

## ***Two Churches, Laodicean-Babylon and the Philadelphian.***

In the night season I seemed to be speaking to different *congregations*, making the application of the truth, and not without effect. I repeated these words to the Oakland church: The church is yet militant in a world that is apparently in midnight darkness, and growing worse and worse. Then I heard testimonies offered by different voices, and the question was asked, How long, O Lord, how long shall a stupor remain upon the church? Then I said, While the requirements of a plain Thus saith the Lord remain unheeded ***by the worldly element within the church, the voices of God's faithful people*** are to be strengthened to give the solemn messages of warning. ***The works that should characterize the church militant and the works of the church that has had the light of truth for this time do not correspond. The Lord calls upon church members to clothe themselves with the beautiful garments of Christ's righteousness. Praise and prayer and thanksgiving should now be heard coming daily from converted hearts and lips.*** 24LtMs, Lt 42, 1909, par. 10

As the end draws near, ***the work of God is to increase in strength and purity and holiness.*** The workers are to be filled with love for God and for one another. **They are to cherish principles of the strictest integrity.** ***When the true keynote is struck,*** God will reveal Himself as a God of mercy and love. Angels of heaven will ascend and descend the ladder of shining brightness, co-operating with human workers. **The members of the church triumphant—the church in heaven—will be permitted to draw near to the members of the church militant, to aid them in their necessity.** Let us ever remember that we are **laborers together with God.** ***In this heavenly union, we shall carry forward His work*** with completeness, with singing and rejoicing. In every soul will be kindled the fire of holy zeal. ***Company after company will leave the dark standard of the foe to come up to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty.*** 18LtMs, Lt 106, 1903, par. 30

***“. . . Not all the names registered in the church books are registered in the Lamb's book of life.”*** {5T 278.2}

Note: We are to move from militant—worldly the natural carnal man who is opposed to obedience to triumphant!

Church Militant is Laodicea-Babylon.

Rev. 3:14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These

things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; 15 I know thy works, ***that thou art neither cold nor hot***: I would thou wert cold or hot. 16 So then ***because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth***. 17 ***Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked***: 18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. 18:2 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***. 3 ***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. 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. 5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. 6 Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. 7 How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, ***I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow***.

Note: The Message to Laodicea and the loud cry go directly to the church militant. Here is the false claim the church is the bride. [LaodiceanBabylon.pdf](#)

Church Triumphant is Philadelphia.

Rev. 3:7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; 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; 8 I know thy works: behold, ***I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it***: for thou hast a little strength, ***and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name***. 9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, ***I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee***. 10 ***Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth***. 11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. 12 Him that overcometh will ***I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out***: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will

write upon him my new name.

### *The Changes In Both.*

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

Note: Separate from the church militant.

Notwithstanding the spiritual darkness and alienation from God that exist in the churches which constitute Babylon, the great body of Christ's true followers are still to be found in their communion. *There are many of these who have never seen the special truths for this time. Not a few are dissatisfied with their present condition and are longing for clearer light. They look in vain for the image of Christ in the churches with which they are connected.* As these bodies depart further and further from the truth, and ally themselves more closely with the world, the difference between the two classes will widen, and it will finally result in separation. The time will come when those who love God supremely **can no longer remain in connection** with such as are "lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof." GC 390.1

The conflict is to wax fiercer and fiercer. Satan will take the field and personate Christ. He will misrepresent, misapply, and pervert everything he possibly can, to deceive, if possible, the very elect. Even in our day there have been and will continue to be entire families who have once rejoiced in the truth, but who will lose faith because of *calumnies* and *falsehoods* brought to them in regard to those whom they have loved and with *whom* they have had sweet *counsel*. They opened their hearts to the sowing of tares; the tares sprang up among the wheat; they strengthened; the crop of wheat became less and less; and the precious truth lost its power to them. For a time a false zeal accompanied their new theories, which hardened their hearts against the advocates of truth as did the Jews against

Christ. {TM 411.2}

Every one of us has his battle to fight. We need not think the devil is dead and has been buried. We need not think that the church militant is the church triumphant. We are the church militant today. We are to stand with every piece of the armor on, and be prepared, as it is said in Ephesians, those that were to meet the powers of darkness. And how shall we meet them? We are to put on the whole armor of God, and having done all, to stand. Stand with that armor on. Do not leave off one piece of it. Ephesians will tell you what that armor is. [Ephesians 6:11-17.] It is the whole body that is prepared for warfare. 19LtMs, Ms 156, 1904, par. 19

### *The Result of Some.*

*Few can discern* the result of entertaining the *sophistries* advocated by some at this time. But the Lord has lifted the curtain, and has shown me the result that would follow. The *spiritualistic theories* regarding the personality of God, followed to their logical conclusion, *sweep away the whole Christian economy. They estimate as nothing the light that Christ came from heaven to give John to give to His people. They teach that the scenes just before us are not of sufficient importance to be given special attention. They make of no effect the truth of heavenly origin, and rob the people of God of their past experience, giving them instead a false science.* (Not the health message) {1SM 203.4} See few months learning, and Last fifty years study.

