

FUTURE NEWS

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HIS FAITHFUL SENTINELS

All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and when he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye.

Isaiah 18:3



There is one thing in this world which is the greatest object of Christ's solicitude. It is His church on earth; for its members should be representatives, in spirit and character, of Him. The world is to recognize in them the representatives of Christianity, the depository of sacred truths in which is stored the most precious jewels for the enrichment of others. Through the ages of moral darkness and error, through centuries of strife and persecution, the church of Christ has been as a city set on a hill. From age to age, through successive generations to the present time, the pure doctrines of the Bible have been unfolding within her borders.

"But in order that the church on earth may be an educating power in the world, it must cooperate with the church in heaven. The hearts of those who are members of the church must be open to receive every ray of light that God shall choose to impart. God has light to impart to us according to our ability to receive, and as we receive the light, we shall be capable of receiving more and more of the rays of the Sun of Righteousness.

"When the light has become dim in the church of God, when zeal has diminished, it is because the church of Jesus Christ has yielded to the outward influences that Satan has employed to make of none effect the truth. But if we follow on, not stand still, to know the Lord, we shall know that His going forth is prepared as the morning. We should study the revelation of Christ in His providences from creation to the present time, that we may be led on in the path of holiness, peace, and rest.

"Every one of us is upon probation, in school, where we are required to be diligent students. It is enjoined upon us to walk in the light, as Christ is in the light. It is by walking in the light that we learn of God, and 'This is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent' [John 17:3]. These are the words of Him who was with the Father before the world was, and He uttered these words while praying for all those who should believe in God through the words of His disciples. To know God in His works is true science. Let us follow on to know the Lord till we shall know that His goings forth are prepared as the morning.

"God has His faithful witnesses, through whom He has given testimony to revive, to restore, to build up His people in the most holy faith. He has faithful sentinels who will warn the church against false theories and doctrines which would corrupt their faith, and would bring into the church distraction, discord, and strife. In every age the Lord has raised up watchmen to bear a faithful testimony to the generation in which they live. These faithful sentinels carried forward the work, and impressed upon others the necessity of consecrating all to God, and when they were called upon to lay off their armor and leave the work, there were other hands to carry it forward. Faithful souls have constituted the church of God on earth, and He has taken them into covenant relation with Himself, uniting His church on earth with His church in heaven. He has sent forth heavenly angels to minister to His church, and the gates of hell have not been able to prevail against His people.

"Today, as in the past, all heaven is watching to see the church develop in the true science of salvation. The Lord Jesus is among men. His angels walk among us unrecognized and unacknowledged. We are saved from many snares and unseen dangers that through the machinations and hostility of our foe are placed in our path to destroy us. Oh, that our eyes might be open to discern the watchful solicitude and tender care of the messengers of light. If those who politely acknowledge the favors which they receive from earthly friends, would realize how much they owe to God, their hearts would respond in grateful thanks for precious favors that are now unnoticed and unacknowledged." *Manuscript Releases*, volume 2, 265, 266.

Speaker & Writer
Circulation
Editor-in-Chief
Copy Editors

J. Pippenger
K. Pippenger
B. Peck
B. Krebec
T. Sena

FFA Recording Studio
DVD Production

T. Sena
P. Lankford

FUTURE NEWS

PO Box 7
Bonnerdale, AR 71933, USA
Phone: 888-278-7744
futureforamerica.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to proclaim the final warning message of Revelation 14 as identified by the prophecies of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. The end-time fulfillment of Bible prophecy is no longer future; for it is taking place before our very eyes. The historic and prophetic understanding of Seventh-day Adventism is now present truth—we are the final generation. Our emphasis is placed upon the prophetic word, including all of the counsel of God's Word. To know what lies ahead is useless if we do not possess the experience to stand during these solemn times. Through obedience to God's law and faith in His promises, we are to receive that experience.

FFA and its educational institution of **School of the Prophets (SOTP)** fully endorse the definition of the everlasting gospel as being the work of Christ in developing and thereafter demonstrating two classes of worshippers based upon the introduction of a three-step prophetic testing message. Coupled with this prophetic gospel, we uphold all aspects of country living and the medical missionary work.

FFA is proactively spreading God's final warning message through various mediums, such as this monthly newsletter, daily recorded classes held by **SOTP**, DVD production, biannual camp-meetings, and social media. An integral part of this responsibility is meeting the demands of our extensive travel itinerary. The urgency in advancing present truth extends to every corner of the earth. By God's grace, we are fervently working to meet such demands.

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AFFILIATED MINISTRIES

School of the Prophets (USA)

Glenwood, AR 71943
Phone: 888-278-7744
Admissions: 870-342-6295
schooloftheprophets@gmail.com
sotpar.org

Future is Now (Portugal)

future-is-now.net
uriahsmith.com

The Little Book Ministries (Latin America)

SC / Bolivia
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LINE-UPON-LINE

by TAMINA BLASING

Why do we study the Bible using Line-Upon-Line? Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear. Isaiah 28:9-12.

The question is asked to whom shall the Lord teach knowledge and to whom shall He make to understand His doctrine? The answer reveals the condition of those who will receive knowledge or doctrine. It is them that are weaned from the milk. What does it mean to be weaned from the milk? In the literal sense, when a child is weaned from the milk, he is no longer a “baby,” but can now eat solid food. In Hebrews 5:13, 14; 6:1, 2 we understand that the first principles and doctrines of our spiritual walk are represented by milk. Milk is the doctrines that are necessary to be converted and live a Christian life.

Christians who do not remain spiritual babes, but advance in grace and in knowledge are the ones eating solid food (the doctrines), which the Lord wants to instruct them in. The solid food is the present truth for our time. It is a prophetic message. In Isaiah 28 we are told how this doctrine comes to us. It comes “precept upon precept,” “line upon line,” “here a little, and there a little.” What does this mean?

Precept

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From H6680; an injunction: - commandment, precept.

