

While the world has turned their attention of politics, it would be better if we knew what is going on in our church. The enemy has been sowing a seed of discord and turning the Church of God to be a den of robbers. The temple needs a cleansing from these merchants and by voice and pen the watchmen on Zion have to sound a trumpet with a clear note but that has not been the case. The work of Satan has been to divert attention of the saints so that they may think that the show is in west when in actuality it is in east. And so while many are so concerned with the social injustices, politics, wealth and the lawlessness in the civil world, Satan has been working insidiously in the background right inside the church. The Lord in His mercy has been longsuffering in waiting for the few faithful virgins to awake but in vain.

The purpose of the redemption plan has always been to vindicate the character of God and produce a people that looks just like Jesus after Adam's fall. Through different periods of the church history, every generation has been sufficient grace to achieve this but it is this final generation has more to do according to the measure of light they have received. History is repeating itself and this generation has almost reached the zenith the Jewish nation reached before crucifying our Savior. As a people, have we not done more worse than the Jewish Nation?

This article may be looked upon by many or few as treason to the church I love but if there is anything that God hates is sin of silence. We need to know where we are in time prophecy as a people and what we ought to be doing because we are not doing it. Many have stopped looked at Christ as the Author and Finisher of their faith and have depended so much on the pulpit and what thus saith a man rather than what saith the Lord. They have lost sight of Christ and lifted man higher the Creator hence righteousness by faith which laying in dust the glory of man and lifting up the Savior has been trampled on the ground, this is no lesser than the Romanism in the Church of God.

The church has drifted from its clear mission and the line of distinction between the professed believers and the world is hardly distinguishable. What the world esteems much is what the church esteems more, here are a few examples of the sins the church has been harboring and its time we dealt with them, whether the people responsible will take heed or forbear the trumpet has to be sounded. This is what the prophetess predicted, and the words tumbles 100 plus years to their fulfillment.

"No official head of the denomination had been elected by the conference, but A. G. Daniells, the chairman of the Executive Committee, decided...to use the title of president" (SDA Encyclopedia pg. 1052).

A strange thing has come into our churches. Men who are placed in positions of responsibility that they may be wise helpers to their fellow workers have come to suppose that they were set as kings and rulers in the churches, to say to one brother, Do this; to another, Do that; and to another, Be sure to labor in such and such a way. THERE HAVE BEEN PLACES WHERE THE WORKERS HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT IF THEY DID NOT FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTION OF THESE MEN OF RESPONSIBILITY, THEIR PAY FROM THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE WITHHELD. {TM 477.2}

"The backsliding of those who have been placed at the head of the work--the very men who through communications have been informed that they were out of place and **IN ERROR IN REPRESENTING THE VOICE OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AS BEING THE VOICE OF GOD. FOR MANY YEARS IT HAS NOT BEEN THUS, AND IT IS NOT THUS NOW; NOR WILL IT EVER BE THUS AGAIN, UNLESS THERE IS A THOROUGH REFORMATION**" (*Manuscript 124, 12/9/1901*).

Church documents that prescribe the church's structure and governance confirm that all parts of the church are parts of a single entity. **Next to the Roman Catholic church, the Adventist church is the most centralized of all the major Christian denominations in this country**" (*Derrick Proctor vs. General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist, case #81 C 4938, Findings of Fact, Section B, Church Objectives and Structures, p 22*).

The Church must remain united, and this requires strong, centralized authority... (Ibid.). (This is Military Language - ACCEPT OR LEAVE)

Neal C. Wilson declared before the entire SdA church that :...there is another universal and truly **catholic organization**, the Seventh-day Adventist Church (Adventist Review, March 5, 1981, p 3).

The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that **A GREAT REFORMATION** was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, and engaging in **A PROCESS OF REORGANIZATION**. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. **A NEW ORGANIZATION** would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of **THE NEW MOVEMENT**. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but **GOD BEING REMOVED**, they would **PLACE THEIR DEPENDENCE ON HUMAN POWER**, which, without God, is worthless. Their **FOUNDATION WOULD BE BUILT ON THE SAND, AND STORM AND TEMPEST WOULD SWEEP AWAY THE STRUCTURE** (1SM 204.2).

In the General Conference the counsels of God have been set aside, and the counsels and wisdom of men have been relied upon....The General Conference--what is it? What does it comprehend? Is it a General Conference, or is it something wrapped up and called by that name? With the exception of a limited number, the people who ought to know are not intelligent in regard to its workings....and the people at large know scarcely anything of what is being done at the heart of the work...

As I was made to understand something of the management of the work in this great center, it was all that I could bear. My spirit was pained within me, for I had lost confidence in that which I had ever presented before the people as the voice of God to His children. **It has not been the voice of God. There has been a lording power exercised over God's heritage...**Their own principles have been counterworking the principles of truth and righteousness. We cannot therefore present before the people that the voice of the General Conference in its decisions must move and control them; for its propositions and decisions cannot be accepted. They are not in the right line of progress. **God is cropped out of their counsels....**

The man who magnifies his own office in working in any line to bind about the conscience of another, be he president of the General Conference, president of a smaller conference, or the elder or deacon or lay member of a church, he is out of God's line....**God desires that men shall stand in their own individual responsibility...**But in the present condition of things, **if one stands fast to his integrity, he is by some scorned, scouted, criticized, and dropped out if it can be brought about...**

Men who have been standing in stubborn resistance of the teachings of the Spirit of God have been honored as chosen men, as men qualified to run the work of God and to decide questions involving the highest responsibilities. They have been sent from place to place to give judgment in regard to matters which affect the future history of the work. But how can God look upon such a presentation as is now given at the great center of the work?...

There is a call in this very context of what we are to do with human authority. Understand it by the Spirit of God. I am not saying what anyone should do, but let God say it.

Come out from among them,' God says, 'and be ye separate,...and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty' [2 Cor. 6:17,18]. We all need a Father with whom to consult. The Holy Spirit has been refused by men who are puffed up with vain conceit and believe themselves capable of managing wonderful responsibilities....

If our people were not blinded by deception they would see that these men are walking contrary to God....

When the consolidation was first devised, it was represented as altogether another thing. But the enemy saw that **this was his chance to work under human minds. He prepared a confederation** that the Battle Creek institutions might be the power to bring under its control all other lines of work. It cannot be done. **GOD WILL PUT A VOICE IN THE STONES TO CRY OUT AGAINST IT....**

The refuge of lies will fail. God will strike a blow to deliver His oppressed people....

I must speak plainly. We are reaching a time when a just standard of right and wrong, of honor and dishonor, of truth and error, is becoming a thing of naught. 'Truth is fallen in the streets, and equity cannot enter' [Isaiah 59:14]....The man who sits **at the feet of Jesus** and learns **His lessons** will say as did one of old, **'UNTO THEIR ASSEMBLY, MINE HONOR, BE NOT THOU UNITED'** [Genesis 49:6] (*Manuscript 66, 1898, Manuscript Releases, vol 17, p 221-234*).

