

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. John 8:32

the **TRUTH**
the whole **TRUTH**
and nothing but the **TRUTH**

A RESPONSE TO THE CRITICS

VOLUME 1



FOR MY PEOPLE
MINISTRY©

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the whole **TRUTH**
and nothing but the **TRUTH**

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DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to all those involved in the research, compilation, writing, editing and graphics that made this book possible. I wish to say a special thank you to the former 4 His People Ministry Board and other compilers as well as the new For My People Ministry Board and others who have dedicated their time and talent to this project. Individual names will not be mentioned because the real authors are the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. May each reader prayerfully study what is written herein and realize that it is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. . . . Ernie Knoll

*And ye shall know the truth, and
the truth shall make you free.*

John 8:32

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

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Preface

Early Writings, p. 78

I recommend to you, dear reader, the Word of God as the rule of your faith and practice. By that Word we are to be judged. God has, in that Word, promised to give visions in the "*last days*"; not for a new rule of faith, but for the comfort of His people, and to correct those who err from Bible truth. Thus God dealt with Peter when He was about to send him to preach to the Gentiles. (Acts 10.)

To those who may circulate this little work, I would say that it is designed for the sincere only and not for those who would ridicule the things of the Spirit of God.

From the compilers: May the Holy Spirit guide and bless you as you prayerfully study His words in this book.

Introduction

Ernie Knoll and the For My People Ministry

Since the spring of 2005, Ernie Knoll has been receiving dreams from God for His people in fulfillment of Joel 2:28 and Acts 2:17. He has seen last day events, heaven, and the new earth. He has received messages of revival and repentance.

Not surprisingly, these dreams have not been well received by many within the Seventh-day Adventist Church, including the leadership. The messages have either been ignored entirely or rejected. This is very troubling and is a fulfillment of Revelation 3:17 in the description of Laodicea that is rich and increased with goods and in need of nothing. It is also in direct opposition to the Bible admonition in 1 Thessalonians 5:19 which says to "quench not the Spirit" and "despise not prophesying."

Ernie's fall into sin and subsequent repentance has not helped the widespread acceptance of these messages. Many feel that God could not use Ernie as a messenger because they think a prophet is beyond falling. However, as you will see in chapter 2 of volume 2, "Ernie Knoll's Fall and Repentance," this was not the case with many Bible prophets. Some of the most outstanding people in the Bible fell into sin, and yet God forgave them and continued to use them.

Dreams and visions from the Lord are part of God's "present truth" and if rejected, amount to a rejection of the Lord Himself. This is a very serious action with consequences for God's church. In 1888, the Lord had a message of "present truth" for His people, which was also largely rejected. This rejection again caused God's people to "wander in the wilderness."

Again, the Lord is trying to bring His people to the shores of the Promised Land. Will we reject His messages again or will we embrace them and allow the Lord to prepare us for His soon return? This book is an attempt to set the record straight and to bring the truth before God's people. Our prayer is that His people will hear His voice.

Purpose of these books

The purpose of *the TRUTH, the whole TRUTH, and nothing but the TRUTH* is to explain how many have made false claims against God's messages and His messenger, Ernie Knoll. It will reveal that Elder G. Edward Reid was not truthful in stating that the conference is the only storehouse. It will show that Steve Wohlberg, Eugene Prewitt, Ángel Rodríguez, David Gates, Vance Ferrell, Linda

Kirk, and Laura Lee Jones have a different agenda. In volume two it will include detailed examples of apostasy and spiritualism in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. However, it will show that the Church will not fall, but will be cleansed and stand stronger. It will reveal how God showed His prophet, Ellen White, that evil angels will take the form of men and that there are conference leaders and pastors who are not what people think they are. This is why it is very important to study God's messages for ourselves.

Reason for these books

The book, *the TRUTH, the whole TRUTH, and nothing but the TRUTH* was not the idea of any person, but God Himself. On April 24, 2009, Ernie Knoll received a dream from God with instructions on preparing these books (Ernie was not to be the author or a compiler of these books). As was mentioned in the previous point, these books were not written to attack the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This church is God's church, and as such, God will lead it just as He led the Israelites through to the Promised Land. In the book of Matthew, Jesus said, "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword." Matthew 10:34. In Revelation Jesus further says, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent." Revelation 3:19. It is the desire of the compilers of this book that all of God's people will repent and take hold of Christ and His righteousness. Then, "When the character of the Saviour shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim His own." Maranatha, p. 112

Below is the dream Ernie received:

The Boardroom, April 24, 2009

In my dream, Becky and I sit at a long table in a boardroom. We are waiting to start a meeting. There are people we know and have met and some we know but have not met. They either sit at the table or stand behind the table with a notepad and pencil to write instructions. All look eager to begin the task they are about to receive.

As I look toward one end of the table, I notice an empty seat. Behind it are two large ornate wooden doors. The room becomes quiet as everyone notices the doors suddenly open, which emits a very bright light. We now see an innumerable amount of angels. It is as if looking through a large round portal. Several angels walk through the doorway. They blow what appear to be trumpets, with each one set to a different octave as if announcing someone's arrival.

Suddenly a large entourage of angels affixed in battle gear enters the room. They hold a special spear in their left hand and a special sword in their right hand. Another large entourage of angels walks through and fills most of the empty area of the boardroom. The Herald walks over and stands to the right side of the empty chair at the end of the table. Several angels enter, line up on each side of the double doors, and stand side by side facing each other. They raise their wings to form an archway over the doorway. The angels with trumpets now play the most harmonious sound that announces the main arrival. The Herald turns to face the doorway and kneels on his right knee. All the angels kneel and bow their heads, except those who form the archway and those with trumpets.

We now see Jesus walk through the doorway and under the archway of angels. Those of us at the table and behind the table rise to our feet and drop to our knees. Our eyes are transfixed on Jesus. On His head is a crown of which there are no words to describe, except that it looks holy. He wears a purple robe that glows from His brightness underneath. He now greets everyone and says, "I am your Creator. All angels may rise." The angels all stand up. The Herald stands and looks down the length of the table. Jesus now says, "To all of you [not the angels], I am your Creator, your Savior, and your Brother. You may all stand. Those at the table may be seated."

Jesus looks down at us at the table and those standing behind us and says, "I have called you here because it is now time to begin. I have shared with My messenger information and instructions that, as you know, many ignored. Many of the men I have placed in position now no longer look to Me for direction. I have sent rebukes to these leaders and pastors but they ignored My rebukes. Now they are raging against My messengers and not allowing them to speak in My churches. They have made false accusations against the messages without warrant. It is time for war!"

I notice that with these words all the angels in unison stomp their spears on the floor and stand at attention, each looking straight forward. Jesus continues. "It is time to show to all the wrongs of these leaders. It is time to reveal the lies they are using. It is time to show that many leaders are not teaching the truth. It is time to unmask these leaders. You are to begin at the top and show how they lie and steal. However you are not to share your own beliefs and thoughts. You are to show this only through what I have written in the Bible and through My prophet Ellen White. You are to prepare written information in the following manner.

The beginning of this document must explain the purpose of the complete document. It must explain how this document will show that Ed Reid, who holds the keys to the storehouse, has made false claims against My messenger. It must show that he was not truthful in stating that the conference is the only storehouse. You must reveal that Steve Wohlberg, Eugene Prewitt, Ángel Rodríguez, David Gates, Vance Ferrell, Linda Kirk, and Laura Lee Jones have a different agenda. Reveal how I showed My prophet Ellen White that evil angels will take the form of men. Show how there are conference leaders and pastors who are not what people think they are. The beginning of this document must reveal the wrongs of these men. Foremost you are to reveal that what Ed Reid, Steve Wohlberg, Eugene Prewitt, Ángel Rodríguez, David Gates, Vance Farrell and others have said is not what I have said and is only half the truth. This document must go into details, showing the truth as to the appropriate placement of tithe and tributes. Show where the storehouse is and how important it is to return a tithe. Show where tithe is to go and who is to receive it. You must write these things so that even the most uneducated reader will understand the misleading of the leadership."

Someone at the table now raises his hand. Jesus looks at him and says, "You are getting ready to ask why we are defending what Ernie was shown when you were told not to and that this is something that is to be

left to only Me and the Holy Spirit. Whereas you will be putting the words down, you will not be the one doing the writing.”

I now see something that is hard to explain. A bright form in human shape comes from Jesus and becomes many and each goes and stands next to each person at the table and those who stand holding a notepad and pencil. Jesus explains, “I will be the one showing each what is to be said. As you all prepare this document, do not hold back. If there has been a wrong, point out that wrong. Remember that you must write this document so even the uneducated will understand. You are to make very clear the truth about tithing and the storehouse. You are to discredit and show whom those are that have made falsehoods. Show how I said to not support the spiritualism which is within My church. Reveal how My church is in apostasy, but remember that I will cleanse My church. Show how it will not fall but will stand and be stronger. Show the evidence of the apostasy and the truth I have written from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Prepare this document and then spread this to all church members and let each spread to all of My churches. Let this document go out so that all who have made false statements will now see the truth. Show them, through the wrongs they have shown, the truth as it is in ‘It is written.’ Go forth, My army, and let the war begin in My house of worship.”

Defending the dreams

Some may question whether it is right to “defend” Ernie Knoll and his dreams by revealing the erroneous statements of the “critics.” There are times when we must ignore those who would rise up against us, but there comes a time when the glory of God’s name is at stake and His truth is reproached. Then there is a need to stand up and vindicate the truth, just as Ellen White had to from time to time.

Battle Creek Letters, p. 120

The Lord now calls upon me to make plain to others that which has been made plain to me. If men refuse to receive the words of warning, the guilt will be upon their own souls. I am bidden to say, Your soul is in an unsaved state. You are not in harmony with truth and righteousness.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 9, p. 23

My work has been in the field since 1845. Ever since then I have labored with pen and voice. Increased light has come to me as I have imparted the light given me. I have very much more light on the Old and New Testament Scriptures, which I shall present to our people if my way is not blocked by such influences as the influence exerted by Fannie Bolton. Such a work as hers calls for my pen and voice to contradict her statements, in order to save poor souls from being entirely swamped by her assertion that she has received the Holy Ghost.

Signs of the Times, July 27, 1882

It may at times be necessary for the servant of God to vindicate his own character, and to defend his course, that the Lord’s name may be glorified, and the truth be not reproached. Let all who are treated with

neglect or injustice, follow the example of Samuel, taking care not to make self prominent, but to maintain the honor of God. Let the injured one, instead of dwelling upon the wrongs which he has suffered, show the people how they have wounded Christ in the person of his servant. Many hearts would thus be led to humiliation and repentance, when if personal feelings were aroused, they would be as hard as stone.

Prophets and Kings, p. 418

Had the prophet [Jeremiah] been intimidated by the threatening attitude of those high in authority, his message would have been without effect, and he would have lost his life; but the courage with which he delivered the solemn warning commanded the respect of the people and turned the princes of Israel in his favor. They reasoned with the priests and false prophets, showing them how unwise would be the extreme measures they advocated, and their words produced a reaction in the minds of the people. Thus God raised up defenders for His servant.

God's message to His children

Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, December 4, 1894

The children of God are to stand firmly for the right under all circumstances. They are not to be deceived by those who have the mind and spirit of the world, or be united with them in their spirit or practices. The bands of union will grow stronger imperceptibly, and the professor of religion, united in some alliance with the world, will finally feel resentment against any one who presents to him the necessity of coming out from the world and being separate. He will come into a condition of such harmony with the world that he will listen to the suggestions of Satan; and as his self-importance is fed by the praise and flattery of the world, and this is more acceptable to him than the self-denial required by the cross of Christ, he turns from the peculiar people of God to those who offer enticements to gratify worldly ambitions and enterprises in harmony with the natural tastes and desires. Backslidden from God, he has tasted the applause of men, and it has become pleasant to him. As he does not receive this praise in the church of Christ, he turns to the world.

God's message to His pastors

Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 2, p. 284

Preachers should have no scruples to preach the truth as it is found in God's word. Let the truth cut. I have been shown that why ministers have not more success is, they are afraid of hurting feelings, fearful of not being courteous, and they lower the standard of truth, and conceal if possible the peculiarity of our faith. I saw that God could not make such successful. The truth must be made pointed, and the necessity of a decision urged. And as false shepherds are crying, Peace, and are preaching smooth things, the servants of God must cry aloud, and spare not, and leave the result with God.

The Kress Collection, p. 124

What is the matter with those who claim to believe the truth of the third angel's message? Why has it lost its power with the very ones whom God has honored for the sake of making it known to all people. Self has

interposed; Satan has so wrought upon human agencies, and self has grown to such large proportions that it will not recognize a Thus saith the Lord, through his appointed channels.

God will purify His church

Early Writings, p. 50.

The mighty shaking has commenced and will go on, and all will be shaken out who are not willing to take a bold and unyielding stand for the truth and to sacrifice for God and His cause. The angel said, "Think ye that any will be compelled to sacrifice? No, no. It must be a freewill offering. It will take all to buy the field." I cried to God to spare His people, some of whom were fainting and dying. Then I saw that the judgments of the Almighty were speedily coming, and I begged of the angel to speak in his language to the people. Said he, "All the thunders and lightnings of Mount Sinai would not move those who will not be moved by the plain truths of the Word of God, neither would an angel's message awake them.

What spirit motivates our leaders? Are we better than these?

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 18, p. 153

Methodists and Baptists have worked earnestly, warned and threatened their people not to go and hear the Adventists, that it was at the peril of their souls if they should go and hear them. But they came from six to ten miles and manifested great interest.

Tangled in their own words

The Desire of Ages, p. 594

In His contest with the rabbis, it was not Christ's purpose to humiliate His opponents. He was not glad to see them in a hard place. He had an important lesson to teach. He had mortified His enemies by allowing them to be entangled in the net they had spread for Him.

Isaiah 66:18

For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.

The truth will stand

Early Writings, p. 96

I was shown that the truth once published now, will stand, for it is the truth for the last days Truth is straight, plain, clear, and stands out boldly in its own defense; but it is not so with error. It is so winding and twisting that it needs a multitude of words to explain it in its crooked form.

Chapter I

G. Edward Reid, Tithe, and the Storehouse

Introduction

Isaiah 30:9-11

That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits: Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us.

The Review and Herald, November 26, 1861

God's people will be tested and proved. The plain and pointed testimony must act a prominent part in this work. In these days of darkness and peril who is able to stand and speak the whole truth? Multitudes of teachers prophesy smooth things. They see no special cause of alarm in the present condition of the professed people of God. The people are asleep, and the teachers are asleep. They cry, Peace, peace, and the multitude that hear believe their report and are at ease. This makes the necessity greater for faithful teachers to bear the pointed, faithful testimony. The present is a time of scouring and purifying, a time of warfare and trial. The house of Israel is being sifted, even as corn is sifted in a sieve. The chaff must be removed, and it will require close work to separate the chaff from the kernels of grain. God's discerning eye will detect the smallest particle of chaff, and yet he will not cause to fall upon the ground the least kernel of grain.

In March 2008, Elder G. Edward Reid, North American Stewardship Director, entitled his monthly newsletter, "False Prophet of Tithing." In that newsletter, he sought to convince his readers that Ernie Knoll was a false prophet because in his dreams, he was told that we will be held accountable if we know our tithe is being misused and do nothing about it.

In the newsletter, Elder Reid makes a number of statements that lead his readers to doubt the authenticity of Ernie Knoll's dreams and calling. This includes casting doubt on whether Ernie was a baptized member of the SDA

church and if dreams from God can have footnotes. However, the point that is most alarming is his misuse of Spirit of Prophecy counsel to support the idea that all tithes must be returned to the Seventh-day Adventist conference. He then reassures his readers that God will not hold anyone accountable who returns their tithe to the conference.

In this chapter, we compare God's words with the comments made by Elder Reid and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists concerning the storehouse and the importance of returning a tithe. We only reference the "first tithe," which is to support the gospel ministry as written in Leviticus and Numbers. We will not discuss the "second tithe," which is offerings for the poor as written in Deuteronomy.

Who is G. Edward Reid?

G. Edward Reid is an ordained minister and licensed attorney. He is a graduate of Southern Adventist University and has a Doctor of Law (JD) degree from Georgia State University. He also holds Master's degrees from Loma Linda (M.P.H.) and Andrews (M.Div.) Universities. He is the author of six books and is a certified teacher and counselor by Crown Financial Ministries (an interdenominational ministry). Currently, he serves as the Stewardship Director for the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists.

The importance of returning a tithe

God says:

Leviticus 27:30

And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's: it is holy unto the LORD.

Malachi 3:7-10

Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return? Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 12, p. 228

Have you confessed Christ by faithfully tithing the mint, the anise, and the rue? When we give the Lord the tithe, we are only giving Him that which is His own, to withhold which is theft and robbery. When we withhold the tithe we keep back that which God designs shall sustain His work on the earth. For this work of redemption God gave the richest gift of heaven; can we not give one tenth of what we have? Many have forgotten God, and have kept back the tithe. Does your account book reveal that you have dealt faithfully with your Lord? Are you poor? Then

give your little. Have you been blessed with abundance? Then be sure to lay aside that which the Lord registers as His own.

Summation

It is important to return a tithe.

Conclusion

God owns everything and we own nothing. When we return a tithe, "we are only giving Him that which is His own, to withhold which is theft and robbery."

What tithe is to be used for

God says:

1 Corinthians 9:14

Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 9, p. 250

God has not changed; the tithe is still to be used for the support of the ministry.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 1, p. 189

God's ministers are His shepherds, appointed by Him to feed His flock. The tithe is His provision for their maintenance, and He designs that it shall be held sacred to this purpose. . . .

Counsels on Stewardship, p. 93

The tithe is sacred, reserved by God for Himself. It is to be brought into His treasury to be used to sustain the gospel laborers in their work.

Ibid., p. 71

In the tithe, with gifts and offerings, God has made ample provision for this work. He intends that the ministry of the gospel shall be fully sustained. He claims the tithe as His own, and it should ever be regarded as a sacred reserve, to be placed in His treasury for the benefit of His cause, for the advancement of His work, for sending His messengers into "regions beyond," even to the uttermost parts of the earth.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 4, p. 472

In commissioning His disciples to go "into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," Christ assigned to men the work of spreading the gospel. But while some go forth to preach, He calls upon others to answer to His claims upon them for tithes and offerings with which to support the ministry and to spread the printed truth all over the land.

Ibid., Vol. 6, p. 215

Light has been plainly given that those who minister in our schools, teaching the word of God, explaining the Scriptures, educating the students in the things of God, should be supported by the tithe money. [Bible teachers only]

Medical Ministry, p. 245

Some, who do not see the advantage of educating the youth to be physicians both of the mind and of the body, say that the tithe should not be used to support medical missionaries, who devote their time to treating the sick. In response to such statements as these, I am instructed to say that the mind must not become so narrowed down that it cannot take in the truth of the situation.

Ibid., p. 250

No line is to be drawn between the genuine medical missionary work and the gospel ministry. These two must blend. They are not to stand apart as separate lines of work. They are to be joined in an inseparable union, even as the hand is joined to the body. Those in our institutions are to give evidence that they understand their part in the genuine gospel medical missionary work. A solemn dignity is to characterize genuine medical missionaries.

Summation

It is important to know what our tithe is to be used for.

Conclusion

Tithe is to be used for the support of the ministry, to sustain gospel laborers, for spreading the gospel to the world, and to support Bible teachers and medical missionaries.

What tithe is not to be used for

God says:

Counsels on Stewardship, p. 102

One reasons that the tithe may be applied to school purposes. Still others reason that canvassers and colporteurs should be supported from the tithe. But a great mistake is made when the tithe is drawn from the object for which it is to be used--the support of the ministers. . . .

Ibid., p. 103

The tithe is set apart for a special use. It is not to be regarded as a poor fund. It is to be especially devoted to the support of those who are bearing God's message to the world; and it should not be diverted from this purpose.

I was shown that it is wrong to use the tithe for defraying the incidental expenses of the church.

Summation

It is important to know what our tithe is not to be used for.

Conclusion

Tithe is not for school purposes, with the exception of Bible teachers. In addition, it is not for colporteurs. Tithe is not a poor fund; neither should it pay for church expenses. Since it is to support the ministry, it stands to reason that it should not be invested in worldly enterprises, stock markets, etc. where it can lose its value.

Exception

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 1, p. 191

There are exceptional cases, where poverty is so deep that in order to secure the humblest place of worship, it may be necessary to appropriate the tithes.

Reid casts doubt**Reid says:** (see [Appendix A](#))

“Recently several people have brought to my attention the ‘dreams’ of one, Ernie Knoll. He claims to be a Seventh-day Adventist who is being given dreams from God about the condition of the church and what is coming on the earth.”

Facts

Elder Reid has the ability to know who is a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Therefore, because he insinuated that Ernie claims to be a Seventh-day Adventist, he cast doubt on the fact that Ernie was a member. Even if individuals are disfellowshipped, this does not automatically make them non-SDAs in God’s estimation.

God says:

Gospel Workers (1892), p. 446

Church membership will not guarantee us heaven.

Conclusion

One can easily see that Elder Reid used a tactic to cast doubt as to the validity of whether Ernie is a Seventh-day Adventist. He begins early on to lay a foundation of doubt in his plan to discredit Ernie.

Footnoted dreams**Reid says:** (see [Appendix A](#))

“I have never seen footnoted dreams before”

Explanation

Again, Elder Reid uses his position to cast doubt. Because he has never seen footnoted dreams before, does that mean they do not exist? No. They do exist. Ernie’s dreams contain footnotes to get the readers started with their own research of God’s words. Ernie could have added many additional references, but individuals need to find their own with the Holy Spirit’s help. There are also cases where some individuals do not have access to these references. Footnotes were also added to help explain parts of the dreams. Ellen White gave Bible references in her writings. God’s truth always agrees with itself. Isaiah 28:10 says, “For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little.” Ernie’s dreams also contain Bible and Spirit of Prophecy (writings of Ellen G. White) in the dreams themselves. These came directly from the Lord during the dreams.

Kingly power?

Because Elder Reid is writing to all pastors in the North American Division declaring Ernie to be a false prophet, is he using “kingly power” to dictate what those pastors are to believe?

God says:

The Review and Herald, December 14, 1905

In the valley of humiliation, where men depend on God to teach them and to guide their every step, there is comparative safety. But let every one who has a living connection with God pray for the men in positions of responsibility,—for those who are standing on a lofty pinnacle, and who, because of their exalted position, are supposed to have much wisdom. Unless such men feel their need of an Arm stronger than the arm of flesh to lean upon, unless they make God their dependence, their view of things will become distorted, and they will fall.

Spalding and Magan Collection, p. 368

The kingly power formerly exhibited in the General Conference is not to be perpetuated.

Testimonies to Ministers Gospel Workers, p. 362

The spirit of domination is extending to the presidents of our conferences. If a man is sanguine of his own powers and seeks to exercise dominion over his brethren, feeling that he is invested with authority to make his will the ruling power, the best and only safe course is to remove him, lest great harm be done and he lose his own soul and imperil the souls of others. "All ye are brethren." This disposition to lord it over God's heritage will cause a reaction unless these men change their course. Those in authority should manifest the spirit of Christ. They should deal as He would deal with every case that requires attention. They should go weighted with the Holy Spirit. A man's position does not make him one jot or tittle greater in the sight of God; it is character alone that God values.

Summation

Is Elder Reid using "kingly power"?

Conclusion

Does Elder Reid have the right to dictate to pastors? Whom do the "leaders" allow to speak in the churches? Should this not be the decision of the individual churches? Pray for the Church leaders that they will depend only on God and not use "kingly power" to dictate to others.

Denying the Holy Spirit's work?

Because Elder Reid publicly states the dreams are not from God, is he personally denying individuals the work of the Holy Spirit in this matter?

God says:

Special Testimonies on Education, p. 212

It is a fearful thing for any soul to place himself on Satan's side of the question; for as soon as he does this, a change passes over him, as it is said of the king of Babylon, that his visage changed toward the three faithful Hebrews. Past history will be repeated. Men will reject the Holy Spirit's working, and open the door of the mind to Satanic attributes that separate them from God. They will turn against the very messengers through whom God sends the messages of warning. Even now I fear that

the very things I am seeking to make plain will be misapplied, misinterpreted, and falsified; some have felt it a virtue to educate themselves in this line, and by their misapplication they make of no effect the messages God sends.

I urge upon all to whom these words shall come: Review your own course of action, and "take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth."

Are others now encouraged not to pray and study the dreams or test the spirits and the fruits for themselves?

2 Timothy 2:15

Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

This Day With God, p. 82

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. Ps. 32:8.

It is as much the privilege of every individual member of the church to know from the Word God's will in regard to his course of action as it is for the president of the conference or for any other man in office of trust. The Lord would be sought unto by all who would be instructed and enlightened and worked by the Holy Spirit. God is ready to commune with His people. . . .

Every individual must seek by earnest prayer to know the Word of God for himself, and then to do it. Only in day by day putting his trust in God, and not in the arm of flesh, will any soul obtain the experience essential to answer the prayer of Christ, "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent" (John 17:3). . . . Put not your trust in princes, nor in the sons of man because they may be in positions of trust. The Lord has united your heart with Him. If you love Him, and are accepted in His service, bring all your burdens, both public and private, to the Lord and wait upon Him. You will then have an individual experience, a conviction of His presence and His readiness to hear your prayer for wisdom and for instruction that will give you assurance and confidence in the Lord's willingness to succor you in your perplexities. . . . --Manuscript 15, March 14, 1897, "Individual Experience Necessary."

Summation

Is Elder Reid denying the Holy Spirit's working?

Conclusion

One must question what authority Elder Reid has to make a spiritual decision on behalf of everyone, to decide what is of God and what is not. Each individual must study God's words for himself. Men will reject the Holy Spirit's working and turn against God's messengers. Pray and study to know God's will for you and then follow it.

Tithe counsel

Reid says: (see Appendix A)

“I note that he (Ernie Knoll) gives ‘tithe counsel’ directly contrary to what I already know to be true.”

God says:

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 294

There are those who are today doing the very same things. In their counsels they venture to pronounce judgment upon the work of God; for they have become trained in doing that which the Lord has never required them to do. They would better humble their own hearts before God, and keep their hands off the ark of God, lest the wrath of God shall break forth upon them; for if God has ever spoken by me, I testify that they have undertaken a work in criticizing and pronouncing unsound judgment which I know is not right. They are but finite men and, being befogged themselves, suppose that other men are in error.

Conclusion

Again, should we not go to the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy to find the truth on tithe instead of going by what Elder Reid “already knows to be true”? Elder Reid further uses kingly power to instruct that he is the last word on tithe counsel. Who will you listen to? Ed Reid, a man? Or God, the author of all!

Accountability for the use of tithe

Reid says: (See Appendix A)

“To say that the individual donor of tithe and offerings is responsible for any mismanagement on the part of church leaders is totally false.”

God says:

The Kress Collection, p. 120

The churches must arouse. The members must awake out of sleep and begin to inquire, How is the money which we put into the treasury being used? The Lord desires that a close search be made.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 261

There are fearful woes for those who preach the truth, but are not sanctified by it, and also for those who consent to receive and maintain the unsanctified to minister to them in word and doctrine. I am alarmed for the people of God who profess to believe solemn, important truth, for I know that many of them are not converted nor sanctified through it. Men can hear and acknowledge the whole truth, and yet know nothing of the power of godliness. All who preach the truth will not themselves be saved by it. Said the angel: “Be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord.”

Sermons and Talks, Vol. 2, p. 74

If the Conference business is not managed according to the order of the Lord, that is the sin of the erring ones. The Lord will not hold you responsible for it, if you do what you can to correct the evil. But do not commit sin yourselves by withholding from God his own property.

“Cursed be he that doeth the work of the Lord negligently,” or deceitfully.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 7, p. 176

God desires to bring men into direct relation with Himself. In all His dealings with human beings He recognizes the principle of personal responsibility. He seeks to encourage a sense of personal dependence and to impress the need of personal guidance. His gifts are committed to men as individuals. Every man has been made a steward of sacred trusts; each is to discharge his trust according to the direction of the Giver; and by each an account of his stewardship must be rendered to God.

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 361

Do we individually realize our true position, that as God's hired servants we are not to bargain away our stewardship? We have an individual accountability before the heavenly universe, to administer the trust committed us of God. Our own hearts are to be stirred. Our hands are to have something to impart of the income that God entrusts to us. The humblest of us may be agents for God, using our gifts for His name's glory. He who improves his talents to the best of his ability may present to God his offering as a consecrated gift that shall be as fragrant incense before Him. It is the duty of everyone to see that his talents are turned to advantage as a gift that he must return, having done his best to improve it.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 3, p. 553

It would be poor policy to support from the treasury of God those who really mar and injure His work, and who are constantly lowering the standard of Christianity.

Ibid., Vol. 5, p. 103

Those who give their influence to sustain an evil work are doing Satan's drudgery.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 17, p. 305

Properly done, the work of the gospel minister will add many souls to the fold. Many have made a mistake in receiving credentials. They will have to take up work to which they are better adapted than the preaching of the Word. They are being paid from the tithe, but their efforts are feeble, and they should not continue to be paid from the tithe. In many ways the ministry is losing its sacred character.

Series A, No. 1, p. 13, Feb. 1990 by Leaves of Autumn Books (copies of original pamphlets)

There are ministers, and not a few, either, that have carried credentials for years, and yet they do not give evidence of being converted men, either in their personal experience or in their labors. Their labors do not benefit the church, but in many instances are a positive injury. Many of our brethren have expressed themselves to the effect that if their Conference continues to pay money to such ministers, they will withhold

their tithes. We do not say that it would be right for individuals to withhold from the Lord that which is his; but, on the other hand, it certainly is very wrong for the Conference to give credentials to such men, and it is nothing less than sin to take the Lord's money to pay for such labor. There must be earnest labor with such men; and if they will not reform, there can be no reason why they should continue to hold credentials.

Then there are many that are even light and frivolous, and by this course they do more harm than good. These, too, should be labored with faithfully, and if they do not give evidence of reform, they should certainly not be continued in the ministry; for only evil can result from their work.

Although the following statement does not use the word "tithe," the principle stated is that we are accountable to God alone.

Spalding and Magan Collection, p. 176

The people to whom God has given his means are amenable to him alone.

What Ernie Knoll was shown in *Testing the Spirits* dream

"I watch again how we were shown that it is important His people understand that we are to return a tithe to His storehouse. I am again shown it is important that we understand what the funds are being used for. If an individual is providing funds and they understand that the funds are not being used according to His will, that person will be held accountable if they do nothing about bringing it to the attention of the recipient, the one who holds the keys. The Great Creator has said to pay a tribute to those who do His bidding. The Herald explains that many tributes are used toward Lucifer's work of using spiritualism and other forms of unholy worship practices from within God's church by those who collect and place the funds in a storehouse. The Herald says, 'That is not God's storehouse. Those that give will be able to see the blessing which comes as a wholesome fruit. They will see the fruits of the spirit as they give in faith when it is placed in God's storehouse.' "

Summation

As we can see from God's words, for Elder Reid to say that the individual donor of tithe and offerings is not responsible for any mismanagement on the part of church leaders is false.

Conclusion

Are we accountable? God says, "The Lord will not hold you responsible for it, if you do what you can to correct the evil." Are we then responsible if we know our money is being used for evil and do not do what we can to correct the evil? According to Ellen White's counsel, we are responsible and Elder Reid was wrong. We are accountable to God alone. However, it is interesting to note that when individuals try to correct the evil in the Church by speaking out, they are usually disfellowshipped and the evil not only continues but also worsens. As Ellen White stated in the *Spalding and Magan Collection*, p. 498, "Send no statement of the situation through our religious papers; because it will not be honored." This is why God stated in "The Boardroom" dream, "...let the war

begin in My house of worship." Is God saying, "It's time to take back the Church?" Has Elder Reid used his position to share only half the truth? God has told us each to study. If we only go by what Elder Reid has said instead of looking at the whole statement for ourselves, God will hold each of us accountable.

The use of tithe

Reid says: (see Appendix A)

"There is no place in the Bible – Old or New Testament – where God has told His followers to withhold or redirect their tithes when they feel that they are being misused by the church leaders."

Ellen White's use of tithe

Did Ellen White always pay her tithe to the local conference? Were there circumstances when she redirected it to support those working in the ministry and spreading the gospel? Especially when the conference would have hindered proper support of those involved in ministry?

Spalding and Magan Collection, p. 117

There are ministers' wives, Sisters Starr, Haskell, Wilson and Robinson, who have been devoted, earnest, whole-souled workers, giving Bible readings and praying with families, helping along by personal efforts just as successfully as their husbands. These women give their whole time, and are told that they receive nothing for their labors because their husbands receive their wages. I tell them to go forward and all such decisions shall be reversed. The Word says, "The laborer is worthy of his hire." When any such decision as this is made, I will in the name of the Lord, protest. I will feel it in my duty to create a fund from my tithe money, to pay these women who are accomplishing just as essential work as the ministers are doing, and this tithe I will reserve for work in the same line as that of the ministers, hunting for souls, fishing for souls. I know that these faithful women should be paid wages proportionate to the pay received by ministers.

Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 11, pp. 31-32

Many obstacles have been placed in the way of the pioneers at the Madison school of a nature to discourage them and drive them from the field. These obstacles were not placed there by the Lord. In some things the finite planning and devisings of men have worked counter to the work of God.

Let us be careful, brethren, lest we counterwork and hinder the progress of others, and so delay the sending forth of the gospel message. This has been done, and this is why I am now compelled to speak so plainly. If proper aid had been given to the school enterprise at Madison, its work might now be in a far more advanced stage of development. The work at Madison has made slow advancement, and yet, in spite of the obstacles and hindrances, these workers have not failed nor become discouraged; and they have been enabled to accomplish a good work in the cause of God.

The Lord does not set limits about His workers in some lines as men are wont to set. In their work, Brethren Magan and Sutherland have been hindered unnecessarily. Means have been withheld from them because in the organization and management of the Madison school, it was not placed under the control of the conference. But the reasons why this school was not owned and controlled by the conference have not been duly considered.

The lack of interest in this work, by some who should have valued it highly, is decidedly wrong. Our brethren must guard themselves against the repetition of such experiences.

The Lord does not require that the educational work at Madison shall be changed all about before it can receive the hearty support of our people. The work that has been done there is approved of God, and He forbids that this line of work shall be broken up. The Lord will continue to bless and sustain the workers so long as they follow His counsel.

Brethren Sutherland and Magan are as verily set to do the work of the Lord at Madison as other workers are appointed to do their part in the cause of present truth. The light given me is that we should help these brethren and their associates, who have worked beyond their strength, under great disadvantages. Let us seek to understand the situation, and see that justice and mercy are not forgotten in the distribution of funds.

The leaders in the work of the Madison school are laborers together with God. More must be done in their behalf by their brethren. The Lord's money is to sustain them in their labors. They have a right to share the means given to the cause. They should be given a proportionate share of the means that comes in for the furtherance of the cause. June 18, 1907.

Document file 213

On May 9, 1907, Charles E. Stewart of Battle Creek sent to Ellen White a compilation of charges and questions which cast doubt on her writings. In October of that year, the same material was put into a small book. Later it was published by E. S. Ballenger, another of Ellen White's critics. Because of this, W. W. Prescott, A. G. Daniells, and Willie White (Ellen White's son and secretary) wrote a document to refute charges made against Ellen White. Among other things, it was charged that Ellen White's counsels and practice in regard to the tithe were not consistent, that she did not always follow her own recommendations. The following statement written by Prescott, Daniells, and Willie White comes from Document File 213, which is located in the White Estate Office in Loma Linda. It reveals how they completely understood Ellen White's teachings in regard to tithe paying. Here is what it states. "As to the proper use of the tithe: The outline of a statement on this subject which was agreed upon was briefly this: To give extracts from Sister White's writings as to the tithe and its use; to show that her testimony and her own usual practice was in favor of paying the tithe into the regularly designated treasury, to be used under the counsel of the committees appointed for such purposes; to show further from her writings that when those who have charge of the expenditure of the tithe so far fail in the discharge of their duty that the regularly organized channels for the

distribution of tithe become hindrances to its proper use, then in order to carry out the divine plan that the tithe should be expended in the wisest manner for the furtherance of the work, individuals have the right to pay their tithes direct to the needy fields; but that this involves a considerable degree of personal responsibility, which must be assumed by those who decide to follow this plan. It was thought that this matter could be handled in a way to show that the departure from the regular plans was authorized only when the regular plans failed to be carried out by those in positions of responsibility.” (This statement may be ordered from the following address: Department of Archives & Special Collections, Del E. Webb Memorial Library, Loma Linda University, 11072 Anderson Street, Loma Linda, CA 92350/(909) 558-4942.)

Fact

We agree that God’s people should not withhold tithe. However, on the matter of redirecting tithe, Elder Reid has left out the fact that Ellen White did this herself under certain circumstances and worked with others to do so. Circumstances alter the situation. See [Appendix B](#) regarding the Watson letter.

The widow’s mites

Reid says: (see [Appendix A](#))

"In fact, the only offering that Jesus ever commended was when a poor widow gave two mites (apparently all she had) to a church that was just about to crucify Him! (See Mark 12:41-44)."

God says:

Luke 21:1-4

And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury. And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all: For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.

Lesson taught

What was the lesson Jesus was teaching? “For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.” Was the widow even aware of the corruption? Evidence shows that this was not a call to give to a corrupt Church, but rather a lesson regarding the heart of the giver. On another note, nowhere in the above verses does it state that she was placing “tithe” in the treasury.

Summation

Again, Elder Reid has gone against inspiration by saying that one cannot redirect tithe when there is misuse.

Conclusion

We are to be cheerful givers to God’s storehouse, supporting effective ministry wherever that may be.

The storehouse

Malachi 3:10

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Where is the storehouse?

Reid says:

“Some members have wondered whether or not it would be appropriate to send their tithe directly to denominational institutions such as the entities at the Adventist Media Center where ordained Adventist ministers are employed. Church leaders have felt that, in order to be consistent with the Scriptures and the Spirit of Prophecy counsel and to present a clear picture to the membership, the conference level of our church organization should be recognized as the storehouse.”

“It should be very obvious that not only do all church members, including church leaders themselves, have a duty to be faithful in returning the tithe to the storehouse—the conference treasury—but also the church leaders have a solemn responsibility to use the money wisely.”
-- IN SEARCH OF THE STOREHOUSE. Some Key Questions on Tithing.

The General Conference says:

“Only conference organizations are authorized to make allocations from tithe funds. The tithe is the Lord's and should be returned to the storehouse, the conference treasury, through the member's home church.”

These guidelines were adopted and voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Executive Committee at the Annual Council Session in Washington, D.C., October 14, 1985. General Conference Guidelines on the Use of Tithe.

God says:

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 6, p. 447

There are only two places in the world where we can deposit our treasures -- in God's storehouse or in Satan's, and all that is not devoted to Christ's service is counted on Satan's side and goes to strengthen his cause.

The Review and Herald, December 17, 1901

This earth is the Lord's storehouse, from which we are ever drawing. He has provided fruits and grains and vegetables for our sustenance. For us He makes the sun to shine and the rain to fall. The whole human family, good and evil, are constantly drawing from God's storehouse. It makes every difference with those so highly privileged how they receive the Lord's gifts, and how they treat the contract the Lord has made with them. He has made them His almoners, directing them to draw from His storehouse, and then make a return to Him in gifts and offerings, ‘that there may be meat in mine house,’ He says.

Summation

Elder Reid and the General Conference are mandating that tithe is to only go into the church offering plate. We have the choice to deposit our tithe in either God's storehouse or Satan's storehouse.

Conclusion

We should never withhold from God His tithe. Everything we have and are comes from His treasury, and we have no right to withhold anything from Him—let alone the tithe. However, does this mean that the Conference treasury created and owns everything we have and are? Does it have a right to require us to return a tithe to itself? How can we return something to them, if they never had it in the first place? Would not this be a virtual claim to deity by the Conference? Any power that would interpose itself between the soul and God, any power that puts the commandments of man ahead of the commandments of God is a false god. We do believe in church organization, but we repudiate the Church's taking of kingly power, which is idolatry (substituting its will in place of God's will). Let us remember that the formation of the Beast involved transferring faith from Christ to the Church. Today we see the same thing happening in Adventism.

Baptismal vows: then and now

The baptismal vows of 1874, 1931, and 1990 regarding tithe demonstrate the view of the Church on where tithe is to go. Look at the changes in each vow to see how the Church has redirected the tithe to itself as the only place where it must go.

1874: Vow 8: Will you practice the Bible plan for the support of God's work by rendering unto Him first the tithe, or one tenth of all your increase (Lev. 27:30; Mal. 3:8-10); and then offerings as you may be able, according to His prospering hand? Deut. 16:17; Luke 6:38.

1931: Vow 11: Do you recognize the fact that God claims one-tenth of all our substance as His for the support of His work in advancing the Gospel of Christ; and will you faithfully render to Him His own - the tithe and offerings in the support of the world-wide work of the church?

1990: Vow 9: Do you believe in church organization? Is it your purpose to worship God and to support the church through your tithes and offerings and by your personal effort and influence?

The Twenty-eight Fundamentals, By Russell R. Standish, Ch. 22, p. 100.
Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual, Revised 2005, 17th Edition, p. 34.

Summation

As time passed, the baptismal vows reflected a change in truth. Has an enemy done this?

Conclusion

In 1874, the baptismal candidate was asked to support "God's work."
 In 1931, this was changed to "the world-wide work of the church."
 In 1990, it was changed to "the church."

With this vow, the Church now states that it alone is to receive the tithe from God's people. New members are now being mandated as to where to pay their tithes.

Independent ministries

Reid says:

"So what about the needs of the 'supporting independent ministries' and other phases of God's work? . . . 'Provision is to be made for these other lines of work. They are to be sustained, but not from the tithe. God has not changed; the tithe is still to be used for the support of the ministry.' " --IN SEARCH OF THE STOREHOUSE. Some Key Questions on Tithing..

Fact

Elder Reid contradicts himself in the above statement. If tithe is "for the support of the ministry," and independent ministries are a ministry, why should they not have support from tithe as well?

God says:

In the following verses, Paul, as a self-supporting minister, gives evidence that the Philippians provided for his necessities.

Philippians 4:14-17

Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction. Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

History says:

In the past, many self-supporting ministries were accepted by the General Conference as appropriate channels for receiving tithe. These included such ministries as 3ABN, Adventist Frontier Missions, Amazing Facts, Breath of Life, Faith for Today, Hartland Institute, It Is Written, Quiet Hour, Voice of Prophecy, and Weimar Institute. (See *Tithes & Offerings – Trampling the Conscience* by Colin and Russell Standish)

Ordering information:

Hartland Publications,
P.O. Box 1, Rapidan, VA 22733
www.hartlandpublications.com
info@hartlandpublications.org
540-672-3566; 800-774-3566
Fax: 540-672-3568

Misapplied by many

The following quote has been misapplied by many to say that tithe is to be paid to only one ministry and not to other ministries.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 9, p. 247

Let none feel at liberty to retain their tithe, to use according to their own judgment. They are not to use it for themselves in an emergency, nor

to apply it as they see fit, even in what they may regard as the Lord's work.

However, what Ellen White meant is made clear if the reader continues on to the following quote.

Ibid., pp. 248-249

One reasons that the tithe may be applied to school purposes. Still others reason that canvassers and colporteurs should be supported from the tithe. But a great mistake is made when the tithe is drawn from the object for which it is to be used--the support of the ministers.

Summation

With the facts from God's words and the history of self-supporting ministries regarding tithe, it is clear that Elder Reid has again contradicted himself.

Conclusion

Inspiration plainly states that self-supporting ministries are part of the ministry, which God's people should also support by tithes. It is dangerous for anyone to say that tithe should always go to a certain place no matter what is done or taught. Tithe is to go for those who do God's bidding.

Offerings also to go to the storehouse or Lord's treasury

God says:

Evangelism, p. 252

We are to give the message of warning to the world, and how are we doing our work? Are you, brethren, preaching that part of the truth that pleases the people, while other parts of the work are left incomplete? Will it be necessary for someone to follow after you, and urge upon the people the duty of faithfully bringing all the tithes and offerings into the Lord's treasury? This is the work of the minister, but it has been sadly neglected. The people have robbed God, and the wrong has been suffered because the minister did not want to displease his brethren. God calls these men unfaithful stewards.

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 338

As God's work extends, calls for help will come more and more frequently. That these calls may be answered, Christians should heed the command, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house." Malachi 3:10. If professing Christians would faithfully bring to God their tithes and offerings, His treasury would be full. There would then be no occasion to resort to fairs, lotteries, or parties of pleasure to secure funds for the support of the gospel.

The Review and Herald, December 8, 1896

The Lord declares that what a man sows he shall also reap. Shall we not, then, by our good works, seek to sow the very best quality of seed? In the last days of the old year shall we not make our account right with God by bringing all the tithes into his storehouse? Will any venture longer to rob God in tithes and offerings? In the coming holidays, let our gifts be not to one another, but to the house of God, "that there may," he

says, "be meat in mine house." In place of spending our time and means in getting up something to surprise and gratify our friends, shall we not turn all our offerings into God's treasury? Shall we not make a thank-offering to the Lord? Will those who profess to be Christians see this matter in its true bearing? Will they awake to a sense of their obligation to God, and render to him his own?" Every man as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

Ibid., September 12, 1899

Money is a talent, which is to be placed in God's treasury, for investment in his cause. But many are robbing God in tithes and offerings. "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me," God declares. "But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 19, p. 376

The time has come when the tithes and offerings belonging to the Lord are to be used in accomplishing a decided work. They are to be brought into the treasury to be used in an orderly way to sustain the gospel laborers in their work.

Pacific Union Recorder, October 10, 1901

If all the tithes were brought into the storehouse, God's treasury would not be empty.

Fact

The storehouse and treasury are used interchangeably. Not only tithe, but our offerings are also to be returned to the Lord's treasury or storehouse.

Summation

The Church is not consistent because it says all tithes must go to the storehouse or conference treasury but our offerings can be used to support what we like.

Conclusion

If we understand the storehouse to refer to the Conference only, then to be consistent, all our offerings must also be returned to the Conference. How then would independent ministries and other phases of God's work survive without the support of offerings if it was returned only to the Conference? The truth is, the storehouse is not just the Conference treasury, but includes those who are doing God's bidding as gospel workers.

Misappropriation of tithe

Elder Reid references the following quotations. (see [Appendix A](#))

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 9, p. 249

Some have been dissatisfied and have said: "I will not longer pay my tithe; for I have no confidence in the way things are managed at the heart of the work." But will you rob God because you think the management of the work is not right? Make your complaint, plainly and openly, in the

right spirit, to the proper ones. Send in your petitions for things to be adjusted and set in order; but do not withdraw from the work of God, and prove unfaithful, because others are not doing right.

Sermons and Talks, Vol. 2, p. 74

Cannot you see that it is not best under any circumstances to withhold your tithes and offerings because you are not in harmony with everything that your brethren do? The tithes and offerings are not the property of any man, but are to be used in doing a certain work for God. Unworthy ministers may receive some of the means thus raised, but dare anyone, because of this, withhold from the treasury and brave the curse of God? I dare not.

Fact

The above refers to the issues of poor management of tithe by leaders and the withholding of tithe from the work of God. Nowhere does it state that tithe is not to go to self-supporting gospel workers. Additionally, have any of you, who have made your complaint, seen any change in the questionable management of tithe usage by the leaders?

Conference investments

“Of the approximately \$295 million invested, the net return, including market fluctuations, dividends and interest, was a decrease of \$7.6 million or approximately 2.7%.” (See [Appendix C](#), in particular: slides 7, 8, and 37. Notice on slide 37 that \$11 million dollars of tithe funds was lost in 2008.) Source:

<http://news.adventist.org/assets/2009%20Spring%20Meeting%20treas%20report.pdf>

“The General Conference’s funds are conservatively invested with approximately 12% in equities (stocks) and 88% in fixed income (government securities, bonds, time deposits, etc.). The North American Division retirement funds which do not belong to, but are held in trust by, the General Conference have a much higher percentage in equities due to the longer time frame for use of these funds.” Reflections - The BRI Newsletter, Number 25, January 2009

Example of tithe misused

“With the election of Luther R. Palmer as president of Lake Region Conference (LRC), North American Division and Lake Union officers hope to shut the door on a difficult era.

The former Columbia Union Conference secretary took over his new position on April 9, replacing Dr. Charles D. Joseph, who resigned as chief executive and spiritual leader of the 19,000 predominantly Black and Hispanic worshippers...

On July 28, 1986, the North American Division committee approved the formation of a survey team to study Lake Region's finances. The study centered on four areas:

- Delinquent tithe payments.
- Use of tithes for nontithe purposes.
- The Continental Plaza Project.

- Financial stability of the Lake Region Conference.

The survey team found that Lake Region began falling behind in its regular tithe remittances to the Lake Union in 1982. The pattern continued over the next three years, with \$1,119,996.40 owed at the end of 1985. Even though a five-year repayment agreement was reached between the local and union conferences, the remittances continued to lag behind. As of May 31, 1987, the unremitted funds totaled \$1,464,611.93.

During the investigation, Joseph said he had allowed more than \$1 million in tithe to be used for nontithe purposes since 1982.

Some of the tithe funds were used to pay interest on a \$765,000 mortgage taken out on the Shiloh church in Chicago. Even though the mortgage was taken out on the church in 1983 by the conference, the congregation was not informed of this action until June 14, 1986.” Adventist Review, August 6, 1987, p. 23. Source:

http://www.adventistarchives.org/docs/RH/RH19870806-V164-32_B.pdf#view=fit

God says:

Malachi 3:8

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

Can the Church rob God?

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 11, p. 102

The great worker of evil is on the track of every soul. Unfair dealings, the misappropriation of the Lord's funds, the investing of money in worldly projects, is holding back work which the Lord designs shall be done.

Thus Satan inspires men to block the way of the advancement of God's kingdom. God sees every deed done, and He sees also the outcome of that deed. Those who have done deeds which have hedged up the way of the work of salvation are weighed in the balances and found wanting.

Ibid., Vol. 8, p. 8

It should not be the chief consideration of conference officers to collect and save up money, for then the real work of the conference, the salvation of souls, will become a matter of secondary importance. Our people should never be permitted to lose sight of a world shrouded in darkness, waiting for the light of the gospel message.

What a change would have been seen in this conference, if all its laborers, with truly converted hearts, had worked with zeal and sanctified ability! Men and women would have been converted to the truth through the preaching of the Word, and these would have reached out for others. Many souls would have been converted, and these new converts would have brought additional revenue to the cause of God in their tithes and offerings.

The character of the economy which has often been revealed in the effort to save up means, is an offense to God. He says, "The gold and the silver is Mine." Religious and spiritual interests must not be narrowed

down and subordinated to the accumulation of means in the conference treasury, that the officers may stand high in the estimation of the people as good financiers. The Lord looks beneath the surface to the outcome, and He does not approve of such financiering.

Gospel Workers, p. 456

In some conferences it has been considered commendable to save up means, and to show a large surplus in the treasury. But in this God has not been honored. It would have been better if the money thus laid by had been wisely expended in supporting diligent, efficient laborers in needy fields.

The Upward Look, p. 21

Financial speculations are Satan's snares, laid to catch souls. . . . Satan engrosses men's minds with dreamlike prospects of great gain, and in their greed for gain, those who yield to him make representations which are positively untrue. God and the truth are forgotten. . . . The effort to make money fast enough to meet their extravagant expenses, draws many into the gambling hell. . . .

The Review and Herald, April 14, 1903

Regarding investment in bonds, I am instructed to say farther that if no voice were raised against this arrangement, if our people should tie up their money in such investment, when it became necessary to call for means for aggressive missionary work, it would be found that there was a greater dearth of means among us than there is now.

This Day With God, p. 280

Men feverishly invest their capital of money in bonds and stocks, become wealthy in a day, and yet are unsatisfied. They continue to invest with insane expectancy.

Counsels on Stewardship, p. 242

In the night season I was instructed to tell God's people that it is not according to His will that those who believe in His near coming should invest their means in mining stock. This would be burying our Lord's talent in the earth.

This Day With God, p. 130

Ellen White's Investments

Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. Luke 12:33.

We are all well this morning. Last night, Mr. and Mrs. A called. We had a good visit. The conversation ran on bank stock, how many were getting rich from investing their means. Some also were meeting with loss. Thus losses and gains were discussed by Mr. and Mrs. A and Sister B and C.

"Now," Mrs. A said, "Mrs. White must say something. She must tell us what she thinks. She has not said a word yet."

"Well," said I, slowly, "I have been many years investing in bank stock, and met with no loss. It has yielded me back all the principal and heavy interest."

All looked up with surprise. C smiled. Mr. A asked, "Where have you invested?"

"In heavenly stock. I have been sending my treasure before me into heaven. The owner in this heavenly stock had warned me, 'Lay not up for yourself treasures upon the earth,' and told me the danger I should incur of great losses; but He had counseled me, 'Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.' This investment is certain, and will yield immense profits."

Pacific Union Recorder, March 27, 1902, par. 15

The ardor of the youth is now needed. They should put away vanity and restrict their wants. I would urge upon them and upon all our people that the money usually invested in unnecessary things be put to a higher, holier use. Do what you can toward creating a fund for the aged ministers, worn out with constant labor and care. Consecrate all that you have to the Lord. Do not use your money to gratify self. Put it into the Lord's treasury. Do not allow means to pass recklessly out of your hands merely to gratify the wishes of yourselves or others. In your expenditure of means consider that it is the Lord's money which you are handling, and that you must render to Him an account for its use.

Another excerpt from *Testing the Spirits dream*

"I am now shown that many pastors and teachers are being dismissed from their jobs. This is not because they are not working correctly but because the monies that were placed in the offering basket were squandered away. It was invested not in souls or the proclaiming of His message but in the gambling halls of Satan. I am told the monies were not invested in man but thrown to the wind. We reap what we sow. I watch as many of God's churches became empty because of the lack of faithful ministers."

Lack of faith?

Is it not a lack of faith on the Church's part to "save up means" by investing rather than trusting that God will provide as needed?