A precept is defined as an injunction or a rule. We are to approach our study of the Bible with well-defined precepts upon precepts. What rules are we to use? William Miller's Rules of Prophetic Interpretation. It was during his years of studying the Scriptures that his fourteen rules were developed. Below is Sister White's endorsement of Miller's rules:

“Those who are engaged in proclaiming the third angel's message are searching the Scriptures upon the same plan that Father Miller adopted. In the little book entitled ‘Views of the Prophecies and Prophetic Chronology,’ Father Miller gives the following simple but intelligent and important rules for Bible study and interpretation...” *The Review and Herald*, November 25, 1884.

“In studying the Bible, I have found the following rules to be of great service to myself, and now give them to the public by special request. Every rule should be well studied, in connection with the Scripture references, if the Bible student would be at all benefited by them.

Rule I: Every word must have its proper bearing on the subject presented in the Bible. Proof: Matthew 5:18.

Rule II: All Scripture is necessary and may be understood by a diligent application and study. Proof: 2 Timothy 3:15-17.

Rule III: Nothing revealed in the Scripture can or will be hid from those who ask in faith, not wavering. Proof: Deuteronomy 29:29; Matthew 10:26-27; 1 Corinthians 2:10; Philippians 3:15; Isaiah 45:11; Matthew 21:22; John 14:13-14; 15:7; James 1:5-6; 1 John 5:13-15.

Rule IV: To understand doctrine, bring all the Scriptures together on the subject you wish to know, then let every word have its proper influence, and if you can form your theory without a contradiction, you cannot be in an error. Proof: Isaiah 28:7-29; 35:8; Proverbs 19:27; Luke 24:27, 44-45; Romans 16:26; James 5:19; 2 Peter 1:19-20.

Rule V: Scripture must be its own expositor, since it is a rule of itself. If I depend on a teacher to expound it to me and he should guess at its meaning, or desire to have it so on account of his sectarian creed or to be thoughtwise, then his guessing, desire, creed or wisdom is my rule, not the Bible. Proof: Psalms 19:7-11; 119:97-105; Matthew 23:8-10; 1 Corinthians 2:12-16; Ezekiel 34:18-19; Luke 11:52; Malachi 2:7-8.

Rule VI: God has revealed things to come, by visions, in figures and parables, and in this way the same things are often time revealed again and again, by different visions, or in different figures, and parables. If you wish to understand them, you must combine them all in one. Proof: Psalms. 89:19; Hosea 12:10; Habakkuk 2:2; Acts 2:17; 1 Corinthians 10:6; Hebrew 9:9, 24; Psalms 78:2; Matthew 13:13, 34; Genesis 41:1-32; Daniel 2:7; 8; Acts 10:9-16.

Rule VII: Visions are always mentioned as such. Proof: 2 Corinthians 12:1.

Rule VIII: Figures always have a figurative meaning, and are used much in prophecy, to represent future things, times and events; such as mountains, meaning governments; beasts meaning kingdoms. Waters, meaning people. Lamp, meaning Word of God. Day, meaning year. Proof: Daniel 2:35, 44; 7:3, 17; Revelation 17:1, 15; Psalms. 119:105; Ezekiel 4:6.



Rule IX: Parables are used as comparisons to illustrate subjects, and must be explained in the same way as figures, by the subject and Bible. Mark 4:13.

Rule X: Figures sometimes have two or more different significations; as day is used in a figurative sense to represent three different periods of time: 1) Indefinite. Ecclesiastes 7:14; 2) Definite, a day for a year. Ezekiel 4:6; 3) Day for a thousand years. 2 Peter 3:8. If you put on the right construction it will harmonize with the Bible and make good sense, otherwise it will not.

Rule XI: How to know when a word is used figuratively: if it makes good sense as it stands, and does no violence to the simple laws of nature, then it must be understood literally, if not, figuratively. Revelation 12:1-2; 17:3-7.

Rule XII: To learn the true meaning of figures, trace your figurative word through your Bible, and where you find it explained, put it on your figure, and if it makes good sense you need look no further, if not, look again.

Rule XIII: To know whether we have the true historical event for the fulfillment of a prophecy: If you find every word of the prophecy (after the figures are understood) is literally fulfilled, then you may know that your history is the true event. But if one word lacks a fulfillment, then you must look for another event, or wait its future development. For God takes care that history and prophecy doth agree, so that the true believing children of God may never be ashamed. Proof: Psalms 22:5; Isaiah 45:17-19; 1 Peter 2:6; Revelation 17:17; Acts 3:18.

Rule XIV: The most important rule of all is, that you must have faith. It must be a faith that requires a sacrifice, and, if tried, would give up the dearest object on earth, the world and all its desires, character, living, occupation, friends, home, comforts, and worldly honors. If any of these should hinder our believing any part of God's word, it would show our faith to be vain. Nor can we ever believe so long as one of these motives lies lurking in our hearts. We must believe that God will never forfeit his word. And we can have confidence that he that takes notice of the sparrow, and numbers the hairs of our head, will guard the translation of his own word, and throw a barrier around it, and prevent those who sincerely trust in God, and put implicit confidence in his word, from erring far from the truth, though they may not understand Hebrew or Greek.

"These are some of the most important rules which I find the word of God warrants me to adopt and follow, in order for system and regularity. And if I am not greatly deceived, in so doing, I have found the Bible, as a whole, one of the most simple, plain, and intelligible books ever written, containing proof in itself of its divine origin and full of all knowledge that our hearts could wish to know or enjoy. I have found it a treasure which the world cannot purchase. It gives a calm peace in believing, and a firm hope in the future. It sustains the mind in adversity, and teaches us to be humble in prosperity. It prepares us to love and do good to others, and to realize the value of the soul. It makes us bold and valiant for the truth, and nerves the arm to oppose error. It gives us a powerful weapon to break down infidelity, and makes known the only antidote for sin. It instructs us how death will be conquered, and how the bonds of the tomb must be broken. It tells us of future events, and shows the preparation necessary to meet them. It gives us an opportunity to hold conversation with the King of kings, and reveals the best code of laws ever enacted.

"This is but a faint view of its value; yet how many perishing souls treat it with neglect, or, what is equally as bad, treat it as a hidden mystery which cannot be known. Oh my dear reader, make it your chief study. Try it well, and you will find it to be all I have said. Yes, like the Queen of Sheba, you will say the half was not told you.