Only a committee appointed by the General Conference can interpret prophecy (*Adventist Review, June 5, 1986, p. 2*).

When you hear statements like the above being echoed, you know that its not the Spirit of God speaking but Satan using men in responsible positions to further their selfishness and egos. This the very reason that John the Baptist did not attend the rabbinical schools because men worshipped fellow men and depended on them for truth rather than God. We are told that when the spirit of truth shall come, it will lead all but not a few men into truth not a selected committee. Shall we then await for a committee to tell us what Jesus want of us, do we have another confessional structure in the Church as other denominations? Such order of things are not according to the Holy Writ. Note: -

People expect the General Conference to have the last word and to speak for the Church with ultimate authority (General Conference President Neal C. Wilson, *Commission Report on Role and Function of Denominational Organizations, 140-85GN, pp. 22-3, Apr. 30, 1985*).

Regardless of the pretext, or how righteous the cause may appear, separation from the visible remnant [the SdA church] is apostasy from the body of Christ (E. R. Bacchus, president of the Ontario Conference of SDA, Canada, *Messenger, Oct. 1994, p. 2*).

The local [SdA] church becomes the 'port of entry' to the kingdom of God (North American Division Officers, *Adventist Review, Oct. 01, 1992, p. 23*).

Really? Are we saved just because of our denominational affiliation! The prophetess says (Your connection with the church, the manner in which your brethren regard you, will be of no avail unless you believe in Christ. It is not enough to believe about Him; you must believe in Him. You must rely wholly upon His saving grace. {5T 48.3}). When men speak contrary to the revealed truth, what should we chose to believe then? Notice again the statement below:

...in the case with the [SdA] Laodicean Church, as a church, is different, the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. The last church will not be spewed out; it will not be rejected; it will go through triumphantly. (*Adventist Review*, November 9, 1939).

This a direct opposition to the Bible in the message given to the Laodicean church. God is not taking Laodiceans to heaven but those who have overcome the Laodicean condition. This is like a message of once saved always saved and you will be sinning till Christ comes. Folks what happens when Christ leaved intercession and we are still in Laodicean condition? We shall be spewed out of His mouth.

Vance Ferrell writes in a tract series, "The Utrecht Session," p. 8, regarding what was taking place: "massive changes were placed before the delegates to enact, which would dramatically change the way the church was governed! What would all these cumulative changes produce? Some kind of monster kingship?"

Deceptive maneuvering was employed to bring in far reaching changes that would shift power further upward and especially consolidate power in the hands of one man, the president. Susan Sickler, a member of a commission appointed by the General Conference in 1991 to examine ways of improving church government, reports that they had examined the proposed governing changes and rejected them. But those items were then falsely presented by Robert Folkenberg to the 1994 Annual Council for their approval, as having been "approved" by that commission. These were 50 Church Manual changes and 72 Constitution and Bylaws changes. One delegate, Alvin Kibble, commented, *"I cannot imagine a constitutional revision of some 72 items being suggested to the Constitution of the United States of America! That would represent a rewriting of the Constitution!"*

To open up the session, B. B. Beach introduced several non-Adventist dignitaries, a Catholic Bishop stood to offer his blessing upon the congregation. Then Robert Folkenberg got up and gave a flashy multi-media presentation. Even as it was his intent to push through constitutional changes which would give him immense control at world headquarters, assured the people, "We come as more than 2,600 delegates. We have no king. We have no small group of men who rule over us." The GC treasurer's office was billed \$45,000 for that highly produced sermon.

The changes to come would include but were not limited to:

- *Reduce the number of the GC committee by nearly one-third*
- *Executive committee quorum reduced to 15*
- *Decrease the number of participants in the decision making process at the Annual and Spring Councils, which govern the church between sessions*
- *Cap the number of delegates at 2,000 instead of 2650*
- *Reduce the number of personnel at the division level also*
- *GC departmental leaders no longer have a vote on the GC committee and barred from being on the committee*
- *All but GC auditors would no longer be elected but appointed by those being audited*
- *The GC President is now to be designated as "First Officer of the GC"*
- *The same power consolidated in the top three of the GC—the president, secretary and treasurer--would be given to the three heads of each division; thirty men would run the entire church with absolute authority*
- *The treasurer and secretary of the GC may not bring anything to the GC committee until they have first consulted with the President regarding the matter*
- *Division departmental leaders would be appointed not elected*
- *Number of laypersons allowed as members of the GC committee reduced from 50% to approx. 17%*
- *Conference/mission presidents will only have voting rights at the councils—when the councils are held within their territory. This skews the vote in favor of North American conference presidents in eight of every ten council meetings*

- *Session delegates will be chosen by division leadership, instead of by unions. Division officers are closely obligated to the GC president for their positions*
- *Local church boards have greater power at local level, to block membership actions; may also be able to obtain a two-year term*
- *Local church members can be disciplined for a longer period of time*

To reduce decisionmaking of a worldwide church with around 17 million people to a committee of around 2000 people is nothing but a joke. Is there a secret that is being guarded that we need to know about? These are just some of the high points. Not listed are actions which did not make it to the GC session, which were approved at the 1994 Annual Council, such as these two:

- *All officers of higher organizations are automatically ex officio members, with full voting rights, of the next lower organization*
- *Every lower level officer must be approved at the time of his appointment, by the leaders of the next higher level*

Russell Standish, in his summary report, notes:

No one, *not one*, inquired on any issue that was raised, "Is there a word from the Lord?" One faithful delegate, pointing to the general confusion that was prevailing, pled for a season of prayer for divine guidance. His plea was totally ignored. Had God's wisdom been sought, a large number of items contrary to the plainest testimony of Inspiration would never have appeared upon the agenda (*Another Journey to Utrecht*, p. 1).

Of those who boast of their light and yet fail to walk in it Christ says, "But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment than for you. And thou, Capernaum **[Seventh-day Adventists, who have had great light]**, which art exalted unto heaven [in point of privilege], **shalt be brought down to hell**: for if the mighty works which have been done in thee had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day."--RH Aug. 1, 1893. [THE BRACKETED COMMENTS ARE BY ELLEN WHITE.] (*Last Day Events*, p. 48.2).

Those who cling to E.G. White endorsed the organization we see today should be acquainted with facts as this: The Stone which was to be the Head of the corner, was set at naught by the delegates of the 1903 session. Nevertheless, **Ellen White supported Elder Daniells just as Samuel supported King Saul** (*1901 Rejected*, by Deone Hanson, 1985, p. 11, emphasis added.)

