



BY WHAT AUTHORITY HAVE YE DONE THIS?

Acts 14:6-13,18-20.



And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem. And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, **By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?**

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, **“Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,** If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; **Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the**

name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at naught of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. And they called them, and **commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.**

But Peter and John answered and said unto them, **Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.**

THE GROWL OF THE DRAGON

By Sudhir K. Pandit, MD

February 14, 2008 marked the day when we at the Mountain Valley Fellowship of Seventh-day Adventist Believers received a certified letter from the Office of the General Counsel of the General Conference of SDAs in Maryland. In no uncertain legalese the letter demanded that we “cease and desist” from using the designation Seventh-day Adventist, and any of its variations, in our sign or any of our publications lest further action be pursued. The ominous growl of the dragon (Satan, or secondarily, the state) was unmistakable. Thus, we found ourselves thrust into the company of a very exclusive group of believers who have been targeted for “illegally” appropriating the label Seventh-day Adventist in recent years. **Never mind that we did not claim to be a Seventh-day Church, but merely a fellowship of believers in the Seventh-day Adventist message, and they have absolutely no legal basis for their threatenings, yet they seem determined to terrorize us into dropping any mention of the name in whatever shape or form.**

As representative of our little group I immediately called up trusted friends for counsel in the matter. One was Pr. Raphael Perez, who had himself suffered a lawsuit for a similar infraction, and the other, Bro. Vance Ferrell, who has done extensive research on the subject of lawsuits among believers. Their advice has been invaluable. It was such a comfort to learn that we were not alone in this warfare, because not only did we have the God of Heaven on our side, but many faithful in the true remnant church of Bible prophecy as well. **The Lord Jesus, in the sermon on the mount, exhorts us to “rejoice and be exceeding glad” when we suffer persecution for His sake.** And this is what we are endeavoring to do.

The Scriptures offer us a plethora of promises to lean upon when under attack. A few of these come to mind as follows:

Isa. 41:10-13 “Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. **Behold all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded; they shall be as nothing;** and they that strive with thee shall perish. Thou shalt seek them and shalt not find them, **even them that contended with thee; they that war against thee shall be as nothing and as a thing of nought.** For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.”

And Psalm 37:1,2, 12-15 “Fret not thyself because of evil doers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity; For they shall soon be cut down like the grass and wither as the green herb.... The wicked plotteth against the just and gnasheth upon with his teeth, The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming. **The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, ...to slay such as be of upright conversation. Their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.**”

But even as these promises give us comfort, they cause us to shudder for those on the opposite side of them. How can they be ignorant of the fact that **the true church of Jesus NEVER wields compulsive force of any kind, and that by doing so they are aligning themselves with the first great apostate against truth and righteousness?** The Bible and Spirit of Prophecy makes clear that those who flout the strict prohibition of God against lawsuits between believers (1 Cor. 6:1-7), might just as well stop praying, for God does not hear their prayers. See 3SM 302. If this is not serious, I don't know what is.

So now as we contemplate our response to the threat against us, we solicit the prayers of all God's true people so that we may answer wisely without compromising the truth and honor of God Almighty.

“Kings and rulers and governors have placed upon themselves the brand of antichrist, and are represented as **the dragon** who goes to make war with the saints--with those who keep the commandments of God and who have the faith of Jesus.” TM 38

TRADEMARK LAWSUITS

A NEW COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATION: Recently three to five, or more, independent Seventh-day Adventist churches in the United States have been threatened with lawsuits for using the name "Seventh-day Adventist" on their signs.

The General Conference has trademarked the name under commercial law. This shows that the General Conference, although using the name "Seventh-day Adventist," is not really Seventh-day Adventist anymore. Because "Seventh-day Adventist" is a spiritual term. It defines an individual or a corporate entity that is standing on the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14:6-12. The General Conference, to pursue its broad and long-standing ecumenical program, has stepped off the foundation of truth. It would not win a case in court if it had to prove it was a true **spiritual** Seventh-day Adventist. Their overt ecumenical activities and their witness to other churches would be, and are, exhibits A and B.

The General Conference is a new commercial entity. It is a new movement that Ellen White prophesied about is 1SM 204,205: "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.... **Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement.**"

The Bible also predicted such a state of things in the last days when it mentions those "**which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie.**" Rev. 3:9.

"For he is not a Jew [Seventh-day Adventist], which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew [SDA], 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.**" Romans 2:28,29.

The foundation of true Seventh-day Adventism is the 3 Angels' Messages. "We cannot now step off the foundation that God has established.

We cannot now enter into any new organization; for this would mean apostasy from the truth." Manuscript 129, 1905. 2SM 390.