"The divinity taught in our schools is always founded on some sectarian creed. It may do to take a blank mind and impress it with this kind, but it will always end in bigotry. A free mind will never be satisfied with the views of others. Were I a teacher of youth in divinity, I would first learn their capacity and mind. If these were good, I would make them study the Bible for themselves, and send them out free to do the world good. But if they had no mind, I would stamp them with another's mind, write bigot on their forehead, and send them out as slaves." *Miller's Works*, volume 1, "Views Of The Prophecies And Prophetic Chronology," edited by Joshua V. Himes, (1842) 20-24.

Today, we should be using the rules of William Miller, along with the rules and principles which the Lord has given us to study the Bible. These new principles include the rule of first mention, repeat and enlarge, chiasms, the beginning and ending, Line-Upon-Line, literal and spiritual. These rules provide us with a firm methodology in which to study the prophecies and the Bible as a whole.

Here a Little, There a Little

But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased. Daniel 12:4.

At the time of the end, knowledge is to increase. But, how?—when people run to and fro. In Amos 8:12 we read that he who "runs to and fro" is seeking the word of the Lord. The word of the Lord is knowledge. To "run to and fro" is to take one portion of Scripture and compare it with another portion of Scripture, thereby gaining an increase of knowledge.

My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God. Proverbs 2:1-5.

Line Upon Line

Lines of Prophecy

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

Sister White describes tracing the "lines of prophecy." We must have a knowledge of the Scriptures to enable us to understand the prophecy and the specifications. This tells us that prophecy can be depicted on a line. This prophetic line will show us how near we are to the day that is approaching. What is that day? It is the day of the second coming of our Lord. Why do we need to see the approaching of this day? Because with increased zeal and effort, we will encourage one another to get ready.

"The burden of the warning now to come to the people of God, nigh and afar off, is the third angel's message. And those who are seeking to understand this message will not be led by the Lord to make an application of the Word that will undermine the foundation and remove the pillars of the faith that has made Seventh-day Adventists what they are today. **The truths that have been unfolding in their order, as we have advanced along the line of prophecy revealed in the Word of God**, are truth, sacred, eternal truth today. Those who passed over the ground step by step in the past history of our experience, seeing the **chain of truth in the**

prophecies, were prepared to accept and obey every ray of light. They were praying, fasting, searching, digging for the truth as for hidden treasures, and the Holy Spirit, we know, was teaching and guiding us. Many theories were advanced, bearing a semblance of truth, but so mingled with misinterpreted and misapplied scriptures, that they led to dangerous errors. Very well do we know how every point of truth was established, and the seal set upon it by the Holy Spirit of God. And all the time voices were heard, 'Here is the truth,' 'I have the truth; follow me.' But the warnings came, 'Go not ye after them. I have not sent them, but they ran.' (See Jeremiah 23:21.)" *Selected Messages*, book 2, 103-104.

Figurative Delineation

"There are those now living who, in studying the prophecies of Daniel and John, received great light from God as they passed over the ground where special prophecies were in process of fulfillment **in their order**. They bore the message of time to the people. The truth shone out clearly as the sun at noonday. **Historical events, showing the direct fulfillment of prophecy, were set before the people, and the prophecy was seen to be a figurative delineation of events leading down to the close of this earth's history.**" *Selected Messages*, book 2, 102.

Sister White tells us in this quote that historical events are a direct fulfillment of prophecy, and that prophecy (those fulfilled events), were seen as a figurative delineation. A dictionary in the time of Sister White defines the words "figurative" and "delineation" as meaning to represent something on a line. So the prophetic fulfillment of historical events can be shown or explained by using a line.

Figurative. a. [Fr. figuratif, from figure.] 1. Representing something else: representing by resemblance: typical. 2. Representing by resemblance: not literal or direct. *Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.

Delineation. n. [L. delineatio.] 1. First draught of a thing; **outline; representation of a form or figure by lines**; sketch; design. 2. Representation I words; description; as the delineation of a character. *Ibid*.

Prophecy is to be explained and thereafter demonstrated on a line. This is the reason why we see speakers in this movement regularly drawing lines like this on white boards: |_|_|_|_|_|. This method of drawing lines is a great tool for both the presenter and the student; it makes the message visual. The line is an aid to the teacher in explaining prophecies and it helps the student to understand what the teacher is saying. For many people, the best way to learn is when visual aids and audible teaching are combined. This is precisely what happens when you combine prophetic history with the use of lines.



Sister White stated that only those historical events which show the direct fulfillment of prophecy are placed upon a line before the people. It is those historical events that we designate as waymarks on the line. All of the prophetic events that are fulfilled in the line of earth's history are called waymarks. A waymark has a particular truth (or message) attached to it. For example, Christ's birth. This event was a fulfillment of prophecy, and as such, it is designated as a waymark on the line. This waymark contains the truth or the message of Jesus' birth attached to it. Every waymark has a particular message attached to it, in which it communicates the truth of that message and gives us information about that waymark, its importance, and its significance.

God is a God of order. Sister White in *Selected Messages*, book 2, 102-104 tells us that that prophecy is fulfilled in its order. Truth is unfolding in its order. So waymarks located on a line, which are marking historic events and their fulfillment of prophecy, have a specific order. In *The Review and Herald*, July 31, 1888, we are told to have a knowledge of Scripture in order to trace down the lines of prophecy, but also to understand the specifications. It is not enough to know that prophecy is to be taught using lines, but rather we are to know the order of the waymarks on that line and their specifications. We are further told that we are not to remove a peg or pin (*Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 26-27).

Waymarks Must Be Preserved

“Today Satan is seeking opportunities to tear down the waymarks of truth,—the monuments that have been raised up along the way; and we need the experience of the aged workers who have built their house upon the solid rock, who through evil report as well as good report have been steadfast to the truth.” *Gospel Workers*, 103.

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

“The old waymarks must be **preserved**, that we lose not our bearings.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 1, 55.