God's says:

Matthew 6:19-21

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Other misappropriations

Included below are statements from three books regarding financial failures within Seventh-day Adventist institutions. Each author attempts to provide solutions to the financial problems.

1. *Fatal Accounts*, by David Dennis

David Dennis worked for the Church for nearly 35 years, 19 of which he was the director of internal auditing at the General Conference. He was fired from that position for being a “whistleblower” regarding the financial corruption as detailed below. He did what he could to correct the evil because it was the right thing to do. He also followed God’s counsel so that he would not share in the responsibility for the tithe’s misuse.

- “. . . we had to deal with embezzlement, misappropriation, and incompetent management at the highest levels of Church leadership.”
- In the Davenport bankruptcy scandal around 1979, the Church suffered the loss of millions of dollars.
- At a 1988 Spring Meeting, General Conference president, Neal Wilson, urged the removal of salary caps for Adventist Health executives. Union presidents received perks for their involvement in the health system, such as free cruises and other significant gifts.
- During Robert Folkenberg’s presidency, “. . . a \$150,000 ‘interest free’ home loan had been extended to the newly elected vice president for North America, Alfred McClure, Folkenberg’s long-time close personal friend. Further investigation revealed that money receipted to the ‘worthy-student fund’ had been used to provide salaries for both Folkenberg and McClure’s wives, though they were doing no work to justify the pay.” This scheme originated with Ronald Wisbey, then Columbia Union president. McClure also “sold his personal residence in Georgia for greater than market value to the health system, whose board he chaired.”
- On the topic of litigation: “. . . millions of dollars, tithe and non-tithe, spent so the Church would not have to defend itself in court.” “. . . such approval [millions for litigation] comes from a very tight circle of administrators . . . typically made by only two or three officers, in counsel with highly compensated GC-employed attorneys. They then engage prestigious law firms who, with carte blanche, charge unimaginably large sums. How can this kind of behavior be justified in a Church that forbids its own members from taking one another to court?” The following quote comes from Thomas E. Wetmore, a Church-employed attorney: “[Inviting Mr. Dennis to] dialog with anyone in Church leadership is very much like [asking] Osama bin Ladin to address the UN on topics of world peace, US government reform and global evangelical objectives and strategies for Christianity. . . . Whatever [Mr. Dennis] has to say on ANY topic will be viewed with the same degree of suspicion and skepticism as Osama bin Ladin. . . . I am not overstating the matter in the slightest. . . . Do you really expect anyone, except the lunatic fringe, to take [his] ideas seriously?”

- “. . . the Church also allows it [tithe] to be used to pay for janitorial services of the various conference offices and to subsidize church school teachers’ salaries.”
- “. . . the abuses in the use of tithe are even more egregious [glaring] than abuses in its collection. More disconcerting than any deception created in promoting the tithing concept is the typical lack of transparency in properly reporting how the tithe is actually used.”
- “It’s time for Adventism to turn from its hierarchical style of administration, modeled on the Roman Catholic, and seriously consider a more simplified method of leadership.”

Ordering information:

Adventist Today,

P.O. Box 8026, Riverside, CA 92515-8026

<http://www.atoday.com/content/truth-decay-call-accountability-transparency-adventist-church-click-description>

atoday@atoday.com

(503) 826-8600 or (800) 236-3641

Please note that the For My People Ministry does not endorse everything that is on the Adventist Today website.

2. Truth Decay, by Albert C. Koppel, DDS

Albert Koppel spent his entire career as a dentist. Because of his experiences in donating to the Church, he wants to help rebuild problem areas where trust and faith among members has eroded, due to carelessness and mismanagement, particularly in the Trust Services area.

- “. . . business problems associated with handling large sums of money in the Church are significant.”
- “In my experience, the ‘primary goal’ of the Church’s Trust Services representatives has been to urge Church members to give most—if not all—of their assets to the Church’s general fund.”
- “As my wife and I pass from the scene, we want more—not fewer—Church members to feel comfortable entrusting their God-given assets to our beloved Church. But how can that happen when we see so many mistakes—so many variances from the line of ethical behavior among even our top Trust personnel?”
- “The simple solution is for Trust officials to seek first to minister to donors and their survivors as souls for salvation, rather than sources of cash for the Conference. If Trust officials could get this straight in their minds, I believe the Church would have 100 donated and entrusted dollars where today it has only one.”
- In dealing with one Union office regarding a large sum entrusted to it, Koppel states, “What we found was secrecy, non-answers, stonewalling, lack of information, and failure of Conference officials to show up at meetings they themselves had scheduled to supposedly discuss the situation.”

- To “some high Church officials . . . tithe is apparently no longer a sacred, separate fund worth honoring.”
- “My experience convinces me that Church administrators seem intuitively wary of informed lay involvement.”
- “Another thing I was learning about my Church is the competitive spirit among conferences and institutions. I have yet to see a Church administrator rejoice that another entity of the Lord’s vineyard has been blessed by the liberality of one of its saints.”
- “Our Trust leaders . . . know that the great equalizer in their calculations is time—as members age, they can be led to make commitments they might not have made at the height of their mental and physical powers. This needs to change! The Church cannot afford to be seen as pressuring the infirm and afflicted. Integrity demands that we come to terms with the questionable behavior of our past and take steps to change it.”
- “Kenneth Wood, former editor of the *Review & Herald* (now *Adventist Review*), had written me a letter in July 2001, warning me of the treatment I could expect from the ‘brethren.’ ”
- “The attorney immediately told me that, in his opinion, such investments could be considered ‘Self Dealing’ on the part of the _____ Union, and therefore illegal by Internal Revenue Service standards.”
- “. . . Adventist Review, and Ministry all stress the need for accountability, candor, openness, honesty, integrity, freedom of information, and transparency. Each of these journals also decries secrecy, conflicts of interest, inappropriate business associations, and misuse of office. How wonderful it sounds! But I simply don’t see the practice matching the preaching.”
- “After reading the story of my father’s experience with the Church, another denominational employee, an ordained minister with 20 years of service in mission and departmental work, wrote me: ‘The account of your father’s frugal life and extraordinary commitment to his Church is truly inspiring. That his faithfulness was not matched by the stewardship of ‘the brethren’ in whom he trusted is truly sad. I would like to believe that yours is just an isolated case. But unfortunately my own experience with ‘the brethren’ and their system leads me to suspect that it is not.’ ”
- “A senior General Conference officer recently wrote me: ‘I was not surprised, not in the least [by the account of your family’s experience with the Church.] Sadly, I could add to it.’ ”
- “I am further convinced that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is not ‘user friendly.’ My exposure to the gross inconsistencies between what is preached and what is practiced causes the deep respect for Church leaders that had been ingrained in me since childhood, to waver.”
- Loma Linda University Trust Foundation has a policy not to accept funds from gambling operations. However, I’m reliably informed that LLU recently found a way to work around that policy and accept a donation from such sources. I wish we could all learn that God really doesn’t need our money—the real blessing comes to us, the givers.

- “. . . while I was visiting the offices of the Loma Linda University Trust Services . . . I asked one of the auditors if I, the holder of several Trusts with the university, was entitled to receive a copy of the particulars of what the auditors discovered. He assured me that such information was not available to me and would be shared only with the boards of those being audited. ‘What a lack of transparency!’ I thought. ‘Their reports are of vital interest to me and my financial contributions help pay their salaries, yet I am not entitled to review their specific findings.’ ”
- “As long as a climate of secrecy persists and members are categorized as either ‘safe’ or ‘bone-pickers,’ the cycle of distrust and discontent will continue to roil and grow. More and more lay people will slowly stop giving to a denomination that once enjoyed a level of per capita giving unparalleled in the history of Protestant denominations.”
- “Little seems to be done to change the status quo. At the 2005 General Session of the Church, hearings were held at great length, where lay persons voiced great dissatisfaction and impatience with the Church’s overall climate of leadership.
- “. . . little or nothing has been done in an overall institutional sense to open up the windows of Church administration and address those significant questions of accountability expressed by the 2005 delegates.

In this same book, the following statements are made by Norman Smith, Ph.D. who works in the aerospace industry. He has taught math and sciences in Adventist educational institutions and is the founding secretary-treasurer of Members for Church Accountability.

- “Here I wish to focus on the inadequate structure—a structure that leaves the Church highly vulnerable to the failings of its human leadership. I believe that one of the strongest evidences that the case is one of deep-seated dysfunction is the complete unwillingness on the part of higher conference leaders to engage in any meaningful dialogue with groups of members who are concerned about such problems.”
- “What is abundantly clear is that many Church leaders adamantly refuse to provide ways of assuring members in the pew that the Church is operated in an ethical manner.”
- “The time to put monitoring arrangements in place is now, before misbehavior in the ruling network of the Church becomes the accepted norm.”
- “Church auditors deserve credit for keeping the level of criminal fraud and embezzlement in the Church relatively low. But the current auditing arrangement and manner of Church governance leaves the denomination inadequately protected from conflict of interest, profiteering, bullying, and related conduct. . . . Unfortunately, the average member has very little insight into how business often gets done at the high conference levels. Worse still, there is no effective ‘supportive’ means for members to voice their discontent with the status quo. Those who do are labeled ‘rebellious’ or ‘troublemakers.’ ”

Ordering information:

LifeScape Publishing, 19291 SE 502nd Avenue, Sandy, OR 97055
503-668-7956; 828-684-8343 (author's phone)

3. *Who Watches? Who Cares?* by Douglas Hackleman

Douglas Hackleman taught for several years at La Sierra College and Loma Linda University before working independently as a consultant to publishers—freelancing as editor, author, and illustrator. The book covers the following financial failures between 1978 and 1999.

- Fuller Memorial Hospital (Massachusetts) and Pawtucket Nursing Villa
- Donald J. Davenport
- Harris Pine Mills
- Family Enrichment Resources
- Shady Grove Adventist Hospital and Adventist HealthCare
- James Moore, Kanaka Valley Associates and Robert S. Folkenberg's resignation
- Boston Regional Medical Center

Some excerpts from the book include:

- “. . . the fond hope of MCA's [Members for Church Accountability, Inc.] leaders—is to alert church members to a collection of symptoms that make up a syndrome that results in the repeated and ongoing losses of millions of dollars in tithe and offerings, institutions and reputation from what so many Adventists believe to be the object of our Heavenly Father's supreme regard.”
- “. . . And then there is always the ‘team player’ dynamic among a considerable proportion of institutional workers who view the warnings of onlooking realists as an improper form of negativity or disloyalty. History is riddled with the shattered lives of unappreciated whistle blowers. And some of the laymen who attempted to blow the whistle in the cases presented in this collection were vilified and even disfellowshipped.”
- “This much watching and caring is due to the proactive zeal of MCA. . . outraged by the scores of millions of denominational dollars squandered through the poor stewardship of tithes, offerings, institutions and investments.”
- “More obvious in their efforts to heal and to inoculate the church are the concluding essays that attempt to identify, understand and excise the malignant stewardship syndrome that contributed so much to these unnecessary losses.”

Comments follow by W. Arden Clarke who worked for the SDA Church for 43 years as school teacher, pastor and trust officer and director in two conferences.

- “I entered into denominational employment in 1939 amidst these clichés: ‘Trust the Brethren,’ ‘Don’t upset the apple cart’ and decisions and policies are made by the ‘powers that be.’ ”

- “It took several years’ experience before the scales fell from my eyes and I learned that there was no innocent reason for the power-centered structure.”
- “It takes not only courage but also definite and clearly understood plans to effect change in the entrenched practices and procedures of any organization—and more so in a church because of its members’ tendency to believe that God overrules in all it does, which definitely is not so.”
- “In my book, *And the People Said, ‘We Will Serve the Lord,’* I report on the officers of a local conference who had become flagrantly abusive of ministers and teachers, and woefully derelict in their expenditure of conference funds.”
- “So long as the local conference is responsible to the churches, the churches direct the affairs of the church at large for Christ under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This can never be done by power-seeking dictators. A dictator directed church is not Christian; it never has been and never can be!”
- “‘The union is subordinate,’ Wilson [Neil] reminded the delegates; ‘[i]t must recognize us as the higher authority.’ (This is exemplary of the long-practiced arrogance of Adventist leadership.)”
- “I am convinced that the church is in crisis and needs every loyal and devoted member to be true and faithful at this time. Reforms and changes in church structure must be made, and made with love for our brethren—but with a firm determination to be true to God and His truth.”
- “Is it not clear that God’s church today has rejected God and His message? They have chosen to obey and worship—by obedience—a mere man, or other men, just because they hold leadership positions. By comparing the votes of the General Conference of 1902 and the contradictory vote of 1903 . . . it is clearly revealed that the church officially rejected God. The Elijah message is God’s call to return to the worship of the true God.”

In this same book, comments follow by Stewart Shankel who is a clinical professor and director of clinical instruction in the Division of Biomedical Sciences at the University of California at Riverside.

- “If Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel (or many of the other minor prophets) were alive today, they would be roundly chastised for being so critical of “God’s chosen leaders.”
- “Implied in the giving of ourselves is that we require, and work to make certain—that those in charge of our church are accountable. Not only are they accountable to God, they are also accountable to every shareholder—you and me.”
- “Are we much different than literal Israel? How do we—you and I and those in leadership positions—deal with critics and criticism? Do we ignore, rebuke, chastise, and isolate those who present constructive criticism? Might this be why so few church members are willing to speak out and take a stand on problems that they see and know exist within the church?”

We conclude with Douglas Hackleman, the author.

- “Without including the value of the institutions that were lost to the church or the interest on investments that are no longer available, five of the stories represent a combined loss in the neighborhood of \$81 million. . . . At a minimum, the generosity of 87,852 North American Division Adventists for an entire year was simply thrown away. . . . five stories of institutional and investment loss is equivalent to setting fire to the sacrifices of 450,000 Adventist members.”
- “The Seventh-day Adventist Church appears much of the time to be a consequence-free zone that is often justified under the guise of mercy, forgiveness or the admonition to judge not. Only profound misunderstandings enable anyone to construe that mercy and forgiveness mean that failed duties are not met with reassignment and narrowed responsibility. And the admonition to judge not lest we be judged has to do not so much with job performance as it does with fitness for the hereafter—the Almighty’s sole prerogative.”
- “Since the culmination of these events that racked the church in the last two decades of the second millennium, there has been little apparent movement toward the corrective measures that could obviate future disasters. This torpor is a part of administrative human nature that beggars credulity, not to mention the patience of the saints.”
- “Not one person responsible for any part in these stories of administrative or fiduciary failure has come forward publicly to bewail his responsibility in the loss of money, institutions or reputation; and to crusade for the kinds of changes that would help him and others like him to perform their work for the church in a way that the traveling Landlord required of his servants.”
- “Nevertheless, because these disasters were not due to flood, fire or earthquake (acts of God), they were not beyond our collective control. We the church members, acting as enablers, are by no means blameless—giving and give of our means without requiring accountability. The intention of MCA with this publication is to motivate every Adventist not only to watch and to care, but to agitate for those adjustments to policy, oversight and transparency that will preclude the need for a sequel to this publication.” –February 2008

Ordering information:

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Extra on litigation

See Appendix D that shows a letter from the General Conference stating that all litigation is paid from tithe.

Tithe exchange

The following is taken from *Adventist Today*, Fall 2009 by J. David Newman:

“When I joined the Ministerial Association of the General Conference, I was soon appointed to a subcommittee on the use of tithe. There I learned about tithe exchange. This is where the richer conferences with too much tithe (that is, more than they need to pay their current pastors) send up their excess tithe to the General Conference, which then sends back to these conferences non-tithe money (taken from offerings like Sabbath School missions). Now they can use this money for whatever they want, whereas tithe spending is somewhat restricted. There was a lot of debate about this practice, with some of us arguing that it was immoral.”

Summation

Ed Reid's statements have not brought about a stop to the questions of tithe misappropriation.

Conclusion

As we can see from the above examples of investments, tithe exchange, litigation, etc., the financial accountability of the tithes in the SDA Church is not right. How many other examples are there that we are not even aware of that go against God's words?

Ezekiel 8:6-18

He said furthermore unto me, Son of man, seest thou what they do? even the great abominations that the house of Israel committeth here, that I should go far off from my sanctuary? but turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations. And he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold a hole in the wall. Then said he unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall: and when I had digged in the wall, behold a door. And he said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here. So I went in and saw; and behold every form of creeping things, and abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, pourtrayed upon the wall round about. And there stood before them seventy men of the ancients of the house of Israel, and in the midst of them stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan, with every man his censer in his hand; and a thick cloud of incense went up. Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery? for they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth. He said also unto me, Turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations that they do. Then he brought me to the door of the gate of the LORD's house which was toward the north; and, behold, there sat women weeping for Tammuz. Then said he unto me, Hast thou seen this, O son of man? turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations than these. And he brought me into the inner court of the LORD's house, and, behold, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of the LORD, and their faces toward the east; and they worshipped the sun toward the east. Then he said unto me, Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? for they

have filled the land with violence, and have returned to provoke me to anger: and, lo, they put the branch to their nose. Therefore will I also deal in fury: mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them.

Chapter conclusion

In referencing John 3:10, we must ask Elder Reid, “Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?”

The reader may be asking, “But shouldn’t we listen to the educated and noble men of the Church?”

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 11, p. 102

When a man who has had great light, who is supposed to be led and taught by God, turns out of the way because of self-confidence, he makes false paths for his feet. He follows crooked practices, and many who have admired the supposed nobility and integrity of his character, follow his example, thinking that the Lord is leading him. The false step he took resulted in thousands of false steps.

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 109

We must study the truth for ourselves. No man should be relied upon to think for us. No matter who he is, or in what position he may be placed, we are not to look upon any man as a criterion for us. We are to counsel together, and to be subject one to another; but at the same time we are to exercise the ability God has given us, in order to learn what is truth. Each one of us must look to God for divine enlightenment. We must individually develop a character that will stand the test in the day of God. We must not become set in our ideas, and think that no one should interfere with our opinions.

The Kress Collection, p. 120

Our churches and institutions must return to where they were before the backsliding commenced, when they began trusting in man and making flesh their arm. Have we not seen enough of human wisdom? Shall we not now seek God in earnestness and simplicity, and serve him with heart and mind and strength?

Elder Reid and the General Conference have presented themselves as standing in the place of God. The General Conference position is no longer that “you practice the Bible plan of support for God’s work by rendering unto Him,” but rather, “it’s your purpose to support the Church.” Are we serving God or man?

Reflecting Christ, p. 369

Satan is constantly endeavoring to attract attention to man in the place of God. He leads the people to look to bishops, to pastors, to professors of theology, as their guides, instead of searching the Scriptures to learn their

duty for themselves. Then, by controlling the minds of these leaders, he can influence the multitudes according to his will.

Can we continue to support conferences where not only they misuse funds, but also where leaders, pastors, and teachers promote doctrinal errors rather than the true gospel messages for these last days? Can we support the apostasy, spiritualism, and unholy worship practices that have entered our institutions and delayed Christ's return? Individually, we must decide through prayer and the evidence in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy as to where our tithe and offerings should go to ensure we are not misled. Who will we serve—lying tongues that twist the truth or tell only half the truth? Or will we listen to that still small voice that wants us to know the TRUTH the whole TRUTH and nothing but the TRUTH?

Some fear that by supporting independent ministries, conference pastors will suffer financially. Would this not be a good situation if it caused the leadership to take notice and do something to remedy the apostasy? If they do not, will God have to visit with His judgments as in the past? Reference the Review and Herald building fire of December 30, 1902 and the Battle Creek Sanitarium fire of February 18, 1902. How soon we forget our own history.

We pray that all God's faithful people in the SDA denomination and in self-supporting work will unite on truth (not error) to reach the world in the power of the latter rain and loud cry.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 15, p. 259

We are to unify, but not upon a platform of error.

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 45

If unity could be secured only by the compromise of truth and righteousness, then let there be difference, and even war.

Chapter 1 of Volume 2 shows more details and examples of the apostasy, spiritualism, and unholy worship practices within Adventism. Some of the topics discussed are celebration services, new theology, and spiritual formation. It reveals how God has said not to support the spiritualism that is within His Church. It shows that God will cleanse His Church, and that it will not fall, but will stand and be stronger.

“Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
(Matthew 4:17)

Chapter 2

Ángel M. Rodríguez

Introduction

In February 2009, Ángel Manuel Rodríguez, a former director of the Biblical Research Institute of the General Conference (BRI), wrote a letter in Reflections (a BRI newsletter) warning pastors not to have anything to do with Ernie Knoll's dreams. (see [Appendix E](#))

This warning was repeated by Elder Leighton Holley, the president of the Texas Conference when he sent out an email encouraging pastors not to let Ernie Knoll speak in their churches based on what Elder Rodríguez had written in his letter. Elder Holley's email contained:

Dear Pastors,

There are those in our midst agitating confidence in the dreams of a brother Ernie Knoll as a last day prophet. I must clearly warn and caution our pastors and people to be extremely careful. So far his dreams do not bear the mark of the Biblical requirements for a prophet.

Please do not invite him into the pulpits and churches of the Texas Conference. Be watchful and vigilant as protectors of the flock. I include the short article from Angel Rodríguez, chair of the Biblical Research Institute.

In this chapter, we will find that Elder Rodríguez did not state the truth about Ernie.

Who is Ángel Rodríguez?

Ángel Manuel Rodríguez is a former director of the Biblical Research Institute (BRI) at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He was president of Antillian College, and the academic vice president of Southwestern Adventist University. Elder Rodríguez received his Doctor of Theology (ThD) in biblical theology from Andrews University. His special research interests include Old Testament, Sanctuary and Atonement, and Old Testament Theology. He is the author of several books and has a monthly column in *Adventist World*.

Rodríguez casts doubt

Rodríguez says: (see Appendix E)

“He was a local church elder and supposedly has identified himself as an ordained pastor.”

Fact

Ernie Knoll has never claimed to be an ordained pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Therefore, what Elder Rodríguez stated is untrue. God, however, sees it differently. Following are two excerpts from Ernie’s dreams.

The Work Now Begins, December 14, 2007

As for me not having a broad understanding of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, the Herald says that I have a broader understanding than I might know and that because I am not ordained of man does not mean I am not ordained of God.

In His Time, July 12, 2008

Jesus turns to me and says, “Man ordains man to serve on My behalf but I have called you personally to serve on My behalf.”

There is a psychological technique frequently used by attorneys to get a jury to make a decision favorable to their client when hard evidence doesn’t support their viewpoint. First they create a supposition, a speculation that they offer as possible truth. Then they create a spin on those suppositions and present those as appearing to be facts. Next they present the logical conclusion based on those “facts.” Their purpose is to create enough doubt in the mind of the jury to accomplish their desired goal. Notice the frequent use of this technique as you read Elder Rodríguez’s letter. There is an intent to create doubt about the messages and thus lead people to ignore the messages rather than studying them with Scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy (writings of Ellen G. White). An example is using the word “supposedly.”

God says:

Counsels for the Church, p. 344

False reports will be circulated, and some will be taken in this snare. They will believe these rumors and in their turn will repeat them, and thus a link will be formed connecting them with the archdeceiver. This spirit will not always be manifested in an open defiance of the messages that God sends, but a settled unbelief is expressed in many ways. Every false statement that is made feeds and strengthens this unbelief, and through this means many souls will be balanced in the wrong direction.

Our High Calling, p. 359

Our gracious Redeemer looked down the stream of time, and beheld the perils that would in the last days surround His chosen. . . . If the members of the church labor faithfully to build up the cause of truth, they will not escape the tongue of gossip, falsehood, and slander. “All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” 2 Tim. 3:12. Their consistent, unwavering course is a constant rebuke of the unbelief, pride, and selfishness of the hypocritical professor.

Conclusion

Elder Rodríguez should have verified his facts before spreading false rumors. Ernie's ministry has never been hidden. Contact details are available on his website that Elder Rodríguez could have used to verify the facts.

Ernie not re-elected as an elder

Rodríguez says: (see [Appendix E](#))

"His local church did not re-elect him as church elder in part because of his dreams. There is little on his webpage about the history of his experiences with the dreams. He was having vivid dreams for which he provided his own interpretations."

Fact

Ernie Knoll was told he could continue to be an elder but was not to share his dreams from the pulpit. At a later date, he was not re-elected and was not told of the decision.

Regarding little history on Ernie's webpage about the history of his experiences, that should not be a concern. Ernie is not wishing to bring attention to himself, but rather to the messages of the dreams. Additionally, most prophets do not include a history of their past experiences.

In reference to Ernie providing his own interpretation, notice what 2 Peter 1:20-21 states: "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." Did not prophets of the Bible and Ellen White herself interpret their visions or dreams as they were "moved by the Holy Ghost?"

Conclusion

One wonders how the director of the Biblical Research Institute could send out a letter that contains facts that were not verified. This amounts to spreading false rumors or gossip. Ellen White cautions us that, "Do not make it your business to be a talebearer. As matters are reported, each one makes the report a little more pronounced or varied, and thus painful discrepancies cause many to form wrong conclusions." *Spalding and Magan Collection*, p. 77

Desiring to be a prophet?

Rodríguez says: (see [Appendix E](#))

"First, Brother Ernie states that he wanted God to communicate with him. This was something that he cherished in his heart."

Fact

Ernie did not dwell on the thought of God communicating with him. It was a last-minute thought on the night that he thought could be his last, because he was very ill. Elder Rodríguez did not check the true source (Ernie) as to his experience that night—the same night that God healed him and gave him a view of heaven and messages for His people. Ernie has never said he wanted to be a prophet. He has made it clear from his published dreams that he felt unworthy and incapable to give God's messages to His people. He was also afraid of what people would think of him.

Excerpts from Ernie's dreams

A View of Heaven and a Message for His People, December 10, 2006

Incidentally, for two weeks after this dream I did not share the ending - the most important part of the dream where Jesus talked with me. I was afraid of what others would say. But then I found it difficult to sleep at night and a still, small voice kept saying to share the end of the dream. Becky now began to notice that something was not right and asked if there was anything else I was not telling her. I tearfully began relating the end of the dream. We decided that if Jesus said to share the dream, that we had no other choice but to do it. And we have not been sorry ever since.

The Work Now Begins, December 14, 2007

I tell him that I know Jesus does not make mistakes, but can He send these dreams instead to someone who is important and well versed in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, someone who is better suited for this task.

Conclusion

The above quotes hardly sound like someone who was cherishing the thought of becoming a prophet. Ernie has stated in his public testimonies that he desired God speak with him, but that doesn't mean he wanted to be a prophet. If we are honest with ourselves, how many of us would like God to talk to us? How many would like to receive a dream or vision without being called to be a prophet?

Rodríguez says: (see [Appendix E](#))

“This is a little strange and lends itself to different interpretations.”

God says:

Even if Ernie did have a desire to be a prophet, notice the following:

1 Corinthians 14:1

Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.

Selected Messages, Book 2, p. 57

The time is not far off now when men will want a much closer relation to Christ, a much closer union with His Holy Spirit, than ever they have had, or will have, unless they give up their will and their way, and submit to God's will and God's way. The great sin of those who profess to be Christians is that they do not open the heart to receive the Holy Spirit. When souls long after Christ, and seek to become one with Him, then those who are content with the form of godliness, exclaim “Be careful, do not go to extremes.”

Conclusion

Why would Elder Rodríguez make the statement that it is “a little strange” for Ernie to want God to communicate with him when God's Word says to “desire spiritual gifts” and even prophesying? On a lesser note, should not everyone who engages in prayer desire God to communicate with him? Prayer is not to be a one-sided conversation.

Rodríguez says: (see Appendix E)

“But perhaps what is more important is that we hardly find in the Bible a person who was eager to be a prophet. When called to the prophetic ministry those persons were not initially delighted. Very often their first reaction was to resist the divine call. This was also the case with Ellen G. White.”

God says:

Isaiah 6:8

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

Fact

The fact that Elder Rodríguez admits that we *hardly* find anyone in the Bible shows that there were at least some people who were willing to be a prophet of God. Because most prophets were not willing, does not set a precedent that *all* prophets/messengers of God will not be eager to respond to do His bidding.

Summation

Since Ernie Knoll has never claimed he wanted to be a prophet, and since at least one prophet in the Bible was eager for the job, Elder Rodríguez's argument is not true.

Conclusion

Again Elder Rodríguez is attempting to cast doubt on Ernie's dreams by declaring that prophets are rarely eager to be prophets, even though Ernie has never said he was eager to be a prophet. The premise for this argument is based on a half-truth that is not scriptural.

Rodríguez says: (see Appendix E)

“This interest in being a prophet may have had some psychological impact on his experiences.”

Fact

Ernie Knoll is no different than anyone who desires God to speak with them. He never cherished in his heart to be a prophet.

Summation

This is nothing more than character assassination. Elder Rodríguez must be able to support the accusation, otherwise he stands as one spreading false rumors or gossip.

Conclusion

Those who attack Ellen White's ministry often resort to the accusation that she suffered psychological problems. Is Elder Rodríguez doing the same by discrediting Ernie Knoll's dreams?

Are the dreams significant for the Church?**Rodríguez says:** (see Appendix E)

“Second, his dreams deal with different topics but are not of deep significance for the church. A number of them are about his ministry and serve to encourage him to continue to do what he is doing. In others he deals with the health message, worship, the Lord's Supper, the coming of destruction, and the need for reformation in the church—he particularly mentions the Adventist Book Centers.”

God says:

Isaiah 55:11

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

1 Corinthians 2:14

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Fact

God's word is never insignificant.

Summation

Ernie Knoll's dreams touch on many subjects as can be seen in Appendix F. To say that these are not deeply significant for the Church is an understatement. Are subjects such as the health message, worship, the Lord's Supper, coming destruction and a need for reformation in the Church and the many other subjects contained in Ernie's dreams not significant? Because Elder Rodríguez is the director of the Biblical Research Institute, does he feel that he is an authority on what is significant and what is not? Or is the real problem that the dreams reveal the true Laodicean character of many of the Adventist churches as well as the need for reformation?

Conclusion

If we allowed Elder Rodríguez to pick and choose what was significant in the Bible, how many books would we discard because we don't believe they are deeply significant for the Church? What would happen to books such as Esther, which never mentions the words "God," "Lord" or "prayer"? What about Song of Solomon or Philemon? The point is that when we disregard a messenger of God based on our assumption of what is relevant and what is not, we set ourselves up in a position above God. This is a form of kingly power.

The King James Version

Rodríguez says: (see Appendix E)

"In one of the dreams, the KJV was identified as the Bible version that we should use. As I read that, I wondered about Bible versions in other languages. Why should the Lord limit Himself to one language?"

An excerpt from Ernie's dream

The ABC, October 24, 2007

Next we walk over to the Bible section. He shows me all the different versions then reaches down and shoves all the Bibles far away from one version. I reach down and pick up one of the Bibles left by themselves. The front says "Holy Bible" and "King James Version." He looks at me and says, "This needs no explanation."

Fact

In the dream above, Ernie was in an Adventist Book Center (ABC). All the books, CDs and signs were in the English language because the setting was an American store. This was not the issue. The issue is that the King James

Version (KJV) needs no explanation because it does not teach error as other versions do.

Revelation 22:18-19

For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

There has been much written about Bible versions. Two of the best books are *The NIV or the KJV* by George Burnside and *Our Authorized Bible Vindicated* by Benjamin G. Wilkinson.

Did Ellen White use other versions of the Bible? Yes, on some occasions. However, she never used verses which were stated incorrectly. Because there are so many versions out today, the Lord is stressing that our safety is in staying with the KJV.

Many complain that the KJV language is difficult to understand. When a person prays for the guidance of the Holy Spirit before reading the KJV, He will help that person to understand it. It has worked for the last generation and many before that, and it will work until Jesus returns.

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 20, p. 170

My brethren in the Lord, I am instructed to say that you must raise the standard of piety and truth and holiness higher, still higher. Compare scripture with scripture. Encourage the people to study their Bibles. Nearly all have the common version, and the words are so simple and plain that all who read may understand. Let the Scriptures be read freely in the family and in the pulpit. The men who wrote the books of the Bible were inspired of God, and the words of Holy Writ are for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

The “common version” or the “Authorized Version” was the standard in Ellen White’s day. When she quoted the Bible and it did not mention the version, it was the KJV. She also recommended using that version, not others, from the pulpit.

Summation

Is the issue other languages or which version the Author prefers? For the minority of sincere Christians who do not have the KJV, particularly in their language, remember that the Lord only holds us accountable for what we know or are able to know.

Conclusion

The King James Version (KJV) needs no explanation because it does not teach error as other versions do. Even though Ellen White used a few different versions on occasion, she never used verses which were stated incorrectly. The KJV was the standard in Ellen White’s day and she recommended using it from the pulpit. Is the KJV too difficult to understand? No. When a person prays

for the guidance of the Holy Spirit before reading the KJV, He will help that person to understand it.

No purpose or meaning of the dreams

Rodríguez says: (see [Appendix E](#))

“In some cases it is very difficult to find the purpose or the message of a dream.”

Fact

God often obscures the meaning of His words so that only the wise or those who have spiritual discernment can understand.

God says:

Mark 4:12

That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.

Isaiah 44:18

They have not known nor understood: for he hath shut their eyes, that they cannot see; and their hearts, that they cannot understand.

Summation

Many Christians believe the books of Daniel and Revelation are hard to understand. This does not mean they are not relevant.

Conclusion

In some cases, some of what Paul wrote was hard to understand. “As also in all his [Paul’s] epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.” 2 Peter 3:16. Do we reject Paul because parts of what he wrote were hard to understand? Not at all. Likewise, because parts of what Ernie wrote appear to Elder Rodríguez to have no purpose or message, this does not mean he is a false prophet.

Ernie the center of interest?

Rodríguez says: (see [Appendix E](#))

“Third, in many of the dreams Brother Ernie is the center of interest or they are about him. For instance, he dreams he is in heaven sitting at a large table. While there he begins to think about the sins he committed while on earth. I tried to find a message in the dream but I could not. It was about the burden of sin that he was still carrying while in heaven. To me this is a rather strange situation.”

God says:

The fact that Ernie is sometimes the center of interest in a dream is not a test of a true prophet. The dreams are written in the first person, from Ernie’s perspective. Below are a number of quotes from Ellen White’s writings, all showing that she was the center of interest in her visions/dreams.

Early Writings, p. 20

About one week after this the Lord gave me another view and showed me the trials I must pass through, and that I must go and relate to others

what He had revealed to me, and that I should meet with great opposition and suffer anguish of spirit by going. But said the angel, "The grace of God is sufficient for you; He will hold you up."

Ibid., p. 32

We felt an unusual spirit of prayer. And as we prayed the Holy Ghost fell upon us. We were very happy. Soon I was lost to earthly things and was wrapped in a vision of God's glory. I saw an angel flying swiftly to me. He quickly carried me from the earth to the Holy City. In the city I saw a temple, which I entered. I passed through a door before I came to the first veil. This veil was raised, and I passed into the holy place. Here I saw the altar of incense, the candlestick with seven lamps, and the table on which was the shewbread. After viewing the glory of the holy, Jesus raised the second veil and I passed into the holy of holies.

Ibid., p. 39

The Lord has given me a view of other worlds. Wings were given me, and an angel attended me from the city to a place that was bright and glorious. The grass of the place was living green, and the birds there warbled a sweet song. The inhabitants of the place were of all sizes; they were noble, majestic, and lovely. They bore the express image of Jesus, and their countenances beamed with holy joy, expressive of the freedom and happiness of the place. I asked one of them why they were so much more lovely than those on the earth. The reply was, "We have lived in strict obedience to the commandments of God, and have not fallen by disobedience, like those on the earth." Then I saw two trees, one looked much like the tree of life in the city... Then I was taken to a world which had seven moons. There I saw good old Enoch, who had been translated... I asked him if this was the place he was taken to from the earth. He said, "It is not; the city is my home, and I have come to visit this place." He moved about the place as if perfectly at home. I begged of my attending angel to let me remain in that place. I could not bear the thought of coming back to this dark world again. Then the angel said, "You must go back, and if you are faithful, you, with the 144,000, shall have the privilege of visiting all the worlds and viewing the handiwork of God."

Ibid., p. 76

When the Lord first gave me messages to deliver to His people, it was hard for me to declare them, and I often softened them down and made them as mild as possible for fear of grieving some. It was a great trial to declare the messages as the Lord gave them to me. I did not realize that I was so unfaithful and did not see the sin and danger of such a course until in vision I was taken into the presence of Jesus. He looked upon me with a frown and turned His face from me. It is not possible to describe the terror and agony I then felt. I fell upon my face before Him, but had no power to utter a word.

Ibid., p. 78

I dreamed of seeing a temple to which many people were flocking. Only those who took refuge in that temple would be saved when time should close. All who remained outside would be forever lost... Fearing to be laughed at and ridiculed, I thought best to wait until the multitude were dispersed, or until I could enter unobserved by them. But the numbers increased instead of diminishing, and fearful of being too late, I hastily left my home and pressed through the crowd. In my anxiety to reach the temple I did not notice or care for the throng that surrounded me. On entering the building, I saw that the vast temple was supported by one immense pillar, and to this was tied a Lamb all mangled and bleeding. We who were present seemed to know that this Lamb had been torn and bruised on our account. All who entered the temple must come before it and confess their sins.

Fact

A prophet is often associated with the dream/visions they are given. Also, there are three main messages to the dream, "At the Table."

1. When we get to heaven, we don't need to worry or mention anything about our past sins, since these will have been forgiven and are in the past. "I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins." Isaiah 43:25.
2. "Jesus, the great Host, would have done all that was needed to have me at the table to serve me." Jesus paid it all. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13.
3. Ernie was also shown the joy of sitting at the heavenly table, relaxed, enjoying family and others, but best of all—the great Host.

Why are these points so hard for some to appreciate?

Summation

It is not uncommon for a prophet/messenger to be the center of interest. For example, about 57 times in the book of Revelation, John refers to himself in his dreams. That is an average of almost 2.3 times for each chapter. Twenty-two times he uses the phrase "I heard." Thirty-three times he uses the phrase "I saw." In the book *Early Writings*, Ellen White uses the phrase "I saw" 198 times. There are wonderful messages for us in the dreams, if we are willing to let the Holy Spirit show us what those are.

Conclusion

Just as the Bible prophets and Ellen White were often but not always the center of their dreams/visions, why then can't Ernie also be the center of interest in his dreams? If we do not let the Holy Spirit show us the messages of the dreams, we lose the blessings the Lord intends to bring to us.

Ernie trying too hard to prove he is a prophet?

Rodríguez says: (see Appendix E)

"Fourth, he makes a great effort to demonstrate that he has the characteristics of a true prophet as found in the Bible. Therefore, Brother

Ernie includes in the narratives of his dreams passages from the Bible and statements from the Spirit of Prophecy that support the message of his dreams. In other words, he is trying to demonstrate that his messages are supported by God's previous revelations to his people."

Explanation

This point was covered in chapter 1, under the heading, Footnoted dreams as follows.

Ernie's dreams contain footnotes to get the readers started with their own research of God's words. Ernie could have added many additional references, but individuals need to find their own with the Holy Spirit's help. There are also cases where some individuals do not have access to these references. Footnotes were also added to help explain parts of the dreams. Ellen White gave Bible references in her writings. God's truth always agrees with itself. Isaiah 28:10 says, "For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little." Ernie's dreams also contain Bible and Spirit of Prophecy in the dreams themselves. These came directly from the Lord during the dreams.

Fact

Ellen White quoted a lot of Bible verses in her writings. In one vision she was shown fifty Bible verses she included (see Early Writings, pp. 24 to 31). God commands us: "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." 1 John 4:1. How do we "try the spirits"? "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah 8:20.

Summation

Quoting from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy does not prove that Ernie is trying to prove his calling. It rather shows there is no conflict between what he has been shown and what has been previously revealed. The references are not provided to bring attention to Ernie but to help God's people. We are to "try the spirits" "to the law and to the testimony."

Conclusion

It wouldn't make any difference whether Ernie Knoll quoted Bible and Spirit of Prophecy in his dreams or not. His critics would condemn him either way. Both Jesus and John the Baptist were treated the same. "For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He hath a devil. The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children." Matthew 11:18-20. What method does Angel Rodríguez use to "try the spirits"?

Dreams irrelevant for the Church?

Rodríguez says: (see Appendix E)

"This makes his dreams almost irrelevant for the church. What we need to do is read the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy."

"This makes his dreams almost irrelevant for the church"? What is Elder Rodríguez saying? Since "passages from the Bible and statements from the Spirit of Prophecy support the messages of his dreams," are they irrelevant?

God says:

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 458

As men see that they cannot maintain their position by the Scriptures, many determine to maintain it at all hazards...

Fact

"Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21. The prophet Joel predicted that "...it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions." Joel 2:28.

God says:

2 Timothy 3:16

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

S.D.A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 7, p. 919

There are some that may think they are fully capable with their finite judgment to take the Word of God, and to state what are the words of inspiration, and what are not the words of inspiration. I want to warn you off that ground, my brethren in the ministry. "Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." There is no finite man that lives, I care not who he is or whatever is his position, that God has authorized to pick and choose in His Word.

Summation

Many of the same accounts of the life of Christ are recounted in the four gospels, particularly, Matthew, Mark and Luke. Does this mean they are irrelevant? Of course not. Nothing that God reveals is irrelevant.

Conclusion

If the message is of God, no one has the right to disregard it. The fact that some of what Ernie has been shown can be supported from the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy does not make his dreams irrelevant. Such reasoning would lead to picking and choosing from the Bible or writings of Ellen White what we feel is relevant. Interestingly, the argument that Elder Rodríguez uses is the very same argument those who are rejecting the Spirit of Prophecy use when they claim what we need to do is only read the Bible. When the writings of new prophets in the Bible came along, did people reject them because they already had a prophet come? If we used this argument, we would still be going only by the first five books of Moses. Could it be that Elder Rodríguez's argument originates from the same source as those who reject Ellen White? According to God's Word, Elder Rodríguez is placing himself in a hazardous position. We need to take these messages seriously, because God's people are in a crisis!

Tithe accountability**Rodríguez says:** (see Appendix E)

"But one of the dreams created a problem for him. In it tithe was discussed and the teaching was not in agreement with what the Bible teaches about tithing. The angel tells him that the individual decides to

whom he or she should give the tithe. This is not what you find in the Bible and in the writings of Ellen G. White.”

Fact

The angel said that God will hold us accountable *if* we know our tithe is being misused and we do nothing to rectify the situation. The truth about tithing was covered in great detail in chapter 1. Following is what was written in that chapter about our accountability with our tithe. References are made to Elder G. Edward Reid, which also apply to Elder Rodríguez.

God says:

The Kress Collection, p. 120

The churches must arouse. The members must awake out of sleep and begin to inquire, How is the money which we put into the treasury being used? The Lord desires that a close search be made.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 261

There are fearful woes for those who preach the truth, but are not sanctified by it, and also for those who consent to receive and maintain the unsanctified to minister to them in word and doctrine. I am alarmed for the people of God who profess to believe solemn, important truth, for I know that many of them are not converted nor sanctified through it. Men can hear and acknowledge the whole truth, and yet know nothing of the power of godliness. All who preach the truth will not themselves be saved by it. Said the angel: “Be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord.”

Sermons and Talks, Vol. 2, p. 74

If the Conference business is not managed according to the order of the Lord, that is the sin of the erring ones. The Lord will not hold you responsible for it, if you do what you can to correct the evil. But do not commit sin yourselves by withholding from God his own property. "Cursed be he that doeth the work of the Lord negligently," or deceitfully.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 7, p. 176

God desires to bring men into direct relation with Himself. In all His dealings with human beings He recognizes the principle of personal responsibility. He seeks to encourage a sense of personal dependence and to impress the need of personal guidance. His gifts are committed to men as individuals. Every man has been made a steward of sacred trusts; each is to discharge his trust according to the direction of the Giver; and by each an account of his stewardship must be rendered to God.

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 361

Do we individually realize our true position, that as God's hired servants we are not to bargain away our stewardship? We have an individual accountability before the heavenly universe, to administer the trust committed us of God. Our own hearts are to be stirred. Our hands are to have something to impart of the income that God entrusts to us. The humblest of us may be agents for God, using our gifts for His name's glory. He who improves his talents to the best of his ability may present

to God his offering as a consecrated gift that shall be as fragrant incense before Him. It is the duty of everyone to see that his talents are turned to advantage as a gift that he must return, having done his best to improve it.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 3, p. 553

It would be poor policy to support from the treasury of God those who really mar and injure His work, and who are constantly lowering the standard of Christianity.

Ibid., Vol. 5, p. 103

Those who give their influence to sustain an evil work are doing Satan's drudgery.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 17, p. 305

Properly done, the work of the gospel minister will add many souls to the fold. Many have made a mistake in receiving credentials. They will have to take up work to which they are better adapted than the preaching of the Word. They are being paid from the tithe, but their efforts are feeble, and they should not continue to be paid from the tithe. In many ways the ministry is losing its sacred character.

Series A, No. 1, p. 13, Feb. 1990 by Leaves of Autumn Books (copies of original pamphlets)

There are ministers, and not a few, either, that have carried credentials for years, and yet they do not give evidence of being converted men, either in their personal experience or in their labors. Their labors do not benefit the church, but in many instances are a positive injury. Many of our brethren have expressed themselves to the effect that if their Conference continues to pay money to such ministers, they will withhold their tithes. We do not say that it would be right for individuals to withhold from the Lord that which is his; but, on the other hand, it certainly is very wrong for the Conference to give credentials to such men, and it is nothing less than sin to take the Lord's money to pay for such labor. There must be earnest labor with such men; and if they will not reform, there can be no reason why they should continue to hold credentials.

Then there are many that are even light and frivolous, and by this course they do more harm than good. These, too, should be labored with faithfully, and if they do not give evidence of reform, they should certainly not be continued in the ministry; for only evil can result from their work.

Although the following statement does not use the word "tithe," the principle stated is that we are accountable to God alone.

Spalding and Magan Collection, p. 176

The people to whom God has given his means are amenable to him alone.

What Ernie Knoll was shown in “Testing the Spirits” dream

“I watch again how we were shown that it is important His people understand that we are to return a tithe to His storehouse. I am again shown it is important that we understand what the funds are being used for. If an individual is providing funds and they understand that the funds are not being used according to His will, that person will be held accountable if they do nothing about bringing it to the attention of the recipient, the one who holds the keys. The Great Creator has said to pay a tribute to those who do His bidding. The Herald explains that many tributes are used toward Lucifer’s work of using spiritualism and other forms of unholy worship practices from within God’s church by those who collect and place the funds in a storehouse. The Herald says, ‘That is not God’s storehouse. Those that give will be able to see the blessing which comes as a wholesome fruit. They will see the fruits of the spirit as they give in faith when it is placed in God’s storehouse.’ ”

Summation

As we can see from God’s words, for Elder Reid to say that the individual donor of tithe and offerings is not responsible for any mismanagement on the part of church leaders is false.

Conclusion

Are we accountable? God says, “The Lord will not hold you responsible for it, if you do what you can to correct the evil.” Are we then responsible if we know our money is being used for evil and do not do what we can to correct the evil? According to Ellen White’s counsel, we are responsible and Elder Reid was wrong. We are accountable to God alone. However, it is interesting to note that when individuals try to correct the evil in the Church by speaking out, they are usually disfellowshipped and the evil not only continues but also worsens. As Ellen White stated in the *Spalding and Magan Collection*, p. 498, “Send no statement of the situation through our religious papers; because it will not be honored.” This is why God stated in “The Boardroom” dream, “...let the war begin in My house of worship.” Is God saying, “It’s time to take back the Church?” Has Elder Reid used his position to share only half the truth? God has told us each to study. If we only go by what Elder Reid has said instead of looking at the whole statement for ourselves, God will hold each of us accountable.

Rodríguez says: (see [Appendix E](#))

“Apparently Brother Ernie received quite a bit of reaction to this dream [regarding tithe] and some alleged that he modified it. But the truth is that he is still promoting this dream on his webpage.”

God says:

The Acts of the Apostles p. 569

John was accordingly summoned to Rome to be tried for his faith. Here before the authorities the apostle’s doctrines were misstated. False witnesses accused him of teaching seditious heresies. By these accusations his enemies hoped to bring about the disciple’s death.

Fact

Yes, there was quite a reaction to the tithe issue, and many who once accepted the dreams chose to reject them because of this issue. Why is it that when it

comes to money, it hurts the most? Would greed be a factor? Let us also remember that Jesus experienced this same situation when he was rejected by most of His followers at one point after teaching that they must eat His flesh and drink His blood. (John 6:51-60)

Ernie never modified the tithe portions of his dreams. At the beginning of the ministry, a few dreams were modified to make them more readable, but the essence of the dreams did not change. Editing the dreams was a learning process, as it would be for anyone. Following is an example of why Ernie has the authority to edit the dreams as needed.

Ellen G. White: The Early Years, Vol. 1, p. 270
Why Were the Lines Omitted in 1851?

It may be asked, then, why were the three lines omitted from the printing of the vision in 1851 in Mrs. White's first book? In introducing the vision in the book, she gives a very general reason for all omission--space and repetition of subject matter. This would apply more to the paragraphs descriptive of the new earth than the three lines in question. As to the statement embodied in them, the author herself had the right, even the responsibility, to choose content and wording for her book that would correctly convey what was revealed to her. If there were phrases that were capable of distortion or interpretation to mean that which she did not intend to teach, she had the privilege and even the duty of handling the matter in such a way that the printed account would correctly reflect her intentions.

Conclusion

Again Elder Rodríguez resorts to spreading false rumors. He has never contacted Ernie to verify any of these allegations. If he cannot prove these accusations, then he is simply spreading gossip.

The 144,000 allegation

Rodríguez says: (see Appendix E)

"It has also been stated that he changed one of his dreams about the 144,000 because the original version of it contradicted the Spirit of Prophecy."

God Says:

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 226

The priests, bent upon keeping the popular fury at its height, circulated the most terrible accusations against the Protestants. They were charged with plotting to massacre the Catholics, to overthrow the government, and to murder the king. Not a shadow of evidence could be produced in support of the allegations.

Fact

Ernie had a situation early on in his ministry where he was discussing the subject of the 144,000 in which he simply misunderstood the words "with the 144,000" versus "among the 144,000." It was not a message in a dream. Since that situation, Ernie came to the correct conclusion. Bible students do change their minds as new information comes to light.

God says:

The Review and Herald, July 26, 1892

We have many lessons to learn, and many, many to unlearn. God and heaven alone are infallible. Those who think that they will never have to give up a cherished view, never have occasion to change an opinion, will be disappointed. As long as we hold to our own ideas and opinions with determined persistency, we cannot have the unity for which Christ prayed.

Conclusion

Elder Rodríguez should have verified the facts before putting out a false statement. Why is he going by heresay rather than going straight to the source (Ernie)? Since Ernie is “on trial,” we should take note of the fact that use of “hearsay evidence” in court is normally not allowed. Should it be any different in this case?

Dreams of Divine Origin?**Rodríguez says: (see Appendix E)**

“What can we conclude about the dreams? It is extremely difficult to assign the dreams to a particular source of origin. The last point we made about tithing as well as the overall nature of the dreams raise serious questions about their divine origin. But perhaps one of the main problems we face is that the influence of the dreams may lead people to rely more on them than on the Scripture. Consequently, they could be distracted from the study of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. This could lead them to emphasize our subjective experiences as a reliable guide in the search for truth. The times in which we live are dangerous times and the closer we stay to the Bible, spending time studying it, the safest it would be for the church.”

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 12, p. 288

The only safe course to pursue is to search the heart, try the motives by the Word of God, and test the spirit, and see what is the influence of words and actions. Conversion is needed. A transforming influence of the Spirit of God upon the character must be felt and demonstrated in the words and actions.

Fact

For Elder Rodríguez to arrive at a conclusion about the dreams based on faulty information and supposition leads to a faulty conclusion. If a person is willing to test the spirits (as listed in Ernie’s dream “Testing the Spirits,”) then the source is readily apparent. When one uses faulty information and tests, not testing the messages by the law and the testimony, then it would be difficult. Rodríguez and others, who stake their conclusions based on ignoring information they have at their disposal and using misinformation and false allegations, put themselves in grave danger, not only for their own salvation but are responsible for others who choose to ignore God’s warnings because of what was said.

Elder Rodríguez reveals one reason why he encourages people to reject Ernie’s dreams—they may lead people to rely more upon them than the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Ernie has not written enough to even make this

objection slightly valid. This is the same argument used by those who reject the Spirit of Prophecy. Let's put this objection into perspective. Ernie's dreams total 36 at present and contain approximately 83,000 words. Ellen White's writings are so numerous that trying to count the words would be a difficult task. Even all of Elder Rodríguez's published writings would be larger than Ernie's dreams. What then is the issue? Should everyone stop writing because their books may detract people from reading the Bible?

Contrary to what Elder Rodríguez states, Ernie continues to receive much correspondence of how the dreams are bringing people around the world to a deeper study of the Scriptures and the Spirit of Prophecy and to repent and prepare for Christ's return. Ernie's messages point us to the Bible, giving new details as Ellen White did. His dreams cannot be read quickly or without the Holy Spirit, any more than we can do that when studying the Scriptures. It must be studied deeply. Then the blessings will come.

Conclusion

Elder Rodríguez arrives at a faulty conclusion, because he did not test the spirits. By believing misinformation and false allegations, Elder Rodríguez not only puts himself in grave danger but others as well. Ernie receives much correspondence on how the dreams are bringing people to a deeper study of God's words and how they are preparing for Christ's return. Ernie's messages point us to the Bible and give new details. Should we not be delighted to receive such a gift from God?

Rodríguez says: (see [Appendix E](#))

"We do not deny that the Lord will pour His Spirit out on His people in an unprecedented way, but we should also be aware of the deceptions of the last days. I do not believe that Brother Ernie is trying to deceive anybody. I only call you, the reader, to be wise and prudent and wait for the Lord instead of spending time with dreams whose origin we cannot clearly verify."

