Leaves of Life

Tree of Life Ministries

Edition 12

The Structure Part 1

The Parable Repeats

October 15th 2018

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.' Isaiah 8:20. **The people of God are directed to the Scriptures as their safeguard against the influence of false teachers and the delusive power of spirits of darkness.** Satan employs every possible device to prevent men from obtaining a knowledge of the Bible; **for its plain utterances reveal his deceptions**. At every revival of God's work the prince of evil is aroused to more intense activity; he is now putting forth his utmost efforts for a final struggle against Christ and His followers. **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."

"**Those who endeavor to obey all the commandments of God will be opposed and derided.** They can stand only in God. In order to endure the trial before them, **they must understand the will of God as revealed in His word;** they can honor Him only as they have a right conception of His character, government, and purposes, and act in accordance with them. **None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict**. To every soul will come the searching test: **Shall I obey God rather than men**? The decisive hour is even now at hand. Are our feet planted on the rock of God's immutable word? Are we prepared to stand firm in defense of the…

Tree of Life Ministries

Tree of Life Ministries is a self-supporting, non-profit, Seventh-day Adventist ministry, which was officially registered in Germany in 2016. At present, the majority of its members are based in Austria.

Our mission is to prepare Seventh-day Adventists for the soon-coming crisis and to teach the everlasting gospel of the three angels' messages of Revelation 14 through seminars, video productions and written publications. We believe that we are living in the last generation, for whom the entire Bible has been written. Each of the ancient prophets spoke less for their own time than for ours, so that their prophesying is in force for us. The different stories in the Bible typify events that will take place at the end of the world. History will repeat itself. We must study the scriptures "line upon line" in light of their prophetic application to the final generation. This constitutes the "present truth" for this time, which is needed to prepare the church to receive the "latter rain." By understanding the spiritual application of these histories, we are to learn "righteousness by faith."

Leaves of Life is a present truth periodical, which is mainly compiled and edited by Mark Bruce.

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…commandments of God and the faith of Jesus?" *{The Great Controversy, p. 593, par. 1,2}*

Prophets Speak More For Our Time

To understand the Third Angel´s message at the end of the world, it is important that we remember the principle that all the stories of the Bible are speaking about what will transpire under the last warning to be given to a dying world.

"Never are we absent from the mind of God. God is our joy and our salvation. **Each of the ancient prophets spoke less for their own time than for ours, so that their prophesying is in force for us**. 'Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and **they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come**' (1 Corinthians 10:11). "Not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into" (1 Peter 1:12)". *{Selected Messages Book 3, p. 338, par. 1}*

Therefore, all the stories in the Bible are an allegory of the Third Angel´s message teaching us in advance as to what will transpire before it comes to pass.

"**Remember the former things of old**: for I *am* God, and *there is* none else; *I am* God, and *there is* none like me, **Declaring the end from the beginning**, and from ancient times ***the things* that are not *yet* done**, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:" (Isaiah 46:9,10)

We understand that the Lord does this "line upon line," or in other words by repeating history in a sequence that is and has been dictated by the everlasting gospel, or the three angels messages of revelation 14:6-12. From these past histories the Lord shows us what is going to come and the order by which these events will transpire. Hence the Lord instructs us in Isaiah 46:9 to "Remember." To fail to remember these past histories and the order by which the events in those histories came to pass will be fatal.

"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**." *{Christian Experience and Teachings, p. 204, par. 1}*

We have nothing to fear if we will remember, we have however everything to fear if we choose to forget our past history and the way in which the Lord has led us. Hence the next quote instructs us that Millerite history needs to repeat in order for us to have the same experience to lead us to the point where the Third Angel´s message will transpire.

"The first and second messages were given in 1843 and 1844, and we are now under the proclamation of the third; but **all three of the messages** are still to be proclaimed. It is just as essential now as ever before that **they shall be repeated** to those who are seeking for the truth. By pen and voice we are to sound the proclamation, **showing their order**, and the application of the prophecies that **bring us to the third** angel's message. **There cannot be a third without the first and second**. These messages we are to give to the world in publications, in discourses, **showing in the line of prophetic history the things that have been and the things that will be.**" *{Selected Messages, Book 2, P. 104, par.3}*

Millerite History was the history of the First and Second Angel´s messages, a history that is to be repeated, so that we can share in the experience as to how the Lord unfolded to them the messages and led them to have a corresponding experience, in preparation for the Third Angel´s Message at the end of the world.

In our last publication (Edition 11) we dealt with this very history, from 1989 to Midnight, where the First and Second Messages repeat in agreement with the Seven Thunders leading us down to Midnight where the Third Angel´s Message will begin to unfold. In that history, as in both the Millerite and Christ´s history, there are two temple cleansings (separations) marked. One which took place in 2014, the other is about to take place at Midnight (Matthew 25:10. When this happens, all those people who have refused to accept the Second Angel´s Message will close the door upon themselves, just as the Millerites did on October 22 1844, where history will repeat itself according to scripture..

If we therefore understand the principle that those histories repeat under the Third Angel, then we should see a structure consisting of two temple cleansings, as there is "No new thing under the sun." (Ecclesiastes 1:9).

"The theme of greatest importance is the third angel's message, embracing the messages of the first and second angels. All should understand the truths contained in these messages and demonstrate them in daily life, for this is essential to salvation. We shall have to study earnestly, prayerfully, in order to understand these grand truths; and our power to learn and comprehend will be taxed to the utmost.—Letter 97, 1902." *{Evangelism, P. 196, par. 1}*

"The Revelator says, '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' [Revelation 18:1, 2]. **This is the same message that was given by the second angel—Babylon is fallen, "because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication"** [Revelation 14:8]. What is that wine? Her false doctrines. **She has given to the world a false sabbath instead of the Sabbath of the fourth commandment,** and has repeated the lie Satan first told to Eve in

Eden—the natural immortality of the soul. Many kindred errors she has spread far and wide, 'teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.'"

