

James. 5:20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

Those who are unwilling to accept the plain, cutting truths of the Bible are continually seeking for pleasing fables that will quiet the conscience. The less spiritual, self-denying, and humiliating the doctrines presented, the greater the favor with which they are received. These persons degrade the intellectual powers to serve their carnal desires. Too wise in their own conceit to search the Scriptures with contrition of soul and earnest prayer for divine guidance, they have no shield from delusion. Satan is ready to supply the heart's desire, and he palms off his deceptions in the place of truth. It was thus that the papacy gained its power over the minds of men; and by rejection of the truth because it involves a cross, Protestants are following the same path. All who neglect the word of God to study convenience and policy, that they may not be at variance with the world, will be left to receive damnable heresy for religious truth. Every conceivable form of error will be accepted by those who willfully reject the truth. He who looks with horror upon one deception will readily receive another. The apostle Paul, speaking of a class who "received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved," declares: "For this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness." 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12. ***With such a warning before us it behooves us to be on our guard as to what doctrines we receive.*** GC 523.2

If this work is neglected by one, it has to be done by some other under more unfavorable circumstances; "for those who are in error think the faithful reprove is exacting and uncharitable" {RH, April 24, 1888 par. 9}

Titus 3:10 A man that is an heretic after the first and second admonition reject;
3:11 Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and ***sinneth***, being condemned of himself.

I was shown the necessity of those who believe that we are having the last message of mercy, being ***separate from those*** who are daily imbibing new errors. I saw that neither young nor old should attend their meetings; for it is wrong to thus ***encourage them while they teach error that is a deadly poison to the soul*** and teach for doctrines the commandments of men. The ***influence*** of such gatherings is not good. If God has delivered us from such darkness and error, we should stand fast in the liberty wherewith He has set us free and rejoice in the truth. ***God is displeased with us when we go to listen to error***, without being obliged to go; for unless He sends us to those meetings where error is ***forced*** home to the people by the power of the will, He will not keep us. The angels ***cease*** their watchful care over us, and we are left to the buffetings of the enemy, to be darkened and weakened by him and the power of his evil angels; and the light around us becomes contaminated with the darkness. {EW 124.3}

I saw that we have no time to throw away in ***listening*** to fables. Our minds should not be thus

diverted, but should be occupied with the present truth, and seeking wisdom that we may obtain a more *thorough knowledge of our position*, that with meekness we may be able to give a reason of our hope from the Scriptures. While false doctrines and *dangerous errors* are pressed upon the mind, it cannot be dwelling upon the *truth* which *is to fit and prepare* the house of Israel to stand in the day of the Lord. {EW 1854 125.1}

We have been warned again and again that the character of the education that has been current in the world cannot stand the test of the word of God. The subject of education is one that should interest every Seventh-day Adventist. 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*. The molding and fashioning of minds should not be left to men who have not comprehended the importance of a preparation for that life which measures with the life of God. {CT 401.1} {1T286}

Prov. 19:27 Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.

The fact that there is no controversy or agitation among God's people should not be regarded as conclusive evidence that they are holding fast to sound doctrine. *There is reason to fear that they may not be clearly discriminating between truth and error*. When no new questions are started by investigation of the Scriptures, *when no difference of opinion arises* which will set men to searching the Bible for themselves to make sure that they have the truth, there will be many now, as in ancient times, who will hold to tradition and worship they know not what. {5T 707.1}

I have been shown that *many who profess to have a knowledge of present truth know not what they believe*. They do not understand the evidences of their faith. They have no just appreciation of the work for the present time. When the time of trial shall come, *there are men now preaching to others who will find, upon examining the positions they hold, that there are many things for which they can give no satisfactory reason. Until thus tested they knew not their great ignorance*. And there are many in the church who *take it for granted* that they understand what they believe; but, until controversy arises, *they do not know their own weakness*. When separated from those of like faith and compelled to stand singly and alone to explain their belief, they will be surprised to see *how confused are their ideas of what they had accepted as truth*. Certain it is that there has been among us a departure from the living God and a turning to men, putting human in place of divine wisdom. {5T 707.2}

