

The



Elijah



Message

'Whom the heaven must receive until the times of **restitution** of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.' Acts 3:21

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Restitution Ministries is run by Seventh-day Adventist believers who are committed to the proclamation of the Everlasting Gospel. 'Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak.'

2 Corinthians 4:1, 2, 13

Luke 1: 16, 17

"And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God.

And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

About the cover

The top picture depicts the prophet Elijah on Mt Carmel. Elijah's message restored the truth about the character of God, symbolized through the restoring of the broken down altar. Many hearts in Israel were "turned back again".

Center picture: The prophet, John the Baptist, came in the spirit and power of Elijah. He also brought a message of restoration and repentance to Israel. John was to "go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways".

The bottom picture depicts the threefold message of Revelation 14:6-12. A message symbolized by three angels coming down from heaven. This message will restore and proclaim the everlasting gospel to Israel (God's people) and to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. This message will also "go before him" in the spirit and power of Elijah. "To make ready a people prepared for the Lord".

The Elijah Message

Malachi 4:5 God will send Elijah before the "great and dreadful day of the Lord."

Joel 2:31 Another sign before the "great and the terrible day of the Lord" shall be the sun turned into darkness, and the moon into blood.

Matthew 24:29 Jesus warns His disciples with the same signs, "sun darkened", "moon shall not give her light", and also "stars shall fall from heaven."

Matthew 24:30 And then "they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."

On May 19, 1780 at 11am the sun was darkened to the point that the day became total darkness. The following day the moon did not give her light, eyewitness accounts stated the "moon looked like blood."

On November 13, 1833 the greatest star shower the world has ever witnessed occurred. (See also GC pp. 306-308 and 332-334)

Malachi 4:5 These signs have been fulfilled before the coming of the Lord, but where is Elijah?

Mark 9:11-13 Jesus said Elijah will restore <u>all things</u>. Then He said Elijah had already come?

Matthew 17:10-13 They understood He spoke of John the Baptist.

John 1:21 But John said he was not Elijah.

Luke 1:16, 17 It is the <u>power of the message</u> of the prophet Elijah that will return.

Malachi 4:5 This means, before the second coming of Christ there will be a people with the last-day message which will be given in the Spirit and power of Elijah, just as John the Baptist gave before His first coming.

Malachi 4:6 This message will "turn" (unite) the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to the fathers.

This message is going to unite the heart (the understanding) of the fathers or 'the faith of the fathers' to the children.

So the Elijah message will restore the faith of the fathers unto their children, those living just before the coming of the Lord!

The great and dreadful day of the Lord spoken of in Malachi 4:5 and Joel 2:1, 2 is the period that precedes the second coming, possibly beginning with the close of human probation and the seven last plagues, and culminating with the second coming.

See also 2 Peter 3: 10-13, 1 Cor. 1:7-8; 5:5, 2 Cor. 1:14.

Isaiah 58:12 "And they (the remnant) that shall be of thee (of Israel) shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in."

God's remnant people in the Spirit and power of Elijah will <u>build</u> the old waste places.

- o They will build up and restore all God's truth that has been trodden underfoot.
- o They will <u>repair</u> the breach in God's law (especially the Sabbath).
- o They will <u>restore</u> the paths to dwell in; compare Isaiah 58:12 with Matthew 3:3 "make his paths straight".
- o They will prepare the way that leads God's people home.
- o They will <u>raise up</u> the foundations of many generations (they will rebuild on the old foundation, which leads to the restoration of the truths given to the fathers). Remember: "The heart of the fathers unto the children"

Notice they will:

- 1. Build Up
- 2. Raise Up
- 3. Repair
- 4. Restore

The Elijah message is a message of restoration.

Acts 3:21 "Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began."

The Elijah message will restore "all things" for the return of Jesus, compare Matthew 17:11 & Micah 4:12

Q – Who is the remnant that gives this message?

Revelation 12:1-5 Describes the Apostolic church = the woman

Revelation 12:6-15 The church in the wilderness = the woman

Revelation 12:16.17 The remnant of her seed = the seed of the woman

Revelation 12:16 The remnant rises up in the new world (the earth =

America), after the 1260 years vs. 14. (538–1798 Dan. 7:25)

Revelation 12:17 They 'keep' the commandments of God.

Revelation 12:1 "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:"

'The Woman' is a symbol of God's true church. This verse is describing the apostolic church. The woman is clothed with light from heaven. Compare the woman of Revelation 17 drunken with the blood of the martyrs and arrayed with earthly riches. The woman (church) of Revelation 12:1 has a crown of twelve stars upon her head – a symbol of the Apostolic church built "upon the foundation of the apostles, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone" Eph 2:20 Time frame 31 A.D. - 100 A.D. (approx.)

Revelation 12:6-14 "And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days. And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the

dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto

God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent."

The woman (God's true church) flees into the wilderness, a place prepared of God, for 1260 years. IMPORTANT – This is the same woman from vs. 1, the same church and same truths, but different people. The time frame 538 A.D. – 1798A.D.

