He was sent to the penitentiary or jail so often that he lost track of how many times he had been committed to imprisonment. But he began studying God's word and he was completely transformed, and went back to New York city. He was reunited with his wife and they began preaching the gospel in their living room. From that, grew the great Water Street Mission, which has been a powerful means in the hand of God for saving multiplied thousands of the worst characters that visit large cities.

Another striking illustration is the conversion of Afrikaner in Africa. Robert Moffatt went into the very territory of this wicked and bloodthirsty man. He delighted in warfare, and in putting people to death. But, in contact with Robert Moffatt, he saw the folly of his life, and was completely transformed, and made over into an active worker for the salvation

of people that he had once tried to kill.

Chemistry presents a very apt illustration of this change in the Christian's life. Starch, sugar, and alcohol are all three composed of three elements: carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen. The fiber of beets is composed largely of water and starch. This starch is transformed into sugar, and the sugar is easily transformed to alcohol. The difference between sugar, starch and alcohol is simply in the proportion of the three elements. Chemically speaking, starch is $C_6 H^{10} O_5$. Sugar is $C_{12} H^{22} O^{11}$. Alcohol is $C^2 H^6 O^1$.

To complete the illustration, suppose we consider that carbon stands for labor, and hydrogen stands for the world, and oxygen stands for God, or the Holy Spirit. Labor is honorable and should be encouraged, and we have examples of godly people who gave a large portion of their time to labor, or the acquisition of property. Lydia of Phillipi was a drygoods merchant, and I am persuaded that she was a good one, too. But she had the right relationship to God. No one will question Paul's relationship to God, but he spent a good part of his time in making tents. We have good modern examples of the right relationship of these three. We again refer to

Wm. Carey. He was a shoe cobbler and spent practically all of his time in his middle life in the occupation of patching up people's shoes, or making new ones. He was asked what his business was, and he replied, "My business is serving the Lord." The enquirer pressed him hard until finally he said, "Well, my business is serving the Lord, but I cobble shoes to pay expenses."

Dr. Grenfell was another good example of the right relationship. He was born and reared in the elite of English society. He graduated with an honorable degree from the leading medical school of London. He had plenty of wealth, so that he would not have needed to work at the profession, but he left the pleasant surroundings of his home life, and went to the coast of Labrador, a cold dreary frontier, and spent his whole life in working for the poor and down-trodden fishermen. He didn't expect any income from this labor. He went there for the purpose of helping those people who were needy. But, God took care of his needs. He was one of the most honorable men that ever served God.

The prodigal son is a good example of loving the world. He was well situated with a lovely home, and a loving father. But, he chose

to go to the world, and he went, as we would say now, "To Hollywood." But, when his money was gone, his influence was greatly crippled. He finally came to himself and returned to his father's home and was a different man after his return.

In my early manhood I held the responsibility of being a father to about 75 to 90 young people in college. We held both morning and evening family worship. One Friday evening in particular, at which time the outside home students were permitted to unite with us, we were having a very spiritual gathering. Confessions were being made and young people were finding the Lord and rejoicing in it. In the midst of this meeting, the older son of the Bible teacher came staggering in so drunk that he couldn't walk straight, he would have fallen off his chair if the other students hadn't caught him. This put a cold blanket over the meeting. I dismissed the meeting at once. I took John, as we will call him, to my office, and had a long talk with him. He was determined to find out something about sin. He said, "I have been told what a dreadful thing sin is and I made up my mind to find out by personal experience." My advice had no effect on him, so, a few days later he ran away from home;

entered the Navy and, was dissatisfied with that; deserted the Navy and hid away in San Francisco. He went to the bottom of sin and corruption of every kind. Some years after, I was conducting an evening meeting for young people at one of our camp-meetings, and John came in and set down in a rear seat. I made a call for those who wanted to seek the Lord and John raised his hand for prayer. When I dismissed the meeting, I took him off to one side and had a very heart-to-heart talk with him. He remembered the occasion that I have just related, and said, "Brother Ballenger, I've had all the experience in sin that I want. There is no hope for me unless God takes a hold of me and transforms me." I am glad to report that he did surrender to God, and became a faithful Christian thereafter. God blessed him in his after-life.

There are two very striking examples of people that gave their lives to acquiring money, or worldly goods. Each of these were multi-millionaires, and are more or less familiar to all in the business world. One of them was . W. Post of the Postum Cereal concern, and the other was Eastman of the Kodak family. Both of these men had millions of dollars but their lives were not enriched by the

service of the Lord, so they both committed suicide.

This transformation of getting the right relationship in your life is a matter of a miracle. "If ye be in Christ then are ye a new creation." God says through Paul, "Let this mind be in you which is in Christ Jesus." This is the work of God. To illustrate, if a heavy man were to slip on the ice and fall and break a leg, it would be pleasing to him to have a little girl come up to him and offer to help him up, but it wouldn't be of any help to him because she would be too weak. But, when a strong man comes along, and says, "Let me help you," there is some promise in that, because he is strong enough to fulfill his desire to help. So, God says, "Let," and if we will "let," He will come in, and will make the transformation. But, we must open the door and let Him come in.

It is our business as Christians, not only to show people the way to get right with God, but to help them to stay in the right path, after they have once made the start. The prayers of my father and mother and older sister had a powerful influence over me all of my life. And I thank God for the family altar in our home and for the influence of these three people.

I will close with an illustration

from my brother's life. My brother Albion and his girl friend went with a friend and his girl to a country school entertainment, but when they reached the school, they found that the program had been postponed, so they returned to the village where we had been reared, and the village was having a dance. All but my brother of the quartet were given to dancing. So, they wanted to go to the dance. So, my brother said, "Although I never dance, and I don't care to dance, nevertheless if you want to go, I'll go and look on for a time." My brother had practically all of the good looks of the family and as soon as he came onto the dance floor, the girls gathered around him and said, "Albion, I want you to dance with me." Minnie Wickwire, the most handsome girl on the floor came up to my brother and said, "Albion, if you danced, I would like to have you dance with me, but don't you dance. Your father and mother are opposed to dancing, and you mustn't disobey them. So, you had better refuse to dance, Albion."

God will not suffer us to be tempted beyond that which we are able, but will, with the temptation, provide a way of escape for every one of us. So I recommend that we adjust our relationship to the

world, for we can't get out of the world, and our relation to God, and our relation to our business or our labor, so that we will not be over-balanced in any one of them.

Hollywood is crowded with young people seeking positions as movie actors and actresses. It is the climax of ambition for many young people. It is not to be wondered at for the income is enormous, the work is very popular. It calls forth the approval and praise of practically the whole world, and it is not a hard job. It is, in a sense, an easy job.

But, does it bring happiness? Are members of this profession a happy group of people? Are they free from trials, and do they have long lives?

Harry Carr, at one time the most popular correspondent of the Los Angeles Times, was dining with one of the movie stars. He made the remark that insofar as he had become acquainted with the people of this calling, he had yet to find a happy movie star. The lady with whom he was eating, stated that she was personally acquainted with every movie star in Hollywood, and she knew that there wasn't a happy one in their midst.