The General Conference is in apostasy from the truth and has stepped off the foundation of truth. It is trying to unsettle the established faith of the body. It is a new commercial organization.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:1-8

Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints? Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life? If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church. I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren? **But brother goeth to law with brother, and that before the unbelievers. Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? why do ye not rather suffer yourselves to be defrauded? Nay, ye do wrong, and defraud, and that your brethren.**

EPHESIANS 6:12

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against **spiritual wickedness in high places.**

ROMANS 12:9

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY COUNSEL

"It is no part of Christ's mission to compel men to receive Him. It is Satan, and men actuated by his spirit, that seek to compel the conscience." *Desire of Ages*, 487.

“Those church members who appeal to the courts of the world show that they have chosen the world as their judge, and **their names are registered in heaven as one with unbelievers.** How eagerly the world seizes the statements of those who betray sacred trust! This action, of appealing to human courts, never before entered into by Seventh-day Adventists, has now been done. **God has permitted this that you who have been deceived may understand what power is controlling those who have had entrusted to them great responsibilities.**” *Selected Messages, Vol.3, 302,303.*

Worldly principles have been stealthily introduced, until in practice many of our workers are becoming like the Laodiceans—half-hearted, **because so much dependence is placed on lawyers and legal documents and agreements. Such a condition of things is abhorrent to God.** Manuscript 128, 1903.

“When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and in order to control the consciences of the people, she sought the support of the secular power. **The result was the papacy....**” *Great Controversy, 443*

“FORCE is the LAST RESORT of every false religion ...” *SDABible Commentary, Vol.7A, 976.*

“The ‘image to the beast’ represents that form of apostate Protestantism which will be developed when the Protestant churches shall seek the aid of the civil power for the enforcement of their dogmas.” *Great Controversy, 445.*

“Let the principle once be established in the United States that the church may employ or control the power of the state; that **religious observances** may be enforced by secular laws... and the triumph of Rome in this country is assured.” *Ibid., 581.*

CONCLUSION: The General Conference Trademark Policy has assured the triumph of Rome in this country by the alliance of church and state.

Trademark laws provide for the control of "religious observances" through the magistrate.

WHAT A CHURCH DOES WHEN IT LOSES THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

“Finding herself destitute of the power of love, **she has reached out for the strong arm of the state to enforce her dogmas and execute her decrees.** Here is the secret of all religious laws that have ever been enacted, and the secret of all persecution from the days of Abel to our own time.

“Christ does not drive but draws men unto Him. The only compulsion which He employs is the constraint of love. **When the church begins to seek for the support of secular power, it is evident that she is devoid of the power of Christ—the constraint of divine love.**” *Mount of Blessing, 126,127.*

In 1858, (5 years before the founding of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination and 123 years before the 1981 trademarking of the name), Ellen G. White issued a clear-cut command from God for the people to call themselves by the name, Seventh-day Adventists.

“No name which we can take will be appropriate but that which accords with our profession and expresses our faith and marks us a peculiar people. **The name Seventh-day Adventist is a standing rebuke to the Protestant world.**”—*1 Testimonies, 223 (1858).*

“The name Seventh-day Adventist carries the true features of our faith in front, and will convict the inquiring mind. Like an arrow from the Lord’s quiver, it will wound the transgressors of God’s law, and will lead to repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.”—*1 Testimonies, 224 (1858).*

1986--Historical Fact: The General Conference spent close to one million dollars in the first SDA trademark lawsuit against a small Hawaiian independent SDA church. The lawyer was Catholic, and the funds came from the laymen’s tithe.

The case was settled out of court when John Merek, the pastor, was frightened by the threat of being thrown into prison.

A SAD LETTER



Elder Floyd A. Hunt
Hafford Village Church
P. O. Box 874
Centerburg, Ohio 43011

October 10, 1999

To whom it my concern:

Very sad days have come to America a country which prides its self on freedom of religion and freedom of speech are in very grave danger of being lost forever.

Please accept this picture of our little church in Ohio, notice the empty sign in the front of the church, we cannot put the name of our church on the front for fear of being sued for trade mark infringement, by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Silver Springs Maryland. We used to call our church The Hartford Village Church of Seventh-day Adventists, with the Law suit which is presently before the courts. We are afraid to call our church by it's rightful name for fear of being taken to court and we are but a small church with little funds.