Revelation 12:15 "And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood."

God's remnant people are persecuted by the devil and his agents, as was the church of the apostles.

Revelation 12:16 "And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth."

The earth (America, new world) helps the woman. Again this is the same woman of vs. 1 and vs.6 the same church, the same faith! But different people! The time frame 1798AD – 1844.

Revelation 12:17 "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

The devil continues to make war with the "<u>remnant</u>" of the woman's seed. The time frame is now – our day, different people, but the same pure faith.

Important -

According to Revelation 12 the remnant must identify "exactly" with the Apostolic church from where it claims its roots, otherwise it cannot be a remnant. Revelation 12 does not talk about three different women or churches, but speaks of one church founded by Jesus and built-on by the Apostles. The pure truth has been preserved down through history to a remnant people living at the close of earths history. They are clothed with light from heaven and give God's last great warning message to mankind.

Revelation 12:17 This remnant people will not only profess the pure truth of the everlasting gospel, but will be sanctified by the truth they believe and teach (see John 17:17). They "keep" the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus.

Q – What is the testimony of Jesus?

A – Revelation 19:10 "the testimony of Jesus <u>is</u> the spirit of prophecy." Seventh-day Adventists have always believed that this final identifying mark of the remnant church of Revelation 12 has been fulfilled through the prophetic ministry of Ellen G. White. For over 150 years the SDA church has been repairing the breach in God's law (the Sabbath), teaching the Bible truth about death, the judgment message of 1844 and the High Priestly ministry of Christ - to fear God and keep His commandments, to give glory to Him, to abstain from harmful drugs and foods and promote healthy temperate living.

The church arose in the new world (America) after 1798, and is the only church that through its teachings can trace its roots back to the Apostolic church. It is the only church that can bring "the" everlasting gospel to the world and the only church that can give the Elijah message.

But where is the church at this present point in time? Even its most ardent supporter would have to confess that the great awakening that began this movement is missing today. The <u>power</u> that raised a church from a handful of people meeting in a barn, to a worldwide institution of churches, hospitals and schools etc., is not with us today. Why aren't we now experiencing the same blessing from God that began this movement? Where is the Spirit and power of Elijah today? If we believe and teach the same truths that our church was founded on, the same truths which link us to the Apostolic church, shouldn't we then see the same power of God in the work today? Doesn't God promise "For them that honour me I will honour..."? 1Sam 2:30

It is true that many of our evangelistic campaigns are leading sincere people into greater truth. God has not left His beloved church. But the very reason that we are still here is testimony to the fact that the great and rapid awakening that began this movement has given way to the sleepy Laodicean state we find ourselves in today. Anyone who does not acknowledge that this is the state of God's church today is by their own words fulfilling the description of Laodicea (Revelation 3:15-18). Let us not reject the testimony of the True Witness; because if we do we will have no hope of coming out of this condition.

Revelation 12:17 "And the dragon was wroth with the woman and went to make war with the remnant of her seed..."

Another point worth noting is that the dragon goes to make war with the remnant. Is the dragon wroth with us today? Is he making war with the remnant? If so, where is the persecution as in the times of the apostles and the church in the wilderness? We don't mean to degrade the work of many faithful ones throughout the world who are being persecuted and even martyred for their faith, but this persecution is confined mainly in third world countries suffering under oppressive and dictatorial regimes. It is against all Christendom, whether Catholic or Protestant. This is not the type of persecution (war) that is spoken of in Rev 12:17. The persecution described in Revelation 12 for the Apostolic church and the church in the wilderness is as the Bible describes it, "war against the saints" Daniel 7:21

During the time of the apostles, persecution was so intense that calling oneself a Christian meant your life! History testifies to the death of millions during the Papal reign of the dark ages. This is certainly not happening to the remnant church today. So why isn't the dragon wroth with the church today? We are the final church of Bible prophecy and we are in the closing scenes of earth's history. The remnant church should be experiencing full blown persecution, particularly when Revelation 12:12 tells us "the devil is come down unto you having great wrath because he knoweth that he hath but a short time."

When we look back to the church in the wilderness, and the Apostolic church, what reason can we find for the terrible suffering they received? Why did so many have to die? It was because of the message they bore.

Satan wanted to crush the truths these faithful ones believed and were seeking to restore. Those who refused to allow the church or the state to dictate to their conscience were standing as vessels of light whom God could use to bring truth to a dark world. It was their message, sent from God, that brought them persecution. This message transformed lives. It revealed the love of God, and broke Satan's hold over the repentant sinner.

Could it be that the church today has compromised the true message? Have we abandoned any foundational truth that 'had' made us unique and that linked us with the Apostolic church? Are we sanctified by the truths we hold to? Are we by the Grace of God "keeping" His commandments?

"Let there be a revival of 'the faith' and 'power' of the early church, and the spirit of persecution will be revived, and the fires of persecution will be rekindled." GC 48

Much has been said and written about our church's backslidden state, it's compromise with the world, and how we are no longer a peculiar people. You may not agree about the state of our church, but one thing is unarguable, Satan is not making war with us. This truth should lead all of us to individually search our hearts, and ask God to reveal our sins.