The Chinese eat Opium, or smoke it, and they fall asleep, and their dreams are most pleasant. Always, it is recorded that they

dream the most pleasant of dreams. But what of the after-result? Really new-born creatures, serving the Lord and who are actively engaged in advancing the truths of God's word, are the happiest people known to humanity. On the contrary, the half-hearted, or middle-way Christian, is in the most wretched condition that one can endure. It pays to be a real Christian, in this life and in the life to come.

An Interesting Testimony

Gentlemen:

One of your leaflets was dropped in my yard by someone. It happened to pick it up and read it, so I became interested. I am not an Adventist but I live among them, and I am interested in what you are doing. I would like all the information you can furnish. as I sometimes get very much pent up inside when I read some of the doctrines taught by SDAs. Please find enclosed 50c for your Turning On The Light Series of 350 pages.

A GOOD ATLAS FOR \$1.00

Send us a one dollar bill and we will send you an up-to-date atlas. Thirty pages of colored maps, covering the entire world. Everybody likes it.

THE BIG YOUTH CONFERENCE AT SAN FRANCISCO

We have read numerous accounts of the great SDA Conference of Young People at the city of San Francisco. There is no question but what it was largely attended and the Young People were enthusiastic and active. It seems that practically all of their programs were well attended and a wonderful program it must have been. It pleased the young people. It gave them inspiration in many cases, to go out and do more in the circulating of denominational literature.

Jehovah's Witnesses can outdo the SDAs in getting large groups of people together, and in having an enthusiastic program. So can the Mormons, and the other denominations. The political parties could call conventions of their youth and have a wonderful program with enthusiasm on the part of their beliefs.

But, insofar as we have read, there was one thing that was decidedly lacking in this congress, and that was the influence of real evangelistic services. So far as we have read, there was no real revival meetings held among these young people. And who can question but what there were hundreds, if not thousands of those young people that had never had the experience of being born again. Oth-

er denominations in former years held many public gatherings, but they were all devoted very largely to working for a deeper experience or for the conversion of the young people. But, insofar as the reports go, this was very much lacking at this SDA Youth Conference.

And it is also lacking in many of their campmeeting gatherings. Most people who read of the reports of the increases in membership of most all of the churches in the United States, or in any other country, they realize that they are not bringing the people up to the standard of the Christian church, but are degrading the church to the level of the common ideals of the community. Real spiritual elevation of many of these gatherings is neglected. We fear that it was sadly neglected at this Youth Conference. The need of most of the churches is a fresh baptism by the Holy Spirit.

As a child and young person, I frequently attended campmeetings of the Methodists or the United Brethren, or similar churches, and every day, they had a regular evangelistic service, and they called for people to come to the mourner's bench and get an experience with God. But this has been sadly lacking in modern gatherings. A

big attendance and enthusiasm is well-pleasing to the natural man, but we doubt very much whether God is pleased with it, especially when the vital influence of heaven is neglected. May we as indi-

viduals, and as groups come back to the principal of being filled with the Holy Ghost, and being dedicated afresh to His work of winning souls for the new birth.

666 STILL UNDER DISCUSSION

On page 19 of the July issue of "The Ministry," appears an article under the title, "Let Us Exercise Accuracy." It is prepared by Dr. H. O. Olson, Instructor of Religion, Emmanuel Missionary College. This whole article is well written and deserves careful reading. It is a plea to the SDA ministers to be accurate in all of their statements, and especially of quotations.

He deals with the subject of the 666 fallen churches in a very satisfactory manner. He shows from good authority that there never has been 666 fallen churches, or any kind of churches in the United States, and probably not in the world. He quotes at considerable length from an article in the Review & Herald of November 29, 1853. This article was written by J. M. Stevenson, but it must have been endorsed by James White for he was editor of the R&H at the time it appeared.

We quote a question asked by Dr. Olson which he proceeds to answer:

"Where then did the idea origi-

nate that there are more than six hundred denominations? For some time I have sought an answer to this question, and I believe I have found it."

If Dr. Olson had not relied upon a reprint of Mrs. White's early visions in EARLY WRITINGS, he would have found more information regarding the origin of this false teaching. The early pioneers stated emphatically that the 666 were so many fallen churches. Loughborough taught it, and J. N. Andrews taught it, and evidently James White taught it. But, the most positive evidence we have is a quotation from Mrs. White's early vision. In her Topsham vision, April 7, 1847, she says:

"I saw all that 'would not receive the mark of the Beast, and of his image, in their foreheads or in their hands,' could not buy or sell. I saw that the number (666) of the Image Beast was made up; and that it was the beast that changed the Sabbath, and the Image Beast had followed on after, and kept the Pope's, and not God's

Sabbath. And all we were required to do, was to give up God's Sabbath, and keep the Pope's, and then we should have the mark of the Beast, and of his Image." P. 19, A Word To The Little Flock.

This paragraph should appear in EARLY WRITINGS just before the beginning of the first paragraph on page 34. But, it isn't there. Mrs. White left this out of the first collection she made of her early visions. It was omitted from EXPERIENCE AND VIEWS, in 1851, and has never appeared in any of her publications since excepting in the photostatic re-prints

of A WORD TO THE LITTLE FLOCK, put out by the denomination.

Dr. Olson should teach his classes that Mrs. White taught this false doctrine in order to give them a correct idea of pioneer life, but even if he wanted to teach it to them, I question if any of their denominational schools would be permitted to teach all the "truths" regarding the pioneers. They are obliged to "soft-pedal" the many blunders that were made by Mrs. White and the pioneers in the early days.

INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN JOSEPH BATES

(PART TWO)

In the last issue of the Gathering Call, we touched only briefly on the first meeting of Elder Bates and Mrs. White. In this issue, we shall bring that first meeting with its far-reaching results into the focus of the mind's-eye of the reader.

Previous to this meeting, Elder Bates had learned of the "Sabbath-truth" from a Seventh Day Baptist lady, Rachel Preston, at the home of Cyrus K. Farnsworth, near Washington, N. H., in 1845. It is a highly significant fact that in 1844 when the Advent believers and pioneers thought that Jesus would soon appear, and that they

were sealed for the kingdom; that they knew nothing of the truth of the Seventh-day Sabbath. It was after the disappointment in 1844 that Elder Bates began a study of the subject as a result of his meeting with Sister Preston. He conceived the idea that the Sabbath-reform was a part of the "third angel's message." In the Autobiography of Elder Joseph Bates, published by the SDA Seam Press at Battle Creek in 1868, he says in part:

"After the passing of the time, our eyes were opened to the fact that two other messages followed . . . attention was now turned to

the third . . . it contains a solemn warning against the worship of the beast and his image, and presents to notice, the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. By the expression, "commandments of God," we understand the moral law of ten commandments, which has been recognized by the church in all ages as binding upon mankind . . . A careful examination of the practice of the church reveals the fact that the fourth commandment is not observed-- as it enjoins the seventh day of the week as the Sabbath, while almost all the world have been keeping the first day." See pages 301, 302.