The command is given that we must preserve the waymarks. What does it mean to preserve or to guard the waymarks? What does it mean that Satan will tear them down and replace them with theories that bring confusion? We can draw the conclusion that false theories will come against these waymarks. As previously stated, the waymarks are messages connected to a prophetic historical event. This means that we are to preserve the messages concerning those events because Satan will work to replace them. The term “replace” indicates that Satan will keep the same waymark and the same date, but he will make serious attempts to change the message

pertaining to that waymark. When he accomplishes his goal, those “wrong messages” will bring confusion. This is why we must guard the waymarks. We need to guard these precious messages in order to preserve clarity among God's people. A very simple example of an attack against a waymark is the teaching regarding the daily. Our pioneers believed that the daily of Daniel 8 was paganism. In the time period in which Sister White calls the “alpha apostasy,” a “new” theory crept into the church claiming that the daily is Christ's sanctuary service. The date A.D. 508 remained the same, but the message about that event has changed. Those who claim that the daily is Christ's sanctuary service has caused much confusion within Seventh-day Adventism. This confusion over the daily and paganism has made an impact on other waymarks and their messages, which are well established among Adventists.

Nothing New Under the Sun

The principle of studying Line-Upon-Line is to take one portion of the Bible, illustrate it on a line, and then compare it with another portion of the Bible that is placed on another line. This is Line-Upon-Line. We can see this principle described by Solomon here:

The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun. Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.

Ecclesiastes 1: 9-10.

Solomon says that there is nothing new under the sun. Everything that once was will be again, and everything that will be in the future was already in the past. It is always the same story. Sister White provides us with a more clarity on the principle that history is repeating.

“The **work of God** in the earth presents, from age to age, a **striking similarity in every great reformation or religious movement. The principles of God's dealing with men are ever the same.** The important movements of the present have their **parallel** in those of the past, and the experience of the church in former ages has lessons of great value for our own time.”

The Great Controversy, 343.

In every reformation or religious movement God uses the same method in dealing with men. It is always the same. This is what Solomon is teaching us—there is nothing new under the sun.

We have established that we are to illustrate history (prophecy) on a line. Now we see that we can take the histories of the different reformations or religious movements, each on their own line, and then place them underneath each other, since God's dealing with men is ever the same. This allows us to



compare prophetic histories. Sister White tells us these stories have lessons of great value for our time. Studying Line-Upon-Line opens the words of Scripture to us in a whole new way; we will discover truths which before were deeply buried in the Word of God. It is important to study using Line-Upon-Line and to understand the way God deals with men, since the way the Lord has dealt with His people in the past is how He will deal with us today. We are able to see that those lines of the past parallel the lines for our present time. The lines of the stories of the past and the truths they convey are especially important for us, since those stories are written more for those who live at the end of the world than for those who lived in the days that they were written (see 1 Corinthians 10:11). Therefore, the lines of past histories will show us what future events will take place in our time. The Lord has enabled us as students of prophecy to learn what will happen in our time by studying the histories of the past—line upon line!

“Each of the ancient prophets spoke **less for their own time than for ours**, so that their prophesying is in force for us. ‘Now all these things happened unto them for **ensamples**: and they are written for our admonition, **upon whom the ends of the world are come**’ (1 Corinthians 10:11). ‘**Not unto themselves, but unto us** they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into’ (1 Peter 1:12).

“**The Bible has accumulated and bound up together its treasures for this last generation. All the great events and solemn transactions of Old Testament history have been, and are, repeating themselves in the church in these last days.**” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 338-339.

Another illustration of Line-Upon-Line is that of a wheel. A wheel has a starting point, and when the wheel turns the starting point is repeatedly passed by. Imagine removing the hub from a wooden wagon wheel. Next, cut the outside rim and then uncurl the wheel so that the spokes are standing upright on the flattened rim. You now have a line with waymarks, like this: |_|_|_|_|_|.

The Prophetic Chain

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

Education, 178.

Consider a chain. What do you see?—a line. In this passage, Sister White again speaks about the principle of placing history upon a line. Chains are unique. As you know, a chain consists of connected links. These links are made out of similar material, they look the same, and each link must be equally strong as the next. So it is with the prophetic line. Every reformation or religious movement represents a link in the long chain of history. Having understood the principle of God's dealing with men is always the same, we can see that every link (or every reformation), will look similar, consist of the same material, and be equally strong. Another illustration of Line-Upon-Line would be to cut this prophetic chain and place the links beneath each other.

The Need of Teaching Line-Upon-Line

Again and again, Sister White has emphasized that we are to educate, teach, and learn Line-Upon-Line in all areas of daily life.

“We should educate ourselves, not only to live in harmony with the laws of health, but to teach others the better way. Many, even of those who profess to believe the special truths for this time, are lamentably ignorant with regard to health and temperance. **They need to be educated, line upon line, precept upon precept.**” *Child Guidance*, 361.

“As soon as a new field is entered, educational work should begin, and **instruction should be given line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little.** It is not preaching that is the most important; it is house-to-house work, reasoning from the Word, explaining the Word. It is those workers who follow the methods that Christ followed who will win souls for their hire. **Over and over again the same truths must be repeated**, and the worker must place his entire dependence on God.” *Gospel Workers*, 468.

“I am instructed to say to parents, Do all in your power to help your children to have a pure, clean conscience. Teach them to feed on the Word of God. Teach them that they are the Lord's little children. Do not forget that He has appointed you as their guardians. If you will give them proper food and dress them healthfully, and **if you will diligently teach them the Word of the Lord, line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little, with much prayer to our heavenly Father, your efforts will be richly rewarded.**”

Mind, Character and Personality, volume 1, 327.

Another Tongue

In Isaiah 28 we are told that the Lord will speak to His people (Seventh-day Adventists) in another tongue. This tongue is the language of Line-Upon-Line. This methodology in the study of the Bible is not used in the SDA Church. It is



very new to the church, and to them it sounds like another language. Why? It is because over time, the church has lost the prophetic method of studying the Bible. It takes time to restore our way of thinking and approaching the Bible. We must learn to think and speak in the language of the Lord.

Stammering Lips

Isaiah also tells us who the Lord will use to give His message to His church. He uses stammering lips. What are stammering lips?—someone who is nervous, per se, and is not trained in the art of presenting. The stammering lips in Isaiah 28 represent simple people—people who are not trained as pastors or public speakers. When we study church history, we see God uses simple men to convey His message. The disciples of Christ were simple fishermen. Luther was a simple monk. William Miller was a farmer. Elijah lived in a remote mountain area. The Lord chooses simple men. Today, He continues to choose simple, untrained men who will give His message, line upon line, to God’s people, the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

“It is with an earnest longing that I look forward to the time when the events of the day of Pentecost shall be repeated with even greater power than on that occasion. John says, ‘I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.’ Then, as at the Pentecostal season, the people will hear the truth spoken to them, every man in his own tongue.