2 Timothy 2:19 "Let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

It is not the purpose of this study to cast the blame on others. We confess as professing Christians that we have let our Lord down and the name by which we call ourselves.

Remember earlier in our study of the remnant church of Revelation 12, we noted that the remnant must identify exactly with the church of the Apostles; if it doesn't then it cannot be the remnant.

Revelation 12:17 Also notes "They have the testimony of Jesus." Revelation 19:10 Which is "the spirit of prophecy" this is fulfilled through the ministry of E. G. White.

Q – What else is the Spirit of Prophecy?

A – All scripture is the Spirit of Prophecy.

2 Peter 1:20,21 "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

2 Timothy 3:16 "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness"

So all scripture is the testimony of Jesus.

Q – What was Christ's testimony regarding who He was? (Important: Remember the remnant will believe this testimony)

A – Matthew 26:63, 64 Mark 14:61, 62, DA 706. Christ's own testimony that sealed His conviction was that He was the <u>Son of God!</u> Matthew 26:63-65, John 19:7. So the remnant will have to believe this testimony.

According to the Seventh-day Adventist Church's fundamental belief No.2, Christ is a co-eternal member of a Trinity. Being co-eternal He cannot truly be the son of God. Thus the church today by its doctrines rejects Christ's own testimony that He is truly the Son of God.

The Scriptures are completely silent regarding the Trinity. The apostles never taught it, our church pioneers totally opposed it. Even Trinitarians concede the fact that it has no Scriptural authority. The Trinity took almost 300 hundred years after Christ's ministry to enter into the Christian church. Rome claims it is her foundational doctrine on which all her other beliefs stand. Today the Trinity has united almost all Christendom as the principle doctrine they all hold in common; sadly this includes the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

This is why the dragon isn't angry and making war with us. We have accepted his doctrine and forsaken the truth. It is anti-christ that denies Jesus "is" the Son of God (1John 2:22).

The heart of the gospel is destroyed and Satan knows if you destroy the heart of the gospel you destroy the power of the gospel unto salvation (Romans 1:16), which is the power to convert the sinner and the power to unite and strengthen the church.

Christ also testified that upon Peter's affirmation of faith which was "thou art the Christ the son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16), He would build His church, and the gates of hell would not prevail against it. If this church will not be prevailed against, it can only mean that this church will go through to the end. This is IMPORTANT because the remnant is the church that goes through to the end.

The remnant church that gives the Elijah message and prepares the way for the coming of the Lord will be built on the rock foundation that Jesus "is" the Son of God.

This truth will unite God's remnant unto a perfect "man" (Eph 4:13).

Revelation 14:6 "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." God's remnant church will take "the" everlasting gospel to the world.

Dear Friend, please understand this point: in 1888 our church was sent a most precious message. The prophet stated it was the loud cry of the third angel, the latter rain! (See RH Nov. 22, 1892 and TM 91, 92).

If this message was accepted by the church the work would have been finished.

Today some try to defend the church by saying this precious message was never rejected, but how can they explain the fact that the prophet declared this message was the beginning of the latter rain, and yet we are still here 117 years later?

Dear reader, please take note that in 1888 when the Lord was beginning to pour out His Spirit upon His people, our church was totally non-trinitarian. Please read the fundamental principles of our faith which served our church from 1872-1914.

These principles of faith were held with great unanimity among them.

Notice principle no.1 "That there is one God, a personal, spiritual being, the creator of all things..."

No. 2 "That there is one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of the Eternal Father, the One by whom God created all things, and by whom they do consist..." (Fundamental Principles of SDA's No. 1, p. 147)

Compare these principles with Scripture.

"But to us there is but one God, the Father of whom are all things and we in Him, and one Lord Jesus Christ by whom are all things, and we by him" 1 Corinthians 8:6

These were solid Biblical principles which our church was united upon in 1888, and Sister White declared the church was receiving "a season of refreshing" (TM, 23). A. T. Jones declared the same! (*The Consecrated Way to Christian Perfection*)

Friends, the season of refreshing comes from "the presence of the Lord" Acts 3:19". Yes, in 1888 the Lord was blessing His beloved church, He was pouring out His Spirit, Christ's spirit was among them. This is why Sister White stated that in rejecting that message the church rejected Christ himself.

Notice the next two verses in Acts 3:20, 21.

Vs. 20 "and he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you."

Q - When will Jesus return to receive His people?

A - After the times of refreshing (the outpouring of the latter rain). (Vs.19)

Vs. 21 "Whom the heaven must receive until the times of <u>restitution of all things</u>, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began"

Yes Friends, Jesus cannot return until the restitution of <u>all</u> His truth takes place amongst His people.

Now remember our church was non-trinitarian in 1888 and she was receiving a season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. The work would have been finished, the loud cry would have reached every kindred, tongue and people, and Christ would have returned.