Satan's Determined Purpose

Now, it has been Satan's determined purpose to **eclipse the view of Jesus and lead men to look to man, and trust to man, and be educated to expect help from man. For years the church has been looking to man and expecting much from man, but not looking to Jesus**, in whom our hopes of eternal life are centered. *Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 93, par. 1).

That the church can and will function without human hierarchies of authority in charge of lower levels of authority is inconceivable to the human mind. "How will we get things accomplished?" goes the thinking. This paradigm of thought, that human authority is to function in the body of Christ, is a hidden sin.

"It is like "The rain is about to fall, but "someone is telling us to" leave "our" umbrella at home." by [Kevin Straub](#). INDEED THIS IS A GREATEST MYSTERY, IT'S A DUPING AND IT'S FATAL DECEPTION.

The true Seventh-day Adventist church is a group of equal sons and daughters of the King of heaven, heirs equal. Church force cannot produce true unity but has caused divisions. And has given rise to sects and parties innumerable. And there are not a few professing Christians who reject church organization on account of the use that has been made of creed and church power. The remedy for these deplorable evils is found in the proper use of simple organization and church order as set forth in the New Testament.... [The] minister who submits his ministry to a superior, a bishop, a president, or one in authority in the church to be sent out and directed in his ministry, cannot in the fullest sense be Christ's ambassador (James White, "Leadership," Review and Herald, Dec. 1, 1874).

The church is God's fortress, His city of refuge, which He holds in a revolted world.... From the beginning, **faithful souls have constituted the church on earth.** In every age the Lord has had His **watchmen, who have borne a faithful testimony to the generation in which they lived.** These sentinels **gave the message of warning;** and when they were called to lay off their armor, others took up the work. God brought these **witnesses into covenant relation with Himself, uniting the church on earth with the church in heaven.** He has sent forth His angels to minister to His church, and the **gates of hell have not been able to prevail** against His people (*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 11, par. 2).

So the church is the faithful. These are the ones who sound the message of warning to the world. They are in covenant relation with God, following the Lamb wherever He goes, throughout His work in the salvation plan as depicted in the sanctuary illustration. The gates of hell do not prevail; the church can never be Babylon. If you see the gates of hell prevailing; that is, if you see an organization doing as the world does and as the churches of the world do, then we are talking about that which we call a church but is not the church which is spoken of as God's fortress and city of refuge which He holds in a revolted world.

During ages of spiritual darkness the church of God has been as a city set on a hill. **From age to age, through successive generations, the PURE DOCTRINES OF HEAVEN HAVE BEEN UNFOLDING WITHIN ITS BORDERS.** Enfeebled and defective as it may appear, **the church is the one object upon which God bestows in a special sense His supreme regard.** It is the theater of His grace, in which He delights to reveal His power to transform hearts (*Ibid.*, p. 12, par. 1).

Wonderful is the work which the Lord designs to accomplish **through His church,** that **His name may be glorified** (*Ibid.*, p. 13, par. 1, emphasis added).

God chose Israel to reveal His character to men (*Ibid.*, p. 14, par. 1, emphasis added).

When we look at any organization that calls itself the church we must ask the questions, "Are the pure doctrines of heaven *unfolding* within her borders?" "Is the character of God being revealed to the world through her?" We must ask these questions of our individual selves. Then we will know if we are in the true church or not.

"Unless the church, which is now being leavened with her own backsliding, shall repent and be converted, she will eat of the fruit of her own doing, until she shall abhor herself" (8T 247-251 [April 21, 1903]).

Note that SdA is no more secure than was ancient Israel:

"Of those who boast of their light and yet fail to walk in it Christ says, 'But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment than for you. And thou, Capernaum [Seventh-day Adventists, who have had great light], which art exalted unto heaven [in point of privilege], shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works which have been done in thee had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.'" (RH Aug. 1, 1893. [THE BRACKETED COMMENTS ARE BY ELLEN WHITE.])

Is the mainstream church today still in the Laodicean state? We all know the answer to this. Will she repent? You can wait for her to confess and repent of rejecting the message committed to her. I will learn and ask God for power to live that message. In this the latter rain is once again beginning. Should we hold back the message while we wait for the institution, to be the sole interpreter of what's truth and what's not? Is it running ahead of God to break forth with light that was even given 126 years ago? This is the church I belong to. Let the "churchian" crowd wait for the conference to correct let them work night and day to bring others into that lethargic edifice, where they will sit under a worldly conformed leadership. I cannot do it. But if the situation should change, is there anything preventing me from aligning with her, again? Please consider all these questions.

Those who claim to believe the truth do not possess that power that God would bestow upon them if they really believed, and were striving for conformity to His image. THE CHURCH IS IN THE LAODICEAN STATE. THE PRESENCE OF GOD IS NOT IN HER MIDST. IF CHRIST WERE FORMED WITHIN, THE HOPE OF GLORY, CONFORMITY TO HIS IMAGE WOULD BE SEEN, AND THE CHURCH TRIALS WHICH SEPARATE THE MEMBERS FROM CHRIST WOULD DISAPPEAR. . . . {1NL 99.4}

*It is my pleasure to be with you **again**. I bring the warmest of **greetings from the World Council of Churches** and from all our member churches around the world. When I was at your worship service yesterday, it seemed as though it was my own time of worship, as well as yours. And it said to me that there are many things we hold in common. **So as fellow Christians, like those of Pentecost in the earliest of days, we look at one another, and we say that we hold all things in common** (Joan Campbell, Director of the United States office of the World Council of Churches, as quoted in *Adventist Review*, July 10, 1990).*

THE CHURCH THAT HOLDS TO THE WORD OF GOD IS IRRECONCILABLY SEPARATED FROM ROME. ... ROME NEVER CHANGES. Her principles have not altered in the least. She has not lessened the breach between herself and Protestants; they have done all the advancing. ... It is the rejection of Bible truth which makes men approach to infidelity. IT IS A BACKSLIDING CHURCH THAT LESSENS THE DISTANCE BETWEEN ITSELF AND THE PAPACY. {ST, February 19, 1894 par. 4}

Are we yet to consider the "mainstream" denominational Adventist church as represented in the GC, the "true church," "the remnant?" *Yet I am not standing before you today to call her Babylon.*

The institution was and is the depository of truth and holds the writings and the pioneer history in her vaults and in her experience.

The two Israels, ancient Judaism and modern Seventh-day Adventism have a parallel history. Ancient Israel was not ever referred to as Babylon although the Lord through Isaiah called her a harlot (1:21) and through Jeremiah and Ezekiel called her "desolate" (Jer. 19:8; Eze. 33:28, 29) and eventually the Son of Man on earth pronounced her as "desolate" (Matt. 23:38).

So it is that we point to her as a parallel to ancient apostate and wicked Israel that went headlong into destruction. To call the SdA church Babylon would not be accurate, even though she is in league with Babylon in so many ways. The GC church may be in Babylon and Babylon may be in her, but they are not one and the same. They have fundamentally opposed origins and histories.