“God can breathe new life into every soul that sincerely desires to serve Him, and can touch the lips with a live coal from off the altar, and cause them to become eloquent with His praise. Thousands of voices will be imbued with the power to speak forth the wonderful truths of God’s Word. **The stammering tongue will be unloosed**, and the **timid** will be made strong to bear courageous testimony to the truth. May the Lord help His people to cleanse the soul temple from every defilement, and to maintain such a close connection with Him that they may be partakers of the **latter rain when it shall be poured out.**”
The Review and Herald, July 20, 1886.

Line-Upon-Line is the Rest

To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing; yet they would not hear. Isaiah 28:12.

Isaiah 28:12 points us back to verse 10 in order to understand what is meant by “**this is the rest**,” and “**this is the refreshing**”. The preaching of the truth using Line-Upon-Line is the rest. It is the refreshing, or in other words, it is the latter rain. The previous quote (*The Review and Herald*, July 20, 1886) confirms this. The message that the stammering

tongue is proclaiming is the latter rain message (Line-Upon-Line). The fact that Isaiah says that “they would not hear” indicates that the rest, or the refreshing, is a message because they would not hear. Even though Adventists are praying for the latter rain, they will not hearken because it is a message that comes line upon line.

Conclusion

Isaiah 28 teaches us that God desires to give His people “meat” doctrine, not “milk”. This doctrine will be understood and delivered precept upon precept, which are the fourteen rules of William Miller, along with the principles that were given in our time. The methodology of Line-Upon-Line is to take sacred histories and line them up, here a little and there a little, running to and fro in the Bible by comparing one Scripture with another Scripture. This biblical method of study and presentation of the truth is the latter rain message.

A SIMPLISTIC LOOK AT THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

by **BUD & CAROL ALAVESOS**

Come now, let us reason together, saith the Lord:... Isaiah 1:18.

Part 1

Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord:... Isaiah 1:16-18.

Here, God is speaking to the Church Militant. Yet Isaiah goes on to say in verses 19 and 20:

If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. Isaiah 1:19, 20.

God then gives the Church Militant these encouraging promises, looking forward to the time when His people shall become the Church Triumphant as seen in verses 24-27:

Therefore saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies: And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin: And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city. Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness. Isaiah 1:24-27.

This happens subsequent to the wheat being separated from the tares. The ensign (the Church Triumphant) is then lifted



up in order to bring in the Gentiles (the eleventh hour workers). For we read in verse 27:

Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness. Isaiah 1:27.

The following verses give a description of the destruction of the rebellious, including those among the Church Militant who have forsaken the Lord and “shall be ashamed” of that which they have desired and confounded for that which they have “chosen”:

And the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be together, and they that forsake the Lord shall be consumed. For they shall be ashamed of the oaks which ye have desired, and ye shall be confounded for the gardens that ye have chosen. For ye shall be as an oak whose leaf fadeth, and as a garden that hath no water. And the strong shall be as tow, and the maker of it as a spark, and they shall both burn together, and none shall quench them. Isaiah 1:28-31.

Prior to the Second Coming, which will be a glorious event for the righteous and a dreadful event for the wicked, Isaiah 2 foretells the “ingathering of the Gentiles” before the great day of the Lord. Notice all of this transpires before Christ returns to redeem His own and to take His triumphant church home, which He has now glorified to Heaven to live forever with Him. Therefore, it can be seen that the Church Triumphant has its beginning here on earth; for certainly “the saints in heaven will first have been saints on earth” (see reference below), purified and made ready to meet their Lord.

“The change from earth to heaven will not change men’s characters; the happiness of the redeemed in heaven results from the characters formed in this life, after the image of Christ. The saints in heaven will first have been saints on earth.” *SDA Bible Commentary*, volume 6, 1072.

Therefore, is it only reasonable that the Church Militant becomes God’s pure church, the Church Triumphant. While here on earth after “the sinners in Zion” are sifted out, the ensign can be lifted up.

Consider the following five points:

1. The rock cut out of the mountain in Daniel 2, which covers the face of the whole earth (when using sanctified reasoning), certainly will not be composed of wheat and tares.

“The church may appear as about to fall, but it does not fall. It remains, while the sinners in Zion will be sifted out—the chaff separated from the precious wheat. This is a terrible ordeal, but nevertheless it must take place.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 380.

Compare 1 Peter 2 and 3 with a focus on 2:1-5, contemplating the character of those “lively stones” that comprise the rock (the Church Triumphant) which is cut out of the mountain covering the whole earth.

Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:1-5.

Not forgetting 2 Peter 1:4-12, wherefore we may “make our calling and election sure”:

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. 2 Peter 1:4-12.

2. Passages in Isaiah as well as Micah (including other prophets) teach that the Church Triumphant is **not** composed of wheat and tares.

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. Isaiah 2:1-2.



But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. Micah 4:1-2.

In that day shall the branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel. And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem: When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning. Isaiah 4:2-4.

In **what** day? In the day of the Sunday Law, as stated in the previous verse.

And in that day seven women [all the churches] shall take hold of one man [man of sin], saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach [be able to buy or sell]. Isaiah 4:1.

And he will lift up an ensign to the nations from far, and will hiss unto them from the end of the earth: and, behold, they shall come with speed swiftly: None shall be weary nor stumble among them; none shall slumber nor sleep; neither shall the girdle of their loins be loosed, nor the latchet of their shoes be broken: Whose arrows are sharp, and all their bows bent, their horses' hoofs shall be counted like flint, and their wheels like a whirlwind: Isaiah 5:26-28.

And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up an ensign

for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim. But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them. And the Lord shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod. And there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt. Isaiah 11:10-16.

The following quote is in the context of the second angel's message, 9/11–Midnight Cry.

Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean. Shake thyself from the dust; arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem: loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion. For thus saith the Lord, Ye have sold yourselves for nought; and ye shall be redeemed without money. Isaiah 52:1-3.

Also in context of second angel's message, Isaiah 52 gives the above admonition along with a promise in verses 11-12:

Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord. For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight: for the Lord will go before you; and the God of Israel will be your rereward. Isaiah 52:11, 12.

In looking at this context, are the **sinner in Zion** not being **sifted out**? This is the development of the priests at Midnight along with the Levites at the Midnight Cry during the progressive development of the Church Triumphant.

3. Here is referenced Isaiah 4:1 in the context of all the churches taking hold of the man of sin at the Sunday Law which leads to the battle of Armageddon, which happens prior to the destruction of the papacy by the ten kings.

And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach. Isaiah 4:1.

Continuing on with the following verses:

In that day shall the branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel. And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem: Isaiah 4:2, 3.

God's church on earth has become the Church Triumphant.

4. In context of the Midnight Cry, again we see in Isaiah 52:1 that the sinners have been sifted out and the Church Militant has become the Church Triumphant.

Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean. Isaiah 52:1.

This is indeed the Church Triumphant.

5. "And in that day," is Midnight–Sunday Law, during the time period when the ensign is lifted up to which the Gentiles shall seek.

And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious. Isaiah 11:10.

Joel now portrays the "day of the Lord", giving a glimpse of what is taking place in this period of earth's history, when the "day of the Lord" is fast approaching along with the happenings which are very soon to take place during the time of the latter rain—the time period in which we are now living:

Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong. Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O Lord. Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about. Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you

down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. So shall ye know that I am the Lord your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the Lord, and shall water the valley of Shittim. Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence against the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land. But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation. For I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed: for the Lord dwelleth in Zion. Joel 3:9-21.

In "the day of the Lord", clearly the sinners in Zion have been sifted out. Therefore, by this time, has not the Church Militant become the Church Triumphant?

A deeper study would produce multiple references to the Church Triumphant prior to the close of probation. The references in this article are but a few.

Part 2

Come now, let us reason together, saith the Lord... Isaiah 1:18.

It appears that this issue of the Church Triumphant is similar to the attack made against the 2520. For example: Since the biblical references do not specifically mention "Church Triumphant," those in opposition conclude that these texts cannot possibly be referencing the Church Triumphant, and therefore determine that the Church Triumphant can only be the church in Heaven. Similarly, the opponents of the 2520 conclude that the 2520-year prophecy cannot exist because the biblical references do not explicitly say "2520".

Yes, God "will again purify His church" on earth:

"God's care for His heritage is unceasing. He suffers no affliction to come upon His children but such as is essential for their present and eternal good. He will purify His church, even as Christ purified the temple during His ministry on earth. All that He brings upon His people in test and trial



comes that they may gain deeper piety and greater strength to carry forward the triumphs of the cross.”

Acts of the Apostles, 524.

Yet, we are told as in Christ’s day while He was living here on earth, many today (as then) will neither see nor hear. Therefore, prophecy has become as a “parable” to many. They do not “understand with their heart”.

And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them. Matthew 13:10-17.

Today prophecy to the multitudes and even to many among the opponents of this message has indeed become “a parable”. But:

“The Lord is full of resources. He has no lack of facilities. It is because of our lack of faith, our earthliness, our cheap talk, our unbelief, manifested in our conversation, that dark shadows gather about us. Christ is not revealed in word or character as the One altogether lovely, and the chiefest among ten thousand. When the soul is content to lift itself up unto vanity, the Spirit of the Lord can do little for it. Our shortsighted vision beholds the shadow, but cannot see the glory beyond. Angels are holding the four winds, represented as an angry horse seeking to break loose and rush over the face of the whole earth, bearing destruction and death in its path.

“Shall we sleep on the very verge of the eternal world? Shall we be dull and cold and dead? Oh, that we might have in our churches the Spirit and breath of God breathed into His people, that they might stand upon

their feet and live. We need to see that the way is narrow, and the gate strait. But as we pass through the strait gate, its wideness is without limit.

“We need now to arise and shine, for our light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us. We have no time to talk of self, no time to become like the sensitive plant, that cannot be touched without shrinking. In Jesus Christ is our sufficiency. Will we talk faith? Will we talk of the glorious hope, of the full and abundant righteousness of Jesus Christ, provided for every soul? I tell you in the name of the Lord God of Israel that all injurious, discouraging influences are held in control by unseen angel hands, until every one that works in the fear and love of God is sealed in his forehead.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 216-217.

Prophetically, Ezekiel 37 reveals how God’s last day church will be cleansed and sanctified, thus becoming the Church Triumphant on earth just prior to His return during the time when He raises up His great army, the 144,000. After all is said and done, God Himself declares the following:

Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore. My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And the heathen shall know that I the Lord do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore. Ezekiel 37:26-28.

Part 3

Church Militant of today: Study Ezekiel 37:1-28 for yourselves, then you decide in your hearts when the church clearly becomes the Church Triumphant, ready to be glorified by God.

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry. And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord God, thou knowest. Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord. So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was



a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them. Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army. Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. Therefore prophecy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. And ye shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the Lord have spoken it, and performed it, saith the Lord.

Ezekiel 37:1-14.

Continuing on with verse 15, consider this: Are not these following verses a description of the last days on this earth when the Church Triumphant is lifted up as an ensign, whose work it is to bring all nations into God’s now purified Church which has been prepared as a bride who is adorned for her husband, ready to meet her Lord in the air upon His return to forever live with Him? Is it not then that God “glorifies” His church, becoming the glorified Church Triumphant that is then ready to enter into the Heavenly Canaan above?

The word of the Lord came again unto me, saying, Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions: And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand. And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these? Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand. And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thine hand before their eyes. And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will take the children of Israel

from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land: And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all: Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: but I will save them out of all their dwellingplaces, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their God. And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them. And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children’s children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever. Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore. My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And the heathen shall know that I the Lord do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore. Ezekiel 37:15-28.

In conclusion, as priests in this movement, must we not accept the admonition of Isaiah 52:11? For how can we “be clean” without complete trust in the Lord and in the messages He has sent to prepare us as His peculiar people in this time in earth’s history when the 144,000 are now being raised up? What a privilege!

Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord. Isaiah 52:11.

For the whole crux of the matter is this:

Do we really trust the Lord? Do we believe “He is able” to completely cleanse and purify the Church Militant, sifting out the tares amongst us to have a purified people (the 144,000) prior to His Second Coming? A Church Triumphant, prepared to be glorified upon Christ’s return to claim as His own?

Remembering God’s promise:

For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight: for the Lord will go before you; and the God of Israel will be your reward. Isaiah 52:12.



Then, not forgetting:

Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee: Thou shewest lovingkindness unto thousands, and recompenseth the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them: the Great, the Mighty God, the Lord of hosts, is his name, Great in counsel, and mighty in work: for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings: Jeremiah 32:17-19.

Lastly:

Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me? Jeremiah 32:27

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. Isaiah 1:18-20.

Yes! Our God is truly able.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS The Wheat & Tares

Answers by **GEORGE & ANDREA SEAMAN**

Question: This the way I understand this study:

Ahaz represents the tares or foolish virgins. He is sown from Satan and was never one of God's people. He does not have the Holy Spirit in him and would be considered unrighteous. Tares have no fruit, like the wheat. The foolish virgins have no oil, like the wise virgins. Both the fruit and the oil are symbols of the Holy Spirit.

Answer: We agree with you on this point, and we further specify that tares do have fruit such as those we find in Galatians 5:19-21. Additionally, the fruit of the wise virgins are righteous works produced by a character that has been transformed by the Holy Spirit. The oil is character, in the context of the wise virgins. We will also provide two citations below that demonstrate the difference between the fruit and the Holy Spirit, as well as the fact that in the case of the wise virgins the oil is character:

"There are today many as ignorant of the Holy Spirit's work upon the heart as were those believers in Ephesus; yet no truth is more clearly taught in the word of God. Prophets and apostles have dwelt upon this theme. Christ Himself calls our attention to the growth of the

vegetable world as an illustration of the agency of His Spirit in sustaining spiritual life. The sap of the vine, ascending from the root, is diffused to the branches, sustaining growth and producing blossoms and fruit. So the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit, proceeding from the Saviour, pervades the soul, renews the motives and affections, and brings even the thoughts into obedience to the will of God, enabling the receiver to bear the precious fruit of holy deeds." *Acts of the Apostles*, 284.

"There is a world lying in wickedness, in deception and delusion, in the very shadow of death,—asleep, asleep. Who are feeling travail of soul to awaken them? What voice can reach them? My mind was carried to the future, when the signal will be given. 'Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.' But some will have delayed to obtain the oil for replenishing their lamps, and too late they will find that character, which is represented by the oil, is not transferable." *The Review and Herald*, February 11, 1896.

Also note that in our history, the latter rain ripens the fruit so they must be distinct from each other.

Question: Isaiah represents the wheat and the wise virgins, being both righteous and having the Holy Spirit in him. Isaiah represents the church of Philadelphia.

Answer: Amen.

Question: Judah represents both tares and Laodicea. The people of Judah will have both unrighteous persons sown from Satan and righteous persons sown from God. The righteous will be a small remnant who are in the Laodicean condition: asleep, or in darkness. The unrighteous tares of Judah are in Satan's church, the synagogue of Satan.

Answer: For this one we will reiterate what you stated with minor adjustments: Judah represents Laodicea. The people of Judah will have unrighteous persons, sown from Satan and righteous persons sown from God. The righteous will be a small remnant who were in the Laodicean condition: asleep, or in darkness prior to accepting God's prophetic warning message. The unrighteous tares of Judah are in Satan's church, the synagogue of Satan.

Question: Bring this to our line:

The tares who left this movement were never part of the movement or God's church. These are the foolish virgins in the synagogue of Satan.

Answer: Amen. We understand that 1 John 2:19 and Revelation 3:9 confirm these two points. Please keep in mind that the synagogue of Satan is the three-fold union (as has been placed in the record in some of the morning classes by Elder Jeff Pippenger from this trimester in the spring of 2018), and that the foolish virgins (those who once professed



to be part of this movement, but who now reject it and are its biggest opponents can be referred to as false prophets/Judas) are a part of this three-fold synagogue of Satan.

Question: Philadelphia are the persons in the movement that will give the message. They have kept their garments white and have the Holy Spirit working in and through them.

Answer: Amen.

Question: Laodiceans are those in the movement who have the Holy Spirit in them, but have been deceived by the tares and have stepped off the platform. They are of God's people, currently in a condition of death but are able to get back on the platform, possibly in response to a Laodicean message given by the movement.

Answer: Laodiceans do not have the Holy Spirit because they are in a destitute and naked condition, as highlighted by Revelation 3:14-21 and Matthew 9:13. It is this message that they actually need, since it provides the three-fold remedy that is declared by Christ in verse eighteen. When a person who professed to accept this message steps off the platform as a tare, they remain in a Laodicean condition because they refused the only remedy for their miserable state. So, before they accepted this message they were Laodicean—they had the opportunity to allow this message to change and save them, but when the tests became more severe they stepped away and return to their blindness and wretchedness.

Question: In Sardis there are both tares (members of the synagogue of Satan) and Laodiceans (members of God's Church). The church of Sardis represents the SDAs, having tares and Laodiceans who are in a condition of sleep or darkness. They are wise virgins that have not been roused out of their sleep. The Laodicean message given by the movement will arouse them and they will join the movement as Levites.

Answer: Sardis may represent the SDA Church when we approach Isaiah 7:8-9 in the context of an **external** point of view, where Rezin represents Gentiles, Pekah represents the SDA Church in its apostate condition, and Ahaz represents SDAs who have responded to the prophetic warning message in some manner (the reform movement or Ephesus).

Question: I can also see how the wrong understanding of justification, sanctification, and faith can cause members of God's church to step off the platform and also keep God's people in the Laodicean condition. I see how the PBM can cause the church triumphant to be lifted up, and also wake the sleeping Laodiceans. It can also wake the great multitude outside of the SDA Church. It is all connected together so beautifully and it all runs on faith.

Answer: Amen.