Please consider this: How could all this have happened while our church was non-trinitarian? How could the latter rain be poured out when our church was supposedly holding to the most important fundamental error in scripture regarding who God is?

Today, while holding to the trinity doctrine, we are supposed to have the truth about God. Consequently, our leaders claim that our pioneers were in error. They claim that Ellen White became trinitarian and turned the church in a new direction but they fail to produce one statement where she acknowledges the church was in error over their non-trinitarian stand. Or how she received "new light" regarding the trinity, a word she never used.

Surely on the most fundamental principle in Scripture, the prophet would have protected the flock by declaring the error they all held to for over 50 years! Surely she would have stated clearly that we are to worship God in trinity.

How could this be if the prophet turned the ship around with this new light (as many claim) and yet neglected to make even one clear statement? Surely she would have at least told her sons James and Willie, both of whom outlived her and died non-trinitarian. Or could it be that our church was established on the right platform of truth and any "new light" which contradicted this established truth was really a false light and the prophet herself would then have been tearing up the old foundation?

This is why you will <u>never</u> find one solitary statement from the pen of inspiration that declares the church held to error regarding the doctrine of who God is.

"The word of the Lord has guided our steps since the passing of the time in 1844. We have searched the Scriptures, we have built solidly and we have not had to tear up our foundations and put in new timbers." Letter 24, 1907 Page 3.

Notice when this letter was written, 1907. Can you see why our leaders cannot produce one statement from the Spirit of Prophecy declaring the trinity as truth and that our past position for over 50 years was error? If the prophet had ever made such a statement, she would have been guilty of her own testimony. She would have been tearing up the foundations and putting in new timbers!

Notice this letter to elder and Mrs. S. N. Haskell in Feb 25, 1905:

"The truths that have been substantiated by the manifest working of God are to stand fast. Let no one presume to move a pin or a foundation stone from the structure. Those who attempt to undermine the pillars of our faith are among those of whom the Bible says that "in the <u>latter times</u> some shall depart from <u>the faith</u>, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils."

Do not be deceived, it is the trinity that seeks to tear up the foundation; the trinity has made us depart from <u>the faith</u>. The trinity denies the Father and Son, the trinity is the doctrine of liars and devils.

"Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ, he is antichrist that denieth the Father and Son." 1 John 2:22

Praise God for His mercy and longsuffering, the Elijah message is once again restoring the truth spoken by the mouth of His holy prophets since the world began. Once again God is preparing to pour out His Spirit. "And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you." Acts 3:20. The Jesus which the disciples knew, the Jesus which our pioneers knew. The Elijah message is making His paths straight that the Father may send His Son "Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you."

By misinterpreting the Scriptures God's people rejected the Son of God at His first coming. Through their selfish desires and cherished opinions they were expecting someone else, someone according to their own faulted reasoning. Once again God's people are waiting for His coming. But who are they expecting? Have they once again misinterpreted the Scriptures? Are God's people preparing to receive their Saviour the only begotten of the Father? Or are they expecting "another Jesus" compare Acts 3:20 with 2 Corinthians 11:4. The true Jesus is the One "which was before preached unto you" Acts 3:20. The false Jesus is the one whom we have not preached (remember the foundation).

This false Christ is received through a false gospel by a false spirit. "For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him." 2 Corinthians 11:4.

How tragic! This has truly come to pass, someone came to God's people and preached unto them another Jesus whom their fathers never preached. He preached unto them another spirit, which their fathers never knew, and another gospel which their fathers never received. And the apostle says "you submit to it readily enough." 2 Corinthians 11:4 (RSV) in other words him you receive. And so our church pioneers were raised and united in the truth "when all the principle points of our faith were made clear to our minds, in harmony with the word of God" RH May 25, 1905. What they preached unto us is rejected and in its place we have received another gospel, another spirit, another Jesus, and those that teach us this "new light" we have received. As Paul said "ye might well bear with him."

Revelation 14:7 "Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

The Elijah message will call people to "fear God" and give glory to Him and worship Him as Creator and to restore His Sabbath.

Revelation 14:8 "And there followed another angel saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

Revelation 18:1, 4 "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory...And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

When this truth lightens the world (Revelation 18:1) it will expose the false doctrines and false systems of worship of Babylon and her daughters.

Revelation 14:9-11 This message will warn the people of the judgments coming upon those who continue to worship the beast and his image.

Revelation 18:4 It will be God's final message of mercy to a perishing world.

Jesus testified to the fact that the church that gives this message will be built on the declaration of the Father Himself. That declaration is to confirm that Christ is the Son of the living God. Matthew 16:16-18

Q – Can the church today give this message while holding to a Trinity doctrine?

A – No, because the church rejects that Jesus is "truly" the Son of God (Mark 15:39). Therefore the church has destroyed the foundation upon which Christ said He would build His church and give this very message.

Also, how can we call all nations, kindred, tongue and people, to "fear God and give glory to Him and worship Him", If our understanding of God is shrouded in the mysterious unscriptural Trinity doctrine? A doctrine that has not one clear text for its support.