God says:

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 458

As men see that they cannot maintain their position by the Scriptures, many determine to maintain it at all hazards, and with a malicious spirit they assail the character and motives of those who stand in defense of unpopular truth. It is the same policy which has been pursued in all ages. Elijah was declared to be a troubler of Israel, Jeremiah a traitor, Paul a polluter of the temple. From that day to this, those who would be loyal to truth have been denounced as seditious, heretical, or schismatic. Multitudes who are too unbelieving to accept the sure word of prophecy, will receive with unquestioning credulity an accusation against those who dare to reprove fashionable sins. This spirit will increase more and more. And the Bible plainly teaches that a time is approaching when the laws of the State shall so conflict with the law of God that whoever would obey all the divine precepts must brave reproach and punishment as an evil-doer.

Fact

The Bible teaches us how to test a prophet. It also counsels, "Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21.

We must be ready to hear God's voice, wherever that is. Why should we limit God's words by only reading the Bible? Why would God send us the Spirit of Prophecy in the last days if it was not important? God does nothing without revealing it to his servants the prophets. (Amos 3:7.) If God loves us enough to send us messages for the last days, should we not listen to the messages? Deceptions will come, but the genuine always does too. Let us not be so afraid of being deceived that we shun all messages. Otherwise, our salvation is at risk.

Summation

It is true that we need to be aware of deceptions, but we also need to be careful we do not reject God's messages. Whenever God has sent a messenger in the past, the majority have always rejected that messenger. Will it be any different with Ernie?

Conclusion

In one breath, Elder Rodríguez says that Ernie's dreams may influence people to rely upon them more than the Bible, and in the next breath, he admits God will send prophets in the last days. Both of these conclusions are contradictory. God never sends a prophet without a message. It is sad that Elder Rodríguez, one of our leading scholars, is unable to determine the origin of Ernie dreams by comparing them with the plain tests given in the Word of God. It is even more sad that one who holds such a responsible position can only resort to his own tests that have no basis in the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy.

Chapter conclusion

For someone who is the director of the Biblical Research Institute of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Adventists deserve better than Elder Rodríguez's letter. Apart from the tithing issue, no other point raised is a valid test of a prophet. Instead, Elder Rodríguez resorts to unsubstantiated facts and gossip.

Is it not alarming that in Elder Rodríguez's short paper criticizing Ernie and his dreams, he does not give a single Bible verse or Spirit of Prophecy quote to show the dreams are out of harmony with God's Word? For a man in his position to merely give his opinions and assumptions about someone who says he is receiving dreams from God is irresponsible. Should not one of our foremost Bible scholars be able to give Bible verses or Spirit of Prophecy quotes to show error in the dreams?

From Ernie's dream, "Repent, as I AM Coming," November 12, 2008

"Some have said that there are errors in the messages but when asked to show the errors, they cannot. That is because all messages that come directly from the throne of God do not have errors."

We must all study God's words for ourselves to see what needs changing in our lives and within the Church. While the Church is being shaken by soul-searching truths, let us remain faithful and be a part of the Church that will remain standing.

God says:

Leviticus 19:16-17

Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people: neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbour: I am the LORD. Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.

John 10:26-28

But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 176

Evilspeaking is a twofold curse, falling more heavily upon the speaker than upon the hearer. He who scatters the seeds of dissension and strife reaps in his own soul the deadly fruits. How miserable is the talebearer, the surmiser of evil! He is a stranger to true happiness.

Ibid., p. 609

An earnest effort should be made in every church to put away evilspeaking and a censorious spirit as among the sins productive of the greatest evils in the church. Severity and faultfinding must be rebuked as the workings of Satan. Mutual love and confidence must be encouraged and strengthened in the members of the church. Let all, in the fear of God and with love to their brethren, close their ears to gossip and censure. Direct the talebearer to the teachings of God's word. Bid him obey the Scriptures and carry his complaints directly to those whom he thinks in error. This united action would bring a flood of light into the church and close the door to a flood of evil. Thus God would be glorified, and many souls would be saved.

Spalding and Magan Collection, p. 77

Students, understand that you have not been appointed by the Lord to be an informer. Your work is to study your Bible and the other branches of education, as for your life. Do not make it your business to be a talebearer. As matters are reported, each one makes the report a little more pronounced or varied, and thus painful discrepancies cause many to form wrong conclusions. Therefore guard well your words; put a bridle on your tongue. If you allow yourself to become a talebearer, you will not be welcome in any family, because of your propensity to report every transaction that may occur. I have decided that it is unsafe for me to visit, not because I am guilty of any known wrong, but because something will be said or inferred that will be misrepresented; and therefore I prefer to remain at home.

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 294

In their counsels they venture to pronounce judgment upon the work of God; for they have become trained in doing that which the Lord has never required them to do. They would better humble their own hearts before God, and keep their hands off the ark of God, lest the wrath of God shall break forth upon them; for if God has ever spoken by me, I testify that they have undertaken a work in criticizing and pronouncing unsound judgment which I know is not right. They are but finite men and, being befogged themselves, suppose that other men are in error.

Maranatha, p. 17

Humble Men Proclaim the Message

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts. 2 Peter 1:19.

This message [Rev. 14:6, 7] is declared to be a part of "the everlasting gospel." The work of preaching the gospel has not been committed to angels, but has been entrusted to men. Holy angels have been employed in directing this work, they have in charge the great movements for the salvation of men; but the actual proclamation of the gospel is performed by the servants of Christ upon the earth.

Faithful men, who were obedient to the promptings of God's Spirit and the teachings of His word, were to proclaim this warning to the world. They were those who had taken heed to the "sure word of prophecy," the "light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise." 2 Peter 1:19. They had been seeking the knowledge of God more than all hid treasures, counting it "better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold." Proverbs 3:14. And the Lord revealed to them the great things of the kingdom. "The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him; and he will show them his covenant." Psalm 25:14.

It was not the scholarly theologians who had an understanding of this truth, and engaged in its proclamation. Had these been faithful watchmen, diligently and prayerfully searching the Scriptures, they would have known the time of night; the prophecies would have opened to them the events about to take place. But they did not occupy this position, and the message was given by humbler men. Said Jesus: "Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you." John 12:35. Those who turn away from the light which God has given, or who neglect to seek it when it is within their reach, are left in darkness. But the Saviour declares: "He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12. Whoever is with singleness of purpose seeking to do God's will, earnestly heeding the light already given, will receive greater light; to that soul some star of heavenly radiance will be sent to guide him into all truth.

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 535

While exalting the "sure word of prophecy" as a safe guide in times of peril, the apostle solemnly warned the church against the torch of false prophecy, which would be uplifted by "false teachers," who would privily bring in "damnable heresies, even denying the Lord." These false teachers, arising in the church and accounted true by many of their brethren in the faith, the apostle compared to "wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved forever." "The latter end is worse with them," he declared, "than the beginning. 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."

Looking down through the ages to the close of time, Peter was inspired to outline conditions that would exist in the world just prior to the second coming of Christ. "There shall come in the last days scoffers," he wrote, "walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of His coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." But "when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them." 1 Thessalonians 5:3. Not all, however, would be ensnared by the enemy's devices. As the end of all things earthly should approach, there would be faithful ones able to discern the signs of the times. While a large number of professing believers would deny their faith by their works, there would be a remnant who would endure to the end.

Chapter 3

Steve Wohlberg

Introduction

Pastor Steve Wohlberg has written two letters that have come out strongly against the messages as given in the dreams of Ernie Knoll. These letters have been widely distributed and posted online, resulting in turning many away from the dreams and reinforcing others to make false claims. In the first letter, he addresses the following primary issues.

- He claims that the Herald's viewpoint on tithe and personal accountability is wrong.
- He claims that the Herald is an evil angel.
- He makes a number of allegations against the Herald.
- He equates the messages given through Ernie to the deception of fallen angels perpetrated on a group as recorded in Roger Morneau's book, *Beware of Angels*.

In the second letter:

- He disagrees with the 1 John 4:1-3 test in the "Love and Rebuke" dream.
- He disagrees with the statements in the "Love and Rebuke" dream regarding Jesus as a created Being.
- He claims that good angels would not provide threats against those who oppose the messages.

We commend Steve Wohlberg for at least contacting Ernie and for using God's Word to try to disprove Ernie's dreams. However, it should become apparent to the reader that not all his allegations are truthful. At times he twists the scriptures to imply something that is opposite to what it really says and uses suppositions and speculations.

Who is Steve Wohlberg?

Steve Wohlberg is the founder and director of White Horse Media (www.whitehorsemedia.com). According to his website, he is a television producer, radio host, and international seminar speaker. As a Jewish Christian

from Los Angeles, he has been a guest on over 500 radio and television shows and authored a number of books. He earned a B.A. degree in Theology from La Sierra College and a Masters of Divinity degree from Andrews Seminary.

Addressing Wohlberg's First Letter of March 25, 2008

Tithing and personal accountability

Many of the issues regarding tithing and personal accountability are discussed in [chapter 1](#). However, we will include some new information in this chapter.

History of tithes and offerings

God says:

Counsels on Stewardship, p. 69

The tithing system reaches back beyond the days of Moses. Men were required to offer to God gifts for religious purposes before the definite system was given to Moses, even as far back as the days of Adam. In complying with God's requirements, they were to manifest in offerings their appreciation of His mercies and blessings to them. This was continued through successive generations, and was carried out by Abraham, who gave tithes to Melchizedek, the priest of the most high God.

Genesis 14:18-20

And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he [Abram] gave him tithes of all.

Genesis 28:20-22

And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, so that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the LORD be my God: And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.

Fact

During the time of the Exodus, when God gave His laws and requirements to the Israelites, He stipulated that ten percent of their increase along with their offerings should go to the Levite priests who ministered for the Lord in the tabernacle service and taught the people the ways of the Lord. The tithes and offerings were to be brought to the same place--to those serving the Lord. If you study the following verses, you will notice no difference between the tithes and the offerings in terms of where to bring it, only that the tithe is required and the offering is optional. See Leviticus 27:30-32; Numbers 18:20-28; Deuteronomy 12:5-17; 14:22-28; 2 Chronicles 31:5-12; Nehemiah 10:36-38; 13:9-12; Malachi 3:7-10. Tithe is to go to those who minister on behalf of the Lord and teach the way of righteousness. It is also a way to express our appreciation for God's goodness and generosity.

Throughout history, churches have accepted tithes and offerings to pay their ministers and evangelists. When the Seventh-day Adventist Church was officially organized, it began receiving tithes for its ministers and gospel workers, including school Bible teachers (*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 215) and medical missionaries (*Medical Ministry*, pp. 245, 250), who were considered to be the right hand of the gospel. The Church also allowed members to give their tithes and offerings to various self-supporting ministries.

As more self-supporting ministries of the Church developed, a new perception of those ministries with regard to donations came about. So on October 14, 1985, guidelines entitled, *General Conference Guidelines on the Use of Tithe*, were adopted and voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Executive Committee at the Annual Council Session in Washington, D.C. The original may be found at http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/guidelines/main_guide4.html. The guidelines follow the tradition of many denominations to claim that they are the exclusive storehouse or treasury for God's tithes. While most of the guidelines are biblically based, we do find some interesting statements, which are excerpted as follows:

2) *The "Storehouse" or "Treasury" of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.* . . . Following any other plan causes confusion and competition and undermines the Church's financial structure, thus weakening the Church's ability to fulfill its world mission. In order to continue a strong balanced church program around the world, members should not direct the Lord's tithe to projects of their own choosing.

3) Alternate Entryways to the "Storehouse."

a. . . . The Seventh-day Adventist Church family has determined that the normal entryway to the storehouse is through the local conference/mission.

6) *Tithe to Institutions.* Denominational organizations, such as Christian Record Braille Foundation, Voice of Prophecy, Faith For Today, It Is Written, Breath of Life will not accept funds that are known to be tithe from Seventh-day Adventists. When members send tithe to a denominational organization, they have a responsibility to indicate that it is tithe.

9) *Nonacceptance of Tithe.* If, according to these policies, a situation arises where it is not permissible for an organization to accept tithe funds, efforts shall be made to obtain authorization from the member to direct the funds to the regular channels. If such authorization is not obtained, the tithe will be returned with an appropriate explanation and an appeal to the person to participate in the Church's plan for sharing the Lord's tithe with the Church worldwide.

11) *Leadership Responsibility.* Church leadership at all levels is a sacred trust. Failure or refusal to cooperate with agreed-upon policies of the church family regarding the administration of tithe erodes the capacity of the Church to accomplish its world mission. Persons who disregard these policies disqualify themselves from church leadership.

We must first wonder why we are being told to follow what the “Seventh-day Adventist Church *family*” determines. Are we not to follow what is in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy? Yes, we can follow what the Church family determines, *if* it does not go against God’s Word. However, in this case it does go against God’s Word.

A number of self-supporting ministries of the Church questioned the tithe policy change, but the threat of losing their leadership positions within the Church or even being disfellowshipped for teaching otherwise led most ministries to comply. In the ensuing 25 years since this policy first came out, most denominational ministries incorporated statements into their policies that they will not knowingly accept tithe money from their supporters. This has tempted many into not stating that what they send is tithe. This worsens the tithe misuse instead of fixing the problem. Most Adventist leaders accept the guidelines as God’s truth and not a man-made policy.

In practice, many supporters of self-supporting ministries do allocate tithe money to them because they inherently recognize the biblical principle that the tithes and offerings should go to those doing God’s bidding, that of spreading the gospel and teaching righteousness.

The Church is not consistent because it says all tithes must go to the storehouse or conference treasury but our offerings can be used to support what we like. If we understand the storehouse to refer to the Conference only, then to be consistent, all our offerings must also be returned to the Conference. How then would independent ministries and other phases of God’s work survive without the support of offerings if it was returned only to the Conference? The truth is, the storehouse is not just the Conference treasury, but includes those who are doing God’s bidding as gospel workers.

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 19, p. 376

The time has come when the tithes and offerings belonging to the Lord are to be used in accomplishing a decided work. They are to be brought into the treasury to be used in an orderly way to sustain the gospel laborers in their work.

Furthermore, there have been times historically, even in Ellen White’s time, where processing the tithe through regular channels (i.e. the local conference) would delay the receipt of funds by worthy institutions who were doing God’s work.

Historically as well as now, Satan has influenced the leadership to the point where they no longer effectively work for God. They might have participated in any of the following:

- Facilitate the spread of teachings of spiritualism (such as deliverance ministries where deliberate communication with the spirits may take place).
- Sponsor seminars and conferences dealing with Gnosticism or mysticism.
- Allow continued pagan influences in the Church in foreign countries (syncretism).

- Permit other apostate doctrines or behaviors.
- Misappropriate funds to areas where tithe is not to go.
- Leave churches unfinished after funds were donated more than once, due to local conference leadership corruption.

Should these be supported by tithes and offerings? (More on these issues are addressed elsewhere in this book.)

If a church member knows of a self-supporting ministry that does not teach error, would benefit from financial assistance, and the Holy Spirit convicts them to help because the conference is not helping, they should be able to donate their tithes and offerings directly to that ministry. Additionally, if a church member sees problems in their local conference that are detracting from spreading the gospel and the teaching of righteousness, they should first follow the biblical counsel to try to address these issues with the church leadership. If there is no change, they should not withhold their tithe but should be allowed to redirect it to a ministry of their choice where it brings honor and glory to God. This is part of accountability. This issue is found throughout the Scriptures and the writings of Ellen White. It extends to every facet of our lives including our time, our bodies, our actions, our words and thoughts, and our financial resources, including how we allocate our tithes and offerings.

To show what the policy was before 1985, please refer to chapter 1/The use of tithe/Document file 213.

Conclusion

History shows us that the Church has “nothing to fear for the future except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us.” (*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 31)

Are tributes tithe?

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

“After talking with Ernie and Becky, I was very satisfied that they are sincere Adventists who want nothing more than for Jesus to come soon. Because of this, I remained sympathetic, but still cautious, for a number of months.

Yet everything changed when I read the Feb. 08 dream, particularly what ‘the Herald’ said about tithe. Page 4 says:

The Herald turns to me and says, ‘It is important that His people understand while it is important that we are to return a tithe to God’s storehouse, it is equally important that they understand what the funds are being used for. If an individual is providing funds and they understand that the funds are not being used according to His will, that person will be held accountable. The Great Creator has said to pay a tribute to those who do His bidding. The Herald explains that many tributes are used toward Lucifer’s work of using spiritualism from within God’s church by those who collect and place the funds in a storehouse. The Herald says, ‘That is not God’s storehouse...’

Here the Herald says that if someone gives 'tithe' and 'they understand that the funds are not being used according to His will, that person will be held accountable.' He also said that because 'many tributes [tithe]' are being used for 'spiritualism within God's church' that therefore, 'That is not God's storehouse.' "

Fact

Ernie's dreams have never stated that a tribute is tithe. That is Pastor Wohlberg's interpretation.

God says:

Deuteronomy 16:10

And thou shalt keep the feast of weeks unto the LORD thy God with a tribute of a freewill offering of thine hand, which thou shalt give unto the LORD thy God, according as the LORD thy God hath blessed thee.

The Review and Herald, February 9, 1886

Surely goodness and mercy attend us at every step. Not till we wish the infinite Father to cease bestowing his gifts on us, should we impatiently exclaim, Is there no end of giving? Not only should we faithfully render to God our tithes, which he claims as his own, but we should bring a tribute to his treasury as an offering of gratitude. Let us with joyful hearts bring to our Creator the first-fruits of all his bounties,--our choicest possessions, our best and holiest service.

Ernie's dreams say:

If You Love Me, September 4, 2007

You are to stay on the path and support and pay tribute to those who do My bidding. [*support* is tithe; *tribute* is offerings]

Stand Fast, February 5, 2008

The Herald turns to me and says, "It is important that His people understand while it is important that we are to return a tithe to God's storehouse, it is equally important that they understand what the funds are being used for. If an individual is providing funds and they understand that the funds are not being used according to His will, that person will be held accountable. The Great Creator has said to pay a tribute to those who do His bidding. The Herald explains that many tributes are used toward Lucifer's work of using spiritualism from within God's church by those who collect and place the funds in a storehouse. The Herald says, "That is not God's storehouse. Those that give a tribute will be able to see the blessing they give in faith when it is placed in God's storehouse."

The Boardroom, April 24, 2009

This document must go into details, showing the truth as to the appropriate placement of tithe and tributes.

Conclusion

The Bible, the Spirit of Prophecy, and Ernie's dreams clearly reveal that tributes are freewill offerings. In Pastor Wohlberg's very first point, he misinterprets Ernie's dream. God not only wants us to be concerned with how the tithe is being used but also the offerings we give.

A widow's unselfish act

Wohlberg says: (see [Appendix G](#))

"After reading this, my mind was deeply troubled. Then I compared the Herald's statements with what Ellen White wrote. Then I wrote up my findings in a Word document. Then I spoke with Ernie and Becky on the phone. After doing this, I sent my document to them....

[The Bible] 'Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much. Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood"' (Mark 12:41-44).

Steve's comment: The Jewish 'treasury' at that time was corrupt, yet Jesus commended the poor woman for putting her money there because she loved God's cause. Jesus did not hold her 'accountable' for what was occurring in that temple, or because of how her money might be misused. Instead, He commended her unselfish act and inspired His gospel writers to record this event to instruct His church to the end of time."

God says:

Luke 21:1-4

And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury. And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all: For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.

Fact

Jesus commended her because of her self-sacrifice not for supporting a corrupt ministry. There is no reason to believe that she knew the ministry was corrupt, after all, the people looked up to the priests and rulers just as they do today. Additionally, nowhere in the above verses does it state that she was placing "tithe" in the treasury.

Conclusion

We are to be cheerful givers to God's storehouse, supporting effective ministry wherever that may be.

Robbing God

Wohlberg says: (see [Appendix G](#))

"[Ellen White] Some have been dissatisfied and have said: 'I will not longer pay my tithe; for I have no confidence in the way things are managed at the heart of the work.' **But will you rob God because you think the management of the work is not right?** ... do not withdraw

from the work of God, and prove unfaithful, because others are not doing right (9T 249)

Steve's comment: If some are not doing right, even at 'the heart of the work,' we should still pay our tithe there, or we are robbing God.

[Ellen White] Cannot you see that it is not best under any circumstances to withhold your tithes and offerings because you are not in harmony with everything that your brethren do? The tithes and offerings are not the property of any man, but are to be used in doing a certain work for God. Unworthy ministers may receive some of the means thus raised, but dare anyone, because of this, withhold from the treasury and brave the curse of God? I dare not (2 Sermons and Talks, 74).

Steve's comment: Some of our tithe may be misused and go to 'unworthy ministers,' but this is no reason not to pay our tithes into 'the treasury.' It is "not best under *any* circumstances" to withhold our tithe; if we do, we risk the curse of God."

Fact

The context of Ellen White's quote was about robbing God. People had stopped paying tithe altogether, because it was not being used correctly. Notice that Pastor Wohlberg fails to show the rest of Ellen White's quote. As you read it in context, you will notice it says, "The Lord will not hold you responsible for it if you do what you can to correct the evil." This means that if people are aware of misuse and continue to support corrupt ministers and do nothing about it, God will hold them accountable. Why does Pastor Wohlberg not mention his concern over the misuse of funds by those who collect it today? Has he not done his part to correct the evil?

God says:

Sermons and Talks, Vol. 2, p. 74

You who have been withholding your means from the cause of God, read the book of Malachi and see what is spoken there in regard to tithes and offerings. Cannot you see that it is not best under any circumstances to withhold your tithes and offerings because you are not in harmony with everything that your brethren do? The tithes and offerings are not the property of any man, but are to be used in doing a certain work for God. Unworthy ministers may receive some of the means thus raised, but dare anyone, because of this, withhold from the treasury and brave the curse of God? I dare not. I pay my tithe gladly and freely, saying, as did David, "Of Thine own have we given Thee." A selfish withholding from God will tend to poverty in our own souls. Act your part, my brethren and sisters. God loves you, and He stands at the helm. If the conference business is not managed according to the order of the Lord, that is the sin of the erring one. The Lord will not hold you responsible for it if you do what you can to correct the evil. But do not commit sin yourselves by withholding from the Lord His own property. "Cursed be he that doeth the work of the Lord deceitfully" or negligently.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 3, p. 553

It would be poor policy to support from the treasury of God those who really mar and injure His work, and who are constantly lowering the standard of Christianity.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, pp. 261-262

There are fearful woes for those who preach the truth, but are not sanctified by it, and also for those who consent to receive and maintain the unsanctified to minister to them in word and doctrine. I am alarmed for the people of God who profess to believe solemn, important truth, for I know that many of them are not converted nor sanctified through it. Men can hear and acknowledge the whole truth, and yet know nothing of the power of godliness. All who preach the truth will not themselves be saved by it. Said the angel: "Be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord."

Conclusion

Ernie's dreams never counsel us to stop paying our tithe, as Pastor Wohlberg implies. On the contrary, they reinforce the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy teaching that tithing should not be stopped, no matter what the circumstances. Ellen White never taught that God will not hold us accountable when we support corrupt ministers. Instead, she stressed that we will be held accountable if we do nothing to correct the evil. This is what Pastor Wohlberg and other critics have not admitted.

Means misapplied

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

"[Ellen White] I was shown that the recording angel makes a faithful record of every offering dedicated to God and put into the treasury, and also of the final result of the means thus bestowed... **Even though the means thus consecrated be misapplied,** so that it does not accomplish the object which the donor had in view,--the glory of God and the salvation of souls,--those who made the sacrifice in sincerity of soul, with an eye single to the glory of God, **will not lose their reward.** Those who have made a wrong use of means dedicated to God will be required to give an account of their stewardship (2T 518-519).

Steve's comment: Even if the tithe is misapplied, the angels make a faithful record of the giver's contribution. They will not lose their reward."

Fact

Pastor Wohlberg has failed to take into account the complete context of Ellen White's statement.

God says:

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 2, p. 518

I was shown that the recording angel makes a faithful record of every offering dedicated to God and put into the treasury, and also of the final result of the means thus bestowed. The eye of God takes cognizance of every farthing devoted to His cause, and of the willingness or reluctance of the giver. The motive in giving is also chronicled. Those self-sacrificing, consecrated ones who render back to God the things that are His, as He requires of them, will be rewarded according to their works. Even though the means thus consecrated be misapplied, so that it does not accomplish the object which the donor had in view,--the glory of God and

the salvation of souls,--those who made the sacrifice in sincerity of soul, with an eye single to the glory of God, will not lose their reward.

Conclusion

People do not support corruption in sincerity hoping it will do good because they know it will be used for corruption. God judges the motive. No one is held accountable for something if they are not aware of it. However, we are held accountable if we are aware of a problem or had a way of discovering there is a problem and do nothing about it.

Aiding the enemy?

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

“[Ellen White] When persons declare that they will **not pay their tithes because the means is not used as they think it ought to be**, will the elder of the church or the minister sympathize with the sinners? **Will he aid the enemy in his work?** Or will he, as a wise man endued with knowledge, go to work to correct the evil and remove the stumblingblocks? Let those who are dissatisfied state plainly their grievances to the ones who they think have erred instead of talking the matter over with others and **thus fanning the flame of discontent** (2 Sermons and Talks, 75).

Steve’s comment: Those who don’t pay their tithes because they think it is being misused are unknowingly aiding the enemy in his work and ‘fanning the flame of discontent.’ ”

Fact

Pastor Wohlberg has once again taken Ellen White’s statement out of context. If we accepted Pastor Wohlberg’s conclusion, then we would have to conclude that supporting faithful gospel workers who are not employed by the Conference with our tithe and offerings would be aiding the enemy. Notice Pastor Wohlberg’s use of the words “because they *think* it is being misused” rather than “because they *know* it is being misused. This downplays the gravity of the situation.

God says:

Sermons and Talks, Vol. 2, pp. 74-75

You who have been withholding your means from the cause of God, read the book of Malachi and see what is spoken there in regard to tithes and offerings. Cannot you see that it is not best under any circumstances to withhold your tithes and offerings because you are not in harmony with everything that your brethren do? The tithes and offerings are not the property of any man, but are to be used in doing a certain work for God. Unworthy ministers may receive some of the means thus raised, but dare anyone, because of this, withhold from the treasury and brave the curse of God? I dare not. I pay my tithe gladly and freely, saying, as did David, "Of Thine own have we given Thee." A selfish withholding from God will tend to poverty in our own souls. Act your part, my brethren and sisters. God loves you, and He stands at the helm. If the conference business is not managed according to the order of the Lord, that is the sin of the erring one. The Lord will not hold you responsible for it if you do what you can to correct the evil. But do not commit sin yourselves by

withholding from the Lord His own property. "Cursed be he that doeth the work of the Lord deceitfully" or negligently.

When persons declare that they will not pay their tithes because the means is not used as they think it ought to be, will the elder of the church or the minister sympathize with the sinners? Will he aid the enemy in his work? Or will he, as a wise man endowed with knowledge, go to work to correct the evil and remove the stumblingblocks? Let those who are dissatisfied state plainly their grievances to the ones who they think have erred instead of talking the matter over with others and thus fanning the flame of discontent.

Conclusion

The main point Ellen White was addressing was that people had stopped paying tithe completely because of mismanagement. In this situation, Ellen White taught that under no circumstances are we free to stop returning our tithe. Supporting gospel workers not employed by the Church is not the issue. Pastor Wohlberg would have us believe that if we support such people, we are supporting the enemy. Again, if there is misuse of tithes or offerings and we are aware of it or could be made aware of it and we do nothing to correct the evil, God will hold us accountable. However, we are not held accountable for what we do not know or cannot know. Then it is just the sin of the erring one mishandling the funds.

Again Pastor Wohlberg ignores the issue of removing the "stumblingblocks." Why does he continue to ignore the issue of doing what we can to correct the evil or stating plainly our grievances to the ones who we think have erred? We are seeing a theme of "be quiet, sit down, just hand over the money and do not worry about what *might* be evil in the Church."

Child Guidance, pp. 235-236

Those who have too little courage to reprove wrong, or who through indolence or lack of interest make no earnest effort to purify the family or the church of God, are held accountable for the evil that may result from their neglect of duty. We are just as responsible for evils that we might have checked in others by exercise of parental or pastoral authority, as if the acts had been our own.

What does God's Word say about dumb dogs that will not bark? What does it say about crying aloud, sparing not and showing God's people their transgressions? Yes, there is the factor today that when we do that, we are chastised, ignored, or disfellowshipped. However, that is not an excuse to not do what God has asked of His faithful watchmen. Why should we care how mankind treats us? We should only care about pleasing God.

Isaiah 58:1

Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 211

Here we see that the church--the Lord's sanctuary--was the first to feel the stroke of the wrath of God. The ancient men, those to whom God had

given great light and who had stood as guardians of the spiritual interests of the people, had betrayed their trust. They had taken the position that we need not look for miracles and the marked manifestation of God's power as in former days. Times have changed. These words strengthen their unbelief, and they say: The Lord will not do good, neither will He do evil. He is too merciful to visit His people in judgment. Thus "Peace and safety" is the cry from men who will never again lift up their voice like a trumpet to show God's people their transgressions and the house of Jacob their sins. These dumb dogs that would not bark are the ones who feel the just vengeance of an offended God. Men, maidens, and little children all perish together.

Other channels

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

"[Ellen White] God's reserved resources are to be used in no such haphazard way. The tithe is the Lord's, and those who meddle with it will be punished with the loss of their heavenly treasure unless they repent. Let the work no longer be hedged up because the tithe has been diverted into various channels other than the one to which the Lord has said it should go (9T 249).

Steve's comment: The title issue is a life and death matter. Thus who 'meddle' with it will be 'punished' with the 'loss of their heavenly treasure.' The tithe is not to be diverted into other channels, or paid in a 'haphazard way,' for this would hinder God's work.

Summary comments: Ellen White's position is clear. Even if some of the tithe is misused, we are still to pay it, or we are robbing God. Those held accountable are not those who pay tithe (as 'the Herald' said), but those who misuse it. Those who don't pay their tithe because they think it is not being used right, aid the enemy. Under no circumstances are we to withhold our tithe from 'the treasury.' Thus, in this instance, it seems that 'the Heralds' counsel and Ellen White's counsel are not in agreement with each other here. 'The Herald' contradicts her counsel, yet he says that it 'important' for God's people to understand what he says."

Fact

Pastor Wohlberg has once again taken Ellen White's statements out of context.

God says:

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 9, p. 249

Some have been dissatisfied and have said: "I will not longer pay my tithe; for I have no confidence in the way things are managed at the heart of the work." But will you rob God because you think the management of the work is not right? Make your complaint, plainly and openly, in the right spirit, to the proper ones. Send in your petitions for things to be adjusted and set in order; but do not withdraw from the work of God, and prove unfaithful, because others are not doing right.

Read carefully the third chapter of Malachi and see what God says about the tithe. If our churches will take their stand upon the Lord's word and be faithful in paying their tithe into His treasury, more laborers will be encouraged to take up ministerial work. More men would give

themselves to the ministry were they not told of the depleted treasury. There should be an abundant supply in the Lord's treasury, and there would be if selfish hearts and hands had not withheld the tithes or made use of them to support other lines of work.

God's reserved resources are to be used in no such haphazard way. The tithe is the Lord's, and those who meddle with it will be punished with the loss of their heavenly treasure unless they repent. Let the work no longer be hedged up because the tithe has been diverted into various channels other than the one to which the Lord has said it should go. Provision is to be made for these other lines of work. They are to be sustained, but not from the tithe. God has not changed; the tithe is still to be used for the support of the ministry. The opening of new fields requires more ministerial efficiency than we now have, and there must be means in the treasury.

Ibid., p. 248

One reason that the tithe may be applied to school purposes. Still others reason that canvassers and colporteurs should be supported from the tithe. But a great mistake is made when the tithe is drawn from the object for which it is to be used--the support of the ministers. There should be today in the field one hundred well qualified laborers where now there is but one.

Conclusion

The "other channels" Ellen White mentions is not self-supporting ministries, as Pastor Wohlberg suggests, but rather other lines of work such as school purposes and colporteurs, rather than supporting the ministry. If we accepted Pastor Wohlberg's conclusion, we would lose eternal life if we supported faithful gospel workers not employed by the Church, even if at one time they were, but lost their position for standing up against apostasy.

Ellen White and the Herald are in complete agreement as stated in the following.

- Ellen White and the Herald associated robbing God with ceasing to pay tithe. They did not apply this to aiding self-supporting ministries.
- Ellen White and the Herald taught that God will hold us accountable if we do not try to correct the evil.
- The Herald never said to use tithe to support other channels or lines of work. Ellen White supported the same principle, with the following exception from *Manuscript Releases*, Vol. 1, p. 191: "There are exceptional cases, where poverty is so deep that in order to secure the humblest place of worship, it may be necessary to appropriate the tithes." That exception should still apply today.

Tithe summary and conclusion

Ernie's dreams teach us the importance of tithing and personal accountability. In a time when apostasy is sweeping through the churches (see chapter 1 of volume 2), God wants us to ensure His tithe is not being misused. Many faithful, concerned Church members do not support their conference because

of the apostasy. Instead they support faithful gospel workers, some who have been disfellowshipped because they have dared to speak against the apostasy. Their supporters do not withhold tithe from God's work, but rather support those who are faithful and willing to stand for the truth.

Instead of tithe being the means to support God's ministers, is Pastor Wohlberg, and most Church leaders, viewing it as a way to profit the Church? We must realize that the tithe belongs to God, not Church administrators. It is wrong to teach that we will lose our salvation if we do not pay our tithe and offerings to the Conference. According to Pastor Wohlberg's reasoning, those who would minister for the Lord and be supported by the tithe must be employed by the Church. God does use ministers outside the church organization, who He can lead more freely.

Pastor Wohlberg has twisted Ellen White's writings to make it appear as though Ernie's dreams contradict the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. However, as we have seen, Ellen White herself teaches God will hold us accountable if we know our tithe is being misused and do nothing about it. Pastor Wohlberg is also not consistent in his interpretation of Ellen White's writings. We must ask, what funding does he use for his White Horse Media ministry? If we use his argument as well as Ed Reid's that all tithes should go to the Conference and not to any independent ministry, then what is his ministry using to exist on? Offerings? The fact is, both tithe and offerings belong to God, and God's treasury is not just the Conference. Notice how the Spirit of Prophecy, which Pastor Wohlberg quotes, includes offerings with tithe.

Sermons and Talks, Vol. 2, p. 74

... it is not best under any circumstances to withhold your tithes and offerings. . . . The tithes and offerings are not the property of any man. . . .

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 2, p. 518

... the recording angel makes a faithful record of every offering dedicated to God and put into the treasury. . . .

Is Pastor Wohlberg going against his own argument and accepting funds which he says belong only to the Conference?

For more information, see [chapter 1/Independent ministries](#).

Prophets proven or rejected

Wohlberg says: (see [Appendix G](#))

"[Significant EGW quotes about the of Anna Rice Phillips] All along our pathway to the heavenly Canaan we see many souls that have made shipwreck of faith, and in their false movements have led others astray through the supposition that they were led of God in special revelations. I have had to write many, many pages to correct these errors. I have been burdened and oppressed night after night, unable to sleep because of the agony of my soul for God's heritage, His people, who are in danger of being misled. Many things in these visions and dreams seem to be all straight, a repetition of that which has been in the field for many years; but soon they introduce a jot here, a tittle of error there, just a little seed

which takes root and flourishes, and many are defiled therewith (2 SM 86).

The greatest care should be exercised concerning those who claim to receive revelations from God. There needs to be much close watching and much praying. Those who are acting a part in the great work for these last days need to counsel together in regard to every new thing that shall be introduced, for no one man's mind is to be left to judge of, or to place before the public, important matters which have a relation to the cause of God (2 SM 91).

[Satan mixes truth with error] It was by deception that Satan seduced angels; thus he has in all ages carried forward his work among men, and he will continue this policy to the last. Should he openly profess to be warring against God and His law, men would beware; but he disguises himself, and mixes truth with error. The most dangerous falsehoods are those that are mingled with truth. It is thus that errors are received that captivate and ruin the soul. By this means Satan carries the world with him. But a day is coming when his triumph will be forever ended (PP 338)''

Fact

Pastor Wohlberg is correct that dreams and visions should be examined carefully. Jesus has warned us that false prophets would arise and deceive many. However, we must remember that many reject God's prophets, as can be seen throughout history and even today.

God says:

Luke 4:24

And he said, Verily I say unto you, No prophet is accepted in his own country.

Luke 13:34-35

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!

Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Matthew 23:29-35

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.

Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets. Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.

The Desire of Ages, p. 238

By this relation of events in the lives of the prophets, Jesus met the questionings of His hearers. The servants whom God had chosen for a special work were not allowed to labor for a hardhearted and unbelieving people. But those who had hearts to feel and faith to believe were especially favored with evidences of His power through the prophets. In the days of Elijah, Israel had departed from God. They clung to their sins, and rejected the warnings of the Spirit through the Lord's messengers. Thus they cut themselves off from the channel by which God's blessing could come to them.

Faith and Works, p. 83

Has not the Lord Jesus sent message after message of rebuke, of warning, of entreaty, to these self-satisfied ones? Have not His counsels been despised and rejected? Have not His delegated messengers been treated with scorn, and their words been received as idle tales?

The Desire of Ages, p. 587

The prophets of God were hated by apostate Israel because through them their hidden sins were brought to light. Ahab regarded Elijah as his enemy because the prophet was faithful to rebuke the king's secret iniquities. So today the servant of Christ, the reprover of sin, meets with scorn and rebuffs...

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 21

Looking down the ages, He saw the covenant people scattered in every land, "like wrecks on a desert shore." In the temporal retribution about to fall upon her children, He saw but the first draft from that cup of wrath which at the final judgment she must drain to its dregs. Divine pity, yearning love, found utterance in the mournful words: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" O that thou, a nation favored above every other, hadst known the time of thy visitation, and the things that belong unto thy peace! I have stayed the angel of justice, I have called thee to repentance, but in vain. It is not merely servants, delegates, and prophets, whom thou hast refused and rejected, but the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer. If thou art destroyed, thou alone art responsible. "Ye will not come to Me, that ye might have life." Matthew 23:37; John 5:40.

Conclusion

Yes, we must beware of false prophets. However, that is not license to ignore every prophet. They must be tested and proved. God said He would send prophets in the last days and most will reject them.

Fruits of the dreams

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

“Question: If ‘the Herald’ is a fallen angel disguising himself as one of God’s angels, and if the long-term purpose of his communications is to deceive God’s people, then how can we explain the great ‘good’ that have definitely come through the dreams so far, hearts being renewed, lives being changed, etc.

Possible answer: The Holy Spirit still works through ‘truth,’ even when it is quoted by the devil.

The leaven of truth works a change in the whole man, making the coarse refined, the rough gentle, the selfish generous (COL, 102).

It is by the Spirit of truth, working through the word of God, that Christ subdues His chosen people to Himself (DA 671).

Error is never harmless. It never sanctifies, but always brings confusion and dissension (5T 291, 292)”

Fact

We can see that Pastor Wohlberg is not convicted on his answer, because he states that it is a *possible* answer. That is not solid proof. As he referenced from *The Desire of Ages*, p. 671, “It is by the Spirit of truth”—the Holy Spirit not the devil—“that Christ subdues His chosen people to Himself.” The Bible counsels us to “Despise not prophesying. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.” 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21. Since Ernie’s dreams pass the tests of a prophet and are leading people into a closer relationship with Jesus, this is proof they are from God.

God says:

Selected Messages, Book 2, p. 74

I tell you plainly, the messages of your daughter Anna are not from God. This the Lord has shown me, and He will not lie. She may say many good things, may speak much that is truth, but so does the enemy of souls. The counterfeit will in many respects resemble the true. It is the fruit borne that testifies of the character.

The Faith I Live By, p. 296

Let the Testimonies be judged by their fruits. What is the spirit of their teaching? What has been the result of their influence? “All who desire to do so can acquaint themselves with the fruits of these visions.”

Conclusion

Ellen White said that her visions and dreams were to be judged by their fruit. We argue the same for Ernie’s dreams.

Holy Spirit instructed?

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

“Last night [March 23] at about 2:00 am, I couldn’t sleep. Many thoughts were going through my head. Bible verses. SOP quotes. Every spiritual bone in my body tells me that the Holy Spirit was earnestly instructing me. I sensed His presence strongly. For over an hour I tossed and turned thinking about the danger that you are in. I write this as a strong friend, not as an enemy.

These are some of the thoughts that came to me.”

Fact

Pastor Wohlberg just finished explaining how we need to be careful we are not deceived by Satan, and now he expects us to believe that he “sensed” the presence of the Holy Spirit instructing him.

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 6, p. 180

I know that you plead not to be interfered with, that you must work in your own harness, you must be independent and follow the leadings of your own mind. But you are far from being a safe and successful worker in doing this. Your mind is not always in such a condition that you can safely follow its leadings. Frequently things come into your mind which you regard as the special teachings of the Spirit of God, impressions direct from the Lord; but they are not. You cannot rely upon these impressions. Elder D did this, and it was to a great degree ruin of body as well as to the detriment of his soul. It was the Lord's way to instruct him by warnings and counsels through the Testimonies. This light was to correct the force of his impressions; and yet these impressions were preferred and relied upon. The light given of God was rejected because it did not coincide with these impressions and sustain the intense feelings he had upon many points.

Testimonies for the Church, p. 329

I was shown the case of Sister H. She was presented before me in connection with a professed sister who was strongly prejudiced against my husband and myself, and opposed to the visions. This spirit had led her to love and cherish every lying report in regard to us and the visions, and she has communicated this to Sister H. She has had a bitter spirit of war against me, when she had no personal knowledge of me. She was unacquainted with my labors, yet has nourished the most wicked feelings of prejudice against me, and has influenced Sister H, and they have united together in their bitter remarks and speeches. The person shown me in connection with Sister H was a strong-minded woman, sanguine, and exalted in her own estimation. She has thought that her views were correct, and that others must rely upon her word, when she only darkened counsel by words, and manifested the spirit of the dragon host to war against those who would be united on the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus.

Conclusion

God warns us to beware of our impressions. This is why He has given us tests to identify false prophets. If we would follow these tests, we would not be

deceived. Since Pastor Wohlberg is claiming direction from the Holy Spirit that night, we must test his experience by the things that he was led to write. If it was the Holy Spirit that was instructing him, then his next points will stand up to God's Word. However, if they do not, then we know the wrong spirit led him.

Angel names

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

"1. Throughout her ministry, Ellen White was instructed by one she referred to as 'my accompanying angel,' but that angel never identified himself by any specific name. Angels often instructed people in Bible times too, but they never gave themselves names, except one, 'Gabriel,' whose name appears only in Daniel 8/9 (in connection with the 70 week/2300 day prophecy) and Luke 1 (in connection with the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus Christ). Because these events were so important, it seems that God felt 'Gabriel' should mention his name. But no other angel sent from God has ever done this."

Fact

The angel never gave his name. He said he could be called "the Herald" which is a title or job description. "Heralds were originally messengers sent by monarchs or noblemen to convey messages or proclamations." <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herald>. We should also notice that Ernie was the one who asked the angel for his name. If the angel had ignored Ernie, we would consider that being rude. Notice the character quality of the Herald in that he does not want acknowledgment but only points to Jesus. That is the opposite characteristic of the one he replaced—Lucifer, who rebelled—the mystery of iniquity.

Ernie's dreams say:

Keep Going, August 8, 2007

The angel, still holding my hand, says "We must go." We turn, and I find myself in the corridor. I notice the horses are gone. I stop and ask the angel his name. He answers, "You can call me "The Herald" (he spelled it), but who I am is not important. The Great Adjudicator (he spelled this as well) is the one name we should want to know and speak of."

Love and Rebuke, April 12, 2008

The Herald steps forward and says to all. "Understand I am the Herald. I am God's messenger. Herald is not my name but what I am. I have said before that my real name is not important. I am just a messenger. The name that should be called is the name Jesus. This is the name that all should have on their lips. This is the name all should want to sing and praise."

Furthermore, Pastor Wohlberg states that "because these events were so important, it seems that God felt 'Gabriel' should mention his name." Well, the Herald has now done that in an indirect way as noted in the following.

Ernie's dream says:

In the Heart of Jesus, September 12, 2009

The Herald says to turn and look up. The sky rolls apart as a scroll and I watch a scene from the throne of God. I notice the image of the Father

command a most noble angel that stands next to the throne to go quickly to His Son. I see the angel helping Jesus hold the symbolic cup to His lips. The angel shows Him those that will be saved because of His decision. Jesus knows His choice and for the third time says aloud, "Heavenly Father, if it is possible, please let this cup pass from me, but may Your will be done, not mine. "As the angel stands up, I see his face up close for the first time. I quickly turn to the Herald who tells me, "You like I are a messenger. We are to provide messages and care for those we are directed to. Who we are is not important. Remember, the only name that all should have on their lips is Jesus Christ--our Creator and Master, your Savior and Brother. The scene I have just shown you is a study all should do not only once but many times. What your Savior did is beyond your understanding now but will be the study of the saved for eternity."

What a shame if Pastor Wohlberg never reads this beautiful narrative to see that "the Herald" is truly Gabriel himself. Why is he Gabriel? Because the events of today are so very important! Can we agree that the preparation for Christ's Second Coming is a most important event?!

Summation

In a dream prior to Pastor Wohlberg's letter, the Herald says that Ernie may call him "the Herald" but says "who I am is not important." In a later message addressing Wohlberg's allegation, the Herald reiterates the following: "Herald is not my name but what I am. I have said before that my real name is not important. I am just a messenger. The name that should be called is the name Jesus."

The Desire of Ages, p. 99

Of Gabriel the Saviour speaks in the Revelation, saying that "He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John." Rev. 1:1. And to John the angel declared, "I am a fellow servant with thee and with thy brethren the prophets." Rev. 22:9, R. V. Wonderful thought--that the angel who stands next in honor to the Son of God is the one chosen to open the purposes of God to sinful men.

The Adventist Home, p. 24

The humble tasks before us are to be taken up by someone; and those who do them should feel that they are doing a necessary and honorable work, and that in their mission, humble though it may be, they are doing the work of God just as surely as was Gabriel when sent to the prophets.

Conclusion

We must realize that angels' names are not a biblical test of a prophet. "The Herald" is not the angel's name and Pastor Wohlberg's implication is false. Would the Holy Spirit make false allegations?

Holy angels never flatter

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

"2. Holy angels never flatter men. EGW wrote: 'The Holy Spirit flatters no man' (Signs, Sept. 27, 1899). 'We cannot praise and flatter any man without doing him a great wrong' (5T, 75). 'A man that flattereth his

neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet' (Prov. 29:5). It seems to me that 'the Herald's' comments about Ernie as 'the bold one' could easily be part of a well-thought out 'flattery' strategy to gain Ernie's confidence to 'spread a net for his feet.' "

Fact

What is the difference between a compliment and flattery?

From various online dictionaries, a compliment is true, precise and to the point. It usually comes from the heart, is sincere, and is a powerful tool for creating and building relationships. Compliments reflect that the giver thinks positively of you, and just wants to tell you that. The recipient enjoys receiving the compliment. Often the giver and recipient have a long-time relationship (know each other).

Flattery is either insincere or does not ring true, often excessive, or given with a hidden motive. It is praise to which the recipient is usually indifferent and left ultimately feeling empty.

Ernie's dreams say:

The Mailroom, July 24-27, 2007

. . . The foreman puts on the new helmet. He turns around toward me. As he looks down at me and I look up into his eyes, I immediately know who he is. I exclaim, "It's you! I start crying and He reaches down and wipes away my tears with His hands. He says, "Do not cry as you are the bold one I created you to be." I smile and tell Him that I have so many questions. He tells me there is little time. I quickly ask Him why I have repeatedly been shown in many of my dreams of the coming destruction and how He said to not tell the specific details. He answers, "Let me see your watch." I hold out my left arm to show Him. He says, "Give me your right hand. I want to show you something." I hold out my right hand and He places it in His left hand. He looks at me, smiles and says my heavenly name (the one I have heard in other dreams) and to not be afraid but know He is always with me.

Watch, As I Am Coming, August 14, 2007

Standing in the corridor, the angel releases my right hand. I feel a separation that I cannot and do not want to feel. He has held my hand and has been with me through everything I have seen. He steps back and I suddenly have a feeling of unbelievable happiness. I watch as the angel, who has stood about the same height as me until now, grows to his normal height, which I believe is about 15 feet tall. I watch as his wings come out from his back and unfold, unfold, and unfold again and he stretches forth his wings. I notice they are curved and remind me of a hawk. I look up at him and I ask, "Are they real or symbolic?" He smiles and those dimples show even more. He answers, "You are the bold one, aren't you?" He waves his huge wings one time and is instantly high in the air. He looks at me and says, "If you remain faithful to your Savior, you will find out." Then he smiles the biggest smile ever.

If You Love Me, September 4, 2007

My angel takes me back into the corridor, smiles a big smile, and says, "I have a surprise for you. I am now to take you to one more place." We walk to the other side of the corridor. He holds his right hand on the wall and lets go of my right hand. I try to grab his hand, but he smiles back at me and says, "Do not worry. This is the way it is to be. Our journey today is finished, but I will see you again soon." I say, "But I have questions that need to be answered." He puts his left hand on my shoulder and says, "Go through the wall." I ask, "Are you coming with me?" He answers, "Continue to be the bold one."

I walk through the wall and come into another room where I see Jesus standing. He is waiting with His arms outstretched. I run to Him, wrap my arms around Him and cry, "I do not ever want to leave!" He laughs and reaches down to wipe the tears from my face.

Jesus first calls Ernie "the bold one" that He created him to be. Next the Herald calls Ernie the bold one, which makes sense because he is following his Lord's example. Then the Herald again encourages Ernie to be the bold one. Jesus and the Herald are building a relationship with Ernie. Within the context of what Ernie has done and still has to do, the term is true, short, precise, and to the point. "The bold one" is not flattery but rather a term of endearment, encouragement, and even instruction to continue being bold.

We can also see compliments to Gideon in the following quote. He certainly must have been encouraged by those words. See "Flattery" in chapter 4 and "Constant affirmation" in chapter 7 for more examples in the life of Moses, David, Job, Daniel, Mary (the mother of Jesus), and Ellen White.

Reflecting Christ, p. 330

Gideon was the son of Joash, of the tribe of Manasseh. The division to which this family belonged held no leading position, but the household of Joash was distinguished for courage and integrity.... To Gideon came the divine call to deliver his people....

Suddenly the "angel of the Lord" appeared and addressed him with the words, "Jehovah is with thee, thou mighty man of valor."

"Oh my Lord," was his answer, "if the Lord be with us, why then is all this befallen us?" ...

The Messenger of heaven replied, "Go in this thy might and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites; have not I sent thee?"

We find it interesting that the definition for "man of valor" is "courage and boldness, as in battle; bravery; courage" which equates to "the bold one." (www.thefreedictionary.com)

Conclusion

Pastor Wohlberg's point is irrelevant, because the term "the bold one" is not flattery but rather a compliment, a term of endearment, encouragement, and instruction. With another false allegation, we again do not see the working of the Holy Spirit in Pastor Wohlberg's letter.

Smiling over bad music

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

“3. In the ABC dream an angel ‘keeps smiling all the time while the machine is smashing and chomping [music] CDs and DVDs.’ Compare this with this. Once EGW saw young people playing bad music. Then she wrote: ‘...such songs were poured forth as made the watching angels weep’ (*Adventist Home*, 514). Thus God’s angels ‘weep’ over bad music. This is nothing to ‘smile’ about.”

God Says:

Adventist Home, pp. 514, 515

A view of one such company was presented to me, where were assembled those who profess to believe the truth. One was seated at the instrument of music, and such songs were poured forth as made the watching angels weep. There was mirth, there was coarse laughter, there was abundance of enthusiasm and a kind of inspiration; but the joy was such as Satan only is able to create. This is an enthusiasm and infatuation of which all who love God will be ashamed. It prepares the participants for unholy thought and action. I have reason to think that some who were engaged in that scene heartily repented of the shameful performance.

Ernie’s dream says:

The ABC, October 24, 2007

The Herald now tells me to look up. The sky rolls back, angels descend and their wings fold and fold and fold again. Their appearance now changes into human form. My angel and I quickly follow the small group back into the ABC. I watch as the SDA man instructs the “angel employees” to place empty boxes onto hand trucks and put certain books into the boxes. While they are busy doing this task, the SDA man says to one of the larger angel employees, “Please get rid of that.” He is pointing to the CD, DVD and music stand. I watch as this large angel walks over, wraps his very large arms around the whole display stand and rips it from the wall with ease. We follow as he heads toward the end of the loading dock where a large dumpster sits. He hurls the display into it and smiles at me as he presses a button on the side of the dumpster. He continues smiling as this dumpster, which has a built-in compactor and chipping machine, grinds everything into small bits and then compresses it. He keeps smiling all the time while the machine is smashing and chomping the CDs and DVDs. I turn to see angels lined up with boxes of books on hand trucks. The large angel picks up a heavy box of books and throws it into the dumpster. He keeps smiling as the books are ground to pieces.

Fact

An astute person should be able to discern the differences between the two situations. In the first is a group professing to be Christians yet engaged in behavior that includes trifling, hilarity, jesting and mirth, accompanied by songs that would make God’s angels weep. It is the circumstances that make them weep, to see Satan’s influence over such as profess to be followers of God. Weeping is the proper attitude in this situation.

In Ernie’s dream, the large angel carries out the CD and DVD stand and hurls it into the dumpster. He is smiling because the contents that are being destroyed are disapproved by God. The bad CDs and DVDs can no longer influence

listeners or viewers. Would it make sense for this angel to be weeping while the bad contents are being destroyed? Of course not! Smiling is the proper attitude in this situation.

God says:

Isaiah 30:27-32

Behold, the name of the LORD cometh from far, burning with his anger, and the burden thereof is heavy: his lips are full of indignation, and his tongue as a devouring fire: And his breath, as an overflowing stream, shall reach to the midst of the neck, to sift the nations with the sieve of vanity: and there shall be a bridle in the jaws of the people, causing them to err.

Ye shall have a song, as in the night when a holy solemnity is kept; and gladness of heart, as when one goeth with a pipe [flute] to come into the mountain of the LORD, to the mighty One of Israel. And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.

For through the voice of the LORD shall the Assyrian be beaten down, which smote with a rod. And in every place where the grounded staff [staff of punishment] shall pass, which the LORD shall lay upon him, it shall be with tabrets and harps: and in battles of shaking [brandishing] will he fight with it.