In a vision of the night I was shown distinctly that these sentiments have been looked upon by some as the grand truths that are to be brought in and made prominent at the present time. I was shown a platform, braced by solid timbers,--the truths of the word of God. *Some one* high in responsibility in the medical work (*Kellogg's Living Temple--1SM 203.2*) was directing this man and that man to loose the timbers supporting this platform. Then I heard a voice saying, "**Where are the watchmen** that ought to be standing on the walls of Zion? are they asleep? This foundation was built by the Masterworker, and will stand storm and tempest. **Will they permit this man to present doctrines that deny the past experience of the people of God? The time has come to take decided action.**" {1SM 204.1}

The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-Day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in *giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith*, and engaging in a process of reorganization. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? **The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded.** Our religion would be changed. **The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be counted as error.** A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of *intellectual philosophy* would

be introduced. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The sabbath, of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on sand, storm and tempest would sweep away the structure. {1SM 204.2}

Who has authority to begin such a movement? **We have our Bibles. We have our experiences, attested to by the miraculous working of the Holy Spirit. We have the truth that admits of no compromise. Shall we not repudiate everything that is not in harmony with this truth?** {1SM 205.1}

*As the storm approaches, a **large class** who have professed faith in the third angel's message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light (DA 635.1); and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, **employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls.** They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren. When Sabbathkeepers are brought before the courts to answer for their faith, these apostates are the most efficient agents of Satan to misrepresent and accuse them, and by false reports and insinuations to stir up the rulers against them. {GC 608.2}*

The work is soon to close. The members of the church militant *who have proved faithful will become the church triumphant.* 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.** We are now a strong people, if we will put our trust in the Lord; for we are handling the mighty truths of the Word of God. We have everything to be thankful for. If we walk in the light as it shines upon us from the living oracles of God, we shall have large responsibilities, corresponding to the **great light given us** of God. We have many duties to perform, because we have been made the depositories of sacred truth to be given to the world in all its beauty and glory. We are debtors to God to use every advantage He has entrusted to us to beautify the truth of holiness of character, and to send the message of warning, and of comfort, of hope and love, to those who are in the darkness of error and sin. 16LtMs, Ms 139, 1901, par. 28

The Lord desires us to realize that it is of great importance that we ***stand in these last days upon the platform of eternal truth***. Those who think that the church militant is the church triumphant make a great ***mistake***. The church militant **will gain great triumphs**, but it will also have fierce conflicts with evil, that it may be firmly established upon the platform of eternal truth. And every one of us should be determined to stand with the church upon this platform. 19LtMs, Ms 46, 1904, par. 2

God has pledged Himself that He will **bless them in their obedience**, showing Himself that He is their God, and has taken them into covenant relation with Himself, and that ***He will fulfil His promise to all that are obedient***. Not upon the first day, but upon the seventh day, God rested and was refreshed—satisfied with His work of creation. Then the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy, and now man's observance of the Lord's day of rest will again cause joy among the angels of heaven. The time in which we live is a time when the church militant will realize the oppressive power of persecution, because they keep the Sabbath of creation which God has sanctified and blessed. 18LtMs, Ms 139, 1903, par. 17

There is a great work to be done in calling for volunteers for the canvassing work. Canvassers are not to be ***restricted by being told that they must not talk upon subjects of the truth***, that they are to give no Bible readings. They are to put all their energies and enlightenment into the work, and if they can help any one by speaking to him directly and personally, let them do it. They should be perfectly free to speak or to pray with those who are awakened. Some have not the burden to do this work, and they should not try to converse with those they meet, for they would be unable to enlighten them. The truth must go forward. The church militant is not the church triumphant. ***It has been shown me that those who are fitted to enlighten minds will often have opportunity to read from the Bible or from books which teach the truth, and thus bring the evidence of truth to enlighten souls***. 13LtMs, Lt 126, 1898, par. 30

Note: the daily of Daniel 8.

### Hurling Thunderbolts?

Note: The messages to Laodicea, Babylon, The evil servant, The 2nd Angels message, are messages to the church militant.

We are as a church to be wide awake, and to work for the erring among us, as



laborers together with God. We are furnished with spiritual weapons, mighty to the pulling down of the fortress of the enemy. ***We are not to hurl the thunderbolts against the church of Christ militant;*** for Satan is doing all he possibly can in this line, and you who claim to be the remnant of the people of God had ***better not be found helping him,*** denouncing, accusing, and condemning. Seek to restore, not to tear down, discourage, and destroy.—Manuscript 21, 1893. RH November 8, 1956, par. 27

Note: Those who use this quote against the ones who are seeking to restore truth, not discourage, but tear down error and false hood, will be “found helping” satan. And what do they to those that warn them:—

“ . . . But we need not be thus disappointed, for the Lord has not warranted us in coming to the conclusion that the church is perfect; and all our zeal will not be successful in making the church militant as pure as the church triumphant. The Lord forbids us to proceed in ***any violent way against those whom we think erring,*** and we are ***not to deal out excommunications and denunciations to those who are faulty*** RH September 5, 1893, par. 3;TM 47.1.