The church as *God knows and defines it*, is going through, and all those who stay with that church, and are faithful, will triumph with it. The failure with the Pharisees and the people they led, was that they could not see and know *that* church. They knew and saw a certain church organization, and defined *that* as God's church. Then they applied the statements in the Old Testament prophecies, which were intended by God to speak only of His true church, to that which they mistakenly thought was God's church (F. T. Wright, *The Church of God is Not Babylon*, p. 12).

How effectively they could use Jeremiah 33:24-26 to support their opposition to Christ, provided their hearers did not question the false premise on which their arguments were based!

Let us read this passage and ask ourselves whether stronger or more definite language could be used. Moreover the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,

“Considerest thou not what this people have spoken, saying, ‘The two families which the Lord hath chosen, [Israel and Judah] He hath even cast them off?’ thus they have despised My people, that they should be no more a nation before them.”

Thus saith the Lord; “If My covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David My servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them” [(Jer. 33:23-26, emphasis added)].

Now compare this with chapter 31 vv. 35-37:

Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of hosts is His name:

“If those ordinances depart from before Me,” saith the Lord, “then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before Me for ever.” Thus saith the Lord; “If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done,’ saith the Lord” (Jer. 31:35-37, emphasis added).

The modern reader of the Spirit of Prophecy who seeks to disprove the message by proving the perpetuity of the church, could hardly have found a stronger statement than that. Imagine the line of reasoning the Pharisee would have used. He would ask:

"Does the sun still shine by day?"

"Yes," the answer would be.

"Does the moon shine by night at this present time?"

"Yes, it does."

"Then is it possible for God to cast off Israel for what it has done?"

Imagine how convincing this was to those people, but only because they did not understand that first they must carefully identify who Israel was before they applied the verse.

God is bringing out a people and preparing them to stand as one, united, to speak the same things, and thus carry out the prayer of Christ for His disciples. (Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 417, par. 2).

This is no brainer, there is no place in heaven for a Laodicean, its only the remnant that are going through. This is not treason or hatred to the church and its officials but a call to them to repent and the congregation to stop following men blindly. Shall we perish because we believed a man? Exactly.

We have our Bibles. We have our experience, attested to by the miraculous working of the Holy Spirit. We have a truth that admits of no compromise. Shall we not repudiate everything that is not in harmony with this truth? {1SM 205.1} ...In the providence of God, the errors that have been coming in must be met. {1SM 205.2}

The issue of Women Ordination IS NOT A CORPSE AS WE SPEAK? Shall we fear to hurt feelings and dance in the dark or shall we remain true to the word and be counted whether heavens or earth fall?

God wants minute-men. He will have men who, when important decisions are to be made, are as true as the needle to the pole; men whose special and personal interests are swallowed up, as were our Saviour's, in the one great general interest for the salvation of souls. {GW92 377.2}

The greatest want of the world is the want of men,--men who will not be bought or sold; men who in their inmost souls are true and honest; men who do not fear to call sin by its right name; men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole; men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall.-- {CM 54.4}

Many would sit on the fence and view things from afar with an eagles eye, but is that what we are could to do?

Isa:58:1: Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

If God abhors one sin above another, of which His people are guilty, it is doing nothing in case of an emergency. Indifference and neutrality in a religious crisis is regarded of God as a grievous crime and equal to the very worst type of hostility against God. {3T 280.3}

Abuse of Power at Church Headquarters

The General Conference is itself becoming corrupted with wrong sentiments and principles. . . . {LDE 49.2} Men have taken unfair advantage of those whom they supposed to be under their jurisdiction. They were determined to bring the individuals to their terms; they would rule or ruin. . . . {LDE 49.3} The high-handed power that has been developed, as though position has made men gods, makes me afraid, and ought to cause fear. It is a curse wherever and by whomsoever it is exercised.--TM 359-361 (1895). {LDE 49.4} There are altogether too many weighty responsibilities given to a few men, and some do not make God their Counselor. What do these men know of the necessities of the work in foreign countries? How can they know how to decide the questions which come to them asking for information? It would require three months for those in foreign countries to receive a response to their questions, even if there was no delay in writing.--TM 321 (1896). {LDE 49.5}

Those living in distant countries will not do that which their judgment tells them is right unless they first send for permission to Battle Creek. Before they will advance they await Yes or No from that place.--SpT-A(9) 32 (1896). {LDE 49.6}

There has come into the church at Battle Creek a spirit that has no part in Christ. It is not a zeal for the truth, not a love for the will of God as revealed in His word. It is a self-righteous spirit. It leads you to exalt self above Jesus and to regard your own opinions and ideas as more important than union with Christ and union with one another. You are sadly lacking in brotherly love. You are a backslidden church. To know the truth, to claim union with Christ, and yet not to bring forth fruit, not to live in the exercise of constant faith--this hardens the heart in disobedience and self-confidence. Our growth in grace, our joy, our usefulness, all depend on our union with Christ and the degree of faith we exercise in Him. Here is the source of our power in the world. {5T 48.1}

The arrangement that all moneys must go through Battle Creek and under the control of the few men in that place is a wrong way of managing. There are altogether too many weighty responsibilities given to a few men, and some do not make God their counselor. What do these men know of the necessities of the work in foreign countries? How can they know how to decide the questions which come to them asking for information? It would require three months for those in foreign countries to receive a response to their questions, even if there was no delay in writing. {TM 321.1}

The Lord has not placed any one of His human agencies under the dictation and control of those who are themselves but erring mortals. He has not placed upon men the power to say, You shall do this, and you shall not do that. But there is a power exercised in Battle Creek that God has not given, and He will judge those who assume this authority. They have somewhat of the same spirit that led Uzzah to lay his hand on the ark to steady it, as though God was not able to care for His sacred symbols. Far less of man's power and authority should be exercised toward God's human agencies. Brethren, leave God to rule. {TM 347.3}

Brethren, do not depend on the President of your Conference or the President of the General Conference to think for you. God has given "to every man his work." When men look to the President of the Conference as their helper in all their difficulties, the bearer of their burdens, the counselor in their perplexities, they are doing the very opposite of that which Christ told them to do.--Manuscript 11, 1883, p. 1. {ChL 63.2}

Let not those who preach the word lay their hands upon the humblest worker and say: "You must labor in this channel or not work at all." Hands off, brethren. Let everyone work in his own sphere, with his own armor on, doing whatever he can do in his humble way. Strengthen his hands in the work. This is no time for pharisaism to control. Let God work through whom He will. The message must go. {5T 461.2}