In this passage, God is pouring out His anger and destruction upon the wicked. Yet the text paints the scene in terms of music: song, flutes, tambourines and harps that accompany the destruction.

Conclusion

The angel is displaying proper emotion based on the circumstance; to do otherwise would not be normal or make any sense. Again, we do not see the Holy Spirit in Pastor Wohlberg's false conclusion. We also notice that he continues to grasp for valid reasons to reject Ernie's dreams, yet so far it is a futile attempt.

Satan talks in a God-given dream

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

"4. In the 'If You Love Me' dream, three evil angels were allowed to talk to Ernie. This is most unusual. In no other heavenly dream that I am aware of are evil angels portrayed as talking directly to the receiver of the dream. This is not God's method of communication. In EGW's dreams, God often exposed Satan, but he never allowed Satan to talk directly to his servant in a dream."

Fact

Pastor Wohlberg is mistaken, because he was not aware of the following dream in which Satan talked to God's servant, Ellen White.

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 16, No. 171

A dream the Lord gave me August 22. . . . James was counting the angels, and I stood trembling with fear. My life came up before [me] and

looked so full of wrongs I could not see how I should be able to stand. Just then Satan came where I was and said to me, "You are lost; you are now my property [and] will go with me to the dark regions." My feelings I cannot describe. To be separated from the Jesus I had loved and to take up my abode with those that I abhorred looked dreadful to me. At the same time, I felt unworthy to be with the lovely Jesus.

While in this dreadful perplexity one of the angels came where I was and said to Satan, "She is not your property, for she has been redeemed unto God by the precious blood of Jesus. She is the purchase of His blood." Satan fled. My feelings changed. My soul was overflowing with gratitude and thankfulness to God. I saw the saints as there fell [on them] and was reflected from the face of Jesus, light. Their faces would light up as they rose to meet the angels.

Summation

Satan was allowed to talk to Ellen White at least once in her dreams. Pastor Wohlberg's lack of awareness makes his argument worthless.

Conclusion

If Pastor Wohlberg had not been in such a hurry to discredit Ernie's dreams and instead had searched more thoroughly in God's Word, he would have found his answer. In addition, this reason for his lack of trust in the dreams is new and subjective and not a biblical test to identify false prophets. It is another futile attempt. Again, what does this reveal about the spirit that was instructing Pastor Wohlberg?

Beware of all angels?

In his next concerns, Pastor Wohlberg jumps to a conclusion after learning about (not reading) the book *Beware of Angels: Deceptions in the Last Days* by Roger Morneau. He is concerned that the circumstances surrounding the group mentioned in the book is "exactly what is happening through the dreams and communications of 'the Herald.'" As we shall see, the circumstances are vastly different. One cannot equate the two.

Wohlberg says: (see [Appendix G](#))

"Someone recently told me about Roger Morneau's book, *Beware of Angels: Deceptions in the Last Days*, published by the Review and Herald. I plan on reading this book soon. From what I now know of it, it is about a group of very conservative Adventists who started receiving visitations from 'angels' telling them that they had been sent by God to prepare them for the time of trouble and the return of Jesus Christ. These visitations continued for a number of years. *Everything the 'angels' taught seemed correct and without error, for a long, long time.* But then, once the 'net was spread for their feet,' *the deceptions began.* Here is what one reviewer wrote:

"This book is a true account of a prayer group that was deceived by demons. They were true sincere Christians that were visited by angels that told them they were chosen of God, and all sorts of other things that stroked their egos. They figured that because these beings were beautiful and said they were from God, that they MUST be from God. Long story

short, the demons little by little snuck in a little error mixed in a world of truth, kind of like giving a thirsty person a big glass of water with a little drop of cyanide until the person dies.’

This is exactly what EGW warned about concerning the ‘visions and dreams’ of Anna Rice Phillips. ‘Many things in these visions and dreams *seem to be all straight*, a repetition of that which has been in the field for many years; but soon they introduce *a jot here, a tittle of error there, just a little seed* which takes root and flourishes, and many are defiled therewith’ (2 SM 86).

The ‘Beware of Angels’ story ends in murder!

I am very concerned that this is exactly what is happening through the dreams and communications of ‘the Herald.’ Last night, the Holy Spirit warned me strongly about this. Today I am doing my duty to write this out for you.”

Fact

We are still looking for that “tittle of error.” No one has shown it yet. First of all, the book’s name is simply a title, not a principle. *Beware of Evil Angels* would have been a more appropriate title and certainly is a true principle. There is no doubt that one has to be careful with purported angelic messages. However, false angels are not in the habit of promoting repentance and a turning from worldliness.

The circumstances surrounding Ernie versus the group in the book are quite different. Demonic beings flattered the group and promised protection when they broke God’s laws, including the commandments “thou shalt not steal” and “thou shalt not kill.” The group members were not “very conservative Adventists” as Wohlberg falsely alleges. Several, including the one who later committed murder, were living in a sinful non-marital relationship at the time. Following is a brief look at some of the differences between the angels discussed in the book and Ernie’s.

1. The group that was deceived was involved in deliverance ministries of a type which involved exorcism of multiple spirits and having those spirits manifest themselves, declare their names and how they affected the person. This is communicating with evil spirits, which God expressly prohibits (p. 13)
2. The angels promised the group members questionable special powers such as shouting to bring down a mountain upon God’s enemies. (p. 14)
3. The angels appealed to the group’s pride. (p. 15)
4. The individuals participating in the group had a fascination with angels and exorcism. They had an interest in the occult. (pp. 15, 82)
5. The group would essentially have a séance, gathered around an individual who could see and act as a medium for what the angels communicated to them. The group members were alert and awake during their communication times. They were not in vision or dreams. (pp. 16, 20, 82)

6. The angels flattered, impressed and deceived the group. Satan led them step by step to accept the most bizarre things, including the use of an invisible "spiritual" sword to rid the house of evil spirits. (pp. 17, 96)
7. The angels gave their names to the group (one member recorded over 160 names). (p. 17)
8. The angels claimed to put the seal of God in the members' hands and feet. (p. 18)
9. Out of body experiences for a number of people in the group were common. (pp. 18, 90)
10. At times, one or more individuals in the group would talk in tongues. (p. 18)
11. The angels charmed the group members with promises of wonderful things to come, winning their confidence and love and then began to lead them into activities forbidden by God's Word. They were told to prepare for the end of time by stealing things from others rather than living by faith. The angels cloaked the group members with alleged invisibility so they could carry out their thefts in broad daylight. In one six-month period, the group stole more than \$50,000 worth of merchandise from various sources without anyone noticing. (pp. 19-21)
12. They were not directed to search the Bible and the writings of Ellen White to learn whether the angels were telling them truth. (p. 19)
13. Satan used the desire for gain to attract and hold the group members in bondage. (pp. 21-22)
14. At the very beginning, the group was facilitated by individuals who promoted hearing messages from God in their minds, and who invited outsiders to the exorcism sessions. Curiosity led to their participation and later entrapment. (p. 82)
15. As the meetings continued, it gradually became a closed group with a secret body of information they felt should not be shared with outsiders. (p. 85)
16. A number of false prophecies were made with dates set for their fulfillment. (p. 86)
17. The leaders told them not to talk to any minister of the gospel about their "new light" and to keep the supposed messages from God to themselves. (p. 89)
18. The group had been participating in sorcery through accepting errors the Scriptures describe as abominations, such as the supposed immortality of the soul. (p. 90)
19. The angels poured out confusion to this group of people and they were believing it, including that one of the members had a 500 year old man (Timothious) living in their house for 3 years. (p. 100)
20. The angels gave advice intended to separate the group members from the SDA Church, and to isolate themselves and to study and pray at home rather than going to church. The angels made false allegations about leaders in the SDA Church and the waste of time in doing evangelism. (p. 102)

None of these apply to the encounters that Ernie has had in his dreams with the good angels. Here is a short list showing the clear difference:

1. Ernie only had conversation with angels in dreams, never during waking hours.
2. He never initiated the contacts with the angels, only they with him while asleep.
3. The angels and unfallen beings on other planets would not divulge their names, but always pointed to the name of Jesus as the name that should be on everyone's lips.
4. The messages are not secret, but have been widely disseminated and are readily available on the Internet. No sense of elitism should prevail among the readers of the messages; only humility and a seeking after purity and God's will in their lives.
5. Only one individual is receiving the messages. Never are there groups gathered to try to communicate with the angel(s).
6. Notwithstanding documents written by "experts" alleging differently, the teachings, upon close scrutiny, are consistent with Scriptures and the writings of Ellen White, and readers are urged to compare the messages with those standards of truth.
7. Preparation for the time of the end is to be done through spiritual preparation rather than material preparation. The principal of living by faith is promoted.
8. While prophecies have been made regarding certain events, no dates have been given.
9. A high standard of righteousness and purity is promoted, never a breaking of God's law.

God says:

The Great Controversy (1888), pp. 396-397

William Miller had no sympathy with those influences that led to fanaticism. He declared, with Luther, that every spirit should be tested by the Word of God. "The devil," said Miller, "has great power over the minds of some at the present day. And how shall we know what manner of spirit they are of? The Bible answers: 'By their fruits ye shall know them.'" "There are many spirits gone out into the world; and we are commanded to try the spirits. The spirit that does not cause us to live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world, is not the Spirit of Christ. I am more and more convinced that Satan has much to do in these wild movements." "Many among us, who pretend to be wholly sanctified, are following the traditions of men, and apparently are as ignorant of truth as others who make no such pretensions." "The spirit of error will lead us from the truth; and the Spirit of God will lead us into truth. But, say you, a man may be in error, and think he has the truth. What then? We answer, The Spirit and Word agree. If a man judges himself by the Word of God, and finds a perfect harmony through the whole Word, then he must believe he has the truth; but if he finds the spirit by which he is led does not harmonize with the whole tenor of God's law or book, then

let him walk carefully, lest he be caught in the snare of the devil.” “I have often obtained more evidence of inward piety from a kindling eye, a wet cheek, and a choked utterance, than from all the noise in Christendom.”

Summation

God never promotes the breaking of His law and consistent with this, Ernie's messages never promote the breaking of God's law either. In fact, when Ernie sinned (see chapter 2 of volume 2), God rebuked him, Ernie repented, and God forgave him.

The differences between those in the book and Ernie are vast. The encounters of the group with their angels clearly reflect that of demonic encounters. Ernie's dreams and messages clearly bear the imprint of heaven's messages.

Conclusion

Wohlberg's concerns and equating of the dreams Ernie is experiencing versus the deceived group are totally unfounded when looking in detail at the circumstances. Notice Wohlberg's comment again:

“I am very concerned that this is exactly what is happening through the dreams and communications of “the Herald.” Last night, the Holy Spirit warned me strongly about this. Today I am doing my duty to write this out for you.”

It is appropriate to do one's duty. However, there is a conflict between truth and the false allegations that have been pointed out. Interestingly enough, Wohlberg was rebuked in the “Love and Rebuke” dream. To our knowledge, he has not as yet repented.

With the evidence so far, we see another spirit in Pastor Wohlberg's letter.

The Herald a deceiver?

Wohlberg says: (see [Appendix G](#))

“Many are reading the dreams. As EGW warned, much is ‘all straight.’ But once ‘the Herald’ gains people's confidence, we don't know where this will go. Someone might say, ‘Yes, that's why we keep testing everything by the Bible and SOP, for the Herald himself said to do this.’ Well, two dreams ago the Herald made comments about tithe that were *clearly wrong* (see my earlier document sent to Steve H.). He introduced ‘a jot here, a tittle of error there.’ His words have now alerted many, many people, that the Herald is a deceiver. Just this past weekend I was at a church retreat with many of my friends from the Templeton Hills church, where I used to pastor. Ernie had previously spoken to some of the leaders of that church. Since that time, some had been reading the dreams, watching this develop. But when the Herald spoke about tithe, *that was it*. They knew he was wrong, *and this changed everything*. It was one of the elders of that church that mentioned Roger Morneau's book to me. In the last dream ‘the Herald’ said, ‘Many did not understand the things you were shown in the last dream either.’ Well, the problem for the Herald is that some of us *do understand, all too well, exactly what he said, and now we know that he is a demon, not a true angel of God*. We

will give no credence to any future 'explanations,' for we are 'not ignorant of his devices' (2 Cor. 2:11). Paul warned about those who 'by good words and *fair speeches* deceive the hearts of the simple' (Romans 16:18)."

Fact

Many may think the Herald's counsel on tithe was wrong, but there are also many people who know the truth about tithing. They know that God will hold us accountable if we know our tithe is misused and we do nothing to correct the evil.

The problem for Pastor Wohlberg is that some of us do understand, all too well, exactly what he has said against Ernie, the Herald, and against God Himself. Now we know that Pastor Wohlberg was not led by God's Spirit as he wrote his letter. Unless Pastor Wohlberg repents, we will give no credence to any of his future "explanations," for we are "not ignorant of his devices." Paul warned about those, like Pastor Wohlberg, who "by good words and *fair speeches* deceive the hearts of the simple."

God says:

The Signs of the Times, August 29, 1900

Standing in the presence of the multitude, Christ uttered words which, if spoken by any one else, would have been blasphemous. "If a man keep My saying, He shall never see death," He said. "Then said the Jews unto Him, Now we know that Thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and Thou sayest, If a man keep My saying, he shall never taste of death. Art Thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead? and the prophets are dead; whom makest Thou Thyself? Jesus answered, If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing; it is My father that honoreth Me; of whom ye say, that He is your God. Yet ye have not known Him; but I know Him; and if I should say, I know Him not, I shall be a liar like unto you; but I know Him, and keep His saying. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day; and he saw it, and was glad."

The Desire of Ages, pp. 207-208

The whole nation of the Jews called God their Father, therefore they would not have been so enraged if Christ had represented Himself as standing in the same relation to God. But they accused Him of blasphemy, showing that they understood Him as making this claim in the highest sense.

These adversaries of Christ had no arguments with which to meet the truths He brought home to their consciences. They could only cite their customs and traditions, and these seemed weak and vapid when compared with the arguments Jesus had drawn from the word of God and the unceasing round of nature.

The Desire of Ages, p. 276

Now when Jesus came mingling with the people, eating and drinking at their tables, they accused Him of being a glutton and a winebibber. The very ones who made this charge were themselves guilty. As God is

misrepresented, and clothed by Satan with his own attributes, so the Lord's messengers were falsified by these wicked men.

Conclusion

The Jews were convinced that Jesus was possessed of a devil for they could not comprehend the truth that He was teaching. It was so foreign to their traditions. Yet this did not make them right. Just as they falsely accused Jesus, so Pastor Wohlberg and his associates have falsely accused Ernie, the Herald, and God Himself, because they do not understand the truth in the dreams. Pastor Wohlberg was wrongly influenced by his associates and, in turn, he wrongly influenced others. They have all falsely accused their Savior, who sent Ernie's dreams to save them. Pastor Wohlberg and others will gain much from reading the following.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, pp. 526-527

Elijah, amid the general apostasy, did not seek to hide the fact that he served the God of heaven. Baal's prophets numbered four hundred and fifty, his priests, four hundred, and his worshipers were thousands; yet Elijah did not try to make it appear that he was on the popular side. He grandly stood alone. The mountain was covered with people full of eager expectation. The king came in great pomp, and the idolaters, confident of triumph, shouted his welcome. But God had been greatly dishonored. One man, and only one man, appeared to vindicate the honor of God. With clear, trumpetlike tones Elijah addressed the vast multitude: "How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow Him: but if Baal, then follow him." The result was that the Lord God, who ruleth in the heavens, was vindicated, and the Baal worshipers were slain. Where are the Elijahs of today?

The Faith I Love By, p. 336

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.

Christ Triumphant, chapter 11 (Letter 35a, 1877)

What if in Luther's day people had taken a position to cover their disobedience to God's requirement with: "God is too merciful to condemn me for not taking unpopular truth. Our intellectuals and our religious leaders do not accept it. I will run the risk of transgressing God's law because the world rejects it. . . . I am satisfied with my religion; . . . I will risk going with the crowd."

If I go with the crowd, the Bible tells me I am in the broad road to death. Said the Majesty of heaven, "Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." We are

accountable for the light that shines in our day. Christ wept in agony over Jerusalem because they knew not the time of their visitation. It was their day of trust, their day of opportunity and privilege. . . . The foul ingratitude, the hollow formalism, and the hypocritical insincerity of hundreds of years called these tears of irrepressible anguish from His eyes.

The Signs of the Times, July 31, 1884

We shall meet with strong temptations to go with the crowd, which is pressing downward; for by this means we can avoid being singular. But we must have a firm hold on Christ, and keep on climbing. To look back is to become dizzy; to let go is to perish.

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 258

The servants of God trod a rugged path. Men of influence and learning employed their powers against them. After a time many of the clergy manifested determined hostility, and the doors of the churches were closed against a pure faith and those who proclaimed it. The course of the clergy in denouncing them from the pulpit aroused the elements of darkness, ignorance, and iniquity.

Sketches from the Life of Paul, pp. 51-52

The Jews, however, were not satisfied with closing their synagogues against the apostles, but desired to banish them from that region. To effect this purpose, they sought to prejudice certain devout and honorable women, who had great influence with the government, and also men of influence. This they accomplished by subtle arts, and false reports. These persons of good repute complained to the authorities against the apostles, and they were accordingly expelled from that district.

On this occasion the apostles followed the instruction of Christ: "Whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. [Use the "white cloth" mentioned in Ernie's dreams.] Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of Judgment, than for that city." The apostles were not discouraged by this expulsion; they remembered the words of their Master: "Blessed are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in Heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."

The Review and Herald, May 27, 1890

Those whom God has sent with a message are only men, but what is the character of the message which they bear? Will you dare to turn from, or make light of, the warnings, because God did not consult you as to what would be preferred? God calls men who will speak, who will cry aloud and spare not. God has raised up his messengers to do his work for this time. Some have turned from the message of the righteousness of Christ to criticise the men and their imperfections, because they do not

speak the message of truth with all the grace and polish desirable. They have too much zeal, are too much in earnest, speak with too much positiveness, and the message that would bring healing and life and comfort to many weary and oppressed souls, is, in a measure, excluded; for just in proportion as men of influence close their own hearts and set up their own wills in opposition to what God has said, will they seek to take away the ray of light from those who have been longing and praying for light and for vivifying power. Christ has registered all the hard, proud, sneering speeches spoken against his servants as against himself.

What if?

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

“Think about it. What if God did speak to me last night? What if this letter is true? If so, then what is happening is truly frightening, and you are in great danger. Then those that are reading the dreams, and who trust them, are also being baited. Once confidence is gained, *then Satan has direct access to many precious souls*. And if some of us see through his devices, and blow the whistle, then he can just give another dream and say that we just ‘don’t understand’ what he is saying. Satan is smarter than we are. How can he reach solid Adventists anyway? The answer is obvious – by pretending to be one himself, and by teaching the truth, for a long time, until the net is laid. Then he will spring the trap.”

Fact

The reader can plainly see that Pastor Wohlberg is not convinced himself that God “spoke” to him that night. If he was not sure that the letter was true, why did he bother writing it? Was he searching for answers, for proof? It was in his Bible all along. However, he did not search deeply; he listened to others and gave up too soon, just as Linda Kirk did. As stated from the “In the Heart of Jesus” dream, “Other stones do not hold up under pressure.” Did Pastor Wohlberg give in to the pressure of his associates?

Furthermore, if we go by Pastor Wohlberg’s suggestion about the dreams, then Satan is gaining people’s confidence so that they will study God’s Word, reform their lives in preparation for Christ’s Second Coming, and help others do the same. Why would Satan do that if he is so intelligent? Yes, the believers of the dreams are “being baited”—by Jesus. He promises: “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Matthew 4:19. Pastor Wohlberg’s conclusion does not make sense. Has he laid the enemy’s net and set the enemy’s trap for himself and, sadly, for others? Is he unknowingly undoing the work of God while thinking he is supporting it?

It is clear that God did not speak to Pastor Wohlberg that night. The Lord does not lead anyone to counteract prophets with subjective arguments not supported by His Word. He does not lead us to use half-truths or human tests. Instead of worrying about Ernie and those who believe his dreams, Pastor Wohlberg should be worried about his own salvation by carefully testing his impressions using God’s Word.

God says:

Isaiah 8:20

To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Matthew 7:15-17

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

Conclusion

According to Pastor Wohlberg's conclusion, if God sends a prophet to His Church today, we would have to wait for a very long time before we accepted them because the devil can pretend to be an Adventist, teaching the truth for a long time. How long are we then supposed to wait? Does the Bible give us a time period? No. Does the Spirit of Prophecy give us a time period? No. Therefore, the only safe conclusion, according to Pastor Wohlberg, would be to wait until the prophet died, then study and compare their words with God's words. If we followed this reasoning, we would never accept a prophet of God while they are alive, and that is what history shows us the majority have done. Is it any different today?

Reject the dreams?

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

"Ernie and Becky (and Steve), I hope we can talk again soon. I am praying for you everyday. *What the Herald said about tithe is enough.* Now we know who he is. His words don't line up with 'the law and the testimony.' In light of all of this, and the great danger involved to so many souls, my earnest counsel to you is this: *Remove the website. Tell Jesus you don't want these dreams anymore.* Ernie, if you get another dream, *don't talk to the Herald at all. Don't even listen to him.* Remember, this is how Eve fell. She talked to the devil and was deceived. Read 2 Cor. 11:3. Quote Scripture only, like Jesus did in the wilderness. If the Herald is a demon, you can't reason with him. He's too smart. Don't take a chance. *Read 'Beware of Angels.'* "

Fact

When Pastor Wohlberg and others criticized and appealed to Ernie and his Board, it was not without affect. It created stress and discouragement for Ernie and he asked to be released from his calling. It is not easy to be a messenger for the Lord.

Less than four months after Pastor Wohlberg's letter, Ernie received a dream where he took his advice and commanded the angels, the Herald, and Jesus to depart. However, as you will see, this had no effect whatsoever.

Ernie's dream says:

In His Time, July 12, 2008

In my dream, I am sitting on a hillside with my back against a tree. In one hand I hold my Bible and in the other hand the book, *The Great Controversy*. After reading, I look up to see a beautiful green valley. A warm breeze blows the tall green grass, and I hear different songbirds. Looking up at the blue pristine sky, I notice several beautiful white

clouds float by. I am in silent prayer when I notice the sky roll apart like a scroll and several angels slowly descend. I lay my books down, stand up and watch the angels land. Some of them I recall from other dreams. The one angel who stands in front of the rest is a little taller and more noble-looking. I recognize him to be the Herald. He and the angels come and stand in front of me. He smiles at me, but before he can speak I say aloud in a clear voice, "In the name of Jesus Christ whose blood was shed for all that will believe in Him and have everlasting life, I command you to not say a word but depart and never return to me." And to the accompanying angels I say, "In the name of Jesus Christ whose blood was shed for all that will believe in Him and have everlasting life, I command you to not say a word but depart and never return to me." The Herald speaks and says, "The name of the One in whom you command me to leave is the name of the One who has sent me. I cannot leave as He—my Lord, my Master, Michael, the One who all should call out His name, Jesus Christ—has sent us."

The Herald walks over and picks up the book, *The Great Controversy*. He says, "This is the main book that Lucifer and his followers do not like." The Herald hands my book to me and says, "Soon this will all be over." He backs away and, along with the large group of angels, stands to the right of me. They all turn and look up. The sky rolls apart and a large circle of angels slowly descends. It is very bright in the middle. As they approach, I see Jesus in the middle of all. He slowly comes toward me and says, "What you command of the Herald, command of Me." I look to Him and I say that I do not want to, as I know whom He is. He calls me by my heavenly name and says, "It is not through just your private prayers that I offer and answer to this test but through the prayers of many that I now answer. So ask." I look to Him and say, "In the name of Jesus Christ whose blood was shed for all that will believe in Him and have everlasting life, I command you to not say a word but depart and never return to me." Jesus looks at me and says, "It is through My blood, it is through My death, it is through strikes I took for you, it is through being nailed to a cross, being separated from My Father, your Father, and dying that I will not leave, I cannot leave. It is through My love for you that I stay."

Eventually, Ernie's first Board, feeling the stress and learning of a sin Ernie committed, did remove the website and shut down the ministry. Incidentally, following is an excerpt from a letter to many from Ernie and Becky dated August 5, 2009:

Even though most of our Board has forsaken us, we are not surprised. About two years ago, Ernie had a dream (which was shared with some of the board members) where he saw Becky and the Board walking away from the ministry. That is one reason why Ernie felt so alone. Becky has come back to believe in the dreams and we pray the same for the Board as well as others. We miss them.

Fortunately, however, God's calling is irrevocable. "For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance." Romans 11:29.

God's says:

The Great Controversy (1888), p. 136

The only response was, "Recant, recant." The reformer [Luther] showed that his position was sustained by the Scriptures, and firmly declared that he could not renounce the truth.

After Ernie acknowledged his sin, as addressed in chapter 2 of volume 2, he was forgiven by God and a new ministry began. Herein lays a wonderful truth: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9.

God can work with that. What is much worse in God's sight is to be so self-assured of our rightness, that our pride forbids us to confess our sins and turn from them. God worked with Manasseh, one of the worst kings in Israel's history, but after he confessed and repented of his sins, he was brought back from captivity and had the longest reign in Israel's history. However, God could not work with Satan who, in spite of all the attempts by God to show him that he was wrong, refused to bow and acknowledge the truth in Jesus.

Conclusion

We encourage Pastor Wohlberg to take his own advice and, if he has not done so already, read *Beware of Angels* and discern the differences between their séances and Ernie's dreams.

God's providence?**Wohlberg says:** (see Appendix G)

"Shortly after this letter was sent I discovered that my friend Ed Reid, the Stewardship Director of the North American Division, had also written a piece on Ernie's dreams called 'False Prophet of Tithing' which focused on the same statement of the Herald that bothered me, and that used the exact same quotes from EGW's writings that God led me to. To me, God's providence was plainly evident..."

All of this shows that Ed Reid, myself, and the person in Oregon were all alerted to the exact same problem independently of each other. Here's another email from a friend...

Here is a portion of one more significant email I just received from an SDA pastor:"

Fact

Simply because a few influential people and perhaps the majority agree, it does not turn a lie into truth. It makes it more pervasive. It is far from God's providence. Ananias agreed with Caiaphas the high priest, and the majority of the Sanhedrin sided with them and they crucified Jesus. If a person hears a lie often enough, it will become truth to them. However, that does not make it the truth. There are people who disagree with Pastor Wohlberg and Elder Reid on the tithe issue. We must admit that over the past 25 years, the General Conference has done a "good" job educating members to their way of thinking on the tithe issue.

God says:

The Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 214

In every age, God has called his servants to lift up their voices against the prevailing errors and sins of the multitude. Noah was called to stand alone to warn the antediluvian world. Moses and Aaron were alone against king and princes, magicians and wise men, and the multitudes of Egypt. Elijah was alone when he testified against an apostate king and a backsliding people. Daniel and his fellows stood alone against the decrees of mighty monarchs. The majority are usually to be found on the side of error and falsehood. The fact that doctors of divinity have the world on their side does not prove them to be on the side of truth and of God. The wide gate and the broad road attract the multitudes, while the strait gate and the narrow way are sought only by the few.

Conclusion

We prefer to depend on God's Word, not man's words, no matter how influential they are. This is something Pastor Wohlberg forgot to do. Was he not sure of himself until others influenced him? Again, refer to chapter 1 for more details on tithing.

Conclusion to first letter

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix G)

"This is where everything stands as of today, March 25, 2008. Because Ernie's dreams are public, on his website, and because many minds are now seeking information about these important matters, I have no reason to consider as 'private' the communications included in this letter. These are my thoughts and concerns. May Jesus lead us all, protect us from Satan's subtle snares, and prepare us for heaven."

God says:

Matthew 5:20

For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Conclusion

It is apparent that Pastor Wohlberg's letter turned people away from God's messages and was not written or motivated by the Holy Spirit, but by a different spirit.

Do not risk your eternal salvation due to the writings of one leader or another (not even Ernie). Do not accept their word, but do the research yourselves using the Bible and writings of Ellen White. God has messages to bring to His end-time people that are relevant and very important. Let us not reject them simply because men of influence or the majority say so.

Addressing Wohlberg's Second Letter of April 22, 2008

Comments on "Love and Rebuke" dream - 1 John 4:1-3

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix H)

“On page 1, Ernie admits that some readers of his dreams are concerned that ‘the Herald’ is a deceiver. He also states that some have counseled him to test the Herald with 1 John 4:3. Ernie wrote:

Knowing that an angel of Satan can only answer that Jesus did not come in the flesh, if the Herald stated this, it would prove that he is an agent of Satan and is trying to deceive many. However, if the Herald answered that Jesus did come in the flesh, then that would mean I am not being deceived.

How do we know for certain that Satan's angels cannot make such a confession? And even if the Herald does make a true confession, does this really ‘prove’ that he is of God and that Ernie has not been deceived?”

Fact

In Pastor Wohlberg's first sentence, he uses the word *admits* creatively to suggest an implied apology or confession, which gives a wrong impression of the facts. The word *states* would have been more neutral. However, psychologically, Pastor Wohlberg is trying to set up his argument. He then misquotes the textual range of the test, limiting it to 1 John 4:3 instead of verses 1-3, which is a significant difference.

Ernie's dream says:

Love and Rebuke, April 12, 2008

Several counseled me to “test the spirits.” I was counseled to follow 1 John 4:1-3, which says:

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 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.

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix H)

“Concerning the ‘1 John 4:3 Test,’ here are some thoughts to consider:
The test is biblical, but it is not the only test in God's Word.

The context reveals that this test should be used to detect ‘false prophets’ who have ‘gone out into the world’ (vs. 1). These verses do not say that such a test should be directly applied to an angel, or that a fallen angel cannot make this confession.

Demons are brilliant deceivers. They know exactly who Jesus is. The question should be asked: Why can't demons confess that ‘Jesus Christ has come in the flesh’ if they so choose? What would stop them from doing so? Luke reports: “And demons came out of many, crying out and saying, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of God!’” Luke 4:41.

This confession was correct. Thus demons can correctly confess who Jesus Christ is, and still be demons.

A key message within 1 John is that a simple verbal confession or profession is not enough. Six times in chapters one and two, John wrote, 'If we say...' (1:6; 1:8; 1:10) and 'He who says...' (2:4; 2:6; 2:9), showing that mere words are not enough. Making his point, John wrote, 'My little children, *let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth*' (3:18).

Many Adventists today openly 'confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh,' even in fallen flesh, but this doesn't mean they are led of God in everything they do or teach. Thus it is obvious that a *human being* can make the correct confession, but still be a deceiver. Why can't a demon do the same thing?

Truly confessing Jesus Christ means more than merely speaking words. 'He who would confess Christ must have Christ abiding in him...The disciples might speak fluently on doctrines, *they might repeat the words of Christ Himself*, but unless they possessed Christlike meekness and love, *they were not confessing Him. A spirit contrary to the spirit of Christ would deny Him, whatever the profession*' (*The Desire of Ages*, 357). "A mere profession of godliness is worthless" (*The Faith I Live By*, 130)."

Tests

We agree, and Ernie agrees, that the statement regarding 1 John 4:1-3 as "not the only test in God's Word" is true. Ernie never stated that it was the *only* test. It was one test that he used as well as others. Interestingly, Ernie was given further instruction about the proper way to test the spirits in a subsequent dream on May 12, 2008 entitled, "Testing the Spirits." It shows that 1 John 4:1-3 is only one of many tests of the spirits, but they all are valid *independent* of one another. Ellen White uses 1 John 4:1-3 as the key text at the beginning and end of her article on testing the spirits. No mention is made that this test might be lacking in its validity or effectiveness. Would any be so brave as to say that any of the following six biblical tests are incomplete, inadequate, and cannot stand alone?

God says:

The Signs of the Times, September 3, 1894, Try the Spirits

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every Spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God; 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." [1 John 4:1-3] . . .

. . . Through evil spirits they receive communications, and accept them as messages from their lost loved ones. Satan and his agents personate their dead friends, and thus impart to them Satanic delusions. But God has given us a rule whereby to test what is truth. The prophet says: "To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." [Isaiah 8:20] "He that is of God heareth God's word." [John 8:47] "We are of God; he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error." [1 John 4:6] "But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." [John 10:27] "If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. [1 Corinthians 14:37] "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God; 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." [1 John 4:1-3]

Angels included

From the *S.D.A. Bible Commentary*, Vol. 7, p. 660, on *false prophets* and *every spirit* in 1 John 4:1-2: "Here John is obviously referring to false teachers who may be identified with, or at least associated with, the antichrists mentioned in ch. 2:18-22, and the false apostles of Rev. 2:2." Regarding *every spirit*: "John's words are all-inclusive—he is ready to acknowledge 'every spirit' that fulfills the conditions." From p. 644 on *antichrists* in 1 John 2:18: "The plural indicates that John did not have any one particular manifestation in mind, but classed all heretical opponents of truth as 'antichrists.'"

Angels are also *spirits* as seen in Hebrews 1:7. "And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits. . ."

Prophets are often guided by angels; therefore, those angels must be tested as to whether they are for Christ or against Him. 1 John 4:3 can be applied to good or evil angels. Pastor Wohlberg has taken one of the very key tests God gave us to distinguish between good and evil angels and counteracts its full meaning and effectiveness.

Confess

The word *answer* in Ernie's statement has the same meaning as *confess* in 1 John 4:2-3. We all agree that to confess means living that confession. Yes, evil angels can say that Jesus came in the flesh, but they do not mean what they say and do not show it in their life. To this point, the Herald passes all the tests of an angel of God. As an example, read the Herald's confession further in this chapter under the title, "Verbal confession."

Here is additional information regarding the word *confess* from the *S.D.A. Bible Commentary*, Vol. 7, p. 660: ". . . seems to carry a twofold meaning: (1) to acknowledge the truth of the doctrine of the incarnation of the Son of God; (2) to reveal in the life the effect of believing this doctrine. The fullest interpretation

calls for more than verbal agreement with a teaching: it demands the Christ-filled life." From Vol. 5, p. 379: "It is when we abide in Him [Christ] and He abides in us that our confession of faith in Him will 'bear much fruit' (see John 15:1-8)." From p. 1043: "Thus glory comes to God when His image is reflected in the lives of His followers."

God says:

The Desire of Ages, p. 357

He who would confess Christ must have Christ abiding in him. He cannot communicate that which he has not received. The disciples might speak fluently on doctrines, they might repeat the words of Christ Himself; but unless they possessed Christlike meekness and love, they were not confessing Him. A spirit contrary to the spirit of Christ would deny Him, whatever the profession. Men may deny Christ by evil-speaking, by foolish talking, by words that are untruthful or unkind. They may deny Him by shunning life's burdens, by the pursuit of sinful pleasure. They may deny Him by conforming to the world, by uncourteous behavior, by the love of their own opinions, by justifying self, by cherishing doubt, borrowing trouble, and dwelling in darkness. In all these ways they declare that Christ is not in them. And "whosoever shall deny Me before men," He says, "him will I also deny before My Father which is in heaven."

Summation

- 1 John 4:1-3 is not the only test in God's Word.
- There are a number of tests of the spirits, but they all are valid *independent* of one another.
- 1 John 4:1-3 can be used to test an evil spirit.
- Angels are also *spirits*.
- Prophets are often guided by angels; therefore, those angels must be tested as to whether they are for Christ or against Him. 1 John 4:3 can be applied to good or evil angels. Pastor Wohlberg has taken one of the very key tests God gave us to distinguish between good and evil angels and counteracts its full meaning and effectiveness.
- The word *answer* in Ernie's statement has the same meaning as *confess* in 1 John 4:2-3. We all agree that to confess means living that confession. Yes, evil angels can say that Jesus came in the flesh, but they do not mean what they say and do not show it in their life. To this point, the Herald passes all the tests of an angel of God.

Conclusion

Following are some comments by Ellen White on 1 John 4:1.

S.D.A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 7, p. 952

There will be false dreams and false visions, which have some truth, but lead away from the original faith. The Lord has given men a rule by which to detect them: "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." If they belittle the law of God, if they pay no heed to His will as revealed in the testimonies of His Spirit, they are deceivers. They are controlled by impulse and impressions which they believe to be from the Holy Spirit

and consider more reliable than the Inspired Word. They claim that every thought and feeling is an impression of the Spirit; and when they are reasoned with out of the Scriptures, they declare that they have something more reliable. But while they think that they are led by the Spirit of God, they are in reality following an imagination wrought upon by Satan.

Ernie's dreams do not have some truth; they have all truth. The dreams do not lead away from the original faith but bring us back to it. The dreams do not belittle the law of God, but emphasize it. The dreams do pay heed to God's will as revealed in the testimonies of His Spirit, not just in the Bible but also in the Spirit of Prophecy (Ellen White's writings.) Ernie is not controlled by impulse and impressions. The dreams are not more reliable than what God has already revealed, but are just as reliable because they are from the same Author.

Too quick to trust angels?

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix H)

"On page 2, the dream begins. At the bottom of page 2, after seeing three angels, and hearing one of them quote Philippians 2:5-11, Ernie wrote:

I now know I am safe because of what the angel just quoted and that these are angels of God and not of Satan. These three angels meet the criteria of testing the spirits. I hold out my right hand and we quickly ascend. We are traveling extremely fast. Their wings have the appearance of pure light.

To me, Ernie is too quick to trust these 'angels.' Cannot Satan quote Scripture too? Yes. We know this from Matthew 4:6 where, while tempting Jesus, Satan also says, 'It is written' Thus, when Ernie said, 'I now know I am safe because of what the angel just quoted' he is not on solid ground. Just because an "angel" quotes Scripture before us, this is not really proof that he is of God, and that we are 'safe.' "

Fact

Satan's purpose is to deceive. That is why, in Matthew 4:6, he only uses part of Psalm 91:11. When the heavenly angels quoted from Philippians 2:5-11, they stated all the verses with nothing omitted or changed.

God says:

Sermons and Talks, Vol. 2, p. 218

The second temptation was on the point of presumption. . . . Satan now supposes that he has met Jesus on His own ground. The wily foe himself presents words that proceeded from the mouth of God. He makes it evident that he is acquainted with the Scriptures. But when he quoted the promise "He shall give his angels charge over thee," he omitted the words "to keep thee in all thy ways," that is, in all the ways of God's choosing.

Pastor Wohlberg's statement is a vain attempt to discredit the message, by comparing a truthful statement by one of God's angels with a deceptive statement by the devil. If Satan had told the entire truth then we could compare them. The whole truth and nothing but the truth is not a means of deception, but evidence as to its divine origin.

Additionally, Pastor Wohlberg misses the other fact that it is not so much the general quoting of Scripture that leads Ernie to trust the angels, but the fact that they again declare that Jesus came in the flesh as stated in the following from Philippians 2:6-8: "Who, being in the form of God . . . made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man. . . ."

Conclusion

The angels in Ernie's dreams continue to pass all the tests of the right spirit. Following is an interesting comparison of some of the angels' traits in Ernie's dreams.

Satan's angels:

- Do not want to make eye contact because they are being deceitful
- One interrupts
- Make confusing and false statements
- Speak against Ellen White's writings
- One becomes irritated
- Are rude and impatient

God's angels are:

- Loving
- Patient
- Polite
- Tactful
- Helpful
- Calm
- Humble

Unfair characterization?

Wohlberg says: (see [Appendix H](#))

"On page 3 a scene is presented and three individuals are seen. One holds a sign that says, 'The Herald is of Satan.' Ernie told me in an email that these three represent me, Ed Reid, and Ethel Price. Concerning 'the woman' (Ethel Price), the dream declares:

The woman stands proudly and proclaims, 'I have studied and I know all there is to be known. I have all the answers and will correct you of your errors. Listen only to what I say.'

I admit that I don't know Ethel really well, but we have met, and corresponded some. But from what I do know of her, this is a very unfair characterization of her life and convictions."

Conclusion

God knows the heart. There will be no comments on the woman mentioned above, because God did not instruct that any be included in this book.

How unjust?

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix H)

“Concerning Ed Reid, the dream states:

The third man, whom I do not recognize, is counting money. I hear him say, ‘All money belongs to God and is to be kept in only my storehouse.’

I do know Ed Reid. He is a good friend and one of the godliest men I know. His end-time books, 3ABN presentations, and many talks at camp meetings have blessed tens of thousands of people. He is a true man of God seeking to prepare others for the return of Jesus Christ. Yet the dream acknowledges none of this. Ed is only portrayed as a money counter who wants to keep the money in ‘my storehouse.’ How unjust!”

Fact

First of all, Ed Reid is depicted as counting money simply because he is the Church’s Stewardship director for the North American Division. In his article, *In Search of the Storehouse*, Ed Reid makes it clear that his view and the policy of the Church is that the local conferences constitute the storehouse or treasury and thus the central depository for all tithes. Furthermore, it has been the policy of the Church since 1985 that no tithe money is to be given to any independent ministry, and the Church requires (not legally binding) that any independent ministry (supportive of the Church) include as part of their policies that they will not accept tithe money from donors. Therefore, the statement “only in my storehouse” is absolutely correct.

Reid, *In Search of the Storehouse*.

So what can we learn from the Scriptures about tithe? First, the tithe doesn’t belong to us. It is the Lord’s. It is holy. Second, we are to follow God’s plan precisely in regard to where we return our tithe. In Old Testament times that place was the Temple storehouse from which the priests and Levites were paid. Today the equivalent would be the conference office from which the pastors are paid. And third, the tithe is to be used as God directed—to support the ministry.

Elder Reid also clearly states that the ministry does not include independent ministries supportive of the Church. It does not make sense and is not even a fair requirement to not allow supportive ministries to have a share of the tithe. If they were not supportive of the Church, then it would be a fair request. This in no way is supported in God’s Word.

Reid, *In Search of the Storehouse*.

Some members have wondered whether or not it would be appropriate to send their tithe directly to denominational institutions such as the entities at the Adventist Media Center where ordained Adventist ministers are employed. Church leaders have felt that . . . the conference level of our church organization should be recognized as the storehouse.

“Church leaders have felt that . . . the conference level of our church organization should be recognized as the storehouse” should be replaced with “God’s Word states that ministers and gospel workers who are doing God’s bidding should be recognized as the storehouse.”

SDA Church Guidelines on the Use of Tithe (1985)

Tithe to Institutions. Denominational organizations, such as Christian Record Braille Foundation, Voice of Prophecy, Faith For Today, It Is Written, Breath of Life will not accept funds that are known to be tithe from Seventh-day Adventists. When members send tithe to a denominational organization, they have a responsibility to indicate that it is tithe.

Again, we can see that the statement in Ernie's dream regarding Ed Reid expresses Elder Reid's viewpoint accurately.

In the "Love and Rebuke" dream, Elder Reid's spiritual life and ministry is not being challenged, simply his and the Church's working policy on tithe. Why? Because if it is wrong according to God, and the concept of where to tithe and the lack of personal accountability as taught by the Church has resulted in reduced global effectiveness for spreading the gospel, then the Lord wants to clarify His position on it. There are other issues that God needs to clarify. These are discussed in detail in chapter 1 of volume 2.

Furthermore, this widely taught policy has been taken as gospel truth by the majority of Adventism and has been the main point of many to reject Ernie's dreams. Since the tithing issue is already covered in chapter 1 and the beginning of this chapter, we will not discuss it further.

God says:

Matthew 7:21-23

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Prophet and Kings, p. 188

Many a star that we have admired for its brilliance will then go out in darkness. Those who have assumed the ornaments of the sanctuary, but are not clothed with Christ's righteousness, will then appear in the shame of their own nakedness.

Conclusion

Within the context of the rebuke for taking a certain stance that is contrary to what God is trying to convey to us, Ed Reid is represented correctly. We need to remember that because we have done a good work for God in the past, does not give us a ticket to heaven. Only as we continue to walk in the truth can we remain in God's favor. We tremble for Pastor Wohlberg, because he has called God unjust!

Defending an angel

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix H)

"The dream then prepares for the Herald's 'confession' of 1 John 4:3:

I stand on the left side by myself. In front of where I stand is a podium and on it lays a very large Bible with very large letters. The Herald stands in the middle of the room and faces us. The three angels that escorted me here quickly go and stand one to the left, one to the right and one directly behind the Herald. I notice that the Herald stands a little taller than the other three angels. Several angels in battle gear enter the room and stand on the left and right side of the room. I then hear a voice descend over us from above that all at the same time has the sound of a thundering waterfall, a soft gentle stream and a quiet trickle of water. The voice says, 'Ask so as all may see **whom** My Herald serves.' The Herald takes one step forward. I look at the Bible and the pages instantly turn to 1 John 4. I look down and read verses 1, 2 and 3 aloud. I then look back at the Herald. He is not smiling but has a look of calm, yet his demeanor is one of humbleness.

One would assume that the 'voice' heard is the voice of God. It seems quite strange that God Almighty would so dramatically seek to defend an angel!"

Fact

Yes, the "voice" heard is the voice of God as the "sound of many waters." Ezekiel 43:2. (The word "whom" in the dream was mistakenly not capitalized at first but was corrected later.) God is not only defending His angel, the Herald, but Himself as well. Was there not war in heaven when Lucifer rebelled? Was it not necessary for God to defend His angels then? We must also remember that God defends His faithful people as well. Why should it be so strange that God would seek to defend His own? Was not the most dramatic and loving defense of God in our behalf when He sent His Son to die so that we might live forever with Him? God's defense is always for the truth and for those that follow truth. That fact is too important to ignore.

God says:

Luke 10:16

He that heareth you heareth me; and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth him that sent me.

Matthew 10:40

He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 213

This small remnant, unable to defend themselves in the deadly conflict with the powers of earth that are marshaled by the dragon host, make God their defense.

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 140

Rome was bent upon the destruction of Luther; but God was his defense.

Note that the dream focuses on all 3 texts of 1 John 4:1-3, a clear test of a spirit or angel—a test that Pastor Wohlberg rejects as inadequate, as noted earlier in this chapter.

The issue at stake in this scene is not the legitimacy of the Herald. It is “Whom” he serves. If the Herald serves the Almighty God, then we need to pay close attention to what the Herald says as God’s messenger. If the Herald serves Satan, then we need to reject the messages. What the Herald is about to say is extremely vital and God bids him make a clear and detailed declaration so that there can be no confusion.

Conclusion

Again, God’s Word states that 1 John 4:1-3 is an accurate and complete test, and now He bids the Herald to make a full confession, thereby conclusively proving (to the seeker of truth) that the Herald serves the Almighty God.

Verbal confession

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix H)

“On page 4, the Herald says,

He says, ‘This is a question that if I answer quickly many will not understand. Many will say it was too vague. Many will say that it was not made plain enough for them to accept. Please allow me to share in great detail so all cannot wonder, but acknowledge Whom I serve. This will be so all can continue on as one in the great work we all have ahead.’

It seems to me that a true angel from God would not make so much out of a mere verbal ‘confession.’ According to ‘the Herald,’ the purpose of his ‘confession’ to convince ‘all’ that he speaks the truth, so that we may all unite with him ‘in the great work.’ But if he is a demon, such a strategy is makes perfect sense.”

Fact

The reason the Herald makes so much out of his confession is because it is a very important subject, and he must leave no room for doubt. Remember, it is Satan who prefers to quote only partial verses, to use half-truths in his attempt to deceive.

In *The Great Controversy* on pages 155 and 156, there is an account of Luther appearing before an assembly. When asked to recant his writings, he chose to ask for time that he might make an appropriate defense to their questions. Later, he was able to “answer with a prudence, decision, wisdom, and dignity that surprised and disappointed his adversaries, and rebuked their insolence and pride.”

The Herald makes a detailed statement to remove opportunity for ambiguity. Why? So that all who hear may understand and know which side to take. There must be no excuse for misunderstanding.

“A mere verbal confession”?! The Herald’s confession is anything but trivial or meaningless. It is a clear statement from personal knowledge and intimate familiarity, a testimony that is beautiful and powerful and clearly meets the test that God set forth in 1 John 4:1-3. These are not the rants of a demon, but the

clearest of testimonies from an angel of God! The Bible and Spirit of Prophecy were written to help us understand the most important truth behind this “mere confession.” We wonder about those who are not touched by this testimony.

Ernie’s dream says:

Love and Rebuke, April 12, 2008

The Herald takes one step forward. I look at the Bible and the pages instantly turn to 1 John 4. I look down and read verses 1, 2 and 3 aloud. I then look back at the Herald. He is not smiling but has a look of calm, yet his demeanor is one of humbleness. He says, “This is a question that if I answer quickly many will not understand. Many will say it was too vague. Many will say that it was not made plain enough for them to accept. Please allow me to share in great detail so all cannot wonder, but acknowledge Whom I serve. This will be so all can continue on as one in the great work we all have ahead.” The Herald pauses, looks up for a few seconds, then looks back at me and glances over to the three individuals that stand on the right side of the room.

The Herald now says, “I watched as Lucifer in heaven disagreed with the Father and wanted to be equal with our Creator. I watched as Lucifer and many of his followers were cast to the earth. I watched as Lucifer brought sin onto the world. I watched as the Father, the Son and God’s Spirit laid out a plan to save His created beings. I watched as it was decided that Jesus would come to Earth as a created Being. He the Creator would become one of the created. I watched as Jesus our Creator said goodbye to the Father and the Holy Spirit placed Him in the womb as a seed. He was placed in a pure undefiled womb that had never been touched. I heard the silence of heaven because the Creator was no longer on the throne next to the Father. I watched when the Father would look and find the throne next to His empty. I watched as the Father looked forward to the day when His Son would be returned to Him. But yet I saw such love the Father had that He allowed His only Son to give up His place on the throne and become a created Being. Jesus the Creator became a human. He became that which was created in His own image. What more, Jesus would come not only as a man as Adam but Jesus came as Adam in sin. Jesus came with no propensity to sin. Jesus could have sinned, but He did not. I watched as our Creator grew in that virgin womb. I watched when the day arrived and no one would give Him a place to be born. I watched as all heaven and the entire universe anticipated the birth of the Creator becoming a created Being. I watched as many protected the Child whose name would be Emmanuel. I watched as this Child grew and learned to walk. I watched as this Child would fall and become hurt. I watched as many of us so wanted to catch our Creator so as He would not be harmed, but our hands were stayed. I watched as this Child grew into a young Boy, a young Man and then began His work. I watched the day that He was baptized and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him. I watched as He taught. I watched as many accepted Him. I watched as many were healed, saw divine miracles, gave up all and followed Him. I watched as many from the courts of heaven were sent to keep constant watch over Him. I watched as He was sent out to the desert where Satan tried to tempt Him. I watched for a sign to deliver Him but

the Father stayed all the hands. I watched when He was captured and accusations were made by those who pressed on through evil agents to destroy the Son of God. I stood by ready to deliver my Master from the ones who beat Him. I listened for a single word to deliver Him. I watched as His created beings laid Him on a cross and nailed my Creator, my Master, and drove the nails. I watched as they lifted the cross and dropped it into the hole in the earth. I watched as He, the Creator of the universe was mocked and a crown was made from a thorny bush and thrust upon His head. I watched as the Father could not look upon the scene and He turned His eyes as His Son died. I watched when Jesus Christ of Nazareth, born of a virgin, born as a created man turned His eyes to the Father and said "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." I watched when He was placed in the tomb and His resting place was guarded over the Sabbath. I watched when the stone at the tomb was rolled back. I watched when my Creator came forth victorious over Lucifer. The Master had completed the plan for saving His creations.

You ask if I will confess that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. With my testimony and my witness to all that I have seen I do stand before my Creator, the Father, the Holy Spirit, and all of His created beings throughout the universe. I do openly and without reservation declare with my voice, yes, Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, came in the flesh."

Our hearts should leap for joy when reading this amazing confession! What a wonderful Creator and Savior we serve! Compare this confession with 1 John 4:1-3. Is there really any room for doubt as to which side the Herald is on? He truly does show, not only in his verbal confession that He is an angel of God but that he lives his confession. This can be seen in all of Ernie's dreams of the Herald. Here is an example: Why would an evil angel want to make the following statement in the confession? "I watched when He was placed in the tomb and His resting place was guarded over the Sabbath." Satan does not want to emphasize the doctrine of the Sabbath when he is about to glorify Sunday. In fact, he would not want to emphasize all of the other doctrines throughout Ernie's dreams. See Appendix F.

Someone brought to our attention another interesting detail of the Herald's confession as follows:

What are the limits of the implications of the Herald's use of the term "created being" to describe Christ after His incarnation? A simple understanding of the use of parallelism for emphasis and clarification can give us the answer. The Herald makes this definitive statement: "But yet I saw such love the Father had that He allowed His only Son to give up His place on the throne and become a created Being. Jesus the Creator became a human. He became that which was created in His own image." In this passage it is clear that the Herald intends that "created Being", "human", and "that which was created in His own image" be considered synonymous. Thus by the use of the term "created being", the Herald intends only to signify that Christ became a man. This fact is further emphasized by the Herald's later use of the term "created man" in which he makes it clear that the "created being" signified was man. This is all standard English usage. In addition to standard usage, we should not be surprised that the Herald would use parallelism to make his point. This is understood to be the

basis of Hebrew poetry and the Bible itself is full of such instances. Here are verses 3-5 of the great prophecy of Isaiah 53 outlined to show parallel structure.

3. He is despised and rejected of men;
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief:
and we hid as it were our faces from him;
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
4. Surely he hath borne our griefs,
and carried our sorrows:
yet we did esteem him stricken,
smitten of God, and afflicted.
5. But he was wounded for our transgressions,
he was bruised for our iniquities:
the chastisement of our peace was upon him;
and with his stripes we are healed.

Additionally, why does Pastor Wohlberg belittle the Herald's confession? To confess that Jesus Christ came in the flesh includes the fact that He came in the fallen nature of man as stated in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. This is an important doctrine that gives us the hope for victory over all sin, which is what the 144,000 must do before Christ can return. Satan does not want that to happen; he wants us to die in our sins, not be saved from them. That is the teaching of the new theology in Adventism, which is discussed further in chapter 1 of volume 2.