Of course, we know that the third angel's message is of much broader scope than this, but at least the idea prevailed strongly enough in the mind of Elder Bates that it was one of the main factors which helped him to keep a firm grip on a measure of his faith in those trying days following the great disappointment. It became an anchor to his soul and withheld him from joining in the "stampede back to Egypt," as James White so aptly described the wholesale abandonment of the message by the great majority of Advent believers after October 22, 1844.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WHITES

The Whites had been traveling

extensively throughout New England, laboring to hold together a small band of Advent believers. At a very early date, James White foresaw the potential value of the visions as a leveling influence on the believers. They often quieted the fanatical confusion which attended these early meetings, and centered the attention of the "flock" upon themselves. Their influence welded together a "scattered," "Torn," and "peeled" people, as Joseph Bates described them on page 21 of 'A WORD TO THE LITTLE FLOCK.' This small group became the nucleus of the SDA movement. The visions were very effective in quieting all opposition to the leadership of the Whites. They became the "big stick," or disciplinary force in the development of the infant church.

ELDER BATES DOUBTED THE VISIONS

It is a very significant fact that Elder Bates was not impressed with the visions at first, and seriously doubted that they were from the Lord. On page 21 of "A WORD TO THE LITTLE FLOCK," he states that he felt that they were "no more than what was produced by a protracted debilitated state of her body."

Interesting also, are the comments of Mrs. White on the subject of this first meeting with

Elder Bates. She says on page 236 of LIFE SKETCHES:

"While on a visit to New Bedford, Massachusetts, in 1846, I became acquainted with Elder Joseph Bates. He had early embraced the Advent faith, and was an active laborer in the cause . . . After I had ceased speaking he arose and said, 'I am a doubting Thomas. I do not believe in visions. But if I could believe the testimony the sister has related tonight was indeed the voice of God to us, I should be the happiest man alive. My hart is deeply moved. I believe the speaker to be sincere, but cannot explain in regard to her being shown the wonderful things she has related to us!'"

There are certain salient facts embodied in this paragraph, which if properly analyzed, fit into this psychological jig-saw puzzle of cause and effect. Notice that Elder Bates is described as, "an active laborer in the cause." He was, therefore, a potentially valuable ally to the Whites. And, although he describes himself as a "doubting Thomas," he also states that it would cause him extreme happiness if he could believe. The power of suggestion is a strong psychological influence. It must have worked on both Elder Bates and Mrs. White. At any rate, she became exceeding anxious to convert

him to the visions. Notice also, that Elder Bates refers to her words as the "testimony," which set a precedent and the term stuck, and became the common denominator for all of her visions, writings, or instructions, thereafter.

MRS. WHITE NOT IMPRESSED WITH THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SABBATH

It is an interesting and highly significant fact, also, that Mrs. White was not impressed with the importance of the Sabbath at first. She says on page 236, of "Life Sketches:"

"Elder Bates was keeping the Sabbath and urged its importance. I did not feel its importance, and thought that Elder B. erred in dwelling upon the fourth commandment more than upon the other nine."

It must have been apparent to the Whites that a common ground on which they might unite in harmony with Elder Bates was not only highly desirable, but necessary if they hoped to win him to their cause. Obviously, they would have to give serious consideration to the subject of the Sabbath. In her debilitated state of mind and body, this must have presented a very serious problem to Mrs. White. The solution, as usual, was a vision. She says on page 237 of Life Sketches:

"But the Lord gave me a view of the heavenly sanctuary . . . I was amazed as I saw the fourth commandment in the very center of the ten precepts, with a soft halo of light encircling it." etc.

THE VISION SUCCEEDS IN ITS PURPOSE

This vision served two very good purposes. It paved the way for a harmonious relationship with Elder Bates; and, it sanctioned the Sabbath-truth, which no doubt made a favorable impression on the mind of Elder Bates, and softened him up, so to speak, for the next psychological blow.

THE ASTRONOMY VISION

What was the deciding factor which brought about the change of heart on the part of Elder Bates concerning the visions? It was the incident often referred to as the "Astronomy Vision." We will let the pioneers tell it in their own words:

"In the month of November, 1846, a conference was held in Topsham, Maine, at which Elder Bates was present . . ." Great Second Advent Movement, p. 257.

"One evening at the conference above mentioned, at the house of Mr. Curtiss and in the presence of Elder Bates, who was yet undecided in regard to these manifestations, Mrs. White, while in vision, began to talk about the stars, giv-

ing a glowing description of rosy-tinted belts which she saw across the face of some planet, and added, 'I see four moons.' 'Oh,' said Elder Bates, 'she is viewing Jupiter!' Then having made motions as though traveling through space, she began giving a description of belts and rings in their ever varying beauty, and said, 'I see seven moons.' Elder Bates exclaimed, 'She is describing Saturn.' Next came the description of Uranus, with its six moons; then a wonderful description of the 'opening heavens,' with its glory, calling it an opening into a region more enlightened. Elder Bates said that her description far surpassed any account of the opening heavens he had ever read from any author." Ibid.

"The spirit of God rested upon us in brother C's humble dwelling, and I was wrapt in a vision of God's glory, and for the first time had a view of other planets. After I came out of vision I related what I had seen. Elder B then asked if I had studied astronomy. I told him I had no recollection of ever looking into an astronomy. Said he, 'This is of the Lord.'" Life Sketches, page 239.

Poor Elder Bates, if he could but have known that in a few short years from then, that more powerful telescopes and stellar photo-

graphy would reveal the fact that Jupiter has 12 moons instead of 4, and that Saturn has 9 moons, and that Uranus has but 5 moons. A fifth and very small one has been discovered only recently. Mrs. White's so-called revelation from God concerning the planets was in harmony with what the scientists were teaching at that time. This is strongly indicative of the fact that she had previously obtained information from some source about astronomy, as taught at that time. If her revelation had been from the Lord, He would have revealed the correct number of moons to her; then later discoveries would have gloriously vindicated the authenticity of the visions. But, as it stands, it is obvious that she obtained her information from some other source than the Lord. Mrs. White may have told the truth when she said that she had no recollection of having ever looked inside of a textbook on the subject of astronomy, but at the time of this so-called vision, all of the magazines and tabloids of the country contained news and information about astronomical subjects. Just two months before this vision, the astronomers had captured an unknown planet by mathematical calculations; the planet Neptune. It was said to be one of the most thrilling high-

lights in the history of astronomy. It was front-page news in the daily, weekly and monthly magazines and newspapers. She could not have picked up a magazine or newspaper without finding articles on astronomy. While she may have told the truth in regards to a textbook on the subject, still she knew she was giving the wrong impression. And what was the purpose of this bit of subterfuge? Simple: to win Elder Bates over to the support of the visions and to the "little flock" led by the Whites. It added a great deal of prestige to their influence, and notoriety for the visions. It added a born leader to their circle of believers. It is quite possible and highly probable that this trick was premeditated and planned, because it certainly attacked Elder Bates at his most vulnerable spot, his characteristic love for the subject of astronomy.