My step grand daughter (age 14) is a fifth generation Seventh-day Adventist. We can trace our heritage back to some of the very first Seventh-day Adventists in Germany. Over the past several years The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist has changed from our fundamental beliefs and no longer follow the council which was given to us by our Pioneers and Ellen G. White. They have denied the message which brought us into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

We feel that we are the true Seventh-day Adventist church and should be allowed to rightfully use that name. The General Conference has become an embarrassment to us in the manner in which they conduct themselves. Testimonies for the Church volume one page 201, (written by Ellen G. White) states "Brethren should not go to law if it can be possibly avoided; for they thus give the enemy great advantage to entangle and perplex them. It would be better to make a settlement at some loss." "Let us take our position as Seventh-day Adventists. The name is a true expression of our faith. I am instructed to call upon God's people to bring their actions into harmony with their name, of which they have no need to be ashamed. The Seventh-day Adventist faith will bless whenever it is brought into the character-building." (Additional quotes from Ellen G. White.)

I know that I speak in behalf of more than 60 people that attend church here. They were baptized in the Seventh-day Adventist church who can no longer support the General Conference due to the changes within the church which they have imposed upon us. Many are still trying to make changes within the church but without any success. Many of our people drive over 125 miles (one-way) to church every week, to hear the message preached the way it should be.

I wish that I could fully express to you, all of our concerns and feelings about this trial. We pray for Justice in this matter, the question before us is, Can a religion be trade-marked? I think not.

Sincerely, (Signed) Elder Floyd A. Hunt

(Ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen: for the Lord God shall slay thee, and call His servants by another name." Isaiah 65:15.)

“WE KNOW THAT THE LAW IS SPIRITUAL.”

by Gordon Anderson

How can we say that the law is spiritual? How did Paul reach this conclusion? Romans 7:7. ‘I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.’ Paul had been a Pharisee. Surely he knew the law intimately. Surely he knew that lust is wrong. The Pharisees were meticulous about the law and how it should be observed. For example, a man was not permitted to wear a wooden leg on the Sabbath, unless he could prove that it weighed less than his original leg had weighed! Paul obviously knew that adultery was sin but Paul learned something new from the 10th Commandment. He thought he had been a righteous man until he learned what the 10th Commandment is about.

Do you know what the 10th Commandment is all about? **It’s a different and very special commandment. It’s the last one and it contains a vital concept.** Coveting your neighbor’s goods is not stealing, coveting your neighbor’s wife is not committing adultery, but it is **wanting** to do these things. That was the insight that Paul received when he meditated on this commandment. As a Pharisee, he had been so obsessed with outward actions that **it had not occurred to him that God’s law concerns itself also with thoughts, intentions, motives, desires.** As David put it, ‘I have seen an end of all perfection: but **Thy commandment is exceeding broad.**’ Psalm 119:96.

The 10th Commandment reminds us why we have been told in Proverbs 4:23: **‘Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.’** The 10th Commandment reminds us that we are not so good as we think we are, or as we would others to think we are. Ecclesiastes 12:14. ‘For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.’ So we must never be tempted to measure our goodness merely by what we do or do not do. **The thoughts of a man’s heart may be utterly corrupt, even if he has not committed the things another person is condemned for.** When Paul realized this truth, he cried out, ‘O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?’ Romans 7:24.

What light does the 10th Commandment shed on the other nine? What about the 9th Command-

ment, about false witness? Lying is more common than stealing, and more difficult to detect. We claim we are technically telling the truth, **but is it our intention to deceive?** Abraham told Sarah to say that she was his sister. Technically this was true, but his intention was to conceal the truth that she was his wife. He was telling his wife to tell the truth in order to deceive. In the courts, a witness is bound ‘to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.’ Shall we, as followers of Christ, do less? In the 1960s Timothy Leary invented ‘situation ethics’, that the situation determines whether an action is right or wrong. But should not we, who claim to be in the truth and of the truth, tell the truth?

What about the 8th Commandment? M. L. Andreasen tells, before he became a Seventh-day Adventist, of reading in his Lutheran Catechism that the theft of a pin or an apple is not enough to break charity between man and man. This really means that we should not make it an issue if we steal something small, or someone steals something small from us. It means that God will likewise overlook this act. The person who wrote this catechism had never meditated upon Genesis 3. Is there not a danger that this attitude will bring moral confusion? If I may steal one apple, why may I not steal two, or three, or more? Where does sin begin, if you follow this rule? God’s law is spiritual. Why would we take an apple belonging to a neighbor? Because we coveted it! **We break the 10th Commandment, even before we break the 8th.** The commandment speaks of coveting **anything** that is thy neighbor’s. The 10th Commandment teaches us that it is the motive, the desire, the lust that is the transgression of the law, even before the action.

What of the 6th Commandment? Jesus taught that not merely the act of killing is sinful. Killing is preceded by an evil motive. Mt. 5:22 applies what we learn from the 10th Commandment to the 6th.

