

# *Why spiritual drought, spiritual darkness and spiritual declension and death in the church?*



"SHALL CHRIST BE COMPELLED TO BEAR CONTINUALLY THE SHAMEFUL INFIRMITIES OF HIS PEOPLE BECAUSE THEY ACCEPT THE FALSE SENTIMENTS PROCEEDING FROM THE FIRST TRAITOR IN THE HEAVENLY COURTS? IF THE ANGELS WERE DECEIVED BY LUCIFER'S INGENUOUS METHODS OF MISREPRESENTING GOD, IF ADAM AND EVE WERE DECEIVED BY HIS DECLARATION THAT GOD WAS WITHHOLDING FROM THEM THE HIGHER EDUCATION THAT WOULD MAKE THEM AS GODS, IS THERE NOT DANGER THAT MEN TODAY WILL BE DECEIVED? PLEASE READ THE FIRST CHAPTER OF PATRIARCHS AND PROPHETS AND SEE IF THE PRECIOUS TRUTHS CONTAINED IN THIS BOOK ARE NOT GIVEN BY THE LORD TO PROTECT HIS PEOPLE FROM DECEPTIONS THAT ARE URGED UPON THEM JUST NOW."

10MR 162.5

Especially solemn is the apostle's statement regarding those who should refuse to receive 'the love of the truth.' 'For this cause,' he declared of all who should deliberately reject the messages of truth, 'God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie;' that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.' Men cannot with impunity reject the warnings that God in mercy sends them. From those who persist in turning from these warnings, God withdraws His Spirit, leaving them to the deceptions that they love. *Acts of the Apostles*, 266.

Men may get up scheme after scheme and the enemy will seek to seduce souls from the truth, but all who believe that the Lord has spoken through Sister White and has given her a message will be safe from the many delusions that will come in these last days.--3SM 83, 84 (1906). {LDE 44.2}

As the end draws near and the work of giving the last warning to the world extends, it becomes more important for those who accept present truth to have a clear understanding of the nature and influence of the testimonies, which God in His providence has linked with the work of the third angel's message from its very rise.--5T 654 (1889). {LDE 44.1}

One thing is certain: Those Seventh-day Adventists who take their stand under Satan's banner will first give up their faith in the warnings and reproofs contained in the Testimonies of God's Spirit. {3SM 84.3}

## Why spiritual drought, spiritual darkness and spiritual declension and death in the church?

No one has said that we shall find perfection in any man's investigations; but this I do know, that **our churches are dying for the want of teaching on the subject of righteousness by faith in Christ, and on kindred truths.** {GW 301.1}

The lapse of time has wrought no change in **Christ's** parting promise **to send** the **Holy Spirit** as **His representative**. It is not because of any restriction on the part of God that the **riches of His grace do not flow earthward** to men. **If the fulfillment of the promise is not seen as it might be, it is because the promise is not appreciated as it should be.** If all were willing, all would be **filled with the Spirit.** **Wherever the need of the Holy Spirit is a matter little thought of, there is seen spiritual drought, spiritual darkness, spiritual declension and death.** Whenever minor matters occupy the attention, the **divine power which is necessary for the growth and prosperity of the church,** and which would bring all other blessings in its train, **is lacking,** though offered in **infinite plenitude.** {AA 50.1}

Since **this is the means** by which we are to **receive power,** why do we not hunger and thirst for the **gift of the Spirit?** **Why do we not talk of it, pray for it, and preach concerning it?** The Lord is more willing to give the **Holy Spirit** to those who serve Him than parents are to give good gifts to their children. For the daily baptism of the **Spirit** every worker should **offer his petition to God.** Companies of Christian workers should gather to **ask for special help, for heavenly wisdom,** that they may know how to plan and execute wisely. **Especially should they pray** that God will **baptize** His chosen ambassadors in mission fields with a rich measure of **His Spirit.** **The presence of the Spirit with God's workers will give the proclamation of truth a power that not all the honor or glory of the world could give.** {AA 50.2}

Regarding **spiritual drought,** see also **boxed** quote on page 19 of this document as it relates to the sanctuary ←

**Why is there so dim a perception of the true spiritual condition of the church?** Has not **blindness fallen** upon the watchmen standing on the walls of Zion?...Who can truthfully say, 'Our gold is tried in the fire; our garments are unspotted by the world'? I saw our Instructor pointing to the garments of **so-called righteousness.** Stripping them off, He laid bare the **defilement beneath.** Then He (Christ) said to me: **'Can you not see how they have pretentiously covered up their defilement and rottenness of character? How is the faithful city become an harlot!** My Father's house is made a house of merchandise, a place whence **the divine presence and glory have departed!**' Testimonies, vol 8, p 248-50 (April 21, 1903). **"Harlot, Rome, an apostate church that has daughters that follow her examples"**

"The **truth & glory** of God are inseparable" 1884GC 416.2 ←

### **WHAT IS THE DIVINE PRESENCE?**

--So from the holy ones that stand in **God's presence** **His Spirit** is imparted to the human instrumentalities who are consecrated to His service. {COL 408.1}

--The men and women who through the long centuries of persecution and trial enjoyed a large measure of the **presence of the Spirit** in their lives, have stood as signs and wonders in the world. {AA 49.2}

--The **presence of the Spirit** with God's workers will give the proclamation of truth a power that not all the honor or glory of the world could give. {AA 50.2}

--I shall never, I think, be called to stand **under the direction of the Holy Spirit** as I stood at Minneapolis. **The presence of Jesus was with me.** {SpM 34.1}

--We had an excellent meeting. The **presence of the Lord** was with us. **He breathed upon me His Holy Spirit** and gave me **the spirit** of earnest supplication to **God that I might be imbued with His Holy Spirit** in all my labors, and that my ministering brethren might be **endowed with power from on high** to carry the solemn message to all parts of the world. {1888 461.2}

**Let's talk about it for a moment (on that which has been revealed). Who is the Holy Spirit?**

We want **the Holy Spirit, which is Jesus Christ.** {Lt66-1894 (April 10, 1894) par. 18}

**In giving us His Spirit, God gives us Himself,** making **Himself** a **fountain of divine influences,** to give health and **life to the world.** {7T 273}

**Christ** gives them **the breath of His own Spirit, the life of His own life.** **The Holy Spirit** puts forth its highest energies **to work in mind and heart.** {MH 159}

Phil 2:5 Let **this mind** be in you, **which was also in Christ Jesus:**

So the **life-giving power of the Holy Spirit, proceeding from Christ**, and imparted to every disciple, pervades the soul, renews the motives and affections, and **even the most secret thoughts**, and brings forth the precious fruit of holy deeds. {LP 131}

Gal 2:20 **I am crucified with Christ**: nevertheless I live; yet **not I, but Christ liveth in me**: and **the life** which I now live in the flesh **I live by the faith of the Son of God**, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

It is **through the Spirit that Christ dwells in us**; and the **Spirit of God, received into the heart by faith**, is **the beginning of the life eternal**. {DA 388}

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

So **in every soul** wherein **Christ, the hope of glory, dwells**, His words are re-echoed, "I delight to do Thy will, O My **God**: yea, **Thy law is within My heart**." Psalm 40:8. {Pr 294.4}

If **Christ, the hope of glory**, is **in you**, the **light of Heaven will shine from you into the moral darkness of the world**, and souls will be guided to **the light of life**. {ST February 24, 1888, par. 8}

Let them **be thankful to God** for His manifold mercies and be kind to one another. They have **one God and one Saviour**; and **one Spirit—the Spirit of Christ**—is to bring **unity** into their ranks. {E.G. White, Testimonies Volume 9, p. 189} 1909.

**Those who are destitute of sympathy, tenderness, and love cannot do Christ's work.** Before the prophecy can be fulfilled, The weak shall be "as David," and the house of David "as the angel of the Lord" (Zechariah 12:8), the children of God must put away every thought of suspicion in regard to their brethren. **Heart must beat in unison with heart. Christian benevolence and brotherly love must be far more abundantly shown.** The words are ringing in my ears: "Draw together, draw together." The solemn, sacred truth for this time is to **unify** the people of God. The desire for pre-eminence must die. **One subject of emulation must swallow up all others,—who will most nearly resemble Christ in character? who will most entirely hide self in Jesus?** {2TT 381.2} **CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY!!** ←

**The end is near!** We have not a moment to lose! **Light is to shine forth from God's people in clear, distinct rays, bringing Jesus before the churches and before the world.** Our work is not to be restricted to those who already know the truth; our field is the world. The instrumentalities to be used are those souls **who gladly receive the light of truth which God communicates to them.** These are **God's agencies** for **communicating the knowledge of truth** to the world. **If through the grace of Christ his people will become new bottles, he will fill them with the new wine.** God will give **additional light, and old truths will be recovered, and replaced in the frame-work of truth**; and wherever the laborers go, they will triumph. **As Christ's ambassadors, they are to search the Scriptures, to seek for the truths that have been hidden beneath the rubbish of error. And every ray of light received is to be communicated to others. One interest will prevail, one subject will swallow up every other,—Christ our righteousness.** {1888 765.6} **CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY!!** ←

The conversion of the human soul is of no little consequence. It **is the greatest miracle** performed by divine power. Actual results are to be reached through a belief in Christ as a personal Saviour. Purified by obedience to the law of God, sanctified by a perfect observance of His holy Sabbath, trusting, believing, patiently waiting, and earnestly working out our own salvation with fear and trembling, we shall learn that it is God that worketh in us to will and to do of His good pleasure.—Manuscript 6, 1900. {Ev 289.2}

**The miracle-working power** of Christ's grace is revealed in the creation in man of a new heart, a higher life, a holy enthusiasm. God says, "A new heart also will I give unto you." Is not this renewal of man **the greatest miracle** that can be performed? What can not the human agent do who by faith takes hold of divine power? He loves the Lord Jesus with his whole heart, and Christ becomes his wisdom, his righteousness, his sanctification, and his redemption. {BTS January 1, 1904, par. 2}

Christ's love in the heart, revealing through the life its wondrous power—this is **the greatest miracle** that can be performed before a fallen, quarreling world. Let us try to work this miracle, not in our own power, but in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, whose we are and whom we serve. Let us put on Christ, and **the miracle-working power** of His grace will be so plainly revealed in the transformation of character that the world will be convinced that God has sent His Son into the world to make men as angels in character and life. {OFC 273.2}

Unbelievers have inquired, "Why are not **miracles** wrought among those who claim to be God's people?" Brethren, **the greatest miracle** that can be wrought is the conversion of the human heart. We need to be reconverted, losing sight of self and human ideas, and beholding Christ, that we may be transformed into His likeness. **When this the greatest of all miracles is wrought within our hearts, we shall see the workings of other miracles.** {4MR 113.1}

# Give us the Holy Ghost

Refrain:

Give us the Holy Ghost,  
Father, give us the Holy Ghost,

1. Like a child that can't speak and who knows not his way,  
We don't know what to ask at Your Throne when we pray,  
So give us the Holy Ghost.

Refrain

2. That Your Name be revealed as the Father of Love,  
In the world all around us, below and above,  
So give us the Holy Ghost.

Refrain

3. That Your people in Babylon finally leave,  
And refuse all her wine, and her plagues don't receive,  
So give us the Holy Ghost.

Refrain

4. That Your church be united in action and thought,  
And in oneness of love and of feeling be brought,  
So give us the Holy Ghost.

Refrain

5. That the Fourth Angel's message shine out all abroad,  
With the latter rain power and glory of God,  
So give us the Holy Ghost.

~\*an early Advent hymn

Since this is the means by which we are to receive power, why do we not hunger and thirst for the gift of the Spirit? Why do we not talk of it, pray for it, and preach concerning it? The Lord is more willing to give the Holy Spirit to those who serve Him than parents are to give good gifts to their children. {AA 50.2}

\* <http://www.practicapoetica.com/adventist-poetry-and-hymns/songs-of-hope-and-trust/the-everlasting-gospel/give-us-the-holy-ghost/>

*Jesus received by inheritance his Father's Spirit; therefore, God the Father and Jesus share the same Spirit. Jesus inherited ALL things from his Father. Jesus also inherited his Father's name, "God"; and thus why Jesus is also called God.*

Heb 1:2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by [his] Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

Heb 1:4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

In these words is set forth the great principle which is the law of life for the universe. All things Christ received from God, but He took to give. So in the heavenly courts, in His ministry for all created beings: through the beloved Son, the Father's life flows out to all; through the Son it returns, in praise and joyous service, a tide of love, to the great Source of all. And thus through Christ the circuit of beneficence is complete, representing the character of the great Giver, the law of life. Desire of Ages p. 21, 1898

God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God. To Christ has been given an exalted position. He has been made equal with the Father. All the counsels of God are opened to His Son. {8T 268.3}

Jesus said to the Jews: "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.... The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He seeth the Father do: for what things soever He doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and showeth Him all things that Himself doeth." John 5:17-20. {8T 268.4}

God Himself by His Holy Spirit instructed Mary how to bring up His Son. (The Story of Jesus, p.30, 1896)

*God, the Father GAVE life to his Son, Jesus. God the Father is greater than His Son, Jesus. God GAVE (by inheritance) to his son, Jesus, the power to create. Thus, they created together. Everything begins with God the Father first, as He is Supreme of the Universe. God the Father, existed first. What a lovely truth!*

John 14:28 ... I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

4

The Father and the Son engaged in the mighty, wondrous work they had contemplated, of creating the world. ... After the earth was created, and the beasts upon it, the Father and Son carried out their purpose, which was designed before the fall of Satan, to make man in their own image. They had wrought together in the creation of the earth and every living thing upon it. And now God said to His Son, "Let us make man in our image." [Gen 1:26]— (E.G. White, 1SP, 24.1,2)

*So, whose Spirit are we not to grieve? How do we grieve (God's/ Jesus') Spirit? Remember, the Father and Christ share the same Spirit.*

Eph 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God (incl. Christ), whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

I ask again, How can any who have the precious, solemn message for this time indulge in impure thoughts and unholy deeds, when they know that He that never slumbers and never sleeps sees every action and reads every thought of the mind? Oh, it is because iniquity is found in God's professed people that He can do so little for them. {TM 430.2} The truth, when received into the heart, sanctifies the receiver; kept apart from the life and practice, it is dead and useless to the receiver. How can you, oh, how can you grieve your Redeemer? How can you dishonor Him before His angels and before men? How can you grieve the Holy Spirit of God? How can you crucify the Lord of glory afresh, and put Him to open shame? How can you give occasion for Satan and his angels to exult and triumph over those who claim to be loyal subjects of Jesus Christ? TM 431.1}

What constitutes the sin against the Holy Ghost? It is willfully attributing to Satan the work of the Holy Spirit. — 6T 634.1, 1889)

Christ breathed on his disciples, and said, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost." This is the great gift of heaven. Christ imparted to them through the Spirit his own sanctification. He imbued them with his power, that they might win souls to the gospel. Henceforth Christ would live through their faculties, and speak through their words. They were privileged to know that

hereafter **he** and they were to be **one**. They must cherish his principles and be controlled by his **Spirit**. They were no longer to follow their own way, to speak their own words. **The words they spoke** were to proceed from a **sanctified heart**, and fall from **sanctified lips**. No longer were they to live their own selfish life; **Christ was to live in them and speak through them**. **He** would give to them **the glory** that he had with the Father that **he and they might be one in God**. {E.G. White General Conference Bulletin, October 1, 1899 par. 14}. [*IMBUE*, v.t. *imbu'*. to dip, *drench* or *steep in water*.] 1. To tinge *deeply*; to dye 2. To *tincture deeply*; ←  
to *cause to imbibe*; as, to imbue the minds of youth with good principles] 1828 Webster's Dictionary

## *How would they be one in God?*

John 10:30 **I** and [my] **Father** are **one**.

The **Sovereign** of the universe **was not alone** in His work of beneficence. **He** had **an associate—a co-worker** who could appreciate **His** purposes, and could share **His** joy in giving happiness to created beings. "In the beginning was **the Word**, and **the Word was with God**, and **the Word was God**. The same was in the beginning with God." John 1:1, 2. **Christ, the Word, the only begotten of God, was one with the eternal Father—one in nature, in character, in purpose—the only being that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of God**. "**His name** shall be called **Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace**." Isaiah 9:6. His "goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2. And **the Son of God** declares **concerning Himself**: "The **Lord** possessed **Me** in the beginning of **His** way, before **His** works of old. **I** was set up from everlasting.... When **He** appointed the foundations of the earth: then **I** was by **Him**, as one brought up with **Him**: and **I** was daily **His** delight, rejoicing always before **Him**." Proverbs 8:22-30. {PP 34.}

**Christ the Word, the Only Begotten of God, was one with the eternal Father,—one in nature, in character, and in purpose,—the only being** in all the universe that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of **God**. **By Christ the Father wrought in the creation** of all heavenly beings. "By **Him** were all things created, that are in heaven, ... whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers" (Colossians 1:16); and **to Christ, equally with the Father**, all heaven gave allegiance. {GC 493.1}

The Scriptures clearly indicate **the relation between God and Christ**, and they bring to view as clearly **the personality and individuality of each**. {MH 421.2}

**God**, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, **hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son**; ... **who being the brightness of His glory**, and **the express image of His person**, and upholding all things **by the word of His power**, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; being made so much better than the angels, as **He hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they**. For unto which of the angels said He at any time. {MH 421.3}

**Thou art My Son**. This day have **I begotten Thee**? {MH 421.4}

And again, {MH 421.5}

**I will be to Him a Father**, And **He shall be to Me a Son**?" {MH 421.6}

Hebrews 1:1-5.

The **personality of the Father and the Son**, also the **unity** that exists **between Them**, are presented in the **seventeenth chapter of John**, in the prayer of Christ for His disciples: {MH 421.7}

Neither pray **I** for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on **Me** through their word; **that they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee**, that they also may be **one** in **Us**: that the world may believe that **Thou** hast sent **Me**." John 17:20, 21. {MH 421.8}

The **unity** that exists between **Christ** and His disciples **does not destroy the personality of either**. They are **one in purpose, in mind, in character, but not in person**. **It is thus that God and Christ are one**. {MH 422.1}

**God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God**. **To Christ** has been given an exalted position. **He** has been made **equal** with the Father. All the counsels of **God** are opened **to His Son**. {8T 268.3}

**Jesus** said to the Jews: "**My Father** worketh hitherto, and **I** work.... **The Son** can do nothing of Himself, but what **He seeth the Father do: for what things soever He doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise**. **For the Father loveth the Son**, and showeth **Him all things that Himself doeth**." John 5:17-20. {8T 268.4}

*And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? [there is] none good but one, [that is],  
God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. Matt 19:17*

Here again is brought to view **the personality of the Father and the Son**, showing the **unity** that exists between them. {8T 269.1} This **unity** is expressed also **in the seventeenth chapter of John**, in the prayer of Christ for His disciples: {8T 269.2} "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word; **that they all may be one**; as Thou, **Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us**; that the world may believe that **Thou hast sent Me**. **And the glory** which **Thou** gavest **Me I** have given them; **that they may be one, even as We are one: I in them, and Thou in Me**, that they may be made perfect **in one**; and that the world may know that **Thou hast sent Me**, and hast **loved them**, as **Thou hast loved Me**." John 17:20-23. {8T 269.3} (*The Father and Christ are **one in "personality"-character, but NOT in "person" -individuality***) **Wonderful statement! The unity that exists between Christ and His disciples does not destroy the personality of either. They are one in purpose, in mind, in character, but not in person. It is thus that God and Christ are one.** {8T 269.4} ←

### The Spirit of Christ, the Mind of Christ

The teacher **must be baptized with the Holy Spirit**. Then **the mind and spirit of Christ** will be in him, and he will confess Christ in a spiritual and holy life. {E. G. White, Review and Herald, February 9, 1892 par. 21}

All the followers of Christ are to be laborers together with God. **Filled with the Spirit, having the mind of Christ**, in perfect sympathy with him, they are, in their sphere, to bend every energy to the salvation of souls. {Signs of Times, March 7, 1892 par. 10}.

Could there be a convocation of all the churches on earth, the object of their united cry should be for the Holy Spirit. **When we have that, Christ our sufficiency is ever present, we shall have every want supplied. We shall have the mind of Christ.**—Letter 114, 1894. {Manuscript Releases Vol 4. p 335.5}

Frank Belden knows the earlier history of the work in the office; he knows the testimonies which God has sent to him and others in regard to self-denial and sacrifice. He is not ignorant of the many opening fields where the standard of truth is to be lifted, and where means are needed to establish the work. **If he had the Spirit of Christ, he would reveal the mind of Christ**". {1888 Materials 1107.1}

Then said Jesus unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from Heaven. For the bread of God is He which cometh down from Heaven, and giveth life unto the world. Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread." **Jesus used bread as a figure to illustrate the vitalizing power of his Spirit**. The one sustains physical life, while the other satisfies the heart, and strengthens the moral powers. Said he, "I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." {Spirit of Prophecy Vol 2. p 276.2}.

**Christ is the bread of life, yet eating of that bread is the receiving of His Spirit.**

*The presence of the Holy Spirit is the presence of the mind of the Lord and the Holy Spirit has a divine personality, for it is Christ Himself.*

Ever learning of the **divine Teacher**, daily partaking of his **nature**, we co-operate with **God** in overcoming Satan's temptations. **God** works, and man works, **that man may be one with Christ as Christ is one with God. Then we sit together with Christ in heavenly places**. The mind rests with peace and assurance in Jesus. The Saviour declares, "**He that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.**" In him there is inexhaustible fullness. As we follow on to know the Lord, we shall lead souls to the **living word**. With us they will know that his going forth is prepared as the morning. {RH April 24, 1900, par. 7}

Heavenly angels are working **to bring the human family into a close brotherhood, a oneness** described by **Christ as like that existing between the Father and the Son**. How can men so highly favored by God fail to appreciate their **opportunities** and **privileges**? How can they refuse to accept the **divine help** proffered? How much it is possible for human beings to gain if they will keep eternity in view! {RH July 4, 1899, Art. A, par. 6}

"These words spake **Jesus**, and lifted up **His** eyes to **heaven**, and said, **Father**, the hour is come; **glorify thy Son**, that **thy Son** may **glorify thee**; as thou hast given **Him power** over all flesh, that should **give eternal life** to as many as **Thou** hast **given Him**. And **this is life eternal** that they **might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ** whom **Thou** hast sent." {BCL 127.2}

In this scripture (John 17:3) **God and Christ** are spoken of separately. They are two distinct persons, **but one in mind, one in heart, one in holiness and justice, and purity, and one in the work of seeking to save the sinful race.** To those **who believe in Christ, God will give power** to become His sons even to them that believe on His name. **This is the science of the life that now is, and of the life which is to come.** This is **the true science** that our medical men need to study,—the science of the saving **grace of the gospel.** This is the science that students must study in order to become genuine medical missionaries. {BCL 127.3}

They must have **his grace, the Spirit of Christ,** to help their infirmities, or they cannot resist evil. {SC 522}

There must be no long discussions, **no presenting of new theories in regard to prophecies that God has already made plain.** The great work from which the mind should not be diverted is the consideration of our personal standing in the sight of God. Are our feet on the **Rock of Ages?** Are we hiding ourselves in the only **Refuge?** The storm is coming, relentless in its fury. Are we prepared to meet it? **Are we one with Christ as he is one with the Father? Are we heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ? Are we working in co-partnership with the Saviour?** {RH November 27, 1900, par. 13}

And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Gal 3:29

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, [there] ye may be also. John 14:1-3



## GLORIOUS SIGHT

Isaac Watts  
Rev. 21:1-4 (C.M.D.)