Ernie's dream says:

The SDA Church, September 28, 2007

I notice that there are many sanctuaries that branch off from the foyer. My angel and I enter the first sanctuary and I notice many people inside. We listen as the preacher is explaining, "Jesus paid for each of us on the cross. We're saved; don't worry about a thing. We have been saved in our sins." He continues, "All we have to do each day is ask for forgiveness and we will have eternal life. We are not to worry if we sin again as Jesus has paid for our right to be in heaven." The people exclaim together, "Amen! Sin and be forgiven; Jesus has saved us."

God says:

The Signs of the Times, April 28, 1890

Is not the story of the fall repeated by thousands of lips today, and even from the pulpit do we not hear the words of the tempter, "Thou shalt not surely die"? Is not the law of God represented as a yoke of bondage which men are free to violate as they choose? Satan insinuated to Adam and Eve that they might reach a higher, happier state by violation of the divine command, and today the same falsehood is spread through the world, even by those who claim to be sanctified. Do not these who claim sanctification while violating the commands of God, become a false and fatal sign to the world? Do they not say to the sinner, "It shall be well with thee"? The Lord has defined sin as the transgression of his law, but they say they are saved in sin, and thus make Christ the minister of sin.

These professed Christians are doing the very work that Satan did in Paradise, they are leading souls astray by precept and example. They say to the sinner, to the transgressor, It shall be well with thee; you will rise to a higher, holier state by violating the law of God. The lesson that is heard throughout the land is, "Disobey and live." But how different is this teaching from the lessons of Christ. He declared: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets; I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. 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; but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

While forgiveness is very important, God wants us to stop sinning so that we do not need to be forgiven. When a person continues to sin over and over because they can be forgiven, is not that taking God's grace for granted? The more a person sins, the more difficult it becomes to stop sinning. That is exactly what the enemy wants and that is exactly what Ernie's dreams are against. Contrary to public hearsay, Ernie's dreams and the For My People Ministry are all about repentance and victory over sin. Of all people who should know about repentance and forgiveness, it is Ernie.

Conclusion

Pastor Wohlberg assumes that an angel of God "would not make so much out of a mere verbal 'confession.'" However, our assumptions are not always correct. Considering that Ernie and others have asked God to answer their prayers in this regard, the Herald's answer gives a true and precise account of the life of Jesus. Why would Pastor Wohlberg have a problem with that?

Jesus not a created being?

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix H)

"The balance of page 4, and most of page 5, contains the Herald's 'confession' to prove his orthodoxy and divine credentials. While most of it sounds good, the careful reader may discern some problems. He stated,

I watched as it was decided that Jesus would come to Earth as a created Being.

While it is true that Jesus Christ is acknowledged by the Herald as being our Creator, it is *not true* that He came to earth 'as a created Being.' The Herald stated this a number of times. Do a Bible search. Do a SOP search. You will never find such language applying to the Son of God. Instead, both the Bible and the SOP teach that the Eternal Son of God took on human form and clothed His divinity with humanity. Yet all throughout, 'God was manifest in the flesh' (1 Timothy 3:16). Even after taking human form, Jesus was still the great 'I AM' (see John 8:58). Significantly, immediately following Paul's statement in 1 Timothy 3:16, in the very next verse, he warned that "seducing spirits" will teach otherwise and lead some to 'depart from the faith' (1 Timothy 4:1). Notice this:

Satan fell because of his ambition to be equal with God. He desired to enter into the divine counsels and purposes, from which he was excluded by his own inability, as a created being, to comprehend the wisdom of the Infinite One. It was this ambitious pride that led to his rebellion, and by the same means he seeks to cause the ruin of man (The Faith I Live By, p. 68).

Thus it is Satan who is 'a created being,' and his jealousy of Jesus Christ over this very issue is part of the reason why he fell! Thus it makes sense that one of his angels would portray Jesus in this way. But again, it's not true. Here, the Herald lied."

Fact

We are hoping there has just been a misunderstanding by Pastor Wohlberg on the semantics of "Jesus would come to Earth as a created Being," and that he agrees with the following explanation.

The Herald was not saying that Jesus was created from the beginning before He came to this earth. He was not saying that He was not still part of the Godhead while on this earth. He was simply stating that Jesus came to this earth by being created in Mary's womb, just as any other baby on this earth. The Herald explained that the "Holy Spirit placed Him in the womb as a seed. He was placed in a pure undefiled womb that had never been touched." This is simply explaining that Mary was a virgin. When the Herald states that "the Creator became a human" and that "He became that which was created in His own image," it is to show how Jesus humbled himself to become like one of us. Is that not something that should be stressed, to show His incredible love for us?

It is agreed that the Son of God took on human form and "clothed His divinity with humanity." It is agreed that "Satan fell because of his ambition to be equal with God." The Herald stated it this way: "I watched as Lucifer in heaven disagreed with the Father and wanted to be equal with our Creator." With all this in mind, it is clear that the Herald did not lie. Perhaps if Pastor Wohlberg had questioned Ernie on this matter, there would have been no misunderstanding.

Through the incarnation, Jesus became fully human. To be fully human, He would become a created being (see quotes that follow). However, this did not deny His complete divinity. He still remained the great I AM. "The great condescension on the part of God is a mystery that is beyond our fathoming. The greatness of the plan cannot be fully comprehended, nor could infinite Wisdom devise a plan that would surpass it. It could only be successful by the clothing of divinity with humanity, by Christ becoming man, and suffering the wrath which sin has made because of the transgression of God's law." *S.D.A. Bible Commentary*, Vol. 5, p. 1124.

Ernie's dream says:

Love and Rebuke, April 12, 2008

The Herald now says, "I watched as Lucifer in heaven disagreed with the Father and wanted to be equal with our Creator. I watched as Lucifer and many of his followers were cast to the earth. I watched as Lucifer

brought sin onto the world. I watched as the Father, the Son and God's Spirit laid out a plan to save His created beings. I watched as it was decided that Jesus would come to earth as a created Being. He the Creator would become one of the created. I watched as Jesus our Creator said goodbye to the Father and the Holy Spirit placed Him in the womb as a seed. He was placed in a pure undefiled womb that had never been touched. I heard the silence of heaven because the Creator was no longer on the throne next to the Father. I watched when the Father would look and find the throne next to His empty. I watched as the Father looked forward to the day when His Son would be returned to Him. But yet I saw such love the Father had that He allowed His only Son to give up His place on the throne and become a created Being. Jesus the Creator became a human. He became that which was created in His own image. . . . I watched when Jesus Christ of Nazareth, born of a virgin, born as a created man turned His eyes to the Father and said 'Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.' ”

What a concept! Jesus, the Creator, became that which was created by Himself in His own image, like man that He had created. Ernie's dream cannot be misunderstood. It explains clearly what is meant by Jesus becoming a "created being". Notice that:

1. Jesus is the Creator.
2. Human beings are created.
3. Jesus was born of a virgin and became a human being created in the womb, yet still remained the Creator.

God says:

Selected Messages, Book 3, pp. 129-130

In your letter in regard to the temptations of Christ, you say: "If He was One with God He could not fall." . . . The point you inquire of me is, In our Lord's great scene of conflict in the wilderness, apparently under the power of Satan and his angels, was He capable, in His human nature, of yielding to these temptations?

I will try to answer this important question: As God He could not be tempted; but as a man He could be tempted, and that strongly, and could yield to the temptations. His human nature must pass through the same test and trial Adam and Eve passed through. His human nature was created; it did not even possess the angelic powers. It was human, identical with our own. He was passing over the ground where Adam fell. He was now where, if He endured the test and trial in behalf of the fallen race, He would redeem Adam's disgraceful failure and fall, in our own humanity.

Christ Had a Human Body and a Human Mind.--A human body and a human mind were His. He was bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh. He was subjected to poverty from His first entrance into the world. He was subject to disappointment and trial in His own home, among His own brethren. He was not surrounded, as in the heavenly courts, with pure and lovely characters. He was compassed with difficulties.

The SDA Bible Commentary, Ellen G. White comments, Vol. 7, pp. 925-926

In Christ were united the divine and the human--the Creator and the creature. The nature of God, whose law had been transgressed, and the nature of Adam, the transgressor, meet in Jesus--the Son of God, and the Son of man. And having with His own blood paid the price of redemption, having passed through man's experience, having in man's behalf met and conquered temptation, having, though Himself sinless, borne the shame and guilt and burden of sin, He becomes man's Advocate and Intercessor. What an assurance here to the tempted and struggling soul, what an assurance to the witnessing universe, that Christ will be "a merciful and faithful high priest"!

Selected Messages, Book 1, pp. 246-247

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not." "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth" (John 1:1-5, 14).

This chapter delineates the character and importance of the work of Christ. As one who understands his subject, John ascribes all power to Christ, and speaks of His greatness and majesty. He flashes forth divine rays of precious truth, as light from the sun. He presents Christ as the only Mediator between God and humanity.

The doctrine of the incarnation of Christ in human flesh is a mystery, "even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations" (Col. 1:26). It is the great and profound mystery of godliness. "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). Christ took upon Himself human nature, a nature inferior to His heavenly nature. Nothing so shows the wonderful condescension of God as this. He "so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son" (John 3:16). John presents this wonderful subject with such simplicity that all may grasp the ideas set forth, and be enlightened.

Christ did not make believe take human nature; He did verily take it. He did in reality possess human nature. "As the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same" (Heb. 2:14). He was the son of Mary; He was of the seed of David according to human descent. He is declared to be a man, even the Man Christ Jesus. "This man," writes Paul, "was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house" (Heb. 3:3).

The Faith I Live By, p. 48

That He might accomplish His purpose of love for the fallen race, He became bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh.

How wide is the contrast between the divinity of Christ and the helpless infant in Bethlehem's manger! How can we span the distance between the mighty God and a helpless child? And yet the Creator of worlds, He in whom was the fullness of the Godhead bodily, was manifest in the helpless babe in the manger. Far higher than any of the angels, equal with the Father in dignity and glory, and yet wearing the garb of humanity! Divinity and humanity were mysteriously combined, and man and God became one.

Here is the most important information for those who are striving for perfection of character.

The Signs of the Times, June 17, 1897

Had he not been fully human, Christ could not have been our substitute. He could not have worked out in humanity that perfection of character which it is the privilege of all to reach. He was the light and the life of the world. He came to this earth to work in behalf of men, that they might no longer be under the control of Satanic agencies. But while bearing human nature, he was dependent upon the Omnipotent for his life. In his humanity, he laid hold of the divinity of God; and this every member of the human family has the privilege of doing. Christ did nothing that human nature may not do if it partakes of the divine nature.

This truly gives us hope, knowing that Satan's accusation that man cannot keep God's law is false. Jesus had no advantage over us! "The only "advantage" He had was that He did not have a propensity to sin because He never allowed Himself to sin. He could have sinned, but He did not. There will be a people-- 144,000—who will stop sinning and perfect their characters, depending on God's divinity as Jesus did, and live for a short time without Christ as their Mediator before their translation to heaven! This truth is hardly being taught anymore in Adventism. The preparation of the 144,000 is the main reason for the existence of the For My People Ministry—a ministry based on the historic beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Can you see why the enemy has tried to stop it? The topics of "new theology," overcoming, and character perfection are discussed in detail in chapter 1 of volume 2.

God says:

Luke 1:31-35

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

John 1:14

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Romans 8:3

For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

Philippians 2:5-8

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Hebrews 2:14, 17

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;...

Wherefore in all things it behooved him [Jesus] to be made like unto his brethren [as a man, as a created being], that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

Hebrews 4:15

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

Hebrews 5:2, 5-10

Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity...

So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

Who in the days of his [Jesus] flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he [Jesus] became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.

Conclusion

It should be very obvious to the reader that Pastor Wohlberg was not correct in stating that Jesus did not come as a created Being. If Pastor Wohlberg

questioned what the Herald stated, he should have contacted Ernie to understand it properly. We hope that he agrees with the given explanation.

Trying too hard?

Wohlberg says: (see [Appendix H](#))

“On page 5, the Herald’s ‘confession’ reaches its climax:

You ask if I will confess that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. With my testimony and my witness to all that I have seen I do stand before my Creator, the Father, the Holy Spirit, and all of His created beings throughout the universe. I do openly and without reservation declare with my voice, yes, Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, came in the flesh.

It is obvious that the Herald is trying hard to prove his divine credentials. But think about it: doesn’t it seem strange that a true angel would present such proof? Have you ever heard of a heavenly angel trying so hard to defend himself? I haven’t. The whole thing seems highly suspicious, and very much like what a demon would do to gain our confidence. Next, the three angels ‘shoot upwards’ like ‘three beams of pure light.’ While ‘pure light’ is good, Paul also warns that ‘Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light’ (2 Cor. 11:14).”

Fact

First of all, for Pastor Wohlberg to say that “the whole thing seems highly suspicious,” in regard to the Herald’s confession, makes it sound like he is not totally convinced.

Actually, the Herald is not trying to defend himself. He is simply doing what God has asked him to do—to defend God and truth. It is also an answer to prayers. Most importantly, it is done out of love. Love does all it can to save. All the proof necessary was given to the Jews of old and all the proof needed will be given in our day. That is how love works. However, to the carnal heart that is never satisfied, the proof will always be too much or too little; it is never just right. Has Pastor Wohlberg ever thought about the fact that the Herald is “trying so hard” because the great controversy is intensifying and we need all the help we can get?! Why would Pastor Wohlberg want to reject God’s help for these last days?

Furthermore, the Herald is not only stressing the importance of the plan of salvation, but as mentioned earlier and most importantly for today, the issue of Christ’s life on this earth in the fallen nature of man. If a person takes time to study the Herald’s confession in depth, that person will discover much truth. God’s words are always deep with meaning and significance. We find it interesting that in the confession, the word “Creator” is mentioned 12 times, “created/creation” 10 times, and “I watched/I saw” 33 times—all significant numbers.

God says:

Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 405

"Whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man," said Christ, "it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him." Matthew 12:32. These words were spoken by

our Saviour when the gracious works which He had performed through the power of God were attributed by the Jews to Beelzebub.

Conclusion

God gave us the test of a spirit or angel in 1 John 4:1-3. The Herald makes a full and convincing declaration that Jesus came in the flesh. Yet Pastor Wohlberg doubts that this clear confession is that of an angel of God. He plays the same role as the Jews who ignored the obvious and suggested that the miracles performed by Jesus were of Satan. He equates good with evil. So it is no surprise that he even uses the term "beings of light" to suggest the three good angels are evil angels.

Too forceful?

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix H)

"On page 6 the Herald says, referring to Christ,

He has placed in my hands a message for all. It is a message of love but it is also a message of rebuke. I will read what He has sent and it is up to you to take His rebuke and walk in the light that has been given. If you who are His are willing to accept the testimony of what I just shared as well as the messages God has sent to His servant that stands here today, you must acknowledge these messages are of God.

Here the Herald declares, 'you must acknowledge these messages are of God.' This is quite forceful. According to this statement, it is not enough for us to acknowledge the truth that is in the Bible and SOP (salvation through Jesus Christ, the Three Angel's Messages, etc), but now we 'must acknowledge these messages are of God.' Thus he points, not just to Biblical truth, but to the dreams themselves.' "

Fact

God does not force. He gives the commands and we are given the choice to obey or not. However, if we do not obey, we will suffer the consequences.

Ernie's dream says:

Love and Rebuke, April 12, 2008

If you who are His are *willing to accept* the testimony of what I just shared as well as the messages God has sent to His servant that stands here today, [*then*] you must acknowledge these messages are of God.

Notice the words *willing to accept*, gives us an option. That is not force. Next, notice the *if* and the implied *then* in the statement. The word *must* could be replaced with the word *will*. However, the word *must* is used because we are an ignorant and stubborn people. The necessary kind of "force" that God uses is seen in the following quote, which describes exactly why the Herald makes the statement the way he does.

God says:

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 601

If the church will put on the robe of Christ's righteousness, withdrawing from all allegiance with the world, there is before her the dawn of a bright and glorious day. God's promise to her will stand fast forever. He will make her an eternal excellency, a joy of many

generations. Truth, passing by those who despise and reject it, will triumph. Although at times apparently retarded, its progress has never been checked. When the message of God meets with opposition, He gives it additional force, that it may exert greater influence. Endowed with divine energy, it will cut its way through the strongest barriers and triumph over every obstacle.

The Bible messages to mankind are recorded by God's servants, the prophets. God has sent messengers throughout history to convey messages to His people. In every generation that has been privileged to have a messenger of God, the majority rejected the messenger and the messages. The argument is made that they already have all the revelation they need. The Israelite leaders tried to silence Isaiah, Jeremiah, and others. When Jesus was on this earth, the Jewish leaders wanted to stop with Moses and the prophets. Many did not believe the messages sent through Ellen White, claiming they had all the revelation they needed through the Bible. But do they? Are they not missing something by rejecting God's additional messages for their time? Have we not been told that we are held responsible for rejecting those messages?

We know that revelation will not stop. The Bible tells us that in the last days God will send many messengers to His people. It is imperative that if God takes the time to send messages to us, that we listen to the messenger. The Herald gives the command to those who are willing to accept his testimony. If Pastor Wohlberg does not like the word "command," then he will have to reject the Ten Commandments.

If we believe in the test of 1 John 4:1-3 (and the Herald has clearly met that test), then the one Whom he serves is the Lord Almighty. Thus, acknowledgment of the messages is a reasonable and logical progression and an imperative for God's people.

God says:

Pacific Union Recorder, October 20, 1904

God has a controversy with many of His people. The time of the end is near. Warning after warning has been given. Unless God's people heed these messages, the Spirit of the Lord will leave them to their own ways, to be filled with the fruit of their own doings.

Faith and Works, p. 122

We need not think that because our fathers did a certain way and died happy, we may follow in their footsteps and be accepted in rendering the same service and doing the same works that they did.

We have more light than they had in their day; and if we would be accepted of God, we must be as faithful in obeying the light and walking in it as they were in receiving and obeying the light that God sent to them. We must accept and improve the light that shines upon our pathway as faithfully as they accepted and improved the light that fell upon their pathway in their generation. We shall be judged according to the light that shines into the soul-temple in our day; and if we follow the light, we shall be free men and women in Christ Jesus.

John 10:25-27

Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

Amos 3:7

Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he reveals his secret to his servants the prophets.

Acts 2:17-18

And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

Conclusion

The Lord's messages in Ernie's dreams for His end-time people are vital for their spiritual as well as their physical preparation. If there was ever a time that we need His direct communication, it is now, and it will continue until Christ returns.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 14, p. 310

Keep in the channel of light, for there is to be more direct communication from heaven to earth. We have not a moment to lose. There is a heaven to win and a hell to shun.

Analyzing rebuke

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix H)

"Then the Herald rebukes Ernie. Let's analyze his rebuke carefully. The Herald told Ernie:

You were wrong in sharing your response with a few that had questions in the "Stand Fast" dream regarding tithe. You must understand, you like I am just a messenger. You were told if they do not understand you were to ONLY tell them to take their questions to the One who holds the keys to the Great Storehouse. You were wrong in what you did in sharing your studies. How can others learn and depend on God if you do the studying for them? How can they learn to have a close relationship to the Father if you don't allow them to pray?

Here the Herald informs Ernie, 'You were wrong in sharing your studies' about tithe with others. This is a very strange 'rebuke' from Jesus. Nowhere in the Bible or in the SOP are we commanded not to

share what we study with others. Paul said, ‘study...’ (2 Tim. 2:15) Then he said, ‘teach’ (verse 24). Then the Herald rebukes Ernie for not doing what he was ‘told’ to do. This is all highly significant. Thus the Herald tells everyone that we ‘must’ acknowledge his messages, and that Ernie should do what he is ‘told.’ Here he is becoming quite controlling and is acting exactly like we would expect a demon to act. Take note:

The enemy does everything in his power to gain control of the minds of men and women (Sermons and Talks, Vol. 2, p. 196).

With a determination that many do not dream of he [Satan] is seeking to gain control of their minds and to make the commandments of God of no effect in their lives.--MS 93, 1909.

Before we leave his rebuke of Ernie, notice this one sentence. The Herald asked Ernie, ‘How can they learn to have a close relationship to the Father if you don’t allow them to pray?’ Personally, I don’t think this is a fair statement to Ernie, or an accurate one. In sharing his studies, did Ernie really intend to not allow people to pray? By sharing personal studies, does this prevent people from praying? I don’t think so.”

Fact

From the context we can see that some were lax in their Bible study and prayer on the subject of tithe, and instead they came to Ernie to ask for his advice. He gives it to them rather than directing them to their knees and to study the Bible for themselves. The timing was wrong. They needed to pray and study for themselves first before Ernie was to share his studies. Ernie was rebuked because he went ahead of God’s way and His time.

We find it interesting that Pastor Wohlberg accuses the Herald of flattering Ernie, yet when Ernie is rebuked, it is wrong too. Pastor Wohlberg also accuses the Herald of being controlling. Again, Ernie is given the option to obey. Then Pastor Wohlberg contradicts himself by insinuating that the Herald is making the commandments of God of no effect, when the angel is actually obeying God’s command by trying to get Ernie to obey God’s commands. That type of action (rebuke) is out of love to save Ernie. If Pastor Wohlberg does not like that kind of love, then he is deeply in trouble.

As time passed, God revealed to Ernie that the time was right to share what is now included in chapter 1, to not only vindicate God’s truth but Ernie as a messenger. Everything God does is perfect in His way and in His time. Remember that God, in His wisdom, will not reveal everything to our understanding. If that were the case, it would do away with faith. He wants us to obey Him not because we understand the reasons, but because we love and trust Him.

Many of us can remember as a child asking our father “why?” when told not to do something, and his answer back was, “because I said so.” The father, in his wisdom, decided not to tell the child the reason. However, if that child disobeyed, he suffered the consequences. If he had in faith obeyed his father, he would not have suffered. The same principle applies between us and our heavenly Father. We are but His “little children.” If we do not have that relationship, we cannot see heaven.

God says:

Psalm 37:23

The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

He hath made every thing beautiful in his time.

Mark 10:15

Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

That I May Know Him, p. 365

Since the promise given in Eden, God has revealed His mysteries through His prophets. . . . But many mysteries yet remain unrevealed. How much that is acknowledged to be truth is mysterious and unexplainable to the human mind! How dark seem the dispensations of Providence! What necessity there is for implicit faith and trust in God's moral government! . . . "How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!" (Rom. 11:33).

Summation

- God wants us to obey Him out of love and trust.
- If we obey God, we will not suffer the consequences.
- God rebukes out of love for us.
- God's way and time are perfect.
- In God's wisdom, He will not reveal everything.
- If we "become as a little child," we will see heaven.
- Pastor Wohlberg used accusations, insinuation, and contradicts himself. He was not open to God's loving rebuke.

Conclusion

Pastor Wohlberg states that it was a problem because the Herald told everyone that we "must" acknowledge his messages and that Ernie should do what he was "told."

Should we throw out the Bible because it has verses such as the following as stated by Jesus? "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again," (John 3:7) or "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." (John 15:14)

When God tells us to do something, He wants us to do it because we have faith in His words and because we love Him, not because we *must* do it. God does not force us to do anything, even though He may use words such as "*must*." God allows us to choose to do what He is asking. This is no different than the fact that if we do not keep the Ten Commandments, we will not be saved.

Heart and motives

Wohlberg says: (see Appendix H)

“After his rebuke of Ernie, on the bottom of page 6, the Herald then begins to rebuke those who have opposed his ‘messages’:

The Herald now steps back and walks to the middle of the room. He holds out the three glass tablets as one tablet and says, "This is a message for all who will accept and be willing to hear." The tablet says, "Let he that rides dismount and prostrate before the Lord of hosts, the Creator of the universe, He who came to be the created. Bow before your Master and confess your sins so all will hear of your rebellion. A message was sent to a chosen messenger and you denied your Lord's ear and convinced others to turn away.

Here the Herald declares that those who oppose the dreams should ‘confess’ their ‘sins so all will hear of your rebellion’! Here there is absolutely no recognition whatsoever of the true motivation of many who are opposing the dreams. The Herald simply states, ‘sins’ and ‘rebellion.’ When I first read this, the Spirit of Truth only deepened my conviction that the Herald is a deceiver, and not an angel sent from the One who died for my sins. Let me speak for myself (as I am apparently one of the ‘three’ people specifically rebuked in this dream), what has motivated me is not ‘sins’ and ‘rebellion,’ but a sincere desire to follow God's counsel and to watch out for demonic deceptions (see Mat. 24:4; 2 Cor. 11:14, etc). The real Jesus Christ knows both the truth and my heart; yet in this case, the Herald totally missed it. He ‘misspoke,’ just like Hillary Clinton recently did concerning her landing in Bosnia under sniper fire. In a previous document to Ernie's board I shared the following quote. This is what been driving me to become concerned about these dreams:

All along our pathway to the heavenly Canaan we see many souls that have made shipwreck of faith, and in their false movements have led others astray through the supposition that they were led of God in special revelations. I have had to write many, many pages to correct these errors. I have been burdened and oppressed night after night, unable to sleep because of the agony of my soul for God's heritage, His people, who are in danger of being misled. Many things in these visions and dreams seem to be all straight, a repetition of that which has been in the field for many years; but soon they introduce a jot here, a tittle of error there, just a little seed which takes root and flourishes, and many are defiled therewith (2 SM 86).

The greatest care should be exercised concerning those who claim to receive revelations from God (2 SM 91).

None of this is acknowledged by the Herald. He just says, ‘sins’ and ‘rebellion.’ Dear reader, God knows the truth, and in his ‘rebuke’ the Herald is not speaking it.”

Fact

The Herald makes it very clear that Jesus came as a created being. He calls for Pastor Wohlberg to repent of his rebellion against God's messages and his sin of convincing others to join him. In this chapter, we have covered as much as

we understand from God's Word of Pastor Wohlberg's rebellion and sins. We pray that he will read this chapter and repent as God has asked of him. God knows the falsehood in his two letters. He knows his heart and motivations. Does Pastor Wohlberg truly know his own heart? He once believed the dreams could be from God, but something or someone was instrumental in changing his mind. He has turned from hearing God's voice and convinced others to do the same. Caiaphas, Ananias and the Sanhedrin felt justified in their stubborn rebellion against Jesus Christ, in spite of all the evidence to the contrary, and eventually crucified Him.

God says:

Matthew 7:21-23

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Matthew 25:41-45

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

Pamphlets - To Brother J.N. Andrews and Sister H. N. Smith, pp. 38-39

It has been a matter of great perplexity to me to know just what course to pursue with the messages given for individuals. I have often written messages of reproof for different ones, and they have laid the messages away, said nothing about them, whether they received them or not, but their fruit have shown in many instances that they were not affected at all by the message, for they pursued the same course of action, and the church are affected by their influence, believing them to be right, for they were ignorant of the reproof given the erring ones. My course is now clear to wrong the church no longer. If reproofs are given I dare not commit it alone to the individual to be buried up by them, but shall read what the Lord has seen fit to give me, to a select company, those of experience in the church, and if the case demands I shall bring it before the whole church. The great delicacy which some have manifested lest others should learn that they have been reproofed, proceeds from a lack of humility, and a lack of willingness to acknowledge their wrongs. The minds of many have been abused by individuals that have been reproofed by vision, and their minds prejudiced, because they had no knowledge of what the Lord had revealed. I shall keep these things secret no longer.

God's people must know what the Lord has been pleased to reveal, that they be not deceived and led astray by a wrong spirit.

For a long time I have been convicted that I was taking a wrong course by thus hiding matters from those in the church who should be acquainted with them, but have received censure and abuse by the one reproved if I considered it necessary to open the matter to individuals liable to be affected by their wrong influence. I have feared to take a course which I believed it often my duty to take. And then persons, and even churches, who have been led astray by these ones who had been reproved and did not reform, have censured me and been much tried because I suffered them to remain in darkness when the light had been given me. I see it is impossible to take a course but that I shall receive censure and blame from someone, and for the future shall follow my convictions of duty, that the church be not deceived, and trust the result with God.

Following is a sad paraphrase of the Spirit of Prophecy quote that Pastor Wohlberg referenced.

All along our pathway to the heavenly Canaan we have seen many souls that have made shipwreck of faith because of Pastor Wohlberg's doubt and criticism of God's messages through Ernie's dreams. In his false movement, he has led others astray through the supposition that they were led of God through his "special revelations." We have had to write many, many pages in this book to correct his errors. We have been burdened and oppressed night after night, unable to sleep because of the agony of our souls for God's heritage, His people, who are in danger of being misled because of Pastor Wohlberg. Few things in his letters are straight, with a repetition of falsehood that has been in the field for many years. With all of Pastor Wohlberg's accusations, we find it hard to believe that he would say there is only a jot here, a tittle of error there, just a little seed which takes root and flourishes in Ernie's dreams. Many are defiled because of Pastor Wohlberg.

The greatest care should be exercised concerning those who reject revelations from God. {the TRUTH, the whole TRUTH, and nothing but the TRUTH, ch. 3}

Conclusion

Most are not correct in thinking that their heart is right with God. Most that believe they love and follow Jesus do not. God has asked Pastor Wohlberg to search his heart. Ernie tested the spirit of his dreams. Now is Pastor Wohlberg willing to test the spirit in himself? Would the Holy Spirit ever make false allegations that are so easily disprovable?

God does not threaten?

Wohlberg says: (see [Appendix H](#))

"Finally, at the conclusions of the dream, the Herald ends his 'rebuke' with these words,

‘Kneel, confess your sins lest the streams and rivers dry up and the horse that drinks die, lest you walk the face of the earth and every ear turn away from you as the words you speak fall like rocks from your mouth. Repent lest the Lord God spew you out of His mouth as boiling seawater.

Let he that holds the keys to the vault repent for the evil you have done and spoken against Me and My servant. Let him prostrate himself before the Master Key Maker and ask for forgiveness and walk no more in the ways of your errors. Let him confess before all of misconstruing what he knows is truth as he has been shown. Confess before all lest the keys be knocked from your hand and placed in the hands of another.

Let this person humble them self before the Lord of truth for speaking errors. Let this person acknowledge a proud boasting walk and ask for humbleness. Let this person admit their faults of using a tongue that speaks against truth lest that tongue be cut off and you walk the earth dumb.

Let all who have spoken evil against the message and messenger I have sent prostrate themselves before the throne of God. Ask for forgiveness in the name of His Son. Let them admit fault and take up their cross and follow the path of Jesus. Let them do this before the book is closed and the name is not written in the book.’

What a threat! Here the Herald says that if those who oppose these dreams don’t ‘repent’ their tongues will be ‘cut off’ and they will be spewed out of God’s mouth ‘as boiling seawater!’ After reading this, a number of Bible texts came to my mind. First, I thought about Jesus Christ’s warning about ‘ravenous wolves’ who come ‘in sheep’s clothing’ (Matthew 7:15). Many times in these dreams, the Herald smiles and his dimples show. Yet in the above ‘rebuke,’ the wolf speaks and snarls. As for me, the only conviction the Herald’s wild rebuke brings is a deeper conviction that he is a demon. This text also brought great comfort to my mind:

In the LORD I put my trust;
How can you say to my soul,
‘Flee as a bird to your mountain’?
For look! The wicked bend their bow,
They make ready their arrow on the string,
That they may shoot secretly at the upright in heart
(Ps. 11:1,2)”

Fact

It is clearly apparent that Pastor Wohlberg is not happy with the rebuke he received. He must realize that God is even more unhappy with him and is reaching out to save him. God rebukes those that He loves. He loves the sinner but hates the sin.

Yes, these passages are strong calls to repentance of the rebellious and threats against them if they do not. That concept should not be strange to the student of God’s Word that records hundreds of threats against disobedience,

rebelliousness and sin. Ellen White states we are not to ignore the threatenings of God. A threat is a warning that is based upon a condition. You will often see the word "if" used or implied in these threats.

God says:

This is God's very first threat:

Genesis 2:16-17

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

This is God's very last threat:

Revelation 22:18-19

For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

This is one of the strongest that applies to the last days:

Revelation 14:9-11

And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

These are some of the most graphic warnings and threats:

Zechariah 14:12, 15-19

And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. ... And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague.

And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.

And it shall be, that if whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon

them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

Ellen White certainly understood the threatenings of God.

Selected Messages, Book 1, p 67

...has the word of the Lord failed? Never! It should be remembered that the promises and threatenings of God are alike conditional.

The Review and Herald, March 1, 1881

It is no light matter to sin against God, to set the perverse will of man in opposition to the will of his Maker. It is for the best interest of men, even in this world, to obey God's commandments. And it is surely for their eternal interest to submit to God, and be at peace with Him. The beasts of the field obey their Creator's law in the instinct which governs them. He speaks to the proud ocean, "Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further" (Job 38:11); and the waters are prompt to obey His word. The planets are marshaled in perfect order, obeying the laws which God has established. Of all the creatures that God has made upon the earth, man alone is rebellious. Yet he possesses reasoning powers to understand the claims of the divine law and a conscience to feel the guilt of transgression and the peace and joy of obedience. God made him a free moral agent, to obey or disobey. The reward of everlasting life--an eternal weight of glory--is promised to those who do God's will, while the threatenings of His wrath hang over all who defy His law.

Early Writings, pp. 218-219

Satan knew that if this error [that the wicked would burn eternally] should be received, God would be hated by many, instead of being loved and adored; and that many would be led to believe that the threatenings of God's Word would not be literally fulfilled, for it would be against His character of benevolence and love to plunge into eternal torments the beings whom He had created.

Another extreme which Satan has led the people to adopt is entirely to overlook the justice of God, and the threatenings in His Word, and to represent Him as being all mercy, so that not one will perish, but that all, both saint and sinner, will at last be saved in His kingdom.

It is wise to put one's trust in the Lord, but one cannot expect to be protected while in rebellion against Him.

Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene, p. 116

We must keep close to the word of God. We need its warnings and encouragement, its threatenings and promises. We need the perfect example given only in the life and character of our Saviour. Angels of God will preserve his people while they walk in the path of duty; but

there is no assurance of such protection for those who deliberately venture upon Satan's ground.

Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 411

Those who take God at His word, and obey His commandments with the whole heart, will be blessed. He will be their shield of protection. But the Lord will not be trifled with. Distrust, disobedience, alienation from God's will and way, will place the sinner in a position where the Lord cannot give him His divine favor.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 364

While God moves upon the minds of His servants, Satan works through the children of disobedience. There is no concord between Christ and Belial. The two cannot harmonize. To connect with an unbeliever is to place yourself on Satan's ground. You grieve the Spirit of God and forfeit His protection. Can you afford to have such terrible odds against you in fighting the battle for everlasting life?

To trust in God while continuing to live in disobedience and rebellion is presumption, not faith, and one will not be protected while living in such a condition.

Conclusion

God, through the Herald, calls for repentance of the three parties mentioned in the dream and imposes threats if they do not. Biblically, this is normal for God's calls, and reinforces the veracity of the dream. The term "fear God" is not a cute choice of words, but rather a solemn statement of truth. (See Genesis 42:18; Exodus 18:21; Job 1:9; Psalm 66:16; Ecclesiastes 8:12; 12:13; Luke 23:40; Acts 13:16; and 1 Peter 2:17.)

Revelation 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.

Chapter conclusion

Notice an experience Ellen White had that is similar in many points to Pastor Wohlberg's situation.

Life Sketches of James White and Ellen G. White, pp. 266-268

"Sunday morning we met with the brethren, and my husband arose to preach on the parable of the ten virgins. He had no freedom in speaking, and proposed that we have a season of prayer. We bowed before the Lord and engaged in earnest prayer. The dark cloud was lifted, and I was taken off in vision, and again shown the case of this woman. She was represented to me as being in perfect darkness. Jesus frowned upon her and her husband. That withering frown caused me to tremble. I saw that she had acted the hypocrite, professing holiness while her heart was full of corruption. After I came out of vision I related with trembling, yet with faithfulness, what I had seen. I was severely tried, and anxious for the

people of God. Would those present believe the testimony? The woman put on a calm appearance and said, 'I am glad the Lord knows my heart. He knows that I love him.' Then her husband rose in anger, and laying his hand on the Bible said, 'The Bible is all we want, I shall not give up the Bible for visions.' His wife affected to check him, saying, 'Don't, husband, dear, don't talk; the Lord knows me, and will take care of it all.' Then she vindicated herself, saying, 'If my heart could only be opened that you might see it.' I knew the minds of some were unsettled, whether to believe what the Lord had shown me, or let her appearance weigh against the testimony borne. Her appearance was perfectly calculated to gain their sympathy. But I had discharged a painful duty and God would take care of the result. At the close of the meeting she stated that she had no hard feelings against me, and that she should pray for me, and if I got to heaven I would see her there. We returned with Brother P.'s family, and that night the Lord met with us. I believed that the Lord would show his people the truth, and justify the vision. The neighbors said that I had abused the poor woman.

"Not long after this, terrible fear seized this woman. A horror rested upon her, and she began to confess. She even went from house to house among her unbelieving neighbors, and confessed that the man she had been living with for years was not her husband, that she ran away from England and left a kind husband and one child. She also confessed that she had professed to understand medicine, and had taken oath that the bottles of mixture she made cost her one dollar when they cost her only twelve cents, that she had taken thirty dollars from a poor man by taking a false oath. Many such wicked acts she confessed, and her repentance seemed to be genuine. In some cases she restored where she had taken away wrongfully. In one instance she started on foot forty miles to confess. We could see the hand of God in this matter. He gave her no rest day nor night, until she confessed her sins publicly. This fully justified in the minds of the brethren and those also of their neighbors who sympathized with her for a time what God had shown me of her vileness under the garb of sanctification."

Because a person claims to love God and follow Him, and even does a wonderful work for Him, does not necessarily mean they are right with God. Pastor Wohlberg assures his readers that because he believes he loves God, and because Elder Ed Reid has done many great things for God, this is evidence enough that they are right and Ernie's dreams are from Satan. The fact is that no one knows the heart of another. No one knew the heart of that poor deceived woman who eventually had no rest until she had publicly confessed her sins.

God has been very patient with those who have rejected His messages and led others to reject them as well. Eventually His patience runs out. We pray that Pastor Wohlberg and others will heed the rebukes. Jesus says, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent." Revelation 3:19.

May the reader clearly see that the claims Pastor Wohlberg has made do not hold up to Bible and Spirit of Prophecy examination. Until he repents, is it time

to withhold your support of his ministry? We pray that all will have spiritual discernment to choose God rather than man.

Pastor Wohlberg, you have not brought glory to God in working against the messages of repentance and reformation that are so desperately needed by God's people. What we stated to Linda Kirk in chapter 7, we include here for you: Being almost persuaded is not enough. Our prayer is that you can again receive the joy you once had as you read the messages in Ernie's dreams from your Savior. Whatever it is that pulled you away from the dreams, whether it was fear, jealousy, pride, or just listening to others' ideas, please take it to God in prayer and to His Word with an open mind and humble heart, that you may hear that still, small voice again calling you back to Jesus.

The Desire of Ages, pp. 321-323

It was just before this that Jesus had a second time performed the miracle of healing a man possessed, blind and dumb, and the Pharisees had reiterated the charge, "He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils." Matthew 9:34. Christ told them plainly that in attributing the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan, they were cutting themselves off from the fountain of blessing. Those who had spoken against Jesus Himself, not discerning His divine character, might receive forgiveness; for through the Holy Spirit they might be brought to see their error and repent. Whatever the sin, if the soul repents and believes, the guilt is washed away in the blood of Christ; but he who rejects the work of the Holy Spirit is placing himself where repentance and faith cannot come to him. It is by the Spirit that God works upon the heart; when men willfully reject the Spirit, and declare It to be from Satan, they cut off the channel by which God can communicate with them. When the Spirit is finally rejected, there is no more that God can do for the soul.

The Pharisees to whom Jesus spoke this warning did not themselves believe the charge they brought against Him. There was not one of those dignitaries but had felt drawn toward the Saviour. They had heard the Spirit's voice in their own hearts declaring Him to be the Anointed of Israel, and urging them to confess themselves His disciples. In the light of His presence they had realized their unholiness, and had longed for a righteousness which they could not create. But after their rejection of Him it would be too humiliating to receive Him as the Messiah. Having set their feet in the path of unbelief, they were too proud to confess their error. And in order to avoid acknowledging the truth, they tried with desperate violence to dispute the Saviour's teaching. The evidence of His power and mercy exasperated them. They could not prevent the Saviour from working miracles, they could not silence His teaching; but they did everything in their power to misrepresent Him and to falsify His words. Still the convicting Spirit of God followed them, and they had to build up many barriers in order to withstand its power. The mightiest agency that can be brought to bear upon the human heart was striving with them, but they would not yield.

It is not God that blinds the eyes of men or hardens their hearts. He sends them light to correct their errors, and to lead them in safe paths; it is by the rejection of this light that the eyes are blinded and the heart

hardened. Often the process is gradual, and almost imperceptible. Light comes to the soul through God's word, through His servants, or by the direct agency of His Spirit; but when one ray of light is disregarded, there is a partial benumbing of the spiritual perceptions, and the second revealing of light is less clearly discerned. So the darkness increases, until it is night in the soul. Thus it had been with these Jewish leaders. They were convinced that a divine power attended Christ, but in order to resist the truth, they attributed the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan. In doing this they deliberately chose deception; they yielded themselves to Satan, and henceforth they were controlled by his power.

Early Writings, p. 45

It is a fearful thing to treat lightly the truth which has convinced our understanding and touched our hearts. We cannot with impunity reject the warnings which God in mercy sends us. A message was sent from heaven to the world in Noah's day, and the salvation of men depended upon the manner in which they treated that message. Because they rejected the warning, the Spirit of God was withdrawn from the sinful race, and they perished in the waters of the flood. In the time of Abraham, mercy ceased to plead with the guilty inhabitants of Sodom, and all but Lot with his wife and two daughters were consumed by the fire sent down from heaven. So in the days of Christ. The Son of God declared to the unbelieving Jews of that generation, 'Your house is left unto you desolate.' Looking down to the last days, the same infinite power declares, concerning those who 'received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved,' '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.' As they reject the teachings of His Word, God withdraws His Spirit, and leaves them to the deceptions which they love.

Chapter 4

Eugene Prewitt

Introduction

In April 2008, Eugene Prewitt published a document entitled, "Regarding Dreams and Ernie Knoll." His document has become the foundation for many of those who reject Ernie's dreams. (See Appendix I) Most of his issues have been addressed in this chapter, but not all, due to its length. However, it is enough for one to come to a conclusion.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 8, pp. 300-301

In the golden censer of truth, as presented in Christ's teachings, we have that which will convict and convert souls. Present, in the simplicity of Christ, the truths that He came to this world to proclaim, and the power of your message will make itself felt. Do not present theories or tests that Christ has never mentioned and that have no foundation in the Bible. We have grand, solemn truths to present. "It is written" is the test that must be brought home to every soul. . . .

Let us go to the word of God for guidance. Let us seek for a "Thus saith the Lord." We have had enough of human methods.

The Desire of Ages, pp. 140-141

If Nathanael had trusted to the rabbis for guidance, he would never have found Jesus. It was by seeing and judging for himself that he became a disciple. So in the case of many today whom prejudice withholds from good. How different would be the result if they would "come and see"!

While they trust to the guidance of human authority, none will come to a saving knowledge of the truth. Like Nathanael, we need to study God's word for ourselves, and pray for the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit. He who saw Nathanael under the fig tree will see us in the secret place of prayer. Angels from the world of light are near to those who in humility seek for divine guidance.

Who is Eugene Prewitt?

Eugene Prewitt teaches various classes at Ouachita Hills College in Arkansas, mostly in the fields of history, Bible, and canvassing. He travels extensively, leading canvassing teams and lecturing at churches and youth conferences.

Meaningful elements in symbolic dreams - *The White Blanket*

Prewitt says: (see [Appendix I](#))

"Here are a few differences that I notice between the two passages [Ernie's dream of 'The White Blanket' and Daniel's vision of the four beasts in Chapter 7]. In the second, Daniel 7:7, the beast represents a nation. This is explained a little later in that chapter. The strength of the beast represents the comparative strength of Rome to Greece and Persia. The iron in the teeth is a reference to the metal that enabled that nation to engulf other nations. The residue stamped represents the remnant – shown to be overcome by the same beast in Revelation 13. The word 'diverse' is a reference to a change from the continual pattern of nations to the papacy (we find that it is the 'little horn' later in the chapter that makes this beast 'diverse.' The ten horns represent 'ten kings' as we are told later in the chapter. In short, every element is significant. Every element is explained by scripture.

But I wonder about the mountain ridge (in the Sierras, we read earlier in the dream), the 'one' person with 'myself,' the leap, the 'above,' the 'opening,' the dry skin, the hissing, the teeth, the drool. These elements are not explained in Ernie's dreams. Nor are they explained in scripture. Nor in the Testimonies. How do we know what they mean?"

God says:

1 Corinthians 2:13

Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

Counsels to Parents, Teachers and Students, p. 437

There are veins of truth yet to be discovered, but spiritual things are spiritually discerned. One passage of Scripture will prove a key to unlock other passages, and in this way light is shed upon the hidden meaning of the word. By comparing different texts treating on the same subject, viewing their bearing on every side, the true meaning of the Scriptures will be made evident.

Interpretation of the dream

The Bible and Spirit of Prophecy are filled with symbolism that is not always easy to understand. In reference to "The White Blanket" dream, Ernie understood the meaning of the dream, but had chosen not to interpret it publicly, because he wanted others to understand it for themselves and know the joy that comes from that. However, for the sake of answering Mr. Prewitt, the interpretation follows.

This dream contains literal elements and symbolism. It represents God's people who will flee to the mountains after the death decree. The creature that resembles a black panther represents Satan as depicted in 1 Peter 5:8. "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." He is depicted as an awful creature because he is so full of hate and wants to kill God's people. When he knocks

Ernie to the ground, it represents the suffering that Satan causes. However, because the timing in the dream refers to after the close of probation, God's people will not be killed. They have remained faithful and Christ's robe of righteousness (the white blanket) protects them. Christ will defeat Satan, as represented by the creature falling into the valley below. "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season." Revelation 20:1-3.

Summation

Interpretations to prophetic symbols are not always provided in the immediate context. God expects us to search for its meaning by comparing scripture with scripture and asking for God's guidance. For example, Ezekiel sees in his first vision four living creatures. "Their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went every one straight forward. As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle." Ezekiel 1:9-10. The reader is left wondering what these creatures mean.

Also, is it not God's prerogative to use a creature in a dream however He chooses? Where is the Bible verse that says all creatures in dreams given by God must represent nations? In 1 Peter 5:8, the lion does not symbolize a nation, but rather Satan, the one who says, "I hate you! I am going to kill you!" He is the one who hates God's people more than any other people on this earth. We can praise God that His people cannot be killed after the close of probation.

Conclusion

If a person does not understand a dream, it does not mean it is not from God. According to Mr. Prewitt's conclusion, we would have to throw out Daniel and Revelation in the Bible, because of the difficult symbolism.

Prewitt says: (see [Appendix I](#))

"The contrast between Daniel 7:7 and Ernie's dream is not conclusive evidence against his inspiration. But it is a significant contrast to be kept in mind."

Fact

Mr. Prewitt is correct that this point does not prove Ernie to be a false prophet.

Conclusion

If this point does not prove Ernie to be a false prophet, why does Mr. Prewitt raise it, and why does he say we should keep it in mind?

Evidence from providence

Prewitt says: (see [Appendix I](#))

"There are several times on the website when the word "providence" appears. These are cases, stories, of God's guidance of Ernie or others. The "testimonies" section and the story of Ernie's personal healing from colitis are both interesting.

"Do these indications of providence point to Ernie as an inspired individual? I am afraid that the fact that they are advertized on the website makes these providences point in the very opposite direction.

"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. If we keep these things before the people, they will produce an evil effect, an unhealthful emotion. The genuine working of the Holy Spirit on human hearts is promised, to give efficiency through the Word. Christ has declared the Word to be spirit and life. "The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of Jehovah, as the waters cover the sea" (Habakkuk 2:14, A.R.V.). {2SM 48.1}' "

Fact

Mr. Prewitt's conclusion is based on a quotation by Ellen White and is taken out of context, as the following two paragraphs point out.

Selected Messages, Book 2, p. 48

Satan will work in a most subtle manner to introduce human inventions clothed with angel garments. But the light from the Word is shining amid the moral darkness; and the Bible will never be superseded by miraculous manifestations. The truth must be studied, it must be searched for as hidden treasure. Wonderful illuminations will not be given aside from the Word, or to take the place of it. Cling to the Word, receive the ingrafted Word, which will make men wise unto salvation. This is the meaning of the words of Christ in regard to eating His flesh and drinking His blood. And He says, "This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent" (John 17:3).

We shall encounter false claims; false prophets will arise; there will be false dreams and false visions; but preach the Word, be not drawn away from the voice of God in His Word. Let nothing divert the mind. The wonderful, the marvelous, will be represented and presented. Through satanic delusions, wonderful miracles, the claims of human agents will be urged. Beware of all this.

God says:

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 521

In order to sustain erroneous doctrines or unchristian practices, some will seize upon passages of Scripture separated from the context, perhaps quoting half of a single verse as proving their point, when the remaining portion would show the meaning to be quite the opposite. With the cunning of the serpent they entrench themselves behind disconnected utterances construed to suit their carnal desires. Thus do many willfully pervert the word of God. Others, who have an active imagination, seize upon the figures and symbols of Holy Writ, interpret them to suit their fancy, with little regard to the testimony of Scripture as its own interpreter, and then they present their vagaries as the teachings of the Bible.

Another Fact

Ernie has never asked people to believe his dreams because of the miracles he has experienced. However, God often uses miracles to vindicate His messengers or simply just to encourage the messengers.

God says:

John 14:11

Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

Exodus 4:1-9

And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee. And the LORD said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod. And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. And the LORD said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand: That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee. And the LORD said furthermore unto him, Put now thine hand into thy bosom. And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow. And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh. And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign. And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs, neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood upon the dry land.

1 Kings 18:37-39

Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God.

Selected Messages, Book 3, p. 38

Some of the instruction found in these pages was given under circumstances so remarkable as to evidence the wonder-working power of God in behalf of His truth. Sometimes while I was in vision, my friends would approach me, and exclaim, "Why, she does not breathe!" Placing a mirror before my lips, they found that no moisture gathered on the glass. It was while there was no sign of any breathing that I kept talking of the things that were being presented before me. These messages were thus given to substantiate the faith of all, that in these last days we might have confidence in the Spirit of Prophecy.

Life Sketches of Ellen G. White, p. 97

In November, 1846, I attended, with my husband, a meeting at Topsham, Maine, at which Elder Joseph Bates was present. He did not then fully believe that my visions were of God. That meeting was a season of much interest. The Spirit of God rested upon me; I was wrapped in a vision of God's glory, and for the first time had a view of other planets. After I came out of vision, I related what I had seen. Elder Bates then asked if I had studied astronomy. I told him I had no recollection of ever looking into an astronomy. Then he said, "This is of the Lord." His countenance shone with the light of heaven, and he exhorted the church with power.

Regarding his attitude toward the visions, Elder Bates made the following statement:

"Although I could see nothing in them that militated against the Word, yet I felt alarmed and tried exceedingly, and for a long time unwilling to believe that it was anything more than what was produced by a protracted debilitated state of her body.

"I therefore sought opportunities in the presence of others, when her mind seemed freed from excitement (out of meeting), to question and cross-question her, and her friends which accompanied her, especially her elder sister, to get if possible at the truth. During the number of visits she has made to New Bedford and Fairhaven since, while at our meetings, I have seen her in vision a number of times, and also in Topsham, Maine; and those who were present during some of those exciting scenes know well with what interest and intensity I listened to every word, and watched every move to detect deception or mesmeric influence. And I thank God for the opportunity I have had with others to witness these things. I can now confidently speak for myself. I believe the work is of God, and is given to comfort and strengthen His 'scattered, torn, and peeled people,' since the closing up of our work for the world in October, 1844."

Summation

God does use miracles to prove He has sent a messenger. God used special providences and miraculous manifestations to convince the early Adventists that He was speaking through Ellen White. At different times, He also used miracles to prove He was leading His prophets, such as Moses and Elijah.

Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt has twisted Ellen White's writings to contradict her own experience. God used miracles on many occasions to help convince people that He was leading her. We are told not to place miracles above the word of God. Miracles do not prove inspiration. Neither Ernie or his dreams have stated or implied that providence or miracles prove inspiration. What does this tell us about Mr. Prewitt? Whose agenda is he trying to push?

Inerrancy in Ernie's actions regarding the dreams

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"Ernie claims inspiration, not only for the dreams, but even for the way the website is designed. Quoting from one of the dreams:

“What Becky and I are doing with the ministry is exactly as He has planned. There is no error in anything we have done. These are messages that He has sent to His people. He is the author and inspiration of not only the dreams, but also the correspondence and the website. The 4 His People Ministry is very important.”

“This phrase, “no error in anything we have done” seems contrary to the spirit and tone of all that is written in the writings of apostles and prophets.”

Fact

“No error in anything we have done” answers the question Ernie asked as to the way he was promoting the dreams, such as the website, emails, etc. It was not saying that his personal life had no error.

From Ernie’s dream

Much to Do, October 21, 2007

“I am praying because I am distraught over people’s reactions to the dreams. I now sense that I should look up and I notice Jesus comes through the wall. He calls me by my heavenly name. There is a sense of seriousness. He now answers four questions that I have been praying about and have never spoken aloud. He answers each one specifically to what I asked Him.

Jesus answers one of the questions by the following.

--What Becky and I are doing with the ministry is exactly as He has planned.

--There is no error in anything we have done.

--These are messages that He has sent to His people. He is the author and inspiration of not only the dreams, but also the correspondence and the website. The 4 His People Ministry is very important.”

Summation

Because people were rejecting the dreams, God gave Ernie the dream for encouragement. To fully understand the situation, one would have to have been in Ernie’s position. If there are instances in the dreams, website, or correspondence that do not make sense, we must remember that God is in control. He allows things for our good, even though we do not understand it. We must go by the “weight of evidence.” God was not saying that everything Ernie and Becky did personally was correct, but that He was leading His ministry.

Conclusion

If the phrase “no error in anything we have done” is contrary to the spirit and tone of the New Testament writers, why didn’t Mr. Prewitt provide proof? Most of God’s prophets have had to deal with rejection and persecution. Ernie’s lot has been no different. This is why God encouraged him. As Ellen White looked back over her writings, she was convinced that there was no heretical sentence therein.