The matter was laid before me, which I was trying to present before the brethren. There is altogether too much responsibility imparted to a few men in Battle Creek, and these men need the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, else they will lead God's heritage in false paths. The conferences are watching every move made at the center of the work. The different conferences have been led to look to the leading men at Battle Creek, feeling that no important move can be made without their approval. This tendency has been growing stronger, until it is a serious hindrance to the advancement of the work. This arrangement should never have been. The Lord would have His people under His jurisdiction. They should look to God, inquiring of Him in faith, and follow on to know the working of His providence. {TM 320.3}

It is not in the order of God that any man, or any class of men, should assume that God has made them conscience for their brethren, or put forth their finite hand in a patronizing manner to control the Lord's delegated workers, thus endangering the safety of the Lord's heritage as well as their own, and retarding the work of God. God does not confine Himself to one man, or to a set of men, through whom to accomplish His work, but says of all, Ye "are laborers together with God." This means that every believing soul should have a part to act in His sacred work, and every individual believer in Jesus Christ is to manifest to the world a symbol of Christ's sufficiency, to represent to His church the higher laws of the future immortal world, and in obedience to the mandates of Heaven that are without a parallel, they should reveal a depth of knowledge independent of human inventions. {TM 208.2}

I am grieved as I see men seeking to mark out the precise course that missionaries in far-off lands shall pursue. We must give matters more into the hands of Him whom we profess to follow, that He may work through His appointed agents as He shall see fit. We should not think that everything should be brought under the jurisdiction of a few finite men, who need to look constantly to God for wisdom or else they will make grave blunders. The Lord does not design to have everything center in Battle Creek. [SEE APPENDIX.] He would have men stand aside, and not feel that His work depends wholly upon them and that every question must be referred to their judgment. It is difficult for me to express what I desire to, but in the name of the Lord I lift the danger signal. Responsible men should fear and tremble for themselves. They should not feel competent to run ahead of Him who has said, "Follow Me." God is not pleased that men in distant lands should have to wait before they can venture to make a move. We should believe in the power of the Lord to guide, for He has the ordering of His own work. He will give wisdom and understanding to His representative men in every part of His great moral vineyard. He says, "Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit." To my brethren in Battle Creek I would say: The Lord does not need to send His orders to His messengers in all parts of the world through Battle Creek. He does not lay this responsibility upon all those who assume to say to His workers, "Do this," and "Thou shalt not do that." God is dishonored when men are led to look to Battle Creek to so large a degree. {TM 212.1}

It is working upon wrong principles that has brought the cause of God into its present embarrassment. The people have lost confidence in those who have the management of the work. Yet we hear that the voice of the Conference is the voice of God. Every time I have heard this, I have thought it was almost blasphemy. The voice of the Conference ought to be the voice of God, but it is not, because some in connection with it are not men of faith and prayer, they are not men of elevated principle. There is not a seeking of God with the whole heart; there is not a realization of the terrible responsibility that rests upon those in this institution to mold and fashion minds after the divine similitude.--Manuscript 37, 1901, p. 8 (April, 1901, Talk by Mrs. E. G. White in the Review Chapel regarding the Southern work). {ChL 20.4}

State conferences may depend upon the General Conference for light and knowledge and wisdom; but is it safe for them to do this? Battle Creek is not to be the center of God's work. God alone can fill this place. When our people in the different places have their special convocations, teach them, for Christ's sake and for their own soul's sake, not to make flesh their arm. There is no power in men to read the hearts of their fellowmen. The Lord is the only one upon whom we can with safety depend, and He is accessible in every place and to every church in the Union. To place men where God should be placed does not honor or glorify God. Is the president of the General Conference to be the god of the people? Are the men at Battle Creek to be regarded as infinite in wisdom? When the Lord shall work upon human hearts and human intellects, principles and practices different from this will be set before the people. "Cease ye from man." {TM 375.2}

Daniel sought the Lord three times a day, in earnest prayer for wisdom and strength and courage to carry forward the enterprise of representing the only true God in wicked Babylon. You will often be perplexed to know what to do next; but do not get pen and paper and write your perplexities to Battle Creek. There may be disagreement upon some points, but your Counselor is nigh. Bow before Him, and tell Him of everything you need. Can the men in Battle Creek give you light? They cannot understand your necessity. Because they are not on the ground, they may say No to some things, when, had you asked of God, He would have answered, "Go forward, and I will be with you, and give you grace." {TM 325.1}

The Lord has shown me that men in responsible positions are standing directly in the way of His work because they think the work must be done and the blessing must come in a certain way, and they will not recognize that which comes in any other way. My brethren, may the Lord place this matter before you as it is. God does not work as men plan, or as they wish; He "moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform." Why reject the Lord's methods of working, because they do not coincide with our ideas? God has His appointed channels of light, but these are not necessarily the minds of any particular set of men. When all shall take their appointed place in God's work, earnestly seeking wisdom and guidance from Him, then a great advance will have been made toward letting light shine upon the world. When men shall cease to place themselves in the way, God will work among us as never before. {5T 726.1}

The Lord has a controversy with his professed people in these last days. In this controversy men in responsible positions will take a course directly opposite to that pursued by Nehemiah. They will not only ignore and despise the Sabbath themselves, but they will try to keep it from others by burying it beneath the rubbish of custom and tradition. In churches and in large gatherings in the open air, ministers will urge upon the people the necessity of keeping the first day of the week. There are calamities on sea and land: and these calamities will increase, one disaster following close upon another; and the little band of conscientious Sabbath-keepers will be pointed out as the ones who are bringing the wrath of God upon the world by their disregard of Sunday. {RH, March 18, 1884 par. 8}

After saying all this, what are we supposed to do? Where should we head?

IRREGULAR LINES AND SEPARATION

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF 1901

ELLEN G. WHITE, JUST BACK IN THE UNITED STATES AFTER A NINE-YEAR SOJOURN IN AUSTRALIA, WAS INVITED TO ATTEND THE GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION OF 1901, HELD IN BATTLE CREEK. IT WAS THE FIRST SESSION SHE HAD ATTENDED IN A TEN-YEAR PERIOD. THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, G. A. IRWIN, MADE HIS OPENING ADDRESS. THEN ELLEN WHITE PRESSED TO THE FRONT OF THE ASSEMBLY, DESIROUS OF SPEAKING. EARNESTLY SHE ADDRESSED THE CONFERENCE, POINTING OUT THE MANNER IN WHICH THE WORK OF GOD HAD BEEN CIRCUMSCRIBED AS A FEW MEN IN BATTLE CREEK CARRIED THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A WORK FAR BEYOND THEIR GRASP. SHE TESTIFIED THAT THESE MEN AND THE CAUSE WERE INJURED AS THEY ENCOURAGED OTHERS TO LOOK TO THEM FOR GUIDANCE IN EVERY PHASE OF THE WORK. SHE POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE SOME MEN IN RESPONSIBLE PLACES WHO HAD LOST THE SPIRIT OF CONSECRATION SO ESSENTIAL TO THEIR WORK. AT THAT MEETING SHE CRIED OUT, "WHAT WE WANT NOW IS A REORGANIZATION. WE WANT TO BEGIN AT THE FOUNDATION AND BUILD ON A DIFFERENT PRINCIPLE."--GENERAL CONFERENCE BULLETIN, APRIL 3, 1901.