Daniel 11:23; 158; League of the Jews; 2001

Answers by **GEORGE & ANDREA SEAMAN**

Question: (In regards to the topics of Daniel 11:23, the number 158, the League of the Jews, and 2001...)

Answer: It is interesting that the numbers 158, 666, 508, 1335, 1843, and 2001 were all involved in Miller's calculations from Miller's Works (1842), volume 2, 83 and Miller's Works (1842), volume 3, 73. These numbers are all historically or prophetically significant. It is remarkable that subtracting 666 from 2001 results in 1335, since 2001 began the tarrying time of the present-day reform line since September 11 (the prophetic first day of the first month). The most recent historical counterpart to September 11, 2001 is April 19, 1844, which happens to be connected to the 1335 years extending from A.D. 508 So, it seems you have observed that these numbers 158, 666, 508, 1335, 1843, and 2001 appear to show a figurative connection in a line-upon-line fashion between the history of A.D. 508 to the Millerite reform line, and the history of the SDA Church to the present-day reform line of the 144,000. The connection is most apparent with the 1335 leading to a tarrying time, or the first day of the first month either by prophetic time (1335 literal years) or prophetic significance ("blessed is he that waiteth..."), and the dates involved in calculating the years (158, 508, 1843) spans a large history that covers the decadence of God's church both among the Jews (the reform line of Christ occurs within this time) and subsequently the Christians, the taking away of the daily, and the necessity to reform the church leading to the great reformatory movement of 1840 to 1844.

This history of the decadence of the church over four generations from Ephesus (starting at 4 B.C.) to Thyatira (A.D. 538) is comparable to the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church because four prophetic generations of decadence have occurred in this church since 1863 (Ephesus) leading to 1957 (Thyatira), and there is once again a necessity for God's chosen people to be reformed since 1989 to the present. While we see that these numbers appear to imply a prophetic connection between different histories (specifically, the reform lines of Christ, the Millerites, and the 144,000), I am still not certain what sort of prophetic implications the league of the Jews in 158 B.C. might indicate in this consideration. In our current reform line today, the "league of the Jews" has not happened yet, and if I am not mistaken, will not occur until the waymark of Midnight. Here, I will provide a citation from some note from Brother Jeff Pippenger in which he went through the seventh seal and Daniel 11 in Virginia, USA in February of 2017. I will also attach the notes in case you would like your own copy. The citation is as follows, taken from page 11 of the notes:

"The Adventist church enters into a league, or confederacy, with the government of the United States at Midnight. This is the sign of the abomination of desolation that precedes the siege at the Midnight Cry. Another witness for this confederacy is Naboth's vineyard where Jezebel (apostate Protestantism) works with the elders in Naboth's own city (Adventism) to have him killed for condemning the Image of the Beast.

"The reason for this confederacy is God's people were being oppressed by the Syrians. The Syrians oppress God's people at Midnight. To understand who they represent we can look to Daniel 8:9 which shows the little horn waxing "exceeding great" "toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land." Syria was the land in the east and it was conquered by Rome in 65 B.C. (Persia (west) vs. Eastern Rome) was the key that unleashed Islam under the first woe. The same took place during the Cold War where Russia in the east opposed the United States in the west. And the Cold War, specifically the Afghan War from 1979–1989, was the key which empowered Radical Islam to strike at 9/11. Hence the Syrians that oppress God's people at Midnight typify the Russians. This can also be seen in Daniel 11:11–12 which identifies that after defeating the United States at Midnight, the king of the south represented by Russia shall be lifted up." *Jeff Pippenger*.

158 + 666 = 508, and 508 + 1335 = 1843, and 1843 + 158 = 2001 (the span of years from 158 B.C. to A.D. 1843).

LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD

"Many know very little of God's dealings with His people, but the most hopeless part of their experience is that they do not try to understand His dealings in these precious hours of probation....

"When trials come, we are not to fret and complain, not to rebel, not to worry ourselves out of the arms of Christ, but humble the soul before God. Cry unto Him that He may give rest and peace. We should bear the yoke of Christ in time of trouble, and instead of allowing ourselves to be repulsed, we should hear the voice that invites us, 'Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest' (Matthew 11:28).

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled (Matthew 5:6). The word of Christ is eternal truth, and is the bread of life. If we eat of this bread, we must die to self; the narrow sphere of personal selfish interests must be enlarged, for it is impossible for a Christian to live unto himself. Self must be hidden in Christ, and divine help has been pledged to the aid of all those who will surrender their whole heart to God. It is in order that we may die to self that we are called upon to endure trials. In our sorest distress, Christ comes to our refuge. When every professed follower of Christ will make a covenant with God by sacrifice, will be determined that he will not indulge in selfish gratification, in studying his own ease, but will diligently plant to do God's service, then all will find the Lord a present help in every time of emergency.

"Those who are laborers together with God will have the mind and spirit of Christ, and will experience His joy in seeking to help souls who are benighted to find hope in Jesus Christ. The Lord has commissioned us to push forward His work in the earth, but Satan is determined to counteract the work of redemption. He seeks to destroy the moral image of God in man, and to unite the human race with himself and his sympathizers who swerved from their allegiance to God and were cast out of heaven. He has sought by every manner of deception to establish his kingdom in the earth, and to conform all men unto his own standing. He is constantly seeking to make men feel the same hatred toward God as he himself feels, but we are to put forth diligent efforts to unfurl the banner of the third angel's message upon which is written, 'The commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.'

"The people of God are to walk in the light, and to be united in the great work of making up the breach that has been made in the law of God by the man of sin. They are to raise up the foundations of many generations. Not one who really believes the truth will stand feebly by in this perilous time as ere spectators without interest or energy. The flame of love for God must be kindled in every home. Pettishness and stubbornness must die. Let all people offer prayer in simplicity and faith that the banner of truth may be carried into new territory, and that souls may be brought into subjection to the Lord God of heaven. It is true that our foes will be vigilant in opposing truth, but we shall learn lessons from these trials, and become more patient, devoted, and persevering, in working in Christ's lines. Our foes are watching to see what we will do next, and how they will meet and oppose every effort of advance. But of our Captain it is written, 'He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till He have set judgment in the earth'. We are to partake of His spirit." *Manuscript Releases*, volume 2, 269-271.