We are counseled to give evidence for our faith through the Scriptures (2 Tim. 3:15-16, 2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Pet. 3:15).

Finally, it is impossible to give this message when holding to a Trinity doctrine because believing that Jesus is truly the Son of God is the centre of the message. 1 John 5:5, 10.

Notice:

Revelation 14:7 "Fear God", "Give glory to Him", "Worship Him."

"Fear God":

What does it mean to fear God?

Job1:1 "There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that <u>feared God</u>, and eschewed evil."

- It means to turn from unrighteousness.

Genesis 22:12 "And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou <u>fearest God</u>, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me."

- To obey God in all things.

Deuteronomy 13:4 "Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and <u>fear</u> <u>him</u>, and keep his commandments, and <u>obey</u> his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him."

- To keep His commandments, <u>obey</u> His voice, serve Him and cleave to Him.

So to fear God means to turn from evil, <u>obey</u> God and <u>keep</u> His commandments. In order to <u>obey</u> God we must overcome the world.

And how do we overcome the world?

1 John 5:5 "Who is he that overcometh the world but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God."

So in order to keep the first part of the message to fear God, we must believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

"Give glory to Him":

What does it mean to give glory to God?

1 Corinthians 10:31 "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." In all aspects of our lives, whatever we say or do, eat or drink, we should do all to the glory of God.

Luke 17:16-19 "And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole."

How did the Samaritan give glory to God?

Luke 17:16 In giving thanks, praise and worship.

Luke 17:19 Also, by faith, believing and acting on God's Word.

Notice also Abraham:

Romans 4:20 "He staggered not at the promise of God through <u>unbelief</u>; but <u>was strong in faith</u>, giving glory to God;"

Abraham gave glory to God by "being fully persuaded that what he had promised he was able also to perform" (vs. 21). We also give glory to God when we believe and allow His Word to transform our lives. (Compare John 15:8) A word of caution is necessary here: God's Word says He "gave His only begotten Son" John 3:16-17 and sent Him down to us. 1 John 4:9 "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him." Nowhere does it say He gave a co-eternal member of a Trinity acting the role of a Son. So if we believe God's

Word, we give glory to Him and this truth will change our lives. If we deny His Word not only do we <u>dishonor</u> Him, but we call God a liar, because we believe not <u>the record (His Word)</u> that He gave of His Son (1Jn 5:10).

1 Peter 4:16 "Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf."

We also glorify God when we are made to suffer for truth and righteousness.

Ultimately we bring glory to God when we love one another.

1 John 4:12 "...If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. "

Only by God dwelling in us, can His love be perfected in us. How does God dwell in us?

1John 4:13 "Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit."

God dwells in us through His Spirit. And what will we testify by His Spirit?

1 John 4:14 "And we have seen and do testify that the <u>Father sent the</u> <u>Son</u> to be the Saviour of the world."

But what if we deny this testimony?

1 John 2:23 *"Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also."*

We noted that through the Spirit of God we will testify of the Father and His Son. Likewise the opposite is true when we deny the Son, we <u>have not</u> the Father. (For His Spirit will testify of the Son)

So what spirit is it that denies the Father and Son?

1 John 2:22 "Who is a <u>liar</u> but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son."

John 15:26 Jesus declared "... the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:" This is exactly what we noted earlier in 1 John 4:14. Notice the Spirit is called the Spirit of truth and it proceeds from the Father.

In contrast to God's Spirit of truth the spirit of antichrist is called a <u>liar</u>, for the devil is a liar and the father of it (John 8:44), and his doctrine denies the Father and the Son.

1 John 2:23 If we deny the Son it is evidence that we have not the Spirit of truth and have not the Father. Therefore we cannot give glory to Him, nor can His love be perfected in us.

But:

1 John 4:15 "Whosoever shall <u>confess</u> that Jesus <u>is</u> the Son of God, God <u>dwelleth in him, and he in God</u>."

Consequently, if we deny Jesus is the Son of God, God cannot fully dwell in us. If God cannot dwell in us completely then His love cannot be perfected in us. If we resist the Spirit of God from dwelling in us and perfecting His love in us, how can we give glory to Him?

We have seen that we cannot "<u>fear God</u>"; obey Him and overcome the world, when we deny His Son. We have also noted that it is impossible to "<u>give glory to Him</u>" when we deny His Son. In fact we dishonor the Father when we deny the Son (John 5:23).

"Worship Him":

Now let us see how we are to "worship Him".

Notice that "worship God" comes after the directive to fear God and give glory to Him. We cannot worship God by willfully disobeying Him. This is important. Often a worship service may seem reverent and spiritual. It may have glorious singing and beautiful prayers, but if we individually or as a body are willfully disobeying God's revealed truth, our worship is worthless and unacceptable to God. "... Behold, to obey

is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams." 1 Samuel 15:22

Jesus taught that ".... the <u>true</u> worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father <u>seeketh such</u> to worship him."