"When Jesus began His public ministry, He cleansed the temple from its sacrilegious profanation. **Almost the last act of His ministry** was to cleanse the temple again. **So in the last work for the warning of the world, two distinct calls** are made to the churches: The second angel's message, and the voice heard in heaven, 'Come out of her, My people.... For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities' [Revelation 18:4, 5].

"As God called the children of Israel out of Egypt that they might keep His Sabbath, so He calls His people out of Babylon that they may not worship the beast nor his image. The man of sin, who thought to change times and laws, has exalted himself above God **by presenting this spurious sabbath to the world; the Christian world has accepted this child of the papacy**, and cradled and nourished it, thus defying God by removing His memorial and setting up a rival sabbath." *{Manuscript Releases Volume Two, P. 228, par. 1-3}*

Notice above, the two temple cleanings are paralleled to two distinct calls, a repeat of the second Angels message, and a message calling God´s people out of Babylon. We can find these two distinct calls in Revelation Chapter 18, which is the last warning to be given under the Third Angel, warning about the Sunday Law that has just been brought upon them.

"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. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." (Revelation 18:1-5)

Although the Second Angel was given in Millerite history and again is given in our history (from 911-Midnight), both these histories are types that are designed to lead us to the Third Angel where the Second Angel´s message will be fulfilled perfectly. In the next quote it explains why, for although the message of the Second Angel was given in Millerite history it could not be perfectly fulfilled as there was no Sunday Law to mark the point where She had made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

"The second angel's message of Revelation 14 was first preached in the summer of 1844, and it then had a more direct application to the churches of the United States, where the warning of the judgment had been most widely proclaimed and most generally rejected, and where the declension in the churches had been most rapid. **But the message of the second angel did not reach its complete fulfillment in 1844.** The churches then

experienced a moral fall, in consequence of their refusal of the light of the advent message; **but that fall was not complete.** As they have continued to reject the special truths for this time they have fallen lower and lower. **Not yet, however, can it be said that "Babylon is fallen,... because she made *all nations* drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." She has not yet made all nations do this**. The spirit of world conforming and indifference to the testing truths for our time exists and has been gaining ground in churches of the Protestant faith in all the countries of Christendom; and these churches are included in the solemn and terrible denunciation of the second angel. **But the work of apostasy has not yet reached its culmination."**

"The Bible declares that before the coming of the Lord, **Satan will work "with *all* power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness**;" and they that "received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved," will be left to receive "strong delusion, that they should believe a lie." 2 Thessalonians 2:9-11. **Not until this condition shall be reached, and the union of the church with the world shall be fully accomplished throughout Christendom, will the fall of Babylon be complete.** The change is a progressive one, and **the perfect fulfillment of Revelation 14:8 is yet future**." *{The Great Controversy P. 389, par. 2,3}*

Another point to note as to when this event will take place is that as is stated in the above quote in Par 3, is that Satan will work with all power and signs and lying wonders which according to the prophetic testimony is when the Law of God is made void through the exaltation of the Sunday Sabbath.

"The Sabbath was instituted in Eden when the foundation of the earth was laid when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy. The last days are upon us, and Satan's masterpiece of deception will be seen. **Antichrist will appear whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders** and with all deceitfulness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth that they might be saved. Those who receive not the love of the truth, will unite with Satan and **with antichrist through whom Satan has worked to make void the law of God to give to the world a spurious Sabbath**, the child of the papacy that it might be worshipped as an idol. Of this power Paul writes, '**Let no man deceive you by any means:** for that day shall not come except their be falling away first, and **that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.**' [2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4.] This is antichrist to whom the dragon shall give his power, his seat and great authority, and **this power will be energized by the devil, and will have combined him human and superhuman power**. The children of God will be endowed with power from on high and will be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruptions that are in the world through lust." *{Manuscript 104-1893, par. 15}*

Let us now confirm these thoughts above, firstly with a quote that states very clearly that Babylon falling marks the Sunday Law crisis.

"John writes: '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**.' Revelation 14:6-8. **How is this done?—<u>By forcing men to accept a spurious Sabbath</u>**. In the thirty-first chapter of Exodus we are plainly told which day is the Sabbath of the Lord. The keeping of the Sabbath is declared to be a sign of the loyalty of God's people." *{Pamplets 151 P. 23, par. 4 }*

As we can see, the drinking of the wine of the wrath of her fornication which she had not yet made all nations do during the Millerite history was pointing forward to that point where they would commit fornication with her, the Sunday Law crisis. If we go to the book of Isaiah we can confirm this thought.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, **that Tyre shall be forgotten seventy years**, **according to the days of one king**: **after the end of seventy years shall Tyre sing as an harlot.** Take an harp, go about the city, thou harlot that hast been forgotten; make sweet melody, sing many songs, that thou mayest be remembered. And **it shall come to pass after the end of seventy years,** that the LORD will visit Tyre, and she shall turn to her hire, and **<u>shall commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth</u>.**" (Isaiah 23:15-17)

Sister White explains to us that in accordance with the principle that all the prophets are speaking about the end of the world, that Tyre is a symbol of the Papacy. In this next quote she combines 2 Thessalonians chapter 2 with Ezekiel 28, placing them at the Sunday Law Crisis.

"'**The mystery of iniquity doth already work**: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming.' 'Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus, Thus saith the Lord God; **Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a god, I sit in the seat of God,** in the midst of the seas; yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God:.... therefore thus saith the Lord God; Because thou hast set thine heart as the heart of God; behold, therefore I will bring strangers upon thee, the terrible of the nations: and they shall draw their swords against the beauty of thy wisdom, and they shall defile

thy brightness. They shall bring thee down to the pit, and thou shalt die the deaths of them that are slain in the midst of the seas. Wilt thou yet say before him that slayeth thee, I am God? but thou shalt be a man, and no God, in the hand of him that slayeth thee. Thou shalt die the deaths of the uncircumcised by the hand of strangers: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God.'"