God will arouse His people; if other means fail, heresies will come in among them, which will sift them, separating the chaff from the wheat. The Lord calls upon all who believe His word to awake out of sleep. Precious light has come, appropriate for this time. It is Bible truth, showing the perils that are right upon us. This light should lead us to a diligent study of the Scriptures and a most critical examination of the positions which we hold. God would have all the bearings and positions of truth thoroughly and perseveringly searched, with prayer and fasting. Believers are not to rest in suppositions and ill-defined ideas of what constitutes truth. Their faith must be firmly founded upon the word of God so that when the testing time shall come and they are brought before councils to answer for their faith they may be able to give a reason for the hope that is in them, with meekness and fear. {5T 707.3}

Even though you may not feel able to speak a word to those who are working on wrong principles, *leave them*. *Your withdrawal and silence* may do more than words. Nehemiah *refused to associate with those who were untrue to principle*, and he would not permit his workmen to associate with them. The love and fear of God were his safeguard. He lived and worked as in view of the unseen world. And David said, "I have set the Lord always before me." {RH, May 9, 1899 par. 18}

As the professed people of God depart from him and lose the simplicity of the faith, the words of his messengers seem to them *unnecessarily harsh and severe*. They cherish prejudice and unbelief, and finally place themselves fully on Satan's side. His suggestions seem pleasant and palatable; they are controlled, in spirit and opinion, by the arch-deceiver, and having permitted him to direct their thoughts, they soon permit him *to direct their actions*. {LP 229.3}

88.3!

The great deceiver has many agents ready to present *any and every kind of error* to ensnare souls--*heresies prepared to suit the varied tastes and capacities* of those whom he would ruin. It is his plan to bring into the church insincere, unregenerate elements that will encourage *doubt and unbelief*, and hinder all who desire to see the work of God advance and to advance with it. Many who have no real faith in God or in His word assent to some principles of truth and pass as Christians, and thus they are enabled to introduce their errors as Scriptural doctrines. {GC 520.1}

The position that it is of *no consequence* what men believe is one of Satan's most successful deceptions. He knows that the truth, received in the love of it, sanctifies the soul of the receiver; therefore he is constantly seeking to substitute *false theories, fables, another gospel*. *From the beginning* the servants of God have contended against false teachers, not merely as vicious men, but as inculcators of falsehoods that were fatal to the soul. Elijah, Jeremiah, Paul, firmly and fearlessly opposed those who were turning men from the word of God. That liberality which regards a correct religious faith as unimportant found no favor with these holy defenders of the truth. {GC 520.2}

The *vague* and fanciful interpretations of Scripture, and the many *conflicting theories* concerning religious faith, that are found in the Christian world are the work of our great adversary to confuse minds so that they shall not discern the truth. And the discord and division which exist among the churches of Christendom are in a great measure *due to the prevailing custom of wresting the Scriptures to support a favorite theory*. Instead of carefully studying God's word with humility of heart to obtain a knowledge of His will, many seek only to discover something odd or original. {GC 520.3}

When Satan has undermined faith in the Bible, he directs men to *other sources* for light and power. Thus he insinuates himself. Those who turn from the plain teaching of scripture and the convicting power of God's Holy Spirit are inviting the control of demons. *Criticism and speculation concerning the Scriptures have opened the way for Spiritualism and theosophy*--those modernized forms of ancient heathenism--to gain a foothold *even in* the professed churches of our Lord Jesus Christ. {ST, May 9, 1906 par. 6}

Side by side with the preaching of the Gospel, agencies are at work which are but the medium of lying spirits. Many a man tampers with these merely from curiosity, but seeing evidence of the working of a more than human power, he is lured on and on, until he is controlled by a will stronger than his own. He can not escape from its mysterious power. {ST, May 9, 1906 par. 7}

In our day, as of old, the vital truths of God's Word are set aside for human theories and speculations. Many professed *ministers* of the Gospel do not accept the whole Bible as the inspired Word. One learned man rejects one portion; another questions another part. They set up their judgment ***as superior*** to the Word, and the scripture which they do teach rests upon ***their own authority***. Its divine authenticity is destroyed. Thus the seeds of infidelity are sown broadcast; for the people become ***confused, and do not know what to believe***. There are many beliefs that the mind has no right to entertain. In the days of Christ the rabbis put a forced, mystical construction upon many portions of the Scriptures. Because the plain teaching of God's Word condemned their practises, they tried to destroy its force. The same thing is done today. The Word of God is ***made to appear mysterious and obscure in order to excuse*** transgression of His law. Christ rebuked these practises in His day. He taught that the Word of God was to be understood by all. He pointed to the Scriptures as of unquestionable authority, and we should do the same. The Bible is to be presented as the word of the infinite God, as the ***end of all controversy*** and the foundation of all faith. {ST, May 9, 1906 par. 8}