What of the 1st or the 2nd commandment? We may instinctively plead not guilty to these commandments. We worship only one God; we have no images that we bow down before. But the 10th Commandment teaches us to examine our hearts. Is there anything in our lives that gets between us and

the true God? Ancient gods were made of wood and stone. Some people today worship gods made of more precious substances, hanging them around their necks, putting them on their fingers, decorating their arms, hair, and clothing with these gods. But you may say: This doesn't apply to me. Men especially may feel that this does not apply to them. The heathen gods were often ugly and repulsive. The idols that people worship today are the so-called 'beautiful people,' celebrities of various kinds. But even in the church, there is the temptation to make a god out of the pastor, the conference president, the evangelist, the popular writer. **We need to examine our lives to see if there is any person or thing or habit or practice that comes between us and God.**

The law of God is a mighty mirror in which we may see not only our actions but also the thoughts and intentions of our hearts. Sin, as Paul said in Romans 7:11, deceives us. **There is among conservative Adventists today a revival of Pharisaism.** This kind of person spends most of his time examining the details of what his brethren and sisters are doing so that he can point out their wrongdoing. Like the wooden leg, he invents rules and regulations of his own, concerning Sabbath-keeping, dress [always for women], and all manner of other things. His rules he calls 'standards' but the standard he is upholding is his own. And he is concerned to ensure that everyone else accepts his rules as laws for their lives.

Christ reserved His most telling words for the Pharisees. Matthew 23 is a chapter we should read with care, asking: Lord, is it I? The devil disguises his temptation to Pharisaism in robes of [self-] Righteousness. We may think we are doing the Lord's work as we point out the faults of others. After all, we say, am I not my brother's keeper?

God looks far more deeply into our lives, as the 10th Commandment shows. When we witness to others, we should be like Paul, showing them that the law is spiritual, concerning itself not just with externals, but playing its part in revealing the roots of sin in the heart. The person who sees only the externals will be satisfied merely to have the externals cleaned up. But the person who understands that the law is spiritual will want to be utterly transformed by the power of Jesus Christ. And this is what salvation really means.

Ellen White says: 'God's law is spiritual. It takes cognizance of our most secret thoughts, purposes, and motives. The judgment, the will, and the affections must be controlled by its precepts. **Its principles require love to God and to man; without this love, external compliance will not be accepted.** This law is the standard of Christian character. Like a faithful mirror, it reveals to the children of men the defects in their moral character. It makes them watchful against temptation. **It teaches them to be exact in judgment, and correct in spiritual discernment.** The law of God is holy, just, and good. **When our lives conform to this standard we are happy.**' *Signs of the Times*, June 9, 1881.

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During **April 2008** The Trinity Foundation will give away copies of the paperback editions of *Ecclesiastical Megalomania: The Economic and Political Thought of The Roman Catholic Church* by John W. Robbins, and *Papal Power: Its Origins and Development* by Henry T. Hudson. Requests for free books must be submitted in writing (emails and faxes are acceptable) and must include your name and U.S. address. Postage to U.S. addresses is free. Foreign readers may have a free copy of each book for 11.00 shipping.

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COME TO THE 2008 MASC CAMP MEETING!

THEME: Trim Your Lamps! "Behold the Bridegroom Cometh!"

DATE:
June 4-8, 2008

LOCATION:
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SPEAKERS:

Joe and Elsa Willis
Maranatha Ministry (Honduras)

Cody Francis
Mission Projects International

Mike Casey, ND
Restoration Ranch (California)

Dennis Simpson
Apocalypse Ministry (Montana)

YOUTH SPEAKER: Jonathan Bennett
Advent Books (England)

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"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them; but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps." Mathew 25:1-6

Every specification of this parable should be carefully studied. We are represented either by the wise or by the foolish virgins.¹ All had lamps, that is, an outward semblance of religion; but only five of them had the inward piety. Five of them were wanting in the oil of grace. The Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, the Holy Spirit, was not abiding in their hearts. Without the oil of grace, of what use was it to bear about a lamp of profession?² There was no apparent difference between the wise and the foolish until the cry was made, "Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him;" but the true state of things was then developed. The wise had taken precautions to carry oil with them in their vessels, so

that their lamps that were beginning to burn dimly might be replenished with oil; but the foolish had not provided for this emergency, and now they made an earnest, distressed petition to those who were wise. "And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out." They had neglected to prepare themselves to meet the bridegroom, and now turned to those who had provided themselves with oil. "But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you; but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves."