Selected Messages, Book 3, p. 52

I am now looking over my diaries and copies of letters written for several years back. . . . I have the most precious matter to reproduce and place before the people in testimony form. While I am able to do this

work, the people must have things to revive past history, that they may see that there is one straight chain of truth, without one heretical sentence, in that which I have written. This, I am instructed, is to be a living letter to all in regard to my faith.--Letter 329a, 1905.

Spirit-guided Bible study versus spiritual impressions

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

“Now consider one of the most significant troubles I find in the dreams. Ernie and his believers are led to expect guidance and answers from the Holy Spirit and from angels and from dreams. And where they might be directed to do earnest Bible study or searching of the Testimonies, they are rather directed to seek direction from a more direct communication from heaven. This is sometimes subtle, yet pervasive throughout.

Here is the crux of the matter: Satan fears the effect of earnest Bible study. He has always been gratified if he could lead men to seek for *impressions* of the “Holy Spirit.” Ellen White never cooperated with this hellish aim. Her warnings are filled with calls to earnest Spirit-powered Bible searching.”

Fact

Ernie has never promoted the idea of discarding the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy for more direct communication from heaven. On the other hand, how can Mr. Prewitt dismiss the work of the Holy Spirit, angels, dreams, and direct communication from heaven? The Bible and Spirit of Prophecy are full of those subjects. Examples include the following: The Holy Spirit inspired the Bible authors and Ellen White. Angels come from heaven to earth to give direct aid to mankind, as mentioned in God’s Word. Dreams have been given since Bible times to guide God’s people. An example of direct communication from heaven would include the giving of the Ten Commandments from Mt. Sinai. Perhaps the reason individuals in recent history have not received direct communication as in times past is due to a lack of true faith and godliness.

From Ernie’s dreams

Angel on a White Horse, April 28, 2007

He stops and I ask if my wife and I are correct in the way we are sharing the dreams. The angel responds that we are to continue sharing the dreams in the manner that we have been, especially in sharing the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy.

The Mailroom, July 27, 2007

In my dream, I find myself standing in what looks like a very large mailroom. I see many people stuffing envelopes while sitting at tables. I look more closely to see them put into an envelope a Bible and a book labeled, Spirit of Prophecy. (I knew this to represent all the Spirit of Prophecy books by Ellen G. White.) Also included is a large blue piece of paper that says, “Are you ready? JESUS IS COMING.”

If You Love Me, September 4, 2007

The light comes down brightly on him, and his hair also seems to catch on fire. He drops his mop and broom. Now he is holding a Bible and a

Spirit of Prophecy book. His back straightens up and he leaves the room. Many surround him, and he starts sharing things from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy.

The ABC, October 24, 2007

The Herald and I return to the inside of the store where we notice the SDA man in one of the aisles. He is on his knees cleaning and dusting books. As I get closer I notice it is the area where the Spirit of Prophecy books are kept. He lovingly takes each book off the shelf, removes its old yellowed wrapper and places it back on the shelf. Now the angels place many different Spirit of Prophecy books on the now empty shelves.

My angel and I go to the area where the Bibles are and now see only the King James Version. The angels are hanging banners. One is titled "Study as if it was your final." Another has "Are you looking for answers?" The last one reads "He is the Word, the Author, the Truth, the Way.

The Work Now Begins, December 14, 2007

When you have read these messages [refers to another individual's dreams] did you see any 'nail holes'? If you did, then did you not question? Have you not been instructed to test all dreams against the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy?"

Stand Fast, February 5, 2008

The large words "HOLY BIBLE" glisten in gold, and below it are the smaller words "King James Version." The Bible opens to Exodus 20. The screen changes as the words spelling the law of God become bold, clear, and very easy to read. The Herald says, "God Himself wrote this, and it is very important."

Love and Rebuke, April 12, 2008

You were told if they do not understand you were to ONLY tell them to take their questions to the One who holds the keys to the Great Storehouse. You were wrong in what you did in sharing your studies. How can others learn and depend on God if you do the studying for them? How can they learn to have a close relationship to the Father if you don't allow them to pray? Each must take their questions and reservations to the Creator. Each must learn to stand by themselves before the Father.

Testing the Spirits, May 12, 2008

My people need to understand that each must study and know who I am and listen to My voice. They need to understand that it is important to test the spirits. . . . Each has to study to know how to test the spirits. Each has to look for themselves whom I have sent.

Testing the Spirits, May 12, 2008

To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. Isaiah 8:20.

Testing the Spirits, May 12, 2008

The Great Controversy (1911), Introduction, vii

The Spirit was not given – nor can it ever be bestowed – to supersede the Bible; for the Scriptures explicitly state that the word of God is the standard by which all teaching and experience must be tested.

Testing the Spirits, May 12, 2008

Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 17, pp. 25-29

My brethren and sisters, leave all minor tests that you may be tempted to make, and test your spirit by the witness of the Word of God. Study that Word, that you may know the character and will of God. It is positively essential that every believer make the truths of the Bible his guide and safeguard. To every young man and woman, and to those of advanced years, I testify that the study of the Word is the only safeguard for the soul who would remain steadfast unto the end.

In His Time, July 12, 2008

In my dream, I am sitting on a hillside with my back against a tree. In one hand I hold my Bible and in the other hand the book, *The Great Controversy*.

In His Time, July 12, 2008

Jesus turns to me and explains that many who have said wrongs against me are not what people think they are. Many people would rather listen to others than to study to know God's voice.

Summation

Throughout Ernie's dreams, there is a constant call for God's people to study the Word of God rather than just listen to what others say.

Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt's argument that Ernie somehow promotes the idea that we can discard the Bible and rely upon a more direct communication from heaven is not true. Ernie's dreams teach that God wants us to study both the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, both of which are highly regarded in the dreams.

How were prophets taught?

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"When Ernie made reference to his lack of breadth in knowledge he could have been directed by the angel in the same way that Godly men have always been directed. The "many ways" is not the way they have been directed to supplement their lack of Biblical breadth."

Fact

God has many ways of teaching His prophets.

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 21, p. 446

During the night season I was specially moved upon by Spirit of God. My soul had been drawn out in earnest supplication to God. I was distressed on account of the backsliding of His people. While lying in bed, unable to sleep because of the burden resting upon me, I was

pleading with the Lord. I fell asleep, and in the night season I was taught of God. My guide said, "I have a work for you to do. You must speak the words given you by the Lord.

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 469

The apostle Paul early in his Christian experience was given special opportunities to learn the will of God concerning the followers of Jesus. He was "caught up to the third heaven," "into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter." He himself acknowledged that many "visions and revelations" had been given him "of the Lord." His understanding of the principles of gospel truth was equal to that of "the very chiefest apostles." 2 Corinthians 12:2, 4, 1, 11. He had a clear, full comprehension of "the breadth, and length, and depth, and height" of "the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge." Ephesians 3:18, 19.

Paul could not tell all that he had seen in vision; for among his hearers were some who would have misapplied his words. But that which was revealed to him enabled him to labor as a leader and a wise teacher, and also molded the messages that he in later years sent to the churches. The impression that he received when in vision was ever with him, enabling him to give a correct representation of Christian character.

S.D.A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 6, p. 1106

Through Paul God has given many wonderful lessons for our instruction. In his visions Paul saw many things not lawful for a man to utter. But many other things which he saw in the heavenly courts were woven into his teachings. The truth flashed from his lips as a sharp, two-edged sword. The impressions made upon his mind by the Holy Spirit were strong and vivid, and they were presented to the people in a way that no one else could present them. Paul spoke in the demonstration of the Spirit and with power (Letter 105, 1901).

S.D.A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 6, p. 1107

Mysteries which had been hidden for ages were revealed to him [Paul], and as much as he could bear of the workings of God, and of His dealings with human minds, was made known. The Lord told Paul that he must preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ. Light was to be given to the Gentiles. This is a mystery which had been hidden for ages (ST Jan. 30, 1912).

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 302

Paul was an inspired apostle. The truths he taught to others he had received "by revelation" . . .

John 16:13-14

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

1 Corinthians 2:10

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

1 John 2:27

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

Steps to Christ, p. 87, 93

God speaks to us through His providential workings and through the influence of His Spirit upon the heart. In our circumstances and surroundings, in the changes daily taking place around us, we may find precious lessons if our hearts are but open to discern them... God speaks to us in His word. Here we have in clearer lines the revelation of His character, of His dealings with men, and the great work of redemption... Through nature and revelation, through His providence, and by the influence of His Spirit, God speaks to us.

Summation

As one can see from the above quotes, among many others, Ellen White and the apostle Paul were taught by divine revelation—whether it is through dreams or visions, angels or the Holy Spirit. God also teaches through providence, our circumstances and surroundings, and through nature.

Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt needs to be taught that, clearly, God's words come directly through divine revelation. How can it be otherwise? Where did Moses get his information for the books that he wrote? Inspiration says, "Heavenly angels shed their light around him. Here, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, he wrote the book of Genesis." *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 251. As one can plainly see, Ernie's dreams do stress Bible study.

Neglecting the scripture?

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"Of course, what the 'angel' says is true. God has many means of teaching. But that is not a truth intended to comfort persons who are neglecting to become giants in their knowledge of scripture. Even honored prophets are expected to study diligently (Daniel 9:1-5). Even Jesus was a diligent student of the scriptures."

Fact

Ernie never stated he neglects the Scriptures. Let us also remember that not all minds are alike. Some comprehend more; others comprehend less. It is more important to follow what you know than to be a "giant" in Scripture knowledge but not follow it.

God says:

The Desire of Ages, p. 78

In this visit to Jerusalem, the parents of Jesus wished to bring Him in connection with the great teachers in Israel. While He was obedient in every particular to the word of God, He did not conform to the rabbinical rites and usages. Joseph and Mary hoped that He might be led to reverence the learned rabbis, and give more diligent heed to their requirements. But Jesus in the temple had been taught by God. That which He had received, He began at once to impart.

Isaiah 5:20

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 5, p. 294

In the last vision given me, which was on December 10, 1871, I was shown the condition of God's people. They are not awake and showing their faith by their works. I was pointed to ancient Israel. They had great light and exalted privileges, yet they did not live up to the light or appreciate their privileges, and their light became darkness, and they walked in the light of their own eyes instead of the counsel of God. The people of God in these last days are following the example of ancient Israel.--Letter 1a, 1872, p. 1. (To Brother Lay, January 11, 1872.)

Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt makes his readers think that Ernie has discarded his Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy and only listens to what he is taught in his dreams. That is like interpreting a Bible text in such a way that it introduces one's own ideas. The context of the dream shows however that 1) Ernie does not feel important enough for the calling, 2) Ernie hopes that God will remove the calling from him and give it to someone else who he feels is more knowledgeable in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, 3) Ernie feels he is not suited to the task. The angel's answer shows that 1) Ernie has a broader understanding of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy than he thinks, 2) Ernie does not have to be ordained of men to be ordained of God, 3) God can teach Ernie in many different ways. When read without biased thoughts, this does not mean that Ernie has discarded his Bible.

Ernie has not repudiated the need for scriptural study

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"Some fanatics in the past have repudiated the need for scriptural study. Ernie has not done this. But a more subtle error is not a safer one. Notice the effect of the former fanaticism and beware of any milder version that points in the same general direction."

Confusion

Psalm 35:26

Let them be ashamed and brought to confusion together that rejoice at mine hurt: let them be clothed with shame and dishonour that magnify themselves against me.

Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt spends time building up an argument to reject Ernie's dreams, then at the conclusion of it, he admits that Ernie does not fulfill that argument. Mr. Prewitt is causing confusion.

Taking time to study and evaluate the messages

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

“I have hesitated to say plainly that Ernie is a false prophet. That is because I remember that Ellen White counseled us to take our time in evaluating persons claiming inspiration. We are to give them time to develop their fruits. We must not be urged into accepting or rejecting their messages. False prophets may initially appear true. True prophets may appear false because of my misunderstanding of scripture. I must take time.”

Fact

At the time when Mr. Prewitt had written his document, it had been almost a year and a half since Ernie received his third dream where he was told to share it with God's people. By that time, Ernie had 29 published dreams.

God says:

Jonah 3:4-5

And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown. So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.

Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White, p. 61

After I came out of vision, everything seemed changed; a gloom was spread over all that I beheld. Oh, how dark this world looked to me! I wept when I found myself here, and felt homesick. I had seen a better world, and it had spoiled this for me.

I related this vision to the believers in Portland, who had full confidence that it was from God. They all believed that God had chosen this way, after the great disappointment in October, to comfort and strengthen His people.

1 Thessalonians 5:20-21

Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

The Faith I Live By, p. 296

Let the Testimonies be judged by their fruits. What is the spirit of their teaching? What has been the result of their influence? “All who desire to do so can acquaint themselves with the fruits of these visions.

Summation

The people of Nineveh didn't waste time accepting Jonah as a prophet. Their life depended upon it. After Ellen White shared her first vision, the people did not wait for years before they accepted it. Immediately they had full confidence it was from God.

Conclusion

If we follow Mr. Prewitt's counsel, we will never make a decision regarding the dreams, but the thought will always be there that given a little more time, Ernie may just prove he is a true prophet or a false prophet. Ellen White stated that God's messages produce good fruit. Since Ernie had 29 dreams by the time

Mr. Prewitt wrote his document, isn't that enough to test him by? Can anyone say that after reading Ernie's dreams they were led away from God? On the contrary, many people are being drawn closer to God.

What if?

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"A friend of mine raised some valid questions regarding the 'what if' ending of the dream. But my friend noted that Jesus had promised Eve that of her seed he would raise a Deliverer. Enoch was already in heaven. Would God's promise to Eve fail?"

Fact

Mr. Prewitt's statement refers to the "Build an Ark" dream of July 3, 2007. The "what if" scenario at the end of the dream is only given to teach the danger of rejecting messages God has been giving His people.

God says:

1 Corinthians 15:13-19

"But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable."

The Signs of the Times, May 10, 1899

For a period of time Christ was on probation. He took humanity on Himself, to stand the test and trial which the first Adam failed to endure. Had He failed in His test and trial, He would have been disobedient to the voice of God, and the world would have been lost.

Luke 16:19-26

There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

(When Jesus told this story of the rich man and Lazarus, He used pagan concepts of death and hell to illustrate a truth. We know from a study of the Bible that the story should not be taken literally, even though most of the Christian world does.)

Summation

Although we know Jesus did not fail his earthly mission, we can't help but wonder what would have happened if He did. Ellen White says the "world would have been lost" and Paul says everyone who has died have perished. If Jesus had failed, we would make the same statements Mr. Prewitt has stated: Enoch was already in heaven. Would God's promise to Eve fail?"

Conclusion

Jesus didn't fail His mission, and Noah didn't listen to the critics of his day. Ernie's dream is not be taken literally. It teaches us the danger of listening to the "great educators" and rejecting God's warnings.

Careful students don't make it?

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"This sounds much like sophistry. It sounds like the same innuendo found in the vision of the ascending birds. There one bird in 800 make it. Escaping the valley is an illustration of salvation in the bird dream. I am not confident that the ratio, 1 in 800, is a poor one. But there the one bird that makes it is the one that flies straight up. What about the birds that pause to do diligent study? They are pictured also. It is not clear what 'ancient' writings they are studying. But one thing is clear. The careful students don't make it."

Ernie's dreams says:

Get Ready, March 18, 2008

I watch as others stop to discuss the ancient books of the best ways to fly. They get out charts to plot and study the wind currents and try to figure out what is the best way to ascend.

Fact

Ernie's dream does not condemn the careful Bible student, but rather it condemns those who are trying to get to heaven their own way. If Mr. Prewitt had taken the time to read the footnote (number 9) he would have understood the meaning. The footnote states, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." John 10:1. The "charts" represent false doctrines and trivial subjects that are harmful or not important to our salvation, such as keeping the Jewish feast days and denying the Holy Spirit as a person.

Conclusion

It is obvious Mr. Prewitt has not approached Ernie's dreams with an open mind. In an attempt to prove the dreams questionable, Mr. Prewitt takes Ellen White's writings out of context. He continues to mention about Ernie discarding the Bible and then admits Ernie really hasn't discarded the Bible. Mr. Prewitt misrepresents the plain meaning of the dreams.

The sacred and the common

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"Another warning Ellen White gave about false messengers is that they might mingle the solemn and the silly, the holy and the common. God has always worked to keep these distinct. Satan has always sought to confound them...This mingling of the common and sacred, of the 'sublime and the ridiculous' (2SM 89), caught my attention several times while reading the dreams of Mr. Knoll. As a minor example, he repeatedly mentions the 'dimples' of the 'Herald.' "

God says:

Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 65

In this quotation are also found the words, "I saw two long golden rods on which hung silver wires, and on the wires were glorious grapes."

My opponents ridicule "that weak and childish expression of glorious grapes growing on silver wires, and these wires attached to golden rods."

What motive impelled the writer of the above to misstate my words? I do not state that grapes were growing on silver wires. That which I beheld is described as it appeared to me. It is not to be supposed that grapes were attached to silver wires or golden rods, but that such was the appearance presented. Similar expressions are daily employed by every person in ordinary conversation. When we speak of golden fruit, we are not understood as declaring that the fruit is composed of that precious metal, but simply that it has the appearance of gold. The same rule applied to my words removes all excuse for misapprehension.

Revelation 1:13-16

And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters. And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

Early Writings, p. 15

His hair was white and curly and lay on His shoulders; and upon His head were many crowns. His feet had the appearance of fire; in His right hand was a sharp sickle; in His left, a silver trumpet. His eyes were as a flame of fire, which searched His children through and through. Then all faces gathered paleness, and those that God had rejected gathered blackness.

Fact

Since God created dimples, why would Mr. Prewitt accuse this of mixing the sacred and the common? Ernie is simply giving a description of the Herald. He noticed that no two angels looked identical.

Summation

In reference to the above quotes, was it wrong for John the Revelator and Ellen White to give the details they did? It is these details that help us visualize what was seen in a dream or vision.

Conclusion

Ellen White's critics accused her of describing childish expressions. This is very similar to Mr. Prewitt's accusation that Ernie mixes the common with the sacred. Has anything changed?

Baking bread mixes sacred with common?

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"But when I read his sublime illustration of how God will prepare persons for the end (it is illustrated by the process of baking bread), I was surprised to read the Herald speaking regarding a symbolic bakery baking symbolic bread:

He looks at me, smiles, and replies, 'It smells good in here, doesn't it?'

Humor forms no part of angelic communications to men. Much less would an angel distract a man from a solemn spiritual lesson by a reference to a trivial passing aroma."

Fact

In the dream "If You Love Me," the illustration of making bread was the Herald's answer to Ernie's question of when a certain event would happen. The Herald was not to give a specific date. The event refers to the latter rain, which will come when God's people are ready—just as when the bread was finished baking and sliced, it was ready to be eaten. When God's people are ready for the latter rain, they will be sharing the "bread of life" as never before. If Mr. Prewitt had read the footnote provided in the dream, he would have read: "For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread" (1 Corinthians 10:17.) "For we are unto God a sweet savor of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish" (2 Corinthians 2:15.) Notice that the word "savor" means the taste or smell of something.

The angel's comment about the aroma of the baking bread was not made as a humorous comment. It was to show how wonderful it will be when God's people finally do experience the latter rain. His people must be "baked" in the "fires of affliction—"gold tried in the fire." Notice the same type of illustrations in Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 4, p. 85: "The purification of the people of God cannot be accomplished without their suffering. God permits the fires of affliction to consume the dross, to separate the worthless from the valuable, that the pure metal may shine forth. He passes us from one fire to another, testing our true worth. If we cannot bear these trials, what will we do in the time of trouble?" From Revelation 3:18: "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see."

God says:

Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students, p. 140

Jesus taught by illustrations and parables drawn from nature and from the familiar events of everyday life. . . . In this way He associated natural

things with spiritual, linking the things of nature and the life experience of His hearers with the sublime truths of the written word. And whenever afterward their eyes rested on the objects with which He has associated eternal truth, His lessons were repeated.

Summation

Jesus used every day examples to teach spiritual truths. Likewise, Ernie's dream showed a symbolic bakery to illustrate the process of a Christian growing up into Christ. This is something the angels in heaven rejoice over. Contrary to what Mr. Prewitt stated, the illustration of the bakery is not a mixing of the sacred and common any more than were Christ's object lessons as taught in the Bible.

Conclusion

The bakery symbolizes the process of Christian character formation. There is much to forming character, as there is much to making bread.

Jesus doesn't literally come to us

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"Another point that strikes me with force relates to one of the most crucial issues in our church today. The question is the nature of inspiration. One of Ernie's dreams shows Jesus inspiring Ellen White by kneeling 'on one knee' next to her.

'I see Ellen White sitting in a chair with a pen in her hand. It is early in the morning and all is quiet. She is surrounded by many, many, many angels. Jesus kneels on one knee next to her and is instructing her what to write.'

Whether Jesus literally comes to earth (rather than being here by His Holy Spirit, while abiding physically in the heavenly sanctuary), is a question the careful student would want to consider."

God says:

Matthew 18:20

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Matthew 28:20

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

John 14:16-18

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

John 14:9

Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?

Fact

In Ernie's dream "Testing the Spirits," when he saw the Holy Spirit, he also saw Jesus. Jesus can minister in the heavenly sanctuary and still come to us, not physically but through His Holy Spirit as noted below in the dream. Careful students will discover truth when Jesus and the Holy Spirit are with them or in them.

Ernie's dream says:

Testing the Spirits, May 12, 2008

Before I can ask Him my first question, He begins answering it. "You are thinking how is it that I am here walking with you when I will not walk this earth till I make it all new. You are thinking how the New Jerusalem will descend and I will place My feet on the great mountain and it will become a great plain. First, one must understand what I wrote in Joel 2:28 and Acts 2:17. I said I will pour out My Spirit upon all. Men and women will prophesy in My name. The older will receive dreams. The younger will have visions. This is a dream. A dream happens while you are asleep. A vision happens when you are awake. I am not actually walking physically with you right now. I am officiating in the Most Holy Place on your behalf as well as all others. It has been misunderstood by some who thought when I showed you that I was kneeling next to my prophet Ellen White that I was actually there. They also thought the same when I instructed Joe Crews to write the book Creeping Compromise. I am in the Most Holy Place but I am also with you in a dream. He calls me by my heavenly name and says, "You are not alone. You are never alone. I walk with you always."

Summation

Jesus has promised that when we gather together in His name, He will be in our midst. In fact, He has promised that He will always be with us. He does this through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion

There is no conflict with Scripture and what Ernie was shown. We must remember that he was shown an illustration of how God inspired Ellen White. We wonder why Mr. Prewitt brought up this point, when Jesus stated that He comes to us through the Holy Spirit.

Joe Crews not inspired?**Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)**

"What caught my attention immediately was the diluting of the significance of the Testimonies by claiming for Joe Crews the same quality of inspiration granted to Ellen White. Does the reader realize that this was the argument used by many in the South Pacific who claimed to believe in Ellen White's 'inspiration.' They understood her to be 'inspired' in the same sense that a consecrated preacher is 'inspired.'

If Joe Crews had been a prophet, even for a short enough time to write Creeping Compromise, he would have written more as a prophet than three fourth's of the prophets that wrote the Bible."

Fact

When someone writes a religious book, that person is either inspired by Satan or the Holy Spirit. Read the following and decide who inspired John Bunyan as he wrote "*The Pilgrim's Progress*."

The Review and Herald, May 30, 1912

Consider John Bunyan imprisoned in the Bedford jail. His enemies think they have placed him where his work for others must cease. But not so. He is not idle. The love for souls continues to burn within him, and from the loath-some dungeon there is sent forth a light that has shone to all parts of the civilized world. There he wrote his wonderful allegory of the pilgrim's journey from the land of destruction to the celestial city. This book, "*The Pilgrim's Progress*," portrays the Christian life so accurately, and presents the love of Christ so attractively, that through its instrumentality hundreds and thousands have been converted.

If you have not already done so, please read the book, *Creeping Compromise*, by Joe Crews and decide who inspired him as he wrote it. This book was not whole-heartedly accepted in his day. Is God giving His people another chance to accept its life-changing principles?

Books like *Pilgrim's Progress* and *Creeping Compromise* are not to be above the Bible, however, they are both inspired by God's Holy Spirit.

God says:

John 14:26

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 16:13-14

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

James 1:5

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Special Testimonies on Education, p. 204

Let me tell you what I know of this heavenly Guest. The Holy Spirit was brooding over the youth during the school hours: but some hearts were so cold and dark that they had no desire for the Spirit's presence, and the light of God was withdrawn. That heavenly visitant would have opened the understanding, would have given wisdom and knowledge in all lines of study that would be employed to the glory of God.

S.D.A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 3, p. 1156

Has not God said He would give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him? and is not this spirit a real, true actual guide? Some men seem afraid to

take God at His word as though it would be presumption in them. They pray for the Lord to teach us and yet are afraid to credit the pledged word of God and believe we have been taught of Him. So long as we come to our heavenly Father humbly and with a spirit to be taught, willing and anxious to learn, why should we doubt God's fulfilment of His own promise? You must not for a moment doubt Him and dishonor Him thereby. When you have sought to know His will, your part in the operation with God is to believe that you will be led and guided and blessed in the doing of His will. We may mistrust ourselves lest we misinterpret His teachings, but make even this a subject of prayer, and trust Him, still trust Him to the uttermost, that His Holy Spirit will lead you to interpret aright His plans and the working of His providence.

It was Christ who guided the Israelites through the wilderness. And it is Christ who is guiding His people today, showing them where and how to work (Letter 335, 1904).

Selected Messages, Book 2, p. 285

Jesus Guided Your Hands.--Who has been by your side as you have performed these critical operations? Who has kept you calm and self-possessed in the crisis, giving you quick, sharp discernment, clear eyesight, steady nerves, and skillful precision? The Lord Jesus has sent His angel to your side to tell you what to do. A hand has been laid upon your hand. Jesus, and not you, has guided the movements of your instrument. At times you have realized this, and a wonderful calmness has come over you. You dared not hurry, and yet you worked rapidly, knowing that there was not a moment to lose. The Lord has greatly blessed you.-- Testimonies, vol. 8, pp. 187, 188 (To the medical superintendent of the Battle Creek Sanitarium, 1899).

Summation

God has promised us that if we lack wisdom, He will give us wisdom. He has promised that the Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth.

Conclusion

A person does not need to be a prophet to be inspired. Joe Crews was guided by the Holy Spirit in what he wrote. Prophets are not the only ones who are led by God. Everyone who asks for the Holy Spirit and prays for guidance can expect this promise to be fulfilled. The Holy Spirit can inspire anyone, in different ways, who is willing to listen to Him and obey. This in no way dilutes the significance of Ellen White's ministry. She was clearly a prophet of God as Ernie's dreams clearly point out below. Let us remember that prophets, who are just as human as those who are not prophets, are simply carrying out a specific gift of the Holy Spirit.

A View of Heaven and a Message for His People, December 10, 2006

He then told me that He instructed His prophet, Ellen White, to write about our worship.

The Mailroom, July 24-27, 2007

He then writes in the sky and tells me to read and share what He had His prophet, Ellen White, to write.

Get Ready, March 18, 2008

Our Creator showed His prophet, Ellen White, to pen what is now written in Maranatha, page 253 and also Last Day Events, Chapter 12.

Testing the Spirits, May 12, 2008

“It has been misunderstood by some who thought when I showed you that I was kneeling next to my prophet Ellen White that I was actually there.”

In His Time, July 12, 2008

To those who call themselves shepherds or ministers, I have sent messages through My prophet Ellen White.

Talking to evil spirits

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

“Other writers have called attention to a glaring issue in Ernie’s dreams. In one of them he encounters three evil angels. They appear to him in his dream. (How did they get there?). He talks with them. It is no symbolic talk....Now think these things through for a minute. Since when is Satan unable to make eye-contact with someone he is tricking? And since when should we identify evil angels by their ability to say our new name? And how do evil angels get into a God-inspired dream? . . . The fact is that we should never never never talk to evil spirits. It is the most dangerous thing we could do. They are incredibly skilled at overmastering our minds. That God would permit Ernie, in a dream, to talk to them; that God would model how to identify false angels in such a way as to make it easy for Satan to take advantage, is unthinkable.”

Fact

1. Ernie did not willingly speak with evil spirits. He at first believed they were angels of God. When he found out they were evil angels, he immediately called out to God for help. This part of the “If You Love Me” dream is to show how easily we can be tricked by Satan and his angels and what we are to do when we are in trouble—immediately call out to God for help. “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).
2. Mr. Prewitt fails to realize that Ernie, at first, unknowingly speaks with evil spirits in the dream. Secondly, he is not controlled by them, because it is a dream not a real-life situation. The lack of eye contact and not knowing the new name was a way for us to identify that the angels in the dream are evil. The lesson in this dream is that we are to be aware how easily Satan and his angels can trick us. It was not a “model” on how to identify real evil angels. It is simply a way of teaching us that we must beware of them. As the last days are upon us, the battle against them will be stronger.
3. Evil angels can get into God-inspired dreams as the following quotations show:

And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 16, p.171

James was counting the angels, and I stood trembling with fear. My life came up before [me] and looked so full of wrongs I could not see how I should be able to stand. Just then Satan came where I was and said to me, "You are lost; you are now my property [and] will go with me to the dark regions." My feelings I cannot describe. To be separated from the Jesus I had loved and to take up my abode with those that I abhorred looked dreadful to me. At the same time, I felt unworthy to be with the lovely Jesus.

God says:

The Review and Herald, August 11, 1903

Thus men came to Christ. And mingling with his hearers were angels in the form of men, making their suggestions, criticizing, misapplying, and misinterpreting the Saviour's words. Christ presented the truth in the form of parables. This was the only way in which he could rebuke sin without causing personal offense.

In this time evil angels in the form of men will talk with those who know the truth. They will misinterpret and misconstrue the statements of the messengers of God.

Summation

Ernie did not willingly speak with evil spirits. The dream was a lesson of how we are to beware of Satan and his evil angels. The Bible and Spirit of Prophecy clearly show that Satan is able to get into God-inspired dreams or visions. Although these examples do not mention talking with evil angels, Ellen White's example shows that Satan was able to talk to her. Since angels are able to impersonate humans in real life, surely they are able to impersonate good angels in dreams, just as they did in Ernie's dream.

Conclusion

Since Ernie only spoke to evil angels in a dream, since he has no control over the dream, and since the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy show that evil angels can get into dreams, Mr. Prewitt's point is completely invalid and unbiblical.

All heaven watching

Prewitt says: (see [Appendix I](#))

"And is all heaven watching the dream at the same time? The Herald says: Herald looks at me and smiles so that his dimples show. I look into his eyes and see such love and patience! He calls me by my heavenly name (the name I wanted to hear, but can only remember during a dream). He says, 'All of heaven was watching and waiting until you cried out for help.' "

God says:

The Review and Herald, December 31, 1901

The Church militant is not the Church triumphant. Unless the people of God wage a valiant warfare against every species of sin, they will never pass through the portals of the holy city. And we shall have no second trial. Now is the accepted time, the time in which we are to obtain the education that will enable us to live in the heavenly courts. The whole heavenly universe is watching with the deepest interest to see who in this primary school is practicing the lessons of Christ.

Medical Ministry, p. 131

But a change has come that has hindered the work which God designed to move forward without a trace of selfishness. All heaven is watching with intense anxiety to see what is to be the outcome of the work which is so large and so important. God is watching, the heavenly universe is watching; and souls are perishing.

The Review and Herald, September 18, 1913

God abhors indifference and disloyalty in a time of crisis in his work. The whole universe is watching with inexpressible interest the closing scenes of the great controversy between good and evil. The people of God are nearing the borders of the eternal world; what is of more importance to them than that they be loyal to the God of heaven?

The General Conference Bulletin, April 6, 1903

All the inhabitants of the universe are watching, as in these last days God is preparing a people to stand in the judgment. Let us ask God to clothe us with the robe of Christ's righteousness, that we may be prepared for the coming of the Son of man.

S.D.A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 6, p. 1088

The inhabitants of unfallen worlds and of the heavenly universe are watching with an intense interest the conflict between good and evil. They rejoice as Satan's subtleties, one after another, are discerned and met with "It is written," as Christ met them in His conflict with the wily foe. Every victory gained is a gem in the crown of life. In the day of victory all the universe of heaven triumphs. The harps of the angels send forth the most precious music, accompanying the melody of the voice (Letter 5, 1900).

Conclusion

We can see from God's Word that Mr. Prewitt has no excuse to doubt that not only heaven but the whole universe is watching with intense interest the closing scenes of this earth's history. "Our little world is the lesson book of the universe." *Desire of Ages*, p. 19.

Literal and symbolic

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"But some of those images are used in a way that confounds the literal and the symbolic.

I am thinking of the pictures of mass execution by an engineered mass guillotine. As each person dies, surrendering all, the Herald bids Ernie ‘watch closely.’

I watch as each assigned guardian angel has placed in his left arm a white robe to hold for the individual that just surrendered all. The robe is pure white with a large red border at the bottom. {9} In their right hand is placed a pure silver tablet with a pure gold border and a red ribbon wrapped around it. The tablet reads Revelation 2:10.

Martyrs will get literal white robes with red hems. This is true. They get these, however, at the resurrection.

Martyrs also get symbolic white robes – no red hems. This is pictured in Revelation 5. This happens when their name comes up in the judgment. Some face the judgment in heaven before they die. Some face it after they die. But no one faces it at the moment of death. So this picture is a disturbing mixing of metaphors – it is either a spiritualizing of a literal robe, or the literalizing of a symbolic one. And either way, it is confusing the timing.

Such confusion prevents people from understanding Revelation 5 and Revelation 3:5 correctly by leading them to associate the white robes in those passages with the memorable robes Ellen White saw on individuals in heaven.”

Fact

Martyrs will receive white garments that have red on the border after they are resurrected.

God says:

Early Writings, p. 18

As we were traveling along, we met a company who also were gazing at the glories of the place. I noticed red as a border on their garments; their crowns were brilliant; their robes were pure white. As we greeted them, I asked Jesus who they were. He said they were martyrs that had been slain for Him. With them was an innumerable company of little ones; they also had a hem of red on their garments.

The above quotation is also a footnote in the section of the dream referenced below.

Ernie’s dream says:

Stand Fast, February 5, 2008

I watch as each assigned guardian angel has placed in his left arm a white robe to hold for the individual that just surrendered all. The robe is pure white with a large red border at the bottom....The guardian angel takes this robe and holds it closely, as if to show love and adoration, until this person is raised from death to everlasting life. Then this person will be dressed in this very special robe.

Summation

Ellen White clearly points out that martyrs will receive robes that have red borders. This is after they are resurrected. Ernie’s dream teaches the same

truth. As can be seen, Mr. Prewitt left out the part of the dream that explains more about the robes.

Conclusion

There is no confusion or mixing the literal and spiritual as Mr. Prewitt suggests. Ernie's dream describes the same robe with red borders as what Ellen White saw in vision. If Mr. Prewitt had read the dream carefully, he would have seen that Ernie recognizes this. The only one confusing the subject is Mr. Prewitt himself. Not only does he misquote a chapter (referencing Revelation 5 instead of 6), but he does not take into context what Ernie has written.

Tithe

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

“Frankly, this statement [about tithe] is emphatic. It refers to God as holding ‘keys’ to a ‘Great Storehouse.’ It refers to tithes as a ‘tribute.’ This is very odd. The tithe belongs to God. It is not a tax. It is not a thank offering. It is not a confession that we have been conquered. In short, how is it a ‘tribute?’ ”

Fact

The dreams have never stated that a tribute is tithe.

God says:

Deuteronomy 16:10

And thou shalt keep the feast of weeks unto the LORD thy God with a tribute of a freewill offering of thine hand, which thou shalt give unto the LORD thy God, according as the LORD thy God hath blessed thee.

The Review and Herald, February 9, 1886

Surely goodness and mercy attend us at every step. Not till we wish the infinite Father to cease bestowing his gifts on us, should we impatiently exclaim, Is there no end of giving? Not only should we faithfully render to God our tithes, which he claims as his own, but we should bring a tribute to his treasury as an offering of gratitude. Let us with joyful hearts bring to our Creator the first-fruits of all his bounties,--our choicest possessions, our best and holiest service.

Ernie's dream says:

The Boardroom, April 24, 2009

This document must go into details, showing the truth as to the appropriate placement of tithe and tributes.

Summation

The Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy clearly reveal that a tribute is a freewill offering.

Conclusion

This is another case where Mr. Prewitt has misinterpreted Ernie's dream, which resulted in a wrong conclusion. Ernie's dream shows that God not only wants us to be concerned with how the tithe is being used, but also the offerings we give.

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

“But that is a small issue compared to the questions I suggested you ask yourself. These Ellen White answers plainly.

The tithe is sacred, reserved by God for Himself. It is to be brought into His treasury to be used to sustain the gospel laborers in their work. For a long time the Lord has been robbed because there are those who do not realize that the tithe is God's reserved portion. {CS 93.2}

Some have been dissatisfied, and have said, ‘I will not longer pay my tithe; for I have no confidence in the way things are managed at the heart of the work.’ But will you rob God because you think the management of the work is not right? Make your complaint, plainly and openly, in the right spirit, to the proper ones. Send in your petitions for things to be adjusted and set in order; but do not withdraw from the work of God, and prove unfaithful, because others are not doing right.--9T 249. {CS 93.3}”

Fact

Tithe is sacred and should not be misused.

God says:

Sermons and Talks, Vol. 2, p. 74

If the conference business is not managed according to the order of the Lord, that is the sin of the erring one. The Lord will not hold you responsible for it if you do what you can to correct the evil. But do not commit sin yourselves by withholding from the Lord His own property.

Summation

If the conference business is not managed correctly, God will hold us responsible for supporting it with our tithe if we do not try to correct the evil.

Conclusion

The issue Ellen White was addressing in the quote Mr. Prewitt used is that people had stopped paying tithe altogether because they had lost confidence in the Conference. This is a completely different issue to the counsel Ernie received in the “Stand Fast” dream.

Fanaticism**Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)**

“With these and a few other statements it is easy enough to picture what Satan is trying to do. First, he works through a hyper imagination to create an impressible ‘prophet.’ Then he advocates being led by the ‘Spirit.’ Then he pours out a mighty gushing of this kind of enthusiasm, a false latter rain of dreams and visions.

It is that tidal wave that Ellen White sought to avert. Ernie seems to allude to the wave, and the possibility that his allusion is based in fact is scary.

The Herald calls me by my heavenly name and says, ‘If you could only see and understand the impact these messages are making on new souls and the awakening they are having on old souls. Many are beginning to awake from their sleep.

You are one of many that Jesus is working with all over the world. There are others who speak a different language with whom the Great King is working. You are not alone. You are being led by His Spirit. Those who make accusations against you will have to give an account before the Great Judge.' ”

Fact

Fanaticism and false revivals are man-centered and lead away from the truth.

God says:

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 464

In many of the revivals which have occurred during the last half century, the same influences have been at work, to a greater or less degree, that will be manifest in the more extensive movements of the future. There is an emotional excitement, a mingling of the true with the false, that is well adapted to mislead. Yet none need be deceived. In the light of God's word it is not difficult to determine the nature of these movements. Wherever men neglect the testimony of the Bible, turning away from those plain, soul-testing truths which require self-denial and renunciation of the world, there we may be sure that God's blessing is not bestowed. And by the rule which Christ Himself has given, "Ye shall know them by their fruits" (Matthew 7:16), it is evident that these movements are not the work of the Spirit of God.

Maranatha, p. 158

The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God. "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Prov. 29:18). Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, to unsettle the confidence of God's remnant people in the true testimony. He will bring in spurious visions to mislead, and will mingle the false with the true, and so disgust people that they will regard everything that bears the name of visions as a species of fanaticism; but honest souls, by contrasting false and true, will be enabled to distinguish between them. . . .

Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 103

When great and wise men had proved to their satisfaction that it was impossible for the world to be destroyed by water, when the fears of the people were quieted, when all regarded Noah's prophecy as a delusion, and looked upon him as a fanatic--then it was that God's time had come.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 14, p. 133

I would speak in warning to those who have stood for years resisting light and cherishing the spirit of opposition. How long will you hate and despise the messengers of God's righteousness? God has given them His message. They bear the word of the Lord. There is salvation for you, but only through the merits of Jesus Christ. The grace of the Holy Spirit has been offered you again and again. Light and power from on high have been shed abundantly in the midst of you. Here was evidence, that all might discern whom the Lord recognized as His servants. But there are

those who despised the men and the message they bore. They have taunted them with being fanatics, extremists, and enthusiasts.

The Faith I Live By, p. 296

Let the Testimonies be judged by their fruits. What is the spirit of their teaching? What has been the result of their influence? “All who desire to do so can acquaint themselves with the fruits of these visions.

Summation

False revivals lead to a neglect of the Bible and do not lead to a renouncing of the world. Ellen White's writings prove themselves by the fruit they produce. Ernie's dreams also prove themselves by the fruit they produce.

Conclusion

Ernie's dreams do not lead to fanaticism as Mr. Prewitt suggests. They contain solemn messages that call God's people to repent and to prepare for Christ's imminent return. It is interesting to note that the critics of Noah's time also accused Noah of fanaticism. This type of situation has not changed today.

More on fanaticism

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

“One thing, Ellen White wanted to say as little as possible about Anna. Fanaticism is better treated with a calming influence than with an agitation. And Ellen White knew that scores of similar cases would arise in the future. She wrote of ‘tidal waves’ that would come were leading men to take up a prophet like Anna and support his or her claims...”

“And what if you have resolved the issue of Ernie already? Ellen White indicates ‘scores’ of similar experiences would occur. I can count about a score of them. Maybe there are a score I know nothing about it. That would still leave room for several more. Why did Jesus say ‘beware?’ Because the false would not be obvious – that is how Ellen White explained it.”

God says:

The Desire of Ages, p. 62

Now pride and envy closed the door against the light. If the reports brought by the shepherds and the wise men were credited, they would place the priests and rabbis in a most unenviable position, disproving their claim to be the exponents of the truth of God. These learned teachers would not stoop to be instructed by those whom they termed heathen. It could not be, they said, that God had passed them by, to communicate with ignorant shepherds or uncircumcised Gentiles. They determined to show their contempt for the reports that were exciting King Herod and all Jerusalem. They would not even go to Bethlehem to see whether these things were so. And they led the people to regard the interest in Jesus as a fanatical excitement. Here began the rejection of Christ by the priests and rabbis. From this point their pride and stubbornness grew into a settled hatred of the Saviour. While God was opening the door to the Gentiles, the Jewish leaders were closing the door to themselves.

Life Sketches of Ellen G. White, p. 220

At this time visions were given me to correct the errors of those who had taken extreme views of some texts of scripture, and refrained wholly from labor, and rejected all those who would not receive their views on this point, and some other things which they held to be religious duties. God revealed these errors to me in vision, and sent me to his erring children to declare them; but many of them wholly rejected the message, and charged me with conforming to the world. On the other hand, the nominal Adventists charge me with fanaticism, and I was falsely, and by some, wickedly, represented as being the leader of the fanaticism I was laboring constantly to arrest by bearing my testimony given me of God.

Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt again shows that his heart is not open to God sending a prophet. Like the people of Jesus' day, Mr. Prewitt is willing to accept dead prophets, but the living word of God he is unwilling to accept. Of course there is going to be fanaticism, but this is no reason for raising objections against Ernie's dreams. "Prove all things" is the Bible's admonition.

Cannot accept dreams even if there is no error in them?

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"Yes, I will have to answer before the Great Judge. So also, reader, will you. You can not be too careful how you hear, how you accept. If there are no 'glaring inconsistencies' nor 'untruthful utterances' in Ernie's work, that will not be cause enough to advocate his dreams. That is how Jones fell into advocating the false dreams of the young lady."

Fact

Although we must be on guard against false prophets, we are also warned not to despise prophesyings.

God says:

1 Thessalonians 5:20-21

Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 263

The apostle cautioned the Thessalonians not to despise the gift of prophecy, and in the words, "Quench not the Spirit; despise not prophesyings; prove all things; hold fast that which is good," he enjoined a careful discrimination in distinguishing the false from the true.

Isaiah 8:20

To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

John 8:31-32

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 102

Of the vast population of the earth before the Flood, only eight souls believed and obeyed God's word through Noah. For a hundred and twenty years the preacher of righteousness warned the world of the coming destruction, but his message was rejected and despised. So it will be now.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 672

I was shown that many had so little spirituality that they did not understand the value of the Testimonies or their real object. They talked flippantly of the Testimonies given by God for the benefit of His people, and passed judgment upon them, giving their opinion and criticizing this and that, when they would better have placed their hands upon their lips, and prostrated themselves in the dust; for they could not appreciate the spirit of the Testimonies, because they knew so little of the Spirit of God.

Summation

The majority have always rejected God's messengers. The Bible says to prove all things and hold fast that which is good. There are plain tests in the Bible that God has given so that we will not be deceived.

Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt's conclusion is illogical and does not harmonize with the Bible. His conclusion suggests that God will never send another prophet. The Bible says to test everything by the word of God. Mr. Prewitt insinuates that this test is no longer valid.

Nit-picking

Prewitt says: (see [Appendix I](#))

"This section isn't really for the average reader. As I read through Ernie's dreams (and I did read all of them carefully), I noted a number of small things. These are the kind of observations that gave me hints that something was not quite right with the dreams. But some of them are not obvious contradictions of true principles. Noticing them might even be nit-picking.

"But, then again, they might be helpful to those seeking to shake a misplaced trust. So I record them here."

Fact

This is not how God has instructed us to test a prophet.

God says:

Isaiah 5:20

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Numbers 12:8

With him [Moses] will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

Luke 10:16

He that heareth you heareth me; and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth him that sent me.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 236

The ministers who have labored in that State have not exerted a right influence. Hints and insinuations have been thrown out against Brother and Sister White, and the managers of the work at Battle Creek, which have found a ready reception in the hearts of many, especially the credulous and faultfinding. Satan knows how to make his attacks. He works upon minds to excite jealousy and dissatisfaction toward those at the head of the work. The gifts are next questioned; then, of course, they have but little weight, and instruction given through vision is disregarded.

Ibid., Vol. 5, p. 241

Difficulties are often caused by the vendors of gossip, whose whispered hints and suggestions poison unsuspecting minds and separate the closest friends. Mischief-makers are seconded in their evil work by the many who stand with open ears and evil heart, saying: "Report, . . . and we will report it." This sin should not be tolerated among the followers of Christ. No Christian parent should permit gossip to be repeated in the family circle or remarks to be made disparaging the members of the church.

Counsels for the Church, p. 174

Criticism and Its Effects

Christians should be careful in regard to their words. They should never carry unfavorable reports from one of their friends to another, especially if they are aware that there is a lack of union between them. It is cruel to hint and insinuate, as though you knew a great deal in regard to this friend or that acquaintance of which others are ignorant. Such hints go further, and create more unfavorable impressions, than to frankly relate the facts in an unexaggerated manner. What harm has not the church of Christ suffered from these things!

Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 4b, p. 123

I was shown that those who are troubled with infidelity and doubts should not go out to labor for others. That which is in the mind must flow out, and they realize not the effect of a hint, or the smallest doubt expressed. Satan makes it a barbed arrow. It acts like a slow poison, which, before the victim is made sensible of his danger, has affected the whole system, and undermined a good constitution, and finally ends in death. It is just so with the poison of unbelief, and doubts upon Scripture facts. One who has influence, hints, or throws a doubt into minds suggesting that which Satan has suggested to them, that one scripture contradicts another, and in a very wise manner, as though they had found out some wonderful mystery, which had been hid from believers and the holy in every age of the world, cast their midnight darkness into other minds. They lose the relish they have had for the truth, and come out

infidels. All this is the work of a few words spoken, which had a hidden power, because they seemed involved in mystery

Summation

It is a fearful thing to speak evil of God's servants the prophets. When we reject them, we are really rejecting Jesus.

Conclusion

How does Mr. Prewitt expect anyone to take him seriously when he resorts to unbiblical nit-picking? Whatever happened to testing a prophet by the tests God has provided in His Word? The fact Mr. Prewitt realizes that the remaining objections are not valid Bible tests but rather nit-picking does not need any comment. "For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." Matthew 12:37.

Interrupting the dream

Prewitt says: (see [Appendix I](#))

"Can a prophetic dream be interrupted by an outsider? In Ellen White's visions no one was able to disturb her communion with heaven.

"As I was unconscious to all that transpired around me while in vision, I will copy from Brother Nichols' description of that meeting. {LS80 232.2}

" 'Sister Ellen was taken off in vision with extraordinary manifestations, and continued talking in vision with a clear voice, which could be distinctly understood by all present, until about sundown. The opposition was much exasperated, as well as excited, to hear Sister E. talk in vision, which they declared was of the devil; they exhausted all their influence and bodily strength, to destroy the effect of the vision. They would unite in singing very loud, and then alternately would talk and read from the Bible in a loud voice, in order that she might not be heard, until their strength was exhausted, and their hands would shake so they could not read from the Bible. But amidst all this confusion and noise, Sister Ellen's clear and shrill voice, as she talked in vision, was distinctly heard by all present. The opposition of these men continued as long as they could talk and sing, notwithstanding some of their own friends rebuked them, and requested them to stop. But Robbins said, 'You are bowed to an idol; you are worshipping a golden calf.' " {LS80 232.3}

"What about Ernie's dream? It seems one dream was interrupted by his wife, Becky. It makes one wonder.

"We are now in the corridor again. The Herald says, 'What I show you now, I was showing you when Becky awoke you from your dream. Permission was given then to share a little of what was shown you.' "

Fact

This is not a Biblical test of a prophet.

Conclusion

Let us be careful how we limit what God can and will do if He sees it is best.

Bible versions

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"I use the King James Version for study and memory work. And I consider it to be based on the highest quality of Greek manuscripts. It is an excellent version.

"Ellen White used it generally. When other versions came into existence late in her ministry, she also made significant use of them.

"Ernie's visions emphasize, in a way very different from Ellen White's relation to the various versions, the chosenness of the King James Version. Why the difference between Ellen White and Ernie on this point? There are many that would find in this very point evidence of Ernie's legitimacy. I hope we are not tricked that easily. The devil knows how to preach to the choir."

Fact

The King James Version is the most reliable English Bible translation available.

There are scores of missing verses in many modern translations. For example, the following verses are missing in the NIV, one of most accepted modern translations: Matthew 17:21; 18:11; 23:14; Mark 15:28; John 5:4; Acts 8:37. Not only are whole verses missing, but many verses have been altered or shortened.

Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt's conclusion is similar to the Jews who rejected Jesus.

Matthew 12:22-24

Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw. And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David? But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.

Flattery

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"Ellen White described how Anna's visions would flatter persons that had been rebuked earlier. Flattery is not a good thing. But the Herald absolutely flatters 'Anonymous.' You will find nothing like it in all the thousands of encouraging statements to individuals in the Testimonies. And what he says to him is a twisting of Bible metaphors similar to the one mentioned earlier."

Fact

There is a big difference between flattery and encouragement. Definition of flattery from <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/flattery>: excessive or insincere praise; a pleasing self-deception. If we follow Mr. Prewitt's description of flattery, we would have to include the Bible examples below. Regarding a "twisting of Bible metaphors" (the mustard seed application), why does Mr. Prewitt again limit God? Has he not heard of a "dual application"? The lesson of the mustard seed in the "Go Forth" dream was to show how faith is to grow. That is not against Bible truth.

God says:

Daniel 9:23

At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.

Daniel 10:11

And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling.

Daniel 10:19

And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.

Job 1:8

And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

Luke 1:27-30

To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

Luke 1:46-49

And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name.

Acts 13:22

And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

Numbers 12:6-9

And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream. My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and

not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

Christ Triumphant, p. 334

Daniel identified himself with Israel's sins, and confessed their sins as his own. He prayed, "O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name." Yet Gabriel, the heavenly messenger, thrice called him a man greatly beloved.

Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt is so busy trying to find many reasons why Ernie's dreams are not from God that he misses all the wonderful lessons that Christ is trying to teach. From *Signs of the Times*, June 13, 1906: "But to read the Scriptures in a casual way, without seeking to comprehend Christ's lessons or to comply with His requirements, is not enough. There are treasures in the Word of God that can be discovered only by sinking the shaft deep into the mines of truth." Would not this apply to all of God's messages given through dreams, visions, or His angels until the end of this world?

Witnesses

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"Ernie was shown that some prominent person would rise to be his helper in the work of promoting the dreams. He was shown the name of that person, but has not revealed it because he wants that person to join of his own free will. However, to give confirmation to God's foreknowledge of the person's decision, Ernie has shared the name with 'a few select persons to be used as witnesses.'

"The fulfillment of some predictions is not, of course, an evidence of the truthfulness of the claims of the predictor. Incredibly, some of the predictions of false prophets came to be fulfilled during Ellen White's time...

"Still, it would be helpful to know the names of those entrusted with the name of the individual. Their reputation for integrity and honesty would be something interesting to check into. Why? Because none other than Joseph Smith relied heavily on 'witnesses' to confirm events that tended to back his claims. But after a decade many of these 'witnesses' had repudiated their statements of affirmation and were shown to be generally unreliable persons even at the time they were chosen as witnesses."

Fact

Ellen White wrote about witnesses of her visions. Examples were given earlier in this chapter. One more follows.

Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 2, p. 168

At this meeting our dear Bro. Benson was convicted of the truth. He believed the vision he witnessed to be the power of God, and was affected by it. He fully embraced the truth. Others decided at that meeting to obey all God's commandments and live. Since that meeting we have met Bro. B.'s cheerful countenance in every conference we have attended

in Vermont. But we shall meet him in this mortal state no more. He died in hope, and will rest in the silent grave until the resurrection of the just.

Conclusion

According to Mr. Prewitt's analogy, because Ellen White wrote about these witnesses, does that mean we cannot rely on her visions as being from God? Does the fact that Ellen White relied on witnesses make her of non-effect? We think not.

Repentance

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"So when we read in the Bible of men calling others to repent, we understand that the call to repentance involved instruction on how to live. Both Paul and John the Baptist mentioned 'works meet for repentance.' Ac 26:20; Lu 3:8.