The subject of Christ's teaching was the Word of God. He met questioners with a plain, "It is written;" "What saith the Scriptures?" "How readest thou?" At every opportunity, when an interest was awakened by either friend or foe, He sowed the seed of the Word. He who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, Himself the living Word, points to the Scriptures, saying, "They are they which testify of Me." {ST, May 9, 1906 par. 9}

The warnings of the word of God regarding the perils surrounding the Christian church belong to us today. As in the days of the apostles men tried by tradition and philosophy to destroy faith in the Scriptures, ***so today***, by the pleasing sentiments of higher criticism, evolution, spiritualism, ***theosophy***, and pantheism, the enemy of righteousness is seeking to lead souls into forbidden paths. To many the Bible is as a lamp without oil, because they have turned their minds into channels of ***speculative belief that bring misunderstanding and confusion***. The work of higher criticism, in dissecting, conjecturing, reconstructing, is destroying faith in the Bible as a divine revelation. It is robbing God's word of power to control, uplift, and inspire human lives. By spiritualism, multitudes are taught to believe that desire is the highest law, that license is liberty, and that man is accountable only to himself. {AA 474.1}

There are but two parties. Satan works with his crooked, deceiving power, and through strong delusions he catches all who do not abide in the truth, who have turned away their ears from the truth, and have turned unto ***fables***. Satan himself abode not in the truth; he is the mystery of iniquity. ***Through his subtlety he gives to his soul-destroying errors the appearance of truth.*** Herein is their power to deceive. {2MCP 699.3}

It is because they are a ***counterfeit*** of the truth that spiritualism, ***theosophy***, and the like deceptions gain such power over the minds of men. Herein is the masterly working of Satan. He pretends to be the saviour of man, the benefactor of the human race, and thus he more readily lures his victims to destruction.--SpT Series A, No. 9, Sept 24, 1897. (TM 365.) {2MCP 699.4}

Need for Heavenly Wisdom in Combating Error--We see more and greater need of close communion with God and greater need of unity. Let us devote much time to seeking for heavenly wisdom. Let us be much with God in prayer. *We want Bible evidence for every point we advance. We do not want to tide over points as Elder Canright has done with assertions.* {11MR 231.1}

What we want in every conflict is not words to condemn, but the sword of the Spirit. We want the truth as it is in Jesus. We want to be filled with all the fullness of God and have the meekness and lowliness of Christ. {11MR 231.2}

We have a wily foe who will seize your sword and turn it against you, unless you know how to use it skillfully. But let none feel that we know all the truth the Bible proclaims.--Letter 13, 1887, p. 4. (To G. I. Butler and Uriah Smith, April 5, 1887.) {11MR 231.3}

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

The crisis is fast approaching. The time for God's visitation has about come. Although loth to punish, nevertheless *He will punish*, and that speedily. Those who walk in the light will see signs of the approaching peril; but *they are not to sit in quiet, unconcerned expectancy of the ruin, comforting themselves* with the belief that God will shelter His people in the day of visitation. Far from it. They should realize that it is their duty to *labor diligently* to save others, looking with strong faith to God for help. "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16. {5T 209.2} {CET 186.3} {RH, January 11, 1887 par. 8}

When a point of doctrine that you do not understand comes to your attention, go to God *on your knees*, that you may understand what is truth and not be found as were the Jews fighting against God. While warning men to beware of accepting anything unless it is truth, we should also warn them *not to imperil their souls by rejecting messages* of light, but to *press out of the darkness by earnest study of the word of God.* {TM 110.1}

Through his evil angels, Satan contrives to form an alliance with professedly pious men, and thus he leavens the church of God. He knows that if he can induce men, as he induced the angels, to join in rebellion, under the guise of servants of God, he will have in them *his most successful allies* in his enterprise against heaven. 7BC1142:2