In reading this parable one cannot but pity the foolish virgins, and ask the question, Why is it that the wise did not divide their supply of oil? But as we make the spiritual application of the parable, we can see the reason. It is not possible for those who have faith and grace to divide their supply with those who have not. It is not possible for those who have made a thorough heart work, to impart the benefit of this to those who have done but surface work. ...This parable should awaken solemn reflections. Considering it we should ask ourselves, Are we doers of the words of Christ? Are we building on the rock? Are we, in our probationary time, making our calling and election sure?³ Our time is precious. We have but a few, a very few, days of probation in which to make ready for the future, immortal life.⁴

Christians should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an overwhelming surprise, and this preparation they should make by diligently studying the Word of God and striving to conform their lives to its precepts.⁵ The "time of trouble, such as never was," is soon to open upon us; and we shall need an experience which we do not now possess and which many are too indolent to obtain.⁶

The Lord calls upon those who believe in him to be workers together with him. ...shall we allow the signs of the end to be fulfilled without telling people of what is coming upon the earth? Shall we allow them to go down in darkness without having urged upon them the need of a preparation to meet their Lord? Unless we ourselves do our duty to those around us, the day of God will come upon us as a thief. Confusion fills the world, and a great terror is soon to come upon human beings. The end is very near. We who know the truth should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an overwhelming surprise.⁷

As a church we are those sleeping virgins, and only those who have the extra oil will be ready when the midnight cry is heard. There has been a delay since this country first attempted to bring in a national Sunday law in the late 1800's, but the Sunday Law proponents are working again to very quickly bring in Sunday legislation. Our probation is soon to close and I believe the time is very near when we will hear the cry we have long waited for: "Behold the Bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet Him"

1 RH, October 31, 1899 par. 13 2 SD 118.2 3 RH, September 17, 1895 par. 3 4 CG 555.3 5 PK 626 6 Mar 161.2
7 RH, November 22, 1906 par. 6

Directions to Pinecrest Camp: Take I 40 to Clarksville (between Fort Smith and Little Rock, AR). Take exit 58, getting on Hwy 103 N. Go 1.5 miles to Hwy US 64 and turning Right on 64 E, go 1.2 miles then turn Left on Hwy 21 North and go 14.5 miles to Ozone. Continue north for 6 more miles. You will see sign on Left for Pinecrest camp. This will be county Rd 5560. Follow signs to camp.

God's Rumbling Thunder

"Deep Words like **thunder** rolled from off His sovereign tongue.
Bright seraphim like **lightning** from His presence flung
And **whistled** as they streaked to this dark orb below
That toiling soldiers –pleading –might these Thunders know.

These Davids toiled alone; unloved from coast to coast. Un-sung.
Above, Probation's Bell hung unperceived by most. Un-rung.
Yet one by one the Swordsmen gathered on Meggido's plain,
With bursts of sparks **THEY'RE SEALED** –forever free from stain!

And **then**, the face of Him who on the Cross was hung...
Is seen. He takes –as Bride– a nation who were once like dung...
Now clean. The mystic throng... the holy, hardy "One-Four-Four",
Do sally forth –a **thundering** like the ocean's roar!

O'ercome by light, I turned from this great shining scene.
For weeks --with angst-- I pondered what these things did mean.
Yet could not quench the "Sparks of Love" this light had brung,
But wept... and begged the God of Thunder --**Make ME one!**

J. R. Skeete

Gospel Poetry Worksheet

1) In this poem "Thunder" is a symbol of the profound and powerful messages that proceed from the mind of God Rev. 4:5; 11:19. In the natural world lightning proceeds thunder, but in the supernatural world God's voice like thunder precedes the lightning which are angels (Ezek. 1:13,14; Rev. 8:5) streaking forth to perform His will. Create a diagram using labeled boxes and arrows that chart the sequence of events in the supernatural world by which the Thundered messages of God's spoken Word reach the unconverted world.

2) Megiddo is a reference to the gathering place of Armageddon mentioned in Rev. 16:16-18. What other ideas does the Bible link with this mysterious place in verses 17 and 18?

3) Although the poem is entitled: "God's Rumbling Thunder" the focal point of the poem is the "militant company" that becomes the human conduit for His earth-shaking messages. List your ideas as to what the possible significance of the seven various names this poem uses for this special spiritual battalion? Use Bible texts or Spirit of Prophecy as much as possible. A few references have been given below to get you started.