John 4:23

This is the critical point of the Elijah message and the very heart of the three angels' message of Revelation 14. You see those who ignore the warning of the third angel and worship the beast <u>and</u> his image will receive his mark, and the wrath of God poured out without mercy. Many of these people will be professed Christians who will think they are worshipping God while they are directly disobeying Him. (See GC p615) This includes Seventh-day Adventists. So it is critical that we understand what it means to worship God. Particularly today as the clear light of truth is returning to God's people.

Can we worship God in truth if we are unsure of who He is? Is God a Trinity? Is it important that we know who God is? Jesus prayed that it is so important; our eternal life depends on this knowledge.

John 17:3 "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

This text not only tells us that to know God is essential but it also tells us who He is. The only true God is the Father who sent His Son into the world. (John 3:16-17, 1 John 4:9).

1 Corinthians 8:6 "But to us there is but <u>one God, the Father, of whom are all things</u>, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him."

This text gives us more information; the Father is the One God of whom are all things.

Ephesians 4:6 Tells us that there is "One God and Father of <u>all</u> who is above <u>all</u> and through <u>all</u> and in you <u>all</u>".

Hebrews 1:2 By His Son He <u>made</u> the worlds.

Ephesians 3:9 He created all things by Jesus Christ, (compare this with 1 Corinthians 8:6).

Revelation 4:11 Tells us that the One who sits on the throne is the One who has created <u>all</u> things.

Many more texts can be supplied, but from the above we can conclude,

- 1 The only true God is the Father. (Christ's words)
- 2 He is the One God of whom are all things.
- 3 He is the One God and Father of <u>all</u> and is above <u>all</u> etc.
- 4 He <u>made</u> all things through His Son.

In light of this evidence it is clear that the <u>One</u> we are called to worship is the "<u>Him</u>" that made heaven and earth and the sea, and the fountains of waters - God the Father.

A word of caution may be necessary at this point. Let none think that we would dishonor Christ by exalting the Father. We have already noted that we honor the Father by honoring the Son.

As the only begotten of the Father, Christ possesses by nature all the attributes of divinity. He is the express image of the Fathers person, and all honor and worship are due to Him as the Father Himself has declared. (Hebrews 1:6)

The context of Revelation 14:7-9 is not for the purpose of exalting One at the expense of the Other. Christ Himself stated "I and my Father are one". The Father and Son are united by the same Spirit (Romans 8:9) and their interests are one.

The context is about to whom is our allegiance and worship due. Is it to the One whom Christ Himself has declared to be the only true God, the Father, the originator of all things? Or is it to the beast and his image? On this question all would answer, to God is our loyalty due, and Him only will we serve. But consider for a moment - almost all of Christendom worship God in Trinity. This is an undeniable fact.

Our church's own fundamental belief No.2 confesses the Trinity. "There is one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, a unity of three co-eternal persons..." etc.

Herein lies the greatest deception and the reason why our church cannot give the Elijah message while holding to the unscriptural Trinity doctrine.

You see, for the Trinitarian to be consistent he must acknowledge that the God of Revelation14:7 is a Trinity of three co-eternal persons, to whom our worship is due. Now remember that the call to worship is a contrast between the only true God and the beast and His image.

The beast and his image is little more than the papal church and the fallen protestant churches combining to re-enact religious laws through the power of the state, namely a national Sunday law through the civil power of the United States. This union of church and state will form a copy or image to Rome.

What has made Protestantism fall so low? It is her compromise with the world and her false doctrines. Her failure to accept the truth of the first angel's message led her to reject the second angel's message. The words 'Babylon is fallen is fallen' refer primarily to Protestantism, for in 1844 the Roman church had already been fallen for hundreds of years.

The two principle false doctrines that fallen Protestantism holds with Rome are the Trinity and Sunday worship. God's remnant church originally denounced both these heresies, but now it accepts the Trinity doctrine and many SDA members will also one day accept the Sunday Sabbath.

As noted earlier, Revelation 14:7 is a call to worship the only true God in <u>contrast</u> to the worship of the Roman Catholic power and her image, which was established and handed down to the fallen Protestant churches forming a union with fallen Protestantism, a union in which they all worship the same god! The worship of god in Trinity!

To the Trinitarian that professes to give this call we ask where is the contrast? The Trinitarian worships God/gods in Trinity, so does Rome and so does fallen Protestantism!

On the other hand, the call is given to worship the one which Christ Himself calls "the only true God". The One of whom are all things, the "One God and Father of all". The contrast between the true God and the unscriptural Trinity is infinite. The Trinity is unknown to the Scriptures, but is straight out of paganism. The Roman church, which is nothing more than baptized paganism, boasts the Trinity as being its foundational doctrine, upon which all her other doctrines stand.

So, how can we call people to fear God, give glory to Him, and worship Him, if through the Trinity we worship the same god of Rome and the fallen churches of which we are supposed to call the people out of?

Can you see the deception now?