"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}

But beware of rejecting that which is truth. The great danger with our people has been that of depending upon men and making flesh their arm. Those who have not been in the habit of searching the Bible for themselves, or weighing evidence, have confidence in the leading men and *accept the decisions they make; and thus many will reject the very messages God sends to His people, if these leading brethren do not accept them.* {TM 106.4}

It will be found that those who bear false messages will not have a high sense of honor and integrity. They will deceive the people, and mix up with their error the Testimonies of Sister White, and use her name to give influence to their work. They make such selections from the Testimonies as they think they can twist to support their positions, and place them in a setting of falsehood, so that their error may have weight and be accepted by the people. They misinterpret and misapply that which God has given to the church to warn, counsel, reprove, comfort, and encourage those who shall make up the remnant people of God. Those who receive the Testimonies as the message of God will be helped and blessed thereby; but those who take them in parts, simply to support some theory or idea of their own, to vindicate themselves in a course

of error, will not be blessed and benefited by what they teach. To claim that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is Babylon, is to make the same claim as does Satan, who is an accuser of the brethren, who accuses them before God night and day. By this misusing of the Testimonies, souls are placed in perplexity, because they cannot understand the relation of the Testimonies to such a position as is taken by those in error; for God intended that the Testimonies should always have a setting in the framework of truth. {TM 42.1}

Those who advocate error will say, "The Lord saith," "when the Lord hath not spoken." They testify to falsehood, and not to truth. If those who have been proclaiming the message that the church is Babylon had used the money expended in publishing and circulating this error, in building up, instead of tearing down, they would have made it evident that they were the people whom God is leading. {TM 43.1}

Many know so little about their Bibles that they are unsettled in the faith. They remove the old landmarks, and fallacies and winds of doctrine blow them hither and thither. Science, falsely so called, is wearing away the foundation of Christian principle; and those who were once in the faith drift away from the Bible landmarks, and divorce themselves from God, ***while still claiming to be His children.***--*Review and Herald, Dec. 29, 1896.* {CSW 35.1}

No Gall.--Every article you write may be all truth, but ***one drop of gall in it will be poison to the reader.*** One reader will discard all your good and acceptable words because of that drop of poison. Another will ***feed on the poison,*** for he loves such harsh words.--Letter 91, 1899. {CW 65.3}

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}

Human theories and speculations will never lead to an understanding of God's word. Those who suppose that ***they understand philosophy think that their explanations are necessary*** to unlock the treasures of knowledge and to prevent heresies from coming into the church. ***But it is these explanations that have brought in false theories and heresies.*** Men have made desperate efforts to explain what they thought to be intricate scriptures; but too often their efforts have only darkened that which they tried to make clear. COL 110.2

Theology mixed with Philosophy is:—

the·os·o·phy | THĕ'āsəfē |

noun

any of a number of philosophies maintaining that a knowledge of God may be achieved through spiritual ecstasy, direct intuition, or special individual relations, especially the movement founded in 1875 as the Theosophical Society by Helena Blavatsky and Henry Steel Olcott

(1832–1907). Their secret doctrine of 1888 was a foundational work.

Every child of God should be intelligent in the Scriptures, and ***able, by tracing the fulfillment of prophecy, to show our position in this world's history.*** The Bible was written for the common people as well as for scholars, and is within the comprehension of all. The great truths which underlie man's duty to his fellow men and to his Maker are clearly revealed; and those who really want the truth need make no mistake. The way is not left in uncertainty, as though we were standing where four roads met, not knowing which one to take. The truth is our guide; it is to us like a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. {CSW 23.1}

The many contradictory opinions in regard to what the Bible teaches do not arise from any obscurity in the book itself, but from blindness and prejudice on the part of interpreters. Men ignore the plain statements of the Bible to follow their own perverted reason. Priding themselves on their intellectual attainments, they overlook the simplicity of truth; they forsake the fountain of living waters to drink of the ***poisonous stream of error.***--Review and Herald, Jan. 27, 1885. {CSW 23.2}