"The time is fast approaching when this scripture will be fulfilled. **The world and the professedly Protestant churches are in this our day taking sides with the man of sin**; and to those who have the light of the commandments of God is the message given, 'Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.... For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.' **The great issue that is coming will be on the seventh-day Sabbath**. This day God would have us reverence. 'I am the Lord your God,' he declared; 'walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; and hallow my Sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God.'" *{The Review and Herald, April 19, 1898, par. 4,5}*

The Papacy was forgotten in 1798 when she received her deadly wound, the time period where the "One King" of Bible prophecy (The USA) would arise to prominence. This marks the period of seventy years, a symbolic period, where she would go into captivity. The Papacy (Spiritual Babylon) was responsible for the captivity of God´s people during her long reign of 1260 years, just as God´s people were in captivity in literal Babylon for 70 years.

"Today the church of God is free to carry forward to completion the divine plan for the salvation of a lost race. **For many centuries God's people suffered a restriction of their liberties.** The preaching of the gospel in its purity was prohibited, and the severest of penalties were visited upon those who dared disobey the mandates of men. As a consequence, the Lord's great moral vineyard was almost wholly unoccupied. The people were deprived of the light of God's word. The darkness of error and superstition threatened to blot out a knowledge of true religion. **God's church on earth was as verily in captivity during this long period of relentless persecution as were the children of Israel held captive in Babylon during the period of the exile."** *{Prophets and Kings, P. 714, par. 1}*

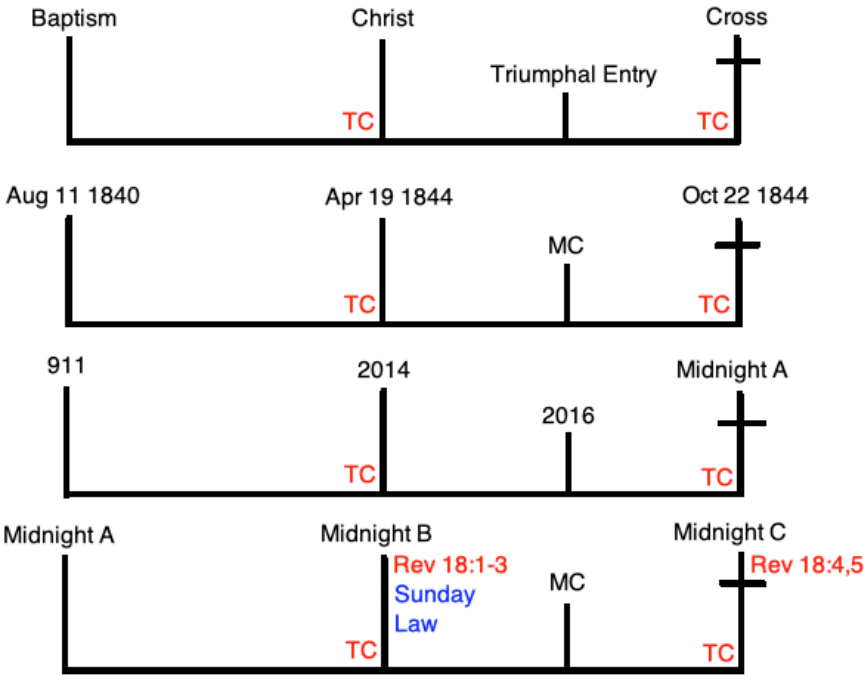
"**He that leadeth into captivity** shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints." (Revelation 13:11)

Therefore, just as Babylon, both literal and spiritual, were responsible for this period of captivity, she (The Papacy) was now to go into captivity (receiving her deadly wound) for the same period (symbolically), until she commits fornication with all the kingdoms of the earth, where her deadly wound would be healed. Sister White confirms

this point by clearly illustrating that the deadly wound is healed when the Sunday Law is made, marking the point where the Kings of the Earth will commit fornication with her.

"The prophecy of Revelation 13 declares that **the power represented by the beast with lamblike horns shall cause 'the earth and them which dwell therein' to worship the papacy**—there symbolized by the beast 'like unto a leopard.' The beast with two horns is also to say 'to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast;' and, furthermore, it is to command all, 'both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond,' to receive the mark of the beast. Revelation 13:11-16. It has been shown that the United States is the power represented by the beast with lamblike horns, and that **this prophecy will be fulfilled when the United States shall enforce Sunday observance**, which Rome claims as the special acknowledgment of her supremacy. But in this homage to the papacy the United States will not be alone. The influence of Rome in the countries that once acknowledged her dominion is still far from being destroyed. And prophecy foretells a restoration of her power. '**I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and <u>his deadly wound was healed:</u>** and all the world wondered after the beast.' Verse 3. The infliction of the deadly wound points to the downfall of the papacy in 1798. After this, says the prophet, '**his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast**.' Paul states plainly that the 'man of sin' will continue until the second advent. 2 Thessalonians 2:3-8. To the very close of time he will carry forward the work of deception. And the revelator declares, also referring to the papacy: 'All that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life.' Revelation 13:8. **In both the Old and the New World, the papacy will receive homage in the honor paid to the Sunday institution, that rests solely upon the authority of the Roman Church**." *{Great Controversy, P. 578, par. 3}*

Here is a diagram that explains the past histories of the First and Second messages repeating under the Third.



The First Sunday Law

Sister White states that if we wish to understand the image of the Beast we need to go back and study the history of the Beast and how it came to power.

"But what is the 'image to the beast'? and how is it to be formed? The image is made by the two-horned beast, and is an image *to* the beast. It is also called an image *of* the beast. **Then to learn what the image is like and how it is to be formed we must study the characteristics of the beast itself**—the papacy."