"And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,  
coming down from God out of heaven." Rev. 21:2

Nova Scotian Melody



1. Lo, what a glor - ious sight ap - pears, To our be - liev - ing eyes!  
2. At - tend - ing an - gels shout for joy, And the bright ar - mies sing,  
3. His own soft hand shall wipe the tears From ev' - ry weep - ing eye;



The earth and seas are passed a - way, And the old, rol - ling skies!  
Mor - tals, be - hold the sac - red seat Of your de - scend - ing King.  
And pains, and groans, and griefs, and fears, And death it - self shall die.



From the third heav'n, where God re - sides, That ho - ly, hap - py place,  
The God of glo - ry, down to men Re - moves his bless'd a - bode;  
How long, dear Sav - iour, O how long Shall this bright hour de - lay?



The New Je - ru - sa - lem comes down, A - dorn'd with shin - ing grace.  
Men, the dear ob - jects of His grace, And He, their lov - ing God.  
Fly swift - er round, ye wheels of time, And bring the wel - come day. (Repeat)



## How does Inspiration represent Christ and the Father as a “personal being?”

There is no one who can explain the mystery of the incarnation of Christ. Yet we know that He came to this earth and lived as a man among men. The man Christ Jesus was not the Lord God Almighty, yet Christ and the Father are one. The Deity did not sink under the agonizing torture of Calvary, yet it is nonetheless true that “God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” {LHU 235.3}

Our ministers must be very careful not to enter into controversy in regard to the personality of God. This is a subject that they are not to touch. It is a mystery, and the enemy will surely lead astray those who enter into it. We know that Christ came in person to reveal God to the world. God is a person and Christ is a person. Christ is spoken of in the Word as “the brightness of His Father’s glory, and the express image of His person.” (1SAT 343.3)

There is a personal God, the Father; there is a personal Christ, the Son. RH Nov 8, 1898- same year Desire of Ages was published); 6BC p 1068

⇒ God is a Spirit; yet He is a personal being; for so He has revealed Himself. Signs of the Times 2 August (1905) ⇐

The mighty power that works through all nature and sustains all things is not, as some men of science claim, merely an all-pervading principle, an actuating energy. God is a spirit; yet He is a personal being, for man was made in His image. As a personal being, God has revealed Himself in His Son, Jesus, the out-shining of the Father’s glory, ‘and the express image of His person’ (Heb 1:3), was on earth found in fashion as a man.” MS 124 (1903); MSR, Vol 9 p. 122

### The Spirit of Christ, the Soul of Christ

Christ declared that after his ascension, he would send to his church, as his crowning gift, the Comforter, who was to take his place. This Comforter is the Holy Spirit.--the soul of his life, the efficacy of his church, the light and life of the world. With his Spirit Christ sends a reconciling influence and a power that takes away sin”. {E.G.White Review and Herald, May 19, 1904}

I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.” Christ declares; “no one cometh unto the Father, but by me.” Christ is invested with power to give life to all creatures. “As the living Father hath sent me,” he says, “and I live by the Father; so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. . . . It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing; the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.” Christ is not here referring to his doctrine, but to his person, the divinity of his character. {E.G. White Review and Herald, April 5, 1906}

### The Spirit of Life, the Breath of God

And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained.” The Holy Spirit was not yet fully manifested; for Christ had not yet been glorified. The more abundant impartation of the Spirit did not take place till after Christ’s ascension. Not until this was received could the disciples fulfill the commission to preach the gospel to the world. But the Spirit was now given for a special purpose. Before the disciples could fulfill their official duties in connection with the church, Christ breathed His Spirit upon them. He was committing to them a most sacred trust, and He desired to impress them with the fact that without the Holy Spirit this work could not be accomplished. (John 15:5 without me, ye can do nothing)

The Holy Spirit is the breath of spiritual life in the soul. The impartation of the Spirit is the impartation of the life of Christ. It imbues the receiver with the attributes of Christ. Only those who are thus taught of God, those who possess the inward working of the Spirit, and in whose life the Christ-life is manifested, are to stand as representative men, to minister in behalf of the church.” {Desire of Ages p 805.3}

Christ came to our world to restore the moral image of God in man. He takes human agents into co-partnership with himself, giving them the breath of his own Spirit, the life of his own life. To all who would obtain a correct view of their duty in regard to their fellow men, Christ gives power to obtain righteousness and to do their work successfully. These breathe the atmosphere that surrounds Christ. They live the true life that he lived in our world.....None who breathe the breath of God, receiving the Holy Spirit from him, can be indifferent in regard to the welfare of others. Their own souls are inspired with the love of Christ, and they use all their powers in the work of presenting Bible principles. ....” {Review and Herald, July 19, 1898}.

8

Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I [am] the LORD. Eze 37:5-6

## *A Thought Regarding the Personality of God and Christ (by compiler)~*

A thought came to my mind this evening. When Jesus walked among his disciples as an **individual person** (human being) with flesh and bones, He told his disciples that he would soon depart from them and would no longer be with them face to face as an individual person (being) in the flesh but would instead send them a better gift, His Holy Spirit and therefore could be with men in all places at all times (omnipresence). Now the disciples could not understand this because they could not grasp how Jesus could be with them through His Spirit, the same way as he was among them in the flesh, face to face. This shows that the disciples at least understood the difference between the flesh of a **being** and the Spirit, that they were **not** the same in the sense of a **being**, but they could not grasp **HOW** they would be with Jesus by His Spirit if He was not among them physically in the flesh.

It is interesting to note that the same disciples that walked side-by-side among Jesus in the flesh, are the same disciples that received the gift of the Holy Spirit when it was breathed upon them at Pentecost. **The disciples were privileged to experience BOTH sides of the presence of Jesus. Amazing!** Now, if we could ask the disciples, face to face, from their one-on-one personal experience of "BOTH" sides, if the Holy Spirit was a **being** like Jesus was a being, what do you think they would say? "Of course not", they would reply. They received the Spirit **of** Christ **which has no flesh and bones**. If the Spirit has no flesh and bones, then it cannot be a being in the sense of an **individual person** or **human being**.

Now did Christ have a personality when he walked among the disciples? Of course he did. Does the Holy Spirit have a personality? Of course it has a personality, because the Holy Spirit is Christ's Spirit! So, when we say the Holy Spirit has a personality, this makes sense. And what about calling the Holy Spirit the third **person** of the Godhead? What does this mean? It means the Holy Spirit is the **person of** Christ.... the third **person of the Godhead** as to which Sister White refers. Confusion or clarity comes from how the word "person" is defined.

Person can mean:

- 1) an individual or human being
- 2) an individual's body. ie- I carry my wallet on my person at all times.

If we apply the 1st definition to "person", then one would incorrectly refer to the Holy Spirit as an **individual** person. But if we apply the second definition to the Holy Spirit, then we would have the correct understanding of the Holy Spirit as the **"person" of** (belonging to) Christ.

Here, "person" is defined by Webster's 1828 Dictionary and matches what our pioneers taught:

**PERSON**, n. per'sn. [L. persona; said to be compounded of per, through or by, and sonus, sound; a Latin word signifying primarily a mask used by actors on the stage.]

1. **An individual human being consisting of body and soul.** We apply the word to living beings only, possessed of a rational nature; **the body when dead is not called a person.** It is applied alike to a man, woman or child.

3. A human being, considered with respect **to the** living body or corporeal existence only. The form of her person is elegant. You'll find her person difficult to gain. The rebels maintained the fight for a small time, and for their persons showed no want of courage. A person is a thinking intelligent being.

6. Character of office. How different is the same man from himself, as he sustains the person of a magistrate and that of a friend.

7. In grammar, the nominative to a verb; the agent that performs or the patient that suffers any thing affirmed by a verb; as, I write; he is smitten; she is beloved; the rain descends in torrents. I, thou or you, he, she or it, are

called the first, second and third persons. Hence we apply the word person to the termination or modified form of the verb used in connection with the persons; as the first or **the third person** of the verb; the verb is in the second person. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grammatical\\_person](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grammatical_person)

It is interesting to note definition 7 above is applicable to which we know -- throughout Scripture Jesus refers to himself grammatically in the first and **third person**. Also noteworthy is that Sister White does not refer to God as the first person of the Godhead or to Jesus as the second person of the Godhead, but yet refers to the Holy Spirit as the third person **of the Godhead**. It would seem to be reasonable and logical because that person (Holy Spirit) **belongs to** the Godhead: God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son.

The problem with the **trinity teaching** is that it **SEPARATES** God from His omnipresent Holy Spirit and **SEPARATES** Christ from His omnipresent Holy Spirit by calling it a **different "being"**, an **individual person all by itself** and therefore by definition (see personality defined, page 11), **destroys the "personality" of God the Father and Christ** of which we are warned "not to enter into controversy in regard to the **personality** of God" (1SAT 343.3; Ms. 46, 1904). Sister White made that statement in 1904 because **at that time**, men (ie Kellogg) were bringing in this false teaching regarding the Godhead which was contrary to the teaching established at the beginning of their faith. She also warned that "He who **denies the personality of** God and **of** His Son Jesus Christ, is **denying** God and Christ." (Review and Herald, 8 March, 1906 p 19). **This SEPARATION denies the personality of God. The trinity teaching is dangerous and is simply not the truth dear reader.**

I pray that all can come humbly before the Lord and allow His mind to become our mind to guide us in understanding this most beautiful, glorious, vital truth of "Christ **in** you, the hope of glory."

I encourage each one to, please, humbly, carefully study this subject with much prayer.

All to His Glory,

Melinda

**"Christ in you, the hope of glory."** [Col. 1:27] **A knowledge of this mystery furnishes a key to every other. It opens to the soul the treasures of the universe, the possibilities of infinite development.** {ML 801.2}

**The message of Christ's righteousness** is to sound from one end of the earth to the other to prepare the way of the Lord. **This is the glory of God**, which closes the work of the third angel. {6T 19.1}

And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? **[there is] none good but one, [that is], God.** but if thou wilt **enter into life, keep the commandments.** Matt 19:17

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

**What is said about those who deny the personality of God and His Son, Jesus Christ? How does one deny the personality of God and His Son, Jesus?**

## Person/ Personality/ Personal Being of God and Christ

**Personality-**, n. That which constitutes an **individual a distinct person**, or **that which constitutes individuality**. (Webster's 1828 Dictionary)

Our ministers must be very careful not to enter into controversy in regard to the **personality of God**. This is a subject that they are not to touch. It is a mystery, and the enemy will surely lead astray those who enter into it. **We know that Christ came in person to reveal** God to the world. **God is a person and Christ is a person**. Christ is spoken of in the Word as "the brightness of His Father's **glory**, and the express image **of His person**." (1SAT 343.3) Ms. 46, 1904

I was forbidden to talk with **Dr. Kellogg** on this subject, because it is not a subject to be talked about. And I was instructed that certain sentiments in **Living Temple were the Alpha of a long list of deceptive theories**. {1SAT 343.4}

**You are not definitely clear on the personality of God**, which is everything to us as a people. **You have virtually destroyed the Lord God Himself**. (Ellen G. White to **John Harvey Kellogg**, Letter 300, March 16<sup>th</sup> 1903)"

**He who denies the personality of God and of His Son Jesus Christ, is denying God and Christ**. 'If that which ye have heard **from the beginning** shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son and in the Father: **If you continue to believe and obey the truths you first embraced regarding the personality of the Father and the Son, you will be joined together with Him in love**. There will be seen that union of which Christ prayed just before His trial and crucifixion. Review and Herald, 8 March, (1906) p 19

The Testimony of Pioneer Workers.--**I have had presentations regarding the deceptions that Satan is bringing in at this time**. I have been instructed that we should make prominent the testimony of some of the old workers who are now dead. **Let them continue to speak through their articles as found in the early numbers of our papers**. These articles should **now be reprinted**, that there may be a living voice from the Lord's witnesses. **The history of the early experiences in the message will be a power to withstand the masterly ingenuity of Satan's deceptions**. This instruction has been repeated recently. I must present before the people the testimonies of Bible truth, and repeat the **decided messages given years ago**. I desire that my sermons given at camp meetings and in churches may live and do their appointed work.--Letter 99, **1905**. {CW 26.1} {PM 31.2}

1 John 4:3 "And every **spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh** is not of God: ←  
and this is that **spirit of antichrist**, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world."

Here again is brought to view **the personality of the Father and the Son**, showing the **unity** that exists between them. {8T 269.1} This **unity** is expressed also **in the seventeenth chapter of John, in the prayer of Christ for His disciples**: {8T 269.2} "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word; **that they all may be one**; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, **that they also may be one in Us**; that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me. And the glory which Thou gavest Me I have given them; **that they may be one, even as We are one: I in them, and Thou in Me**, that they may be made perfect **in one**; and that the world may know that Thou hast sent Me, and hast loved them, as Thou hast loved Me." John 17:20-23. {8T 269.3}

**Wonderful statement!** The **unity** that exists between Christ and His disciples does not destroy the **personality of either**. **They are one in purpose, in mind, in character, but not in person. It is thus that God and Christ are one**. {8T 269.4}

**God and Christ are spoken of separately**. They are **two distinct persons**, but **one in mind, one in heart, one in holiness and justice**, and **purity**, and **one in the work of seeking to save the sinful race**. {BCL 127.3}

**Here we might mention the Trinity, which does away with the individual personality of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ**, and of sprinkling or pouring instead of being "buried with Christ in baptism," "planted in the likeness of his death:" but we pass from **these fables** to notice one that is **held sacred by nearly all professed Christians, both Catholic and Protestant**. It is, the change of the Sabbath of the fourth commandment... (James White, Dec 11 1855, Review and Herald, Vol. 7, no. 11, P 85 Par 16)

**The doctrine of the Trinity which was established in the church by the council of Nice, A. D. 325... This doctrine destroys the personality of God, and his Son Jesus Christ our Lord**. The infamous measures by which it was forced upon the church which appear upon the pages of ecclesiastical history might well cause every believer in that doctrine to blush. (J. N. Andrews, March 6, 1855, Review and Herald, Vol. 6, No. 24, P. 185)

**1903- The sentiments in "Living Temple" regarding the personality of God have been received even by men who have had a long experience in the truth**. When such men consent to eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, we are

no longer to regard the subject as a matter to be treated with the greatest delicacy. **That those whom we thought sound in the faith should have failed to discern the specious, deadly influence of this science of evil, should alarm us as nothing else has alarmed us.** {SpTB07 37.2}

**It is something that can not be treated as a small matter** that men who **have had so much light**, and **such clear evidence** as to the genuineness of the truth we hold, should become unsettled, **and led to accept spiritualistic theories regarding the personality of God.** {SpTB07 37.3}

**Modern spiritualism is a revival of the witchcraft and demon worship that God condemned of old.** It is foretold in the Scriptures, which declare that **"in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils."** 1 Timothy 4:1. In the **last days** there will be **false teachers.** 2 Peter 2:1, 2. **Spiritualist teachers refuse to acknowledge Christ as the Son of God.** Concerning such teachers the beloved John declares: "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? **He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.** Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father." 1 John 2:22, 23. **Spiritualism, by denying Christ, denies both the Father and the Son,** and the Bible pronounces it **the manifestation of antichrist.** {EP 497.3}

**Those who become confused in their understanding of the word, who fail to see the meaning of antichrist, will surely place themselves on the side of antichrist.** {KC 105.2}

The way **spiritualizers** have **disposed of or denied the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ** is first using the old **unscriptural Trinitarian creed viz., that Jesus Christ is the eternal God,** while we have plain scripture testimony in abundance that **he is the Son of the eternal God.**" (James White, Jan 24 1846, The Day Star)

Writing to a helper in the gospel work, a woman of good repute and wide influence, he said: "Many deceivers are entered into the world, **who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.** Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and **abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him Godspeed: for he that biddeth him Godspeed is partaker of his evil deeds."** {AA 554.2}

### Jesus' Death in Light of Trinity Teaching

Ever since the death of Jesus, our adversary has tried to pervert what Christ accomplished in His incarnation (meaning in our Saviour's life and death). And since Satan can do nothing about what Christ actually did achieve, he does the next best thing which is to promote the belief that the divine Son of God did not actually die at Calvary. I have heard Pastors preach that God sent Himself to die on the cross since the trinity teaches all three are the one god. But this leads to another problem because God cannot die. So it is claimed that Jesus had two natures, a divine nature and a human nature and only the human nature died. But to say that the divine Son of God could not die is as far from the teachings of the Bible as darkness is from light. So we would ask the Trinitarian to which of the two natures are we indebted to for redemption? The answer is the divine one who died and shed His blood for us. It should be obvious that if only the human nature died, our Redeemer was only human and the divine Son of God took no part in the work of redemption for He could neither suffer nor die. Satan also aims to pervert how much it cost God in sacrificing His Son. The Father supposedly never risked anything by giving up His Son, for they claim that Christ could not have possibly sinned. Therefore nothing was at stake. If only human nature suffered and died as the trinity doctrine teaches, then the divine Christ remained unscathed. And since God cannot die, Christ would never have been able to die under any circumstance. Yet Jesus said, "*I am He that liveth, and was dead.*" Revelation 1:18

Above taken from [www.trinitytruth.org](http://www.trinitytruth.org)

## **A beautiful email sent to email group by Dear Sister B explaining the person of God~**

Perhaps you do not understand the persons of God. God the Father is the 1st person of the Godhead. He is actually the Godhead in of Himself, for he is the Source of all things. The Son of God is the the 2nd person of the Godhead. For he was the actual Son of God, torn from his bosom, and the heir of all things. We as humans inherit both traits of our father and mother, not so with Christ, for in the days of eternity, he only inherited from God. This made him also God (divine), by inheritance, not by being the source as was the Father. For the Father is the King of the universe, and Christ will be king of this planet. The Bible nowhere teaches, nor did the Jews ever believe there was more than one God, the Father. They did understand that God would send his Son to this world to redeem the world, as he was the only one that could, as the divine Son of God. The Father could not come to this world to redeem it, for he had no beginning. The angels could not come as they were created beings out of nothing, and did not have the substance of divinity. EW states Christ was the only one in all that universe that could come to redeem man. The problem was the Jews, didn't like the personage of the Son of God on earth. They were looking for pomp and circumstance. Kingly robes, etc, and not for sure a humble carpenter. They didn't like anything about his character, for they were selfish, prideful, arrogant, exacting, and on and on, and Christ was the humble Lamb of God.

He was the mediator between God and man in the OT, and the mediator between man and God in the NT. He will receive his inheritance of goods when he receives this world. He has received his birthright when he was begotten in the ages of eternity, when He received all things from the Father, or the Father's character, and characteristics. Now the 3rd person of the Godhead as EW rightly states, is the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God given to His Son as John so clearly states. The Bible states God is a Spirit. He has a separate spirit, which EW states is His omnipresence that we do not have. That same divine spirit was given to the very Son of God. If you will read at least the 1st and maybe the 2nd chapter in Story of Redemption, you should get it. That same divine Spirit is to be given to us. EW talks about the persons of God in His Saints. That is because we receive of His Spirit, not by inheritance, but by redemption and recreation. That is what Christ's Righteousness is all about. That is what the church did not understand in 1888. So actually we are the 4th person of God in a limited sense. Because we receive that very same Spirit that the Father gave to his Son. Of course, it is not omnipresence, but the continual presence of the very divine Spirit of God. EW often talks about "Christ in the person of His Saints".

Even though there are three persons of the Godhead, it does not make three co-equal, co-existent God's as the SDA changed it's doctrines to believe in 1980. If you will read the account by some of the performers in the way it was brought to the GC in 1980, you will see it was not done in a Christ-like way, and I will leave it at that. James Landis, then pastor of the Sligo Church was one that helped to get it through.

God simply means divinity, and that alone belongs, to the Father and Given to His Son. The Spirit of God, was also given to His Son. The Holy Spirit is a big deal. For it is the very presence of Christ, Christ in us the hope of glory. Also, if you will study this topic out you will find some very amazing things about the angels, for they are God's ministering spirits, and bring the Holy Spirit to us.

There is no problem with the Holy Spirit being a person, for it truly is the third person of God. But it must always be remembered there is only ONE source, and that is the Ancient of Days, Jehovah, or the Father, whichever name you use according to what you are speaking about. For He alone is the Source. I can't emphasize that enough. Without Him alone nothing would exist.

Most people to not understand the Persons of God. That is why there is such confusion. John 1 says the Word, was God and was with God. That can be very confusing if the persons of God are not understood. Both the Father and the Son are divine beings. The Holy Spirit is not a being, he is just what the Bible says, the Spirit of God. There were only two in the counsels of Heaven the Father and the Son. (SOP) The third highest being in Heaven was Lucifer (SOP). That is why the sin against the Holy Spirit is so grievous. Because when you grieve the Holy Spirit, the Father's divine presence in Spirit form, how can he reach you? So when you harden your heart to truth, God cannot reach you, for His way of reaching you is through His Spirit.

Ellen White over and over says these things should be simple. We will have to give this truth to the world in a very short time, and it must be of the simplest form, so that anyone can understand it. That is the same with the health message, it must use the simplest things that everyone has access to for it is God who heals ultimately. But he wants that healing to be available to everyone, rich or poor. L. DeVinci, once said, "Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication". That we must remember with the Gospel. Philosophy has no place in the interpretation of the Word of God, as being used in the SDA church today.

*The following is a letter by Dr. Kellogg trying to get his ideas accepted by the SDA leadership, and his book circulated.*

Letter dated October 25, 1903

You, Elder Daniels, and others have spoken about a fine line of distinction, but I could not quite see what it was, but this statement by Sister White makes it clear to me. The difference is this: When we say **God is in the tree**, the word 'God' is understood in that **the Godhead is in the tree**. **God the Father**, **God the Son**, and **God the Holy Spirit**, whereas the proper understanding in order that wholesome conceptions should be preserved in our minds, is that God the Father sits upon his throne in heaven where God the Son is also; while God's life, or Spirit or presence is the all pervading power which is carrying out the will of God in all the universe.

**we see here 3 gods!- The Trinity which is akin to Pantheism!** ←

*In the following statement written 3 days later, he elaborated a little more on his understanding, using Ellen White's writings to justify his position.*

Letter. Kellogg to G. I Butler, October 28<sup>th</sup> 1903

As far as I can fathom, the difficulty which is found in The Living Temple, the whole thing may be simmered down to the question:

**Is the Holy Ghost a person?** You say no. I had supposed the Bible said this for the reason that the personal pronoun 'he' is used in speaking of the Holy Ghost. **Sister White uses the pronoun 'he' and has said in so many words that the Holy Ghost is the third person of the Godhead. How the Holy Ghost can be the third person and not be a person at all is difficult for me to see.**

*The next day October 29, 1903, A.G. Daniells wrote the following letter to Willie White.*

He [Kellogg] then stated that **his former views regarding the trinity** had stood in his way of making a clear and absolutely correct statement but that **within a short time he had come to believe in the trinity** and could now see pretty clearly where all the difficulty was and believed that he could **clear up the matter satisfactorily**. He (Kellogg) told me that he now believed in **God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost** and his view was that it was **God the Holy Ghost and not God the Father** that filled all space and every living thing."