### ***What Does The Church Militant to Those Who Warn Them?***

Those who are ***out of the right way need more than soft words*** to bring them back. {PH070 5.4}

“ . . . In the populous cities of the land, and in the places where men have gone to the greatest lengths in speaking against the Most High, **the voice of stern rebuke will be heard.** Boldly will men of God's appointment denounce the union of the church with the world. . .” {PK 186.3}

Those whom God has chosen for an important work, have ever been received with distrust and suspicion. Anciently, when Elijah was sent with a message from God to the people, they did not heed the warning. ***They thought Elijah unnecessarily severe. He must, they thought, have lost his senses, that he would denounce them, the favored people of God, as sinners, and their crimes, so aggravating, that the judgments of God would awaken against them.*** {RH, September 16, 1873 par. 25}

Those who excuse these wrongs have been thought by the people ***to be very amiable and lovely in disposition,*** simply because they **shunned to discharge a plain Scriptural duty.** The task was not agreeable to their ***feelings:*** therefore they avoided it. {3T 266.0}

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}

In visiting the churches, ministers often find **two** existing evils among the professed people of God, which cause them sorrow of heart. On the one hand, there is a class to whom *the servants of God have borne a testimony that has cut across their prejudices, and wounded their pride,* and they are ready to condemn the faithful reprove. . . . {RH, July 25, 1893 par. 5}

There is danger now of men's losing sight of the *important truths* applicable for this period of time, and seeking for those things that are *new and strange and entrancing*. Many, if reprov'd by the Spirit of God *through His appointed agencies*, refuse to receive correction, and a root of bitterness is planted in their hearts against the Lord's servants who carry heavy, disagreeable burdens. There are men who teach the truth, but who are not perfecting their ways before God, who are trying to conceal their defections and *encourage an estrangement from God*. They have not the moral courage to do the things that it is for their special benefit to do. They see no necessity for reform, and so they reject the words of the Lord *and hate him who reproveth at the gate*. {TM 408.1}

This very refusal to heed the admonitions which *the Lord sends* gives Satan every advantage to make of them the *bitterest enemies of those who have told them the truth*. They become falsifiers of *those* who have borne to them *the message from the Lord*. {TM 408.2}

The man who rejects the word of the Lord, who endeavors to establish his own way and will, tears to pieces the messenger and message which God sends in order to discover to him his sin. His own inclinations have influenced his conduct, and he has built himself up in a wrong way. The divine rule is, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." But he would not do this. As a man thinketh, so is he. From within, out of the heart, proceed evil thoughts inspired by Satan. He begins to quibble at *technicalities and manners*. The spirit of Satan links him up with the enemy *to bear a word of criticism on less important themes*. The truth becomes of less and still less value to him. He becomes an accuser of his brethren, etc., and changes leaders. The outside world has a greater weight with him than has the flood of light that God has poured in upon the world in *messages* that he has given, and which he once rejoiced in. {TM 408.3}



The books of Daniel and the Revelation are one. One is a prophecy, the other a revelation; one a book sealed, the other a book opened. John heard the mysteries which the thunders uttered, but he was commanded not to write them. The special light given to John which was expressed in the seven thunders ***was a delineation of events which would transpire under the first and second angels' messages. It was not best for the people to know these things, for their faith must necessarily be tested.*** In the order of God, most wonderful and advanced truths would be proclaimed. The first and second angels' messages were to be proclaimed, but no further light was to be revealed ***before these messages had done*** their specific work. This is represented by the angel standing with one foot on the sea, proclaiming with a most solemn oath that time should be no longer. 1MR 99.2

*The Seven Thunders.* — It would be vain to speculate to any great length upon the seven thunders, in hope of gaining a definite knowledge of what they uttered. We must acquiesce in the directions given to John concerning them, and leave them where he left them, sealed up, unwritten, and consequently to us unknown. There is, however, a conjecture extant in relation to them, which may not inappropriately be mentioned here. It is that what the seven thunders uttered is ***the experience*** of the Adventists engaged in that movement, embracing ***their sore disappointment and trial.*** Something, evidently, was uttered which it would not be well for the church to know; and for God to have given an inspired record of the Advent movement in advance, would have been simply to defeat that movement, which we verily believe was in all its particulars an accomplishment of his purposes, and according to his will. Why, then, any mention of the seven thunders at all? Following out the above-noticed conjecture, the conclusion would be that we, having met in our history with sudden, mysterious, and unexpected events, as startling and strange as thunders from an unclouded sky, might not give up in utter perplexity, inferring, as we may, that all is in the order and providence of God, since something of this nature was sealed up, and hidden from the church. DAR 491.2.

“ . . . The church militant must wrestle and toil. She must strive against temptations and fight severe battles, because Satan is not dead. His agencies are much more active in his work than are the agencies of God in the work of their Leader.” GCB April 22, 1901,