

## ***Part 1—The Warning of False Righteousness By Faith.***

Chapter 17—Counsel to a Leading Minister on the Presentation of the Relation of Faith and Works

Portion of a letter to A. T. Jones, April 9, 1893, Letter 44, 1893. Published in Selected Messages 1:377-379.

I was attending a meeting, and a large congregation were present. In my dream you were presenting the subject of faith and the imputed righteousness of Christ by faith. ***You repeated several times that works amounted to nothing, that there were no conditions. The matter was presented in that light that I knew minds would be confused and would not receive the correct impression in reference to faith and works, and I decided to write to you. You state this matter too strongly. There are conditions to our receiving justification and sanctification, and the righteousness of Christ. I know your meaning, but you leave a wrong impression upon many minds.*** While good works will not save even one soul, yet it is impossible for even one soul to be saved without good works. God saves us under a law, that we must ask if we would receive, seek if we would find, and knock if we would have the door opened unto us. FW 111.1

Christ offers Himself as willing to save unto the uttermost all who come unto Him. He invites all to come to Him. “Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out” (John 6:37). You look in reality upon these subjects as I do, ***yet you make these subjects, through your expressions, confusing to minds.*** And after you have expressed ***your mind radically*** in regard to works, when questions are asked you upon this very subject, ***it is not lying out in so very clear lines in your own mind, and you cannot define the correct principles to other minds, and you are yourself unable to make your statements harmonize with your own principles and faith.*** FW 111.2

The young man came to Jesus with the question, “Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?” (Mark 10:17). And Christ saith unto him, “Why callest thou Me good? There is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.” He said unto Him, “Which?” Jesus quoted several, and the young man said unto Him, “All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?” Jesus said unto him, “If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow Me.” Here are conditions, and the Bible is full of conditions. “But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions” (Matthew 19:17, 20, 21, 22). FW 112.1

Then ***when you say there are no conditions***, and some ***expressions are made quite broad***, you burden the minds, and ***some cannot see consistency in your expressions.*** They cannot see how ***they can harmonize these expressions with the plain statements of the Word of God.*** Please guard these points. ***These strong***

*assertions in regard to works never make our position any stronger. The expressions weaken our position*, for there are many who will consider you an **extremist** and will lose the rich lessons you have for them upon the very subjects they need to know.... My brother, *it is hard for the mind to comprehend this point, and do not confuse any mind with ideas that will not harmonize with the Word.* Please consider that under the teaching of Christ many of the disciples were lamentably ignorant; but when the Holy Spirit that Jesus promised came upon them and made the vacillating Peter the champion of faith, what a transformation in his character! But *do not lay one pebble*, for a soul that is weak in the faith to *stumble* over, *in overwrought presentations or expressions*. Be ever consistent, calm, deep, and solid. Do not go to any extreme in anything, but keep your feet on solid rock. O precious, precious Saviour. *“He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me: and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him”* (John 14:21). FW 112.2

*This is the true test—the doing of the words of Christ. And it is the evidence of the human agent's love to Jesus, and he that doeth His will giveth to the world the practical evidence of the fruit he manifests in obedience, in purity, and in holiness of character....* FW 113.1

O my brother, walk carefully with God. But remember that there are some whose eyes are intently fixed upon you, expecting that you will overreach the mark and stumble and fall. But if you keep in humility close to Jesus, all is well.... FW 113.2

*There is no place in the school of Christ where we graduate.* We are to work on the plan of addition, and the Lord will work on the plan of multiplication. It is through constant diligence that we will, through the grace of Christ, live on the plan of addition, making our calling and election sure.... “For if ye do these things ye shall never fall: for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 1:10, 11). FW 113.3

### ***What is Righteousness By Faith and the Final Conflict.***

See 1888 Bible Readings for the Home Circle.

[JustificationByFaith.pdf](#) [BibleSanctification.pdf](#)

We are not bidden to prove them by their fair speeches and exalted professions. *They are to be judged by the word of God. “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word it is because there is no light in them.”* *“Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.”* Isaiah 8:20; Proverbs 19:27. What message do these teachers bring? Does it lead you to reverence and fear God? *Does it lead you to manifest your love for Him by loyalty to His commandments?* If men do not feel the weight of the **moral law**; if they make light of God's precepts; if they break one of the least of His commandments, and teach men so, *they shall be of no esteem in the sight*

**of heaven. We may know that their claims are without foundation. They are doing the very work that originated with the prince of darkness, the enemy of God.** MB 145.2

A mere profession of discipleship is of no value. *The faith in Christ which saves the soul is not what it is represented to be by many.* “Believe, believe,” they say, “and you need not keep the law.” **But a belief that does not lead to obedience is presumption.** The apostle John says, “He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.” 1 John 2:4. **Let none cherish the idea that special providences or miraculous manifestations are to be the proof of the genuineness of their work or of the ideas they advocate. When persons will speak lightly of the word of God, and set their impressions, feelings, and exercises above the divine standard, we may know that they have no light in them.** MB 146.2 1896.

**Obedience is the test of discipleship. It is the keeping of the commandments that proves the sincerity of our professions of love.** When the doctrine we accept kills sin in the heart, purifies the soul from defilement, bears fruit unto holiness, we may know that it is the truth of God. When benevolence, kindness, tenderheartedness, sympathy, are manifest in our lives; ***when the joy of right doing is in our hearts***; when we exalt Christ, and not self, we may know that our faith is of the right order. “Hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.” 1 John 2:3. MB 146.3

Note: Those who claim we can't keep the law, qualify it by adding not cheap grace like Sunday churches. Then what is it? When asked how then are we saved they answer, He did it for us, or He covers us with His righteousness are really saying “Believe only believe,” for faith without works is dead. What do these more than demons? James 2:19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: **the devils also believe, and tremble.** See Isa. 5:20,21,23\*;43:24;Ezekiel 13:22\*;Micah 6:11;Mal. 2:17;Pro. 24:24;Ps. 94:20;Heb. 10:26.

Eze. 13:1-21,22 **Because with lies ye have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad;** and strengthened the hands of the wicked, **that he should not return from his wicked way, by promising him life:** 23 **Therefore ye shall see no more vanity, nor divine divinations: for I will deliver my people out of your hand: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.**

“ . . . Satan had deceived Judas and led him to think that he was one of Christ's true disciples; but his heart had ever been carnal. . . .” SR 208.1

***The doctrine of sanctification***, or perfect holiness, which fills a prominent place in some of the religious movements of the day, is among the causes that have rendered modern revivals so ineffectual. **True sanctification is a Bible doctrine.** The apostle Paul declared to the Thessalonian church, “This is the will of God,

even your sanctification.” [1 Thessalonians 4:3.] And again he prayed, “The very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” [1 Thessalonians 5:23.] ***But the sanctification now so widely advocated is not that brought to view in the Scriptures. It is false in theory, and dangerous in its practical results.*** 4SP 298.2

***Its advocates teach that the law of God is a grievous yoke, and that by faith in Christ, men are released from all obligation to keep his Father's commandments. Bible sanctification is a conformity to the will of God, attained by rendering obedience to his law, through faith in his Son.*** Our Saviour prayed for his disciples, “Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth.” [John 17:17.] There is no genuine sanctification except through obedience to the truth; and the psalmist declares, “Thy law is the truth.” [Psalm 119:142.] ***The law of God is the only standard of moral perfection. That law was exemplified in the life of Christ.*** He says, “I have kept my Father's commandments.” [John 15:10.] And the apostle John affirms, “He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.” And again, “This is the love of God, that we keep his commandments.” [1 John 2:6; 5:3.] ***Those who love God will love his commandments also. The truly sanctified heart is in harmony with the divine precepts; for they are “holy, and just, and good.”*** 4SP 299.1 1884