**again, we see here 3 gods!- The Trinity** ←

*A letter written just a few months later.*

Letter from J. H. Kellogg to G. I. Butler, February 21, 1904

**I believe this Spirit of God to be a personality** you don't. But this is purely a question of definition. **I believe the Spirit of God is a personality; you say. No. it is not a personality. Now the only reason why we differ is because we differ in our ideas as to what a personality is. Your idea of personality is perhaps that of semblance to a person or a human being.**

**Personality** - , n. That which constitutes **an individual, a distinct person**, or that which constitutes individuality. (Webster's 1828 Dictionary)

There is **a personal God, the Father**; there is **a personal Christ, the Son**. RH Nov 8, 1898- (same year *Desire of Ages* was published); 6BC p 1068

"**Christ** gave his followers a positive **promise** that after his ascension he would **send them his Spirit**. 'Go ye therefore,' he said, 'and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of **the Father [a personal God]**, and of **the Son [a personal Prince and Saviour]**, and of **the Holy Ghost [sent from heaven to represent Christ]**: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.'" R&H 10/26/1897 (*The words in brackets are Mrs. White's*)

**Notice she does not say, a personal Holy Spirit like she does with the Father and the Son.** ←

The Son is all the fullness of the Godhead manifested. The Word of God declares Him to be "the express image of His

person." "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." **Here is shown the personality of the Father** (*Special Testimonies*, Series B, no. 7, p. 63).

The mighty power that works through all nature and sustains all things is not, as some men of science claim, merely an all-pervading principle, an actuating energy. **God is a spirit; yet He is a personal being**, for man was made in His image. **As a personal being, God has revealed Himself in His Son, Jesus**, the out-shining of the Father's glory, 'and the express image of His person' (Heb 1:3), was on earth found in fashion as a man." MS 124 (1903); MSR, Vol 9 p. 122; Edn p. 131

**God is a Spirit; yet He is a personal being**; for so He has revealed Himself. Signs of the Times 2 August (1905)

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word; that they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in us." These words present **God and Christ as two distinct personalities** (*Notebook Leaflets*, p. 124).

On Sabbath, April 27, many of our brethren and sisters from neighboring churches gathered in the parlors with the sanitarium family, and I spoke to them there. I read **the first chapter of Hebrews** as the basis of my discourse. **This chapter clearly indicates the individual personalities of the Father and the Son** (*The Review and Herald*, August 1, 1907).

In this Scripture [John 1:1-4, 14-16; 3:34-36] God and Christ are spoken of as **two distinct personalities**, each acting in their **own individuality** (Manuscript Release, no. 760, p. 18).

*Ellen White said that Dr. Kellogg's Theories Were Akin to Pantheism (Though he may not have known it!)*

1828 Webster's Dictionary: **AKIN**, a. [a or of and kin. See Kin.] ←

2. Allied by nature; **partaking of the same properties**; as, envy and jealousy are near akin. [This adjective is used only after the noun.]

**Ellen White – Battle Creek Letters 108.1 -TEXT-Re-copied 7/15/28 - B-259-1904 by L.F.W. Nashville, Tennessee. June 23, 1904**

To Union Conference Presidents, and Leading Medical Missionaries:--

Before leaving Washington for Berrien Springs, I was instructed upon some points regarding the work at Battle Creek. In the night season I was shown a meeting. Dr. Kellogg was speaking, and he was filled with enthusiasm regarding his subject. His associate physicians and ministers of the gospel were present. **The subject upon which he was speaking was life, and the relation of God to all living things. In his presentation he cloaked the matter somewhat, but in reality he was presenting scientific theories which are akin to pantheism.** He presented them as being of the highest value.

**Ellen White - 2MR 243.2**

There is in it [Kelloggs teachings] **the beginning of theories which, carried to their logical conclusion, would destroy faith in the sanctuary question and in the atonement.** I do not think that Dr. Kellogg saw this clearly. I do not think that he realized that in laying his new foundation of faith, he was directing his steps toward **infidelity.**" Letter 33, 1904, p. 2. (To Brethren Faulkhead and Salisbury, Jan. 17, 1904.) Released February, 1963. [word in brackets by the White Estate]

**Ellen White - Special Testimonies Series B No.6 43.4 – 44.0**

Let the world go into **spiritualism**, into theosophy, into **pantheism**, if they choose. **We are to have nothing to do with this deceptive branch of Satan's work.** The pleasing **sentiments of pantheism** will lead many souls into forbidden paths. God forbids his servants to leave their fields of labor to enter into a discussion of these **sentiments.** The last testimony published opens to our people the **danger of these theories**, and the testimonies published in the future will urge still more strongly the necessity of lifting up and carrying high the banner on which are inscribed the words, "**The commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.**" **God's people are to let no one take this banner from their hands. I am instructed that false theories will be presented, and that some in the medical missionary work, who have been wavering, will yield up the faith, and give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils.**

**No longer consent to listen without protest to the perversion of truth. Unmask the pretentious sophistries** which, if received, will lead ministers and physicians and medical missionary workers **to ignore the truth. Everyone is now to stand on his guard.** God calls upon men and women to take their stand under the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel. I have been instructed to **warn our people**; for many are in danger **of receiving theories and sophistries that undermine the foundation pillars of the faith.**" SpTB02 15.2

"We should **never give sanction to sin by our words or our deeds, our silence or our presence.**" DA p.152



## A SOLEMN WARNING!!

*Dr. Kellogg's Theories were referred to as the "Alpha"*

In the book "Living Temple" there is presented the alpha of deadly heresies. {Special Testimonies series b No. 2 - 50.2}

*Sister White warned that the Omega would be of the most startling nature:*

I call upon those who have been connected with these binding influences to break the yoke to which they have long submitted, and stand as free men in Christ. Nothing but a determined effort will break the spell that is upon them. {SpTB02 16.1}

Be not deceived; many will depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. We have now before us the alpha of this danger. The omega will be of a most startling nature. {SpTB02 16.2} We need to

study the words that Christ uttered in the prayer that He offered just before His trial and crucifixion. "These words spake Jesus, and lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify Thy Son, that Thy Son also may glorify Thee. As Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as Thou hast given Him. And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou has sent. I have glorified Thee on the earth: I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Thou Me with Thine own self with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was. I have manifested Thy name unto the men which Thou gavest Me out of the world; Thine they were, and Thou gavest them Me; and they have kept Thy word." {SpTB02 16.3 }

*We must understand the Alpha in order to understand how to avoid the Omega. Do you see the connection in above paragraph of the seducing alpha of Kellogg to the same end result of the omega? And how can we not be caught up in the omega (Pantheism and Trinity)? Read the last paragraph above again: "We need to study the words that Christ uttered in the prayer that He offered just before His trial and crucifixion" and then follows what we are told to read and study: all underlined words in paragraph above (please pause here for a moment and re-read: "The Spirit of Life, the Breath of God" again on page 8). This is what we are attempting to do in this document: "to know the only true God and Jesus Christ" - one God, the Father and one Lord Jesus Christ, the son, that share the same Holy Spirit. This is why there is "spiritual drought/ declension in the church" as we don't "talk about it, pray about it, preach concerning it" or even understand it!! (re-read very first two paragraphs again on page 1)*

*God wants us to come out (break the yoke) from among the apostasy (see marginal cross reference of 2Cor 6:17 to Rev 18:4!) and stand "INDIVIDUALLY, under a theocracy, under Christ, AS FREE MEN IN CHRIST". [Type in "theocracy" on CD rom for Sr. White's counsel]*

If we are the Lord's appointed messengers, we shall not spring up with new ideas and theories to contradict the message that God has given through His servants since 1844. At that time many sought the Lord with heart and soul and voice. The men whom God raised up were diligent searchers of the Scriptures. And those who today claim to have light, and who contradict the teaching of God's ordained messengers who were working under the Holy Spirit's guidance, those who get up new theories which remove the pillars of our faith, are not doing the will of God, but are bringing in fallacies of their own invention, which, if received, will cut the church away from the anchorage of truth and set them drifting, drifting, to where they will receive any sophistries that may arise. These will be similar to that which Dr. J. H. Kellogg, under Satan's special guidance, has been working for years. {MR760 14.2}

Writing to a helper in the gospel work, a woman of good repute and wide influence, he said: "Many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him Godspeed: for he that biddeth him Godspeed is partaker of his evil deeds." {AA 554.2}

## A thought to share in regard to Kellogg's apostasy (by compiler)

First, an endorsement of Jones and Waggoner:

**The Lord has raised up Brother Jones and Brother Waggoner to proclaim a message to the world to prepare a people to stand in the day of God.** {1888 1814.4 }

I have been reading EJ Waggoner's book, "The Gospel in Creation"-- a **must read** for everyone. Waggoner brings out how God **through His creative power brings life** because **His Words contain life!** See pages 17-28 of book. This is where Kellogg became confused, I believe. We will use water as an example. So when God made (**spoke**) the waters of the heaven and the deep into existence, there was life **in** the water. Hence, we know that science has discovered that water is a **living substance**. (No wonder **pure**, soft water is so healthy for us and the saints will partake of the living water in heaven!)

If God spoke water into existence and there is **life in God's words**, then there is life in the very thing God spoke. Hence, life in water, a living substance. But Kellogg, **went further** with this understanding because of his incorrect understanding of the personality of God. Here is how Kellogg understood this:

God (himself/ his substance) is **IN** the flower or God (himself/ his substance) is **IN** the water = **pantheism**

Why did Kellogg believe this? He had to be following the wrong God (Trinity = Satan **\*\*disguised [see next page]** as Christ) **first** to come to such an erroneous **pantheistic** conclusion. (2 Cor 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is **transformed** into an angel of **light**. Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which **deceiveth the whole world**: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.)

We are told that **IN God's creative power** (not IN God himself/ His substance) is life and **His words** (Not God himself/ his substance) contain life of which is evident through His creation. **God holds (owns) the power of life (creation) but He is not himself the creation.**

Since Kellogg believed that God himself was **IN the substances of what God, himself created**, this led him down the wrong path. **God is NOT creation, but the Creator. God creates through His spirit which brings life:**

Gen 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness [was] upon the face of the deep. And **the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.**

Rev 22:17 And **the Spirit** and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, **Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.**

Kellogg believed that the Holy Spirit was **SEPARATE** from God; hence a **SEPARATE** individual person. **If God is separated from his Spirit, then we have separated God as being the Creator!** The **Life** giver of all! **This indeed destroys the personality** (individuality) of God and **"destroys the Lord God Himself."**

**You are not definitely clear on the personality of God, which is everything to us as a people. You have virtually destroyed the Lord God Himself.** (Ellen G. White to John Harvey Kellogg, Letter 300, March 16<sup>th</sup> 1903)

*The wicked worketh a deceitful work: but to him that soweth righteousness [shall be] a sure reward. Prov 11:18*

*There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise [is] health. The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue [is] but for a moment. Prov 12:18-19*

## WORK OF ANTICHRIST

The last great delusion is soon to open before us. **Antichrist** is to perform his marvelous works in our sight. **So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures.** By their testimony every statement and every miracle must be tested. {DD 36.1}

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**\*\* (see previous page textbox)** An interesting Biblical comparison of how Saul, like J. H. Kellogg, "**disguised**" himself—words in parenthesis are added by compiler:

1 Sam 28:8 And Saul **disguised** himself (*working undetected under Satan's influence*), and put on **other raiment**, (*a false cloak; not the righteousness of Christ*) and he went, and two men (*hmm... 2 men; including Saul = 3; the False Trinity*) with him, and they came to the woman (*the church*) **by night** (*always in secrecy, never transparent, exactly as Kellogg did, see bottom of page 27*) and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the **familiar spirit** (*asking for the Spirit of Satan*), and bring me [him] up, whom I shall name unto thee. (*read Ellen White's Dream, next page, (19), revealing God's professed people, praying for the **WRONG spirit!***)

Saul's fatal presumption must be attributed to **satanic sorcery**. In his **disobedience** to the divine command he had been as really inspired by Satan as are those who practice **sorcery**; and when reproved, **he added stubbornness to rebellion**. He could have offered no greater **insult to the Spirit of God** had he **openly united with idolaters**. {EP 461.2}

1 Sam 15:23 For **rebellion [is as] the sin of witchcraft**, and **stubbornness [is as] iniquity and idolatry**. Because thou hast rejected **the word of the LORD**, he hath also **rejected thee** from [being] king.

The religion of Jesus is endangered. It is being mingled with worldliness. Worldly **policy** is taking the place of the true piety and wisdom that comes from above, and God will remove His prospering hand from the conference. **Shall the ark of the covenant be removed from this people? Shall idols be smuggled in? Shall false principles and false precepts be brought into the sanctuary? Shall antichrist be respected? Shall the true doctrines and principles given us by God, which have made us what we are, be ignored? Shall God's instrumentality, the publishing house, become a mere political, worldly institution? This is directly where the enemy, through blinded, unconsecrated men, is leading us.** {21MR 448.3} 1890

But there came a time when paganism in the Roman empire fell before the **advancing form of Christianity**. Then, as is stated on page 54, "**paganism had given place to the papacy**. The dragon had given to the beast 'his power, and his seat, and great authority.'" That is, **Satan then began to work through the papacy, just as he had formerly worked through paganism**. But the papacy is not represented by the dragon, because it is necessary to introduce another symbol in order to show **the change in the form of the opposition to God. Previous to the rise of the papacy, all opposition to the law of God had been in the form of paganism.**—God had been **openly defied**; but from that time the opposition was carried on under the **guise of professed allegiance to him**. The **papacy**, however, was no less the instrument of Satan than was **paqan Rome**; for all the power, the seat, and the great authority of the **papacy**, were given it by the **dragon**. **And so, although the pope professes to be the vicegerent of Christ, he is, in reality, the vicegerent of Satan—he is antichrist.** {GC88 680.1}

1 John 4:3 "And every **spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God**; and **this is that spirit of antichrist**, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world."

**Those who become confused in their understanding of the word, who fail to see the meaning of antichrist, will surely place themselves on the side of antichrist.** {KC 105.2 }

**Modern spiritualism** is a revival of the **witchcraft** and demon worship that God condemned of old. It is foretold in the Scriptures, which declare that "in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to **seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.**" 1 Timothy 4:1. In the last days there will be **false teachers**. 2 Peter 2:1, 2. **Spiritualist teachers refuse to acknowledge Christ as the Son of God**. Concerning such teachers the beloved John declares: "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? **He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.** Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father." 1 John 2:22, 23. **Spiritualism, by denying Christ, denies both the Father and the**

**Son**, and the Bible pronounces it the manifestation of **antichrist**. {EP 497.3} (*Christ is denied through the false teaching and acceptance of the Trinity!*)

Writing to a helper in the gospel work, a woman of good repute and wide influence, he said: "Many **deceivers** are entered into the world, **who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.** Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and **abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.** If there come any unto you, and bring not **this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him Godspeed: for he that biddeth him Godspeed is partaker of his evil deeds.**" {AA 554.2}

Fallen angels upon earth **form confederations with evil men. In this age antichrist will appear as the true Christ, and then the law of God will be fully made void in the nations of our world.** Rebellion against God's holy law will be fully ripe. But the true leader of all this rebellion is Satan, **clothed as an angel of light.** Men will be **deceived** and **will exalt him to the place of God, and deify him.**—The Review and Herald, September 12, 1893. {Ev 365.2}

When the papal bull reached Luther, he said: "I despise and attack it, as impious, false.... It is *Christ* Himself who is condemned therein.... I rejoice in having to bear such ills for the best of causes. Already I feel greater liberty in my heart; for at last I know that **the pope is antichrist, and that his throne is that of Satan himself.**"—D'Aubigne, b. 6, ch. 9. {GC 141.3}

**Dream of April 6, 1846—  
a portion of "To the Little Remnant Scattered Abroad"**

In February, 1845, I had a vision of events commencing with the Midnight Cry. **I saw a throne and on it sat the Father and the Son.** I gazed on Jesus' countenance and admired his lovely person. The Father's person I could not behold, for a cloud of glorious light covered him. **I asked Jesus if his Father had a form like himself. He said he had, but I could not behold it, for said he if you should once behold the glory of his person you would cease to exist.** Before the **throne** I saw the **Advent people, the church, and the world.** I saw **a company,** bowed down before the **throne,** deeply interested, while the **most** of them stood up disinterested and careless. Those who were bowed before the **throne** would offer up their prayers and look to Jesus; then he would look to his Father, and appeared to be pleading with Him. **A light would come from the Father to the Son, and from the Son to the praying company.** Then I saw an exceeding bright light come from the Father to the Son, and from the Son it waved over the people before the **throne.** But few would receive this great light; many came out from under it and immediately resisted it; others were careless and did not cherish the light, and it moved off from them; **some cherished it, and went and bowed down with the little praying company. This company all received the light, and rejoiced in it, as their countenances shone with its glory.** And **I saw the Father rise from the throne,** and in a flaming Chariot go into the Holy of Holies, within the veil, and did sit. There I saw thrones that I had never seen before. **Then Jesus rose up from the throne, and the most of those who were bowed down arose with Him;** and I did not see one ray of light pass from Jesus to the careless multitude after he arose, and they were left in perfect darkness. **Those who rose up when Jesus did, kept their eyes fixed on Him as He left the throne and led them out a little way.**—Then He raised His right arm and we heard his lovely voice saying, "Wait here—I am going to my Father to receive the Kingdom; keep your garments spotless, and in a little while I will return from the wedding and receive you to myself." And I saw a cloudy chariot, with wheels like flaming fire, and Angels were all around it as it came where Jesus was. He stepped into the chariot and was borne to the Holiest where the Father sat. There I beheld Jesus, as He was standing before the Father, a great High Priest. On the hem of His garment was a bell and pomegranate. **Then Jesus shew me the difference between faith and feeling.** And I saw those who rose up with Jesus send up their faith to Him in the Holiest, and pray—my Father **give us thy Spirit.** Then **Jesus would breathe upon them the Holy Ghost. In the breath was light, power, and much love, joy and peace.** Then I turned to look at the company who were still bowed before the **throne; they did not know that Jesus had left it.**—**Satan appeared to be by the throne,** trying to carry on **the work of God;** I saw them look up to the throne and pray, **my Father give us thy Spirit;** then **Satan** would breathe upon them an unholy influence; in it there was light and much power, but **no sweet love, joy and peace. Satan's object was to keep them deceived, and to draw back and deceive God's children.** I saw one after another **leave the company** who were praying to Jesus in the Holiest, and go and join those before the **throne,** and they **at once received the unholy influence of Satan.** {Broadside1 April 6, 1846, par. 7} **Notice the first 3 fruits of the spirit are missing?**

**The people have not entered into the holy place, where Jesus has gone to make an atonement for His children. We need the Holy Spirit in order to understand the truths for this time but there is spiritual drought in the churches.** {RH Feb. 25, 1890, par.1}

What **astonishing deception** and fearful blindness had, like a dark cloud, **covered Israel!** This **blindness** (LAODICEA) and **apostasy** had not closed about them suddenly; it **had come upon them gradually** as they had not heeded the word of reproof and warning which the Lord had sent to them because of their pride and their sins. And now, in this **fearful crisis, in the presence** of the **idolatrous priests** and the **apostate king**, they **remained neutral**. **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

*Our work is to bring forth the strong reasons of our Faith, our past and present position, because there are men who, never established in the truth, will bring in fallacies which would tear away the anchorage of our Faith. Even presidents of conferences will fear to move, as some have done, dictating and commanding and forbidding. They drive the sheep away into forbidden paths. God sends no man with a message that leads souls to depart from the Faith that has been our stronghold for so many years. We are to substantiate this Faith rather than tear down the foundation upon which it rests. [MR760 14.8]*

*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. --Batavia, p. 87*

## The first chapters of Patriarchs and Prophets covers the deception of Satan regarding the true understanding and position of the Godhead and thus why we are counseled to read as follows:

St. Helena, California

July 2, 1906

This letter is published in entirety in 10MR 162-163.

Dr. A. J. Reed

Battle Creek, Michigan

Dear Brother:

About two years ago the Lord presented your case before me, showing me that you were in danger of linking up with the Battle Creek Sanitarium. Instruction has been given me that your **mind is certainly being corrupted in sentiment**. Sometimes when your assent is given to **Dr. Kellogg's assertions**, you bear testimony to a lie, and the recording angel writes it thus. Unless **Dr. Kellogg** changes, confesses his sins, and in converted, the Lord will leave him to his own devices. I am charged to give you decided warning, lest your mind shall run in the same groove. {Lt212-1906.1}

If **Dr. Kellogg** had heeded the messages which the Lord has given him, he would stand free in the Lord. But when he had light, **he refused** to follow the admonitions and guidance of the Holy Spirit; and he has accepted the influence of another teacher. Thus it was with Adam and Eve in Eden. {Lt212-1906.2}

My brother whom I respect in the faith and message of truth, **cut yourself loose from misleading influences**. The leader of the rebellion in heaven is working to spoil and ruin the medical missionary work, to cause it to be corrupted by heresy and infidelity. {Lt212-1906.3}

Shall Christ be compelled to bear continually the shameful infirmities of His people, because they accept the **false sentiments** proceeding from the first traitor in the heavenly courts? If the angels were deceived by Lucifer's ingenious methods of **misrepresenting God**, if Adam and Eve were deceived by his declaration that God was withholding from them the higher education that would make them as gods, is there not danger that men today will be deceived? **Please read the first chapter of Patriarchs and Prophets, and see if the precious truths contained in this book are not given by the Lord to protect His people from deceptions that are urged upon them just now.** {Lt212-1906.4}

I tell you in the name of the Lord God of Israel, that Satan is presenting his **sophistries to ministers and medical workers**; and if our people listen to these **sophistries**, they will become impregnated with the same false idea of popular religion that will cause them to develop into gods, and there will be no place in their lives for God or for Christ. {Lt212-1906.5}

Just as long as men **consent to listen** to these **sophistries**, a subtle influence will weave the fine threads of these **seductive theories** into their minds, and men who should turn away from the **first sound** of such teaching **will learn to love it**. As loyal subjects **we must refuse to listen to these sophistries**. Their influence is something like a deadly viper, **poisoning the minds of all who listen**. It is a branch of hypnotism, deadening the sensibilities of the soul. {Lt212-1906.6}

I have not strength to dwell upon this; for I feel so strong an indignation against Satan and those who, with the Word of God in their possession, **listen to the teaching** of human agencies who are intent upon declaring theories which they present as more wonderful, higher, grander than the teachings of Christ, the One who gave His life to save the world from Satan's higher education. **We cannot afford to exchange Christ's teachings for the devil's lies.** {Lt212-1906.7}

My brother, there is a work to be done by yourself and many of your associates in repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ as the sin-pardoning Saviour. {Lt212-1906.8} {10MR 162-163}

Especially solemn is the apostle's statement regarding those who should **refuse to receive** 'the love of the truth.' 'For this cause,' he declared of all who should **deliberately reject the messages of truth**, **God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie**; that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.' **Men cannot with impunity reject the warnings that God in mercy sends them. From those who persist in turning from these warnings, God withdraws His Spirit, leaving them to the deceptions that they love.** Acts of the Apostles, 266.