ELDER NICHOL'S DEFENSE

In Francis D. Nichol's book, "Ellen G. White And Her Critics," page 98, the author attempts to explain her dishonesty as follows:

"The essence of the charge before us is that if she had been a true prophet, she would have seen and announced the true total of moons for each planet, and this would have proved her visions to be of God.' Indeed! 'Proved' to

whom? Not to Bates. Nothing could have made him more certain that she was what his skeptical fears had told him she was, a misguided enthusiast. Why should he accept her in opposition to the best reports of all the astronomers of his day?"

In attempting to justify the subterfuge, he has only made the mess a more complicated one. Continuing this line of reasoning he says:

"But let us take our reasoning one step further. If God sought to impress the mind of the astronomically-minded Bates, how more effectively could we imagine His doing it than by giving to His humble handmaiden a vision within the limits of 1846 astronomical knowledge, yet so surpassingly vivid and detailed as to convey the impression that she was actually gazing upon the sight?"

Suffice to say, that the Infinite God of heaven was forced to stoop to lies and cheap trickery to convince Elder Bates that the visions were divinely inspired. Are there any of our readers who want to go along with Elder Nichol in his line of reasoning? I am quite sure that if God HAD desired to impress the mind of Bates concerning the visions, that He could have done so without resorting to misrepresentation. Elder Nichol's defense is a crude piece of deceit.

We wonder at the credulity with which this idea is received among the members of the SDA denomination. As the truly inspired apostle Paul once said:

"And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they might believe a lie." 2 Thessalonians 2:11.

— DONALD E. MOTE

A Reprint

We are re-printing "Examining Seventh-day Adventism in this issue of the Gathering Call. We are doing this because the edition of this Special item has been nearly exhausted and there is still a very heavy demand for it, therefore we are publishing it in the Gathering Call, and we will print a new supply of the leaflet for free distribution. So, bear with us if you are not exactly pleased with long articles. This issue of the Gathering Call is peculiar in that respect, but we trust that it will be profitable reading to every one of our subscribers. Be free to order this item of "EXAMINING SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS" We will be glad to send them to you at no expense, postpaid.

THIS GENERATION SHALL NOT PASS— A comprehensive Biblical explanation of Matt. 24:34. 2 for 5c.

CATHOLIC PERSECUTIONS IN COLOMBIA, S. A.

Many Protestant workers in Colombia, both native and foreign have been suffering the most cruel persecutions for some time in this southern Republic.

These persecutions have been carried on under the direction, and many times by the Catholic authorities. Many times the police have been as cruel as the mob in dealing with the Protestant workers.

We understand from good authority that there is a large class of people in this republic that disapprove most heartily this persecution of evangelical workers.

In proof of the fact that the leading class of people in Colombia are decidedly opposed to these persecutions, we quote from the leading Journal of the Capital of this country, in protest against the treatment of Protestant evangelical workers (from "El Nacional"):

"Why do we persist in humbling our church before the world? How is it possible that church authorities do not condemn assassinations, dynamitings, and other revolting acts (in Colombia) against a sister church? How, indeed, if we take into account that it is solely to the Protestant armies of the United States and England that the Vatican owes its life at

this moment? These armies maintain the barrier holding back the Russian army from Rome. What would happen to the Roman church without these Protestant defenses? Catholics must reciprocate the tolerance and respect that these countries of Protestant majority have toward our Church in their countries."

We have a double purpose in reproducing this quotation. We have been teaching for some years that the Papacy is being defended almost wholly by Great Britain and the United States, the two most prominent Protestant nations. In fact, we have taken the position that the Papacy would have been practically driven out of prominence if it had not been for the defense of these two nations. This, you will notice, is acknowledged by this quotation from a leading newspaper in Bogota.

It is certainly and decidedly unfortunate that the United States should be so entangled with the Papacy that it is using its influence to prolong its life.

Of course, some of our critics will accuse us of favoring the Communists, but we dispute this accusation most emphatically. The people of Italy are anxious to get out from under the tyranny of

their own church, and they would have voted themselves out if the United States had not furnished some of its means and influence to keep the Pope of Rome in his political and social standing.

It is another unfortunate condition that practically all of the leading "Dailys" and magazines of the United States dare not speak critically of the Pope of Rome, or of his church. It is quite out of the question to publish anything in the leading magazines against the Catholic church in this country.

It is quite true, the old saying, "Between the devil and the deep blue sea," describing the position we are in in the present contro-

versy. For everything that opposes the Catholic church is classified as Bolshevik or Communistic. And, the Catholic church controls not only the leading publications, but has a strangle-hold on Radio broadcasting and all other means of circulating important truths.

We believe just as the Scripture teaches, that the Roman Catholic church will be restored to power over most of western and central Europe. But, that isn't all, the Scripture also teaches that her crowning return to glory will last but a short time, and then comes her final and complete destruction as a system. May God hasten it.

457 B.C. UNDER FIRE

Some time ago the General Conference Committee appointed a committee to investigate the matter of the date of the seventh year of Artaxerxes, king of Persia. That committee has made its report, and it appears in the June issue, 1953, of the "Ministry." It is prepared by Dr. S. H. Horn, professor of Archeology and History of Antiquity, of the SDA Theological Seminary.

The importance of this date is well presented by this author on page 23 of the above mentioned publication:

"Seventh-day Adventist ministers have no need of being reminded that the exact date of Artaxerxes' 7th year is of great importance. On the correctness of this date depends a sound interpretation of the 2300-year period, which, according to our teaching, ended in the fall of 1844 when Christ began His mediatorial work in the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary."

We could use many pages in discussing this one paragraph. There is no evidence whatsoever, that the 2300 days began or ended at

the time which the denomination teaches. And, again, it is contrary to the teachings of the Bible, to declare that Christ entered into the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary in 1844. Christ entered that part of the heavenly sanctuary at His ascension, and did not wait until 1844. Read your Bibles and you will recognize that the New Testament always places Christ at the right hand of the Father, and the Bible plainly teaches that the place of the Father was and is in the most holy place. Therefore, it is foolish to try to teach the sanctuary doctrine or the 2300 days as it has been taught for over a hundred years.

Both the "Ministry," and the R & H are stressing the importance of the report of this committee on the date of the 7th of Artaxerxes. The editor of the R & H acknowledges that most modern scholars are teaching that the decree was issued in 458, B. C. We reproduce his statement to this effect:

"A key date in Adventist prophetic teaching is A.D. 1844, which marks the end of the 2300-year period mentioned in Daniel 8:14. We believe that this period should be dated from the time of a certain decree given in 'the seventh year of Artaxerxes.' Throughout our history we have held, in com-

mon with most other writers on prophecy, that this decree was given in the year 457, B.C. However, authorities on ancient history have largely come to the conclusion that the date should be 458 B.C."

We have been giving this subject some consideration also, and wish to present to our readers some of our findings.

Practically all authorities agree that Christ began his public ministry at the age of 30, and they agree also that our present calendar dating from the birth of Christ is not correct; that Christ was born before the date accepted by our chronology. Also, all Bible students agree that Christ was born before the death of Herod, who was reigning in Jerusalem at the time. The death of Herod is a well-fixed date.