When I have been made to pass over the history of the Jewish nation and have seen where they stumbled because they did not walk in the light, I have been led to realize where we as a people would be led if we refuse the light God would give us. Eyes have ye but ye see not; ears, but ye hear not. Now, brethren, light has come to us and we want to be where we can grasp it, and God will lead us out one by one to Him. I see your danger and I want to warn you. {1888 152.5} Now, this is the last ministers' meeting we will have unless you wish to meet together yourselves. If the ministers will not receive the light, I want to give the people a chance; perhaps they may receive it. God did not raise me up to come across the plains to speak to you and you sit here to question His message and question whether Sister White is the same as she used to be in years gone by. I have in many things gone way back and given you that which was given me in years past, because then you acknowledged that Sister White was right. But somehow it has changed now, and Sister White is different. Just like the Jewish nation. {1888 152.6}

My sons, I would have you firmly united as brothers in the flesh and as brothers in Christian fellowship. I have a work to do, and I am now making decisions. I must remain away from conference meetings. I must not attend camp meetings. The spirit of drawing apart, as the result of judging one another, has become so common, and the churches are becoming so leavened with this spirit, that I have no desire to attend these meetings. After returning from them, it is often weeks before I am able to take up my neglected work. Because those in positions of responsibility have for years left the Southern field unworked, notwithstanding the most decided testimonies urging them to take up this work; because they continue to neglect this field and use every manner of device in trying to uproot the confidence of the people in those who have done the hardest and most self-sacrificing work in the South, I have but very little confidence that the Lord is giving these men in positions of responsibility spiritual eyesight and heavenly discernment. I am thrown into perplexity over their course; and I desire now to attend to my special work, to have no part in any of their councils, and to attend no camp-meetings, nigh nor afar off. My mind shall not be dragged into confusion by the tendency they manifest to work directly contrary to the light that God has given me. I am done. I will preserve my God-given intelligence. My voice has been heard in the different conferences and at camp meetings. I must now make a change. I cannot enter the atmosphere of strife and then have to bear testimonies that cost me much more than those to whom they are sent can imagine. When I attend the different meetings, I am compelled to deal with men, standing in responsible places, who I know are not exerting an influence that God can endorse. And when I bear a testimony in reference to their course of action, advantage is taken of this testimony. These men have not clear understanding. Should I say the things that I know, they would not, with their present experience, use this instruction wisely, and would bring upon me inconceivable burdens. I shall, therefore, leave them to receive word from the Bible, in which the principles upon which they should work are laid down in straight lines.

There are those who look upon themselves as the Lord's servants, but who, as shown by the way in which the Southern work has been handled, are working away from the light that God has for years been giving. I have pity for them, but I cannot be forever pointing out for them the way of righteousness. They are brought no nearer right actions by what I say than if the words were never spoken. So long as those in responsible positions see things through a false medium, they will put a wrong construction on my work. The light I have for our ministers is: Seek God; stop your whisperings and your evil surmisings instigated by Satan, and see if the love of God will not fill heart and soul. And I will go on with my writing. This is the light given me, and I shall not depart from it. {17MR64.1- 65.3}

The Lord Jesus will always have a chosen people to serve Him. When the Jewish people rejected Christ, the Prince of life, He took from them the kingdom of God and gave it unto the Gentiles. God will continue to work on this principle with every branch of His work. When a church proves unfaithful to the word of the Lord, whatever their position may be, however high and sacred their calling, the Lord can no longer work with them. Others are then chosen to bear important responsibilities. But, if these in turn do not purify their lives from every wrong action, if they do not establish pure and holy principles in all their borders, then the Lord will grievously afflict and humble them and, unless they repent, will remove them from their place and make them a reproach. . . . {UL 131.3}

There is to be no change in the general features of our work. It is to stand as clear and distinct as prophecy has made it. We are to enter into no confederacy with the world, supposing that by so doing we could accomplish more. If any stand in the way, to hinder the advancement of the work in the lines that God has appointed, they will displease God. No line of truth that has made the Seventh-day Adventist people what they are is to be weakened. We have the old landmarks of truth, experience, and duty, and we are to stand firmly in defense of our principles, in full view of the world. {6T 17.2}

Those who have trusted to intellect, genius, or talent will not then stand at the head of rank and file. They did not keep pace with the light. Those who have proved themselves unfaithful will not then be entrusted with the flock. In the last solemn work few great men will be engaged. They are self-sufficient, independent of God, and He cannot use them. The Lord has faithful servants, who in the shaking, testing time will be disclosed to view. There are precious ones now hidden who have not bowed the knee to Baal. They have not had the light which has been shining in a concentrated blaze upon you. But it may be under a rough and uninviting exterior the pure brightness of a genuine Christian character will be revealed. In the day time we look toward heaven but do not see the stars. They are there, fixed in the firmament, but the eye cannot distinguish them. In the night we behold their genuine luster. {5T 80.1}

I saw that those who profess the truth should hold the standard high, and induce others to come up to it. I saw that some would have to walk the straight path alone. Their companions and children will not walk the self-denying pathway with them. Patience and forbearance should ever characterize the lives of those lone pilgrims, following the example of their blessed Master. They will have many trials to endure, but they have a hope that makes the soul strong, that bears them up above the trials of earth, that elevates them above scorn, derision and reproach. Those who possess a hope like this should never indulge a harsh, unkind spirit. This will only injure their own souls, and drive their friends farther from the truth. Treat them tenderly. Give them no occasion to reproach the cause of Christ; but never yield the truth to please any one. Be decided, be fixed, be established, be not of a doubtful mind. {2SG 266.1} But if your companions and children will not come, if you cannot win them to yield to the claims of truth, make their lives here as pleasant as possible; for all they will ever enjoy will be this poor world. But let not your duty to them interfere with your duty to God. Pursue a straight-forward course. Let nothing they may do or say provoke an angry word from you. You have a hope that will yield you consolation amid the disappointments and trials of life. Your companions and children who will not be induced to tread the narrow, cross-bearing pathway with you, have not this divine consolation. They should have your pity, for this world is all the heaven they will have. {2SG 266.2}

Let not God's people in any of our institutions sign a truce with the enemy of God and man. The duty of the church to the world is not to come down to their ideas and accept their opinions, their suggestions, but to heed the words of Christ through His servant Paul, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?" This means in a special sense marriage with unbelievers, but it covers more ground than this: it means in our instrumentalities ordained of God, in our institutions for health, in our colleges, in our publishing houses. {TM 271.1}