**Men are taking sides, according to their choice.** Those that are feeding on the word of God will show this by their practise; they are on the Lord's side, seeking by precept and example to reform the world. **All that have refused to be taught of God, hold the traditions of men.** They at last pass over on the side of the enemy, against God, and are written, "**antichrist.**" The people of God, who understand our position in this world's history, are, with ears open and hearts softened and subdued, **pressing together in unity—one with Jesus Christ.** Those who will not practise the lessons of Christ, but keep themselves in hand to mold themselves, **find in antichrist the center of their union.** While the **two parties stand in collision,** the Lord will appear, and **shine** before his ancients **gloriously.** He will set up a kingdom that shall stand forever. {SpTA09 55.2}

There have ever been **two classes** among those who profess to be followers of Christ. While one class **study the Saviour's life,** and earnestly seek to correct their defects and to conform to the Pattern, **the other class shun the plain, practical truths which expose their errors.** – The Great Controversy, p. 43.

The Pharisee and the publican represent **two great classes** into which those who come to worship God are divided. Their first two representatives are found in the first two children that were born into the world. Cain thought himself righteous, and he came to God with a thank offering only. He made no confession of sin, and acknowledged no need of mercy. But **Abel came with the blood that pointed to the Lamb of God.** He came as a sinner, confessing himself lost; his only hope was the unmerited love of God. The Lord had respect to his offering, **but to Cain and his offering He had not respect.** The sense of need, the recognition of our poverty and sin, is the very first condition of acceptance with God. "Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:3. {COL 152.1}

Cain and Abel represent **two classes** of men that have existed from **generation to generation,** and will continue to exist to the close of time. **One availed himself of the promised sacrifice for sin;** the **other ventured to depend upon his own merits.** His was the sacrifice of a sinner **without the virtue of divine mediation,** which is alone able to bring him into favor with God. **It is only through the merits of Jesus that our transgressions of the law can be pardoned.** Those who feel that they can be moral **without divine help,** who feel no need of the blood of Christ, **are betrayed** into grievous sins. If they do not gladly, gratefully, accept the cleansing blood, they are under condemnation. There is no other provision made whereby they can be released from sin's terrible thralldom. **There must be repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. This is the only way to secure excellence of character, the only path to divine favor.** {ST September 11, 1884, par. 4}

The "**familiar spirits**" were not the spirits of the dead, but evil angels, the messengers of Satan. **Ancient idolatry,** which, as we have seen, comprises both worship of the dead and pretended communion with them, is declared by the Bible to have been demon worship. The apostle Paul, in warning his brethren against participating, in any manner, in the idolatry of their heathen neighbors, says, "The things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God, and I would not that **ye should have fellowship with devils.**" 1 Corinthians 10:20. The psalmist, speaking of Israel, says that "they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils," and in the next verse he explains that they sacrificed them "unto the **idols** of Canaan." Psalm 106:37, 38. In their supposed worship of dead men they were in reality worshipping demons. {PP 685.4}

**Modern spiritualism,** resting upon the **same foundation,** is but a revival in a new form of the **witchcraft** and demon worship that God condemned and prohibited of old. It is foretold in the Scriptures, which declare that "in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, **giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.**" 1 Timothy 4:1. Paul, in his second letter to the Thessalonians, **points to the special working of Satan in spiritualism as an event to take place immediately before the second advent of Christ.** Speaking of Christ's second coming, he declares that it is "after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders." 2 Thessalonians 2:9. And Peter, describing the dangers to which the church was to be exposed in the last days, says that as there were false prophets who led Israel into sin, so there will be false teachers, **who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them....** And many shall follow their pernicious ways." 2 Peter 2:1, 2. Here the apostle has pointed out one of the marked characteristics of **spiritualist teachers. They refuse to acknowledge Christ as the Son of God.** Concerning such teachers the beloved John declares: "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is **antichrist,** that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father." 1 John 2:22, 23. **Spiritualism, by denying Christ, denies both the Father and the Son,** and the Bible pronounces it the manifestation of **antichrist.** {PP 686.1}

Who are standing in the counsel of God at this time? Is it those who virtually excuse wrongs among the professed people of God and who murmur in their hearts, if not openly, against those who would reprove sin? Is it those who take their stand against them and sympathize with those who commit wrong? **No, indeed!** Unless they repent, and **leave the work of Satan** in oppressing those who have the burden of the work and in holding up the hands of sinners in Zion, **they will never receive the mark of God's sealing approval.** They will fall in the general destruction of the wicked, represented by the work of the five men bearing slaughter weapons. **Mark this point with care:**

**Those who receive the pure mark of truth, wrought in them by the power of the Holy Ghost, represented by a mark by the man in linen, are those "that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done" in the church.** Their love for purity and the honor and glory of God is such, and they have so clear a view of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, that **they are represented as being in agony, even sighing and crying.** Read the ninth chapter of Ezekiel. 3T 267.1

## Who is the Holy Spirit “walking” through the grounds amongst His people?

We want the Holy Spirit, which is Jesus Christ. {Lt66-1894 (April 10, 1894) par. 18}

We need to realize that the Holy Spirit (“the Holy Spirit, which is Jesus Christ”), who is as much a person as God is a person, is walking through these grounds.—Manuscript 66, 1899. {Ev 616.6} *Parenthesis added for emphasis*

### Above quote in context from complete original sentence:

We have been brought together as a school, and we need to realize that the Holy Spirit (“the Holy Spirit, which is Jesus Christ”), who is as much a person as God is a person, is walking through these grounds, unseen by human eyes; that the Lord God is our Keeper and Helper. He hears every word we utter and knows every thought of the mind. {2SAT 136.6 }

The influence of the Holy Spirit is the life of Christ in the soul. We do not now see Christ and speak to Him, but His Holy Spirit is just as near us in one place as another. {2MR 28}

### Another related quote:

The workers should keep the soul constantly uplifted to God in prayer. They are never alone. If they have faith in God, if they realize that to them is committed the work of giving to the people light on Bible subjects, they constantly enjoy the companionship of Christ. The Lord Jesus standing by the side of the canvassers, walking with them, is the chief worker. If we recognize Christ as the One who is with us to prepare the way, the Holy Spirit by our side will make impressions in just the lines needed. E. G. White. Manual for Canvassers p.40. 1902.

*So we see from above that Christ is walking amongst us by His (possessive) Holy Spirit, not some other, SEPARATE individual/person. The Holy Spirit is as much a “person” as God is a person because it is Christ, who is a person! If Christ has a personality, then Christ’s Holy Spirit has a personality since it’s a part of Him! The Holy Spirit is Christ, just manifested in a different (another- see page 22 for definition) form since He is no longer walking physically among us here on earth. He is now with us spiritually, by His Holy Spirit. Christ promised to be with us until the end in the person of his representative, the Holy Spirit, also known as the Comforter. Who is our Comforter? Jesus is our Comforter.*

The Saviour is our Comforter. This I have proved Him to be. {8MR 49.4}

John 14.18. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; [Even] the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

John 14.19 “Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. :20 At that day ye shall know that I [am] in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.”

But Jesus had assured them that he would send the Comforter, as an equivalent for his visible presence. {3SP 256.1 }

Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally; therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His father, and send the Holy Spirit to be His successor on earth. The Holy Spirit is Himself divested of the personality of humanity and independent thereof. He would represent Himself as present in all places by His Holy Spirit, as the Omnipresent (Manuscript 5a, 1895; *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 14, pp. 23, 24).

When God's people search the Scriptures with a desire to know what is truth, **Jesus is present in the person of His representative, the Holy Spirit**, reviving the hearts of the humble and contrite ones. (John 15:23, 10-11 quoted.)--Ms. 158, 1898. {12MR 145}

**There is no comforter like Christ**, so tender and so true. He is touched with the feeling of our infirmities. **His Spirit** speaks to the heart.... But no circumstances, no distance, can separate us from **the heavenly Comforter**. **Wherever we are, wherever we may go, he is always there, one given in Christ's place, to act in his stead**. He is always at our right hand, to speak soothing, gentle words; to support, sustain, uphold, and cheer. **The influence of the Holy Spirit is the life of Christ in the soul. This Spirit** works in and through every one who receives Christ. **Those who know the indwelling of this Spirit reveal its fruit,--love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith**. {E.G. White Review and Herald October 26, 1897 par. 14}. [See dream on page 19 regarding the **fruits of the spirit that are missing among those praying to Satan**] ←

If you are the children **of God** you are **partakers of His nature**, and you cannot but **be like Him**. Every child **lives** by the **life** of his father. If you are **God's children**, begotten by **His Spirit**, you **live by the life of God. In Christ dwells "all the fullness of the Godhead bodily"** (Colossians 2:9); and **the life of Jesus** is made **manifest "in our mortal flesh"** (2 Corinthians 4:11). **That life in you will produce the same character and manifest the same works as it did in Him**. Thus you will be in harmony with **every precept of His law**; for **"the law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul."** Psalm 19:7, margin. **Through love "the righteousness of the law"** will be **"fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."** Rom. 8:4. {MB 77.4}

**"If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."** 2 Corinthians 5:17. Through the power of Christ, men and women have broken the chains of sinful habit. They have renounced selfishness. The profane have become reverent, the drunken sober, the profligate pure. **Souls that have borne the likeness of Satan have become transformed into the image of God. This change is in itself the miracle of miracles. A change wrought by the Word, it is one of the deepest mysteries of the Word. We cannot understand it; we can only believe, as declared by the Scriptures, it is "Christ in you, the hope of glory."** {AA 476.1}

1John2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an **advocate** with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

John14:16 ...the Father, and he shall give you **another Comforter**, that he may abide with you for ever;

\*\*Look up Strong's 3875: **Advocate** means **Comforter**.

\*\*Cruden's Concordance: **Advocate**- AFAR joined with OFF Signifies, [1] **The distance between place and place**. Gen. 37,18 [2] **To estrange one's self from**. **another**, Psal. 38. 11. [3] **To be absent**, Psal.10. 1. [4] **To be strangers, or not of the visible church**, Eph. 2. 13, 17.

This refers to **the omnipresence** of the **Spirit of Christ**, called **the Comforter**. {14MR 179.2}

**Jesus** comes to you as the **Spirit of truth**; study **the mind of the Spirit, consult your Lord, follow His way**. {2MR 337.1}

*The Holy Spirit can function independently of Himself and so it is like it is "Another" even though it is His own Spirit. This is what so many miss.*

Let them study the seventeenth of John, and learn how to pray and **how to live the prayer of Christ. He is the Comforter**. {RH January 27, 1903, Art. A, par. 13}

**Christ is to be known by the blessed name of Comforter**. **"The Comforter," said Christ** to His disciples, "which is **the Holy Ghost**, whom the Father will send **in My name. He** shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you, [John 14:26 quoted] {Ms7-1902.10}

*Christ sends His Spirit to comfort us!*

*The Holy Spirit convicts us.*

The **Holy Spirit** is the **Spirit of Christ**; it is **His representative**. Here is **the divine agency that carries conviction to hearts**. When the power of **His Spirit** is revealed **through the servants of God, we behold divinity flashing through humanity**. {13MR 313.3}

*~~~~We want the Holy Spirit, which is Jesus Christ. {Lt66-1894 (April 10, 1894) par. 18}~~~~*



*The Holy Spirit has a personality since it is Christ's personality.*

The Holy Spirit is the Comforter, in Christ's name. He personifies Christ, yet is a distinct personality. Ms93-1893

Only 5 verses in the Bible refer to the Holy Spirit as "he" or "Him":

John 14:16-17 "comforter and Spirit of truth:

John 14:26 "Comforter"

John 15:26 "Comforter and Spirit of Truth"

John 16:7 "Comforter"

John 16:13 "Spirit of truth"

*In every verse it is the Comforter and Spirit of Truth that John called a "He" or "Him." So who is the Comforter and Spirit of Truth?*

**Jesus said, "I am the truth" John 14:6.**

**And by His Spirit He is the "Spirit of truth." John 14:17**

**Jesus said, "I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you." John 14:18**

### The Comforter

Much higher than the mountain range  
Where Noah's boat did rest,

More complete than the hours worked  
From sunrise to sunset,

More perfect than a babe just born  
To parents loving eyes.

The best and fullest Gift of all  
Lives in the Christian life.

The Comforter, who brings the truth,  
Companion to my soul,

It is the Holy Spirit who  
Is all these things and more.

He stirs our hearts, He fills our minds  
Our bodies are His home,

And if He dwells within us, like  
A flower we will bloom.