We are supposed to call the people out of falsehood and into truth that is plainly revealed in God's Word. But we are supposedly calling people out of Babylon while we are ourselves are holding to Babylon's principle doctrine. Babylon's principal god!

Those who seek to defend this position by claiming that the Trinity doctrine of our church is different from that of Rome and the fallen churches only create more confusion.

Our church teaches three co-eternal persons, thus it denies a literal Father and Son. In having three co-eternal persons you cannot have the Father as the only true God or as the one God and Father of all who is above all. Nor can you believe that God truly gave His Son, because if they are co-eternal beings, the Father-Son relationship can only be roles which they have entered into.

Our Fundamental Beliefs numbers 3, 4 & 5 state:

- 3. The Father = God the eternal Father.
- 4. The Son = God the eternal Son.
- 5. The Holy Spirit = God the eternal Spirit.

The terms for 4 & 5 are both unscriptural, nor will you ever find them in the Spirit of Prophecy.

This is Tritheism (three gods) and is even more unscriptural than the Catholic version of the Trinity. The Catholic version at best tries to hold to the Biblical truth of One God. So in reality the Seventh-day Adventist Trinity is even worse than that of Rome and the fallen churches. This point has not gone unnoticed in our church and in its more recent literature the church is heading back towards Rome and its Trinity of one substance. The only way we can harmonize Revelation14:7 is to reject the Trinity entirely in all its forms and, as Jesus declared, worship the Father in Spirit and in truth. Only through the Son can we fear God and obey Him. Only through the Son can we give glory to Him. Only through the Son can we truly worship Him. For only through the Son can we have the correct understanding of God our Father.

1 John 5:20-21 "And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen." The new English version reads "My children, be on the watch against false gods!"

Yes, Dear Friends, it is our privilege to "know" the true God and receive eternal life. We receive this life through accepting the gift of His Son "He that hath the Son hath life; [and] he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." 1John 5:12

How has the Son of God come and given us an understanding that we may know Him that is true?

In Christ's entire ministry He revealed His Father's character through His words and acts of love and healing (John 14:9-11).

But the crowning act of the Son of God in revealing His Father's love was at Calvary (John 3:16, 1 John 4:9, 1 John 4:19).

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

1 John 4:9 "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live [victoriously] through him."

1 John 4:19 "We love him, because he first loved us."

Yes Friends, it is this beautiful truth that converts the sinner. Only when we are motivated by love for what God has done for us can we obey, glorify and worship Him. Only when our love for God is greater than our love for the world can we renounce self and follow Him. Only when we look to the cross and consider how Jesus suffered and died for us, and how the Father and all Heaven suffered can we see what infinite value the Father places on our souls. How He spared not His own Son but delivered Him up for us all. When we see what Christ wants to do for us now and how He is seeking to come into our lives and impart the victories He procured for us as He walked over the same ground we walk each day. What can we do but exclaim "behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the Sons of God" 1 John 3:1

Dear Reader, please do not let Satan deceive you, it is this love he is so desperate to conceal.

"Satan is determined that men shall not see the love of God which led Him to give His only-begotten Son to save a lost race;" 1SM 156.

For six thousand years Satan has been deceiving God's people through a system of worship to false gods. The Trinity is his master-piece!

Notice also to whom the Elijah message is first given.

<u>Elijah came to Israel with a message</u> of restoration; it was a message to worship the true God. In restoring the altar Elijah was restoring the truth about the love of God in giving His only begotten Son on the altar of sacrifice. (See booklet "The Altar of the Lord")

John the Baptist <u>came to God's people with the same message</u> in the Spirit and power of Elijah. "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29 (on the cross).

The remnant will come to Israel (God's people) with the same message and with the power of the Holy Spirit will declare the love of God in giving His only begotten Son to die for our sins. Only those who receive this truth and denounce all other falsehoods will be able to give the Elijah message to the world.

John 1:23 "I am the <u>voice of one</u> crying in the wilderness". Those who bear this message will also seem to be in the wilderness compared to the majority view, but they have been taught of God, not the arm of flesh (Jeremiah 17:5). The popular views of the learned men (as the scribes in John's day) have not had their leavening effect. God <u>is</u> their teacher and although few, they will be <u>one voice</u> in proclaiming this message to the world. This message of love will free God's people from the traditions and philosophies of men.

Elijah was commissioned by God to call His people to decision, to expose the rank idolatry of a nation and to point them back to a loving God who would redeem them through the sacrifice of His only begotten Son. John the Baptist was also ordained of God to call His people to repentance and to expose the idolatry among them.

This message was to prepare them to receive their Savior.

In John's day the image of the Roman ensign or banner was an abomination, especially when these images were placed in a prominent place for God's people to respect. Such respect they regarded as a violation of the second commandment!

Certainly the people had learned their lesson. But they had succumbed to a greater deception, "selfish pride was lifted up and served as god". Once again, God's character of self sacrificing love was misrepresented. In fact, the leaders would charge all the misery and suffering around them as judgments of God.

Notice the principle at work, whenever the character of God is misrepresented, sin and rebellion follows. You can trace this principle right back to heaven itself.