"When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and **in order to control the consciences of the people, she sought the support of the secular power. The result was the papacy, a church that controlled the power of the state and employed it to further her own ends, especially for the punishment of 'heresy**.' In order for the United States to form an image of the beast, the religious power must so control the civil government that the authority of the state will also be employed by the church to accomplish her own ends." *{The Great Controversy, P. 443, par. 1,2}*

Prior to this point in history where the "Man of Sin" began his long reign of supremacy, Constantine made a Sunday Law that was enforced by the state, this was the precursor of the law where God´s people were persecuted for keeping the Sabbath.

"Royal edicts, general councils, and church ordinances sustained by secular power were the steps by which the pagan festival attained its position of honor in the Christian world. **The first public measure enforcing Sunday observance was the law enacted by Constantine. (A.D. 321**; see Appendix note for page 53.) **This edict required townspeople to rest on 'the venerable day of the sun,' but permitted countrymen to continue their agricultural pursuits. Though virtually a heathen statute**, it was enforced by the emperor after his nominal acceptance of Christianity."

"The royal mandate not proving a sufficient substitute for divine authority, Eusebius, a bishop who sought the favor of princes, and who was the special friend and flatterer of Constantine, **advanced the claim that Christ had transferred the Sabbath to Sunday**. Not a single testimony of the Scriptures was produced in proof of the new doctrine. Eusebius himself unwittingly acknowledges its falsity and points to the real authors of the change. 'All things,' he says, 'whatever that it was duty to do on the Sabbath, these we have transferred to the Lord's Day.'—Robert Cox, *Sabbath Laws and Sabbath Duties,* page 538. **But the Sunday argument, groundless as it was, served to embolden men in trampling upon the Sabbath of the Lord**. All who desired to be honored by the world accepted the popular festival.

"As the papacy became firmly established, the work of Sunday exaltation was continued. For a time the people engaged in agricultural labor when not attending church, and **the seventh day was still regarded as the Sabbath. But steadily a change was effected.** Those in holy office were forbidden to pass judgment in any civil controversy on the Sunday. **Soon after, all persons**, of whatever rank, **were commanded** to refrain from common labor on pain of a fine for freemen and stripes in the case of servants. Later it was

decreed that rich men should be punished with the loss of half of their estates; and finally, that if still obstinate they should be made slaves. The lower classes were to suffer perpetual banishment." *{The Great Controversy, P. 574, par. 1-3}*

If as we understand, history is to repeat, then we should likewise have a point where Sunday will begin to be exalted without God's people being forced to desist from keeping the Sabbath. Sister White speaks about a time when Sunday Laws will come, where missionary work is to be conducted on Sunday to prevent those who exalt Sunday of having any course to bring you before the courts.

"Dear Brother,"

"I will try to answer your question as to what you should do **in the case of Sunday laws being enforced**.

"The light given me by the Lord at a time when we were expecting just such a crisis as you seem to be approaching, was that **when the people were moved by a power from beneath to enforce Sunday observance**, Seventh-day Adventists were to show their wisdom by refraining from their ordinary work on that day, **devoting it to missionary effort**.

"**To defy the Sunday laws will but strengthen in their persecution the religious zealots who are seeking to enforce them**. Give them no occasion to call you lawbreakers. If they are left to rein up men who fear neither God nor man, the reining up will soon lose its novelty for them, and they will see that it is not consistent nor convenient for them to be strict in regard to the observance of Sunday. Keep right on with your missionary work, with your Bibles in your hands, and the enemy will see that he has worsted his own cause. **One does not receive the mark of the beast because he shows that he realizes the wisdom of keeping the peace by refraining from work that gives offense, doing at the same time a work of the highest importance**.

"When we devote Sunday to missionary work, the whip will be taken out of the hands of the arbitrary zealots who would be well pleased to humiliate Seventh-day Adventists. **When they see that we employ ourselves on Sunday in visiting the people and opening the Scriptures to them, they will know that it is useless for them to try to hinder our work by making Sunday laws**.

"Sunday can be used for carrying forward various lines of work that will accomplish much for the Lord. **On this day open-air meetings and cottage meetings can be held. House-to-house work can be done. Those who write can devote this day to writing their articles. Whenever it is possible, let religious services be held on Sunday**. Make these meetings intensely interesting. Sing genuine revival hymns, and speak with power and assurance of the Saviour's love. Speak on temperance and on true religious experience. You will thus learn much about how to work, and will reach many souls.

"Let the teachers in our schools devote Sunday to missionary effort. **I was instructed that they would thus be able to defeat the purposes of the enemy.** Let the teachers take the students with them to hold meetings for those who know not the truth. Thus they will accomplish much more than they could in any other way.

"**God has given us plain directions regarding our work. We are to proclaim the truth in regard to the Sabbath of the Lord**, to make up the breach that has been made in

His law. **We are to do all that we can to enlighten those in ignorance**; but we are never to confederate with men of the world in order to receive financial assistance." *{Testimonies For The Church Volume 9, P. 232-233}*

It is a Biblical principle that we are to obey the laws of the land unless those laws infringe upon us obeying God (Acts 5:29). It is clear to see from above the we are being instructed to obey this Sunday Law by desisting from labour, but not only that, we are to use it to God´s advantage. When this comes to pass we can therefore know that the next waymark in Bible prophecy will be a law against God´s Sabbath. This will require God´s people to work diligently to warn the world as to what is coming. Below is a list of principles compiled by D.E Robinson taken from Sister Whites statements on this subject.

Duty to Enlighten the People
D. E. Robinson
EGW

"**The following is a compilation from the writings of Mrs. E. G. White** regarding our treatment of opponents, the crisis that will come on account of the enforcement of unrighteous laws, and **the duty of Seventh-day Adventists to do all in their power to avert the crisis and to enlighten the people regarding the issue**. The following principles have a vital bearing on this subject, and have through the years been advocated by Mrs. White:"

1. "**It is the duty of all who know the truths of the third angel's message to labor in every way possible to teach the binding claims of the law of God** to friends, neighbors, and the people generally.