Note: The two parts to Righteousness by Faith is Faith in Christ and keeping the law. The first is justification the second is sanctification. “Probation would be granted him in which, ***through a life of repentance and faith in the atonement*** of the Son of God, he might be redeemed from his transgression of the Father's law, and thus ***be elevated to a position where his efforts to keep His law could be accepted.*** SR 46.3

The law of God condemns all selfishness, all pride of heart, every species of dishonesty, every secret or open transgression. ***The natural heart is not inclined to love its precepts, or obey its requirements.*** “It is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.” ***But genuine faith in Christ converts the heart, works a change in its attitude to the law, until it delights in the law of God. The man who manifests enmity to the law has not submitted to the converting power of God. It is the keeping of the commandments that proves the sincerity of our professions of love.*** Says John, “This is the love of God, that we keep his commandments; and his commandments are not grievous.” Satan is engaged in ***leading men to pervert the plain meaning of God's word.*** He desires that the world should have no clear idea in regard to the ***plan of salvation. He well knows that the object of Christ's life of obedience, the object of his suffering, trial, and death upon the cross, was to magnify the divine law, to become a substitute for guilty man, that he might have remission for sins that are past, and grace for***

*future obedience; that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in him—and he be transformed and fitted for the heavenly courts.* Satan knows that *no transgressor* of the divine law will ever enter the kingdom of Heaven, and to rob God of the devotion and service of man, to thwart the plan of salvation, and work the ruin of those for whom Christ died, is the motive that actuates his warfare against the law of Heaven. He caused the fall of the holy pair in Eden by leading them *to lightly esteem the commandment of God, to think his requirements unjust, and unreasonable, that they were not binding, and that their transgression would not be visited, as God had said, with death.* ST *March 30, 1888*, par. 6

How and what do they use *“to pervert the plain meaning of God's word.”*

There are many who try to blend these two systems, *using the texts that speak of the ceremonial law to prove that the moral law has been abolished; but this is a perversion of the Scriptures.* The distinction between the two systems is broad and clear. The ceremonial system was made up of symbols pointing to Christ, to His sacrifice and His priesthood. This ritual law, with its sacrifices and ordinances, was to be performed by the Hebrews until type met antitype *in the death of Christ*, the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. Then all the sacrificial offerings were to cease. It is this law that Christ “took ... out of the way, nailing it to His cross.” Colossians 2:14. *But concerning the law of Ten Commandments* the psalmist declares, “Forever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven.” Psalm 119:89. And Christ Himself says, “Think not that I am come to destroy the law.... Verily I say unto you”—making the assertion as emphatic as possible—“Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.” Matthew 5:17, 18. *Here He teaches, not merely what the claims of God's law had been, and were then, but that these claims should hold as long as the heavens and the earth remain. The law of God is as immutable as His throne. It will maintain its claims upon mankind in all ages.* PP 365.1

### *The Nature of God's Law.*

John 10:33 The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and *because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.* 34 Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? 35 If he called them gods, *unto whom the word of God came,* and the scripture cannot be broken; 36 Say ye of him, whom the Father hath *sanctified,* and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God? 37 If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. 38 But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him. 1ohn 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, *that*

*we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.* 2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. 3 And every man that hath this hope in him **purifieth himself, even as he is pure.** Heb. 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet *learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;* 9 *And being made perfect,* he became the *author* of eternal salvation *unto all them that obey him;*

...Paul's exhortation to Timothy: "Preach the word." *In that word are the only safe principles of action. It is a transcript of the will of God, an expression of divine wisdom. It opens to man's understanding the great problem of life. It will prove a guide to all who heed it, so that their lives will not be wasted in misdirected efforts. **God has declared his will, and it is absolute madness for men to change or even question that which has gone out of his lips. After Infinite Wisdom has spoken, there can be no doubtful questions for man to settle, no wavering probabilities for him to adjust. All the interests of time and of eternity are involved in a frank, earnest concurrence of the mind and will of men with the expressed will of God. Obedience is the highest dictate of reason as well as of conscience. Those who choose to listen to other voices and to follow other guides, will be turned unto fables, and, trusting to these, they will in the day of God meet with infinite loss.*** LP 324.2 see GC 583.1

We need to understand clearly the divine requirements that God makes of his people. **The law, which is the transcript of his character,** no one need fail to understand. The words written by the finger of God on tables of stone so perfectly *reveal his will concerning his people that none need make any mistake.* The laws of his kingdom were definitely made known, to be afterward revealed to the people of all nations and tongues as the principles of his government. We would do well to study those laws recorded in Exodus 20 and in the thirty-first chapter, verses 12-18. {RH, January 28, 1909 par. 17}

*The law of God is as sacred as God Himself. **It is a revelation of His will, a transcript of His character, the expression of divine love and wisdom.*** The harmony of creation depends upon the perfect conformity of all beings, of everything, animate and inanimate, to the law of the Creator. God has ordained laws for the government, not only of living beings, but of all the operations of nature. Everything is under fixed laws, which cannot be disregarded. But while everything in nature is governed by natural laws, ***man alone, of all that inhabits the earth, is amenable to moral law.*** To man, the crowning work of creation, *God has given power to understand His requirements, to comprehend the justice and beneficence of His law, and its sacred claims upon him; and **of man unswerving***

*obedience is required.* {PP52.3}

But notice here that *obedience is not a mere outward compliance*, but the service of love. *The law of God is* an *expression of His very nature*; it is *an embodiment of the great principle of love*, and hence is the foundation of His government in heaven and earth. If our hearts are renewed in the likeness of God, if the divine love is implanted in the soul, *will not the law of God be carried out in the life?* When the principle of love is implanted in the heart, when man is *renewed after the image of Him that created him*, the new covenant promise is fulfilled. . . . *Obedience—the service and allegiance of love—is the true sign of discipleship* (Steps to Christ, pp. 59, 60).

Gen. 1:26 “ . . . God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: . . . ”

True love *is not* merely a sentiment or an emotion. *It is a living principle, a principle that is manifest in action.* True love, wherever it exists, will control the life. Thus it is with the love of God. “God is love;” and in all His works, in all His dealings with mankind, His character is revealed. { AUCR June 1, 1900, Art. A, par. 1 } {5BC 1140.3}

Rom. 13:10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

[LoveofGodnot.pdf](#). [LawOfLove](#). [MyLastStudy](#)

God's law is the transcript of his character, and those only who obey this law will be accepted by him. *Every departure from obedience to the law of God is rebellion. It is for the highest interest of man to obey the law of God; for conformity to the principles of this law is essential to the formation of a righteous character.* The rules of life that the Lord has given will make men pure and happy and holy. Those only who obey these rules can hear from the lips of Christ the words, “Come up higher.” RH March 15, 1906, par. 18

*The belief that the law of God is not the standard of righteousness is now almost universal in the Christian world.* Professed Christians think that the more contempt they place upon the law, the more commendable they are in God's sight. Each human being exerts an influence upon those with whom he associates. *Those who are willing to be led by* false theories and unsound doctrines, who build their hopes for eternity on shifting sand, will find that the storm and tempest of trial will sweep away their refuge of lies. Their structure will fall, and they will perish,—lost, lost for all eternity. RH April 23, 1901, Art. A, par. 8

## ***How is This Done In Us?***

Has God done His Part, Has He done all He can Do? Yes!  
It Only Remains For US to Do Our Part.