Toiling Soldiers: 2Tim. 2:3,4

Lonely Davids: Zech. 12:8; 1Sam. 18:5,14,30

Singular Swordsmen: Ca. 3:6-8

God's Bride: Rev. 19:7,8. Isa. 54:5 Psa. 45:9,13

God's Nation: Ex. 19:5,6; 1Pet. 2:9; Pro. 14:34

The Mystic Throng: 7BC 978 left column bottom

The Holy 1-4-4. Rev. 7:1-4; Rev.14:4

4) The picture that is described in line eight, is of a shower of sparks flying off these soldiers as when a metal grinder bares down and shapes a hard piece of steel. How is this image developed and explained in the last two lines of the poem?

Three Angels Chapel Outreach Report

By Julie Shurley



find our church, but never could!

We have met in this rented building for about four years, but just put up a sign this year! The building needed some repairs to make it look presentable and finding the time and resources to accomplish this with our few numbers just took a while. But because of several comments we've gotten from non-members recently, we began to feel that we really were hiding our light under a bushel by not having a sign. One man whom we have known for some time said he thought this must be a family affair and that we didn't want any other people to come! Then another member ran into a woman whom he had met going door to door the previous summer. She told him she had gone up and down the road trying to

Very shortly after we erected our sign, a lady came to our church. Several of us have known her from a number of years ago. She had visited the Mena GC church for awhile, but had been made to feel unwelcome there. She told us that she was thrilled when she saw our sign, to see that there was another Sabbath keeping church in the area. Without realizing that she would know some of us here, she determined to attend the very next Sabbath!

We have gotten a number of comments at work about our new sign. One man told us that he had to pull his car over and look up the text on the sign (Revelation 14:6-12) to see what the three angels were all about!

Currently we are in the process of remodeling the inside of our church building. We put up a wall to divide the sanctuary from the fellowship area. We used to feel like we were eating in the sanctuary when we would have fellowship lunch, and we didn't feel that this was showing the kind of reverence the Lord would want us to show for His sanctuary. Now we have a nice fellowship room which also serves as a foyer so that there is no visiting in the sanctuary.



At the beginning of this year, our church purchased 500 Final Events of Bible Prophecy DVD's from Amazing Facts. Since then we have gone out on several occasions to different Mena neighborhoods giving them out door to door. We put our contact information on them and pray that we will get some responses. We just placed an ad in the Mena paper for people to call to receive a free DVD on Bible Prophecy. We pray we will have a good response from people who are specifically interested in getting the DVD rather than just blanket-ing a neighborhood.

We hope to put a weekly column in the paper dealing with the Ten Commandments, the Sabbath, the state of the dead and other important truths for this time. We must get these messages before the public as things are happening very rapidly to bring the great controversy to its close. It won't be long now. Jesus is coming very soon.

UPDATE FROM GREEN PASTURES HOME SCHOOL, INDIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Although this is "summer" vacation time for Green Pastures, there are some of the elementary students who asked that they not be sent home so that they could be of help and support to Brother and Sister Tharasingh to keep things going on campus. However, when the older seminary and English language students left there were some very homesick children! But, Brother Timothy keeps them occupied, and especially on Sabbath, had the most homesick young boy helping him by translating the sermon, and in this way helping him to feel needed, and keeping his mind occupied.

We are still awaiting the help that has been promised, and it seems that April some time will be the earliest that anyone can arrive, so in the meantime we are asking the Lord to guide and direct, that the right people will be impressed to come, and that the forces of evil will be pushed back. The Tharasingh's face many difficulties on an ongoing basis, and covet your prayers.

Brother Sunil, the latest teacher to join the staff is there with his wife and two year old son. They are still trying to adjust to country living, after having been raised and living in a city environment for all his forty-four years, "and he hardly knows how to help grow food or any strenuous work." But, he speaks English, is easily understood, and this is a big plus.

The seminary students have been supplied with their own Pocket Book series of SOP--the Conflict of the Ages and two or three other books included, so they have a nice lot of reading available to them while on vacation.

There have been ample showers of rain, so planting of fruit trees on the next door property (owned by an Adventist, and permission given to plant fruit trees for school use) has been done-- Mangoes, guavas, pomegranate, custard apple, limes, gooseberries and sapota, as well as some flowers--roses, jasmine etc.

Sister Anita reports that "the lads in charge put on the lights in the evening and walk the place over to make sure there is no trespassing." Sometimes there are marauders and drunkards who try to come in and cause problems. Their trust is in the Lord, and so far, they have been safe.

Brother and Sister Tharasingh especially ask for your prayer support. They are trying again for visas to come to the USA to visit their two daughters, and especially a handicapped grand daughter whom they have never seen.

Would be wonderful if they were able to be here for the Arkansas Camp Meeting. Please pray! May God bless you all, SALUTE Ministries.