God will work a work in our day that but few anticipate. He will raise up and exalt among us those who are taught rather by the unction of His Spirit than by the outward training of scientific institutions. These facilities are not to be despised or condemned; they are ordained of God, but they can furnish only the exterior qualifications. God will manifest that He is not dependent on learned, self-important mortals. {5T 82.4}

Let me tell you, if your heart is in the work, and you have faith in God, you need not depend upon the sanction of any minister or any people; if you go right to work in the name of the Lord, in a humble way doing what you can to teach the truth, God will vindicate you. If the work had not been so restricted by an impediment here, and an impediment there, and on the other side an impediment, it would have gone forward in its majesty. It would have gone in weakness at first, but the God of heaven lives; the great Overseer lives, the One who knew where Cornelius lived, and who appeared to him as an angel, and declared to him, Your prayers and your alms have come up as a memorial before God. And now do you send men for one Simon, whose surname is Peter, who lives with one Simon a tanner. And he told him the very place where Simon the tanner lived. Then the angel of the Lord went to Peter, and prepared his mind for the reception of the men. {1888 1746.2}

We cannot serve God and the world at the same time. We must not center our affections on worldly relatives, who have no desire to learn the truth. We may seek in every way, while associated with them, to let our light shine; but our words, our deportment, our customs and practices, should not in any sense be molded by their ideas and customs. We are to show forth the truth in all our intercourse with them. If we cannot do this, the less association we have with them, the better it will be for our spirituality. If we place ourselves among associates whose influence has a tendency to make us forgetful of the high claims the Lord has upon us we invite temptation and become too weak in moral power to resist it. We come to partake of the spirit and cherish the ideas of our associates and to place sacred and eternal things lower than the ideas of our friends. We are, in short, leavened just as the enemy of all righteousness designed we should be. {5T 543.1}

I was shown the necessity of those who believe that we are having the last message of mercy, being separate from those who are daily imbibing new errors. I saw that neither young nor old should attend their meetings; for it is wrong to thus encourage them while they teach error that is a deadly poison to the soul and teach for doctrines the commandments of men. The influence of such gatherings is not good. If God has delivered us from such darkness and error, we should stand fast in the liberty wherewith He has set us free and rejoice in the truth. God is displeased with us when we go to listen to error, without being obliged to go; for unless He sends us to those meetings where error is forced home to the people by the power of the will, He will not keep us. The angels cease their watchful care over us, and we are left to the buffetings of the enemy, to be darkened and weakened by him and the power of his evil angels; and the light around us becomes contaminated with the darkness. {EW 124.3}

I saw that we have no time to throw away in listening to fables. Our minds should not be thus diverted, but should be occupied with the present truth, and seeking wisdom that we may obtain a more thorough knowledge of our position, that with meekness we may be able to give a reason of our hope from the Scriptures. While false doctrines and dangerous errors are pressed upon the mind, it cannot be dwelling upon the truth which is to fit and prepare the house of Israel to stand in the day of the Lord. {EW 125.1}

The Spirit of God had wrought with and through Paul in his labors for his countrymen. Sufficient evidence had been presented to convince all who honestly desired to know the truth. But many permitted themselves to be

controlled by prejudice and unbelief, and refused to yield to the most conclusive evidence. Fearing that the faith of the believers would be endangered by continued association with these opposers of the truth, Paul separated from them and gathered the disciples into a distinct body, continuing his public instructions in the school of Tyrannus, a teacher of some note. {AA 285.3}

Time is short, and there is a great work to be done. If you feel no interest in the work that is going forward, if you will not encourage medical missionary work in the churches, it will be done without your consent; for it is the work of God, and it must be done. My brethren and sisters, take your position on the Lord's side and be earnest, active, courageous co-workers with Christ, laboring with Him to seek and save the lost. {8T 75.2}

After a long and severe conflict, the faithful few decided to dissolve all union with the apostate church if she still refused to free herself from falsehood and idolatry. They saw that separation was an absolute necessity if they would obey the word of God. They dared not tolerate errors fatal to their own souls, and set an example which would imperil the faith of their children and children's children. To secure peace and unity they were ready to make any concession consistent with fidelity to God; but they felt that even peace would be too dearly purchased at the sacrifice of principle. If unity could be secured only by the compromise of truth and righteousness, then let there be difference, and even war. {GC 45.3}

The recreant priests added licentiousness to the dark catalogue of their crimes; yet they still polluted by their presence the tabernacle of the Lord, and, laden with sin, dared to come into the presence of a holy God. As the men of Israel witnessed the corrupt course of the priests, they thought it safer for their families not to come up to the appointed place of worship. Many went from Shiloh with their peace disturbed, their indignation aroused, until they at last determined to offer their sacrifices themselves, concluding that this would be fully as acceptable to God, as to sanction in any manner the abominations practiced in the sanctuary. {ST, December 1, 1881 par. 13}

Dangers of Sensational Religion.--There is no safety, much less benefit, for our people in attending these popular holiness meetings; let us rather search the Scriptures with much carefulness and earnest prayer, that we may understand the ground of our faith. Then we shall not be tempted to mingle with those who, while making high claims, are in opposition to the law of God. {Ev 364.3}

As members of the Church of England, they were strongly attached to her forms of worship, but the Lord had presented before them in his Word a higher standard. The Holy Spirit urged them to preach Christ and him crucified. The power of the Highest attended their labors. Thousands were convicted and truly converted. It was necessary that these sheep be protected from ravening wolves. Wesley had no thought of forming a new denomination, but he organized them under what was called the Methodist Connection. {GC88 257.1}

As the light and life of men was rejected by the ecclesiastical authorities in the days of Christ, so it has been rejected in every succeeding generation. Again and again the history of Christ's withdrawal from Judea has been repeated. When the Reformers preached the word of God, they had no thought of separating themselves from the established church; but the religious leaders would not tolerate the light, and those that bore it were forced to seek another class, who were longing for the truth. In our day few of the professed followers of the Reformers are actuated by their spirit. Few are listening for the voice of God, and ready to accept truth in whatever guise it may be presented. Often those who follow in the steps of the Reformers are forced to turn away from the churches they love, in order to declare the plain teaching of the word of God. And many times those who are seeking for light are by the same teaching obliged to leave the church of their fathers, that they may render obedience. {DA 232.2}

I was confirmed in all I had stated in Minneapolis, that a reformation must go through the churches. Reforms must be made, for spiritual weakness and blindness were upon the people who had been blessed with great light and precious opportunities and privileges. As reformers they had come out of the denominational churches, but they now act a part similar to that which the churches acted. We hoped that there would not be

the necessity for another coming out. While we will endeavor to keep the "unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, we will not with pen or voice cease to protest against bigotry.--EGW'88 356, 357 (1889). {LDE 48.1}