-An early Advent hymn

~~~~~

**Truth is the gem for which we seek!  
O, tell us where shall it be found;  
For this we search and pray and weep,  
That truth may in our hearts abound.**

## *How many beings in the Godhead?*

The "Holy Spirit" is the power and presence of God and of Christ and can function independently of themselves like a third, though not a literal third, and is how "They" represent "Themselves" where they are not personally present. Since the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Father and Son, then how many literal beings are there? Remember that the Trinity doctrine teaches three "co-eternal/co-equal" beings that are supposedly three gods that are one god which does not make sense, but nothing from Satan does. In the following verse we find every possible *being* is mentioned to clarify that only the Father knows the day and the hour. If the Holy Spirit was a third being it would have also been mentioned which would be more relevant than the angels! "*But of that day and that hour knows no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.*" Mark 13:32

How many beings is our fellowship with? "*truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*" 1 John 1:3 — **Answer:2**

How many beings does one deny to be called antichrist? Why is the Holy Spirit excluded? "*He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: but he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.*" 1 John 2:22-23 — **Answer:2**

How many beings were being denied by ungodly men and is this consistent with what John said above? "*For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.*" Jude 1:4 — **Answer:2**

How many beings does John say we need to know to have eternal life? "*And this is life eternal, that they might know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.*" John 17:3 — **Answer:2**

How many beings can see the Father including Himself? "*Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He [Jesus] who is from God; He has seen the Father.*" John 6:46 — **Answer:2**

How many beings can reveal the Father and Son? "*No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.*" Luke 10:22 — **Answer:2**

How many beings can be hated? "*He that hateth me hateth my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.*" John 15:23-24 — **Answer:2**

How many beings are involved in our mediation? The trinity doctrine makes the Holy Spirit a mediator but Scripture says no! "*For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*" 1 Timothy 2:5 — **Answer:2**

How many beings are on and by the throne all throughout Revelation? "*And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.*" Revelation 7:10 — **Answer:2**

How many beings are in Heaven? "*Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.*" Acts 7:56 — **Answer:2**

How many beings are we heirs with? "*And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.*" Romans 8:17 — **Answer:2**

How many divine beings bear witness of Christ? "*I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.*" John 8:18 — **Answer:2**

How many divine beings do we believe in? "*Let not your heart be troubled: you believe in God, believe also in me.*" John 14:1 — **Answer:2**

How many beings are involved in creation? "*And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world has been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.*" Ephesians 3:9 — **Answer:2**

How many divine beings are in the kingdom of heaven? "*For this you know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.*" Ephesians 5:5 — **Answer:2**

How many beings do we honour? *“That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which has sent him.”* John 5:23 — **Answer:2**

How many beings do we serve? *“James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.”* James 1:1 — **Answer:2**

How many beings does Paul send greetings from in every letter he wrote? Peter has done the same. *“Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.”* Romans 1:7, 1 Corinthians 1:3, 2 Corinthians 1:2, Galatians 1:3, Ephesians 1:2, Philippians 1:2, Colossians 1:2, 1 Thessalonians 1:1, 2 Thessalonians 1:2, 1 Timothy 1:2, 2 Timothy 1:2, Titus 1:4, Philemon 1:3, 2 Peter 1:2 — **Answer:2**

And finally, how many beings are in the Godhead? *“But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.”* 1 Corinthians 8:6 — **Answer:2**

The following two verses are used by Trinitarians to try and prove that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are one God. But how many beings are described in both verses? Two! According to the trinity teaching, the first verse should have said, *“he who has seen me has seen the Father and the Holy Spirit.”* And the second should have said, *“I and my Father and the Holy Spirit are one.”* But no, there are always only two beings revealed all throughout Scripture.

How many beings? *“Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet have you not known me, Philip? he that has seen me has seen the Father; and how sayest you then, Show us the Father?”* John 14:9 — **Answer:2**

How many beings? *“I and my Father are one.”* John 10:30 — **Answer:2**

For Adventists: How many beings are to be exalted? *“The Father and the Son alone are to be exalted.”* — (E.G. White, *YI*, July 7, 1898) — **Answer:2**

How many beings know what the souls of men have cost? *“God and Christ alone know what the souls of men have cost.”* — (E.G. White, *ST*, Jan 13, 1909) — **Answer:2**

How many beings in the Counsels of God? *“Christ the Word, the Only Begotten of God, was one with the eternal Father,—one in nature, in character, and in purpose,—the only being in all the universe that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of God.”* — (E.G. White, *GC*, 493.1) — **Answer:2**

How many beings involved in the work of creation? *“The Father and the Son rested after Their work of Creation.”* — (E.G. White, *MS 25*, p. 3, 1898) — **Answer:2**

The answer is two every time and yet according to the trinity doctrine it should have been three “co-eternal /co-equal beings” and yet the Holy Spirit is excluded every time. And if the Holy Spirit was a god, then it would have been called “god the spirit,” not the “Spirit of God.” Scripture speaks only of honoring and worshiping the Father and Son. Nowhere does it even hint that we are to worship the Holy Spirit. All these verses and more reveal the Holy Spirit is not a literal being. In fact some of these Scriptures prove that it is an impossibility for the Holy Spirit to be a literal third being which is a belief that originated and was enforced by death by Emperor Theodosius 348 years after the cross. Hence the idea of the Holy Spirit as a third being could never have come from Scripture as this was a manmade idea more than 250 years “after” the Bible was written. So while there are three powers, there are only two literal beings. The Holy Spirit is the mind, power and personal presence of God.

Above taken from [www.trinitytruth.org](http://www.trinitytruth.org)

**[There is] one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who [is] above all, and through all, and in you all. But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Eph 4:4-7**

*What about the “co-eternal” teaching that is stated in 28 Fundamental Beliefs, abounding in our literature and on our baptismal certificates?*

**COETERNAL**, a. Equally eternal with another. 1828 Websters

COETERNITY, n. Existence from eternity equal with another eternal being; equal eternity.

COEVAL, a. Of the same age; beginning to exist at the same time; of equal age; usually and properly followed by with.

1980 28 Fundamental Beliefs of SDA- Statement No. 2:

“The Trinity ~ There is **one** God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, **a unity of three coeternal Persons.**”



*If God and Christ are **one** and are **coeternal**, that means Christ cannot be the begotten Son of God since Christ has existed coeternally as God. This destroys the **“personality”** of God, making him no longer a **distinct individual** from his Son, Christ. If there is no Son, there is no Saviour. “For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.” 2John 1:7*

1906- The Lord **Jesus Christ**, the divine Son of God, existed from eternity, **a distinct person, yet one with the Father.** {RH April 5, 1906, par. 7}

**Personality-**, n. **That which constitutes an individual a distinct person, or that which constitutes individuality.** (Webster's 1828 Dictionary) *(see if this definition fits Bible and Spirit of Prophecy and Pioneers)* ←

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1906- **“He who denies the personality of God and of His Son Jesus Christ, is denying God and Christ.** ‘If that which ye have heard **from the beginning** shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son and in the Father.’ **If you continue to believe and obey the truths you first embraced regarding the personality of the Father and the Son, you will be joined together with Him in love.** There will be seen that union of which Christ prayed just before His trial and crucifixion.” Review and Herald, 8 March, (1906) p 19

1855- **“Here we might mention the Trinity, which does away with the individual personality of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ,** and of sprinkling or pouring instead of being “buried with Christ in baptism,” “planted in the likeness of his death:” but we pass from these fables to notice one that is held sacred by nearly all professed Christians, both Catholic and Protestant. It is, the change of the Sabbath of the fourth commandment...” (James White, Dec 11 1855, Review and Herald, Vol. 7, no. 11, P 85 Par 16)

1855- **“The doctrine of the Trinity which was established in the church by the council of in218, A. D. 325... This doctrine destroys the personality of God, and his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.** The infamous measures by which it was forced upon the church which appear upon the pages of ecclesiastical history might well cause every believer in that doctrine to blush. (J. N. Andrews, March 6, 1855, Review and Herald, Vol. 6, No. 24, P. 185)

1905- **The Son is all the fullness of the Godhead manifested.** The Word of God declares Him to be **“the express image of His person.”** **“God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”** **Here is shown the personality of the Father** (*Special Testimonies*, Series B, no. 7, p. 63).

1846- **“The way spiritualizers have disposed of or denied the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ is first using the old unscriptural Trinitarian creed viz., that Jesus Christ is the eternal God**, while we have plain scripture testimony in abundance that **he is the Son of the eternal God.**” (James White, Jan 24 1846, The Day Star)

1903 - There is no one who can explain the mystery of the incarnation of Christ. Yet we know that He **came to this earth** and lived as a man among men. **The man Christ Jesus was not the Lord God Almighty, yet Christ and the Father are one.** {LHU 235.3} Manuscript 140, 1903

1903-The **unity** that exists between Christ and His disciples does not destroy the personality of either. **They are one in purpose, in mind, in character, but not in person. It is thus that God and Christ are one.** {8T 269.4}

1898- There is **a personal God, the Father; there is a personal Christ, the Son.** RH Nov 8, 1898- (*same year Desire of Ages was published*); 6BC p 1068

1904- **"Our ministers must be very careful not to enter into controversy in regard to the personality of God.** This is a subject that they are not to touch. It is a mystery, and the enemy will surely lead astray those who enter into it. **We know that Christ came in person to reveal God to the world. God is a person and Christ is a person.** Christ is spoken of in the Word as "the brightness of His Father's glory, and the express image of His person." (1SAT 343.3)

1904- I was forbidden to talk with **Dr. Kellogg** on this subject, because **it is not a subject to be talked about.** And I was instructed that certain sentiments in **Living Temple were the Alpha of a long list of deceptive theories.** {1SAT 343.4} [*"The omega will be of a most startling nature."* {1SM 197.4} *"and I trembled for our people"* {SpTB02 53.2}] ←

**1903- The sentiments in "Living Temple" regarding the personality of God have been received even by men who have had a long experience in the truth.** When such men consent to eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, we are no longer to regard the subject as a matter to be treated with the greatest delicacy. **That those whom we thought sound in the faith should have failed to discern the specious, deadly influence of this science of evil, should alarm us as nothing else has alarmed us.** {SpTB07 37.2}

**It is something that can not be treated as a small matter** that men who **have had** so much light, and **such clear evidence as to the genuineness of the truth we hold, should become unsettled, and led to accept spiritualistic theories regarding the personality of God.** {SpTB07 37.3}

**I am now authorized to say that the time has come to take decided action.** The development seen in the cause of God is similar to the development seen when **Balaam caused Israel to sin just before they entered the promised land. How dangerous it is so to exalt any man that he becomes confused, and confuses the minds of others in regard to the truths that for the last fifty years the Lord has been giving his people.** {SpTB07 36.4}

**1903 - 50 years = 1853** (*what was taught in 1853?*) ←

I was instructed to call upon our physicians and ministers to **take a firm stand for the truth.** We are not to allow atheistic, **spiritualistic sentiments** to be brought before our youth. **God has led us in the past, giving us truth, eternal truth. By this truth we are to stand.** Some of the leaders in the medical work have been deceived, and if they continue to hold fanciful, spiritualistic ideas, they will make many believe that the platform upon which we have been standing **for the past fifty years has been torn away.** These men need now to see with anointed eyes, with clear spiritual vision, that in spite of all men can do, **"the foundation of God standeth sure,"** and "the Lord knoweth them that are His." {SpTB07 38.2}

### **NOT TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSION ON THESE THEORIES/TRINITY:**

I was astonished to see with what enthusiasm the **sophistries and deceptive theories** were received. The influence of this talk gave him encouragement to call for a council of our brethren at Battle Creek for a further examination of these **seducing enticements.** I was bidden to warn our people on no account to send their children to Battle Creek to receive an education, because **these delusive scientific theories would be presented in the most seducing forms.** The matter has been working in **Dr. Kellogg's mind** in such a way that he thinks he is to be a channel to infuse other minds with great light regarding certain scientific problems. **He will be led to take words and sentiments from my books and present them as being in harmony with his theories. But the Lord has forbidden us to enter into any discussion with him; for he is becoming more and more deceptive, through the influence of evil angels clothed in beautiful garments of light.** {Ms64-1904.3}

**I am bidden to tell our ministers to enter into no discussion over these theories. Let them alone.** When engaged in **discussion over these theories, their advocates will take words spoken to oppose them and will make them appear to mean the very opposite of that which the speaker intended them to mean. Dr. Kellogg has been studying these matters for a long time** and has been preparing himself to present his ideas and to lead souls to adopt them. I am **now commissioned to tell our people to beware.** {Ms64-1904.4} *(compare with Saul, see page 18)* ←

The **night interviews** which **Dr. Kellogg** holds are one of **his most effective means** of gaining his point. His constant stream of talk confuses the minds of those he is seeking to influence. **He misstates and misquotes words and places those who argue**

with him in so false a light that their powers of discernment are benumbed. He takes their words and gives them an impress which makes them seem to mean exactly the opposite of what they said. {Ms64-1904.5}

If permitted, the evil angels will work the minds of men until they have no mind or will of their own. They are led as the angels cast out from heaven were led. Under Satan's influence these angels uttered sentiments directly opposite to loyalty to God. Thus the family of God in heaven became corrupted. And thus will it be with physicians or ministers who continue to bind up with Dr. Kellogg. He has had light, he has had warnings, but he has not heeded them. At the Oakland Conference I was forbidden to have any conversation with him. I was not to place any writings in his hands; for he would read from these writings what I had not written, bringing in his own sentiments. {Ms64-1904.6}

*Please also note statements No(s) 4 & 5 in the 28 Fundamental Beliefs of SDA's:*

**Statement No.4:** "The Son ~ **God the eternal Son**, became incarnate in Jesus Christ."

Jesus is not called "the Son of God"; but he is referred to in the Roman manner as "**God the eternal Son**." This language makes Jesus not the Son, but rather God in the form of an eternal son. The difference in language is subtle but effective. Throughout the entire lifetime of Ellen White, the church used the **terminology "the only begotten Son of God."** On the EGW CD rom, there are over 5,000 hits for "Son of God" and 239 hits for "only begotten son of God"

**Statement No.5:** "The Holy Spirit ~ **God the eternal Spirit** was active with the Father and the Son in Creation..."

Here the Holy Spirit is referred to as "God the Spirit", not as the "Spirit of God". "Spirit of God" is found 26 times in the Bible. The phrase, "God the Spirit", is not found once in the Bible! Calling "God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit" as found in statement No(s) 2,4-5, is stating there are three Gods, rather than one. The Bible says there is ONE God, ONE Son and ONE Holy Spirit; NOT three Gods.

~ But to us [there is but] **one God**, the Father, of whom [are] all things, and we in him; and **one Lord Jesus Christ**, by whom [are] all things, and we by him. 1Cor 8:6

~ There is] one body, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling **One Lord**, one faith, one baptism, 4:6 **One God and Father of all**, who [is] above all, and through all, and in you all. Eph 4:4, 5

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*The trinity doctrine says there are:*

- 3 beings who are co-eternal*
- 3 beings who are all immortal*
- 3 beings who are all powerful, all knowing etc.*
- 3 beings who are worthy of worship and praise*
- 3 beings each acting a different role*

So if all three members of the Godhead are co-eternal, then there was "never" a time that they did not exist, and they all must be the same infinite age. If this is true, then the titles which they possess merely reflect the roles taken to act out the plan of redemption. They cannot then be taken in a literal sense. For example, the Son of God then is not really God's Son. He is the member of the Godhead playing the role of the Son. Yet Scripture teaches us over and over again that God gave His Son, but the trinity doctrine tells us that Jesus was not really God's Son. He was the member of the Godhead playing the role of the Son. The Trinitarian typically claims that Jesus was referred to as God's Son because of His birth in Bethlehem. But the Bible states that Jesus was brought forth before all things were created. So if Jesus has "always" existed then it is impossible for Him to be the Son of God. And if Christ is not a literal Son, then God cannot be a literal Father either. And so the trinity doctrine destroys the personality of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord.  
([www.trinitytruth.org](http://www.trinitytruth.org))

## *And what about eternity past and begotten before the world was created?*

And as to the Son of God, he could be excluded also, for he had God for His Father, and did, at some point in the eternity of the past, have beginning of days. So that if we use Paul's language in an absolute sense, it would be impossible to find but one being in the universe, and that is God the Father, who is without father, or mother, or descent, or beginning of days, or end of life. Yet probably no one for a moment contends that Melchizedek was God the Father." ("Melchisedec," *Review & Herald*, September 7, 1869 — also found in the January 4, 1881 edition of *Review & Herald*) J.N. Andrews

### **Begotten before the world was created**

*John 8:42 Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.*

Jesus denied that the Jews were children of Abraham. He said, "Ye do the deeds of your father." In mockery they answered, "We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God." **These words, in allusion to the circumstances of His birth, were intended as a thrust against Christ** in the presence of those who were beginning to believe on Him. Jesus gave no heed to the base insinuation, but said, "If God were your Father, ye would love Me: for I proceeded forth and came from God." {DA 467.2}

*Jesus was begotten **BEFORE** he came into the world) See also Gal 4:6, Proverbs 8:22-26- he was brought forth; Micah 5:2:*

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

*Here we see Christ was begotten **BEFORE** evil in heaven (with Lucifer) existed. So, Christ was begotten in heaven as he partook of the future creation of all "heavenly beings". We are not heavenly beings. So, this is referring to Jesus as the only begotten of God **BEFORE** human beings or the world were created; and long before Christ came to this earth as a babe:*

**Before** the entrance of evil there was peace and joy throughout the universe. All was in perfect harmony with the Creator's will. Love for God was supreme, love for one another impartial. Christ the Word, the Only Begotten of God, was one with the eternal Father,—one in nature, in character, and in purpose,—the only being in all the universe that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of God. By Christ the Father wrought in the creation of all heavenly beings. "By Him were all things created, that are in heaven,... whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers" (Colossians 1:16); and to Christ, equally with the Father, all heaven gave allegiance. {GC 493.1}

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom **He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person**, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; being made so much better than the angels, as **He hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they**. For unto which of the angels said He at any time, **Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten Thee? And again, I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son?** Hebrews 1:1-5. {8T 268.2}

**God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God.** To Christ has been given an exalted position. He has been made equal with the Father. All the counsels of God are opened to His Son. {8T 268.3}

*John 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee **before the world was**.*

*John 7:24 Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me **before the foundation of the world**.*

*1 Cor2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, [even] the hidden [wisdom], which God ordained **before the world** unto our glory:*

*2 Tim 2:9 Who hath saved us, and called [us] with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus **before the world began**.*

Eph 1:3 Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly [places] in Christ: 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him **before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

1Pet 1:19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: 1:20 **Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you,

The Lord Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God, **existed from eternity, a distinct person, yet one with the Father**. He was the surpassing glory of heaven. He was the commander of the heavenly intelligences, and the adoring homage of the angels was received by him as his right. This was no robbery of God. **"The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way," he declares, "before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth; while as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When he prepared the heavens, I was there;** when he set a compass upon the face of the depth." {RH April 5, 1906, par. 7}

The Eternal Father, the unchangeable one, **gave his only begotten Son, tore from his bosom Him who was made in the express image of his person**, and **sent him down to earth** to reveal how greatly he loved mankind. {RH July 9, 1895, par. 13}

**Before Christ came in the likeness of men, he existed in the express image of his Father.** {YI Dec 20, 1900}

The dedication of the first-born had its origin in the earliest times. **God had promised to give the First-born of heaven to save the sinner.** {DA 51}

**The Word** was **"in the beginning."** **The mind of man cannot grasp the ages that are spanned in this phrase. It is not given to men to know when or how the Son was begotten; but we know that he was the Divine Word, not simply before He came to this earth to die, but even before the world was created.** Just before His crucifixion He prayed, "And now, O Father, glorify thou Me with Thine own self with the glory which I had with Thee **before the world was.**" John 17:5. And more than seven hundred years before His first advent, His coming was thus foretold by the word of inspiration: "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands **of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from the days of eternity.**" Micah 5:2, margin. **We know that Christ** "{1890 EJW, CHR 9.1}

In his lessons and his mighty works, Christ is a perfect revelation of God. This Christ declares through the inspired evangelist. "No man hath seen God at any time," he says; **"the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father,** he hath declared him." "No man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him." **These words show the importance of studying Christ's character.** Only by knowing Christ can we know God. {RH July 20, 1897, par. 10}

## **Andreasen and Time** ←

We can understand how God can bless human beings. We can even understand how He can bless animals and give them their work to do in carrying out God's purpose; **but how can God bless a day, a division of time, neither animate nor inanimate, not alive nor dead, a thing without substance, a conception rather than a reality; time, which defies definition,** though all mankind is aware of its existence and reality? How can **time** be blessed so as to be a blessing to man?

**The answer is that time does not have any virtue or power in itself to be a blessing or a help to others. Time is as impersonal as space, and equally inconceivable.** One difference between the two is noticeable: space extends in all directions, while time might be compared to a one-way road, permitting traffic in one direction only. **Man has no power over time,** to hasten or retard it. Whether he will or not, he is carried along with it, and despite all protests is one day older tomorrow than he is today. He cannot reverse the process, however much he may wish to do so. **Time is superior** to him, and he obeys its mandates.

**There are those who believe that God did not create time, but that in some way He found it already existing. But this cannot be. Time and space are not self-existent entities, operating apart from God and independent of Him. If that were true, they would be equal with God, or even His superior; for that which is coeval with God or exists prior to God must at**



**least be equal with Him; and that which is not created by God is self-existent and is God.** The Christian believes that “without Him was not anything made that was made,” and that **time and space are created by God as verily as anything else He has made.** John 1:3.

Though the two conceptions of **time and space are beyond human comprehension**, each is helpful in understanding the other. Our conception of space, for example, helps us to understand time better, and how it is possible for God to bless time (Andreasen-*The Sabbath*, pp. 54, 55).

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**The Scriptures declare that Christ is “the only begotten son of God.” He is begotten, not created.** As to when He was begotten, it is not for us to inquire, nor could our minds grasp it if we were told. The prophet Micah tells us all that we can know about it in these words, “But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; **whose goings forth have been from of old, from the days of eternity.**” Micah 5:2, margin. **There was a time when Christ proceeded forth and came from God, from the bosom of the Father (John 8:42; 1:18), but that time was so far back in the days of eternity that to finite comprehension it is practically without beginning.** {1890 EJW, CHR 21.2}

The Sovereign of the universe was not alone in His work of beneficence. **He had an associate—a co-worker who could appreciate His purposes, and could share His joy in giving happiness to created beings.** “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.” John 1:1, 2. Christ, the Word, **the only begotten of God, was one** with the eternal Father—**one in nature, in character, in purpose**—the only being that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of God. “His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6. His **“goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.”** Micah 5:2. **And the Son of God declares concerning Himself:** “The Lord possessed Me **in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting.... When He appointed the foundations of the earth: then I was by Him,** as one brought up with Him: and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him.” Proverbs 8:22-30. {PP 34.1}

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The Lord **Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of the Father, is truly God in infinity, but not in personality.**— (E.G. White, MS116, December 19, 1905).

*Waggoner explains in words that are easier to understand making what Ellen White said above easier to comprehend.*

**Jesus is the only begotten Son of God. He was begotten, not created.** He is of the substance of the Father, so that in his **very nature** he is God; and since this is so “it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell.” Col. 1:19 ... **While both are of the same nature, the Father is first in point of time. He is also greater in that he had no beginning, while Christ's personality had a beginning.**” — (E.J. Waggoner, ST, April 8, 1889)

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And although we may try to reason in regard to our Creator, **how long He [Christ] has had existence**, where evil first entered into our world, and all these things, **we may reason about them until we fall down faint and exhausted with the research when there is yet an infinity beyond.**” — (E.G. White, 7BC 919.5)

**○ the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable [are] his judgments, and his ways past finding out!**

**Romans 11:33**

## **Following Information (pgs. 32-39) as a result of the Edict of Thessalioica in 313 A.D. & Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D.**

### *THE COUNCIL OF NICAEA: What transpired?*

#### **The Origen of Nicaea**

"Simplicity was the greatest appendage to Christianity to maintain unity. The teachers inculcated no doctrines further than those contained in the Apostles' Creed, and violated all vain subtleties and mysterious researches. There was not at this time the least controversy about the capital doctrines which were afterwards so keenly debated in the Church: ... This was soon swamped by the laborious efforts of human learning and dark subtleties of imaginary science.