2. "**Great care should be exercised** not to arouse bitterness or unnecessary prejudice, that would cut us off from influencing those for whom we labor. **We are warned against making harsh or denunciatory statements regarding opponents of truth**, or against rulers and statesmen; and **we are advised 'to conform in all things to the laws of the state,' even to the extent of waiving some of our rights**, 'when we can do so without conflicting with the law of God.'

3. "In our work, **we are to watch for special opportunities to do effective labor**. When the minds of the people are agitated **regarding Sunday laws**, it is an opportune time to enlighten them concerning the principles involved. **We are to teach in a positive way the binding claims of God's law**, rather than to attack or denounce men, some of whom may be acting conscientiously, and possibly are susceptible to the truth, if it is presented in a winning way.

4. "There are special advantages pertaining to the use of **Sunday as a day for general missionary effort** in behalf of those who should be warned of the impending crisis.

5. "**In the final crisis, the issue will be not merely in regard to refraining from labor on Sunday, but it will be over the disregard of the Sabbath**. In Mrs. White's writings on this

subject, almost invariably it is pointed out that the issue will be over the exaltation of the spurious, **and the trampling upon the Sabbath of Jehovah.**'
"It is believed that as these points are made clear by the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy, Seventh-day Adventists will appreciate more highly the teaching found in "**Testimonies for the Church," Volume IX**, regarding our methods of labor when Sunday laws are being rigidly enforced." *{Review and Herald March 9, 1911, par. 1-7}*

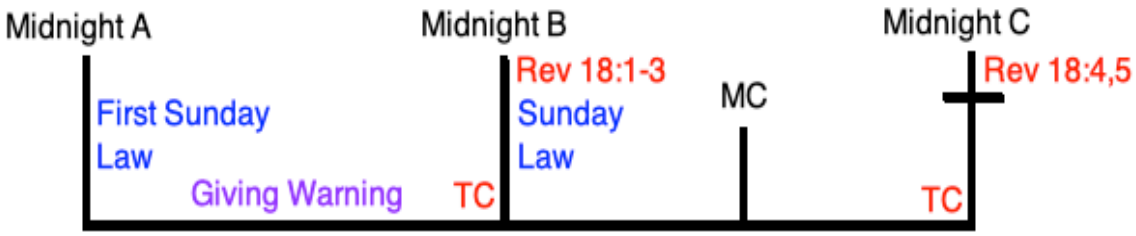
These warnings to be given by God´s people are what will give the Third Angel its power when their prediction comes to pass. God´s people must gather the oil, it is only as we go forward in the strength of Christ to warn the nations of the dangers that will come from their making Sunday Laws that will prepare us to stand in the Sunday law itself.

"The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty, for it is the point of truth especially controverted. **When the final test shall be brought to bear upon men, then the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not**. While the observance of the false sabbath in compliance with the law of the state, contrary to the fourth commandment, will be an avowal of allegiance to a power that is in opposition to God, **the keeping of the true Sabbath**, in obedience to God's law, is an evidence of loyalty to the Creator. **While one class, by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the mark of the beast, the other, choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority, receive the seal of God**.

"Heretofore those who presented the truths of the third angel's message have often been regarded as mere alarmists. **Their predictions that religious intolerance would gain control in the United States, that church and state would unite to persecute those who keep the commandments of God, have been pronounced groundless and absurd**. It has been confidently declared that this land could never become other than what it has been—the defender of religious freedom. **But as the question of enforcing Sunday observance is widely agitated, the event so long doubted and disbelieved is seen to be approaching, and the third message will produce an effect which it could not have had before.** *{The Great Controversy P. 605, par. 2,3}*

It is easy to see that the work listed above for God´s people to carry out in this time of crisis was prefigured by A.T Jones, when he stood before the Senate committee warning them about the consequences that would result from passing the Blair Bill. A full account of this can be found in his book called "Civil Government and Religion, Chapter V. Religious Legislation."

If we now look at the diagram listed on the next page, the structure of the Third Angel begins to take shape in agreement with the structure of the past lines in history.



The Parable of The Ten Virgins

In our first section we took the time to establish that our past histories, line upon line, are in fact prefiguring our history, laying out for us the structure of the Sunday Law Crisis and when it shall come. Let us now understand how the parable of the ten virgins fits into that structure perfectly.

When we bring line upon line together we can see that Midnight A, B and C were prefigured by Aug 11, 1840, April 19, 1844 and Oct 22, 1844, which was the history of the Ten Virgins. This history was the history of the First and Second Angels messages, which as we read earlier was to be repeated in our history from 911 to Midnight. Therefore, just as the parable of the ten virgins was first fulfilled in Millerite history and thereafter repeated in our history, the perfect fulfillment of it takes place under the proclamation of the Angel of Revelation 18 that arrives to give power to the Third Angel at Midnight A.

"When the third angel's message is preached as it should be, power attends its proclamation, and it becomes an abiding influence. It must be attended with divine power, or it will accomplish nothing. **I am often referred to the parable of the ten virgins**, five of whom were wise, and five foolish. This parable has been and will be fulfilled to the very letter, for it has a special application to this time, and, **like the third angel's message, has been fulfilled and will continue to be present truth till the close of time**. In the parable, the ten virgins had lamps, but only five of them had the saving oil with which to keep their lamps burning. This represents the condition of the Church. The wise and the foolish have their Bibles, and are provided with all the means of grace; but many do not appreciate the fact that they must have the heavenly unction. They do not heed the invitation, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." *{The Review and Herald, August 19, 1890, par. 3}*

Sister White states above, that the parable of the Ten Virgins had been fulfilled, just as the Third Angels message had been fulfilled on Oct 22 1844. However, she also states that both will be fulfilled (future) at a point where power attends the message. Therefore, it will be at Midnight A, when the Angel of Revelation 18 Arrives to give power to the Third

Angel´s message where the parable of the Ten Virgins will begin to be fulfilled in its perfect application under the Third Angel´s message.

