

Comments about Ellen G White in *The Hope of Israel*

Myself and wife embraced the Advent faith in '42 '43, and passed through our experience with the Advent body up to the passing of the time; but could believe nothing less of our experience, than that it was of God. Our next move was to believe that the door of mercy was shut against all who did not believe in the Advent proclamation. The next step was "The Commandments of God, and the testimony of Jesus Christ." And by degrees the 'testimony of Jesus Christ' became the Visions of Ellen G. White, or the Visions of Ellen G. White became 'the testimony of Jesus Christ.' We fully endorsed the 'Visions' as being of God; and, apparently, all things moved on safely until I received a paper called the 'Messenger of Truth.' At first I felt much hurt at the thought of daring to question Ellen's visions being of God, but thought they would shine all the brighter for scouring them with an investigation. So at it I went, comparing the 'Visions' with the unerring 'word,' and with facts. **And to my great astonishment, the visions of that much loved Sister White were 'found wanting.'**

I then confessed my errors, and wrote my confession to Bro. & Sr. White, requesting them to publish it. But they refused to do so, but have added error to error, and have not ceased to publish and brand me as wide as their circulation extends, as a bad and dangerous man. And yet they have not been willing to grant me a trial of any kind. Yet I never felt any unkindness towards them; for I always loved the name of the Advent people. And if they have erred, I can forgive them and still love them. But their organization I have no sympathy with.

E.W. Waters

Hubardsville, N.Y.

(*Hope of Israel*, Nov. 16, 1864, vol. 1 no. 22)

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I was a believer in the soon coming of the Lord, in 1843. But having emigrated from the East, and settled in the West, where there were not many believers in the doctrine of the Advent in 1843, I escaped the fanaticism through which the Adventists passed in the East, for which I feel thankful. In the Fall of 1851 I identified myself with the people called the 'Review Adventists,' and remained with them until something less than two years ago, altho' I knew they held, and taught some views which did not harmonize with the Bible. Yet they adhered strictly to the commandments of God, which I loved; and thought them to be the nearest right of any people I could find. They professed to have the gifts of the Spirit among them, which I have ever been a believer in. But **I have long since found that all the gifts of the Spirit which they have among them, are the Visions of Ellen G. White;** and them I have investigated with candor, in hope to become settled in the belief that the 'Visions' were a revelation from God. But **the more I investigated them, and compared them with the Bible, the less confidence I have had in them; and I have become perfectly satisfied that God has nothing to do with them and I believe the time will come when the candid will know it.**

But notwithstanding my want of confidence in the 'Visions,' perhaps I should have been with that people yet, had it not been for their making faith in the 'Visions' a test of Christian fellowship...

W. Phelps
(*Hope of Israel*, Oct. 28, 1863, vol. 1, no. 4)

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In regard to the visions of E.G. White, we never could believe they were from God. We often tried to feel right about them, and **tried to reconcile them with the word, but never could.** We have been judged, condemned and rejected by those that we expected better things from on account of it.

George and Jane Stults
(*Hope of Israel*, Jul. 10, 1866)