***It was Christ who spoke the law on Mount Sinai, and He knew the bearing of all its precepts,*** the glory and majesty of the law of heaven. In his sermon on the mount, ***Christ defined the law, and sought to inculcate on the minds of his hearers its far-reaching claims.*** His instructions came as a new revelation to the people; and the teachers of the law, the scribes and the Pharisees, as well as the common people, were astonished at his doctrine. The words of Christ were not new, and yet they came with the force of revelation; for they presented the truth in its proper light, and not in the light in which the teachers had set it before the people. ***He showed no regard for the traditions and commandments of men,*** but opened their eyes to behold wondrous things out of God's law. The law of God is immeasurable in breadth, dignity, and glory. ***It has been the foundation of his throne from the beginning; and as long as the heavens and the earth remain, through the ceaseless ages of eternity, it will be the great standard of righteousness, holy, just, and good. And yet the religious world have set aside this law, as did the Jews, to exalt the traditions and commandments of men.***  
BEcho February 19, 1894, par. 6

1Cor. 10:4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and ***that Rock was Christ.***

**“But God has given no commandments which cannot be obeyed by all.”** DA 204 “Satan is at work with those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus. The most bitter hatred exists within him against all who are loyal to God and who obey His commandments.” 3T456

John 5:37 . . . Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. Ex. 33:19

Note: Do you love Him? Do you know Him? John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments. 1John 2:4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

“Jesus proceeded to show His hearers” in the sermon on the mount “**what it means to keep the commandments of God—that it is a reproduction in themselves of the character of Christ.** For in Him, God was daily made manifest before them.” MB 55.1

**It is by beholding that we become changed. And as those sacred precepts in which God has opened to men the perfection and holiness of His character are**

*neglected, and the minds of the people are attracted to human teachings and theories, what marvel that there has followed a decline of living piety in the church. Saith the Lord:* “They have forsaken Me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.” Jeremiah 2:13. GC 478.2

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly.... But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.” Psalm 1:1-3. *It is only as the law of God is restored to its rightful position that there can be a revival of primitive faith and godliness among His professed people.* “Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.” Jeremiah 6:16. GC 478.3

Note: Torn down by Jones and Waggoner false righteousness by faith, the Law will be exalted.

Says the great deceiver: “We must *watch those who are calling the attention of the people to the Sabbath* of Jehovah; they will lead many to see the claims of the law of God; and the same light which reveals the true Sabbath, reveals also the ministration of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary, and shows that the last work for man's salvation is now going forward. *Hold the minds of the people in darkness till that work is ended, and we shall secure the world and the church also.* 4SP 337.2;

“The Sabbath is the great question which is to decide the destiny of souls. *We must exalt the Sabbath of our creating. We have caused it to be accepted by both worldlings and church-members; now the church must be led to unite with the world in its support.* We must work by signs and wonders to blind their eyes to the truth, and lead them to lay aside reason and the fear of God, and follow custom and tradition. 4SP 337.3

“I will influence popular ministers to turn the attention of their hearers *from the commandments of God.* That which the Scriptures declare to be a perfect law of liberty *shall be represented as a yoke of bondage.* The people accept their ministers' explanations of Scripture, and do not investigate for themselves. Therefore by working through the ministers, *I can control the people according to my will.* 4SP 338.1

“But our principal concern is to silence this sect of Sabbath-keepers. We must excite popular indignation against them. We will enlist great men and worldly-wise men upon our side, and induce those in authority to carry out our purposes. Then the Sabbath which I have set up *shall be enforced by laws* the most severe and exacting. Those who disregard them *shall be driven out from the cities and*

villages, and made to suffer hunger and privation. When once we have the power, we will show that we can do with those who will not swerve from their allegiance to God. ***We led the Romish Church to inflict imprisonment, torture, and death upon those who refused to yield to her decrees, and now that we are bringing the Protestant churches and the world into harmony with this right arm of our strength,*** we will finally have a law to exterminate all who will not submit to our authority. When death shall be made the penalty of violating our Sabbath, then many who are now ranked with commandment-keepers will come over to our side. 4SP 338.2

“But before proceeding to these extreme measures, ***we must exert all our wisdom and subtlety to deceive and ensnare those who honor the true Sabbath.*** We can separate many from Christ by worldliness, lust, and pride. They may think themselves safe because they believe the truth, but indulgence of appetite or the lower passions, which will confuse judgment and destroy discrimination, will cause their fall. 4SP 339.1

“Go, make the possessors of lands and money drunk with the cares of this life. Present the world before them in its most attractive light, that they may lay up their treasure here, and fix their affections upon earthly things. ***We must do our utmost to prevent those who labor in God's cause from obtaining means to use against us. Keep the money in our own ranks. The more means they obtain, the more they will injure our kingdom by taking from us our subjects. Make them care more for money than for the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom and the spread of the truths we hate, and we need not fear their influence;*** for we know that every selfish, covetous person will fall under our power, and will finally be separated from God's people. 4SP 339.2

“Through those that have a form of godliness but know not the power, we can gain many who would otherwise do us great harm. Lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God will be our most effective helpers. Those of this class who are apt and intelligent will serve as decoys to draw others into our snares. ***Many will not fear their influence, because they profess the same faith. We will thus lead them to conclude that the requirements of Christ are less strict than they once believed, and that by conformity to the world they would exert a greater influence with worldlings.*** Thus they will separate from Christ; then they will have no strength to resist our power, and ere long they will be ready to ridicule their former zeal and devotion. 4SP 339.3

“Until the great decisive blow shall be struck, ***our efforts against commandment-keepers must be untiring.*** We must be present at all their gatherings. In their large meetings especially our cause will suffer much, and we must exercise great vigilance, and employ all our seductive arts to prevent souls from hearing the truth and becoming impressed by it. 4SP 340.1

“I will have upon the ground, **as my agents, men holding false doctrines mingled with just enough truth to deceive** souls. I will also have unbelieving ones

present, *who will express doubts in regard to the Lord's messages of warning to his church.* Should the people read and believe these admonitions, we could have little hope of overcoming them. But if we can divert their attention from these warnings, they will remain ignorant of our power and cunning, and we shall secure them in our ranks at last. ***God will not permit his words to be slighted with impunity.*** If we can keep souls deceived for a time, God's mercy will be withdrawn, and he will give them up to our full control. 4SP 340.2

“We must cause ***distraction and division.*** We must destroy their anxiety for their own souls, and lead them to criticise, to judge, and to accuse and condemn one another, and to cherish selfishness and enmity. For these sins, God banished us from his presence; and all who follow our example will meet a similar fate.” 4SP 340.3

The Redeemer of the world declares that there are greater sins than that for which Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed. Those who hear the gospel invitation calling sinners to repentance, and heed it not, are more guilty before God than were the dwellers in the vale of Siddim. ***And still greater sin is theirs who profess to know God and to keep His commandments, yet who deny Christ in their character and their daily life.*** In the light of the Saviour's warning, the fate of Sodom is a solemn admonition, not merely to those who are guilty of outbreking sin, but to all who are trifling with Heaven-sent light and privileges. PP 165.1

*Due. 6:25; Isa. 54:17; 1John 3:7; Matt. 25:37; Ps 11:5. Rom. 6.16.*

The angels of God were commissioned to visit the fallen pair and inform them that although they could no longer retain possession of their holy estate, their Eden home, because of their transgression of the law of God, yet their case was not altogether hopeless. They were then informed that the Son of God, who had conversed with them in Eden, had been moved with pity as He viewed their hopeless condition, and had volunteered to take upon Himself the punishment due to them, and die for them that man might yet live, through faith in the atonement Christ proposed to make for him. ***Through Christ a door of hope was opened,*** that man, notwithstanding his great sin, should not be under the absolute control of Satan. Faith in the merits of the Son of God would so elevate man that he could resist the devices of Satan. Probation would be granted him in which, through ***a life of repentance and faith in the atonement of the Son of God,*** he might be redeemed from his transgression of the Father's law, ***and thus be elevated to a position where his efforts to keep His law could be accepted.*** SR 46.3

Note: There are those who seek to lesson the force of “his efforts to keep His law,” claiming the same old you can’t, so I use it. Without our effort we Can’t be

saved.