One of the very last acts of Herod the great, was an order that Julius and Matthais, leading church officers of the Jews, should be burned to death. The night in which he issued this decree, the moon was in eclipse, and that eclipse took place on March 12, 4 B.C. This would place the Passover among the Jews in April of that same year. Josephus also tells us that Herod the great, died seven days before that Passover of the same year. That fixes the date of the death of Herod accurately

in the first part of the month of April, B.C. 4. Herod died at Jericho, but he was in Jerusalem at the time the wise men visited Christ. It was after the visit of the wise men that Herod issued his decree that all the babies of Bethlehem, two years old and under, should be put to death. When Herod died, Christ was in Egypt. It isn't at all likely that His birth happened very close to the death of Herod. It must have been some months at least, and this would throw the birth of Christ in B.C. 5, instead of B.C. 4.

This is an astronomical demonstration that Christ was born some time before B.C. 4. How long it was before the death of Herod, we have no means of finding out, but it was long enough to throw His birth into the year before the fourth year, B. C.

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE FAVORING B.C. 5

When a baby boy was born in Israel, he was required to be circumcised the 8th day. The mother was not permitted to touch any hallowed thing or come into the sanctuary for 33 days longer. Lev. 12:4. After the purification of Mary was accomplished, they brought the infant Jesus to the temple. This was the occasion on which Simeon and Anna saw Him. Luke 2:25, 36. This was at least

40 days after His birth, and evidently before Herod issued the decree to kill the babies of Bethlehem.

The wise men of the East visited Him before the murder decree. Just how long they remained in the vicinity of Jerusalem is not known; neither is it known how long it was before the wise men returned by another way. But, these two events must have required some time. The fact that Herod extended the time to two years would suggest that it was more than a few days after he learned that the wise men had left by another way. All of these events taking place before March 12, 4 B.C. would certainly indicate that the birth of Christ was in the year 5 B.C. You had better refer this matter back to the committee, brethren.

If Christ was born in B.C. 5, this would throw the termination of the 2300 days, if they represented years, in 1843, instead of 1844. This would also demonstrate that Christ was crucified in A.D. 30, instead of 31.

The chronology of SDAs is crooked from many standpoints. Mrs. White teaches that Christ was crucified on Friday, A.D. 31. This is a mistake, because He was crucified at the time of the Passover, and the "preparation day"

was on Wednesday of A. D. 31, and therefore Jesus could not have been crucified on Friday of that year. But, astronomical evidence is firm in teaching that Christ was crucified in A.D. 30. The feast of unleavened bread, or the Passover, came on Thursday of that year. Therefore, Christ was crucified on Friday of A.D. 30, and not in A.D. 31.

Since writing the above, we have received the July issue of the "Ministry." On page 31 the following advertisement appears:

**"THE CHRONOLOGY OF
EZRA 7"
"A Report Of The Historical Research Committee Of The General Conference"**

"After more than a dozen years of painstaking research by a special committee appointed by the General Conference, the year 457 B.C. has now been established beyond all doubt as the exact date of 'the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king' (Ezra 7), an event that had long been dated in 457 B.C. by Biblical expositors generally. More recently this date has been challenged by eminent scholars who maintained that 458 B.C. was the correct date. The importance of this problem becomes obvious when we consider the matter of historical events connected with the starting point of the prophetic 2300-day period of Daniel 8:14. The

purpose of the committee was to examine the chronological basis of the 2300-day time prophecy. The evidence secured, as set forth in this new volume, furnishes indisputable proof that the date accepted by the early pioneers of the Advent message was accurate from a scientific as well as from a Biblical view point. Every worker must have this documented evidence."

Don't Forget "Blue Book"

This is a book of 89 pages. It is one of the most forcible presentations of early Adventist facts, ever to be put in print. Every candidate for membership in the SDA church should read it before uniting with the church. Every honest SDA should read it and put forth an influence to correct the errors that have been taught regarding the history of the pioneers. It presents "facts" in such a convincing way, that no one dares try to make reply.

If our readers will supply us with names and addresses of thinking and intelligent SDAs, we will be glad to send them copies of the "BLUE BOOK." We feel certain that anybody that reads it will never regret it. So, do some missionary work among your SDA friends, and lead them to the liberty of the Gospel, instead of the confines of the errors of the creed.

EXAMINING SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISM

Every quotation in this document, the author of which is not given, is from the pen of Mrs. White, whose writings are all considered by Seventh-day adventists as of equal authority with the Bible. Emphasis in the quotations supplied.

"WE ARE THE PEOPLE"

Seventh-day Adventists lay claim to being the only church which God recognizes as His church. Their prophet says:

"There is but one church in the world who are at the present time standing in the breach, and making up the hedge, building up the old waste places;" Testimonies to Ministers, p. 50.

"God has a people in which all heaven is interested, and they are the one object on earth dear to the heart of God." Ibid. p. 41

"The church, enfeebled and defective, needing to be reprov'd, warn'd, and counseled, is the only object upon earth upon which Christ bestows His supreme regard." Id. 49.

"The world is in need of the saving truth that God has intrusted to His people. The world will perish unless it be given a knowledge of God through His chosen agencies." Id. 459.

In all of the above quotations

Mrs. E. G. White is speaking of the Seventh-day Adventists.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS MOST SHAMEFULLY ABUSE ALL OTHER CHURCHES

They go to the extreme of warning the people not to attend the services of other churches.

"I was shown the necessity of those who believe that we are having the last message of mercy, being separate from those who are daily imbibing new errors. I say that neither young nor old should attend their meetings; for it is wrong to thus encourage them while they teach error that is a deadly poison to the soul, and teach for doctrines the commandments of men." Early Writings, p. 124.

MEMBERS OF OTHER CHURCHES ARE CHILDREN OF THE DEVIL

"I saw that if the false covering could be torn off from the members of the churches, there would be revealed such iniquity, vileness and corruption, that the most diffident child of God would have no hesitancy in calling them by their right name, children of their father, the Devil; for his works they do." Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 1, p. 128.

"Those who had neglected to receive the heavenly message were

left in darkness, and God's anger was kindled against them, because they would not receive the light which He had sent them from heaven." Early Writings, p. 236.

"I saw that the nominal churches, as the Jews crucified JESUS, had crucified these messages, [the three angel's messages of Rev. 14.] and therefore they have no knowledge of the move made in heaven, or of the way into the Most Holy, and they cannot be benefited by the intercession of JESUS there. Like the Jews, who offered their useless sacrifices, they offer up their useless prayers to the apartment which JESUS has left, and Satan, pleased with the deception of the professed followers of CHRIST, fastens them in his snare, and assumes a religious character, and leads the minds of these professed Christians to himself, and works with his power, his signs and lying wonders . . . I saw false reformations everywhere. The churches were elated, and considered that GOD was marvelously working for them, when it was another spirit." Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 1, pp. 171, 172.

At the time Mrs. White said that she "saw false reformations everywhere," Charles G. Finney, probably the greatest of the nineteenth century evangelists, was holding some most remarkable revivals in

the neighborhood where the Whites were living; so this denouncement of the churches included the reformations of Chas. Finney.

SATAN HAS TAKEN FULL POSSESSION OF THE CHURCHES

"I saw that since the second angel proclaimed the fall of the churches, they have been growing more and more corrupt . . .