"So I was very interested at the added word (capitalization in the original) 'just' given to persons commissioned to share the spirit's messages. There is just something strange about adding the word 'just' in a place where it doesn't belong, in a place where it changes a summary into a contradiction.

"He goes quickly to Brother and Sister M, places His hands on their head and says, 'Go and JUST tell them to REPENT.' "

Fact

The reason it stated in the "Go Forth" dream for Brother and Sister M to "Go and JUST tell them to REPENT" is because at that time they were delving into "winds of doctrines" that were not correct. God did not want them to share false doctrines but rather the message of repentance and, of course, the "works" that follow.

Ernie's dream says:

Go Forth!, May 9, 2007

Jesus walks over and places His hands into one of the pitchers then rubs His hands together. He goes quickly to Brother and Sister M, places His hands on their head and says, "Go and JUST tell them to REPENT. If they do not hear or do not want to hear, continue on and tarry not as there is no time." He then commands for many angels that excel in speed. "Go and assist them and hurry as there is no time left." I watch as Brother and Sister M, with many, many, many angels shoot upwards as if an arrow made of high speed light.

God says:

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Gospel Workers, p. 252

"Accompanied by the power of the Holy Spirit, let them meet the people with the message borne by John the Baptist, "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." [MATT. 3:2.]

Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt made an assumption that is not correct.

Elijah's name

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"The angel also refers to the Elijah message. What is most interesting about this is that the angel speaks in Greek. Ernie, presumably not knowing Greek, asks the angel to spell the word. The angel spells, in English characters, a transliteration of a Greek word.

"I don't mean to be too technical, but something is really wrong here. Greek has a number of characters that do not have a one-for-one correspondence to English characters. So when I want to type in Greek I have to adjust my thinking. Sometimes 'j' and 'h' and 'q' and 'v' are redefined (Greek doesn't have those characters, and different Greek fonts use different keys for the unparallel characters) to represent other sounds.

"The angel says that Ernie and the faithful are, together 'Hliva.'

"Now you can search all day with the best resources you can find in your Bible reference works and you will never find this word. But do not worry. There is a hyperlink on the website to another site that has this very word for Elijah.

"Here is the problem. The 'H' is a capital vowel with the sound of a long 'A' and the 'v' is a substitute character that, when typed in Greek, looks like an 's.' And for that matter, it is 's' – sigma. And the 'va' is a typo on the website – it should be 'av.' How would an accurate transliteration of the Greek be spelled in English characters? Not 'Hliva' but 'Aye-lee-as' or 'Elias' as it is found in scripture.

"Would an angel copy a font goof from a Greek website when spelling to a prophet a Greek word?"

Fact

Original Word - Ἁλῖβα

Word Origin - of Hebrew origin (0452)

Transliterated Word - Helias

<http://www.biblestudytools.com/lexicons/greek/kjv/helias.html>

Matt 17.3 ijdouV w[fqh aujtoi' Mwu>sh' kaiV =**Hliva** sullalou'nte met= aujtou

http://bible.org/search/apachesolr_search/hliva

2243 \G!**Hliva**"\n Helias {hay-lee'-as}

of Hebrew origin H0452 ; TDNT - 2:928,306; n pr m

AV - Elias 30; 30

Elijah = "my God is Jehovah"

1) a prophet born at Thisbe, the unflinching champion of the theocracy in the reigns of the idolatrous kings Ahab and Ahaziah. He was taken up to heaven without dying, whence the Jews expected he would return just before the advent of the Messiah, whom he would prepare the minds of the Israelites to receive.

Source: http://christianlearninglounge.net/0_bibles/LS-bible/g/220.html (King James Bible, 1769 Edition/Living Strong's Lexical Map/Greek Lexicon)

Hliva is also a valid last name as can be seen at this link:

<http://ssdi.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/ssdi.cgi?lastname=Hliva&firstname=&nt=exact>

Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt has again assumed incorrectly.

Angels without titles

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

“Another writer has observed the anomaly of the angel visitor being called ‘the Herald.’ As this point doesn’t strike me with the force it does him, I will not spend much time on it. But his point is that angels, throughout scripture, are without titles. The notable exception, Gabriel, shows up only twice, in Daniel and again in relation to the virgin birth of Jesus.”

Fact

Gabriel is not a title. It is the name of the angel who took the place of Satan after he rebelled against God. Angels do have titles, as can be seen in the following verses.

God says:

The following verses refer to Satan.

Matthew 4:3

And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

Revelation 20:2

And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years.

Ephesians 2:2

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

John 12:31

Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.

The following refer to Gabriel and other angels.

Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White, p. 253

IN RELATING HER VISIONS, MRS. WHITE FREQUENTLY SPOKE OF THE ONE WHO HAD INSTRUCTED HER, AS "MY ACCOMPANYING ANGEL," OR "MY INSTRUCTOR," OR "MY GUIDE." BY THESE EXPRESSIONS, SHE REFERRED TO A

BRIGHT, GLORIOUS ANGEL, WHO INVARIABLY ACTED AS HER GUIDE OR INSTRUCTOR.

Christ Triumphant, p. 334

Daniel identified himself with Israel's sins, and confessed their sins as his own. He prayed, "O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name." Yet Gabriel, the heavenly messenger, thrice called him a man greatly beloved.

The Great Controversy, p. 512

A guardian angel is appointed to every follower of Christ. These heavenly watchers shield the righteous from the power of the wicked one.

The Faith I Live By, p. 210

Every man's work passes in review before God. . . . Opposite each name in the books of heaven is entered, with terrible exactness, every wrong word, every selfish act, every unfulfilled duty, and every secret sin, with every artful dissembling. Heaven-sent warnings or reproofs neglected, wasted moments, unimproved opportunities, the influence exerted for good or for evil, with its far-reaching results, all are chronicled by the recording angel.

Ernie's dream says:

Love and Rebuke, April 12, 2008

The Herald steps forward and says to all. "Understand I am the Herald. I am God's messenger. Herald is not my name but what I am. I have said before that my real name is not important. I am just a messenger. The name that should be called is the name Jesus. This is the name that all should have on their lips. This is the name all should want to sing and praise.

Conclusion

The fact that Mr. Prewitt admits this point does not strike him with much force, makes us wonder why he even mentions it. Is it to create doubt? Also, because the Bible does mention an angel by name, Gabriel, what is the issue? The Herald in Ernie's dreams is not even the angel's name. The word "herald" simply means "A person who carries or proclaims important news; a messenger" or "One that gives a sign or indication of something to come; a harbinger." www.thefreedictionary.com/herald

Ellen White the prophet

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"Several times in the dreams Jesus refers to 'His prophet, Ellen White.' I, for one, consider Ellen White to be a prophet. But that was not the name Jesus chose for her while she was alive. It was because of the prejudice against those claiming to be prophets, and also because her work was more than that of a prophet, that she took the title 'messenger.'...

"It was John the Baptist of whom Jesus said he was 'a prophet, yeah, more than a prophet.' It is possible that our Savior would choose to call

Ellen White ‘a prophet’ in our day. But it is interesting that this would be a change from what was done in her life time.”

Fact

Ellen White was a prophet.

Conclusion

If Jesus referred to John the Baptist as a prophet, and more than a prophet, and since Mr. Prewitt considers Ellen White to be a prophet, what is the point? Can't Jesus refer to Ellen White as His prophet if He so chooses? Also, considering many people in the Church no longer accept Ellen White as a prophet, the fact that Jesus calls Ellen White a prophet is very significant.

Without an intercessor

Prewitt says: (see [Appendix I](#))

“When Ernie’s guide writes of this time [after probation] the guide’s words do not help clarify this truth. Those inclined to think that they will be unsupported during that time are left to think that way still. And what does it mean to ‘smile like Christ’? And, honestly, what will a saint see in the moral mirror when he compares himself to Jesus? Contrast the dream and the scripture.

“How can you be like Christ and not look like Him? You say you want to be one of the 144,000, and yet how can you when you cannot stand without Christ holding you up to the Father? If you look like Christ, walk like Christ, smile like Christ, then you will be able to stand in that last day when Jesus cannot hold you up to the Father. When you look in a mirror and you see a clean vessel without any filth, then you will receive the blessing Jesus has commanded to pour forth.

“Job 9:20 If I justify myself, mine own mouth shall condemn me: if I say, I am perfect, it shall also prove me perverse.

“No, a sanctified man will never perceive himself as a ‘clean vessel without any filth.’ And certainly that will not be the condition of receiving the Latter Rain.”

Fact

God’s people will never boast about the fact that they are without sin, because they will never feel worthy. His people also cannot receive the latter rain with sins on their record. When we smile like Christ it means we have Christ in us, and it shows. Please read the following important words from God in answer to the above questions and comments by Mr. Prewitt.

God says:

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 620

So, in the time of trouble, if the people of God had unconfessed sins to appear before them while tortured with fear and anguish, they would be overwhelmed; despair would cut off their faith, and they could not have confidence to plead with God for deliverance. But while they have a deep sense of their unworthiness, they have no concealed wrongs to reveal. Their sins have gone beforehand to judgment and have been blotted out, and they cannot bring them to remembrance.

Maranatha, p. 242

I also saw that many do not realize what they must be in order to live in the sight of the Lord without a high priest in the sanctuary through the time of trouble. Those who receive the seal of the living God and are protected in the time of trouble must reflect the image of Jesus fully.

I saw that many were neglecting the preparation so needful and were looking to the time of "refreshing" and the "latter rain" to fit them to stand in the day of the Lord and to live in His sight. Oh, how many I saw in the time of trouble without a shelter!

When Jesus leaves the sanctuary, then they who are holy and righteous will be holy and righteous still; for all their sins will then be blotted out, and they will be sealed with the seal of the living God. But those that are unjust and filthy will be unjust and filthy still; for then there will be no Priest in the sanctuary to offer their sacrifices, their confessions, and their prayers before the Father's throne. Therefore what is done to rescue souls from the coming storm of wrath must be done before Jesus leaves the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 1, p. 176

Here are brought plainly to view those who will be vessels unto honor; for they will receive the latter rain. Every soul who in the light now shining upon our pathway continues in sin will be blinded, and will accept the delusions that come from Satan. We are now nearing the close of this earth's history. Where are the faithful watchmen on the walls of Zion who will not slumber, but faithfully declare the time of night? . . . There will be no envy, no jealousy, in the hearts of those who are seeking to be like Jesus in character. Letter 15, 1892, p. 5. (To Elder S. N. Haskell, June 25, 1892.)

General Conference Daily Bulletin, February 7, 1893

The latter rain is coming on those that are pure--all, then, will receive it as formerly. None receive the latter rain but those who do all they can. Christ will help us. All could be overcomers by the grace of God through the blood of Jesus. All heaven is interested in the work. Angels are interested.

The Review and Herald, April 21, 1891

The latter rain is to fall upon the people of God. A mighty angel is to come down from heaven, and the whole earth is to be lighted with his glory. Are we ready to take part in the glorious work of the third angel? Are our vessels ready to receive the heavenly dew? Have we defilement and sin in the heart? If so, let us cleanse the soul temple, and prepare for the showers of the latter rain. The refreshing from the presence of the Lord will never come to hearts filled with impurity. May God help us to die to self, that Christ, the hope of glory, may be formed within! I must have the Spirit of God in my heart. I can never go forward to do the great work of God, unless the Holy Spirit rests upon my soul. "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God." The

day of judgment is upon us. O that we may wash our robes of character, and make them white in the blood of the Lamb!

Evangelism, p. 701

Today you are to have your vessel purified, that it may be ready for the heavenly dew, ready for the showers of the latter rain; for the latter rain will come, and the blessing of God will fill every soul that is purified from every defilement.

The Adventist Home, p. 240

The mother's influence is an unceasing influence; and if it is always on the side of right, her children's characters will testify to her moral earnestness and worth. Her smile, her encouragement, may be an inspiring force. She may bring sunshine to the heart of her child by a word of love, a smile of approval. . . .

The Review and Herald, May 4, 1886

A religion of simple faith in the all-atoning, sacrifice of Christ, and of implicit obedience to God's moral rule of right, will make the household such a one as Heaven can smile upon. It will be productive of purity and peace; for they are obeying that Guide who came from heaven to earth to lead erring man to the mansions above.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 7, p. 46

It is the privilege of every one who has a part in any branch of the Lord's work to know that his sins are forgiven, and to rejoice in the assurance of a higher life in the courts above. This hope is more precious than silver or gold or precious stones. Keep this hope ever bright, and seek to impart it to others. In the knowledge that God's smile rests upon you, your heart will be filled with joy and peace.

The Review and Herald, October 11, 1887

There are many who view themselves as defective in character when they look into God's moral mirror, his law; but they have heard so much of "All you have to do is to believe, only believe that Jesus has done it all, and you have nothing to do in the matter," that after venturing to look into the mirror they straightway go from it retaining all their defects, with the words on their lips, "Jesus has done it all." These are represented by the figure that James has marked out--the man beholding himself and going away and forgetting what manner of man he was. "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." James has told what is to be done: "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls." Faith and works are the two oars that must be used to urge the bark against the current of worldliness, pride, and vanity; and if these are not used, the boat will drift with the current downward to perdition. God help us to take care of the inward adorning; to set the heart in order as carefully as we arrange the outward apparel.

Conclusion

If Mr. Prewitt had read these statements, perhaps he would not have asked the questions or made the comments that he did.

The Herald's test

Prewitt says: (see Appendix I)

"The way the Herald understands John's test, a false prophet can be tested by asking him 'Did Jesus come in the fallen nature of Adam, or not?' If the prophet says 'yes' then he is a true prophet.

"Yikes. Either the devil is supernaturally forbidden to say 'yes' in that scenario, or this is a false test. And not only must the devil be forbidden to say 'yes', every lying man, every schizoid, every hired 'prophet' must be absolutely forbidden to say 'yes, I believe Jesus came in the flesh.' "

God says:

The Signs of the Times, September 3, 1894

"Through evil spirits they receive communications, and accept them as messages from their lost loved ones. Satan and his agents personate their dead friends, and thus impart to them Satanic delusions. But God has given us a rule whereby to test what is truth. The prophet says: "To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." "He that is of God heareth God's word." "We are of God; he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error." "But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." "If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God; 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."

Summation

Ellen White considered 1 John 4:1-3 a valid test of a true or false spirit.

Conclusion

1 John 4:1-3 is a valid test of a true or false spirit. However, it does not stand alone. Other biblical tests must be passed as well. The Herald passes these tests.

Chapter Conclusion

Mr. Prewitt spends a lot of time trying to make it appear that Ernie is a false prophet, but his arguments are not supported by God's Word. Where is a "Thus saith the Lord"? Where is a "to the law and to the testimony"? Have we as a church forgotten how to test a prophet? Or is it simply a matter that there are no discrepancies between Ernie's dreams and the Bible so extra-biblical tests need to be used to reject God's messages?

Appendix J lists a number of prophets from the Bible that had something objectionable about their calling and ministry. With Mr. Prewitt's reasoning, we would have to reject every one of them.

God sent many warnings to His church through Ellen White to repent, but these warnings have not been heeded. He now sends the same warnings through Ernie Knoll to heed the Laodicean message because Jesus is about to return. Will we accept the messages or will we, like the Jews, reject the Savior's plea?

As Eugene Prewitt himself stated, "True prophets may appear false because of my misunderstanding of scripture." Agreed.

In closing this chapter, the following quote appropriately sums up the position of those who dare to reject God's messages through Ernie's dreams.

Counsels for the Church, p. 93

Satan has ability to suggest doubts and to devise objections to the pointed testimony that God sends, and many think it a virtue, a mark of intelligence in them, to be unbelieving and to question and quibble. Those who desire to doubt will have plenty of room. God does not propose to remove all occasion for unbelief. He gives evidence, which must be carefully investigated with a humble mind and a teachable spirit, and all should decide from the weight of evidence. God gives sufficient evidence for the candid mind to believe; but he who turns from the weight of evidence because there are a few things which he cannot make plain to his finite understanding will be left in the cold, chilling atmosphere of unbelief and questioning doubts, and will make shipwreck of faith.

Chapter 5

David Gates

Introduction

Counsels on Sabbath School Work, p. 28

...if a message comes that you do not understand, take pains that you may hear the reasons the messenger may give, comparing scripture with scripture, that you may know whether or not it is sustained by the word of God. If you believe that the positions taken have not the word of God for their foundation, if the position you hold on the subject cannot be controverted, then produce your strong reasons; for your position will not be shaken by coming in contact with error. There is no virtue or manliness in keeping up a continual warfare in the dark, closing your eyes lest you may see, closing your ears lest you may hear, hardening your heart in ignorance and unbelief lest you may have to humble yourselves and acknowledge that you have received light on some points of truth.

Luke 6:47-49

Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.

David Gates is known and loved by many. His amazing stories of faith have been an inspiration for many to step out and do mighty things for God. In April 2008, David Gates' newsletter encouraged his readers to read Ernie Knoll's dreams. Around that same time, he presented a sermon entitled "The Converging Crises," in which he spent considerable time promoting the dreams. This sermon was posted on the internet and stands as a testimony of how deeply David Gates was convicted Ernie Knoll's dreams were of God. You can find the sermon on Google videos at the following link:

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=224991966031123925&ei=HgroSM2dNpGu-AH7x80F&q=david+gates+converging+crisis#>

Approximately one month later in his May 2008 newsletter, David Gates told his readers that he no longer believed Ernie Knoll's dreams to be from God. He did not offer any reason why he had come to this conclusion, apart from a letter he included in his newsletter which he had received from someone known as Laura Lee Jones. Her letter is covered in great detail in chapter 8 and can be found in its entirety in an appendix.

Ellen White has counseled us to beware of spreading false reports which have not been verified. She says that those who spread these reports are connecting themselves with the arch-deceiver.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 9, p. 23

Those who have been unwilling to receive the true testimonies of God, notwithstanding that these testimonies have been in the field for so many years, who know not the voice of the Lord, may listen to the voice of a stranger, and receive from a poor, deceived, unbalanced human agent what is supposed to be truth. What is the chaff to the wheat? Know that you are on trial for spiritual life, and accept no delusive sentiments. God save His people from Satan's snare.--Letter 61a, 1900, pp. 4,6,7. (To G. A. Irwin, April 23, 1900.)

Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 72

It matters not how blameless the character and life of those who speak to the people the words of God; this procures for them no credit. And why? Because they tell the people the truth. This, brethren, is my offense. But if a false report is circulated, if by some inference or conjecture an imputation is cast upon the character of Christ's ambassador, with what absurd credulity is it received! How many are ready to magnify and spread the slander! Such are revealing their real character. "He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God" (John 8:47).

Counsels to Writers and Editors, p. 49

False reports will be circulated, and some will be taken in this snare. They will believe these rumors, and in their turn will repeat them, and thus a link will be formed connecting them with the archdeceiver. This spirit will not always be manifested in an open defiance of the messages that God sends, but a settled unbelief is expressed in many ways. Every false statement that is made feeds and strengthens this unbelief, and through this means many souls will be balanced in the wrong direction.--Testimonies, Vol. 5, pp. 295, 296. (1885.)

Who is David Gates?

David Gates is the head of Gospel Ministries International (GMI), a faith based, volunteer-driven organization based in Collegedale, Tennessee. GMI directs and supports medical aviation programs in Guyana, Venezuela, Bolivia, and Norway. It also maintains 6 schools that provide basic education and industrial

training in Guyana, Venezuela, Bolivia, and Peru. GMI's largest ministry is through 3 television networks, Advenir Spanish Television Network (ASTN), Adevir Portuguese Television Network (APTN) and the Caribbean Family Network (CFN).

David Gates' initial thoughts of Ernie's dreams

Gates says:

"The other website that has the experiences and dreams of the church elder Ernie Knolls is his name is 4hispeople.com." "I have them all on my computer and I share them with people, I am releasing a link to it on our web page, it is always a risky thing, it is always a risky thing endorsing somebody who is having dreams, but I have already dealt with about 7 or 8 pastors on it, and every one of us agree, they're all scared, but they all agree this is of God. So once you make that decision, you can't play games." "I am standing with it, I am taking my neck way out. But you know, every time you stick your neck out for something that is Godly, God always honors you. You don't get nailed, you get honored." "When there is a reform message and a revival message, it's always going to have difficulties to advance, so let's get used to it." Reference: The Converging Crises Part 2 (53:20 and forward) <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=224991966031123925&ei=HgroSM2dNpGu-AH7x80F&q=david+gates+converging+crisis#>

April 2008

Front Line Mission Report (Second monthly report)

"THE DREAMS OF ERNIE KNOLL (www.4hispeople.com)

"Some months ago I included a link to the web page of Brother Ernie Knoll which contained some of his experiences and dreams. I did this after carefully reviewing the material with several pastor friends and having found them to be in harmony with scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy. I soon received several letters warning that one of the dreams was not in harmony with the recommendations of the Spirit of Prophecy regarding the use of tithing since the angel in the dream reported that God will hold his people accountable if they know the funds are not being used in accordance to His will (www.4hispeople.com/Stand_Fast.pdf). Brother Knoll was urged to "test the spirits" according to 1 John 4:1-3. This is what happened in the dream dated April 12, 2008 (www.4hispeople.com/Love_and_Rebuke.pdf). Though credibility in the divine inspiration is usually greatly increased in those who read this last dream, please continue to carefully screen all future dreams. So long as they remain harmonious to God's Word as they have been so far, they have the potential to awaken the church and unite it in its mission and focus. The Bridegroom IS coming. Get ready!"

Conclusion

Up until April 2008, David Gates fully endorsed Ernie Knoll's dreams. He promoted them in his newsletters and in public meetings. At this stage, Ernie had been given 30 dreams. The tithe issue that many like Ed Reid, Steve Wohlberg and Eugene Prewitt were opposed to was not a problem with David

Gates (that has to say something). According to David Gates, about 7 or 8 pastors he consulted with agreed that Ernie's dreams were of God.

David Gates' comments after the Laura Lee Jones letter

Gates says:

May 2008

WHY I NO LONGER AM ABLE TO SUPPORT THE DIVINE ORIGIN OF THE DREAMS OF ERNIE KNOLL

"On two previous reports I have included information regarding Ernie Knoll and his web page containing the dreams. I did so only after consultation with trusted friends and careful reading of his dreams posted on the web site. We found no serious problems with the material posted on the web up to that time.

"When I believe something to be of God, I take steps to support it. Yet, in cases like this, I have realized that delay in taking a position would have proved beneficial. A first-hand testimonial recently sent to me by a reader (attached) as well as forwarded letters by persons I trust and respect, have convinced us that our initial evaluation in support of the dreams was mistaken.

"I know that many people have been blessed through the mission stories and personal testimonies in my newsletters. It is my prayer that even in this error and correction, God will find a way to benefit the readers, for it shows how we, as humans, need each other for support and correction.

"It is a common tactic of the enemy to bring in the false just prior to the real. Let us not fall into his trap by becoming allergic to all dreams and visions as they are promised of God in these last days. Remain alert and close to your Shepherd and He will guide us faithfully through the rough waters ahead to a safe harbor."

David Gates admits that he and others supported Ernie's dreams after carefully reading them. They found no serious problems in the dreams. It wasn't until he had received a "first-hand testimonial" as well as some forwarded letters from people he trusted, that he changed his mind and rejected the dreams.

What God told Ernie

Repent as I am Coming, November 12, 2008

God knows how she [Laura Lee Jones] contacted David Gates and spoke with a lying tongue, convincing him to follow her--a woman that is led by Satan, the prince of deception. Yes, even the very elect are deceived. David Gates then sinned against God by not following the direction he had been shown in Matthew 18:15. He did not come to you and verify as to the validity of the comments made by LJ. Even though our Father works with him he was wrong in not following the counsel given in the Bible.

Fact

David Gates failed to follow the Bible counsel of Matthew 18:15 and has been instrumental in leading many to reject Ernie's dreams.

God says:

Matthew 18:15

Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

The Review and Herald, May 12, 1903

Christ is represented by those whom he sends forth to work for him; therefore those who oppose his ministers are opposing him. This is just as verily the case when those who claim to have an experience in the things of God pursue a course that hinders and afflicts one of God's servants, by misstatements and false charges, setting themselves up as judges of his course of action, which they claim to understand, but which has been misrepresented to them, and which, therefore, they do not understand.

Let our people remember that the way in which they treat the Lord's workers means much to them. Let every one attend to his own work, and not regard himself as appointed by the Lord to watch for something to criticize in the work that his brother does. If a worker sees that a fellow laborer is in danger of doing wrong, let him go to him, and point out his danger, listening kindly and patiently to any explanation that may be offered. He dishonors the Saviour when, instead of doing this, he tells others of the mistakes that he thinks his fellow worker is making.

My brother, my sister, you are forbidden to make the mistakes of a fellow worker the subject of conversation. By speaking evil of another, you sow the seeds of criticism and denunciation. You can not afford to do this. Go to the one who you think is in the wrong, and tell him his fault "between thee and him alone." If he will hear you, and can explain the matter to you, how glad you will be that you did not take up a reproach against him, but followed instead the Saviour's directions.

Let us refuse to bear evil reports concerning our fellow laborers. The reputation of men and women is held of high value by him who gave his life to save souls. He has told us how those in fault should be dealt with. No one is sufficiently wise to improve on God's plan.

Fact

God has warned us not to put our trust in men.

God says:

Psalms 146:3

Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help.

Psalms 118:8-9

It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.

Isaiah 2:22

Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?

Jeremiah 17:5-7

Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

Summation

The Bible teaches we are not to trust what man says. David Gates failed to heed this warning and the counsel to go to your brother first. Instead he listened to Laura Lee Jones' false accusations. This letter is discussed in greater detail in [chapter 8](#).

Conclusion

David Gates provides only the letter of Laura Lee Jones as evidence for why he suddenly rejected Ernie's dreams. He does mention other letters, but does not give any detail about what they might have said. Considering he is an influential person in Adventism, it leaves one wondering if just the letter from Laura Lee Jones is what led him to reject the dreams, since there is no other evidence.

What did Laura Lee Jones say to convince David Gates?

As you will see in [chapter 8](#), Laura Lee Jones' letter makes a lot of accusations against Ernie Knoll and provides no proof to support them. Much of it is recounting a phone conversation she had with Ernie and a meeting he had with a number of people where she was not present. Some points her letter raises include:

- God told Ernie the sealing of the 144,000 started in 1844.
- Ernie then changed his mind and said God didn't tell him that.
- Ernie has changed the dreams so that it doesn't contradict Scripture.
- Ernie believes his dreams over the Spirit of Prophecy.
- Ernie lied to her.
- Ernie has people weeding out the errors in his dreams before they are published.
- Ernie does not call people to repentance.
- Ernie's dreams are filled with errors.

If true, all of these points would be enough to prove that Ernie was a false prophet. But the truth is, Laura Lee Jones provides no proof to support her claims. Why then did David Gates accept her testimony without first going to Ernie? Even worse, It would appear that David Gates listened to Laura Lee Jones' false accusations and never bothered to check out who she is and what she believes. If he had done so, he may never have published her letter.

What does Laura Lee Jones believe?

Laura Lee Jones claims on her website to be a Seventh-day Adventist (www.4angelspublications.com). However, many may be shocked to find out

that she does not keep the seventh-day Sabbath. Yes, she may quote Ellen White and sound like an Adventist, but she has been deceived by the devil. For her, the Sabbath falls on different days through the year based on the moon. Some of those days may even be Sunday.

Jones believes:

The Sabbath does not always fall on Saturday, the 7th day

“Their belief is that the "true" system of counting time is tied to what is called a "lunisolar" calendar, based upon both the sun and phases of the moon. They contend every new moon restarts the seven-day cycle, rather than having a continuous seven-day cycle which currently runs the world.

“ ‘I could have gone my whole life and such a concept would have never occurred to me,’ says Laura Lee Vornholt-Jones, a 39-year-old full-time mother in Spokane, Wash., who has adjusted her traditional Seventh-Day Adventist outlook of Saturday observance to this alternate method since learning of it in late 2006. ‘It was Earth-shattering to say the least.’

Vornholt-Jones has posted this theory on her 4AngelsPublications website, where she offers her book on the issue, ‘The Great Calendar Controversy,’ for sale and for free viewing online.

“She told WND she still observes a Sabbath – that is to say, a biblical day of rest – every seven days; but she says the precise day of the week for that Sabbath actually floats from month to month when compared to the Gregorian calendar commonly used today.

The theory suggests whatever day of the week the new moon occurs on, that particular day becomes "Day One" of the month.

Then, count seven days from Day One until you reach the initial Sabbath of the month, which would always be on the eighth calendar day of the month. The next day of rest would be on the 15th, then the 22nd and 29th.” Source: <http://www.wnd.com/?pageId=73013>

Ernie’s dream says:

Repent, as I am Coming, November 12, 2008

The Father has seen how the one who calls herself LJ-- Laura Lee Jones--follows the observance of feast days and the lunar Sabbaths even though she has been shown that this is wrong. She does not listen to the voice of God the Father but the voice of the father of lies. She misconstrued comments you made and used them against you.

Fact

The Bible says God made the seventh-day of the creation week the Sabbath day.

God says:

Genesis 2:1-3

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

Exodus 20:10-11

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: 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.

Life Sketches, pp. 95-96

Elder Bates was resting upon Saturday, the seventh day of the week, and he urged it upon our attention as the true Sabbath. I did not feel its importance, and thought that he erred in dwelling upon the fourth commandment more than upon the other nine.

But the Lord gave me a view of the heavenly sanctuary. The temple of God was open in heaven, and I was shown the ark of God covered with the mercy seat. Two angels stood one at either end of the ark, with their wings spread over the mercy seat, and their faces turned toward it. This, my accompanying angel informed me, represented all the heavenly host looking with reverential awe toward the law of God, which had been written by the finger of God.

Jesus raised the cover of the ark, and I beheld the tables of stone on which the ten commandments were written. I was amazed as I saw the fourth commandment in the very center of the ten precepts, with a soft halo of light encircling it. Said the angel, "It is the only one of the ten which defines the living God who created the heavens and the earth and all things that are therein."

When the foundations of the earth were laid, then was also laid the foundation of the Sabbath. I was shown that if the true Sabbath had been kept, there would never have been an infidel or an atheist. The observance of the Sabbath would have preserved the world from idolatry.

The Review and Herald, May 11, 1876

Another brother says it is only a few months since he has been enlightened in regard to the truth by reading a Review. He received the Signs of the Times also; and became convicted through reading these papers that Saturday was the Sabbath of the Lord. He felt that he must have something more than merely the light upon the Sabbath. He wanted to know some things for himself which had never been told him. He offered his first prayer forty miles from home while in camp. He sought the Lord then and there, and had come to this meeting to obtain further light and to follow it. This brother received the ordinance of baptism, and fully identified himself with this people.

Summation

The first Sabbath was not based on the phases of the moon. It was based upon the fact that God rested on the seventh day of Creation. The moon was created on the fourth day, so it cannot have any bearing on the Sabbath. Laura Lee Jones has been deceived. Her teachings do not hold up to the Bible.

Chapter conclusion

Since David Gates is respected by many around the world, we would have expected him to provide solid proof for his sudden turnaround regarding Ernie Knoll's dreams. He must realize that because of his position, what he says influences many people. In providing Laura Lee Jones' letter as the only evidence for rejecting the dreams, David Gates has supported someone who is deceived by Satan. This could have been avoided if he had followed the counsel God has given in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Sadly, David Gates did not contact Ernie Knoll to find out if what Laura Lee Jones had written was correct. The question must be asked: Will David Gates acknowledge his sin and try to make amends?

The Review and Herald, July 18, 1893

For years the Spirit of God has reproved and exhorted the professed followers of Christ, and has left us without excuse in pursuing evil ways, in criticising and finding fault with the message and the messenger whom God has sent. Shall we who cannot read the secrets of the heart reject the message of reproof, and presume to say that we are without fault? It is perilous to permit prejudice to arise in your hearts and speak against those upon whom sacred responsibility is laid, permitting yourselves to be influenced by a report that has come to your ears of which you have never sought for an explanation from the one accused.

*Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers:
for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?
and what communion hath light with darkness?
2 Corinthians 6:14*

Chapter 6

Vance Ferrell

Introduction

In July 2008, Elder Vance Ferrell published an eight page letter entitled, "Letter to Ernie Knoll, The man who receives supernatural dreams—Discovering where the dreams come from." It was published in his newsletter and is based on an open letter from Linda Kirk to Ernie. Thus throughout this chapter, the reader will be referred to chapter 7 regarding Linda. Elder Ferrell failed to follow the Bible counsel of Matthew 18:15 by never contacting Ernie and going by hearsay.

The Review and Herald, July 18, 1893

For years the Spirit of God has reproved and exhorted the professed followers of Christ, and has left us without excuse in pursuing evil ways, in criticising and finding fault with the message and the messenger whom God has sent. Shall we who cannot read the secrets of the heart reject the message of reproof, and presume to say that we are without fault? It is perilous to permit prejudice to arise in your hearts and speak against those upon whom sacred responsibility is laid, permitting yourselves to be influenced by a report that has come to your ears of which you have never sought for an explanation from the one accused.

Whenever we take the false accusations of another and spread those accusations without confirming them, we are aiding the enemy in his work.

Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 72

It matters not how blameless the character and life of those who speak to the people the words of God; this procures for them no credit. And why? Because they tell the people the truth. This, brethren, is my offense. But if a false report is circulated, if by some inference or conjecture an imputation is cast upon the character of Christ's ambassador, with what absurd credulity is it received! How many are ready to magnify and spread the slander! Such are revealing their real character. "He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God" (John 8:47).

Counsels to Writers and Editors, p. 49

False reports will be circulated, and some will be taken in this snare. They will believe these rumors, and in their turn will repeat them, and thus a link will be formed connecting them with the archdeceiver. This spirit will not always be manifested in an open defiance of the messages that God sends, but a settled unbelief is expressed in many ways. Every false statement that is made feeds and strengthens this unbelief, and through this means many souls will be balanced in the wrong direction.

We are dismayed to see how Elder Ferrell magnified Linda's slander, how far he went trying to prove Ernie as a false prophet, and then circulated his false report.

Who is Vance Ferrell?

Elder Vance Ferrell is a long-time Seventh-day Adventist who has a website and publishes low-cost Spirit of Prophecy books for widespread distribution. He has been a canvasser, teacher, and a pastor. He received a B.A., M.A., and B.D. in theology and Biblical Languages, while attending Pacific Union College and Andrews University, plus training in professional education.

Astonished at Linda Kirk's letter to Ernie Knoll

Ferrell says: (see [Appendix K](#))

"A copy of an Open Letter to Ernie Knoll was given to me several days ago. Upon carefully reading it, I am astonished at what I discovered. Since it is nineteen full pages in length, it is too large to reprint. So, in this brief report, I am going to provide you with its basic message—and it is an important one.

"The letter was written by Linda Kirk to Ernie Knoll, who claims to regularly have dreams given him by an angel of God for the Advent people.

"Since the spring of 2005, Ernie has had a series of dreams which he claims are inspired by God.

"Linda first learned of his dreams from an e-mail sent her by a friend in late August or early September of 2007. Casting aside all caution, and hoping he might be a 'last-day prophet,' she obtained Ernie's phone number and spoke with him.

"Hoping that he might have special light from God for God's people today, she became a 'strong supporter' of Ernie's dreams. Soon she became even more deeply involved."

Fact

We are astonished that Elder Ferrell would be astonished after reading a letter from just one person and taking it as gospel truth, without verifying the facts straight from the source (Ernie).

Why would Elder Ferrell see Linda as "casting aside all caution" when God's Word instructs that we are to "quench not the Spirit; despise not prophesying; prove all things; hold fast that which is good." 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21. However, instead of speaking with Ernie and observing him, she should have followed this advice: "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah 8:20. Did

Elder Ferrell fail to do the same thing and instead just went by Linda's hearsay? We certainly would not expect this of a trained pastor.

It is difficult to imagine Linda as a "strong supporter" with all the doubts she expressed about Ernie's dreams. As you can see from [chapter 7](#), Linda's "first-hand information" is nothing but accusations to destroy Ernie's character.

God says:

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, pp. 105-106

Those who allow prejudice to bar the mind against the reception of truth cannot receive the divine enlightenment. Yet, when a view of Scripture is presented, many do not ask, Is it true--in harmony with God's word? but, By whom is it advocated? And unless it comes through the very channel that pleases them, they do not accept it. So thoroughly satisfied are they with their own ideas that they will not examine the Scripture evidence with a desire to learn, but refuse to be interested, merely because of their prejudices.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 17, p. 65

The light I have for our [ministers](#) is: Seek God; [stop your whisperings](#) and [your evil surmisings](#) instigated by Satan, and see if the love of God will not fill heart and soul.

Summary

If Elder Ferrell was familiar with what was just quoted, he willingly ignored it. We must be very careful when meeting something for the first time. Our expressions of caution, God may see as doubt, since He knows where our thoughts will lead. In addition, we must be on guard that our prejudices and biases may lead us away rather than towards Jesus.

Conclusion

Elder Ferrell begins quoting Linda's letter to Ernie right away, as if one of the apostles wrote it. The very first paragraph leads people to think that what they are about to read regarding Ernie is conclusive evidence his dreams are not from God. Instead of questioning Linda's motives, Elder Ferrell directs his bias and skepticism only towards Ernie. Elder Ferrell's conclusions are heavily influenced by a woman who did not keep a promise to Ernie and used false assumptions to discredit Ernie and his dreams, without verifying the facts or finding additional information in God's Word. The only safe course we can take is by following the instructions God has given us on how to test a prophet. If we follow this instruction, we will not be deceived. Sadly, Linda and Elder Ferrell have not followed this counsel. Instead, they resort to character assassination.

Ernie's visit with Linda

Ferrell says: (see [Appendix K](#))

"Ernie claims to be a godly man—When Ernie came to visit Linda and her husband, they learned a lot about him."

Fact

What Ernie states is that God has given him messages for His people. Ernie has never said he is a godly or perfect man. Ernie prayed and God answered with a dream to help not only himself but all of us, including Linda and Elder Ferrell. We must remember that every one of us still struggles against sin.

Prophets and great men of the Bible were no different than the rest of us. This is covered in greater detail in chapter 2 of volume 2. However, we will summarize some points as follows.

- God still called Abraham a prophet (Genesis 20:7) even after he lied to Abimelech.
- Jacob deceived his father (Genesis 27) and God appeared to him in a dream not long after this (Genesis 28:10-20) assuring him that he would be blessed.
- Nebuchadnezzar received a dream from God (Daniel 2) and yet this king was a pagan.
- Jonah was called to deliver a message to Ninevah (Jonah 1:2), yet he disobeyed God and fled in the opposite direction. God did not cast Jonah off, but continued to work through him.
- Peter had walked with Christ for three and half years, but eventually denied Him. However God did not reject Peter but used him mightily.
- Paul was persecuting the early Christians, yet God gave him a vision that converted him (Acts 9). From that time God endowed special blessings upon him and he became one of the most well known missionaries for the Christian church.

In the following account of Ellen White's first dream, ask yourself if you would have believed it was from God based on the condition she was in.

God says:

Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 2, pp. 15-17

In 1842 I constantly attended the Second Advent meetings in Portland, and fully believed the Lord was coming. I was hungering and thirsting for holiness of heart; day and night it was my study how to obtain this treasure that all the riches of the world could not purchase. And while bowed before the Lord, praying for this blessing, the duty to pray in a prayer-meeting was presented before me. I had never prayed vocally, and was not humble enough to do this, fearing that if I should attempt to pray, I should become confused and be obliged to stop, or my prayer be very broken. Every time I went before the Lord in secret prayer this unfulfilled duty presented itself, until I ceased to pray, for in this state of mind my prayers seemed like mocking God. I settled down in a melancholy state which increased to deep despair.

In this state of mind I remained three weeks, with not one ray of light to pierce the thick clouds of darkness around me. My sufferings were very great. How precious did the hope of the christian look to me then. And how wretched the state of the sinner without God or hope in the world. I remained bowed before the Lord nearly all night, groaning, and all I had any confidence to utter was, "Lord, have mercy." Such utter hopelessness would seize me that I would fall upon my face with such agony of feelings as cannot be described. Like the poor publican, I dared not so much as lift my eyes toward heaven. I became much reduced in flesh. My friends looked upon me as one sinking in a decline. At length a dream was given me which sunk me still lower in despair, if possible.

I dreamed that there was a temple to which many people were flocking, and all who would be saved when time should close must be within that temple. And all who were outside the temple would be lost. As I looked upon the people going to the temple, I saw the multitude laughing at and deriding them, telling them that it was all a deception. They even caught hold of some who were hastening to the temple and tried to hold them.

I was afraid of being laughed at and ridiculed, and thought I would wait until the multitude were dispersed, or until I could go in some way that they would not know where I was going. My mind was troubled lest I should be too late, and the multitude was increasing instead of lessening. I hastily left my home and pressed through the crowd. I was in such haste that I did not notice the throng. I feared I was too late. I entered the building, and what a sight met my eyes! The temple was supported by one immense pillar, and to this pillar was a lamb tied, all mangled and bleeding. I thought that we all knew that it was our sins that caused this lamb to be thus torn and bruised. Just before this lamb were seats elevated above the level of the floor, and a company of people were sitting there looking very happy. All who entered the temple must come before the lamb and confess their sins, and then take their place among the happy throng who occupied the elevated seats. Even while in the building a fear came over me and shame to have them all looking upon me. I was slowly making my way around the pillar to face the lamb, when the trumpet sounded, and the building shook, and shouts of triumph went up from the saints in that building. The temple seemed to shine with awful brightness, and then all was dark, terrible dark. Those who had seemed so happy were gone, and I left alone in the place in complete darkness. The horror of my mind could not be described. I awoke, and it was some time before I could convince myself it was not a reality. Surely, thought I, my doom is fixed, I have slighted mercy, and grieved the Spirit of the Lord away, never more to return.

Conclusion

The Bible says that “holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.” 2 Peter 1:21. This does not mean they were without faults. Elder Ferrell and Linda have stereotyped Ernie as someone not good enough to be a prophet. God’s prophets, such as Abraham, Moses, and David struggled with sin, just as the rest of us, but they remained prophets for God. Ernie is no different. Would Elder Ferrell and Linda have treated them the same way they have treated Ernie? When Linda states that she learned a lot about Ernie during a weekend visit, it reveals that she received wrong impressions of Ernie and had the wrong preconceived ideas of what a prophet is like. How can one learn a lot about someone in just one weekend?

Asking questions in dreams

Ferrell says: (see [Appendix K](#))

“The angel told Ernie he could ask any mundane questions, and he would answer them—That is not how angels communicate God’s messages to mankind! They give what God has told them to say, instead of listening to and answering mundane questions.

“Linda also wondered how Ernie could remember which questions to ask when he was sound asleep.”

Fact

Where is the proof that the angel told Ernie he could ask any “mundane” questions and they would be answered? There is none because it never happened and Ernie never stated that. This is a perfect example of distorting the truth the more it is repeated. The actual truth is that sometimes other people or Ernie and Becky would pray for answers and that if it was God’s will He would answer, whether in a dream or in another way. Linda and Elder Ferrell have falsely concluded and accused Ernie and the angel of something that was never said.

Here is an excerpt from chapter 7: Becky is periodically able to hear Ernie talking aloud in his dreams. As yet, she has not heard him asking a question, only making statements or partial statements. Perhaps the questions are just a part of the dreams and God already knows what Ernie would ask in those situations. How it all works we do not know for sure, but we do know that it happens. Just because we do not understand something, does not make it false. Linda, if God gave you the opportunity, would you not want to ask questions of Jesus or an angel in a dream? Ellen White and Bible prophets freely asked God questions in their dreams or visions, whether aloud or not, as seen in the following quotes.

God says:

Matthew 7:7

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

Daniel 7:16

I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

Broadside1, April 6, 1846

And as we were gazing at the glories of the place our eyes were attracted upwards to something that had the appearance of silver. I asked Jesus to let me see what was within there... And I saw a veil with a heavy fringe of silver and gold as a border on the bottom; it was very beautiful. I asked Jesus what was within the veil... As we were travelling along, we met a company who were also gazing at the glories of the place. I noticed red as a border on their garments; their crowns were brilliant; their robes were pure white. As we greeted them, I asked Jesus who they were? He said they were martyrs that had been slain for him.... And I saw the fruit of the tree of life, the manna, almonds, figs, pomegranates, grapes, and many other kinds of fruit. We all reclined at the table. I asked Jesus to let me eat of the fruit. He said, not now. Those who eat of the fruit of this land, go back to earth no more... I asked Jesus if his Father had a form like himself. He said he had, but I could not behold it, for said he if you should once behold the glory of his person you would cease to exist.

Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White, pp. 101-102

I asked my attending angel for an explanation of what I saw. He told me that I could see no more then, but he would shortly show me what those things that I then saw meant.

I asked my accompanying angel the meaning of what I heard, and what the four angels were about to do.

Early Writings, p. 88

Then he showed me the conductor, who appeared like a stately, fair person, whom all the passengers looked up to and revered. I was perplexed and asked my attending angel who it was. He said, "It is Satan..."

I asked the angel if there were none left. He bade me look in an opposite direction, and I saw a little company traveling a narrow pathway.

Ibid., p. 127

I asked the angel why there was no more faith and power in Israel.

Ibid., p. 176

I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen, and was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the True Witness to the Laodiceans.

Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 4b, pp. 2-3

I asked the angel why simplicity had been shut out from the church, and pride and exaltation come in. I saw that this is the reason why we have almost been delivered into the hand of the enemy.

I asked the angel if the frown of God had been upon his people for commencing the Sabbath as they have. I was directed back to the first rise of the Sabbath.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 178

I asked the angel if that darkness was necessary. Said he: "Look ye!" I then saw the church begin to rise, and earnestly plead with God, and rays of light began to penetrate this darkness, and the cloud was removed.

Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White, p. 253

ALTHOUGH MRS. WHITE OFTEN SPOKE WHILE IN VISION, YET NO BREATH CAME FROM HER LIPS.

Ellen G. White: The Early Years, Vol. 1, p. 150

At times Ellen White, while in vision, spoke in short exclamations of what she was viewing. These gave clues to her companions as to the scenes passing before her. It was so in this case, and Joseph Bates, with pencil and paper in hand, noted the words as she spoke. Here are significant portions of Bates's notes:

Where did the light break out? ----- Let thine angel teach us where the light broke out! ----- It commenced from a little, when Thou didst give one light after another. ----- The

testimony and commandments are linked together; they cannot be separated. ----- That comes first, the ten commandments by God. . . .

Conclusion

It is true Ernie asks many questions in his dreams. The Herald at one time even said patiently that Ernie always has questions. But to conclude that Ernie can ask any mundane question in a dream is false. Elder Ferrell bases this point on Linda's statement and not what he heard Ernie say personally, since he never contacted Ernie. Elder Ferrell failed to thoroughly study God's Word to find the truth. He did not follow God's counsel on how to test a prophet. Knowing that other prophets asked questions in dreams or visions, why is it wrong for Ernie to do the same? Because we do not understand something, does not make it false. "The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law." Deuteronomy 29:29. We do not need to be concerned with those things that God has not revealed to us. Perhaps in His time He will reveal it.

Changing the dreams

Ferrell says: (see [Appendix K](#))

"Changing the dreams—Another thing that disturbed Linda was that, after Ernie told her the angel wanted her to edit the dreams, the angel specifically said she was to type them, and her husband, Brian, was then to check them over. Then she was not to send them to Ernie to verify, but to Ernie's webmaster who was to put them on the internet exactly as received from Linda. But she later found that the description of what was said in the dreams would be significantly changed later before being placed on the internet. So that which finally appeared was not the original content of what Ernie was supposed to have dreamed."

Fact

The following points show that Elder Ferrell made untruthful statements. First of all, neither Ernie nor Linda have said that Linda was to type or edit all of Ernie's dreams. Notice Elder Ferrell implies this by referring to dreams rather than a dream. The fact is that Linda was only asked to edit one dream.

The second point to notice is whether the dream Linda edited was significantly changed as stated by Elder Ferrell. According to what Linda wrote, it was not.

"I then emailed it to the web master. But, I noticed that the dream that was posted had some minor changes made to my edition. I guess the web master felt at liberty to change some things that even you weren't supposed to change."

What agenda is Elder Ferrell pushing? Linda plainly stated in her letter that some "minor changes" were made. Yet Elder Ferrell says the dream was "significantly changed." Where did he get this new information? Or is he taking it upon himself to create as much doubt about Ernie as he can?

The third point is that Linda did not type any of Ernie's dreams as Elder Ferrell suggests. Ernie types his dreams after he receives them. Linda was only to edit the dream.

Ernie's dream says:

The SDA Church, September 28, 2007

After you awake, prepare what I have shown you. Send it to Sister Z [Linda Kirk]. She will serve in editing. When she is finished she is to have her husband review it. He will know if anything has been left out as he has already been shown. When he is in agreement with what has been prepared, it is to be sent straightaway to Brother S for posting for His people.

Sending it straight to Brother S for posting it on the website does not exclude the webmaster from making changes, as can be seen in the following.

Letter to Linda Kirk from Ernie Knoll

"The one item I do want to comment on was the instruction. In the dream I was instructed to invite you to edit the dream (correct spelling, punctuation and sentence structure). You were then to send it to our web administrator and he would upload it to the web site. After receiving the dream, he found typos of spelling and punctuation. These needed to be corrected prior to being placed on the web site. I had already instructed him that I was told he alone was to have the final edit of the dream per instruction from the Herald. This instruction was given to the web administrator while you were still editing the dream."

God says:

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 348

No man is a proper judge of another man's duty. Man is responsible to God; and as finite, erring men take into their hands the jurisdiction of their fellowmen, as if the Lord commissioned them to lift up and cast down, all heaven is filled with indignation. There are strange principles being established in regard to the control of the minds and works of men, by human judges, as though these finite men were gods.

Ibid., p. 493

The Lord has not placed any one of His human agencies under the dictation and control of those who are themselves but erring mortals. He has not placed upon men the power to say, You shall do this, and you shall not do that. . . .

Conclusion

Elder Ferrell clearly distorts the truth. He proves that he has another agenda and is being led by a wrong spirit. As we continue, this same spirit will be seen again.

For additional details, see "Webmaster changing dream?" in [chapter 7](#).

Unintelligible statements

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

“Unintelligible statements—One of Ernie’s unimportant questions to the angel was whether Linda’s husband, Brian, was also receiving those dreams. Of course, he never did. Why would Ernie wonder whether he was also receiving dreams? The angel gave an extremely confusing reply.
 ...”

Fact

Why would Elder Ferrell state that Ernie’s question on the subject of dreams is unimportant or wonder why he would ask that? Anything concerning heavenly matters is important. Just because something is irrelevant to someone does not make it that way for others. We must also wonder why Elder Ferrell would actually state that Brian never had the same dream. Did God show Elder Ferrell that he did not? Or was he with Brian as a witness?

Ernie’s dream says:

The SDA Church, September 28, 2007

He said that many are shown and they share. Many are shown and they are afraid to share. Many are shown and they do not recall. Many are shown and they recall after the appointed time. And many are shown through the Father’s Spirit.

There is nothing confusing about this statement, as Elder Ferrell leads his readers to believe. Hazen Foss was given visions before Ellen White and refused to relate them to others (<http://www.whiteestate.org/books/pay/PAYaxA.html>). At times Ellen White received information from God that she did not recall until the time was right. Ernie experiences the same. Nebuchadnezzar received a dream he could not remember. Brian may have simply just been shown the apostasy as described in “The SDA Church” dream through inspiration of the Holy Spirit, since the subject of apostasy was discussed during Ernie’s visit with Brian and Linda.

God says:

Matthew 13:10-14

And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:

Mark 4:10-12

And when he was alone, they that were about him with the twelve asked of him the parable. And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables: That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.

Conclusion

If something God reveals is not understood at first, do we conclude it is unintelligible? If we did, we would be forced to conclude that parts of the Bible are unintelligible.

For more information, read “Angel’s statement does not make sense” in [chapter 7](#).

Another strange statement?

Ferrell says: (see [Appendix K](#))

“Later in her letter, Linda mentions another strange statement by the angel.”

Linda references the underlined statements in the following.

Ernie’s dream says:

Watch, as I Am Coming, August 14, 2007

Still holding my right hand, we return to the corridor. My angel smiles at me and says, “You which are they are together Hliva.” I ask how he spells that. I tell him that I do not understand what he is trying to tell me or us. I state that I feel I am not appropriate for the task that has been given me—that there are others who are better suited for this. Smiling again the angel explains, “Because you do not understand, you know. If you were to know, you would not understand. All of heaven knows, as well as all of earth, whom God has chosen. The enemy hates you which are they and will want to stop you, but the Father will prevail.”

[Note: The word “Hliva” (meaning “Elijah”) in this case represents the 144,000—“you which are they”—who give the Elijah message.]

The following quotes will shed more light on the meaning of the underlined statements.

Last Day Events, p. 204

He will raise up from among the common people men and women to do His work, even as of old He called fishermen to be His disciples. There will soon be an awakening that will surprise many. Those who do not realize the necessity of what is to be done will be passed by, and the heavenly messengers will work with those who are called the common people, fitting them to carry the truth to many places.

In the last solemn work few great men will be engaged. . . . God will work a work in our day that but few anticipate. He will raise up and exalt among us those who are taught rather by the unction of His Spirit than by the outward training of scientific institutions. These facilities are not to be despised or condemned; they are ordained of God, but they can furnish only the exterior qualifications. God will manifest that He is not dependent on learned, self-important mortals.

Ibid., pp. 205-206

It is discipline of spirit, cleanness of heart and thought that is needed. This is of more value than brilliant talent, tact, or knowledge. An ordinary mind, trained to obey a "Thus saith the Lord," is better qualified for God's work than are those who have capabilities but do not employ them rightly.

The laborers will be qualified rather by the unction of His Spirit than by the training of literary institutions. Men of faith and prayer will be constrained to go forth with holy zeal, declaring the words which God gives them.

Those who receive Christ as a personal Saviour will stand the test and trial of these last days. Strengthened by unquestioning faith in Christ, even the illiterate disciple will be able to withstand the doubts and questions that infidelity can produce, and put to blush the sophistries of scorners.