The great Head of the church has given talents to the company of believers. **He has given his word to mould the character and his Spirit to bring all things to their remembrance.** KC 116.3

## RighteousCharacter

Testing times come to all. How do we conduct ourselves under the test and proving of God? Do our lamps go out? or do we still keep them burning? Are we prepared for every emergency by our connection with Him who is full of grace and truth? The five wise virgins could not impart their character to the five foolish virgins. **Character must be formed by us as individuals. It cannot be transferred to another, even if the possessor were willing to make the sacrifice.** There is much we can do for each other while mercy still lingers. **We can represent the character of Christ.** We can give faithful warnings to the erring. We can reprove, rebuke, with all long-suffering and doctrine, bringing the doctrines of Holy Writ home to the heart. We can give heartfelt sympathy. We can pray with and for one another. By living a circumspect life, by maintaining a holy conversation, we may give an example of what a Christian should be; **but no person can give to another his own mold of character.** **Let us duly consider the fact that we are to be saved, not as companies, but as individuals. We shall be judged according to the character we have formed.** It is perilous to neglect to prepare the soul for eternity, and to put off making our peace with God until upon a dying bed. It is by the daily transactions of life, by the spirit we manifest, that we determine our eternal destiny. He who is faithful in that which is least, is faithful also in much. If we have made Christ our pattern, if we have walked and worked as he has given us an example in his own life, we shall be able to meet the solemn surprises that will come upon us in our experience, and say from our heart, "Not my will, but thine, be done." RH September 17, 1895, par. 10

When ***we bring our lives to complete obedience to the law of God***, regarding God as our supreme Guide, and clinging to Christ as our hope of righteousness, God will work in our behalf. This is a righteousness of faith, a righteousness hidden in a mystery of which the worldling knows nothing, and which he cannot understand. Sophistry and strife follow in the train of the serpent; but the commandments of God diligently studied and practiced, open to us communication with heaven, and distinguish for us the true from the false. This obedience works out for us the divine will, bringing into our lives the righteousness and perfection that was seen in the life of Christ ([Manuscript 43, 1907](#)). 1BC 1118.4

Deuteronomy contains much instruction regarding what the law is to us, and the

relation we shall sustain to God as we reverence and obey His law. 1BC 1118.6

Peter had expressed the truth which is the foundation of the church's faith, and Jesus now honored him as the representative of the whole body of believers. He said, "I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." DA 413.5

"The keys of the kingdom of heaven" are the words of Christ. All the words of Holy Scripture are His, and are here included. *These words have power to open and to shut heaven. They declare the conditions upon which men are received or rejected.* Thus the work of those who preach God's word is a savor of life unto life or of death unto death. Theirs is a mission weighted with eternal results. DA 413.6

When the Holy Spirit works the human agent, *it does not ask us in what way it shall operate.* Often it moves in unexpected ways. Christ did not come as the Jews expected. He did not come in a manner to glorify them as a nation. His forerunner came to prepare the way for Him by calling upon the people to repent of their sins, and be converted, and be baptized. Christ's message was, "The kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel." The Jews refused to receive Christ, because He did not come in accordance with their expectations. *The ideas of finite men were held as infallible,* because hoary with age. TM 64.2

This is the danger to which the church is now exposed—that the inventions of finite men shall mark out the precise way for the Holy Spirit to come. Though they would not care to acknowledge it, some have already done this. And because the Spirit is to come, not to praise men or to build up their erroneous theories, but to reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment, *many turn away from it.* They are not willing to be deprived of the garments of their own self-righteousness. *They are not willing to exchange their own righteousness, which is unrighteousness, for the righteousness of Christ, which is pure, unadulterated truth.* The Holy Spirit flatters no man, neither does it work according to the devising of any man. Finite, sinful men are not to work the Holy Spirit. When it shall come as a reprover, through any human agent whom God shall choose, it is man's place to hear and obey its voice. TM 64.3

Note: What is the righteousness of Christ? Pure unadulterated truth. Then our own righteousness is unwillingness to put on that pure unadulterated truth. Self-righteousness is then: alternative interpretations of scripture, that claim we can't keep the law, or be righteousness by so keeping it, that it is done for us. The false Claim that by keeping the law we are self righteous.

1Peter 1:22 *Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through*

*the Spirit* unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: 23 ***Being born again***, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. Rom. 13:10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore ***love is the fulfilling of the law***.

I would say to my brethren and sisters, Keep close to the instruction found in the word of God. Dwell upon the rich truths of the Scriptures. ***Thus only can you become one in Christ***. You have no time to engage in controversy regarding the killing of insects. Jesus has not placed this burden upon you. "What is the chaff to the wheat?" These side issues which arise are as hay, wood, and stubble compared with the truth for these last days. Those who leave the great truths of God's word to speak of such matters are not preaching the gospel. They are dealing with the idle sophistry which the enemy brings forward to divert minds from the truths that concern their eternal welfare. They have no word from Christ to vindicate their suppositions. CW 47.2

Near the close of the first century, Gabriel was bidden to open to the Prophet on Patmos the signs, or symbols, by which John might understand the history of the work of God in the earth. God reveals Himself to man in various ways. "Nature is the mirror of divinity;" ***the Word of God is His character in human language; Christ was that Word lived in human form***, and the body of Christ-the church-has, in addition to these methods, the providences, or leadings, of the Spirit SSP 30.1

Ps. 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. 10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. 11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart," Heb. 8:10; 10:16; Rom. 2:15 "that I might not sin against thee. 17:4 Concerning the works of men, ***by the word of thy lips*** I have kept me from the paths of the destroyer.

A profession of faith and the possession of truth in the soul ***are two different things***. The mere knowledge of truth is not enough. We may possess this, but the tenor of our thoughts may not be changed. The heart must be converted and sanctified. COL 97.2

Often the question arises, Why, then, are there so many, claiming to believe God's word, in whom there is not seen a reformation in words, in spirit, and in character? Why are there so many who cannot bear opposition to their purposes and plans, who manifest an unholy temper, and whose words are harsh, overbearing, and passionate? There is seen in their lives the same love of self, the

same selfish indulgence, the same temper and hasty speech, that is seen in the life of the worldling. There is the same sensitive pride, the same yielding to natural inclination, the same perversity of character, *as if the truth were wholly unknown to them*. The reason is that they are not converted. *They have not hidden the leaven of truth in the heart*. It has not had opportunity to do its work. Their natural and cultivated tendencies to evil have not been submitted *to its transforming power*. Their lives reveal the absence of the grace of Christ, an unbelief in His power to transform the character. COL 99.1

*“In rejecting the truth, men reject its Author. . . It is as easy to make an idol of false doctrines and theories as to fashion an idol of wood or stone. . .”* GC 583.1  
*see LP 324.2*

Note: How, if not outright by alternative explanations of scripture.

Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Romans 10:17. The *Scriptures are the great agency in the transformation of character*. Christ prayed, “Sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy word is truth.” John 17:17. If studied and obeyed, the word of God works in the heart, subduing every unholy attribute COL 100.1

John 1:14 And *the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,* 1Cor. 2:16 . . . *we have the mind of Christ.*

Note: Those who deny keeping His Commandments do not have the hope of the word dwelling in them, but are AntiChrist. Col. 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; *which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:* 3:16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you* richly in all wisdom; John 15:7 If ye abide in me, and *my words abide in you,* 1John 4:3 And every spirit that *confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God:* and *this is that spirit of antichrist,* whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. Rev. 19:13 . . . his name is called *The Word of God.* Rom. 10:17 So then *faith cometh by hearing,* and hearing *by the word of God.* John 15:7 If ye abide in me, and *my words abide in you,* 2John 1:2 For the *truth's sake, which dwelleth in us,* and shall be with us for ever. Phil. 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Heb. 4:12 For *the word of God is quick, and powerful,* and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.* Eph 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the *washing of water by the word,*

John 17:17 *Sanctify* them through thy truth: *thy word is truth.*

The worshiper of God will find that he cannot cherish one fiber of the root of selfishness. He cannot do his duty to his God and practice oppression toward his fellow men. The second principle of the law is like unto the first, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." "This do and thou shalt live." These are the words of Jesus Christ from which there can be no departure on the part of any man, woman, or youth who would be a true Christian. *It is obedience to the principles of the commandments of God, that molds the character after the divine similitude....*  
SD 52.3

Ps. 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward. 119:172 "... thy commandments are righteousness.

Due. 6:25 And *it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do* all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us. 1John 3:7 Little children, *let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.* 8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, *that he might destroy the works of the devil.* 9 *Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.* 10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: *whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God,* neither he that loveth not his brother. 11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. 12 Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, *and his brother's righteous.*

Col. 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is *renewed in knowledge* after the image of him that created him: 2Cor. 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as *in a glass* the glory of the Lord, *are changed into the same image* from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. 1Peter 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, *leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:* 1Peter 1:22 *Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth* through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

Note: These all refer to the 10 Commandments.

The world's Redeemer, the householder, intrusts his goods *to his own servants*, but not for *them* to invest and use extravagantly for *themselves*. Reason, ability, knowledge, affection, property, have been received from Jesus, and are to be held as a precious trust for his service, to bring honor and glory to his name. *In life and character the Christian is bound up with Christ* in the plans of mercy for the great work of blessing humanity. *His character is to be a reproduction of the character of Christ*; the unselfish, self-sacrificing life of Jesus will be copied by every soul who loves the Redeemer. *He who lives to please himself is not a Christian. He has not been created anew in Christ Jesus.* MMis June 1, 1891, par. 6

The Christian's life will testify that *he is governed by other laws* than those which the world obeys,—*laws of a higher order than those that control the lovers of the world.* The will of God, our Creator, *is to be made manifest in us*, not only in the name we bear, but *in our life of self-denial.* *We are to give evidence that we are influenced and controlled by unselfish principles.* *All our purposes and pursuits should stand in distinct contrast to the selfishness of the world.* MMis June 1, 1891, par. 7

Oneness with Christ *enables men to wield an influence far above that of the renowned of this world.* While copying the example of Christ, they have, with his grace, power to benefit the church and the community. *Their influence is felt just in proportion* to the distinctness of the line of demarkation *which separates them in spirit and principle from the world.* MMis June 1, 1891, par. 6-8

The world's Redeemer, the Householder, entrusts His goods to His own servants, but not for *them* to invest and use extravagantly for *themselves*. Money, possessions, intellect, are but lent us to be held *as a precious trust for the service of Christ.* Reason, ability, knowledge, affection, property have been received from Jesus, <and are> to be used with wisdom to bring honor and glory to His name. In life and character the Christian is bound up with Christ in the plans of mercy for the great work of blessing humanity. *His character is to be a reproduction of the character of Christ. The unselfish, self-sacrificing life of Jesus is to be copied by every soul who loves the Redeemer.* 7LtMs, Ms 26, 1891, par. 7

[characterPerfection1.](#)      [OldNewBottles.](#)      [Works.pdf.](#)      [Effort.pdf.](#)  
[EffortDetermined.pdf.](#)    [Grace.pdf.](#)    [SanctificationIs](#)    [MoralSpiritualPerfection](#)  
[SatanClaimed](#)

Christ has given us no assurance that to attain perfection of character is an easy matter. A noble, all-round character is not inherited. It does not come to us by accident. *A noble character is earned by individual effort* through the merits and grace and Christ. God gives the talents, the powers of the mind; *we form the character.* It is formed by hard, stern battles with self. Conflict after conflict must

be waged against hereditary tendencies. We shall have to criticize ourselves closely, and allow not one unfavorable trait to remain uncorrected. . . . {OFC 308.6} See Isa. chp., 1-5.

*Nearest* the throne are those who were once zealous in the cause of Satan, but who, plucked as brands from the burning, have followed their Saviour with deep, intense devotion. *Next* are those who ***perfected Christian characters in the midst of falsehood and infidelity***, those who honored the law of God when the Christian world declared it void, and the millions, of all ages, who were martyred for their faith. And beyond is the "great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, . . . before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands." Revelation 7:9. Their warfare is ended, ***their victory won***. They have run the race and ***reached the prize***. The palm branch in their hands is a symbol of their triumph, ***the white robe an emblem of the spotless righteousness of Christ which now is theirs***. GC 665.2

Note: It can not be that the character of Christ is given after the second advent—bestowed on the person that did not want it and made no effort to obtain it in this life, during probationary time. Would God award you with something you did not want and made no effort to obtain and that would be eternally unpleasant to you? NO! The white robe is an emblem of the Character already formed before this moment, it is an award for the effort already put forth.

***We are not to settle down, expecting that a change of character will come to us by some miraculous work, when Jesus shall appear*** in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. No, we are judgment-bound, and ***probation is granted to us here in this life, in order that we may form characters for the future, immortal life***. SD9.2; YI August 24, 1893, par. 2

The prophets and apostles did not perfect Christian character by a *miracle*. They used the *means* which God had placed within their reach; and all who will put forth ***the same effort*** will secure the same results.—The Sanctified Life, pp. 82-84. {RC 97.7}

Let no one say, "I cannot remedy my defects of character"; for if this is your decision, ***then you cannot have eternal life***. The impossibility is all in your will. If you *will not*, that constitutes the *cannot*.

The real difficulty is the corruption of an unsanctified heart, and an unwillingness to submit to the will of God. When there is a ***determined purpose*** born in your heart to ***overcome***, you will have a ***disposition to overcome***, and will ***cultivate*** those traits of character that are desirable, and will ***engage*** in the conflict with ***steady persevering effort***. You will ***exercise*** a ***ceaseless*** over your defects of character, and will ***cultivate*** right practices in little things. The difficulty of

overcoming will be *lessened* in *proportion* as the heart is sanctified by the grace of Christ. {SD 115.1,2} {YI Sept. 7, 1893.}

**The most eloquent sermon that can be preached upon the law of Ten Commandments is to do them. Obedience should be made a personal duty. Negligence of this duty is flagrant sin.** God lays us under *obligations not only to secure* heaven ourselves, but to feel it a binding duty to *show others the way* and, through our care and disinterested love, to lead toward Christ those who **come within the sphere of our influence.** *The singular absence of principle that characterizes the lives of many professed Christians is alarming. Their disregard of God's law disheartens those who recognize its sacred claims and tends to turn those from the truth who would otherwise accept it.* 4T 58.2

Success in this life, success in gaining the future life, *depends upon a faithful, conscientious attention to the little things.* Perfection is seen in the least, no less than in the greatest, of the works of God. The hand that hung the worlds in space is the hand that wrought with delicate skill the lilies of the field. **And as God is perfect in His sphere, so we are to be perfect in ours.** *The symmetrical structure of a strong, beautiful character is built up by individual acts of duty.* And faithfulness should characterize our life in the least as well as in the greatest of its details. **Integrity in little things, the performance of little acts of fidelity and little deeds of kindness, will gladden the path of life; and when our work on earth is ended, it will be found that every one of the little duties faithfully performed has exerted an influence for good—an influence that can never perish.** PP 574.2, GW92 363.3;446.3;8T 86.2.