"Acute researches were employed upon several religious points, not vital regarding salvation, and human philosophy was incorporated into the simplicity of our Divine Master's sublime system.

"... a new sect of philosophers, suddenly arose and spread with amazing rapidity through a great part of the Roman empire. Alexandria in Egypt gave birth to this new philosophy: they ... were ready to adopt the truth alone from all the different systems and sects. Their discipline was approved of by the Christians and all those who had charge of the Christian school at Alexandria.

"This philosophy underwent a change when AMMONIUS SACCAS [C. 170-242 A.D.] laid the foundation of that sect known as the New Platonic. ... his projects were singular, for he even strove to have a coalition of all sects, both philosophical and religious, and taught a doctrine which he considered as adapted to unite all in perfect harmony.

"This absurd philosophy, embraced by Origen and other Christians, was very detrimental to the beautiful simplicity of the celestial doctrines of Christ." T. W. Herbert, "An Ecclesiastical History," (1847 ed.) pp. 21, 23

#### **A.T. Jones on the Council of Nicaea:**

"Just at this time, however, there sprang into prominence the famous Trinitarian controversy, which involved, and under the circumstances demanded, an imperial decision as to what was the Catholic Church in point of doctrine ... Great Empires of Prophecy, p 495.2 AT Jones

"In the quest for truth every man is free to search, to believe, and to decide, for himself alone. And his assent to any form of belief or doctrine, to be true, must spring from his own personal conviction that such is the truth. "The truth itself, forced on man otherwise than by its own inward power, becomes falsehood." -- Neander.33 And he who suffers anything to be so forced upon him, utters a lie against himself and against God.

The realm of thought is the realm of God. Whosoever would attempt to restrict or coerce the free exercise of the thought of another, usurps the dominion of God, and exercises that of the devil. This is what Constantine did at the Council of Nice. This is what the majority of the Council of Nice itself did. In carrying out the purpose for which it was met, this is the only thing that it could do, no matter which side of the controversy should prove victorious. What Constantine and the Council of Nice did, was to open the way and set the wicked precedent for that despotism over thought which continued for more than fourteen hundred dreary years, and which was carried to such horrible lengths when the pope succeeded to the place of Constantine as head over both church and State.

To say that the Holy Spirit had any part whatever in the council, either in discussing or deciding the question, or in any other way, is but to argue that the Holy Spirit of God is but the subject and tool of the unholy passions of ambitious and wicked men. Great Empires of Prophecy, p 513-14 AT Jones

#### **J.N. Andrews on the Council of Nicaea:**

The doctrine of the Trinity which was established in the church by the council of Nice, A. D. 325... This doctrine destroys the personality of God, and his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. The infamous measures by which it was forced upon the church which appear upon the pages of ecclesiastical history might well cause every believer in that doctrine to blush. (J. N. Andrews, March 6, 1855, Review and Herald, Vol. 6, No. 24, P. 185)

# Catholic Church says Trinity (**Homoousion**) is central doctrine

MUST SEE! <https://youtu.be/EV7-IAFlzKk>

"The mystery of the **trinity** is the **central doctrine** of the Catholic faith. Upon it are based **all the other teachings of the church.**" [Handbook for Today's Catholic, pg. 16]

"Indeed there is, and that "deep, underlying principle" is the principle of the Papacy. **In the fourth century, when Constantine was manipulating the church for political ends, he first issued an edict granting freedom of worship to all.** Then he commanded that all church buildings should be restored to the Christians. **But this was not definite enough, because there were divisions among the professed Christians; and therefore Constantine issued another decree specifying that the property must be given only to the "Catholic" Christians, as distinct from the Arians.** But this was not sufficient, as there were parties in the so-called "Catholic" church; therefore Constantine had to specify **which party of the Catholic church He meant to favour.** {February 15, 1894 EJW, PTUK 101.9}

"Under Diocletian, many Churches had been destroyed. **Constantine** ordered them to be rebuilt and the property restored to them. At that time there was a sect of Donatists who petitioned the emperor to restore their Churches, but **CONSTANTINE SAID ONLY THE "CATHOLIC" CHURCHES WERE TO BE REBUILT. THIS BROUGHT A SERIES OF COUNCILS TO DECIDE BETWEEN THE DONATISTS, ARIANS, AND TRINITARIANS TO DECIDE WHICH WAS CATHOLIC,** and so fierce were the disputes and so disgraceful that the theatres parodied the quarrels for the amusement of the populace. **CONSTANTINE FINALLY PLACED, IN THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES, THE WORD "HOMOOUSIAN" AND THAT DECIDED THE FATE OF ALL ROME AND THE CATHOLIC WORLD EVER SINCE — BECOMING THE CATHOLIC CREED FOR EVER AFTER, SO THAT CONSTANTINE PREPARED THE DOCTRINE FOR THIS CHURCH.** {May 11, 1889 ATJ, TDC 4.18}

<b>Trinity</b>	<b>Homoousion</b> (ἁμοῦς ὁμοῦσιον; Greek: ὁμοούσιον, translit. <i>homoousion</i> , lit. 'same in being, same in essence', from ὁμός, <i>homós</i> , "same" and οὐσία, <i>ousía</i> , "being" or "essence") <sup>[1][2]</sup> is a Christian theological term, <b>most notably used in the Nicene Creed for describing Jesus (God the Son) as "same in being" or "same in essence" with God the Father (ὁμοούσιον τῷ Πατρὶ).</b> The same term was later also applied to the Holy Spirit <b>in order to designate it as being "same in essence" with the Father</b> and the Son. Those notions became cornerstones of theology in Nicene Christianity, and also represent <b>one of the most important theological concepts within the Trinitarian doctrinal understanding of God.</b> <i>Wikipedia</i>
<b>DOES NOT TEACH "two distinct persons" as per SOP.</b>	
<b>Arian</b>	<b>Homoiousion</b> (from ὁμοίος, <i>hómoios</i> , "similar", as opposed to ὁμός, <i>homós</i> , "same, common"), which maintained that the Son was <b>"like in substance" but not necessarily to be identified with the essence of the Father.</b> <i>Wikipedia</i>

**ESSENCE**, n. [L. *essentia*, *esse*, to be.] 4. **A being; an existent person; as heavenly essences.**

God and Christ are spoken of **separately.** They are **two distinct persons,** but **one in mind, one in heart, one in holiness and justice,** and **purity,** and **one in the work of seeking to save the sinful race.** {BCL 127.3}

Here we might mention **the Trinity, which does away with the individual personality of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ,** and of sprinkling or pouring instead of being "buried with Christ in baptism," "planted in the likeness of his death:" but we pass from **these fables** to notice one that is held sacred **by nearly all professed Christians, both Catholic and Protestant.** It is, the change of the Sabbath of the fourth commandment... (James White, Dec 11 1855, Review and Herald, Vol. 7, no. 11, P 85 Par 16) The way **spiritualizers** have **disposed of or denied the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ** is first using **the old unscriptural Trinitarian creed viz., that Jesus Christ is the eternal God,** while we have plain scripture testimony in abundance that **he is the Son of the eternal God.**" (James White, Jan 24 1846, The Day Star)

## Edict of Thessalonica see "essence" defined on previous page

In 313 the emperor Constantine I, together with his eastern counterpart Licinius, issued the Edict of Milan, which granted religious toleration and freedom for persecuted Christians. By 325 Arianism, a school of christology which contended that Christ did not possess the divine essence of the Father but was rather a primordial creation and an entity subordinate to God, had become sufficiently widespread and controversial in Early Christianity that Constantine called the Council of Nicaea in an attempt to end the controversy by establishing an empire-wide, i.e., "ecumenical" orthodoxy. The council produced the original text of the Nicene Creed, which rejected the Arian confession and upheld that Christ is "true God" and "of one essence with the Father".<sup>[2]</sup> *Wikipedia*

'The doctrine of the Trinity which was established in the church by the council of Nice, A. D. 325.. This doctrine destroys the personality of God, and his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. The infamous measures by which it was forced upon the church which appear upon the pages of ecclesiastical history might well cause every believer in that doctrine to blush. (J. N. Andrews, March 6, 1855, Review and Herald, Vol. 6, No. 24, P. 185)

- **325 A.D.** - "**COUNCIL OF NICE** WAS CALLED BY **CONSTANTINE** TO SETTLE THE DISPUTE OF WHICH RELIGION WAS CORRECT AND **DELIVER TO THE CHURCH AN ORTHODOX CREED AT THIS COUNCIL, ARIANISM WAS DECLARED "HERESY"**"
- **325 A.D.** - "**ONE OF THE OBJECTS FOR WHICH THE COUNCIL OF NICE WAS CALLED (325 A.D.) WAS TO BRING ABOUT UNIFORMITY IN THE MATTER OF THE CELEBRATION OF EASTER OF THE DECISION AND OF THE REASON FOR IT, CONSTANTINE HIMSELF WROTE A LETTER TO THE CHURCHES...**" {March 27, 1902 EJW, PTUK 194.14}{EJW 1902}

**Arianism** is a nontrinitarian<sup>[1]</sup> Christological doctrine<sup>[1][2][3]</sup> which asserts the belief that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who was begotten by God the Father at a point in time,<sup>[1]</sup> a creature distinct from the Father and is therefore subordinate to him, but the Son is also God (i.e. God the Son).<sup>[1]</sup>  
*Wikipedia* **JESUS INHERITED HIS FATHER'S NAME. "GOD"; & THUS WHY JESUS IS CALLED "GOD." HEB 1:2**

God and Christ are spoken of separately. They are two distinct persons, but one in mind, one in heart, one in holiness and justice, and purity, and one in the work of seeking to save the sinful race. {BCL 127.3}

In this Scripture [John 1:1-4, 14-16; 3:34-36] God and Christ are spoken of as two distinct personalities, each acting in their own individuality (Manuscript Release, no. 760, p. 18)

1906- The Lord Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God, existed from eternity, a distinct person, yet one with the Father. {RH April 5, 1906, par. 7}

Christ the Word, the Only Begotten of God, was one with the eternal Father, —one in nature, in character, and in purpose,— {GC 493.1}

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And as to the Son of God, he could be excluded also, for he had God for His Father, and did, at some point in the eternity of the past, have beginning of days. So that if we use Paul's language in an absolute sense, it would be impossible to find but one being in the universe, and that is God the Father, who is without father, or mother, or descent, or beginning of days, or end of life. Yet probably no one for a moment contends that Melchizedek was God the Father." ("Melchisedec," *Review & Herald*, September 7, 1869 — also found in the January 4, 1881 edition of *Review & Herald*) J.N. Andrews

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## Andreasen and Time

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Though the two conceptions of time and space are beyond human comprehension, each is helpful in understanding the other. Our conception of space, for example, helps us to understand time better, and how it is possible for God to bless time (Andreasen-*The Sabbath*, pp. 54, 55).

**COEVAL**, a. Of the same age; beginning to exist at the same time; of equal age; usually and properly followed by with.

**COETERNITY**, n. Existence from eternity equal with another eternal being; equal eternity.

**ERROR → 1980 28 Fundamental Beliefs of SDA- Statement No. 2:**

**“The Trinity ~ There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three coeternal Persons.”**

**God the Father and his son, Jesus CANNOT be coeval or coeternal by definition since Jesus was begotten of the Father. John 1:14, 18; 3:16, 18; Acts 13:33; Heb 1:5; 5:5; 1John 4:9**

## Truth Triumphant by B. G. Wilkinson (more excellent history on “Homoousion”)

(Truth Triumphant by B. G. Wilkinson pg 80):

“While considering the early life of this Christian leader, it is most interesting to note what was happening in contemporary history. Vigilantius<sup>8</sup> was doing his work in southern France and in northern Italy, or among the Latin peoples. Shortly before Patrick's time the empire had been under the rule of Constantius II, who recoiled from accepting the extreme views on the Godhead, which had won the vote under his father, Constantine the Great, in the first Council of Nicaea. As will be related later, similar opposition to those extreme views prevailed all over Europe. Patrick's belief was that of the opposition. Dr. Stokes writes: “The British churches of the fourth century took the keenest interest in church controversies. They opposed Arianism, but hesitated, like many others, about the use of the word 'homoousion.'”<sup>9</sup> (This word means “density of substance.”) Thus Celtic Christianity in the years of Patrick refused to accept this test term and the conclusions to which the radical speculations were leading.

(Truth Triumphant by B. G. Wilkinson pg. 91-94):

“The Council of Nicaea, convened in 325 by Emperor Constantine, started the religious controversy which has never ceased. Assembling under the sanction of a united church and state, that famous gathering commanded the submission of believers to new doctrines. During the youth of Patrick and for half a century preceding, forty-five church councils and synods had assembled in various parts of Europe. Of these Samuel Edgar says:

The boasted unity of Romanism was gloriously displayed, by the diversified councils and confessions of the fourth century. Popery, on that as on every other occasion, eclipsed Protestantism in the manufacture of creeds. **Forty-five councils, says Jortin, were held in the fourth century. Of these, thirteen were against Arianism, fifteen for that heresy, and seventeen for Semi-Arianism.** The roads were crowded with bishops thronging to synods, and the traveling expenses, which were defrayed by the emperor, exhausted the public funds. These exhibitions became the sneer of the heathen, who were amused to behold men, who, from infancy, had been educated in Christianity, and appointed to instruct others in that religion, hastening, in this manner, to distant places and conventions for the purpose of ascertaining their belief.<sup>40</sup>

“The burning question of the decades succeeding the Council of Nicaea was how to state the relations of the Three Persons of the Godhead: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. The council had decided, and the papacy had appropriated the decision as its own. The personalities of the Trinity were not confounded, and the substance was not divided. The Roman clergy claimed that Christianity had found in the Greek word homoousios (in English, “consubstantiality”) an appropriate term to express this relationship.<sup>41</sup>...

“Then the papal party proceeded to call those who would not subscribe to this teaching, Arians, while they took to themselves the title of Trinitarians. An erroneous charge was circulated that all who were called Arians believed that Christ was a created being.”<sup>42</sup> This stirred up the indignation of those who were not guilty of the charge.

<sup>42</sup> It is doubtful if many believed Christ to be a created being. Generally, those evangelical bodies who opposed the papacy and who were branded as Arians confessed both the divinity of Christ and that He was begotten, not created, by the Father. They recoiled from other extreme deductions and speculations concerning the Godhead.

“Patrick was a spectator to many of these conflicting assemblies. It will be interesting, in order to grasp properly his situation, to examine for a moment this word, this term, which has split many a church and has caused many a sincere Christian to be burned at the stake. In English the word is “consubstantial,” connoting that more than one person inhabit the same substance

without division or separation. The original term in Greek is **homoousios**, from homos, **meaning “identical,”** **andousia, the word for “being.”**

“However, a great trouble arose, since there are two terms in Greek of historical fame. The first, **homos, meaning “identical,”** and the second, **homoios, meaning “similar” or “like unto,”** had both of them a stormy history. **The spelling of these words is much alike. The difference in meaning, when applied to the Godhead, is bewildering to simplehearted believers. Nevertheless, those who would think in terms of homoiousian, or “similar,” instead of homoousian, or “identical,” were promptly labeled as heretics and Arians by the clergy.** Yet when the emperor, Constantine, in full assembly of the **Council of Nicaea**, asked Hosius, the presiding bishop, what the difference was between the two terms, Hosius replied that they were both alike. At this all but a few bishops, broke out into laughter and teased the chairman with heresy.<sup>43</sup>

“As volumes have been written in centuries past upon this problem, it would be out of place to discuss it here. **It had, however, such profound effect upon other doctrines relating to the plan of salvation and upon outward acts of worship that a gulf was created between the papacy and the institutions of the church which Patrick had founded in Ireland.**

“While Patrick was anything but an **Arian**, nevertheless he declined to concur in the idea of “sameness” found in that compelling word “**consubstantial**” or **homoousian**. Usually when violent controversy rages, there are three parties. In this instance there were the **two extremes**, one of which was led by the papacy, the second by the **Arians**, and the third party was the middle-of-the-road believers whose viewpoint was the same as Patrick’s.<sup>44</sup> As Dr. J. H. Todd says of **homoousian**, the test word of the papal hierarchy, when commenting on Patrick’s beliefs, “This confession of faith is certainly not **homooussan**.”<sup>45</sup> Another fact verifying this opposition of the **British churches to the extreme speculations of the Council of Nicaea respecting the Trinity is the story of the Council of Rimini in 359**, held approximately at the time of Patrick’s birth. **This, it seems, was the last church council to be attended by Celtic delegates from the British Church before the withdrawal of Rome’s legions in 410, and it was followed by the overrunning of England by the pagan Anglo-Saxons. This Council of Rimini passed decrees denouncing and rejecting the conclusions of Nicaea respecting the Trinity.** The pope of Rome had recently signed similar decrees in the Council of Sirmium. No one will blame the evangelicals for recoiling from the **papal view of the Trinity, when history shows that their views were strong enough to cause two popes to sign decrees contrary to the policy of the papacy respecting Nicaea.**

“One of the reasons, no doubt, why the papacy for many years did not mention Patrick’s name or his success was the position of the Irish Church respecting the decrees of Nicaea. Centuries were to pass before the papacy discovered that his merits were too firmly established to be overlooked. It labored to gather Patrick into its fold by inventing all kinds of history and fables to make him a **papal hero**. It surrounded with a halo of glory a certain Palladius, apparently sent by Rome to Ireland in the midst of Patrick’s success. He also has been called Patrick.<sup>46</sup>

“Patrick beheld Jesus as his substitute on the cross. He took his stand for the **Ten Commandments**. He says in his *Confession*: “I was taken to Ireland in captivity with many thousand men, in accordance with our deserts because we walked at a distance from God, and did not observe His commandments.” Those who recoiled from the extreme speculations and conclusions of the **so-called Trinitarians** believed Deuteronomy 29:29: “The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever.”

“**The binding obligation of the Decalogue was a burning issue in Patrick’s age. In theory, all the parties in disagreement upon the Trinity recognized the Ten Commandments as the moral law of God, perfect, eternal, and unchangeable.** It could easily be seen that in the judgment, the Lord could not have one standard for angels and another for men. There was not one law for the Jews and a different one for the Gentiles. The rebellion of Satan in heaven had initiated **Commandments in his heart** by creating man with a flawless moral nature. All parties went a

step further. They confessed and denied not that in all the universe there was found no one, neither angel, cherubim, seraphim, man, nor any other creature, except Christ, whose death could atone for the broken law.

**Then the schism came. Those who rejected the intense, exacting definition of three Divine Persons in one body, as laid down by the Council of Nicaea, believed that Calvary had made Christ a divine sacrifice, the sinner's substitute. The papacy repudiated the teaching that Jesus died as man's substitute upon the cross. Consequently it ignored the exalted place given the Decalogue by the crucifixion of Christ.** Those who saw the eternal necessity of magnifying the law, and making it honorable, maintained that death claimed the Son of God but had left untouched the Father and Holy Spirit. This was the teaching of Patrick and his successor. **“Thus, the Celtic Church upheld the sacredness of the Ten Commandments.** They accepted the prophecy of Isaiah that Christ came to magnify the law and make it honorable. They preached, as Jeremiah and Paul did, that the purpose of the new covenant was to write God's law in the heart. God could be just and justify the sinner who had fled to Christ. No wonder that the Celtic, the Gothic, **the Waldensian,** the Armenian Churches, and the great Church of the East, as well as other bodies, **differed profoundly from the papacy in its metaphysical conceptions of the Trinity and consequently in the importance of the Ten Commandments.** (*Truth Triumphant by B. G. Wilkinson pg. 91-94*)

**The Waldensians** entered the schools of the world as students. They made no pretensions; apparently they paid no attention to anyone; but **they lived out what they believed. They never sacrificed principle, and their principles soon became known.** {4MR 51.1}

These [*Waldensians*] were in ancient times **a people who looked with a horror upon the abominations of the church of Rome and sought to worship God in peace, according to the Word of God. They could not do this without coming into collision on every side with the opinions of Rome.** While they [*the Vaudois*] had not a clear and distinct view of justification by faith, these were a step behind **the Waldensians, who in purity of doctrine composed a long line of witnesses to the truth.** They made their homes in the Piedmont Alps. **The seclusion helped to maintain their purity.** From the mountain heights, **Waldensians protested against the corruption of the Roman church. They contended for the faith once delivered to the saints:** that Christ is our Mediator, and His merits alone can cleanse from all sin. And yet their faith needed elevation. True progress did not mark their course; for they were tinctured with the customs of Rome. But gradually the clouds of error were rolling away in other parts of the world. **Just as soon as Rome saw that men were searching for truth, digging for truth as for hid treasures, and not receiving their faith from Rome, then she was stirred.** The Roman piety was the only piety that must be current. {Ms62-1886.74}

**The faith which for many centuries was held and taught by the Waldensian Christians was in marked contrast to the false doctrines put forth from Rome. Their religious belief was founded upon the written word of God, the true system of Christianity.** But those humble peasants, in their obscure retreats, shut away from the world, and bound to daily toil among their flocks and their vineyards, had not themselves arrived at the truth in opposition to the dogmas and heresies of the apostate church. **Theirs was not a faith newly received. Their religious belief was their inheritance from their fathers. They contended for the faith of the apostolic church.—“the faith which was once delivered to the saints.”** “The church in the wilderness,” and not the proud hierarchy enthroned in the world's great capital, **was the true church of Christ, the guardian of the treasures of truth which God has committed to his people to be given to the world.** {GC88 64.1}



**It was through the power of the Holy Spirit that during the Dark Ages the Waldensian Christians helped to prepare the way for the Reformation. {AA 53.1}**

**Let the truths that are the foundation of our faith be kept before the people.** Some will depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. They talk science, and the enemy comes in and gives them an abundance of science; but it is not the science of salvation. It is not the science of humility, of consecration, or of the sanctification of the Spirit. We are now to understand what the pillars of our faith are,—the truths that have made us as a people what we are, leading us on step by step.—Review and Herald, May 25, 1905. {CW 29.1}

**When the power of God testifies as to what is truth, that truth is to stand forever as the truth. No after suppositions, contrary to the light God has given are to be entertained.** Men will arise with interpretations of Scripture which are to them truth, but which are not truth. The truth for this time, **God has given us as a foundation for our faith.** He Himself has taught us what is truth. One will arise, and still another, with new light which contradicts the light that God has given under the demonstration of His Holy Spirit. {CW 31.2}

Let not erroneous theories receive countenance from the people who ought to be standing firm on the platform of eternal truth. **God calls upon us to hold firmly to the fundamental principles that are based upon unquestionable authority.** {GW 308.2} 1915

**TRUTH: 1872 Fundamental Principles Taught & Practiced by SDA's:**

No mention of the "Trinity"

I – That **there is one God**, a personal, spiritual being, the creator of all things, omnipotent, omniscient, and eternal, infinite in wisdom, holiness, justice, goodness, truth, and mercy; unchangeable, and **everywhere present by his representative, the Holy Spirit.** Ps. 139:7.

II – That **there is one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Eternal Father**, the one by whom God created all things, and by whom they do consist; that he took on him the nature of the seed of Abraham for the redemption of our fallen race; that he dwelt among men full of grace and truth, lived our example, died our sacrifice, was raised for our justification, ascended on high to be our only mediator in the sanctuary in Heaven, where, with his own blood he makes atonement for our sins; which atonement so far from being made on the cross, which was but the offering of the sacrifice, is the very last portion of his work as priest, according to the example of the Levitical priesthood, which foreshadowed and prefigured the ministry of our Lord in Heaven. See Lev. 16; Heb. 8:4, 5; 9:6, 7; etc.

**CHANGES MADE; ERROR!: 1980- 27 Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-Day-Adventists:**

**2. The Trinity:**

There is one **God**: Father, **Son**, and **Holy Spirit**, a **unity of three co-eternal Persons.**

**4. The Son:**

**God the eternal Son** became incarnate in Jesus Christ.

**In reviewing our past history**, having traveled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what God has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader. **We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.** {Lt32-1892.38}

Son of the Eternal Father; NOT the Eternal Son.  
NOT a unity of 3 co-eternal persons. They are 3 distinct and separate "persons".

*A BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATION: The nature of God and His only begotten Son is actually illustrated on a small scale with Adam and Eve.*

**Adam** had enjoyed the companionship of God and of holy angels. ... Love, gratitude, loyalty to the Creator—all were overborne by love to Eve. **She was a part of himself**," — (E.G. White, PP, 56.2)

*In exactly the same way Eve was part of Adam, Christ is part of God.*

God's love for the world was not manifest because He sent His Son, but **because He loved the world He sent His Son** into the world that divinity clothed with humanity might touch humanity, while divinity lay hold of infinity. Though sin had produced a gulf between man and his God, divine benevolence provided a plan to bridge that gulf. **And what material did He use? A part of Himself.** The brightness of the Father's glory came to a world all seared and marred with the curse, and in His own divine character, in His own divine body, bridged the gulf and opened a channel of communication between God and man." — (E.G. White, Lt36a, Sept 18, 1890)

For God so loved the world  
He gave His only Son  
To die on Calvary  
From sin to set me free  
One day He's coming back  
What glory that will be  
Wonderful His love to me

*Jesus explained who **his** Father was from the very beginning~ The Alpha of apostasy began with Kellogg, and now we are up against the same spiritual sentiments of the Omega in our day under a different guise, the Trinity; the erroneous teaching of the Godhead which destroys the personality of God and Jesus.*

Beginning at Moses, the very **Alpha of Bible history**, Christ expounded in all the Scriptures the things **concerning Himself**. *Desire of Ages*, 799.

Deut 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD **our** God [is] **one** LORD:

Mark 12:29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments [is], Hear, O Israel; The Lord **our** God is **one** Lord:  
(Read the first commandment: Ex 20:1-5)

It is as easy to make an idol of **false doctrines and theories** as to fashion an idol of wood or stone. **Satan leads men to conceive of God in a false character, as having attributes which he does not possess.** A **philosophical idol** is enthroned in the place of Jehovah; while the true God, as he is revealed in his word, in Christ, and in the works of creation, is worshiped by but few. **Thousands deify nature, while they deny the God of nature.** [*← This is the philosophy Harvey Kellogg taught- ie God IN the flower etc. & idol Trinity*] **Though in a different form, [Trinity] idolatry exists in the Christian world today** as verily as it existed among ancient Israel in the days of Elijah. {4SP 399.1}

*Could it possibly be that To Fear God and give glory to Him is to keep His law and follow the First Angel's Message which is our only safeguard to keep us from unknowingly falling into Idolatry like ancient Israel of old?*

Rev 14:7 **Fear God, and give glory to him;** for the hour of his judgment is come: and **worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.**  
(1<sup>st</sup> Angel's Message/ 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment)

Eccl 12:13 Let us hear the **conclusion** of the whole matter: **Fear God, and keep his commandments:** for this [is] the whole [duty] of man.

"Not unto us, **O Lord,** not unto us, but **unto thy name give glory,** for thy mercy, and for thy **truth's sake**" (Psalm 115:1). **Such was the spirit that pervaded Israel's song of deliverance, and it is the spirit that should dwell in the hearts of all who love and fear God.** {AG 352.3}

Rom 7:22 For I **delight in the law** of God after the inward man: (see also Ps 40:8)

John 14:15 If ye **love me, keep my commandments**

Rev 1:11 Saying, **I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last:**

John 4:24 **God [is] a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship [him] in spirit and in truth.**