Br. M. POLSKY'S COLPORTEUR EXPERIENCE

I was working in apartment complex and a woman asked me to stop by again at her apartment around 5:30PM. I arrived there on time, and saw a woman drive up. Thinking it was her, I called her name a few times from a distance and she looked around and about. As I approached her I realized it was another woman and she said that I must have mistaken her with someone else. She said her name was Kitty, and I explained that I am a colporteur and that I had some wonderful literature that she may be interested in. Kitty said that she was a Christian, and I took out a Great Controversy Hardback and explained the book to her and Kitty said that she was interested. I told her that the donation for it would be \$20.

She said, "Would you believe that that is just what I have left from shopping today," so she hurried into the apartment which was her sister's. It just so happened that she was there picking up her daughter from the weekend. God's Providence is wonderful. So she brought back \$25 and said, "Here you go." **Then she explained to me that she had received an e-mail chain letter saying that she would receive a book but would not have to go out for it, and that the book would change her life. AMEN!**

Finally, when we saying our goodbyes, I had mentioned to Kitty that if she and her family would like to do Bible studies together I would be delighted to do so. She then said to me that her mother was just talking about having Bible studies, and that she would speak to her about it.

BAPTISM IN GHANA

In my last Evangelism report, I mentioned we have about 17 people preparing for baptism. Last Sabbath 8 eight souls were baptized and have joined God's church. Praise the Lord. We are still getting about 14 people for the next baptism. Attached are some of the baptismal pictures. The Lord is blessing the work in Pokuase Mayera, Accra. Keep us in your prayers. Joseph Class-Peters.



TESTIMONIES FROM TIME OF REFRESHING

1240 Reeves Road Blairsville GA 30512 (706)835-2789

Reported by Jeffery Maxwell, Therapist

* A 60+ year old came not able to walk, but walked home and throughout the airport. She came with bad diabetes, but her sugar was normal when she left. For a long time she could not kneel, but she knelt in prayer again here.

* An 81 year old female that had diabetes, high blood pressure, bordering on renal (kidney) failure, and serious obesity, was feeling much better by the time she left. She dropped all of her medication, dropped her manufactured insulin intake from high to very low input per day, lost over 20 pounds, and was much happier. Previously she was waiting to be laid asleep in the grave, but now she is determined to change her lifestyle and live to bring more glory to God.

* A lady with Hepatitis C had swelling around her liver that went away, and has regained the energy that she has not had in a while, and expelled gallstones. She was backslidden from the ways that she knew was right, but is now determined to carry out God's principles and laws in her life.

Kopná Project 2008

Gospel Medical Missionary Training

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. Education p.57

The Lord calls upon our young people to enter our schools, and quickly fit themselves for service. In various places, outside of cities, schools are to be established, where our youth can receive an education that will prepare them to go forth to do evangelical work and medical missionary work. GCB June 3, 1909

For the third year we are inviting youth to the beautiful mountains of Kopná for a special time of practical training and spiritual growth.

As the Lord has opened this opportunity once again, we pray that He will call the right group of students. May the Lord guide you in your decision.

Your friends from Kopná

Time: Sunday, July 6 - Sunday, August 24, 2008

Location: Kašava (15 km east of Zlín), Czech Republic

Languages: English (with Czech translation)

Age: 15 yrs and older (exceptions on request)

Costs: 350 Euro (incl. Housing, Food, Tuition)

Report of Training 2007, Further Info & Application:

kopnaprojekt@gmail.com

Program:

Week 1-3 Organic Agriculture

Basic Course Medical Missionary Work: The Principles & Application of GOD'S PLAN (The 8 Laws of Health), Understanding The Creator's Masterpiece (Anatomy & Physiology), God's Nutritional Plan, Hydrotherapy, Rational Natural Remedies, God's 'Farm'acy (Herbs).

Week 4-6 Massage

Fundamental Beliefs: Righteousness by Faith, Sanctuary, Prophecy

Week 7 Adventist History

The picture below is the actual location of the Kopna Project in Czech Republic.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for your e-mail about the latest 'Bugle' which I greatly appreciated reading. Our people need to be warned about the real problems that separate the General Conference officials from the church. Keep up the good work. Our people need to understand that we cannot be Seventh-day Calvinists and still be God's remnant people.

I appreciated your highlighting the confusion among us, as a people, over the nature Christ took upon Himself during His incarnation. Folk need to be reminded that this is a matter of central importance, because of its impact on every aspect of the doctrine of righteousness by faith. Having lost the theological and historical arguments, Paulsen and his fellow-New Theologians are trying their fall-back strategy, that it is really unimportant what you believe about this subject.