No error is of the truth, and error never sanctifies the receiver. It is by the truth that we are to be sanctified. Error possesses no sanctifying power. It can not save the soul. How careful, then, should the teachers of truth be that their words are true words,--words such as fall from the lips of the great Teacher! {SW, March 1, 1904 par. 6}

Faith is the medium through which truth or error finds a lodging place in the mind. It is by the same act of mind that truth or error is received, but it makes a decided difference whether we believe the Word of God or the sayings of men. { 1SM 346.3}

We need not the mysticism that is in this book. Those who entertain these sophistries will soon find themselves in a position where the enemy can talk with them, and lead them away from God. It is represented to me that the writer of this book is on a false track. He has lost sight of the distinguishing truths for this time. He knows not whither his steps are tending. ***The track of truth lies close beside the track of error, and both minds may seem to be one to minds which are not worked by the Holy Spirit, and which, therefore, are not quick to discern the difference between truth and error.*** {SpM 320.4}

If the people of our time would follow the example of the noble Bereans, in searching the Scriptures daily, and in comparing the messages brought to them with what is there recorded, there would be thousands loyal to God's law where there is one today. But many who profess to love God have ***no desire to change from error to truth, and they cling to the pleasing fables of the last days. Error blinds the mind and leads from God;*** but truth gives light to the mind, and life to the soul. {LP 88.1}

The experience of the past will be repeated. In the future, Satan's superstitions will assume new forms. ***Errors*** will be presented in a pleasing and flattering manner. ***False theories***, clothed with garments of light, will be presented to God's people. Thus Satan will try to deceive, if possible, the very elect. Most seducing influences will be exerted; ***minds will be hypnotized.*** {8T 293.4}

The minds of the Bereans were not narrowed by prejudice, and they were willing to investigate and receive the truths preached by the apostles. If men and women would follow the example of the noble Bereans, in searching the Scriptures daily, and in *comparing the messages brought to them with what is there recorded, there would be thousands loyal to God's law, where there is one today. Even many who profess to love God have no desire to change from error to truth, but cling to the pleasing fables* of Satan's creation. Error never sanctifies the receiver; but truth of heavenly origin purifies the heart. {8Red 51.1}

"Sanctify them through thy truth" [verse 17], Christ prayed. Error never sanctifies. The Holy Spirit is the great sanctifying power. *Truth is the medium of sanctification. By reading and feasting upon the Word of God, by practicing the truth at all times, we receive power to glorify God.* But the ministry of the Word is of no value to the receiver unless he has that faith which works by love and purifies the soul. {20MR 361.3}

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. TM 65*

There is no Bible sanctification for those who cast a part of the truth behind them. There is light enough given in the word of God, so that none need err. The truth is so elevated as to be admired by the greatest minds, and yet it is so simple that the humblest, feeblest child of God can comprehend it, and be instructed by it. Those who see not the beauty that there is in the truth, who attach no importance to the third angel's message, will be without excuse; for the truth is plain. {1T 338.3}

My message to you is: *No longer consent to listen without protest to the perversion of truth.* Unmask the pretentious sophistries which, if received, will lead ministers and physicians and medical missionary workers to ignore the truth. *Every one is now to stand on his guard. God calls upon men and women to take their stand under the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel. I have been instructed to warn our people; for many are in danger of receiving theories and sophistries that undermine the foundation pillars of the faith.* {1SM 196.4} July 24, 1904.

Sometimes our physicians talk for hours, when they are weary and perplexed, and in no fit condition to talk. Medical missionaries should refuse to hold long night sessions of conversation. These night talks have been times when Satan with his seductive influence has stolen away from one and then another the faith once delivered to the saints. Brilliant, sparkling ideas often flash from a mind that is influenced by the great deceiver. *Those who listen and acquiesce will become charmed, as Eve was charmed by the serpent's words. They cannot listen to charming philosophical speculations, and at the same time keep the word of the living God clearly in mind.* {1SM 1904 197.1}

Our physicians have lost a great deal out of their lives because they have seen wrong transactions and heard wrong words spoken, and seen wrong principles followed, and have not spoken in reproof, for fear that they would be repulsed. {1SM 197.2}

I call upon those who have been connected with these binding influences to **break the yoke** to which they have long submitted, and stand as free men in Christ. Nothing but a determined effort will break the spell that is upon them. {1SM 197.3}