in·teg·ri·ty | in'tegrədē |

noun

1 the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles; **moral uprightness:** *he is known to be a man of integrity.*

2 the state of being whole and undivided: *upholding territorial integrity and national sovereignty.*

• the condition of being unified, unimpaired, or sound in construction: *the structural integrity of the novel.*

• internal consistency or lack of corruption in electronic data: *[as modifier] : integrity checking.*

Gen. 20:5,6;1Kings 9:4; Job 2:3,9;27:5;31:6;Ps. 7:8;25:21;26:1,11;41:12;78:72Pro. 11:3;19:1;20:7

The manifestation of hatred never breaks down the malice of our enemies. But love and kindness beget love and kindness in return. ***Although God faithfully rewards virtue*** and punishes guilt, yet he does not withhold his blessings from the

wicked, although they daily dishonor his name. He allows the sunshine and the showers to fall upon the just and the unjust, bringing alike worldly prosperity to both. If a holy God exercises such forbearance and benevolence toward the rebellious and the idolatrous, how necessary it is that erring man should manifest a like spirit toward his fellow-men. Instead of cursing those who injure him, it is his duty to seek to win them from their evil ways by a kindness similar to that with which Christ treated them who persecuted him. Jesus taught his followers that they should exercise a Christian courtesy toward all who came within their influence, that they should not be forgetful in deeds of mercy, and that when solicited for favors, they should show a benevolence superior to that of the worldling. ***The children of God should represent the spirit that rules in Heaven. Their principles of action should not be of the same character with the narrow, selfish spirit of the world. Perfection alone can meet the standard of Heaven. As God himself is perfect in his exalted sphere, so should his children be perfect in the humble sphere they occupy. Thus only can they be fit for the companionship of sinless beings in the kingdom of Heaven. Christ addresses to his followers these words that establish the standard of Christian character: "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in Heaven is perfect."*** 2SP 224.1

Him.

Isa. 45:19 . . . ***I the LORD speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.*** Ps. 12:6 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. 7 Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

Us.

Pro. 12:17 ***He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness:*** but a false witness deceit. 15:2 ***The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright:*** but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness. 10:13,18,19,21,32;14:3;

Isa. 48:18 ***O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments!*** then had thy peace been as a river, and **thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:**

Isa. 51:7 Hearken unto me, ***ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law;*** Jer. 31:33:Heb. 8:10

Isa. 58:8 Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: **and thy righteousness shall go before thee;** the glory of the LORD shall be thy reward.

Rev. 22:11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and ***he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is***

*holy, let him be holy still.*

This privilege is presented before every soul. Each may have heaven's light to guide him. *If we discern the truth, and obey it, our whole course of action will be in accordance with the truth; for the truth sanctifies the receiver. But if men refuse to search for the truth as for hidden treasure, if the mind is pleased with the theories of error, the soul will remain in darkness. The course of the life, the development of the character, will be corrupted by false sentiments. Error never sanctifies. It can do no good. And how full of darkness is the soul that receives error as truth, and shapes his course of action in accordance with it.* {RH, August 23, 1898 par. 2}

Ps. 1:5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, *nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.*

Isa. 5:4 “*What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it?* wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, . . . ”

Note: God has done all He possibly can for us. It's up to us now to do our part—will we be wild grapes?

“To obey is better than sacrifice.” *The sacrificial offerings were in themselves of no value in the sight of God.* They were *designed to express on the part of the offerer penitence for sin and faith in Christ and to pledge future obedience to the law of God.* But *without penitence, faith, and an obedient heart,* the offerings were worthless. When, in direct violation of God's command, Saul proposed to present a sacrifice of that which God had devoted to destruction, *open contempt* was shown for the divine authority. The service would have been an insult to Heaven. Yet with the sin of Saul and its result before us, how many are pursuing a similar course. While they refuse to believe and obey some requirement of the Lord, they persevere in offering up to God their formal services of religion. There is no response of the Spirit of God to such service. No matter how zealous men may be in their observance of religious ceremonies, the Lord cannot accept them if they persist in willful violation of one of His commands. PP 634.3

### *Is all the Congregation Holy?*

Num. 16:3 And *they gathered themselves together against* Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye take too much upon you, *seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them,* and the LORD is among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD? 4 And when Moses heard it, he fell upon his face: 5 And *he spake unto* Korah and unto all his company, saying, *Even to morrow the LORD will shew who are his, and who is holy;* and will cause him to come near unto him: even him whom he hath

chosen will he cause to come near unto him. . . 15 And Moses was very wroth, and said unto the LORD, ***Respect not thou their offering:*** I have not taken one ass from them, neither have I hurt one of them. . . 32 And the earth opened her mouth, and ***swallowed them up, and their houses,*** and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. 33 They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation. 34 And all Israel that were round about them fled at the cry of them: for they said, Lest the earth swallow us up also. 35 And there came out a fire from the LORD, and consumed the two hundred and fifty men that offered incense.

Note: Was all the congregation Holy? Here is seen the false righteousness by Jones and Waggoner. This can also be seen throughout scripture As in Jobs 3 friends

### ***The Final Conflict.***

God's law Vs. Mans

“ . . Satan had declared that the law of God could not be obeyed, . . . “ DA 761.4.;PP77;COL 314.4“ . . He sought to prove that the righteousness of God's law **is an enemy to peace.** . . ” DA 762.3;GC592;7BC915. “ . . . These plagues enraged the wicked against the righteous; ***they thought that we had brought the judgments of God upon them,*** . . “ EW 36.2 “ . . . Yet the very means by which Christ established the law Satan represented as destroying it. ***Here will come the last conflict of the great controversy between Christ and Satan.*** . . “ DA 762.

Others, also holding that “the elect cannot fall from grace or forfeit the divine favor,” arrived at the still more hideous conclusion that “the wicked actions they commit are not really sinful, ***nor to be considered as instances of the violation of the divine law,*** and that consequently they have no occasion either to confess their sins or to break them off by repentance.” Therefore, they declared that even one of the vilest of sins, “considered universally an enormous violation of the divine law, is not a sin in the sight of God,” if committed by one of the elect, “because it is one of the essential and distinctive characteristics of the elect, that they cannot do anything which is either displeasing to God or prohibited by the law.” GC88 261.1

**Wherever the divine precepts are rejected, sin ceases to appear sinful or righteousness desirable.** Those who refuse to submit to the government of God are wholly unfitted to govern themselves. Through their pernicious teachings the spirit of insubordination is implanted in the hearts of children and youth, who are naturally impatient of control; and a lawless, licentious state of society results. While scoffing at the credulity of those who obey the requirements of God, the multitudes eagerly accept the delusions of Satan. They give the rein to lust and

practice the sins which have called down judgments upon the heathen. GC 584.3

Those who teach the people to regard lightly the commandments of God sow disobedience to reap disobedience. Let the restraint imposed by the divine law be wholly cast aside, and human laws would soon be disregarded. Because God forbids dishonest practices, coveting, lying, and defrauding, *men are ready to trample upon His statutes as a hindrance to their worldly prosperity;* but the results of banishing these precepts would be such as they do not anticipate. *If the law were not binding, why should any fear to transgress? Property would no longer be safe. Men would obtain their neighbor's possessions by violence, and the strongest would become richest. Life itself would not be respected.* The marriage vow would no longer stand as a sacred bulwark to protect the family. He who had the power, would, if he desired, take his neighbor's wife by violence. The fifth commandment would be set aside with the fourth. *Children would not shrink from taking the life of their parents if by so doing they could obtain the desire of their corrupt hearts.* The civilized world would become a horde of robbers and assassins; and peace, rest, and happiness would be banished from the earth. GC 585.2