What needs to be placed before the people is the relation of the 'unfallen nature' teaching to the whole Calvinist package. A good place to start might be to show how those who accept this New Theology have adopted a different definition of sin, which arises logically out of the 'unfallen nature' teaching. It is because of this that ministers over here, from conference presidents down, routinely assure the people that 'we will be sinning till Jesus comes.' You'll remember that this was the major plank in Desmond Ford's refutation of Brinsmead's ideas.

Keep up the good work of showing our people what is happening in our colleges and among our ministers. Far too many are taken in by 'men of talent and pleasing address' who have turned their back on the Advent message.

May God continue to bless all of you in the Sisterhood. Please convey our greetings to any who remember us.

Gordon & Heather, England

Thank you so much for this beautiful News Letter... My husband has been giving a seminar for two weeks on the Nature of Christ here in Florida... because we've found the wrong doctrine preached in many different places around the world.. so this information is very valuable for us.... JB, FLORIDA

I really enjoyed the Bugle issues you have put together. They have been really helpful. Thank you for the time and energy you have invested. Your brother in Christ, SE, Arkansas

NEEDS: 1--Roger and Diane Merrill are seeking help in Talkeetna, Alaska for their ministry. Young men, couples, Call 907-733-1844.

2--Times of Refreshing Health Education Center in Blairsville, GA, is looking for a female therapist. (Training may be provided.) Call 706=897-8537

CAMP MEETING: Indianapolis, Indiana, June 19-22

Theme: Righteousness By Faith

Location: Jameson Inn (Near I-465 & West 38th St.)
3850 Eagle View Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46254
(317) 299-6165

Speakers: Pastor **Maurice Berry** (main speaker) Chris Peters, John Barnette, J R Ryder, John Skeete

Topics: Righteousness by Faith, Prophecy

Meals: Lunch provided with purchase of meal tickets.

INTERNATIONAL SABBATH SCHOOL QUARTERLIES

Can be purchased from:
SEEDS OF WISDOM MINISTRIES
114 POLK 405, COVE, AR 71937
870-387-5053

sowministries@alltel.net

Also, Please send all new names and addresses for the Bugle, or change of addresses to the address above.

The Mid America Sisterhood of Churches is an organization founded to facilitate the unification and cooperative effort among the scattered home and independent churches of the Historic Adventist movement. For more info. or a membership packet contact the MASC Secretary. Visit our website at www.midamericasisterhood.org

The BUGLE is the official newsletter of the Mid-America Sisterhood of Churches (MASC).

The BUGLE is a quarterly publication with the purpose of facilitating communication and cooperation amongst the sisterhood churches. It seeks to uplift, edify and encourage by sharing how God is working in each of our fields of labor.

Subscription information: A donation of \$5-\$10 per year is suggested. Send subscription requests to the MASC Secretary (see info on last page). **Contributions to MASC and/or to the Bugle can be directed to: MASC, Route 2 Box 329AA, Mena, AR 71953**

Editorial Committee for this issue: Julie Shurley, Dr. Sudhir Pandit, Barry Mellor.

Deadline for next Newsletter entries:

June 30, 2008

Please direct any submissions for the Bugle to the Editor, Patrick Jones via:

e-mail: pjones4@hotmail.com,

phone: 931-692-1844, or

mail: 1288 MyersTown Rd., Beersheba Springs, TN 37305.

NEXT SISTERHOOD MEETING—FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2008

WHERE: At Camp Meeting at Pine Crest camp, Ozone, AR. **WHEN:** Starting at 12:30 PM
for info. call (479) 394-7599 or (479) 394-7111

Important Note: Each church must inform the MASC Secretary who will be attending as their elected delegates, no later than **May 23, 2008.**

Next MASC meeting Chairman

Trey Shurley
176 Polk 67

Mena, AR 71953

(479)394-7111

nodramas@juno.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

Secretary
Scott Eakins
881 Polk 59
Mena, AR 71953
(479) 394-7599

Treasurer* and Assistant Secretary
Everett & Marsha Chadwick
Route 2 Box 329AA
Mena, AR 71953
(918) 651-3281

Assistant Treasurer
Joan Swope
114 Polk 406
Cove, AR 71953
(870) 387-5053

***Our Treasurer reports that there are upcoming camp meeting expenses, especially for the speakers fund, and thanks all that have given thus far. Please support this year's camp meeting financially, but especially with your prayers and presence. Invite your friends to come.**

MASC Newsletter
114 POLK 405,
COVE, AR 71937
870-387-5053



Young people, look
inside. Will you be
one of the 144,000?
Strive to be one.

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www.MidAmericaSisterhood.org