Let us now review the parable of the ten virgins in Millerite History so that we can have a correct understanding as to how this parable will repeat during the History of the Sunday Law Crisis that will begin at Midnight A when the first Sunday civil law is enforced.

We read earlier that the two temple cleansings are paralleled to "two distinct calls." These two distinct calls are Revelation 18:1-3, which is the perfect fulfillment of the Second Angel´s message, and Revelation 18:4,5 which is the Loud Cry of the Third Angel´s message. If these two calls are the Second and Third Angel´s messages, and the history of the Millerites is the history of the first and second Messages leading us down to the third, then there must be three calls, represented by the First, Second and Third Angel´s messages which all repeat under the Third.

"The third angel's message was needed. This proclamation was to be made. **Many who went forth to meet the Bridegroom under the messages of the first and second angels, refused the third angel's message**, the last testing message to be given to the world."

"A similar work will be accomplished when that other angel, represented in Revelation 18, gives his message. The first, second, and third angels' messages will need to be repeated. **The call will be given to the church**, 'Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins.' '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.... Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues: for her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities' [Revelation 18:2-5]." *{Manuscript Releases Volume 16, p. 269,270}*

The First Call: Midnight Point A

"The coming of Christ, **as announced by the first angel's message**, was understood to be represented by the coming of the bridegroom. The widespread reformation under the proclamation of His soon coming, **answered to the going forth of the virgins**. **In this parable, as in that of Matthew 24, two classes are represented.** All had taken their lamps, the Bible, and by its light **had gone forth** to meet the Bridegroom." *{The Great Controversy, P. 393, par. 4}*

The First Angel began to sound with power on August 11, 1840 when it was proven that Miller´s understanding of Bible prophecy was correct. Josiah Litch had predicted the fall of the Ottoman Empire using Miller´s Rules. When this prediction was proven to be correct, the people of God at that time (Protestants) were convicted of their need to

gather the oil being sent from heaven. Sister White Parallels the work that was done in Millerite History with the Angel of Revelation 18.

"The angel who unites in the proclamation of the third angel's message is to lighten the whole earth with his glory. A work of world-wide extent and unwonted power is here foretold. The advent movement of 1840-44 was a glorious manifestation of the power of God; **the first angel's message was carried to every missionary station in the world**, and in some countries there was the greatest religious interest which has been witnessed in any land since the Reformation of the sixteenth century; **but these are to be exceeded by the mighty movement under the last warning of the third angel**." *{The Great Controversy, P. 611, par. 1}*

When the Third Angel´s message is confirmed at Midnight Point A, when they make the first Sunday Law, the First Angel´s message will begin to sound with power. During this time God´s people must do the work allocated to them by sounding the warning as to what will be the result of their making this Sunday law. This is how we are to gather oil. The principle that only by giving are we then able to receive will be proven true, for those who fail to give all to Christ in giving this warning will be found without oil, when faced with persecution for keeping the Sabbath at Midnight point B.

"… He whose life consists in ever receiving and never giving, soon loses the blessing. **If truth does not flow forth from him to others, he loses his capacity to receive.** We must impart the goods of heaven if we would have fresh blessings." *{Pamphlets 004, P. 4, par. 4}*

"When the ten virgins went forth to meet the bridegroom, their lamps were trimmed and burning. **Five of these virgins were wise. They anticipated delay**, and filled their flagons with oil, prepared for any emergency. From those flagons their lamps were supplied, and not left to go out. **But five of their number had not this foresight. They made no provision for disappointment or delay**." *{Manuscript Releases Volume 16, p. 267, par. 3}*

We can read above that from the point that the First Angel was sounding with power, two classes were being developed. We see that one class was expecting delay, whilst the other class were not really grounded upon the truth of God´s word that there was to be a "Tarrying time." We must understand this truth, that we must be placed in the fires of affliction during the "Tarrying time" in order to be purified, that we must trust and wait upon the Lord and believe that He will deliver us at His appointed time if we are faithful.

"**Then** shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and **went forth to meet the bridegroom**. And **five of them were wise**, and **five *were* foolish**. They that *were* foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: **But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps**." (Matthew 25:1-4)

At this point on April 19, 1844, verses 1-4 were fulfilled, when both classes manifested whether or not they had been gathering the oil or not. All those who had refused to gather oil turned on their former brethren when it was realized that Christ was not in fact coming at this time. We as a people have no idea as to how terrible it will be when these things will repeat in their fullest sense. The Lord has been very gracious to us in allowing us this time, not only to understand these past histories, but also time to realise our need to have Him formed in us prior to that time coming to pass. The more we are permitted a glimpse of what is to come the more it should drive us to Him. Hence why the Lord brings us a prophetic message, for it is only through prophecy can we really understand and prepare for what awaits us. History will be repeated!

The First Disappointment, Tarrying Time: Midnight Point B

"As the churches refused to receive the first angel's message, **they rejected the light from heaven** and fell from the favor of God. They trusted to their own strength, and **by opposing the first message placed themselves where they could not see the light of the second angel's message.** But the beloved of God, who were oppressed, accepted the message, '**Babylon is fallen,' and left the churches**." *{ Early Writings, P. 237, par. 2}*

"Another mighty angel was commissioned to descend to earth. **Jesus placed in his hand a writing,** and as he came to the earth, he cried, "**Babylon is fallen, is fallen**." Then I saw the disappointed ones again raise their eyes to heaven, looking with faith and hope for their Lord's appearing. But many seemed to remain in a stupid state, as if asleep; yet I could see the trace of deep sorrow upon their countenances. **The disappointed ones saw from the Scriptures that they were in the tarrying time,** and that they must patiently wait the fulfillment of the vision. **The same evidence which led them to look for their Lord in 1843, led them to expect Him in 1844**. Yet I saw that the majority did not possess that energy which marked their faith in 1843. Their disappointment had dampened their faith." *{ Early Writings, P. 247, par. 1}*

As we can see from Above, April 19, 1844 marks the point where the Second Angel is now fulfilled, prefiguring Midnight B when the perfect fulfillment of that message will take place. This marks the point where all nations will drink of her wine when they make the Sunday Law that forces God´s people to break the Sabbath of the fourth commandment. All those who have not gathered oil at this point will turn upon their Brethren. A point to note, Sister White had had already explained to us that Matthew 24 is a parallel story to Matthew 25 demonstrating the two classes.