You may say, What does Sister White mean? Is she classing me with these erratic workers whom she has mentioned? No, I do not; but I would present the difficulties that should make our publishing houses cautious, in order that you may see the necessity of measures being taken at our office of publication, to discourage the infatuation with which many are taken, in thinking that the Lord has laid upon them a burden to write and to publish a variety of matter that would not only not be for the benefit of the churches at this time, but would be to the injury of the one who engages in the enterprise. I wish you to see that something must be done to guard the people from impostors, and that **there was need to make resolutions that should discourage the determination of men to put their imaginary theories into print.** CW 154.3

When the eyes of the members of our large churches are anointed with the heavenly eye-salve, they will arise, and go forth to fulfil this commission. When their hearts are imbued with the Holy Spirit, they will worship the Lord their God, and him only will they serve. The Lord is calling upon those who are congregated in congested centers to go forth into the places where the truth has never been proclaimed. They are to teach the things that Christ has commanded, **leaving alone the various suppositions born of erratic theories.** False teachers will come in, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men. Satan will bring forward fables to militate against the principles of Christ's teaching. God calls upon his faithful messengers to search his Word, and to **teach only those things that Christ has commanded.** RH February 9, 1905, par. 9

“Wherefore the Lord saith, Forasmuch as this people draw near Me with their mouth, and with their lips do honor Me, but have removed their heart far from Me, and their fear toward Me is taught by the precept of men: therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvelous work among this people, even a marvelous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid. Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the Lord, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us? Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay; for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not, or shall the things framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding? Is it not a very little while, and Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be esteemed as a forest?” [[Verses 9-17.](#)]

23LtMs, Ms 27, 1908, par. 4

Here are represented some of the very things that have been taking place in Battle Creek in the introduction of strange suppositions. The Lord has marked how some of the men who acted a prominent part in the leading out of the work have gradually allowed themselves to be led by Satan's devisings. "Is it not a very little while," the prophet asks, "and Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be esteemed as a forest?" [Verse 17.] 23LtMs, Ms 27, 1908, par. 5

In these words is outlined the true condition that exists among many of our people. There has come into the ranks of Seventh-day Adventists *false sentiments, an inclination on the part of some ministers and physicians to abolish the light that God has been sending. Some of our leading men have been denying the faith and giving heed to fanciful and erratic teachings.* This is a scheme of Satan to call the mind away from the truth and lead men to give time and thought to the *study of theories that confuse the mind and leave an indistinct understanding of the way of the Lord.* 23LtMs, Ms 27, 1908, par. 6

I am instructed to say, *Repeat not these errors or false teachings*, but write the truth, speak the truth. Let the Word of God speak in every place, vindicating *the truth for this time.* The truth will triumph. *When objectionable sentiments are introduced, repeat them not in your discourses, but hold to the affirmative.* The message I am instructed to give at this time is one that I have been charged again and again for many years to give. It is this: Advance the truth. 23LtMs, Ms 27, 1908, par. 7

Satan has been well pleased with the work of those men and women who have used their influence *to undermine the confidence of our people in the messages the Lord is sending through the Spirit of prophecy.* I have been instructed that those who have engaged in such a work should *not be chosen to occupy positions as leaders*; for the influence they exert, and their misstatements concerning this agency in which they have no faith, *will result in making unbelief popular in our churches.* Let no man or woman be entrusted with responsibility in the church who will use the advantages such a position would give them *to advocate sentiments of unbelief, thus sowing the tares of heresy among believers.* *And it has sometimes been the case that when men have been reproofed for this kind of work, they have begun a warfare against the messages sent, by making light of the warnings and reproofs.* 23LtMs, Ms 27, 1908, par. 8

What can be done to make these men with strong traits of character realize that they need to be *reconverted*? Unless this experience comes to them, *they will never become members of the royal family*, children of the heavenly King. They are wrapping themselves up in a garment of self-confidence. The messages that the Lord sends them, that they may understand how much they need to be taught of Him, *they cast aside as idle tales, thus placing themselves where they will accept their own suppositions as divine revelations.* With their deficient

experience, they are unfitted to understand the dealings of the Lord with His people. 23LtMs, Ms 27, 1908, par. 9

...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 1883 324.2 see GC 583.1

"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