Already the doctrine that men are released from obedience to God's requirements *has weakened the force of moral obligation and opened the floodgates of iniquity upon the world.* Lawlessness, dissipation, and corruption are sweeping in upon us like an overwhelming tide. In the family, Satan is at work. His banner waves, even in professedly Christian households. There is envy, evil surmising, hypocrisy, estrangement, emulation, strife, betrayal of sacred trusts, indulgence of lust. The whole system of religious principles and doctrines, which should form the foundation and framework of social life, *seems to be a tottering mass,* ready to fall to ruin. The vilest of criminals, when thrown into prison for their offenses, are often made the recipients of gifts and attentions as if they had attained an enviable distinction. Great publicity is given to their character and crimes. The press publishes the revolting details of vice, thus initiating others into the practice of fraud, robbery, and murder; and Satan exults in the success of his hellish schemes. The infatuation of vice, the wanton taking of life, the terrible increase of intemperance and iniquity of every order and degree, should arouse all who fear God, to inquire what can be done to stay the tide of evil. GC 585.2

“...Christ holds up before the world a picture of the divine heart, before which Satan's most artful devices of deception fall into irremediable collapse, and the utter falsity of all his charges against God stands glaringly revealed,—and by all

these he seeks to win men to the side of truth and God; and *every man, by his actions, must show which side he takes*. Let each reader ask himself, Where stand I in this great controversy? On which side do I cast my influence? *Am I saying by my course of action that Satan is right and Christ is wrong?* for let all know that so long as one is not openly, boldly, steadfastly for Christ, he is against him; he says to a witnessing universe, Satan is right and Christ is wrong; for whosoever “believeth not God,” says the apostle, “hath made him a liar.” 1 John 5:10. LUJ 36.1

*There are only two classes in the world today, and only two classes will be recognized in the judgment—those who violate God's law and those who obey it. Christ gives the test by which to prove our loyalty or disloyalty.* “If ye love Me,” He says, “keep My commandments.... He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me. And he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him.... He that loveth Me not keepeth not My sayings; and the word which ye hear is not Mine, but the Father's which sent Me.” “If ye keep My commandments, ye shall abide in My love; even as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love.” John 14:15-24; 15:10. COL 283.3

Isa. 42:21 The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; *he will magnify the law, and make it honourable.*

When it is in the heart to *obey* God, when *efforts* are put forth to this end, Jesus accepts this disposition and effort as man's best service, and *He makes up for the deficiency* with His own divine merit. But *He will not accept those who claim to have faith in Him and yet are disloyal to His Father's commandment*. We hear a great deal about faith, but we need to hear a great deal more about works. Many are deceiving their own souls by living an easy-going, accommodating, crossless religion. FW 50.1

### ***Over Sunday.***

No error accepted by the Christian world strikes more boldly against the authority of Heaven, none is more directly opposed to the dictates of reason, none is more pernicious in its results, than the modern doctrine, so rapidly gaining ground, *that God's law is no longer binding upon men*. Every nation has its laws, which command respect and obedience; no government could exist without them; and can it be conceived that the Creator of the heavens and the earth has no law to govern the beings He has made? Suppose that prominent ministers were publicly to teach that the statutes which govern their land and protect the rights of its citizens were not obligatory—that they restricted the liberties of the people, and therefore ought

not to be obeyed; how long would such men be tolerated in the pulpit? But is it a graver offense to disregard the laws of states and nations than to trample upon those divine precepts which are the foundation of all government?

It would be far more consistent for nations to abolish their statutes, and permit the people to do as they please, than for the Ruler of the universe to annul His law, and *leave the world without a standard to condemn the guilty or justify the obedient*. Would we know the result of making void the law of God? The experiment has been tried. Terrible were the scenes enacted in France when atheism became the controlling power. It was then demonstrated to the world that to throw off the restraints which God has imposed is to accept the rule of the cruelest of tyrants. When the standard of righteousness is set aside, the way is open for the prince of evil to establish his power in the earth.

Wherever the divine precepts are rejected, sin ceases to appear sinful or righteousness desirable. Those who refuse to submit to the government of God are wholly unfitted to govern themselves. *Through their pernicious teachings the spirit of insubordination is implanted in the hearts* of children and youth, who are naturally impatient of control; and a lawless, licentious state of society results. While scoffing at the credulity of those who obey the requirements of God, the multitudes eagerly accept the delusions of Satan. They give the rein to lust and practice the sins which have called down judgments upon the heathen. GC 584.1-3.

Credulity: “a tendency to be too ready to believe that something is real or true:” That the 10 Commandments can be kept by anyone. That they are required as Christian duty. Amos 6:12 . . . for ye have *turned judgment into gall, and the fruit of righteousness into hemlock:*

Note: And so today when the church united with the state shall pass a sunday law, denies the existence of the Creator of the universe it's open atheism. Rev. 14:7 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. This occurred in the 19th century. We see a **TEACHING** of conflicting-confusing things such as the U.S. constitution is founded on christianity and yet its disregarded in order to win an election. We hear religious freedom for all, yet protestant evangelicals declare their religion isn't equal until it becomes the law of the land. Sunday will be used to fill the place left vacant by Evangelical Protestant christians denying God's Holy standard of Character.

*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; 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}*

Note: This is the Latter rain, The Loud Cry of Revelation 18, the out pouring of the Holy Spirit to finish the Work and it will not touch those who think God does it all.

There is to be in the [Seventh-day Adventist] churches a wonderful manifestation of the power of God, but it will not move upon those who have not humbled themselves before the Lord, and opened the door of the heart by confession and repentance. In the manifestation of that power which lightens the earth with the glory of God, *they will see only something which in their blindness they think dangerous, something which will arouse their fears, and they will brace themselves to resist it. Because the Lord does not work according to their ideas and expectations they will oppose the work.* "Why," they say, "should we not know the Spirit of God, when we have been in the work so many years?"—RH Extra, Dec. 23, 1890. {LDE 209.3}

*The road to death is broad, and the gate is wide. The whole fallen race may go in thereat, with all their worldliness, all their selfishness, all their pride, dishonesty, and moral debasement. The gate is so wide, the road is so broad, that there is room for every man's opinions and doctrines, space for everyone to follow his inclinations, to do whatever his self-love would dictate. The covetous, the spendthrift, the infidel, the profligate, the gambler, the murderer, the hypocrite, and the self-deceived, *all find paths suited to their taste, in which to walk.* Divided in their opinions, they *yet find one point for purpose and action; for they all agree in opposing the counsel of God.* {ST 07-11-92.6}*

Satan is constantly seeking to deceive men and lead them to call sin righteousness, and righteousness sin. How successful has been his work! *How often censure and reproach are cast upon God's faithful servants because they will stand fearlessly in defense of the truth! Men who are but agents of Satan are praised and flattered, and even looked upon as martyrs, while those who should be respected and sustained for their fidelity to God, are left to stand alone, under suspicion and distrust.* {GC 192.3} Isa. 5:20; Eze. 13:22.

Counterfeit holiness, spurious sanctification, is still doing its work of

**deception.** Under various forms it exhibits the same spirit as in the days of Luther, **diverting minds from the Scriptures and leading men to follow their own feelings and impressions rather than to yield obedience to the law of God.** This is one of Satan's most successful devices **to cast reproach upon purity and truth.** {GC 193.1}

Note: Many misunderstand Isaiah when he says “all our righteousness is a filthy rag” Isa. 64:6, as they do Paul that “there is none righteous no not one.” Rom. 3:10-12; Ps.1:5. These are true of the old man before the cross in their life, before born again, before the New man. John 15:5 for without me ye can do nothing. And these would still be true without the Bible, for with it we see what righteousness really is and find instruction on how to attain/obtain it. We have evidence, testimonies, examples, promises, descriptions that we would not otherwise possess. We have a written transcript in the Ten Commandments of His character. Is recreating Christ’s character in you a filthy rag? Col. 1:27. Of those who refuse to keep the 10 Commandments certainly there is none righteous. As David declares Ps. 14:1;10:4;53:1; and Paul affirms Rom. 10:18 But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world. ***The righteousness that is a filthy rag. Matt. 6:1-;23:5-9,14*** Why do they not see? Ps. 10:4; Rom. 8:6,7; Ps. 7:11; 10:4; 36:1; 58:3; 119:53.