"In this parable, <u>as in that of Matthew 24</u>, two classes are represented. All had taken their lamps, the Bible, and by its light had gone forth to meet the Bridegroom". *{The Great Controversy, P. 393, par. 4}*

"I have been writing on Christ's warnings to His disciples, found in the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew. The disciples asked Him, "Tell us when shall these things be, and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" "Take heed that no man deceive you," Christ answered. [Verses 3, 4.] Then, after giving them a list of events that were to happen, He said, '**Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you; and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.'** 'And many false prophets shall arise, and shall deceive many, and because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure to the end, shall be saved.' [Verses 9-13.]" *{Letters, 66, 1897, par. 3}*

There is much we could say about this waymark. However, for the time being I am merely pointing out that those who do not have oil will be responsible for delivering up God´s people to the civil authorities. We will spend more time on this in our next issue of Leaves of Life where we will go into this topic in greater detail.

The Second Call

"While the bridegroom **tarried**, they all **slumbered and slept."** (Matthew 25:5)

"The second call is made, and the ten virgins are still watching for the bridegroom. Hour after hour passes. Their eyes are anxiously looking for the appearance of the bridegroom. **But there is a delay,** and the weary, watching ones **fall asleep**. **But at midnight**, at the very darkest hour, when their lamps are most needed, the cry is heard, 'Behold the bridegroom cometh.' The sleeping eyes are opened. Everyone is astir. They see the procession they are to join moving on, bright with torches and with music. They hear the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride. The five wise virgins trim their lamps from the oil in their flagons, and their lamps burn brightly." }
"'But five of them were foolish.' These had made no provision wherewith to replenish their lamps, and when aroused from their slumbers they found their lights going out. Their flagons were empty." *{ Manuscript Releases Volume 16, P. 267,268}*

The Midnight Cry Repeats

"And **at midnight there was a cry made**, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him." (Matthew 25:6)

On August 15, 1844, Samuel Sheffield Snow gave the Midnight Cry message in history. It was immediately seen who had foreseen the necessity to continue to gather oil during this tarrying time and who had fallen asleep in careless disregard of the necessity to stay watchful and to go forward.

"When the ten virgins went forth to meet the bridegroom, their lamps were trimmed and burning. **Apparently there was no difference between the five who were wise and the five who were foolish**. To outward appearance all were prepared, **robed in**

white, and carrying their lighted lamps. But only five of these virgins were wise. **These anticipated delay, and filled their flagons with oil, ready for any emergency**. Five of the number had not this foresight; they made no provision for disappointment or delay." *{The Review and Herald, October 31, 1899, par. 3}*

Type must meet antitype. When the Midnight Cry is repeated under the Angel of Revelation 18, we will be faced with death. If we are not filled with oil, overflowing with a love for our Master, we will reject Him.

"It is in a crisis that character is revealed. When the earnest voice proclaimed at midnight, "**Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him**," and the sleeping virgins were roused from their slumbers, **it was seen who had made preparation for the event**. Both parties were taken unawares; but **one was prepared for the emergency**, and the other was found without preparation. **So now, a sudden and unlooked-for calamity, something that brings the soul face to face with death**, will show whether there is any real faith in the promises of God. It will show whether the soul is sustained by grace. **The great final test comes at the close of human probation**, when it will be too late for the soul's need to be supplied."

"The ten virgins are watching in the evening of this earth's history. All claim to be Christians. All have a call, a name, a lamp, and all profess to be doing God's service. All apparently wait for Christ's appearing. **But five are unready**. Five will be found surprised, dismayed, outside the banquet hall." *{Christ`s Object Lessons, P. 412 par. 1,2}*

Second Disappointment-The Shut Door: Midnight Point C

"And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and **the door was shut**." (Matthew 25:10)

All the prophets are speaking about the end of the world. On Oct 22 1844 there was a shut door on all those who rejected the two former messages.

"There was a shut door in Noah's day. There was at that time a withdrawal of the Spirit of God from the sinful race that perished in the waters of the flood. God Himself gave the shut door message to Noah: 'My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.' [Genesis 6:3.]"

"There was a shut door in the days of Abraham. Mercy ceased to plead with the inhabitants of Sodom, and all but Lot, with his wife and two daughters, were consumed by the fire sent down from heaven.

"There was a shut door in Christ's day. The Son of God declared to the unbelieving Jews of that generation, '**Your house is left unto you desolate**.' [Matthew 23:38.]

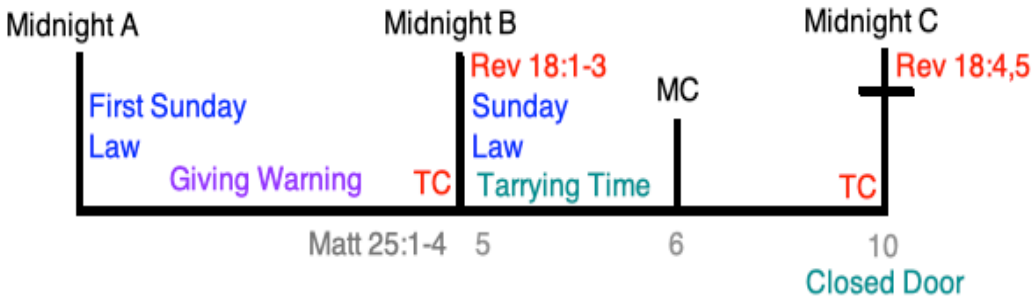
"Looking down the stream of time to the last days, the same infinite power proclaimed through John: 'These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth.' [Revelation 3:7.]

