

Some young persons who have knowledge in the vile practices of the world, seek to awaken the curiosity of other inquisitive minds, and impart to them that secret knowledge which ignorance of would be bliss. They are not content with practising themselves the vice they have learned. They are hurried on by the Devil, to whisper their evil communications to other minds, to corrupt their good manners. And unless the youth have fixed religious principles, they will be corrupted. A heavy penalty will rest upon those who suffered Satan to use them as mediums to lead astray, and corrupt the minds of others. A heavy curse rested upon the Serpent in Eden, because he was the medium Satan used to tempt our first parents to transgress. And whoever yields themselves to subvert others, a heavy curse from God will follow them. And although those who permit themselves to be led astray, and learn vile habits, will suffer for their sin, yet those guilty of instructing them, will also suffer for their own sins, and the sins they led others to commit. ***It were better for such if they had never been born.*** ApM 30.1

Be careful messengers. Do not be anxious to hear and accept new theories, for ***often they are such as should never be presented before any congregation.*** Speak no boastful, self-exalting words. Let the Word of God come forth from lips that are sanctified by the truth. ***Every minister*** is to preach the truth as it is in Jesus. He should be assured of that which he affirms, and should handle the Word of God under the direction of the Holy Spirit of God. Walk and work carefully before God, my brethren, ***that no soul may be led into deception by your example.*** It had been better for you never to have been born than that you should lead one soul astray. 1SM 158.3

When God sends a message to any person, ***minister or doctor, if men pursue a course*** to make of no effect the message sent, ***a course that destroys the influence*** of the message that God designed should ***make a change in the principles*** of the one corrected, and turn his heart to repentance, ***it would be better for these men if they had never been born.*** Wickedness and deceit remain in the one to whom the Lord in mercy sent his message, but they, ***through Satan's devising, took it upon themselves to justify and vindicate the one whom God had corrected, and he took it upon himself to refuse the message given, and went on, sustained by men who claimed to be the ministers and doctors of the Lord.*** The one who ought to have realized his sin and corrected his evil, was presumptuous, and turned from the messages of God to follow his own course, until sin, in deception, in falsehood, in unprincipled working, in underhand dealing, became current. Whether there is any hope of a change, we know not. But all who have built that man up in his crooked course of action, which they know was not justice and righteousness, ***will suffer with the transgressor,*** unless they shall humble themselves before God, and show that repentance that needeth not to be repented

of. NYI February 7, 1906, par. 7

God does not condemn prudence and foresight in the use of the things of this life, but the feverish care, the undue anxiety with respect to worldly things is not in accordance with his will. It will not do for us to float along with the current, we are to be laborers together with God. God has imparted to us moral powers and religious susceptibilities. He has given his own dear Son as a propitiation for our sins, that through him we might be reconciled to God. He has brought to us knowledge, light, and truth, to open our understanding. He is the way, the truth, and the life; and ***now it devolves upon man*** to seek most earnestly to co-operate with the agencies which the Lord has provided for his salvation. He must with earnestness lay hold upon the helps God has placed within his reach. He must pray, he must search the Scriptures, he must believe the word of God, ***he must obey God***, and must employ all his powers in making the most of the opportunities and privileges brought within his reach. Then we must be laborers together with God; for ***God will not complete his work without human agencies***. Jesus has made the infinite sacrifice in our behalf, and he expects of his followers ***far more than they give him,—voluntary, zealous, disinterested co-operation***. His bounty has brought the treasures of heaven within the reach of man, and ***God expects us to show our faith by our works***. God is waiting, angels are watching, to see what the people to whom are committed the treasures of truth ***will do***. They are God's workmen and his agents, and ***if those who are*** so highly favored with intrusted truths fail through love for earthly things to perform ***the part assigned them***, it would have been better for them had they never been born. Not only will they lose heaven themselves, but, ***failing to act their part*** in the great plan of saving their fellow-men, they will scatter from Christ by thus ***neglecting to do their appointed work***. Others will follow their example, and they will be ***cursed of God***. There are many souls of all nations and tongues and peoples to be enlightened. Are the chosen, royal people of God paralyzed that they cannot see from the word of God ***their duty***, and sense the weighty ***responsibility that rests upon them*** to be laborers together with God? “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me,” were the words that fell from the lips of the divine Teacher. RH March 1, 1887, par. 6

Those who ***work*** for the Master must be well-disciplined, that they may stand as faithful sentinels. They must be men and women ***who will carry out the plans of God*** for the wise improvement of the minds of those who come under their influence. They must unite with all the agencies who are seeking to fulfill the will of God in saving a lost world. Christ has given himself, the just for the unjust, he has died on Calvary's cross, and he ***has intrusted to human agencies the work of completing the great measure of redeeming love***; for man co-operates with God in his effort to save the perishing. In the neglected duties of the church we read the

retarding of the fulfillment of the purpose of God; but if men *fail to accomplish their work, it would be better had they never been born. Great evil will follow the neglect of co-operating with God;* for eternal life will be lost. Our success as candidates for heaven will depend on our earnestness in *fulfilling the conditions upon which eternal life is granted.* We must receive and *obey* the word of God, we cannot be idlers, and float with the current. We must be diligent students of the word of God. *We must train and educate ourselves* as good soldiers of Christ. We must advance the work, becoming laborers together with God. RH February 14, 1893, par. 15