SDA pastors teach you can not keep the 10 Commandments and by extension or thereby you can't be holy, righteous, or perfect, Why do they teach this? Their Carnal Mind is not subject to the Law of God. Rom. 8:7. Who's leading them. “. . . Satan had declared that the law of God could not be obeyed, . . . “ DA 761.4.;PP77;COL 314.4“ . . He sought to prove that the righteousness of God's law is **an enemy to peace.** . .” DA 762.3;GC592;7BC915. “. . . Yet the very means by which Christ established the law Satan represented as destroying it. Here will come the last conflict of the great controversy between Christ and Satan. . . “ DA 762. See PP 365.1 above. " Matt. 5:19 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: If you can't keep the ten commandments then you can't keep the 4th. James 2:10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. "many will stand in our pulpits with the torch of false prophecy" Gospel Doctrine "kindled from the hellish torch of Satan," TM 409.3; 411.2; John 8:44;1John 3:15. Pastors do not possess or are trained how the Bible interprets itself.

"But the Lord has preserved this Holy book by His own miraculous power **in it's present shape, a chart or guide book to the human family to show them the way to heaven.**" 1SM 15.3

The Jews claimed to believe the law, but they broke every precept of it by their

spirit of rebellion against Christ. History is being repeated. *The shepherds of the flock of God are doing in this day just what the Jewish leaders did in their day. The Christian world is going over the same ground, manifesting the same spirit.* Church-members claim to be superior to others, because they believe on Christ, but they are not doers of his words any more than the Jews were obedient to the law which they professed to hold in such high esteem. {RH, May 18, 1897 par. 13}

Many today, as did the Jews, *will turn conviction into resistance because of the cross involved.* By their resistance to the messages of truth, professed Christians show that, had they lived on the earth at the time of Christ's first advent, they would have joined with the Jews in accusing him, and would have taken an active part in crucifying the Prince of Life. *When the claims of God's law are presented to them, they act* as did the Jews when the claims of truth, spoken by the divine Teacher, fell upon their ears; but *these rejecters of truth cannot always remain deaf to the claims of God's law, for it is eternal and irrevocable.* {RH, May 18, 1897 par. 14}

"God's law is to be vindicated, *by the obedience of heart and mind, and by strong arguments.* {RH, February 16, 1905 par. 5}

### ***Some will say Oh, The Poor People Don't Know?***

[ErrorOfNoConsequence.pdf](#)

The *truth* and the glory of God are inseparable; *it is impossible for us, with the Bible within our reach, to honor God by erroneous opinions. Many claim that it matters not what one believes, if his life is only right. But the life is molded by the faith. If light and truth is within our reach, and we neglect to improve the privilege of hearing and seeing it, we virtually reject it; we are choosing darkness rather than light.* {GC 597.2}

God will not condemn any at the judgment because they honestly believed a lie, or conscientiously cherished error; but *it will be because they neglected the opportunities of making themselves acquainted with truth.* The infidel will be condemned, not because he was an infidel, but because he did not take advantage of the means God has placed within his reach to enable him to become a Christian. TM 437

Pro. 1:20 Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets: 21 She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying, 22 How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge? 23 Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. 24 *Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;* 25 *But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and*

**would none of my reproof:** 26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; 27 When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. 28 **Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:** 29 ***For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:*** 30 ***They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.*** 31 Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. 32 For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. 33 But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

"The angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life." We see here that the ***men in authority are not always to be obeyed, even though they may profess to be teachers of Bible doctrine. There are many today who feel indignant and aggrieved that any voice should be raised presenting ideas that differ from their own in regard to points of religious belief. Have they not long advocated their ideas as truth?*** So the priests and rabbis reasoned in apostolic days: What mean these men who are unlearned, some of them mere fishermen, who are presenting ideas contrary to the doctrines which the learned priests and rulers are teaching the people? They have no right to meddle with the fundamental principles of our faith. {TM 69.1}

But we see that the God of heaven sometimes commissions men to teach that which is regarded as contrary to the established doctrines. Because those who were once the depositaries of truth became ***unfaithful to their sacred trust***, the Lord chose others who would receive the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness, ***and would advocate truths that were not in accordance with the ideas of the religious leaders. And then these leaders, in the blindness of their minds, give full sway to what is supposed to be righteous indignation against the ones who have set aside cherished fables.*** They act like men who have lost their reason. They do not consider the possibility that they themselves have not rightly understood the word. They will not open their eyes to discern the fact that they have misinterpreted and misapplied the Scriptures, and have built up false theories, calling them fundamental doctrines of the faith. {TM 69.2}

***But the Holy Spirit will, from time to time, reveal the truth through its own chosen agencies; and no man, not even a priest or ruler, has a right to say, You shall not give publicity to your opinions, because I do not believe them.*** That wonderful "I" may attempt to put down the Holy Spirit's teaching. ***Men may, for a time attempt to smother it and kill it; but that will not make error truth, or truth error.*** The inventive minds of men have advanced speculative opinions in various lines, and when the Holy Spirit lets light shine into human minds, it does not respect every point of man's application of the word. God impressed

His servants to speak the truth *irrespective of what men had taken for granted as truth.* {TM 70.1}

David's power had been given him by God, but to be exercised only in harmony with the divine law. When he commanded that which was contrary to God's law, *it became sin to obey.* “The powers that be are ordained of God” (Romans 13:1), *but we are not to obey them contrary to God's law.* The apostle Paul, writing to the Corinthians, sets forth the principle by which we should be governed. He says, “*Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.*” 1 Corinthians 11:1. PP 719.3

The Lord says to us, *Seventh-day Adventists are not to place themselves under the counsel and instruction of teachers who know not the truth for this time.* {CT 401.1} {1T286}

We have the most solemn message of truth ever borne to the world. *This truth is more and more respected by unbelievers, because it cannot be controverted.* {GW92 138.1}

“Ministers and people are unprepared for the time in which they live, and *NEARLY ALL who profess to believe present truth are unprepared to understand the work of preparation for this time.* In their present state of worldly ambition, with their lack of consecration to God, their devotion to self, they are wholly unfitted to receive the latter rain\*.” 1T 466. See \*LDE 210, Mar. 219.

## ***Part 2—What It Should Say if We Can't keep God's Law in Italics:—***

This is so distasteful I Despise doing this.

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

If ye love me, *I'll keep the commandments for you.*

John 15:14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Ye are my friends, if *I do whatsoever I command for you.*

1John 2:4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is *not* a liar, and the truth is . . . in him. For this is the love of God, that we keep *not* his

commandments: and his commandments are . . . grievous.

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

*I will have no other gods before me for you.*

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

*I will not make unto me any graven image, . . . for you.*

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

*I will not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for you.*

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

*I will Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy . . . for you.*

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

*I will Honour thy father and thy mother: for you.*

13 Thou shalt not kill.

*I will not kill for you.*

14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

*I will not commit adultery for you.*

15 Thou shalt not steal.

*I will not steal for you.*

16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

*I will not bear false witness . . . for you.*

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

*I will not covet . . . for you.*

### ***But He Never Said This!***

2Peter 2:21 ***For it had been better for them*** not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, ***to turn from the holy commandment*** delivered unto them.