"I was shown in vision, and I still believe, that **there was a shut door in 1844**. **All who saw the light of the first and second angel's messages and rejected that light were left in darkness.** And those who accepted it and received the Holy Spirit which attended the proclamation of the message from heaven and who afterward renounced their faith and pronounced their experience a delusion, **thereby rejected the Spirit of God, and it no longer pleaded with them."** *{Manuscript 4, 1883, par. 22-26}*

In the above quote she parallels the shut door in the Millerite history with the second temple cleansing, which for us is point C. In the next quote she also parallels it with the Cross.

"…**I saw that as the Jews crucified Jesus, so the nominal churches had crucified these messages**, and therefore they have no knowledge of the way into the most holy, and they cannot be benefited by the intercession of Jesus there…" *{Early Writings, P. 260, par. 1}*

When we look at our diagram below and see how the past histories will repeat based upon the parable of the "Ten Virgins" and the "Two temple cleansings," and how it relates to the Sunday Law Crisis, we can have much confidence



Summary

There is therefore clear and sufficient evidence for the seeker of truth to see that the structure from Midnight A-C was prefigured by all the reform lines before it. In our next edition we will build upon this structure many infallible proofs that will strengthen our understanding. In future editions we will also show how the history that took place after the third step in those past histories are likewise a type to be paralleled with the structure from Midnight A-C, demonstrating and confirming that this is in fact the fulfilment of the effect of every vision from Ezekiel 12.

Health Section

The Stomach

"Eating merely to please the appetite is a transgression of nature's laws. Often this intemperance is felt at once in the form of headaches and indigestion and colic. A load has been placed upon the stomach that it cannot care for, and a feeling of oppression comes. The head is confused, the stomach is in rebellion. But these results do not always follow overeating. **In some cases the stomach is paralyzed**. No sensation of pain is felt, **but the digestive organs lose their vital force**. The foundation of the human machinery is gradually undermined, and **life is rendered very unpleasant**." *{General Conference Daily Bulletin, March 1, 1897, Art. B, par. 13}*

In The Beginning

With Christ, as with the holy pair in Eden, appetite was the ground of the first great temptation. **Just where the ruin began, the work of our redemption must begin.** As by the indulgence of appetite Adam fell, **so by the denial of appetite Christ must overcome**. "And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to Him, he said, If Thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But He answered and said, **It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.**" {Desire of Ages, P. 117, par. 3}

We as Seventh Day Adventists surely fail to understand the above expression, that we are to live by every word of God. Christ said; "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: **the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day**." (John 12:48)

God´s word is infallible, it can and will make no mistakes. If we are found to be transgressing the least of His commandments we will find ourselves outside the marriage supper without a wedding garment; "**Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments**, and shall teach men so, **he shall be**

called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them,* the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:19)

Christ began His ministry by crucifying the stomach. If He is our example in all things, it is imperative that we should likewise endeavor to follow in His steps.

"The controlling power of appetite will prove the ruin of thousands, when, **if they had conquered on this point, they would have had moral power to gain the victory over every other temptation of Satan**. But those who are slaves to appetite will **fail in perfecting Christian character**…" *{Counsels on Health, p. 574, par. 2}*

Why is this so? Because the stomach is directly linked to the mind.

"…**A dyspeptic stomach always leads to irritability. A sour stomach leads to a sour temper**. Your body must be kept in subjection if you make it a meet temple for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit…" *{Letter 27, 1872, par.15}*

This is also confirmed in this next quote.

"**As a man thinketh, so is he**." **If the appetite is allowed to rule, then the mind will be brought under its control.** When the stomach is educated to discard that which will prove only an injury to it, the simplest kinds of food will satisfy the hunger." *{General Conference Daily Bulletin, March 2, 1897, par. 3}*

Christ overcame appetite, he lived a Holy life because His mind (the higher powers) was in control of His flesh (the lower powers). In order for us to live a Holy life as is required by God, we must also ensure that our minds are making decisions according to God`s word and not according to the lustful desires of our flesh.

"Let none who profess godliness regard with indifference the health of the body, and flatter themselves that intemperance is no sin, and will not affect their spirituality. **A close sympathy exists between the physical and the moral nature**. The standard of virtue is elevated or degraded by the physical habits. **Excessive eating of the best of food will produce a morbid condition of the moral feelings**. And if the food is not the most healthful, the effects will be still more injurious. Any habit which does not promote healthful action in the human system, degrades the higher and nobler faculties. **Wrong habits of eating and drinking lead to errors in thought and action**. Indulgence of appetite **strengthens the animal propensities, giving them the ascendancy over the mental and spiritual powers**." *{Counsels on Diet and Health, P. 62, par. 4}*

Sister White uses very strong language here to describe how we should tackle this inherent problem. We must pay particular attention to this point and seek through the grace of Christ to overcome as he overcame.

"While sin is **unmanly**, indulgence of appetite is **weak, cowardly**, and **debasing**; the denial of appetite, **honorable**. The highest intelligences of heaven watch the conflict going on between the tempter and the tempted. **And if the tempted turn away from temptation, and in the strength of Jesus conquer, then angels rejoice**, and Satan has lost in the conflict. As Christians, we need experimental piety; and **all who understand the great conflict of Christ upon the point of appetite, in the wilderness of temptation, will never lend on iota of their influence to brace up intemperance**." *{Review and Herlad, April 19, 1887, par. 11}*

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, **that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: **but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind,** that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Romans 12:2,3)

Time is short my Brethren. The enemy is very active, he knows where we are in prophetic time and also knows that Christ is about to work on behalf of His faithful few in a mighty way. Do not put off the armour. Let us move forward and in the strength of Christ and crucify the lusts and affections, that we may be like Him.

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