*Refusing **truth** about the **Holy Spirit** of **Jesus Christ** is equivalent to **idol** worship. We are not allowed to let **anything** (ie **Trinity teaching**)*

***divide** (ie. **3 Gods in 1 or 1 in 3**) or*

***share** (i.e. **Holy Spirit** is also **God**, a separate [divide] individual person)*

*in our supreme **delight** (**worship**) in **him**.*

*The Trinity is an **idol**, **an element of the world**. that **separates us** from God!*

*(Please visit [www.trinitytruth.org](http://www.trinitytruth.org) to see origin of the **Trinity** stems from Pagan Gods.)*

If we would be **spiritual worshipers of Jesus Christ**, we must sacrifice every **idol** and **fully obey the first four commandments**. Matthew 22:37, 38: "Jesus said unto him, **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.** This is the **first [ALPHA!]** and great commandment." **The first four commandments allow us no separation of the affections from God. Nor is anything allowed to divide, or share, our supreme delight in him. Whatever divides the affections, and takes away from the soul supreme love to God, takes the form of an idol.** Our carnal hearts would cling to, and seek to carry along, our **idols**; but we cannot advance until we put them away; **for they separate from God.** The great **Head of the church** has chosen **his people out of the world**, and **required them to be separate.** He designs that **the spirit and life of his commandments shall draw them to himself**, and **separate them from the elements of the world.** To love God and keep his commandments is to be far from loving the world's pleasures and friendship. There is no concord between Christ and **Belial.** The people of God may safely trust in him alone, and without fear press on in the way of obedience. {4bSG 79.4}

***First Four Commandments:** Here we can see the **Trinity** teaching is **another god** that is **bowed down** to and **served** by praying **to** the Holy Spirit, rather than **to** God Himself.*

Exodus:

20:2 **I [am] the LORD thy God,** which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

20:3 **Thou shalt have no other gods before me.** (1<sup>st</sup> Commandment)

20:4 **Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, 20:5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them:** (2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment) **servng** an **idol** by praying **TO** the Holy Spirit as now seen among SDA leaders

20:7 **Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain;** (3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment)

20:8 **Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.** (4<sup>th</sup> Commandment that also tells us **how and who to worship**)

1 Pet 2:17 **Honour all [men]. Love the brotherhood. Fear God.** Honour the king. (6-10<sup>th</sup> Commandments)

“The mystery of the **trinity** is the central doctrine of the Catholic faith. Upon it are based **all** the other teachings of the church.” [Handbook for Today’s Catholic, pg. 16]

*Do we not know what (an idol Trinity) we worship? Has the hour arrived that the true worshippers shall worship the **Father in spirit and in truth**?*

John 4:22-24 **Ye worship ye know not what**: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. **But the hour cometh**, and now is, **when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit** and **in truth**: for **the Father seeketh** such to **worship him**. **God [is] a Spirit**: and **they that worship him must worship [him] in spirit and in truth**.

Solomon flattered himself that his wisdom and the power of his example would lead his **wives** from **idolatry** to the **worship of the true God**, and also that **the alliances** thus formed would draw the nations round about into close touch with Israel. Vain hope! **Solomon’s mistake in regarding himself as strong enough** to resist the influence of **heathen associates was fatal**. And **fatal, too, the deception that led him to hope that notwithstanding a disregard of God’s law on his part**, others might be led to revere and obey its sacred precepts.” {PK 54.1}

*Accepting teaching of false god Trinity causes us to say, “Jesus **has ceased** (no longer **our savior who died for us**) from before us.”*

The Jews had **accepted false testimony** to condemn the innocent **Son of God**. Now false accusations made their own lives uncertain. By their actions they had long been saying, “Cause the Holy One of Israel **to cease from before us**.” [Isaiah 30:11.] Now their desire was granted. **The fear of God no longer disturbed them**. **Satan was at the head of the nation**, and **the highest civil and religious authorities were under his sway**. {GC88 28.2}

True sympathy between man and his fellow men **is to be the sign** distinguishing those who **love and fear God** from those who are **unmindful of His law**. How great the sympathy that **Christ** expressed in coming to this world **to give His life a sacrifice for a dying world!** Medical Ministry, 251. {CME 12.1}

*Men are led to conceive God in a **false character (personality)** as having attributes that he does NOT possess (1 in 3/3 in 1)! Who is the god of professedly wise men, of philosophers, of many universities, colleges and theological institutions? **Apostate Protestantism** teaches the **Trinity doctrine of the Catholic Church, the sun-God!** Harvey Kellogg made an **idol** out of **false doctrines and theories** and led out in the **Alpha of apostasy** which will culminate in the **Omega!***

In rejecting the **truth**, men reject its **Author**. In trampling **upon the law of God**, they deny the authority of the **Lawgiver**. It is as easy to make **an idol of false doctrines and theories** as to fashion an idol of wood or stone. **Satan leads men to conceive of God in a false character, as having attributes which he does not possess**. A **philosophical idol** is enthroned **in the place of Jehovah**; while the true God, as he is revealed in his word, in Christ, and in the works of creation, is worshiped by but few. **Thousands deify nature, while they deny the God of nature**. [**← This is the philosophy Harvey Kellogg taught- ie God IN the flower etc & idol Trinity**] Though in a **different form**, **[Trinity] idolatry exists in the Christian world today** as verily as it existed among ancient Israel in the days of Elijah. **The God** of many professedly wise men, of philosophers, poets, politicians, journalists,—**the God** of polished fashionable circles, of many colleges and universities, even of some **theological institutions**,—is little better than **Baal, the sun-God of Phoenicia**... {4SP 399.1}

The gospel of Christ has been dishonored by being handled with sin-stained hands. Professed Christians act and speak in a way that is no honor to God. What men and women need now is thorough conversion. Every part of their intelligence should go out to meet Christ, and every part of their spiritual nature should yearn for more of Him. The Father seeketh such to worship him - those who worship **Him in spirit** and **truth** and in the beauty of holiness. **Let us separate from the contaminating influences** of the world, and hold communication with the **Saviour**. **Let us bring ourselves, in thought, word, and deed, into conformity with the will of Christ**. The **Redeemer** is **seeking for those whose highest aim is to serve and glorify God**. {PC 251.6}

1 Cor 10: **flee from idolatry**. I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say.

When I study the Scriptures, I am alarmed for the Israel of God in these last days. They are exhorted to flee from idolatry. I fear that they are asleep, [LAODOCEA!] and so conformed to the world that it would be difficult to discern between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not. The distance is widening between Christ and His people, and lessening between them and the world. The marks of distinction between Christ's professed people and the world have almost disappeared. Like ancient Israel, they follow after the abominations of the nations around them.--Testimonies, vol. 1, p. 277. {ChS 38.2} 1862

In that day,... the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, ... shall stay upon the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, in truth." Isaiah 10:20. From "every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people" there will be those who will gladly respond to the message, "Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come." They will turn from every idol that binds them to this earth, and will "worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." They will free themselves from every entanglement, and will stand before the world as monuments of God's mercy. Obedient to every divine requirement, they will be recognized by angels and by men as those that "keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:6, 7, 12. {RH February 26, 1914, par. 10}

In order to have your children enter the gates of the City of God as conquerors, they must be educated to fear God and keep His commandments in the present life. {GG 298.3}

Ps 66:16 Come [and] hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.

Isa 21:9 And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, [with] a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, Babylon is fallen, is fallen; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground.

#### Rev 14:6-12

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive [his] mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

#### 2 Cor 6:14-18

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? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in [them]; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, 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.

The world is given up to self-indulgence. The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life, control the masses of the people. But Christ's followers have a holier calling. "Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean; 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 Corinthians 6:17, 18.] {4SP 304.2}

## Rev 18:1-4

And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and **the earth was lightened with his glory**. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, **Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.**

My brethren and sisters, appreciate and study the truths God has given for you and your children. Spend not your time in seeking to know that which will be no spiritual help. **"What shall I do to inherit eternal life?"** This is the all-important question, and it has been clearly answered. **"What is written in the law? how readeest thou?"**  
—MS-26-1901. {2NL 164.5}

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

The churches that refused to receive **the FIRST ANGEL'S MESSAGE**, rejected **light from Heaven**. That message was sent in mercy to arouse them **to see their true condition of worldliness** and **backsliding**, and to **seek a preparation** to meet their Lord. 4SP 230.1

Let all be **warned** by **the messages sent from heaven** that when any man shall exalt his own ways and his own judgment as supreme, he will come under **Satan's jurisdiction** and will be led **blindfold** by him until **his spirit and his methods will conform to the archdeceiver**, little by little, until his **whole mind is under the influence of the spell**. The serpent keeps its eye fixed upon a man, to charm him, until he has no power to go from the snare." PM 175.1- 1905

Love for Christ and faith in his coming **waxed cold**. Such is the sure **result of neglect to appreciate and improve the light and privileges** which God bestows. Unless the church will follow on in his opening providence, accepting **every ray of light**, performing **every duty** which may be revealed, religion will inevitably degenerate into the observance of forms, and **the spirit** of vital godliness **will disappear**. **This truth has been repeatedly illustrated in the history of the church**. God **requires of his people works of faith and obedience** corresponding to the blessings and **privileges** bestowed. **Obedience requires a sacrifice and involves a cross**; and this is why so many of the **professed followers** of Christ **refused to receive the light from Heaven**, and, **like the Jews of old, knew not the time of their visitation**. [Luke 19:44.] 4SP 17

## HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

What follows her unlawful union with the governments of earth? *Ans.- The fall of Babylon.* Rev. 14:8 SEE NOTE...

NOTE. **The second angel speaks of the professed people of God not as individuals, but as a body—Babylon—which has fallen**, because of **fornication** with the world. **The message comes to individuals, but of Babylon**. This is the last part of, the three-fold fall of Babylon. (1) "When the **early church** departed from God and imbibed **pagán errors**, **she became Babylon**. When **she united with the state, she fell** and, **as an organization, was the body of Christ no longer**. While the **Reformation churches** held fast to **the word**, Christ was with them. Then **they** crystallized **their various errors** into **creeds** and endeavored thus to **confine God's word, they made themselves daughters of Babylon**. When some of **them** united with the state, **they fell**, and God had to use other people, **called out of Babylon** to carry forward His work. Now among **these** very churches which **came out** of the **second Babylon**, confusion reigns; and now **great Babylon, including later daughters**, is in **adulterous union** with the kings of earth, and is endeavoring to make that union stronger. **God calls no church Babylon which holds to His word, and follows the light that shines from it, even though there are in its membership many who do not know Christ**. **When the controlling influence of a church is downward, it erects some other standard besides God's word**... **It has ever been true that a backslidden body, one that has turned from God's word to men, from God's power to the state, was never reformed in itself**. Invariably **God's message** has **called out those** from the **fallen church** who would do His will and preach His **gospel**. (2) **Israel went down to Egypt** for help, and **their captivity and loss of power** followed. **Out of the captives** God gathered **a faithful band** to do His work. (3) **The Jewish church failed**, and God **called out the apostolic church** to do His bidding. (4) **The Roman Church failed**, and **out of it** God called the **churches of the Reformation**. (5) **Some of these churches failed** to advance, and God **called out others** to bear **His gospel** to the world such as the **Baptist, Methodist, Congregationalist, Disciple, Adventists**. (6) **His last 'called-out' people will know no standard but His word, no power but His Spirit**. "First Quarter, Lesson IX & X, February 29 & March 7, 1896, p. 33, 35-36 (highlighted numbers added by compiler)  
NOTICE (6) IS IN THE **FUTURE TENSE** FROM 1896?

I have been shown that we live amid the perils of the last days. Because iniquity abounds, the **love of many waxes cold**. The word "**many**" refers to the **professed followers of Christ**. They are affected by the prevailing iniquity and **backslide** from God, but it is not necessary that they should be thus affected. **The cause of this declension is that they do not stand clear from this iniquity**. The fact that their love to God is **waxing cold** because **iniquity abounds** shows that **they** are, in some sense, **partakers in this iniquity**, or it would not affect **their love for God** and **their** zeal and fervor in His cause. {2T 346.1} 1869 [ie.Trinity teaching violates 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> commandments which is iniquity and affects love for God] ←

And because **iniquity shall abound**, the **love of many shall wax cold**. "The very atmosphere is polluted with sin. **Soon God's people will be tested by fiery trials, and the great proportion of those who now appear to be genuine and true will prove to be base metal**. Instead of being strengthened and confirmed by opposition, threats, and abuse, **they will cowardly take the side of the opposers**. The **promise** is: "**Them that honor Me I will honor**." Shall **we** be **less firmly attached to God's law because the world at large have attempted to make it void?** {5T136.1} 1882 [ie.Trinity teaching voids God's law] ←

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} *Read pg 55 to see that **Easter Sunday Observance is a form of Sunday worship**. As Sister White predicted in 1850, **our own brethren will betray us to the Catholics (SpM 1.5) and will be the most bitter enemies of their "former" brethren (GC 608) and will appeal to the strong arm of civil power, and Papists will be solicited to come to the help of apostate Protestantism (4SP 42) and states: "We shall receive the most fierce opposition from the Adventists" (3T 574.2)***

...as churches **rejected light from heaven (1<sup>st</sup> AM)**, they **fell from the favor of God**. 58GC140

**The sin of the world's impenitence lies at the door of the church**. God sent his **professed people a message (1<sup>st</sup> AM: see pg 231) that would have corrected the evils which separated them from his favor**. A state of union, faith and love had been produced among **those** who from **every denomination** in Christendom received the **Advent doctrine**; and had the churches in general accepted the same truth, the same blessed results would have followed. **Babylon scornfully rejected the last means which Heaven had in reserve for her restoration**, and then, with greater eagerness, **she turned to seek the friendship of the world**. 4SP 236

The term **Babylon**, derived from Babel, and **signifying confusion**, is applied in Scripture to **the various forms of false or apostate religion**. **But the message** announcing **the fall of Babylon** must apply to some **religious body that was once pure and has become corrupt**. It cannot be the Romish Church which is here meant; for that church has been in a fallen condition for many centuries. But how appropriate the figure as applied to the **Protestant churches, all professing to derive their doctrines from the Bible, yet divided into almost innumerable sects**. The **unity** for which Christ prayed **does not exist**. Instead of **one Lord**, one faith, one baptism, there are numberless conflicting **creeds and theories**. Religious faith appears so confused and discordant that the world know not what to believe as truth. **God is not in all this**; it is the work of man,--**the work of Satan**. [ie. Trinity does not teach "one", but "three"] ←

In **Revelation 17**, **Babylon is** represented as a woman, a figure which is used in the Scriptures as **the symbol of a church**. A virtuous woman represents a pure church, **a vile woman an apostate church**. **Babylon is said to be a harlot**; and the prophet beheld her drunken with the blood of saints and martyrs. The **Babylon** thus described **represents Rome, that apostate church** which has so cruelly persecuted the followers of Christ. **But Babylon the harlot is the mother of daughters who follow her example of corruption**. Thus are represented **those churches that cling to the doctrines and traditions of Rome and follow her worldly practices, and whose fall is announced in the second angel's message**. {4SP 232-33}

**We are in danger of becoming a sister to fallen Babylon**, of allowing **our churches to become corrupted, and filled with every foul spirit, a cage for every unclean and hateful bird**;... {21MR380.1} Written September 6, 1886, from Basel, Switzerland, to G. I. Butler

**The world must not be introduced into the church, and married to the church, forming a bond of unity**. **Through this means the church will become indeed corrupt**, and, as stated in Revelation, **'A cage of every unclean and hateful bird'**... Testimonies to Ministers, p 265, 273, 277. 1891

**How is the faithful city become an harlot!** My Father's **house** is made **a house of merchandise**, a place whence **the divine presence and glory have departed!**" Testimonies, vol 8, p 248-50 (April 21, 1903).

The message **to** the church of the **Laodiceans** is a **startling denunciation**, and is **applicable to the people of God at the present time**. {3T 252.1} 1873 **[The omega will be of a most startling nature. {SpTB02 16.2}]** ←

What greater **deception** can come upon human minds than a confidence that they are right when they are all wrong! The **message** of the **True Witness** finds the **people of God** in a sad **deception**, yet honest in that **deception**. They know not that their **condition is deplorable** in the sight of God. While **those addressed** are flattering themselves **that they are in an exalted spiritual condition**, the message of the True Witness **breaks their security by the startling denunciation** of their **true condition of spiritual blindness, poverty, and wretchedness**. The **testimony**, so cutting and severe, **cannot be a mistake**, for it is the **True Witness** who **speaks**, and **His testimony** must be correct." 3T 252.4

The **sins of Babylon will be laid open**. The **fearful results of a union of Church and State**, (ie 501-C-3 status, joining of Ecumenical movements) the inroads of **Spiritualism**, (ie False Trinity teaching, NLP Hypnotism of the masses in the pews, Spiritual formation of Loyola) the stealthy but rapid progress of the papal power, (ie control of the masses through clergy)--all **will be unmasked**. By these **solemn warnings** the people will be stirred. Thousands upon thousands have never listened to **words** like these. **In amazement they hear the testimony that Babylon is the church, fallen because of her errors and sins, because of her rejection of the truth sent to her from Heaven**. The people go to their former teachers with the eager inquiry, Are these things so? The **ministers present fables, prophesy smooth things**, to soothe their fears, and quiet the awakened conscience. But many refuse to be satisfied with the mere authority of men, and demand a plain "Thus saith the Lord." **The popular ministry, like the Pharisees of old**, are filled with anger as their authority is questioned; **they denounce the message as of Satan, and stir up the sin-loving multitudes to revile and persecute** those who proclaim it. {4SP 424}

The **churches** that refused to receive **the FIRST ANGEL'S MESSAGE, rejected light from Heaven**. That message was sent in mercy to arouse them **to see their true condition of worldliness and backsliding**, and to **seek a preparation** to meet their  
Lord 4SP 230.1

When **Jerusalem was divorced from God** it was because of **her sins**. **She fell from an exalted height that Tyre and Sidon had never reached**. And when an angel **falls he becomes a fiend**. The depth of our ruin is measured by the **exalted light** to which God has **raised us** in His great goodness and unspeakable mercy. Oh, what **privileges** are granted to **us** as a people! And if God spared not His **people** that He loved, **because they refused to walk in the light**, how can He spare **the people whom He has blessed with the light of heaven** in having opened to them **the most exalted truth** ever entrusted to mortal man to give to the world?" [MR 12, pp. 319,320] 1886

Notwithstanding the widespread declension of faith and piety, there are **true followers** of Christ in these churches. **Before the final visitation of God's judgments upon the earth, there will be, among the people of the Lord, such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times**. The **Spirit and power of God will be poured out** upon his **children**. **At that time many will separate themselves from those churches in which the love of this world has supplanted love for God and his Word**. Many, both of ministers and people, will gladly accept **those great truths** which God has caused to be **proclaimed** at this time, to prepare a people for the Lord's second coming. The **enemy of souls** desires to hinder this work; and **before** the time for such a movement shall come, **he** will endeavor to prevent it, by introducing a **counterfeit**. In those churches which **he** can bring under his **deceptive power**, **he** will make it **appear** that God's special blessing is **poured out**; there will be manifest what is thought to be great religious interest. Multitudes will exult that God is working marvelously for them, when the work is that of **another spirit**. **Under a religious guise, Satan** will seek to extend his influence over the Christian world. {GC88 464.1} [This **false spirit is under the guise of the Trinity!**] ←

**Who are standing in the counsel of God at this time?** Is it **those** who virtually excuse wrongs among the **professed people** of God and **who** murmur in **their** hearts, if not openly, against those who would reprove sin? Is it **those who** take their stand against them and sympathize with **those who** commit wrong? **No, indeed!** Unless **they repent**, and **leave the work of Satan** in oppressing those who have the burden of the work and in holding up the hands of sinners in Zion, **they will never receive the mark of God's sealing approval**. **They will fall in the general destruction of the wicked, represented by the work of the five men bearing slaughter weapons**. **Mark this point with care: Those who receive the pure mark of truth, wrought in them by the power of the Holy Ghost, represented by a mark by the man in linen, are those "that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done" in the church**. **Their love for purity and the honor and glory of God** is such, and **they** have so clear a view of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, that **they are represented as being in agony, even sighing and crying**. Read the ninth chapter of Ezekiel. {3T 267.1}

**Let us strive with all the power that God has given us to be among the hundred and forty-four thousand. And let us do all that we can to help others to gain heaven. We are to have an intense interest in Christ Jesus; for he is our Saviour. He came to this world to be tempted in all points as we are, to prove to the universe that in this world of sin human beings can live lives that God will approve.**

{RH March 9, 1905, par. 4}



# **Babylon is Fallen**

1. Hail the day so long expected,  
Hail, the year of full release;  
Zion's walls are now erected,  
And her watchmen publish peace;  
In all countries and dominions  
Hear the trumpet loudly roar:

## **Refrain**

Babylon is fallen, is fallen, is fallen,  
Babylon is fallen to rise no more.

2. Come my people and forsake her,  
Cast away your slavish fears;  
Hear the voice from heav'n proclaiming,  
It's the end of all her years.  
Raise your voices, she is fallen,  
Lift your banners up on high:  
*Refrain*

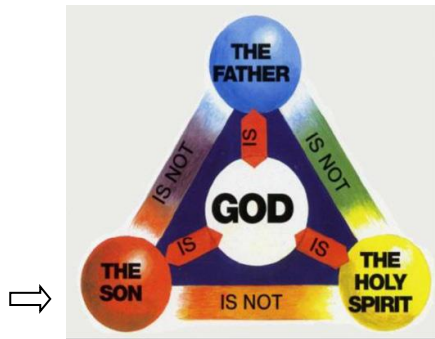
3. Now her plagues are surely coming,  
And her merchants all shall mourn;  
All their merchandise shall fail them,  
With the fire it shall burn;  
Cry aloud now, kings and nobles,  
Priest and people, rich and poor:  
*Refrain*

4. Blow the trumpet in Mount Zion,  
Christ will come the second time,  
Ruling with a rod of iron,  
All who now His foes combine.  
Babel's garments we've rejected,  
And her mark of slavery:  
*Refrain*

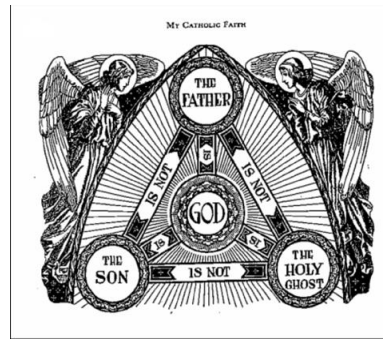
**And there followed another angel, saying, *Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication... And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, *Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.* Rev 14:8; 18:4***

## TRINITY LOGO

Notice these two diagrams. There is no difference.



Adventist Trinity Logo<sub>1</sub>



Catholic Trinity Logo<sub>2</sub>

1 Frank Breden, *New Pictorial Aid for Bible Study* (Maryland: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 2008): 75.  
2 Louis LaRavoire Morrow, *My Catholic Faith* (Wisconsin: My Mission House, 1949): chapter 11.

Look at the Adventist logo diagram above. Read the very bottom across, left to right which reads:

“The **son IS NOT the Holy Spirit**”

Compare the statement above with Spirit of Prophecy:

“We want **the Holy Spirit**, which **is Jesus Christ**.” {Lt66-1894 (April 10, 1894) par. 18}

This statement is in direct opposition to Inspiration! We are being deceived by accepting the Trinity doctrine, which has been embraced and brought into the Seventh-day Adventist church.

**Who do you want to believe? The Spirit of Prophecy or the doctrines of men?**

Adventists admit the following from a Special Edition of the *Review and Herald*:

“While no single scripture passage states the doctrine of the Trinity, it is assumed as fact... **Only by faith** can we accept the doctrine of the Trinity.” (*Review and Herald, Special issue, Volume 158, No. 31 July 1981, ‘The Trinity’*)

**Only by faith?** Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Faith only comes by the Word of God (*Rom 10:17*). There is not a single passage in scripture (the Word) alluding to the teaching of or even using the word, Trinity!

The above statement from RH article, “**Only by faith** can we accept the doctrine of the Trinity”, is a **FALSE statement of faith**.

As one brother has stated so well:

“**Faith** is spoken of here as believing something that is not explicitly revealed in the Scriptures. This is not the usual Biblical use of this word. Faith is normally said of believing something that God has actually revealed (said), not believing something that He has not even mentioned. This latter type of ‘faith’ is only another name for speculation. In other words it could easily be said that only by accepting ‘certain speculations’ as being true can we accept the doctrine of the trinity’. This is more to the truth of the matter. Whichever way the trinity formula is expressed, there is **always** the need of speculation. This is because it cannot be proven from the Scriptures. This is why when drawing a conclusion we need to be very careful.” [*A research paper on the history of the trinity doctrine within the early Christian Church and within Seventh-day Adventism by Terry Hill*]

He that [hath] no rule over his own spirit [is like] a city [that is] broken down, [and] without walls.

Prov 25:28

# The Ten Commandments

## Exodus Chapter 20

INTRO 20:1 And God spake all these words, saying, 20:2 I [am] the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

ONE 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

TWO 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness [of any thing] that [is] in heaven above, or that [is] in the earth beneath, or that [is] in the water under the earth: 20:5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God [am] a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth [generation] of them that hate me; 20:6 And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

THREE 20:7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

FOUR 20:8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. 20:9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: 20:10 But the seventh day [is] the sabbath of the LORD thy God: [in it] thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that [is] within thy gates: 20:11 For [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them [is], and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

FIVE 20:12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

SIX 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.

SEVEN 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

EIGHT 20:15 Thou shalt not steal.

NINE 20:16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

TEN 20:17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that [is] thy neighbour's.



# God's Church

We are not saved as a sect, no denominational name has any virtue to bring us into favor with God. We are saved individually as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. -RH 02/10/1891

**Not by its name, but by its fruit**, is the value of a tree determined. If the **fruit** is worthless, the name cannot save the tree from destruction. DA p.107

God has a church upon the earth, who are His chosen people, who keep His commandments. He is leading, not stray offshoots, not one here and one there, but a people. (FLB 282)