"Satan has taken full possession of the churches as a body." Early Writings, p. 273.

"I saw that since JESUS had left the Holy place of the heavenly Sanctuary, and had entered within the second veil, the churches were left as were the Jews; and they have been filling up with every unclean and hateful bird. I saw great iniquity and vileness in the churches; yet they profess to be Christians. Their profession, their prayers and their exhortations are an abomination in the sight of GOD. . . Said the angel, GOD will not smell in their assemblies." Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 1, p. 190.

OTHER CHURCHES ARE CROWDED WITH EVIL ANGELS

"An innumerable host of evil angels are spreading themselves over the whole land. . . The churches and religious bodies are crowded with them." Id. 191.

March 24, 1849, Mrs. White had a vision in which she says:

"I saw that the mysterious signs and wonders, and false reformations would increase, and spread. The reformations that were shown me, were not reformations from error to truth; but from bad to worse; for those who professed a change of heart, had only wrapped about them a religious garb, which covered up the iniquity of a wicked heart. Some appeared to have been really converted, so as to deceive God's people; but if their hearts could be seen, they would appear as black as ever.

"My accompanying angel bade me look for the travail of soul for sinners as used to be. I looked, but could not see it; for the time for their salvation is past." Present Truth, Aug. 1849, p. 22.

The emphasized portion of the above quotation is omitted from all of her later publications. For seven years after 1844 Mrs. White and her followers were teaching that probation for all the world except the Advent believers was closed and they were calling First-day Adventists Laodiceans for trying to save sinners. Some of their leaders have indulged in the rankest deceptions to deny and cover up this fact.

SDA'S DENY THE ATONEMENT WAS MADE ON THE CROSS

"Christ did not make the atonement when He shed His blood upon the cross. Let this fact be fixed forever in the mind." Looking Unto Jesus, p. 237, by Uriah Smith, 1898.

Uriah Smith was editor of their denominational paper, the Review and Herald, for nearly fifty years. They teach that Christ did not begin to make atonement for sin until 1844.

THEY TEACH THAT SATAN BEARS THE SINS OF THE REDEEMED

"Satan bore not only the weight and punishment of his own sins, but also of the sins of the redeemed host, which had been placed upon him." Early Writings, pp. 294, 295.

THEY TEACH THAT GOD REWARDS THE DEVIL FOR HIS DEVILRY

"Also it would be for his [Satan's] own interest to keep from Jesus as many as possible. For the sins of those who are redeemed by the blood of Christ will at last be rolled back upon the originator of sin, and he must bear their punishment, while those who do not accept salvation through Jesus, will suffer the penalty of their own sins." Early Writings, p. 178.

"It would have been far better

for him [Satan] if he had never led men into sin. But having entered upon this work, we see that he has a personal motive of the most powerful kind to induce him to hold persons in sin to the last; for then they receive the punishment for their own sins which he otherwise must suffer. And every one who escapes from his power and secures salvation through Christ, adds an additional weight to his accumulating load of woe." Looking Unto Jesus, p. 271, by Uriah Smith.

This puts God in the position of paying a premium on deviltry. If the devil is diligent and keeps on the job so that few are saved he doesn't receive so much punishment as he will if he "lays down on the job" and allows people to become Christians. This is offering the devil a reward for successful deviltry.

THEY CONDEMN THE WORK OF MOODY

"This state of religious declension among the popular churches has been a marked condition with them since 1844. The most devoted among them saw and deeply deplored it then . . . Their condition in this respect has not improved since; and the spasmodic and emotional efforts of a Knapp, Hammond, Moody, and other modern revivalists, are not affording

any permanent improvement. There is an advanced truth for this age, and no permanent work of religious reform can be accomplished except in connection therewith," The Biblical Institute, by James White and Uriah Smith, p. 88.

NO SALVATION OUTSIDE THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

"The Laodicean church is the church of Christ for the period in which we live, and He has no other. Those who renounce membership in the Laodicean church place themselves outside the fold of Christ." Review and Herald, Sept. 26, 1935. They claim to be the Laodicean church. Read the description in Rev. 3:14-18 and see how well it fits.

SDA'S BELIEVE IT WAS RIGHT TO BE WRONG AND WRONG TO BE RIGHT

"I saw that GOD had honest children among the nominal Adventists, and the fallen churches, and ministers and people will yet be called out from these churches, before the plagues shall be poured out, and they will gladly embrace the truth. Satan knows this, and before the loud cry of the third angel, raises an excitement in these religious bodies, that those who have rejected the truth may think GOD is with them. He hopes

to deceive the honest, and lead them to think that GOD is still working for the churches. But the light will shine, and every one of the honest ones will leave the fallen churches, and take their stand with the remnant." Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 1, pp. 172, 173.

Such outstanding characters as Finney, Alexander Campbell, Albert Barnes, David Livingstone, John G. Paton, and scores of other men of God knew that Miller's predictions would fail and some of them tried to show him his mistakes. They were too familiar with their Bibles to be led into such errors. According to Mrs. White, the SDA prophet, these men were all rejected because they refused to accept and teach error; but Mrs. White and her followers who believed and taught this error were the favorites of God. None of these people accepted the teachings of SDAs, and therefore, according to Mrs. White, they will all be lost.

This comes very close to being blasphemy, for it is exactly of the same character as the teachings of the Pharisees in the days of Christ, attributing the work of God to the work of the Devil.

MRS. WHITE, THEIR PROPHET, TEACHES EVOLUTION

"Every species of animals which God created was preserved in the

ark. The confused species which God did not create, which were the result of amalgamation, were destroyed by the flood. **Since the flood, there has been amalgamation of man and beast, as may be seen in the almost endless varieties of species of animals, and in certain races of men.**" Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 1, p. 78.

"But if there was one sin above another which called for the destruction of the race by the flood, it was the base crime of amalgamation of man and beast which defaced the image of God and caused confusion everywhere." Id-69.

These statements were published in 1864 and again in 1870, but were omitted in later editions.

This is as rank a teaching of evolution as has ever appeared in print, and it is a scientific absurdity. Editor Uriah Smith tried to convince his people that it was the truth, as the following quotation shows:

"There was amalgamation; and the effect is still visible in certain races of men . . . But does any one deny the general statement contained in the extract given above? They do not. If they did, they could easily be silenced by reference to such cases as the wild Bushmen of Africa, some tribes of the Hottentots, and perhaps the

Digger Indians of our own country, &c." The Visions, by Uriah Smith, p. 103.

No SDA would dare meet an evolutionist in debate who is familiar with this inspired (?) teaching.

THEIR PROPHET DISCOURAGES MARRIAGE

"In this age of the world, as the scenes of earth's history are soon to close, and we are about to enter upon the time of trouble such as never was, **the fewer the marriages contracted, the better for all, both men and women.**" Testimonies to the Church, Vol. 5, p. 366, 1885.

MRS. WHITE CONDEMNS THE USE OF MEAT AND BUTTER

"We bear positive testimony against tobacco, spirituous liquors, snuff, tea, coffee, flesh-meats, butter, spices, rich cakes, mince pies, a large amount of salt, and all exciting substances used as articles of food." Testimonies, Vol. 3, p. 21.

