

See EGW's use of terms Ancient and Modern Israel.

Three days the people were before the mount. During this time, they had ample opportunity to review their past course of murmuring and impatience, and to repent. God had given them his gracious promise that they should become a peculiar treasure unto him, on condition of obedience; but if they were disobedient he would reject them, and ***choose another people.*** {ST, April 22, 1880 par. 12}

Let no one run the risk of ***interposing himself between the people and the message*** of heaven. The message of God will come to the people; and if there were no voice among men to give it, the very stones would cry out. I call upon every minister to seek the Lord, to put away pride, to ***put away strife after supremacy***, and humble the heart before God. It is the coldness of heart, the unbelief of those who ought to have faith, that keeps the churches in feebleness.-- Review and Herald, July 26, 1892. {CW 38.2}

But what will it profit a person, if, after enduring persecution, he then gives up the truth? Christ gave his life for us, and now, if necessary, we should give our lives for him. We are his, for he has bought us; and we ought not to rob him of that for which he has made this infinite sacrifice. The third angel is represented as flying through heaven, proclaiming the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. This message is to prepare a people for the coming of Christ. ***If men should refrain from proclaiming it, the very stones would cry out. The people must be warned.*** The words of the prophet are, "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins." We have a solemn work to do to proclaim this message of warning to the world. Are we engaging in this work? Will men arise in the Judgment and say, "You never told me that these things were so"? Will the gates of the city of God be closed against us, or shall we dwell with Jesus through the ceaseless ages of eternity? ***We want to give to God all that there is of us.*** It is only to the faithful workers that the Saviour says, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." {HS 234.1}

In vision I saw two armies in terrible conflict. One army was led by banners bearing the world's insignia; the other was led by the bloodstained banner of Prince Immanuel. ***Standard after standard was left to trail in the dust as company after company from the Lord's army joined the foe and tribe after tribe from the ranks of the enemy united with the commandment-keeping*** people of God. An angel flying in the midst of heaven put the standard of Immanuel into many hands, while a mighty general cried out with a loud voice: "Come into line. Let those who are loyal to the commandments of God and the testimony of Christ now take their position. ***Come out from among them, and be ye separate, 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. Let all who will come up to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty." {8T 41.1} {RH, November 26, 1903 par. 1} {RH, July 16, 1908 par. 8}

1. Are the Seventh-day Baptists included in the 144,000? If so, then what will be done with the 7,000,000 Sabbath-keepers in China as reported lately in the REVIEW, and many in other portions of the world, who are keeping the Sabbath? {1878 UrS, TBI 240.1}

ANS. The question is not properly put. We cannot tell now who will be included in the 144,000, when that number is developed. In regard to the 7,000,000 Sabbath-keepers in China, there is considerable doubt hanging over that matter, and we wait for more definite information before accepting the report. Should it be asked, (which would be the proper way of putting the question), will the Seventh-day Baptists be included in the 144,000, we answer that *before the end we understand that the religious world will be divided into just two classes, those who keep the Sabbath, and those who oppose it; and we believe that all the Sabbath-keepers of whatever name, or perhaps having dropped all distinctive names, will compose that number.* {1878 UrS, TBI 240.2}

Our influence

This sin of these noble leaders was great. Their lives might have been illustrious to the close. They had been greatly exalted and honored; yet God does not excuse sin in those in exalted positions any sooner than He does in those in more humble positions. Many professed Christians look upon men who do not reprove and condemn wrong, as men of piety and Christians indeed, while they think that those who stand boldly in defense of the right, and will not yield their integrity to unconsecrated influences, lack piety and a Christian spirit. {3T 302.1}

Those who stand in defense of the honor of God and maintain the purity of truth at any cost will have manifold trials, as did our Saviour in the wilderness of temptation. While those who have yielding temperaments, who have not courage to condemn wrong, *but keep silent when their influence is needed to stand in defense of the right* against any pressure, may avoid many heartaches and escape many perplexities, they will also lose a very rich reward, if not their own souls. Those who are in harmony with God, and who through faith in Him receive strength to resist wrong and stand in defense of the right, will always have severe conflicts and will frequently have to stand almost alone. But precious victories will be theirs while they make God their dependence. His grace will be their strength. Their moral sensibility will be keen and clear, and their moral powers will be able to withstand wrong influences. Their integrity, like that of Moses, will be of the purest character. {3T 302.2}

Our Reputation

Many are the hindrances that lie in the path of those who would walk in obedience to the commandments of God. There are strong and subtle influences that bind them to the ways of the world; but the power of the Lord can break these chains. He will remove every obstacle from before the feet of his faithful ones, or give them strength and courage to conquer every difficulty, if they earnestly beseech his help. All hindrances will vanish before an earnest desire and persistent effort to do the will of God *at any cost* to self, even if life itself is sacrificed. Light from Heaven will illuminate the darkness of those who in trial and perplexity go forward, looking unto Jesus as the author and finisher of their faith. {RH, June 9, 1885 par. 9}

We also, who are called to stand in these last trying days of peril and conflict, must be willing, for the truth's sake, to *sacrifice* our ease, our time, *our reputation*, yea, even life itself. At whatever cost, we must be true to principle and to God. {ST, October 4, 1883 par. 24}

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