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. . . . {11MR 229.2}

The Spirit is poured out upon all who will yield to its promptings, and casting off all man's machinery, his binding rules and cautious methods, they will declare the truth with the might of the Spirit's power. Multitudes will receive the faith and join the armies of the Lord. The safeguards which false shepherds have thrown around their flocks will become as naught, thousands will step out into the light, and work to spread the light. -Review and Herald, vol 3, p 272-275 (July 16 & 23, 1895)

As in the days of Noah and Lot, there must be a marked separation from sin and sinners. . . There was a coming out, a decided separation FROM the wicked, and escape for life. So it was in the days of Noah, so with Lot; So with the disciples prior to the destruction of Jerusalem; And so it will be in the last days. {PP, p 167}. 51

Of those who are constantly working to undermine faith in the message God is sending to His people, I am instructed to say, 'Come out from among them, and be ye separate' [2 Corinthians 6:17] Come into light, brethren, and lead others to the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Those who in faith accept the leadings of the Spirit of God will see where their dangers lie, and will make decided moves in the right direction. -Review and Herald, vol 5, p 435 (July 23, 1908)

By associating with those whom they should avoid, they place themselves in the way of temptation. They invite the enemy to tempt them, and are led to say and do that of which under other circumstances they would never have been guilty. -Desire of Ages p712.1

It is impossible for anyone to become a true follower of Jesus Christ, without distinguishing himself from the worldly mass of unbelievers. If the world would accept of Jesus, then there would be no sword of dissension; for all would be disciples of Christ and in fellowship one with another, and their unity would be unbroken. But this is not the case. Here and there an individual member of a family is true to the convictions of his conscience, and is compelled to stand alone in his family or in the church to which he belongs, and is finally compelled, because of the course of those with whom he associates, to separate himself from their companionship. The line of demarkation is made distinct. One stands upon the word of God, the others upon the traditions and sayings of men. -Review & Herald, July 24, 1894, para. 3

God calls upon this church to make a change. They had a name to live, but their works were destitute of the love of Jesus. Oh, how many have fallen because they trusted in their profession for salvation! How many are lost by their effort to keep up a name! If one has the reputation of being a successful evangelist, a gifted preacher, a man of prayer, a man of

faith, a man of special devotion, there is positive danger that he will make shipwreck of faith when tried by the little tests that God suffers to come. Often his great effort will be to maintain his reputation." -7BC: p. 958

*At Oswego, New York, September 7, 1850, the Lord showed me that a great work must be done for His people before they could stand in the battle in the day of the Lord. I was pointed to those who claim to be Adventists, but who reject the present truth, and saw that they were crumbling and that the hand of the Lord was in their midst to divide and scatter them now in the gathering time, so that the precious jewels among them, who have formerly been deceived, may have their eyes opened to see their true state. And now when the truth is presented to them by the Lord's messengers, they are prepared to listen, and see its beauty and harmony, and to leave their former associates and errors, embrace the precious truth and stand where they can define their position. -  
*Early Writings 69-2**

We shall be called to meet those who notwithstanding definite reproof and warning through the Testimonies have gone on in an evil course. We are bidden of God to hold ourselves separate and distinct from these men who have not given heed to His warning... For they deceive, if possible, the very elect. -Letter 330, November 11, 1906 & Manuscript Releases, vol 7, 196

A glorious light then rested down upon these companies, to enlighten all who would receive it. Some of those who were in darkness received the light and rejoiced. Others resisted the light from heaven, saying that it was sent to lead them astray. The light passed away from them, and they were left in darkness. Those who had received the light from Jesus joyfully cherished the increase of precious light which was shed upon them. Their faces beamed with holy joy, while their gaze was directed upward to Jesus with intense interest, and their voices were heard in harmony with the voice of the angel, 'Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come.' As they raised this cry, I saw those who were in darkness thrusting them with side and with shoulder. Then many who cherished the sacred light, broke the cords which confined them and stood out separated from those companies. As they were doing this, men belonging to the different companies and revered by them passed through, some with pleasing words, and others with wrathful looks and threatening gestures, and fastened the cords which were weakening. These men were constantly saying, 'God is with us. We stand in the light. We have the truth.' I inquired who these men were, and was told that they were ministers and leading men who had rejected the light themselves, and were unwilling that others should receive it." -*Early Writings 240.2*

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. {14MR, p 102}.

God has a church. It is not the great cathedral, neither is it the national establishment, neither is it the various denominations; it is the people who love God and keep His commandments. "Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them." Where Christ is, even among the humble few, this is Christ's church, for the presence of the High and Holy One who inhabiteth eternity can alone constitute a church. Where two or three are present who love and obey the commandments of God, Jesus there presides, let it be in the desolate place of the earth, in the wilderness, in the city, [or] enclosed in prison walls. The glory of God has penetrated the prison walls, flooding with glorious beams of heavenly light the darkest dungeon. His saints may suffer, but their sufferings will, like the apostles' of old, spread their faith and win souls to Christ and glorify His holy name. The bitterest opposition expressed by those who hate God's great moral standard of righteousness should not and will not shake the steadfast soul who trusts fully in God. {17MR 81.4}

*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. —AZA, 12.*

**We are on the very verge of the time of trouble**, and perplexities that are scarcely dreamed of are before us. A power from beneath is leading men to war against Heaven. Human beings have confederated with satanic agencies to make void the law of God. **The inhabitants of the world are fast becoming as the inhabitants of the world in Noah's day**, who were swept away by the Flood, and as the inhabitants of Sodom, who were consumed by fire from heaven. The powers of Satan are at work to keep minds diverted from eternal realities. **The enemy has arranged matters to suit his own purposes. Worldly business, sports, the fashions of the day—these things occupy the minds of men and women. Amusements and unprofitable reading spoil the judgment.** In the broad road that leads to eternal ruin there walks a long procession. **The world, filled with violence, reveling, and drunkenness, is converting the church. The law of God, the divine standard of righteousness, is declared to be of no effect.** {9T 43.2}

I have been repeatedly shown that our presses should now be constantly employed in publishing **light and truth**. This is a time of spiritual darkness in the churches of the world. **Ignorance of divine things has hidden God and the truth from view**. The forces of evil are gathering in strength. Satan flatters his coworkers that he will do a work that will captivate the world. While partial inactivity has come upon the church, Satan and his hosts are intensely active. **The professed Christian churches are not converting the world; for they are themselves corrupted with selfishness and pride**, and need to feel the converting power of God in their midst before they can lead others to a purer or higher standard. {RH August 6, 1908, par. 2} {9T 65.2}

It is the work of the Christian to mend, to restore, to heal. This healing process saves many a soul and hides a multitude of sins. **God is love; God is in Himself, in His essence, love**. He makes the very best of what appears an injury and gives Satan no occasion for triumph by making the worse appear, and exposing our weakness to our enemies. **The world must not be introduced into the church, and married to the church, forming a bond of unity. Through this means the church will become indeed corrupt**, and as stated in Revelation, "A cage of every unclean and hateful bird." [Revelation 18:2.] {Ms39-1891.3}

**Through association with the world, our institutions will become unsubstantial, unreliable;** because these worldly elements introduced and placed in positions of trust, are looked up to as teachers to be respected in their educating, directing, and official position, and they are sure to be worked upon by the spirit of darkness so that the demarkation becomes not distinguished between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not. **The parable is given by Jesus Christ in regard to the field in which [it] was supposed was sown pure wheat**, but the entrusted ones look upon the field with disappointment and inquire, "Didst thou not sow good seed in thy field? **from whence then hath it tares?**" The Master of the vineyard answered, "**An enemy hath done this, while men slept.**" [Matthew 13:27, 28.] {Ms39-1891.4}

**God's promises are conditional.** {2SAT 195.6}

**In the balances of the sanctuary the Seventh-day Adventist church is to be weighed.** She will be **judged** by the privileges and advantages that she has had. **If** her spiritual experience does not correspond to the advantages that Christ, at infinite cost, has bestowed on her, **if** the blessings conferred have not qualified her to do the work entrusted to her, **on her will be pronounced the sentence: "Found wanting."** **By the light bestowed**, the opportunities given, will she be **judged**. {8T 247.2}

1 Pet 4:17 **For the time [is come] that judgment must begin at the house of God:** and if [it] first [begin] at us, what shall the end [be] of them that obey not **the gospel** of God?

Many are deceived today in the same way as were the Jews. Religious teachers read the Bible in the light of their own understanding and traditions; and the **people do not search the Scriptures for themselves**, and judge for themselves as to what is **truth**; but **they yield up their judgment, and commit their souls to their leaders.** {DA 459.1}

**Rev 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.**

## **Educational Resources:**

**A must see video series.** Each video is very short, well-presented and to the point (11 parts).  
Jesus Or Barabbas? Part 1 of Many - Genesis 1:26 <https://youtu.be/PQOR8oQVd9M>

**We can't know everything about God, but only that which is revealed- This is an excellent introduction study based on Scripture~**

God the Father - by Allen Davis <https://youtu.be/FCWFsnefTo8>

**A lovely message in relation to the Sanctuary**

God in the Sanctuary - with Allen Davis <https://youtu.be/I9hLdkEioec>

**Addressing our popular ministers and ministries today~**

Mark Finley - Is Jesus Eternal, Part 1 - with Daniel Mesa <https://youtu.be/sd7f3mVkfGM>

3ABN Panel Discussion Commented on by Daniel Mesa [https://youtu.be/UOq\\_EDdFPQ0](https://youtu.be/UOq_EDdFPQ0)

Dwayne Lemon Trinity Question EXPOSED! <https://youtu.be/qPzSNXM5vy0>

Trinity Truth - Doug Batchelor - Matthew 28:19 <https://youtu.be/YRpBQGfKuNU>

3ABN Attacks Those With Biblical Truth - Trinity Truth [https://youtu.be/f-KeYxbN\\_P8](https://youtu.be/f-KeYxbN_P8)

3ABN Praying to the Holy Spirit! - Trinity Truth <https://youtu.be/FWlLePA8fqI>

**Excellent series on historical understanding the origins (paganism) of the Trinity~**

Trinity Truth - Theos Chapter 1 <https://youtu.be/6qbioHRAm-0>

**Very good articles on:**

The Origin of the Trinity Doctrine <http://www.trinitytruth.org/>

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**Excellent Videos and materials~**

Restitution Ministries- [www.acts321.org](http://www.acts321.org)

Connection to the Trinity teaching) by Tom Pinto <https://vimeo.com/58486638>

The Gods of Babylon by Tom Pinto <https://vimeo.com/44654344>

Jesus Christ, the Son of God by Robert Burness <https://vimeo.com/93084780>

Pioneer Publications- [www.pioneerandhealthmissions.com](http://www.pioneerandhealthmissions.com)

Judgment Hour by Mike McCafferty- <https://youtu.be/8ZWgosGpxIO>, <https://youtu.be/4y3tDILQFhE>  
<https://youtu.be/xck2vFVoLSg>

**The best and most detailed research paper I have found by a Seventh-day Adventist Brother on the origin of the Trinity and also its historical relation to the Seventh-day Adventist Church~**

Detailed History of the Trinity- [www.theprophetstillspeaks.co.uk](http://www.theprophetstillspeaks.co.uk)

[www.truthseeker.church](http://www.truthseeker.church)

[www.sdapillarsoftruth.co.uk](http://www.sdapillarsoftruth.co.uk)

[www.warningmessage.org](http://www.warningmessage.org)

[www.smyrna.org](http://www.smyrna.org)

[www.lineoftruth.org](http://www.lineoftruth.org)

[www.end-times-prophecy.org](http://www.end-times-prophecy.org)

[www.jesusbarrabbas.com](http://www.jesusbarrabbas.com)

[www.1888mpm.org](http://www.1888mpm.org)

**For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Rom 8:38-39**

*And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

*Phil 4:7*

**The following chapter is included as a reminder from whence we have come... to encourage us and to remind us, by walking in the light of God's grace, we can avoid repeating the same fateful steps leading to apostasy of which our early ancestors succumbed and attain full victory in Christ.**

## **Chapter 2—Persecution in the First Centuries (1884 Great Controversy)**

**When Jesus revealed to his disciples the fate of Jerusalem and the scenes of the second advent, he foretold also the experience of his people from the time when he should be taken from them, to his return in power and glory for their deliverance.** From Olivet the Saviour beheld the storms about to fall upon the apostolic church, and, penetrating **deeper into the future**, his eye discerned the fierce, wasting tempests that were to beat upon his followers in the coming ages of darkness and persecution. In a few brief utterances, of awful significance, he foretold the portion which the rulers of this world would mete out to the church of God. **The followers of Christ must tread the same path of humiliation, reproach, and suffering which their Master trod. The enmity that burst forth against the world's Redeemer, would be manifested against all who should believe on his name.** {4SP 39.1}

**The history of the early church testified to the fulfillment of the Saviour's words.** The powers of earth and hell arrayed themselves against Christ in the person of his followers. **Paganism** foresaw that should the gospel triumph, her temples and altars would be swept away; therefore she summoned her forces to destroy Christianity. The fires of persecution were kindled. Christians were stripped of their possessions, and driven from their homes. **They "endured a great fight of afflictions." They "had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment."** [Hebrews 11:36.] **Great numbers sealed their testimony with their blood. Noble and slave, rich and poor, learned and ignorant, were alike slain without mercy.** {4SP 39.2}

**Wherever they sought refuge, the followers of Christ were hunted like beasts of prey.** They were forced to seek concealment in desolate and solitary places. "Destitute, afflicted, tormented, of whom the world was not worthy, they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth." [Hebrews 11:37, 38.] The subterranean excavations connected with the city of Rome afforded shelter for thousands. Long galleries had been tunneled through earth and rock to procure material for the vast structures of the capital, and the dark and intricate network of passages extended for miles beyond the walls. **In these underground retreats, many of the followers of Christ, when suspected and proscribed, found a home; and here also they buried their dead. When the Lifegiver shall awaken those who have fought the good fight, many a martyr for Christ's sake will come forth from those gloomy caverns.** {4SP 40.1}

**Under the fiercest persecution, [these witnesses for Jesus kept their faith unsullied.](#)** Though deprived of every comfort, shut away from the light of the sun, making their home in the dark but friendly bosom of the earth, they uttered no complaint. With words of faith, patience, and hope, they encouraged one another to endure privation and distress. **The loss of every earthly blessing could not force them to renounce their belief in Christ. Trials and persecutions were but steps bringing them nearer their rest and their reward.** {4SP 40.2}

**They called to mind the words of their Master, that when persecuted for Christ's sake they were to be exceeding glad; for great would be their reward in Heaven; for so had the prophets been persecuted before them.** Like God's servants of old, they were "tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection." [Hebrews 11:35.] They rejoiced that they were accounted worthy to suffer for the truth, and songs of triumph ascended in the midst of crackling flames. Looking upward by faith, they saw Christ and angels leaning over the battlements of Heaven, gazing upon them with the deepest interest, and regarding their steadfastness with approval. **[A voice came down to them from the throne of God, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."](#)** [Revelation 2:10.] {4SP 41.1}

**In vain were Satan's efforts to destroy the church of Christ by violence.** The great controversy in which the disciples of Jesus yielded up their lives did not cease when these faithful standard-bearers fell at their post. By defeat they conquered. God's workmen were slain, but his work went steadily forward. The gospel continued to spread, and the number of its adherents to increase. It penetrated into regions that were inaccessible, even to the eagles of Rome. Said a Christian, expostulating with the heathen rulers who were urging forward the persecution: **"You may torment,**



afflict, and vex us. Your wickedness puts our weakness to the test, but your cruelty is of no avail. It is but a stronger invitation to bring others to our persuasion. The more we are mowed down, the more we spring up again. The blood of the Christians is seed." {4SP 41.2}

Thousands were imprisoned and slain; but others sprung up to fill their places. And those who were martyred for their faith were secured to Christ, and accounted of him as conquerors. They had fought the good fight, and they were to receive the crown of glory when Christ should come. The sufferings which they endured brought Christians nearer to one another and to their Redeemer. Their living example and dying testimony were a constant witness for the truth; and, where least expected, the subjects of Satan were leaving his service, and enlisting under the banner of Christ. {4SP 42.1}

Satan therefore laid his plans to war more successfully against the government of God, by planting his banner in the Christian church. If the followers of Christ could be deceived, and led to displease God, then their strength, fortitude, and firmness would fail, and they would fall an easy prey. {4SP 42.2}

The great adversary now endeavored to gain by artifice what he had failed to secure by force. Persecution ceased, and in its stead were substituted the dangerous allurements of temporal prosperity and worldly honor. Idolaters were led to receive a part of the Christian faith, while they rejected other essential truths. They professed to accept Jesus as the Son of God, and to believe in his death and resurrection; but they had no conviction of sin, and felt no need of repentance or of a change of heart. With some concessions on their part, they proposed that Christians should make concessions, that all might unite on the platform of belief in Christ. {SP 42.3}

Now was the church in fearful peril. Prison, torture, fire, and sword were blessings in comparison with this. Some of the Christians stood firm, declaring that they could make no compromise. Others reasoned that if they should yield or modify some features of their faith, and unite with those who had accepted a part of Christianity, it might be the means of their full conversion. That was a time of deep anguish to the faithful followers of Christ. Under a cloak of pretended Christianity, Satan was insinuating himself into the church, to corrupt their faith, and turn their minds from the word of truth. {4SP 43.1}

At last the larger portion of the Christian company lowered their standard, and a union was formed between Christianity and paganism. Although the worshipers of idols professed to be converted, and united with the church, they still clung to their idolatry, only changing the objects of their worship to images of Jesus, and even of Mary and the saints. The foul leaven of idolatry, thus introduced into the church, continued its baleful work. Unsound doctrines, superstitious rites, and idolatrous ceremonies were incorporated into her faith and worship. As the followers of Christ united with idolaters, the Christian religion became corrupted, and the church lost her purity and power. There were some, however, who were not misled by these delusions. They still maintained their fidelity to the Author of truth, and worshiped God alone. {4SP 43.2}

There have ever been two classes among those who profess to be followers of Christ. While one class study the Saviour's life, and earnestly seek to correct their defects and to conform to the Pattern, the other class shun the plain, practical truths which expose their errors. Even in her best estate, the church was not composed wholly of the true, pure, and sincere. Our Saviour taught that those who willfully indulge in sin are not to be received into the church; yet he connected with himself men who were faulty in character, and granted them the benefits of his teachings and example, that they might have an opportunity to see and correct their errors. Among the twelve apostles was a traitor. Judas was accepted, not because of his defects of character, but notwithstanding them. He was connected with the disciples, that, through the instructions and example of Christ, he might learn what constitutes Christian character, and thus be led to see his errors, to repent, and, by the aid of divine grace, to purify his soul "in obeying the truth." But Judas did not walk in the light so graciously permitted to shine upon him. By indulgence in sin, he invited the temptations of Satan. His evil traits of character became predominant. He yielded his mind to the control of the powers of darkness, he became angry when his faults were reprov'd, and thus he was led to commit the fearful crime of betraying his Master. In like manner do all who cherish evil under a profession of godliness hate those who disturb their peace by condemning their course of sin. When a favorable opportunity is presented, they will, like Judas, betray those who for their good have sought to reprove them. {4SP 44.1}

The apostles encountered those in the church who professed godliness while they were secretly cherishing iniquity. Ananias and Sapphira acted the part of deceivers, pretending to make an entire sacrifice for God, when

they were covetously withholding a portion for themselves. The Spirit of truth revealed to the apostles the real character of these pretenders, and the judgments of God forever rid the church of this foul blot upon its purity. This signal evidence of the discerning Spirit of Christ in the church was a terror to hypocrites and evil-doers. They could not long remain in connection with those who were, in habit and disposition, constant representatives of Christ; and as trials and persecution came upon his followers, those only who were willing to forsake all for the truth's sake desired to become his disciples. Thus, as long as persecution continued, the church remained comparatively pure. But as it ceased, converts were added who were less sincere and devoted, and the way was opened for Satan to obtain a foothold. {4SP 45.1}

But there is no union between the Prince of light and the prince of darkness, and there can be no union between their followers. When Christians consented to unite with those who were but half converted from paganism, they entered upon a path which led farther and farther from the truth. Satan exulted that he had succeeded in deceiving so large a number of the followers of Christ. He then brought his power to bear more fully upon them, and inspired them to persecute those who remained true to God. None could so well understand how to oppose the true Christian faith as could those who had once been its defenders; and these apostate Christians, uniting with their half-pagan companions, directed their warfare against the most essential features of the doctrines of Christ. {4SP 45.2}

It required a desperate struggle for those who would be faithful to stand firm against the deceptions and abominations which were disguised in sacerdotal garments and introduced into the church. The Bible was not accepted as the standard of faith. The doctrine of religious freedom was termed heresy, and its upholders were hated and proscribed. {4SP 46.1}

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. {4SP 46.2}

Well would it be for the church and the world if the principles that actuated those steadfast souls were revived in the hearts of God's professed people. There is an alarming indifference in regard to the doctrines which are the pillars of the Christian faith. The opinion is gaining ground, that, after all, these are not of vital importance. This degeneracy is strengthening the hands of the agents of Satan, so that false theories and fatal delusions which the faithful in ages past imperiled their lives to resist and expose, are now regarded with favor by thousands who claim to be followers of Christ. {4SP 46.3}

The early Christians were indeed a peculiar people. Their blameless deportment and unswerving faith were a continual reproof that disturbed the sinner's peace. Though few in numbers, without wealth, position, or honorary titles, they were a terror to evil-doers wherever their character and doctrines were known. Therefore they were hated by the wicked, even as Abel was hated by the ungodly Cain. For the same reason that Cain slew Abel did those who would throw off the restraint of the Holy Spirit, put to death God's people. It was for the same reason that the Jews rejected and crucified the Saviour,—because the purity and holiness of his character was a constant rebuke to their selfishness and corruption. From the days of Christ until now, his faithful disciples have excited the hatred and opposition of those who love and follow the ways of sin. {4SP 47.1}

How, then, can the gospel be called a message of peace? When Isaiah foretold the birth of the Messiah, he ascribed to him the title, "Prince of peace." When angels announced to the shepherds that Christ was born, they sung above the plains of Bethlehem, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." [Luke 2:14.] There is a seeming contradiction between these prophetic declarations and the words of Christ, "I came not to send peace, but a sword." [Matthew 10:34.] But rightly understood, the two are in perfect harmony. The gospel is a message of peace. Christianity is a system, which, received and obeyed, would spread peace, harmony, and happiness throughout the earth. The religion of Christ will unite in close brotherhood all who accept its teachings. It was the mission of Jesus to reconcile man to God, and thus to his fellow-man. But the world at large are under the control of Satan, Christ's bitterest foe. The gospel presents to them principles of life which are wholly at variance with their habits and desires, and they rise in rebellion against it. They hate the purity which reveals and condemns their sins,

and they persecute and destroy those who would urge upon them its just and holy claims. It is in this sense—because the exalted truths it brings, occasion hatred and strife—that the gospel is called a sword. {4SP 47.2}

The mysterious providence which permits the righteous to suffer persecution at the hand of the wicked, has been a cause of great perplexity to many who are weak in faith. Some are even ready to cast away their confidence in God because he suffers the basest of men to prosper, while the best and purest are afflicted and tormented by their cruel power. How, it is asked, can One who is just and merciful, and who is also infinite in power, tolerate such injustice and oppression? This is a question with which we have nothing to do. God has given us sufficient evidence of his love, and we are not to doubt his goodness because we cannot understand the workings of his providence. Said the Saviour to his disciples, foreseeing the doubts that would press upon their souls in days of trial and darkness, “Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you.” [John 15:20.] Jesus suffered for us more than any of his followers can be made to suffer through the cruelty of wicked men. Those who are called to endure torture and martyrdom, are but following in the steps of God’s dear Son. {4SP 48.1}

“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise.” [2 Peter 3:9.] He does not forget or neglect his children; but he permits the wicked to reveal their true character, that none who desire to do his will may be deceived concerning them. Again, the righteous are placed in the furnace of affliction, that they themselves may be purified; that their example may convince others of the reality of faith and godliness; and also that their consistent course may condemn the ungodly and unbelieving. {4SP 49.1}

God permits the wicked to prosper, and to reveal their enmity against him, that when they shall have filled up the measure of their iniquity, all may see his justice and mercy in their utter destruction. The day of his vengeance hastens, when all the transgressors of his law and the oppressors of his people will meet the just recompense of their deeds; when every act of cruelty or oppression toward God’s faithful ones will be punished as though done to Christ himself. {4SP 49.2}

There is another and more important question that should engage the attention of the churches of today. The apostle Paul declares that “all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” [2 Timothy 3:12.] Why is it, then, that persecution seems in a great degree to slumber?—The only reason is, that the church has conformed to the world’s standard, and therefore awakens no opposition. The religion current in our day is not of the pure and holy character which marked the Christian faith in the days of Christ and his apostles. It is only because of the spirit of compromise with sin, because the great truths of the word of God are so indifferently regarded, because there is so little vital godliness in the church, that Christianity is apparently so popular with the world. Let there be a revival of the faith and power of the early church, and the spirit of persecution will be revived, and the fires of persecution will be rekindled. {4SP 49.3}

Of all the gifts that heaven can bestow upon men, fellowship with Christ in His sufferings is the most weighty trust and the highest honor. “Unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer for His sake.” Philippians 1:29.  
{MH 478.2}