This was published in 1872, yet she ate butter and meat for at least twenty years after this.

THE 1856 CONFERENCE

"I was shown the company present at the Conference. Said the angel, 'Some food for worms, some subjects of the seven last plagues, some will be alive and remain upon

the earth to be translated at the coming of Jesus.'" Id. Vol. 1, pp. 131, 132.

All who attended this Conference, including the babies, are now dead. So there are none left to suffer in the "seven last plagues" or "to be translated at the coming of Jesus." What kind of an angel gave her this instruction?

MRS. WHITE A GREAT PLAGIARIST

No writer of a book ever used so much from other authors without credit as did Mrs. White; yet she claimed that every word she wrote was a direct revelation from God. Sketches from the Life of Paul was taken so largely from Conybeare & Howson's Life and Epistles of Paul, that they were compelled to take it off the market when it was in great demand.

Her most popular book, Great Controversy, was largely copied from D'Aubigne's History of the Reformation, and Wylie's History of Protestantism. Whole paragraphs are used with little or no change yet without quotation marks or credit. Her own people got after her so hard for purloining others' thoughts without credit that she was compelled to use quotation marks and give credit in the edition of 1911. The 1911 edition contains over 400 credits not in the old editions.

She used without credit many illustrations in this book that were taken from other authors. Will a prophet of God resort to such dishonesty? Yet the denominational leaders defend her in this crime.

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT WAS NOT ON OCTOBER 22, 1844

It is a well demonstrated fact that the Day of Atonement can not come as late as Oct. 22 in any year. In 1844, it fell on Sept. 23. Both the Orthodox and Caorite Jews celebrated it on that date. This blunder is a hard blow to their sanctuary theory.

TURNING THE LIGHT ON THEIR SANCTUARY THEORY

They teach that Christ did not go into the most holy apartment of the heavenly sanctuary when He ascended, but remained in the first apartment till 1844. They move God out into the first apartment and keep both of them there for over 1800 years. Thus they corrupt the Word to fit the creed.

They teach that Christ shed His blood on the cross and then kept it for over 1800 years, till after 1844 before He offered it to make atonement in the heavenly sanctuary.

THE BLOOD OF CHRIST DEFILES THE HEAVENLY SANCTUARY

"As the sins of the people were anciently transferred, in figure, to

the earthly sanctuary by the blood of the sin-offering, so our sins are, in fact, transferred to the heavenly sanctuary by the blood of Christ." Great Controversy, p. 266, edition of 1884.

This is not far from blasphemy. The Bible always represents the blood of Christ as cleansing, never as defiling. Their sanctuary teaching is based on pure, unadulterated fiction, which is wholly contrary to the Bible. **Not a drop of goat's or lamb's blood was ever carried into the tabernacle except on the day of atonement.**

In 1844 they moved God and the Son from one side of a curtain in heaven to the other side to examine the books of heaven so God might know "who are prepared for the kingdom of God." This is called the Investigative Judgment. See Great Controversy, p. 428 and Life Incidents, p. 323.

This is a most wicked, soul-drying doctrine which so denatures the gospel that no one who believes it can enjoy the gospel. It necessitates their taking the position of their prophet that **"Those who accept the Saviour, however sincere their conversions, should never be taught to say or to feel that they are saved. This is misleading."** Christ's Object Lessons, p. 155.

These facts are not published with any desire to tear down the

work of Seventh-day Adventists, or to cast any reflection on any Bible truth which they teach, but we are broadcasting these facts in an effort to reach the honest laity among them and through them persuade the leaders to be honest with God and their followers, and correct their false teachings.

We have been pointing out these errors to SDAs for many years. We have a standing offer of the free use of one half of our publication, the Gathering Call, to answer any charges which we make against the teachings of the denomination; but they have through the years, refused to accept our offer. We volunteered to pay for time over the radio and give them half the time, if they would meet us in discussing these subjects. This also they refused to accept. This convinces us that they know they are teaching false doctrines.

My father was a Seventh-day Adventist minister for over fifty years. My brother, two sisters and myself spent the better part of our lives as workers among them. We can speak from experience as to what they teach, and we have the documents to support every charge we make against them.

When you have read this, pass it on to your Adventist neighbor

or preserve it till they come around asking you to contribute to their work, and demand an explanation or an apology for being so abusive of all other church members while they beg of you to help them broadcast their propaganda.

These leaflets will be furnished without cost to anyone who will place them in the hands of the reading public.

Any paper is at liberty to publish this article with or without credit, providing they send us a marked copy.

This leaflet presents but a very few of the errors of the creed and practices of the SDAs.

OTHER LITERATURE

If you wish to investigate further, order some of the following literature:

Facts About SDAs	25c
The 2300 Days	15c
The Blue Book, a striking array of facts about Mrs. White's inspiration	25c
Before Armageddon	60c
The First Angel's Message	10c
The Second Angel's Message.....	10c
The Third Angel's Message	10c
The Sanctuary Special	10c
All of the first four, 419 pages, for	\$1.00
All of the last four, 164 pages, and any one of the first three	50c

"BEFORE ARMAGEDDON"

"BEFORE ARMAGEDDON" is a book of 158 pages; it deals largely with the symbols of Revelation 13 and 17. Some of these symbols have puzzled Bible students through the centuries. It is not a controversial book. It simply deals with the interpretation of historical events as presented in Bible prophecy.

Years ago, the SDA Sabbath Schools spent a number of quarters in studying the book of Revelation. But in that series, they completely skipped the 17th chapter. This is good evidence that they did not have a fixed interpretation of the symbols of this part of the prophecy. It shows from history, very plainly, what the "beast" of Revelation 17 is, what the woman represents that rides the beast, and what the image to the beast is, also what the ten horns represent.

One of the most puzzling features of Revelation 17 is the "beast that was, is not, and yet is." This book makes that phrase so plain that practically every Bible student that we have consulted accepts it with gladness.

"BEFORE ARMAGEDDON" is not prepared to combat any particular theory, or interpretation. It is prepared to go to the world

as well as to all churches, so get a copy and read it for yourself, and pass the truth on to others. And get your neighbors to read it. It will be of great help to them to understand the conditions of the world in the present time, and of the events to immediately follow. If anyone is unable to pay the price of 60c, and would like to read the book, let us know. We will gladly send you a copy. We believe it will sell readily to people of the world, and to members of other churches. So, get a supply of them and try selling them to your neighbors. We will give agents a liberal discount, so that they can make a good living in canvassing for this new book. Give it a trial.

THE ADVENT REVIEW— This, as comonly known is a publication of 48 pages, published by James White and four other pioneers in August, September and November, 1850. It consists of five numbers and an extra by Hiram Edson. They selected 48 pages from the first four issues and put it out under the same name in Sept., 1850. It contains the Crosier article. It was published to show that the First Day Adventists had apostatized because they had given up the shut door and were trying to save sinners whom the Lord had rejected. Price 25 cents.