Medical Missionary Work

Again and again the Lord has pointed out the work which the church in Battle Creek and those all through America are to do. They are to reach a much higher standard in spiritual advancement than they have yet reached. They are to awake out of sleep and go without the camp, working for souls that are ready to perish. {8T 70.4}

The medical missionary workers are doing the long-neglected work which God gave to the church in Battle Creek --they are giving the last call to the supper which He has prepared. {8T 71.1}

My brethren, why do you keep so many things bound up in Battle Creek? Why do you not take the tract and missionary work into other cities, where there is much missionary work to be done? {8T 71.2}

The many interests centering in Battle Creek should be divided and subdivided, and placed in other cities. You who think you are wise men may say: "It will cost too much. We can do the work here in Battle Creek at less expense." Well, does not the Lord know all this? Is not He a God who understands all the unbelieving reasoning that holds so many interests in Battle Creek? He has revealed to you that centers should be made in all the cities. This would call many out of Battle Creek to work in other places. {8T 71.3}

In order to be carried forward aright, the medical missionary work needs talent. It requires strong, willing hands, and wise, discriminating management. But can this be while those in responsible places--presidents of conferences and ministers --bar the way? {8T 71.4}

The Lord says to the presidents of conferences and to other influential brethren: "Remove the stumbling blocks that have been placed before the people." {8T 71.5}

Our people in Battle Creek have not exercised their talents in planning and devising how to plant the standard of truth in regions where the message has not been proclaimed and where decided efforts should be made; and the Lord has moved upon Dr. Kellogg and his associates to do the work which belongs to the church and which was offered to them, but which they did not choose to accept. Some in Battle Creek, instead of taking up the work given them of God, have, by following their own selfish way, blinded their spiritual eyesight and the spiritual eyesight of others; and God has placed His precious work in the hands of those who will take it up and carry it forward. {8T 71.6}

God is in His holy place, and He dwells also with him who is of a humble and contrite spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite ones. Those who are doing medical missionary work should have the full sanction and co-operation of the church. If they do not have this they are hindered. Nevertheless, they will advance. It is not in God's plan that there shall be two churches in Battle Creek because of the want of co-operation. How much better it is to seek for unity of action. If the medical missionary workers will carry this line of effort into the churches everywhere, if they will work in the fear of God, they will find many doors opened before them, and angels will work with them. {8T 72.1}

Please read the invitation to the supper, and the last call to be made. Study what is being done to meet the command of Jesus. I cannot understand why such indifference is manifested, why you should stand afar off and criticize and draw away. The gospel net is to be cast into the sea, and it draws both good and bad. But because this is so, shall men and women ignore the efforts made to save those who will believe and who will unite in reaching that class of whom Christ spoke in His rebuke to the Pharisees? Sinners and harlots, He said, "go into the kingdom of God before you." Will you not see that even in the church there are those who have no connection with God? But Christ says: Let the tares and the wheat grow together until the harvest: and in the

time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into My barn." {8T 72.2}

When the Lord moves upon the churches, bidding them do a certain work, and they refuse to do that work; and when some, their human efforts united with the divine, endeavor to reach to the very depths of human woe and misery, God's blessing will rest richly upon them. Even though but few accept the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, their work will not be in vain; for one soul is precious, very precious, in the sight of God. Christ would have died for one soul in order that that one might live through the eternal ages. {8T 72.3}

We should feel deeply over these things, for they are true. We should have a high estimate of truth and of the value of souls. Time is short, and there is a great work to be done. If you feel no interest in the work that is going forward, if you will not encourage medical missionary work in the churches, it will be done without your consent; for it is the work of God, and it must be done. My brethren and sisters, take your position on the Lord's side and be earnest, active, courageous co-workers with Christ, laboring with Him to seek and save the lost. {8T 75.2}

There is enough wealth in your conference to carry forward this work successfully; and shall the prince of darkness be left in undisputed possession of our great cities because it costs something to sustain missions? Let those who would follow Christ fully come up to the work, even if it be over the heads of ministers and president. {5T 369.2}

The time is coming when we shall be separated and scattered, and each one of us will have to stand without the privilege of communion with those of like precious faith; and how can you stand unless God is by your side, and you know that He is leading and guiding you? Whenever we come to investigate Bible truth, the Master of assemblies is with us. The Lord does not leave the ship one moment to be steered by ignorant pilots. We may receive our orders from the Captain of our salvation.--Review and Herald, March 25, 1890. {CW 42.1}

The conferences were not established to exercise dominion over the ministry, nor over the local churches, but rather to plan and expand the work of God in various regions and areas. Furthermore, the conferences were to act as counselors, not as dictators to the people of God (Colin and Russell Standish, Organizational Structure and Apostasy, p. 13).

HOME CHURCHES

Instruction in regard to conducting the Sabbath-school should to a large degree be given in the home churches; for the labor can be made more direct and the results will be more permanent if instruction is given at home. This work does not require the services of the ministers; they should be free to attend to the spiritual interests of the people. They are to teach others what to do. They must instruct the people as to how to come to the Lord, and how to lead others to him. There must be time for heart-searching, for soul-culture. - RH June 30, 1891

As workers go forth filled with zeal, and with the love of God, the CHURCHES at HOME will be revived; for the success of the workers will be regarded as a subject of deep personal concern by every member of the church. - GW 25.3

Soon these churches will be able not only to carry on the work in their own borders, but to impart to other fields. Thus the burden resting on the HOME CHURCHES will be shared. - CET 221.3

There are others who might be mentioned as transgressors, and whose influence is a stumbling block to the youth. The spiritual conditions in Battle Creek are such that the youth cannot safely be encouraged to go there. For the past twenty years [Footnote: (1886-1906)] the Lord has been giving warnings that altogether too many people are settling in Battle Creek, leaving their small HOME CHURCHES, which should be KEPT ALIVE by their earnest efforts. - KC 40.6

Home churches are from the devil? Let us test this proposition by the Word of God:

Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Salute my well-beloved Epaphroditus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ. (Rom 16:5)

The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. (1 Cor 16:19)

Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house. (Col 4:15)

And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house: (Philemon 1:2)

The Word of God is plain here. These home churches were from Christ and thus they are included in the apostolic salutation here. Thus to issue a generic statement such as seen in this op is ridiculous. We must consider the circumstances and the teachings occurring in whatever home church is in question. To reach an a priori conclusion that home churches are from the devil is actually the type of statement that the devil himself is well pleased with.

FINALLY: Rom 2:28, 29: For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God. Am not going to heaven on fidelity to apostasy grounds, but by seeking Christ and accepting His righteousness in order to overcome sin. Church affiliation apart from truth is no license to heaven. Yes the ark stinks, but we have a few Noah's inside who will stand for the truth. You chose what you will do friends but I will raise up my hands in prayer and ask God to speak to our leaders and if they repent then it will be my joy but if they forebear, will I have to wait for them so as to continue preaching? AN EMPHATIC NO.

Mal 3:16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.