Today we look with horror at the apostasy in Elijah's day and Christ's day. We are shocked and heartbroken at the rejection and betrayal. We grieve at our Lord's suffering and abuse by God's chosen people. But has the enemy refined his deceptions for God's last day people?

Notice this fearful parallel: The Jews resisted the emblem of Rome in their land, particularly in the sanctuary. Many of the bravest resisted even until death, yet they rejected and crucified the Son of God. Today, God's people willfully accept the emblem of Rome (the trinity). It is welcomed in the church as second only to the Holy Scriptures. Just as the heathen gods of Rome were resisted even to death, today the gods of the trinity are defended with the same passion.

Consequently God's people today also reject and crucify the Son of God and put Him to open shame.

The Jews were in bondage to sin and to Rome. God's people today suffer the same condition, in bondage to Rome's principle doctrine and as a result enslaved in sin

1 John 5:5 "Who is he that overcometh the world? <u>But he</u> that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God."

The Jews <u>betrayed</u> and murdered the Son of God and sought to silence those that would believe on Him. Acts 7:52

So also today God's people have betrayed and forsaken the Son of God and seek to silence those who would confess Him.

Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, charged the rulers with the betrayal and murder of the Son of God. This too is an interesting parallel, one cannot be charged with betrayal unless that person or persons have been first entrusted with some important truth or knowledge.

The Jews were charged with betrayal because they had stifled the conviction that Jesus of Nazareth was who He claimed to be. The judgment books will reveal that the leaders well knew that Jesus was the Son of God (Matthew 26:64, DA 539, 708).

And so God's church today having been entrusted and established in the truth about God is rapidly forsaking that trust. If she continues to forsake that trust, when her cup is full and when she stifles the conviction and persecutes those who confess Him, she will become a liar and she will speak with the spirit of antichrist.

"Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist that denieth the Father and the Son." 1 John 2:22

But its not too late- this verse need not apply to us. God in His mercy is calling us back, let us return and be faithful to the truth given us and proclaim this message to the world (See Hosea 6:1).

"In order to give such a message as John gave, we must have a spiritual experience like his. The same work must be wrought in us. We must behold God, and in beholding Him lose sight of self." 8T 333

We can only behold God by accepting what He has declared concerning Himself, through His Word, and add not to it (Proverbs 30:6). May we truly behold God through His Son and surrender self that we may present ourselves as a "vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work" 2 Timothy 2:21.

Finally, let us learn a lesson from nature. The Elijah message will lay the axe to the "<u>root</u>" of the trees. When a tree is cut down at the roots, and the new shoots spring up, where do they look for nourishment and strength? To the sun, the sun brings healing, strength and renewed life to the growing tender shoots.

The purpose of our literature work is not monetary gain, but the spread of truth. Hence these books are offered at no charge. The support of literature is based on the free-will offering of those who are able, as the Lord has prospered them. 'Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.' Exodus 25:2 So your support will keep us printing. Proceeds will go to further the spreading of the Gospel to others. Because these books are free, we strongly encourage bulk orders for you to share with others that only you can reach. If you are unable to financially give, please do not let this hinder you from making an order, but we plead the support of your prayers before the Lord.

Restitution Ministries

So too with us, when this message lays the axe to the <u>root</u> of the tree, when this beautiful heaven-sent message cuts away and strips all the falsehood, deception and idolatry from our lives, we too will look towards the Son.

This message of love will free us from traditions and philosophies of men.

"As a flower turns to the sun, that the bright rays may touch it with tints of beauty, so will the soul turn to the Sun of Righteousness, that heaven's light may beautify the character with the graces of the character of Christ. DA 468

Dear reader, God has promised to bless every sincere seeker of truth. Jeremiah 29:13, John 7:17.

Other Available Titles,

- **'Building on Solid Rock'** The only true rock is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. A Study through the Bible, the Spirit of Prophecy, and the SDA pioneers.
- 'How shall we consider Christ?' The true position of Christ in the 1888 message by E. J. Waggoner. Refutes the heresy that Christ is a created being.
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- 'Who Is God's Spirit?' A Complete Biblical study on the Holy Spirit (covers every text that mentions the word 'spirit'. For the serious and sincere student)
- 'The Trinity Confusion' The background of the Trinity in paganism, and how it came into the churches.
- 'The Wondrous Love of God' The Love that God has for man can only be rightly understood in light of the sacrifice of the Father and the Son. A Biblical exposition suitable for all Christians. (non-SDA's)
- 'The Alpha and Omega' What is the mysterious danger that awaited our church at the end of time? Ellen White saw it and she 'trembled for our people.'

"But for you who revere my name shall the sun of righteousness arise with healing upon his lips, and you shall go forth and leap for joy like the calves of the Lord...

Behold I send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children and the heart of the children to their fathers before I come and smite the earth to ruin."

Malachi 4:2, 5, 6

(Peshitta)

May we all confess with the apostle, "But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets."

Acts 24:14