THE EDITOR OF THE R&H TEACHING BIBLE TRUTH CONTRARY TO THE TESTIMONIES

The editor of the R&H has a second article in the June 25th issue. He is writing on the subject, "How To Gain Peace Of Mind." We quote from page 13:

"The belief that God has not only forgiven the past but also forgotten it is indispensable to peace of Mind."

"In this matter Paul gives us a good example. Well might he have been overwhelmed by the memory of his persecution of Christ's followers. But God had forgiven and blotted out all of his past. Of that Paul was sure. And so he offered his testimony: 'Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.'" (Phil. 3:13, 14.)

This is sound Bible truth. But the editor has forgotten what Mrs. White taught on this subject. We wish to remind him by reproducing what she taught in earlier visions.

"The work of the investigative judgment and the blotting out of sins is to be accomplished before the second advent of the Lord. Since the dead are to be judged out

of things written in the books, it is impossible that the sins of men should be blotted out until after the judgment at which their cases are to be investigated. But the apostle Peter distinctly states that the sins of the believers will be blotted out 'when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; and He shall send Jesus Christ.'" Page 485, of Great Controversy, edition of 1911.

Reader, can you see any harmony between these two statements? For over a hundred years the SDAs have taught that sins were not blotted out until the coming of Christ. Mrs. White, the pioneers, and the creed teach that confessed sins are not blotted out till the coming of Christ; but Editor Nichol teaches that our sins are blotted out when we truly confess them. For once Brother N. is on the side of truth. Congratulations Brother N., but how about the Testimonies?

They have interpreted Acts 3:19 in accordance with this idea. The Authorized Version of the Bible gives a very faulty translation of Acts 3:19. We reproduce a modern translation of this Scripture:

"Repent therefore, and turn

again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19, R.S.V.

The seasons of refreshing come to every Christian from the time he has accepted Christ until his

end. It is the joy of a Christian to recognize that his sins are blotted out. He doesn't have to wait until the investigative judgment for those seasons of refreshing.

NOTES ON THE SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS

The Sabbath School lessons for the third quarter are devoted to the subject of the power of the blood of Jesus. The first lesson for July 4 is entitled, "Sacrificial Blood In the Plan of Redemption Before Sinai." We quote from page 5 of this first lesson:

"The plan for our redemption was not an afterthought, a plan formulated after the fall of Adam. It was a revelation of 'the mystery which hath been kept in silence through times eternal.' Rom. 16:25, R.V. It was an unfolding of the principles that from eternal ages have been the foundation of God's throne. From the beginning God and Christ knew of the apostasy of Satan, and of the fall of man through the deceptive power of the apostate. God did not ordain that sin should exist, but He foresaw its existence, and made provision to meet the terrible emergency. So great was His love for the world, that He covenanted to give His only-begotten Son,

'that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.'" The Desire of Ages page 22.

This quotation appears on page 20 of the first edition of, "Desire Of Ages," under date of 1898.

This quotation is "Bible Truth," well supported from God's word. But, this is not the position which was held by the pioneers of the movement. We wish to reproduce some of the teachings of the pioneers, including Mrs. White.

We invite the reader to turn to page 126 or 149 of "Early Writings," and read what Mrs. White had to say in her early visions. Inasmuch as many of our readers may not have a copy of "Early Writings," we will reproduce these portions referred to:

"Sorrow filled heaven as it was realized that man was lost, and that the world which God had created was to be filled with mortals doomed to misery, sickness and death, and that there was no

way of escape for the offender. The whole family of Adam must die. I then saw the lovely Jesus, and beheld an expression of sympathy and sorrow upon His countenance. Soon I saw Him approach the exceeding bright light which enshrouded the Father. Said my accompanying angel, 'He is in close converse with His Father.' The anxiety of the angels seemed to be intense while Jesus was communing with His Father. Three times He was shut in by the glorious light about the Father, and the third time He came from the Father we could see His person. His countenance was calm, free from all perplexity and trouble, and shone with a loveliness which words cannot describe. He then made known to the angelic choir that a way of escape had been made for lost man; that He had been pleading with His Father, and had obtained permission to give His own life as a ransom for the race, to bear their sins, and take the sentence of death upon Himself, thus opening a way whereby they might, through the merits of His blood, find pardon for past transgressions, and by obedience be brought back to the garden from which they were driven."

The above quotation is far from being in harmony with the quota-

tion from "Desire Of Ages," as printed in the lesson quoted. The above quotation appeared as early as 1854 in "Experience and Views," on page 47. It appeared again in "Spiritual Gifts," Vol. 1, page 22, in 1858. And it was printed in "Spirit Of Prophecy," Vol. 1, page 45, in 1870.

But in 1890, when they published the subscription edition of "Patriarchs And Prophets," they inserted the word "Appeared," which made it read, "There appeared no escape . . ."

This teaching of the pioneers that the plan of salvation was not devised until after Adam and Eve had committed sin, is a false interpretation of the Scripture. We are glad that the denomination, including Mrs. White, came to recognize the mistake and corrected it in "Desire Of Ages." But, they should have acknowledged that they had made a mistake in teaching the error for so many years.

The most prominent feature of the teachings of the early pioneers was the outstanding blunders that they made in the interpretation of the Scriptures.

The denomination continues to recommend "Early Writings," and make it, almost if not quite, a "must book" in their study. They have issued many editions of

"Early Writings," but they have never changed the statements that we have reproduced. They still urge the people to read this book containing the mistakes of Mrs.

White and the denomination, in teaching that God didn't have any plan for the salvation of the human race until after Adam committed his first sin.

THE WAY OF CREEDS

Picking up an old copy of the SIGNS OF THE TIMES (Australia) of August 18, 1952, I noted a very significant paragraph in the Editorial column.

"The Methodist movement was a reformation. But it has been side-tracked like so many other grand movements of reform. It took unto itself a creed."

This editorial may be a fair and truthful criticism of the once grand Methodist movement. There are many who believe that the word "Methodist" if replaced by the words "Seventh-day Adventist" would also be thoughtful criticism for many. So we could read,

"The S.D.A. Movement was a reformation. But it has been side-tracked like so many other grand movements of reform. It took unto itself a creed."

All this is truth. The S.D.A. Movement was one of reform. Like Methodism, it has also been side-tracked. And, as our S.D.A. Editor reasons, because S.D.A.ism "took unto itself a creed."

It will be noted by those who are acquainted with S.D.A. history,

that the pioneers opposed the framing of a creed. But S.D.A.s do have a creed now and the most rigid creed of any Protestant sect. Further, this creed is infallible and unalterable to the S.D.A. Movement, as long as they hold to the belief that they have received extra-scriptural inspiration. S.D.A.ism has been "side-tracked" by reason of this supposed inspiration and the taking unto itself of a creed. — A. P. WARD, Fiji.

For many years we have been trying to lead SDAs to bring their creed into harmony with the Bible. We have tried to do this by direct appeal to the officers and members of the church. We now propose to reach them through the channel of other churches and the public.

We appeal to our friends to send us the names and addresses of Protestant ministers in their cities or communities, especially in places where the SDAs are holding series of meetings. Send us the sheet from your newspaper on which the churches of your city are listed. It is our desire to send them literature.