The Lord Jesus will give the disciples a tongue and wisdom that their adversaries can neither gainsay nor resist. Those who could not, by reasoning, overcome satanic delusions will bear an affirmative testimony that will baffle supposedly learned men. Words will come from the lips of the unlearned with such convincing power and wisdom that conversions will be made to the truth. Thousands will be converted under their testimony.

Why should the illiterate man have this power, which the learned man has not? The illiterate one, through faith in Christ, has come into the atmosphere of pure, clear truth, while the learned man has turned away from the truth. The poor man is Christ's witness. He cannot appeal to histories or to so-called high science, but he gathers from the Word of God powerful evidence. The truth that he speaks under the inspiration of the Spirit is so pure and remarkable and carries with it a power so indisputable that his testimony cannot be gainsaid.

Summation

Few great men will be a part of the last work. Rather it will be those from among the common people, the uneducated, and even the illiterate. God will raise up those who are taught by the Holy Spirit rather than those who are trained in literary institutions and are self-important.

Conclusion

Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work, p. 65

God calls upon those who hold responsible positions in Sabbath-school work to put away all egotism, all self-confidence, and pride of opinion; if a message comes that you do not understand, take pains that you may hear the reasons the messenger may give, comparing scripture with scripture, that you may know whether or not it is sustained by the Word of God. If you believe that the position taken have not the Word of God for their foundation, if the position you hold on the subject can not be controverted, then produce your strong reasons; for your position will not be shaken by coming in contact with error. There is no virtue or manliness in keeping up a continual warfare in the dark, closing your eyes lest you may see, closing your ears lest you may hear, hardening your heart in ignorance and unbelief lest you may have to humble yourselves and acknowledge that you have received light on some points

of truth. To hold yourselves aloof from an investigation of truth is not the way to carry out the Saviour's injunction to "search the Scriptures." Is it digging for hidden treasures to call the result's of some one's labor a mass of rubbish, and make no critical examination to see whether or not there are precious jewels of truth in the collection of thought which you condemn? Will those who have almost everything to learn keep themselves away from every meeting where there is an opportunity to investigate the messages that come to the people, simply because they imagine the views held by the teachers of the truth may be out of harmony with what they have conceived as truth? Thus it was that the Jews did in the days of Christ, and we are warned not to do as they did, and be led to choose darkness rather than light, because there was in them an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God. No one of those who imagine that they know it all is too old or too intelligent to learn from the humblest of the messengers of the living God.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 20, p. 245

Many obtain a surface knowledge of truth or Bible doctrine, and then stop, thinking they know it all. But do they know it all? No; no; God's word is, Go forward, looking unto Jesus, the author and the finisher of your faith.

For additional details, see "Dreams confusing?" in chapter 7.

No religious contacts?

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

"No religious contacts of any kind—Linda also learned that Ernie has almost no religious contacts, shares no literature, or does anything to help and bless others where he is. He just stays to himself; has dreams; and, we will learn later, is either elated or worries."

For additional details, see sections "Researching about Ernie" and "Outreach endeavors" in chapter 7.

We are not sure from where Elder Ferrell gathered his "elated or worries" scenario. However, being elated or worried reminds us of other prophets, as well as every other human being that has lived on this planet.

Unfulfilled predictions?

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

"Predictions that did not come true—Although not major ones, yet none of these ever occurred. One concerned a person who would contact Ernie. The angel said Linda would be one of five people who would verify when it happened."

"But nothing ever happened. Mention is made later in her letter of predictions about Shawn Boonstra and Doug Batchelor, which also did not occur."

Fact

Ernie was not told how long it would take for these predictions to occur. Therefore the predictions have not *yet* failed.

God says:

Jude 1:14 (Jude)

And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

1Thessalonians 4:16-17 (Paul)

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

James 5:7-8 (James)

Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

2 Peter 3:10-12 (Peter)

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

Revelation 6:14-17 (John)

And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Early Writings, p. 58

I saw that the time for Jesus to be in the most holy place was nearly finished and that time can last but a very little longer. What leisure time we have should be spent in searching the Bible, which is to judge us in the last day.

Early Writings, p. 64

Said the angel, "Get ready, get ready, get ready. Ye will have to die a greater death to the world than ye have ever yet died." I saw that there was a great work to do for them and but little time in which to do it. Then I saw that the seven last plagues were soon to be poured out upon those

who have no shelter; yet the world regarded them no more than they would so many drops of water that were about to fall.

Summation

Does Elder Ferrell explain in his newsletters that Jude, Paul, James, Peter, and John are of Satan because Christ has not returned yet? Does he accuse Ellen White of being a false prophet because it has been over 150 years since she wrote that probation was nearly finished? He must realize that God's timing is not the same as man's timing. Interestingly, the wicked are the ones who claim God's promises have failed.

2 Peter 3:3-4

Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

Conclusion

We must remember that God's promises and threatenings are conditional. Everything is in His time and in His way. For information regarding Shawn Boonstra and Doug Batchelor, please see sections "False prophecy?" and "Another false prophecy?" in [chapter 7](#).

Asking for a sign

Ferrell says: (see [Appendix K](#))

*"No answers to Linda's silent prayers—*Since Ernie told her that the angel said that she, Linda, must work closely with him in typing out the dreams, she silently prayed that, if the dreams were true, that God would give her a sign by having him dream certain things. Although this was done repeatedly, no such evidence was ever forthcoming. Ernie's 'angel' was not able to know what was in Linda's silent prayers to God."

Fact

Again, Elder Ferrell is wrong. Linda was only asked to edit one of Ernie's dreams—"The SDA Church," September 28, 2007. She did not type this dream out, but received it after Ernie typed it and was to only correct grammar mistakes.

Furthermore, Linda does not explain in her letter whether her prayer was silent or not. Even if it was silent, this does not prove God was confirming the dreams were of Satan. God has provided clear and simple tests in His word whereby we are to test a prophet. Linda failed to test Ernie's dreams by these tests, and instead used her own tests. See "Chapter Conclusion" in [chapter 7](#). God will never answer our prayers when we fail to use the means He has already provided to test a prophet.

God says:

John 7:17

If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

The Desire of Ages, p. 799

The miracles of Christ are a proof of His divinity; but a stronger proof that He is the world's Redeemer is found in comparing the prophecies of the Old Testament with the history of the New.

Ibid., p. 386

They had seen Christ by the witness of the Holy Spirit, by the revelation of God to their souls. The living evidences of His power had been before them day after day, yet they asked for still another sign. Had this been given, they would have remained as unbelieving as before. If they were not convinced by what they had seen and heard, it was useless to show them more marvelous works. Unbelief will ever find excuse for doubt, and will reason away the most positive proof.

The Youth's Instructor, February 8, 1900

Herod interpreted the silence of Christ as an insult to himself, a contempt for his power. Turning to him, he said: If you will not work a miracle, if you will give no proof of your claims, I will give you up to the soldiers and the people. They may succeed in making you speak. If you are an impostor, death at their hands is only what you merit; if you are the Son of God, save yourself.

Redemption: or the Resurrection of Christ, and His Ascension, p. 27

Jesus began with the first book written by Moses, and traced down through all the prophets the inspired proof in regard to his life, his mission, his suffering, death, and resurrection. He did not deem it necessary to work a miracle to evidence that he was the risen Redeemer of the world; but he went back to the prophecies, and gave a full and clear explanation of them to settle the question of his identity, and the fact that all which had occurred to him was foretold by the inspired writers.

Steps to Christ, p. 119

All this is harming your own soul; for every word of doubt you utter is inviting Satan's temptations; it is strengthening in you the tendency to doubt, and it is grieving from you the ministering angels. When Satan tempts you, breathe not a word of doubt or darkness. If you choose to open the door to his suggestions, your mind will be filled with distrust and rebellious questioning. If you talk out your feelings, every doubt you express not only reacts upon yourself, but it is a seed that will germinate and bear fruit in the life of others, and it may be impossible to counteract the influence of your words. You yourself may be able to recover from the season of temptation and from the snare of Satan, but others who have been swayed by your influence may not be able to escape from the unbelief you have suggested. How important that we speak only those things that will give spiritual strength and life!

Conclusion

Did God refuse to give Linda a sign because she still would have rejected the dreams, just as the Jews still would have rejected Jesus? If Linda had thoroughly studied God's Word to find the answers, there would have been no need to ask for a sign. We are amazed at Elder Ferrell's amazement that God

did not answer her prayers for a sign. Sadly, Elder Ferrell supports Linda's doubts and because of his sphere of influence, has caused untold numbers to doubt as well. Does he really want that responsibility on his shoulders?

Astounding discoveries?

Ferrell says: (see [Appendix K](#))

“There were very astounding discoveries when they personally met Ernie—It was not until Ernie actually visited Linda’s home, and spoke with her group, that she really learned what he was like. Those discoveries fill two full pages of her open letter.

“Other Advent believers in Linda’s area were present that day. They also noticed that Ernie was not really a deep, earnest Christian.

“The next day, on Sabbath afternoon, October 27, 2007, Ernie spoke to her group of believers. Here are some of the things they learned. . . .

“One lady who was present noticed that, upon being questioned, Ernie said something different than what he wrote on his website.”

Fact

It is a shame that Linda mentions only the criticism from her group of believers, not the positive statements. This led Elder Ferrell to immediately judge Ernie and repeat Linda's accusations with even more exaggeration. Rather than bringing glory to God and His messages, they have brought dishonor. We should be very careful how we receive accusations against people since we do not know their hearts. Ellen White was often falsely accused because she was called to rebuke people.

God says:

Evangelism, p. 313

There is one thing that we have no right to do, and that is to judge another man's heart or impugn his motives.

Counsels for the Church, p. 117

Is it Christian charity to gather up every floating report, to unearth everything that will cast suspicion on the character of another, and then take delight in using it to injure him? Satan exults when he can defame or wound a follower of Christ. He is “the accuser of our brethren.” Shall Christians aid him in his work?

Conclusion

God has never given permission for us to judge one another. In taking up Linda's “floating report,” Elder Ferrell has proved that he is a participant with Satan. Satan is called the accuser of the brethren (Revelation 12:10). Those who stoop to use his methods are not following Christ's example.

For additional details, see “Conversation centered around dreams” through to “Talk ego-centric and not spiritual?” in [chapter 7](#).

Not a genuine conversion?

Ferrell says: (see [Appendix K](#))

“There was no indication of ever having had a conversion experience when ‘Christ’ told him he would start having dreams to give to

Adventists—We now come to some of the most astounding facts about Ernie...

“Then followed actual tape-recorded statements by Ernie. He stated that, until December 2006, he was a ‘nominal Adventist’ who did not have a ‘close relationship with Jesus.’ He would work long hours, six days a week, and ‘wasn’t observing the health message at all.’ He had no contact with Adventists throughout the week or on Sabbath. ‘I was putting work before God’...

“On the night of December 9, 2006, Ernie had some kind of illness and thought he was going to die that night—and he seemed to reach a climax in his hatred of God at that time. So he told God to kill him that night...

“This is utterly astonishing! After having spent a number of years in Adventist Church membership, on the very night that Ernie’s hatred of God reached its climax,—he received a dream from a supernatural being, that he was to be a prophet to the Advent people, and was going to receive more dreams which he should share with them! *Can anyone really believe that such dreams are coming from God?*

“Repeatedly, in those dreams, Ernie is praised by the angel, and told that God loves him deeply. Yet there is no evidence that Ernie ever experienced a genuine conversion, before, during, or after starting to have these supernatural dreams. A genuine repentance is founded on heartfelt repentance of sin, confession and forsaking it, and acceptance of the enabling grace of Christ to live a better life—and then to start living it.

“Later in the letter, Linda mentions that, in addition to hating God, he told Him to kill Him that night. —He also challenged Him to talk to him ‘like He did the other prophets.’ *What an open-door invitation for Satan to contact him that night!*” This is what Linda said. . . .”

Fact

As the Bible does not try to hide the appalling sins of God’s people, including prophets, Ernie does not try to hide his spiritual condition before he received his dream of heaven and his commission to share God’s messages with His people. However, Linda and Elder Ferrell have taken Ernie’s description of that night on December 9, 2006 and have twisted it to mean something that never was. Ernie never felt hate toward God, as Elder Ferrell stated. How unfortunate that he did not contact Ernie personally to learn what actually happened that night.

For the record, Ernie has spent most of his life (almost 50 years) as a member of the Adventist Church, not just a “number of years” as Elder Ferrell stated. We can notice a pattern of Elder Ferrell’s to sensationalize matters. Additionally, what we applied to Linda in the following, we apply to Elder Ferrell: His primary focus of accusations is at the subjective and typically unverifiable he said, she said tabloid level. The obvious problem with these kinds of accusations is that it is impossible to sort fact from fiction without a video transcript of events being claimed by Linda. This should be a “red flag” to the reader.

Elder Ferrell asks the question, “Can anyone really believe that such dreams are coming from God?” This is similar to the question Nathanael asked of Jesus in John 1:46, “Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?” It is a shame that Elder Ferrell did not follow Nathanael’s example of seeing for himself. Yes,

Elder Ferrell, there are many who believe the dreams are from God because they have learned not to go by hearsay and gossip. They have faithfully tested the dreams with God's Word and their lives are changing, including Ernie's. As can be evidenced from the testimonials on Ernie's website, many have listened to God's still, small voice in the dreams, not Satan's loud, roaring voice as Elder Ferrell, Linda and many others have done.

Fortunately for us, God knows better than Elder Ferrell why He chooses who He does, such as Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Jonah, Peter, Ellen G. White, and Ernie, etc. Elder Ferrell also fails to mention that God works in supernatural ways to save people. He acts in ways that we do not always understand.

God says:

Isaiah 55:8-9

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Conclusion

We wonder how Elder Ferrell could accuse Ernie of not being converted without any proof. Is he just in a hurry to get out another "story" without first verifying the facts? Whom else has he done this to? While we commend Elder Ferrell's work of calling for the Seventh-day Adventist Church to return to all of its historical beliefs and to rid itself of the apostasy, we wonder if he has become fixated on Adventist sensationalism and gossip whether there is documentation or not? Does he not know this is the work of Satan? Elder Ferrell accuses Ernie of inviting Satan to contact him (which he did not do), yet Elder Ferrell himself has opened the door to Satan.

For additional details, see "Angry with God?" through to "Conversion impossible during sleep?" in chapter 7.

Ernie does not study?

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

"We will later learn that, even at the present time, Ernie expresses little interest in the study of either the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy, and says God has other ways to communicate truth to him..."

"Ernie says Christ appeared to him—Earlier in the letter, Linda said that it would be expected that, although he said that "Christ" appeared to him that night, it could easily be Satan that was speaking to him.

"It is an intriguing fact that (as we will discover later) while Ernie says he does not study the Spirit of Prophecy, and does not need to, yet the messages given him by the "angel" sound very similar to what Ellen White wrote. The demons are well-acquainted with the contents of those books, and they are anxious to deceive as many of God's people as they can."

"After describing that first dream, Ernie tells, in disconnected sentences on the recorded tape, about Jesus coming and talking with him."

Fact

Ernie has never said that he does not study the Bible or the Spirit of Prophecy or that he does not need to. Following is what Ernie was shown in his dream.

The Work Now Begins, December 14, 2007

I tell him that I know Jesus does not make mistakes, but can He send these dreams instead to someone who is important and well versed in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, someone who is better suited for this task.

As for me not having a broad understanding of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, the Herald says that I have a broader understanding than I might know and that because I am not ordained of man does not mean I am not ordained of God...

Do you not know that He is the Great Teacher? When it is time you will share the things you know, along with what you are to share from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.

Elder Ferrell should know that there are other ways that God reveals truth. For additional details, see "Bible never superseded" in chapter 7.

Elder Ferrell says that Ernie's dreams sound very similar to Ellen White's writings. That is because they are from the same Author.

Where is the deception in Ernie's dreams? We have not seen Elder Ferrell prove this from God's Word. As a pastor and teacher, should he not be able to do this? No, simply because there is no deception.

Why does Elder Ferrell mention about Ernie's "disconnected sentences"? Is it a sin to do that once in a while? Would not most people do that while being video recorded without a script, without rehearsing and especially while sharing their personal life?

God says:

The Review and Herald, March 31, 1891

We too often sacrifice the truth in order to be in harmony with custom, that we may avoid ridicule. We do not carry all our burdens to the Lord, but craving human sympathy, we lean on broken reeds, seek to drink from broken cisterns that can hold no water.

The Great Controversy (1911), vi

God has been pleased to communicate His truth to the world by human agencies, and He Himself, by His Holy Spirit, qualified men and enabled them to do this work. He guided the mind in the selection of what to speak and what to write. The treasure was entrusted to earthen vessels, yet it is, nonetheless, from Heaven. The testimony is conveyed through the imperfect expression of human language, yet it is the testimony of God; and the obedient, believing child of God beholds in it the glory of a divine power, full of grace and truth.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 429

God is displeased that any of His people who have known the power of His grace should talk their *doubts*, and by thus doing make themselves a channel for Satan to transmit his suggestions to other minds. A seed of unbelief and evil sown is not readily rooted up. Satan nourishes it every hour, and it flourishes and becomes strong. A good seed sown needs to be nourished, watered, and tenderly cared for; because every poisonous influence is thrown about it to hinder its growth and cause it to die.

Conclusion

In trying to discredit Ernie and his dreams, again Elder Ferrell does not state the whole truth, twists what Ernie said to mean the opposite, and continues to repeat Linda's false accusations—sowing seeds of unbelief and evil while leaning on a broken reed.

No regular conversion?

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

“Once again Linda noted the strangeness of a new last-day messenger from God, who was suddenly being anointed for his work—without ever having gone through the regular conversion process of repentance and confession of sin;—and instead, he says he was converted while he was asleep.”

Fact

Has Mr. Ferrell not read of Paul's conversion?

God says:

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 120

The conversion of Saul is a striking evidence of the miraculous power of the Holy Spirit to convict men of sin. He had verily believed that Jesus of Nazareth had disregarded the law of God and had taught His disciples that it was of no effect. But after his conversion, Saul recognized Jesus as the one who had come into the world for the express purpose of vindicating His Father's law. He was convinced that Jesus was the originator of the entire Jewish system of sacrifices. He saw that at the crucifixion type had met antitype, that Jesus had fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies concerning the Redeemer of Israel.

In the record of the conversion of Saul important principles are given us, which we should ever bear in mind. Saul was brought directly into the presence of Christ. He was one whom Christ intended for a most important work, one who was to be a "chosen vessel" unto Him; yet the Lord did not at once tell him of the work that had been assigned him. He arrested him in his course and convicted him of sin; but when Saul asked, "What wilt Thou have me to do?" the Saviour placed the inquiring Jew in connection with His church, there to obtain a knowledge of God's will concerning him.

Early Writings, p. 201

All were acquainted with Saul's opposition to Jesus and his zeal in hunting out and delivering up to death all who believed on His name; and his miraculous conversion convinced many that Jesus was the Son of God. Saul related his experience in the power of the Holy Spirit. He was

persecuting unto death, binding and delivering into prison both men and women, when, as he journeyed to Damascus, suddenly a great light from heaven shone round about him, and Jesus revealed Himself to him, and taught him that He was the Son of God.

Conclusion

Everyone is converted differently. The true evidence of conversion is a changed life. Instead of seeking to find out how Ernie's life has changed, Elder Ferrell is more concerned with falsely accusing him through a "good story." For additional details, see "No sign of repentance in dream" in [chapter 7](#).

Beings nearby

Ferrell says: (see [Appendix K](#))

"Beings flitting nearby while awake—Ernie mentioned that, while awake, he would see supernatural beings flitting around off to his right or left.

"Another concern was the supernatural beings that kept appearing to you, that you could see only out of the corner of your eye, as you were being pressured to tell the dream during the two weeks following the dream. That's downright spooky. That sounds like the works of the angels of darkness, not of pure, holy, heavenly beings.

"Here is how you described it: 'For two weeks I did not tell the next part of the dream. For two weeks I did not share the most important part of this dream. For two weeks I kept it secret, but for two weeks I would, still knowing that I was sitting at home, I wasn't going out anywhere, I would all of a sudden see things walk around out of the corner of my eye, and I'd look and there wasn't anybody there. But at the same time I would hear a voice say, 'You need to share the end of the dream.'

"The good angels do not work in this manner. This is a pattern that demons often use with their mediums, to keep them fearful. Each evening, when Adolf Hitler went to bed, he could see a demon sitting in the corner glaring at him. This kept him in a fearful state of mind, so he would keep fulfilling their wishes for the enslavement of Europe. At various times, Ernie likewise expresses various fears that grip his mind."

Fact

Ernie has not had "various fears that grip his mind." Where did that come from? Where is the proof? It is Satan's tactic to compare Ernie with Hitler because he does not want people to repent and have victory over sin. He does not want them to be encouraged by dwelling on heavenly things. It is Satan who wants them to focus more on his power than God's power. It is Satan who causes fear in the minds of Linda and Elder Ferrell, enslaving them in their criticism and depriving them of the joy and peace that comes from believing God's very important messages for these last days. It is Satan's desire to keep God's last-day church from becoming triumphant because then his time would be cut short. Therefore, he continues to go about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Why would Linda and Elder Ferrell want to be a part of that? Satan's wish is accomplished by keeping them in spiritual blindness, even if it is

from just a little bit of error. We pray that somehow their eyes will be opened before it is too late.

God says:

Luke 1:11-12

And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.

1 Chronicles 21:16, 30

And David lifted up his eyes, and saw the angel of the LORD stand between the earth and the heaven, having a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. But David could not go before it to enquire of God: for he was afraid because of the sword of the angel of the LORD.

Numbers 22:23, 31

And the ass saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way. Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face.

Life Sketches of Ellen G. White, pp. 69-70

In my second vision, about a week after the first, the Lord gave me a view of the trials through which I must pass, and told me that I must go and relate to others what He had revealed to me. It was shown me that my labors would meet with great opposition, and that my heart would be rent with anguish; but that the grace of God would be sufficient to sustain me through all.

After I came out of this vision I was exceedingly troubled, for it pointed out my duty to go out among the people and present the truth. My health was so poor that I was in constant bodily suffering, and to all appearance had but a short time to live. I was only seventeen years of age, small and frail, unused to society, and naturally so timid and retiring that it was painful for me to meet strangers.

For several days, and far into the night, I prayed that this burden might be removed from me, and laid upon some one more capable of bearing it. But the light of duty did not change, and the words of the angel sounded continually in my ears, "Make known to others what I have revealed to you."

Hitherto when the Spirit of God had urged me to duty, I had risen above myself, forgetting all fear and timidity in the thought of Jesus' love and the wonderful work He had done for me.

But it seemed impossible for me to perform this work that was presented before me; to attempt it seemed certain failure. The trials attending it appeared more than I could endure. How could I, a child in years, go forth from place to place, unfolding to the people the holy truths of God? My heart shrank in terror from the thought. My brother Robert, but two years older than myself, could not accompany me, for he was feeble in health, and his timidity was greater than mine; nothing could have induced him to take such a step. My father had a family to support,

and could not leave his business; but he repeatedly assured me that if God had called me to labor in other places, He would not fail to open the way for me. But these words of encouragement brought little comfort to my desponding heart; the path before me seemed hedged in with difficulties that I was unable to overcome.

I coveted death as a release from the responsibilities that were crowding upon me. At length the sweet peace I had so long enjoyed left me, and despair again pressed upon my soul.

Please note that even Ellen White, just as Job, Elijah, Ernie, and many others, coveted death and shrank from the responsibility of sharing what God was asking of them.

Matthew 14:25-27

And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

Reflecting Christ, p. 356

You remember there the disciples were toiling with the ship, and they gave up all hope of reaching the land. While in their dread peril they see One coming toward them, stepping on the foam-crested billows as He would on solid earth, and they were afraid and said, "It is a spirit"; but Christ says, "It is I, be not afraid."

Gospel Workers (1892), p. 31

In their little boat upon the Sea of Galilee, amid the storm and darkness, the disciples toiled hard to reach the shore, but found all their efforts unsuccessful. As despair seized them, Jesus was seen walking upon the foam-capped billows. Even the presence of Christ they did not at first discern, and their terror increased, until his voice, saying, "It is I; be not afraid," [MATT. 14:27.] dispelled their fears, and gave them hope and joy. Then how willingly the poor, wearied disciples ceased their efforts, and trusted all to the Master.

God has opened the eyes of people and animals in the past to see angels. Why can He not do the same for Ernie? It is interesting that, like Zacharias, David, Balaam, and Ellen White, Ernie saw an angel and heard a voice telling him what to do. Ernie has stated that he was not afraid when he briefly saw the bright being. It was perhaps startling, but there was no fear. He knew it was God's way of getting his attention. However, even if he was frightened, as we have read, there is nothing unusual with that reaction. Even the disciples were frightened when they saw Jesus walking on the water.

Ernie says:

A View of Heaven and a Message for His People, December 10, 2006

Incidentally, for two weeks after this dream I did not share the ending—the most important part of the dream where Jesus talked with me. I was afraid of what others would say. But then I found it difficult to sleep at night and a still, small voice kept saying to share the end of the

dream. Becky now began to notice that something was not right and asked if there was anything else I was not telling her. I tearfully began relating the end of the dream. We decided that if Jesus said to share the dream, that we had no other choice but to do it. And we have not been sorry ever since.

God says:

Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 97

Angels of God will work with, and through, and by those who will cooperate with the heavenly agencies for the saving of a soul from death, and the hiding of a multitude of sins, that will lead them to consider themselves, lest they also be tempted.

Conclusion

Since each person is unique, God's angels work in a variety of ways to lead people to the truth. For additional details, see "Supernatural beings" in chapter 7.

Untruthful statement?

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

"Another untruthful statement—Linda refers to another item which was not truthfully stated:

"Another fact that surfaced unexpectedly was that you were actually fired from the job that you had before December 2006, and it was explained that you were confrontational and not able to get along personally with your co-workers and associates. Your testimony that you gave at our home was stated in such a way as to lead one to believe that it was your ill health that caused your loss of employment. Again, this brings up issues of integrity."

Fact

To set the record straight, Ernie's employer did not fire Ernie from his job. Ernie resigned. His ill health was a factor in his resignation. Becky can attest to him resigning, because she worked for Human Resources at the time for the same employer and saw his personnel file, which stated that He was eligible for rehire. The unethical practices they saw affected both Ernie and Becky while employed at that Seventh-day Adventist institution. When Ernie voiced his opinions, his employer saw Ernie as being confrontational. They both were disappointed when the Seventh-day Adventist Institution did nothing to correct the problems. Becky later resigned from her employment as the Lord instructed, and she and Ernie both are overjoyed, because now they have the Greatest Employer in the universe! It is truly the answer to many private prayers.

God says:

The Desire of Ages, p. 387

But the leaders of the people were offended, "and they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that He saith, I came down from heaven?" They tried to arouse prejudice by referring scornfully to the lowly origin of Jesus. They contemptuously alluded to His life as a Galilean laborer, and to His

family as being poor and lowly. The claims of this uneducated carpenter, they said, were unworthy of their attention. And on account of His mysterious birth they insinuated that He was of doubtful parentage, thus representing the human circumstances of His birth as a blot upon His history.

Conclusion

Again, Linda and Elder Ferrell rushed to a conclusion before having all the facts. How many people have they unfavorably influenced because they shared their half-truths or blatantly false statements?

Two earlier dreams

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

*“More about the first two dreams—*Linda mentions how Ernie later elevated two earlier dreams of little consequence to a position of highest importance.

“Ernie, I have another question. According to your own testimony, on December 9, 2006, you . . . stated that you did not know Jesus. So, in this condition, you had two dreams in the spring of 2005. You said that you ‘thought nothing of them’ other than that they were interesting. They obviously made little impact on your lifestyle or spiritual commitment. Then, you started having more dreams, had a ‘conversion’ experience in your sleep, and put up a web site. Now, these first two dreams from 2005 are elevated right along with your other dreams to become God’s last-day message for His people, part of the message we are commanded to believe as we bow before the [supernatural] being professing to be Jesus [in your dream] who gave them? How do you explain that?”

Fact

In spite of the fact that Ernie did not immediately recognize the significance of his first two dreams or that he was not “converted” at the time does not mean the dreams are not from God. Nebuchadnezzar received dreams from God before he was converted. We also noted earlier in this chapter the dream Ellen White had before she was called to be a prophet. There is no indication that she was “converted” at that time, but she raises it to a status equal with the rest of her visions. See *Spiritual Gifts*, Vol. 2, pp. 15-17.

God says:

Christ Triumphant, p. 177

Nebuchadnezzar’s wonderful dream caused a marked change in his ideas and opinions, and for a little time he was influenced by the fear of God; but his heart was not yet cleansed from its pride, its worldly ambition, its desire for self-exaltation. After the first impression wore away, he thought only of his own greatness, and studied how the dream might be turned to his own honor.

Conclusion

For additional details, see “First two dreams” in chapter 7.

Addictive effect

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

“Addictive effect of the dreams—Linda found that, after having initially accepted the dreams as genuine, she had a compulsion to keep learning what was in the latest one,—until she came to believe they were more important than reading the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy.”

Fact

If Linda thought the dreams were more important than reading the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, why did she state the following? “How did the dreams affect me personally? Did they drive me to the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Well, in a certain sense they did. We did study a lot on end time events during our time of belief in the dreams.”

We should all want to read or hear a message God sends us. The Word of God should be “addictive,” in the right sense of the word. If it is not, there is a problem in our relationship with God. Of course, we should remember that our study and reception of God’s Word must be for the right motive. Even the proud Pharisees repeated God’s Word, but their hearts were not right with God.

Please notice the definitions for *addiction* and *compulsive* (referenced by Linda and Elder Ferrell). These words and their synonyms perfectly reflect how our attitude should be toward God’s Word and its effect on us as we accept it.

The Free Dictionary, <http://www.thefreedictionary.com>

addiction: love of, passion for, attachment to, affection for, fondness for, zeal for, fervour for, ardour for, habit-forming, dependence (reliance, trust, hope, confidence, belief, faith, expectation, assurance)

compulsive: strongly motivated to succeed, compelling (powerful, persuasive), determined (settled, established or decided beyond dispute or doubt, resolute, firm in purpose or belief, unwavering)

God says:

Psalm 119:11

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

John 10:27

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing, p. 19

As the weary traveler seeks the spring in the desert and, finding it, quenches his burning thirst, so will the Christian thirst for and obtain the pure water of life, of which Christ is the fountain.

In regard to Elder Ferrell’s statement that Linda “came to believe they [Ernie’s dreams] were more important than reading the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy,” if that is the case, it is the fault of the reader, not of what they are reading.

Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 19

The writers of the Bible had to express their ideas in human language. It was written by human men. These men were inspired of the Holy Spirit. Because of the imperfections of human understanding of language, or the perversity of the human mind, ingenious in evading truth, many

read and understand the Bible to please themselves. It is not that the difficulty is in the Bible. Opposing politicians argue points of law in the statute book, and take opposite views in their application and in these laws.

Summary

Elder Ferrell leads his readers to think that all those who have accepted Ernie's dreams no longer enjoy reading the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Ernie has never stated that his dreams are more important than reading the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Some people who reject Ellen White use the same argument by saying people read too much of the Spirit of Prophecy and neglect the Bible.

For additional details, see "Dreams took preeminence?" and "Dreams had supernatural pull" in chapter 7.

Conclusion

The dreams repeatedly stress the importance of learning from God's previously revealed words. God's Word never contradicts itself. His communication to man has been progressive through time, in keeping with "present truth." That truth is phrased differently because of different writers at different times or new details may be added. However, that does not mean God's laws or principles are altered in any way.

Can we not see that this world is in desperate need of direct communication from God again? Can we not see that God's last-day church is in a crisis with the omega of apostasy that reveals we are in the very last days and, therefore, God is intervening? "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18). Yes, the messenger is fallible, but the messages are not. That is why they cannot be disproved, because they are from God. They are messages of comfort, encouragement and affirmation, instruction, rebuke, and love. The dreams reinforce the core Seventh-day Adventist beliefs repeatedly (see Appendix F, "Doctrines in Ernie Knoll's Dreams"). The primary message is to repent and prepare for Christ's imminent return. In addition, would a Christian who truly loves Jesus not want to hear that message repeatedly? They are messages for all who will look, listen, obey, and live--forever!

God's people are starving to be fed the "meat" of the Word, to be shown the "old paths." The messages in our churches are being "watered down" and the members are "coming in the front door and walking out the back door," because they are beginning to see in God's Church what they left behind in the world. "An enemy hath done this" (Matthew 13:28). Ernie's ministry continues to receive phone calls, emails, and letters from desperate people, searching for truth and answers, because they are not getting it from their church or pastor. Even the young people are searching. Entertainment and amusement will not save them!

Appeal to Linda, Elder Ferrell and all

Please do not let the enemy—Satan and self—win in your case. God can only use and save a people who are humbled and have repented of all their sins, present and past, even forgotten sins. Have you done this, before it is forever too late? We must be on our knees, searching our hearts as never before. We may think we are spiritually safe yet be completely deceived and lost.

Christ is waiting for a people who will become like Him. He cannot return until there is a remnant who have stopped sinning and have perfected their character. They must refute what Satan is accusing God of—that His laws are too hard to keep. God is waiting for a people (144,000) who will show the world and the rest of the universe that His laws can be kept—perfectly. Ask God to take away your doubts, your fears, any pride or jealousy, to take away selfishness and all sin—dying to self every moment. Take God's hand and do not let go. That is where your power lies. Stay calm and focused on Jesus. "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27).

We have all driven those nails into the hands of Jesus. Not one of us is greater or lesser than the other. It is time to repent and get ready so that we can go home and see the love scars in the hands of our Savior and that great love in His eyes. Let us not disappoint Him any longer. Why do we want to remain in this world of misery? Laodicea, we are long overdue. It's time for God's people to unite in love and give the true gospel message, the straight, present truth of the three angels' messages to a dying world. Who cares about the opposition or the persecution? It's time to go home. Come quickly, Lord Jesus!

Feeling discouraged, alone, or persecuted

Ferrell says: (see [Appendix K](#))

"Continually feeling discouraged, alone, or persecuted—Lacking peace of heart (because he is not at peace with God through daily repentance and the study of His Word), Ernie lives with many concerns. If you read my book, *The Demons of Witchcraft*, which will be published this fall, you will find that those guided by demons live in a state of alternate elation, and depression and fear."

"When not dreaming, Ernie feels depressed. During a dream, the angel is building him up emotionally, telling him how important he is. This cyclic pattern is a spiritually unhealthy one."

Fact

It is amazing how Elder Ferrell supposedly knows Ernie's true spiritual condition. How does he know whether Ernie continually feels discouraged, alone, or persecuted? How does he know that Ernie lacks peace of heart or does not have daily repentance and study of God's Word? How does he know that when not dreaming, Ernie feels depressed? Building someone up emotionally is not the same as encouragement to keep going in spite of opposition like Elder Ferrell's and Linda's. On the other hand, not all emotions are wrong. In other dreams, Ernie has been rebuked or told to repent. The dreams are not just for God's people but for Ernie as well. The "cyclic pattern" that is "spiritually unhealthy" is the judgment that Linda and Elder Ferrell heap on God and His messages through Ernie. Why did they continue to make up ideas with no proof? The Bible instructs that we are not to judge others (Matthew 7:1).

God says:

Conflict and Courage, p. 214

Elijah's retreat on Mount Horeb, though hidden from man, was known to God; and the weary and discouraged prophet was not left to struggle alone with the powers of darkness that were pressing upon him. . . .

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 15, p. 261

To John the Baptist, shut up in prison because of his fearless testimony against the licentiousness and the unlawful marriage of Herod, there came discouragement. He thought, Why does not Christ exercise His power and deliver me from prison? He sent his disciples to Christ with the inquiry, "Art Thou He that should come? or look we for another?" [Luke 7:19].

Early Writings, p. 20

About one week after this the Lord gave me another view and showed me the trials I must pass through, and that I must go and relate to others what He had revealed to me, and that I should meet with great opposition and suffer anguish of spirit by going. But said the angel, "The grace of God is sufficient for you; He will hold you up.

Ibid., p. 21

Oh, thought I, has it come to this that those who honestly go to God alone to plead His promises and to claim His salvation, are to be charged with being under the foul and soul-damning influence of mesmerism? Do we ask our kind Father in heaven for "bread," only to receive a "stone" or a "scorpion"? These things wounded my spirit, and wrung my soul in keen anguish, well-nigh to despair, while many would have me believe that there was no Holy Ghost and that all the exercises that holy men of God have experienced were only mesmerism or the deceptions of Satan.

Ibid., p. 22

All these things weighed heavily upon my spirits, and in the confusion I was sometimes tempted to doubt my own experience. While at family prayers one morning, the power of God began to rest upon me, and the thought rushed into my mind that it was mesmerism, and I resisted it. Immediately I was struck dumb and for a few moments was lost to everything around me.

Conclusion

Those are just a few examples of how God's prophets have been or felt discouraged, alone, or persecuted. This does not mean they are not at peace with God. However, if they did not have people like Elder Ferrell writing false accusations about them, then perhaps they would have no reason for discouragement. For further details, see "Feeling alone" in chapter 7.

Treated as a great person?

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

"Jeanine Sautron was the best-known false prophet in Adventism in the late 1980s and early 1990s. She deceived many people (see my booklet, *Jeanine Sautron*). Her first dream was also about being taken to heaven, and there treated by Jesus and the angels as though she were an utterly great person. Compare that with *Early Writings*, 76-81."

Fact

We would like to say that the following from *Early Writings*, p. 76 expresses exactly how Ernie feels.

Dear Reader: A sense of duty to my brethren and sisters and a desire that the blood of souls might not be found on my garments have governed me in writing this little work. I am aware of the unbelief that exists in the minds of the multitude relative to visions, also that many who profess to be looking for Christ and teach that we are in the "last days" call them all of Satan. I expect much opposition from such, and had I not felt that the Lord required it of me, I should not have made my views thus public, as they will probably call forth the hatred and derision of some. But I fear God more than man.

Ernie is aware of Jeanine Sautron's dreams and that they are not from God. We do not agree that Ernie's dreams of heaven portray him as an "utterly great person" any more than Ellen White in her dream in *Early Writings*, pp. 16-20. Following are examples of how one could say that she was treated as an "utterly great person."

- She received a crown from Jesus Himself
- Angels were all about her
- She felt she had a perfect right to be in the heavenly city
- She was able to talk with Jesus and ask Him questions
- Jesus told her that He would serve her at the supper table
- An angle bore her gently down to this earth

God says:

Proverbs 20:10, 23

Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abomination to the LORD. [23] Divers weights are an abomination unto the LORD; and a false balance is not good.

Summation

Elder Ferrell has used false weights by comparing Ernie with a false messenger and making it appear as if their messages are from the same source.

Conclusion

Off in the distance we see a man standing with a megaphone. He is crying out to the people, "Be afraid; be afraid; Janine Sautron and Ernie Knoll—they are the same!" As we come closer, we see it is Elder Ferrell surrounded by his books and newsletters. We see others holding signs that read, "Ernie Knoll—false prophet!" They are very intent upon getting out their messages; but how strange, not a single person shows error in the dreams of Ernie Knoll—not one single person. They continue to cry out as the day turns to night. Not once has error been detected. Many claim to have found error, but it cannot be proved. Instead, they continue to cry out, "Ernie Knoll—not a prophet of God!" He does not meet their ideas of a true prophet. Many stand and wait for the slightest proof that Ernie's dreams do not agree with God's Word. No one steps forward to say "Here is the error." They just continue to proudly proclaim, "There is error!"

Music and worship services

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

“Earthly music and worship services not good”—Linda was concerned that Ernie’s dreams tend to downgrade the value of our efforts to worship God. Just about everything is bad, and nothing is told us about what can be acceptable.”

Fact

Elder Ferrell repeats what Linda writes, without reading the context of the third dream. Otherwise, he would have known about the music Jesus explained that is acceptable and that is not. Please note that in the *Creeping Compromise* book by Joe Crews that is available through Ernie’s website, there is a chapter called, “Music and Moods,” which is also helpful. You will also notice that in later dreams, the Lord continues to show Ernie various hymns. Those are obviously what God wants us to focus on in our worship services and daily life.

Ernie’s dreams say:

A View of Heaven, December 10, 2006

One of the things we talked about was how beautiful the music was that I heard in heaven. I mentioned that it was unlike anything I had ever heard in our worship services on Earth. I asked Him if He enjoys the music and worship services we have. He responded, “That is just it. They are your worship services not mine.” He said that some of the music we have is inspired not by Himself, the Father or the Holy Spirit but by a whole different spirit...

Pertaining to the style of music in our worship services, Jesus explained that what we call Christian rock and praise music is an abomination to Himself and the Father. He explained that we begin our worship services asking for the Holy Spirit to come. Why do we believe that they would be there in something that God finds an abomination. He explained that praise music is nothing more than repetition, a carefully designed instrument of worship by Satan himself.

How wrong is it for us to bring the world’s popular type of music into our body temple? How much worse is it for us to bring it into God’s holy temple?

Only One Place to Be, August 18, 2007

Sister M now invites the congregation to turn in the hymnal that is in the pew in front of them and to follow along as we all strive to be “Nearer, My God, to Thee.” As Brother D begins to play the piano and Sister M, the violin, a quiet reverence is felt in the sanctuary. Many pick up the hymnal and start to follow along as they play. As they start into the second verse, many quietly fold the hymnal and return it to the seat back. Then they kneel in prayer while the music plays. Many who wrestle with that close walk with God are crying while in prayer.

The ABC, October 24, 2007

We now walk over to the CD, DVD, and music section. The Herald points to the sign above the display. It says “Happening Tunes for

Happening Times. Get Your ‘Vid’ On.” He looks at me and shakes his head. He says, “Nothing inspiring, just entertaining...”

My angel and I now walk over to where the CD, DVD and music stand used to be. In its place is a bookshelf with hymnals.

Stand Fast, February 5, 2008

The song they sing is “I Surrender All.” As the line moves forward, I begin to study and think about the words as I never have before.

What God Can Do, July 19, 2009 (personal dream with *It Is No Secret* song)

The chimes of time ring out the news,
Another day is through.
Someone slipped and fell.
Was that someone you. . . .

A Friend So Precious, July 31, 2009 (personal dream)

As we are all struggling to climb up the path we are all singing the song “I Have a Friend So Precious.”

In the Heart of Jesus, September 12, 2009

At a turn in the path, I begin to walk up the side of a hill toward a small church. The most wonderful music makes its way down the hill. I listen as many people are singing, “When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder.”

“We all feel lonely, but there is only one place to be.” He opens the hymnal and begins reading aloud, starting with the first verse. In the heart of Jesus, there is love for you. . . .

Two Cars, March 12, 2010

A small group of us stand at the threshold and hum the song “Just as I Am.”

The reader can see that all these songs have an underlying message for God’s people today to come to Him, to surrender all, to repent and be like Jesus in preparation for His imminent return. God wants His people to focus more on the words in each hymn rather than the music. Ernie’s “In the Heart of Jesus” dream describes how a hymn is a sermon in itself.

God says:

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 495

It is too true that reverence for the house of God has become almost extinct. Sacred things and places are not discerned; the holy and exalted are not appreciated. . . . Would it not be well for us often to read the directions given by God Himself to the Hebrews, that we who have the light of the glorious truth shining upon us may imitate their reverence for the house of God? We have abundant reason to maintain a fervent, devoted spirit in the worship of God. We have reason even to be more thoughtful and reverential in our worship than had the Jews. But an enemy has been at work to destroy our faith in the sacredness of Christian worship.

Evangelism, p. 510

Display is not religion nor sanctification. There is nothing more offensive in God's sight than a display of instrumental music when those taking part are not consecrated, are not making melody in their hearts to the Lord. The offering most sweet and acceptable in God's sight is a heart made humble by self-denial, by lifting the cross and following Jesus.

Conclusion

Jesus does not say *all* our worship services are an abomination. Notice he says *some*. The context also shows us which ones He doesn't approve of—ones that contain Christian rock, praise music that is repetitious and music that is found in the world. The music we use to worship God should be reverent and not entertaining, such as hymns. There is more information on music in the Spirit of Prophecy to reference.

For further details, see “Counsel on music” and “Ernie placed above us?” in chapter 7.

God's Word unimportant?

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

*“Bible and Spirit of Prophecy study unimportant and unnecessary—*Ernie knows little about the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. He has little interest in studying either of them; and the angel has told him that the dreams will give him better spiritual guidance,—and that there are many non-Scriptural ways to learn truth from God. This is from the transcript of one of Ernie's dreams:

“As for me not having a broad understanding of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, the Herald says that I have a broader understanding than I might know [if he, Ernie, had bothered to study them], and that because I am not ordained of man does not mean I am not ordained of God. The angel says that the Great Teacher has many ways of teaching other than what one can read in what He has written.”

So he is saying that his “Herald” will teach him more than if he had studied the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy.”

Fact

Elder Ferrell likes to repeat this argument, obviously to make his readers come away thinking Ernie wants nothing to do with the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. However this is completely untrue, as was pointed out earlier under “Ernie does not study.” Since Elder Ferrell has never met Ernie, how does he know how much of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy he knows? We need to remember that Ernie has been an Adventist for almost 50 years. You cannot be an Adventist that long and know little about the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy (writings of Ellen White). The angel never told Ernie that he would get “better” spiritual guidance from his dreams than the Bible or Ellen White's writings. The angel is simply saying that there are other ways in addition to that. The angel did not say there are many *non-Scriptural* ways to learn truth from God. He said there are many ways of teaching other than what one can *read* in what God has *written*.

Ernie's dream says:

The Work Now Begins, December 14, 2007

As for me not having a broad understanding of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, the Herald says that I have a broader understanding than I might know and that because I am not ordained of man does not mean I am not ordained of God. The angel says that the Great Teacher has many ways of teaching other than what one can read in what He has written. Referring to Acts 2:17, ["And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams."] the Herald asks, "Why do you think that He only shows you views when you are sleeping? [see following quote] Do you not know that He is the Great Teacher? When it is time you will share the things you know, along with what you are to share from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.

Testing the Spirits, May 12, 2008

First, one must understand what I wrote in Joel 2:28 and Acts 2:17. I said I will pour out My Spirit upon all. Men and women will prophesy in My name. The older will receive dreams. The younger will have visions. This is a dream. A dream happens while you are asleep. A vision happens when you are awake. [Ernie is older so he has dreams while asleep, not visions while awake.]

God says:

Steps to Christ, p. 87, 93

God speaks to us through His providential workings and through the influence of His Spirit upon the heart. In our circumstances and surroundings, in the changes daily taking place around us, we may find precious lessons if our hearts are but open to discern them...

God speaks to us in His word. Here we have in clearer lines the revelation of His character, of His dealings with men, and the great work of redemption...

Through nature and revelation, through His providence, and by the influence of His Spirit, God speaks to us.

Following are the approximate number of times (as of the writing of this book) that the words *Bible*, *Spirit of Prophecy*, and *Ellen White*, etc. are mentioned in Ernie's dreams: *Bible*: 50; *Spirit of Prophecy*: 27; *Ellen White*: 15; *The Great Controversy*: 14; *Testimonies to Ministers*: 1; plus all the instances of other Spirit of Prophecy books referenced, as well as the *Creeping Compromise* book by Joe Crews (founder of Amazing Facts).

Ernie's dream says:

Testing the Spirits, May 12, 2008

"There are and will be many who prophesy in My [Jesus] name. But My people of weak minds do not know how to test these spirits. They quickly ask these bright lights to tell them what or who to believe. These bright lights think they know all because they have been placed in a high position. They are deceived in their own thinking. Each has to study to know how to test the spirits. Each has to look by themselves whom I have

sent. Put your soul in the hands of no man, for that man may be an agent of Lucifer. Did I not write that in the last days, I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams? Those that claim to prophesy will have the spirits tested to know if they are to the law and the testimony. If they test the spirits and they are My words and they admit it is My words, grace be unto them. But those that dismiss My words and call good evil, cursed be the ground they walk on.”

We can gather much counsel from what Jesus has said in “Testing the Spirits” as well as the Bible and Ellen White’s writings.

Conclusion

If we used Elder Ferrell’s reasoning, then we would have to throw out Ellen White, because she was taught in ways other than the Bible, especially as seen in her 70 years of revelations through approximately 2,000 visions or dreams. Like other critics, in his attempt to discredit Ernie, Elder Ferrell would destroy the way in which God has taught all His prophets. To suggest that God can only teach us through His Word does not make sense. Ellen White and all God’s prophets were instructed directly by God. If this never happened, then there would be no written record of God’s words. It is tragic that Elder Ferrell resorted to half-truths, changed what has been quoted in Ernie’s dreams, and used second-hand information in order to discredit Ernie. How much of these methods has Elder Ferrell used in writing about others?

For further details, see “Bible never superseded” in [chapter 7](#).

Linda rejects the dreams

Ferrell says: (see [Appendix K](#))

“Linda makes her decision—Eventually, the continually increasing evidence reached such a point, that Linda decided to reject the dreams—and do it openly. This was not an easy decision; for the dreams had such an almost hypnotic attraction to her, after she started reading them.”

Fact

Linda did reject the dreams openly, but there was no “evidence” as Elder Ferrell states. It was based upon her own feelings of who could be a prophet, not by carefully comparing Ernie’s dreams with God’s Word.

Linda stated that “the addictive power of the dreams is strong.” Yet Elder Ferrell changes her words to say “the dreams had such an almost hypnotic attraction to her.” We find it interesting that he not only changes what Linda stated but says that Ernie’s dreams are “almost hypnotic.” It reminds us of how Ellen White was accused of mesmerism (hypnosis). Amazingly, Elder Ferrell states “. . . the messages given him [Ernie] by the “angel” sound very similar to what Ellen White wrote” yet then Elder Ferrell says they are “almost hypnotic”!

God says:

Mind, Character, and Personality, Vol. 2, p. 719

It was reported all around [in 1845] that the visions were the result of mesmerism, and many Adventists [remnants of the Adventists who had

not accepted the seventh-day Sabbath] were ready to believe and circulate the report. A physician who was a celebrated mesmerizer told me that my views were mesmerism, that I was a very easy subject, and that he could mesmerize me and give me a vision.

I told him that the Lord had shown me in vision that mesmerism was from the devil, from the bottomless pit, and that it would soon go there, with those who continued to use it.

I then gave him liberty to mesmerize me if he could. He tried for more than half an hour, resorting to different operations, and then gave it up. By faith in God I was able to resist his influence, so that it did not affect me in the least.

Conclusion

For further details, see "Dreams had supernatural pull" in [chapter 7](#).

The basis of false revivals

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

"The basis of false revivals—According to God's Word, false revivals are based, not on Scripture, but on emotional appeals to the imagination and something new and startling. People attend Pentecostal meetings, another device of the devil, because they imagine that doing so is changing their lives for the better."

Fact

Ernie's dreams are not based on emotional appeals and are not something new and startling any more than the Bible or Ellen White's writings.

God says:

The Great Controversy (1888), p. 464

In many of the revivals which have occurred during the last half century, the same influences have been at work, to a greater or less degree, that will be manifest in the more extensive movements of the future. There is an emotional excitement, a mingling of the true with the false, that is well adapted to mislead. Yet none need be deceived. In the light of God's Word it is not difficult to determine the nature of these movements. Wherever men neglect the testimony of the Bible, turning away from those plain, soul-testing truths which require self-denial and renunciation of the world, there we may be sure that God's blessing is not bestowed. And by the rule which Christ himself has given, "Ye shall know them by their fruits," [MATT. 7:16.] it is evident that these movements are not the work of the Spirit of God.

Maranatha, p. 168

Before the final visitation of God's judgments upon the earth there will be among the people of the Lord such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times. The Spirit and power of God will be poured out upon His children. At that time many will separate themselves from those churches in which the love of this world has supplanted love for God and His word. Many, both of ministers and people, will gladly accept those great truths which God has caused to be proclaimed at this time to prepare a people for the Lord's second coming.

The enemy of souls desires to hinder this work; and before the time for such a movement shall come, he will endeavor to prevent it by introducing a counterfeit. In those churches which he can bring under his deceptive power he will make it appear that God's special blessing is poured out; there will be manifest what is thought to be great religious interest. Multitudes will exult that God is working marvelously for them, when the work is that of another spirit. Under a religious guise, Satan will seek to extend his influence over the Christian world.

We are not sure why Elder Ferrell would compare Ernie's dreams to Pentecostalism, since the Lord spoke against it in the following dream.

Ernie's dream says:

The SDA Church, September 28, 2007

We walk into another sanctuary where once again I see that there are many people. They are standing and singing. There is a large screen up front that has words displayed on it. As the people sing, they raise their hands and wave them back and forth. The song they are singing constantly repeats itself. There is no verse of inspiration. I then see many step out into the aisle where they begin slowly walking up and down, singing and waving. Gradually they begin skipping, and after a little more time they begin running up and down the aisle proclaiming that they have the "spirit." They begin speaking with unintelligible languages. I look to my angel and ask if we may leave.

Those who believe God's messages through Ernie do not just *imagine* their lives are being changed, as Elder Ferrell implies, their lives *are* being changed. There is much proof for that as can be seen in the testimonials on the For My People Ministry website. Following are just a few examples.

Thank you for the Creeping Compromise books. My mom actually just finished reading Creeping Compromise and is very glad we do not eat meat anymore, because we did not know some of the things presented. We have been vegetarians about 2 years now. She was surprised to learn the additional information about coffee as well, and is going to work on giving it up all the more. Because of it my mother has also decided that after she finishes what she has she is not going to buy ice cream anymore. Second, Joe Crew's information on music backs up what I already learned from a personal experience with it in the 7th grade. It is also a testimony, not only to the dangers of such music but also God's love. When I share my experience with others I can point them to the "Music and Moods" chapter. People have a hard time taking my word for it. Please pray for both my parents, and that we all have victory over all our other bad health practices. It cannot be done without God's strength and support from the Christian family. Set your affection on things above, not on things on earth. Colossians 3:2.

--Jean (16 years old) [as of 2010]

Brother Ernie's dreams have been so very encouraging to me personally, and put together with you [Becky] taking time to walk me

through the Lord's way of detoxing, cleansing, healing and the 8 laws of health has been the GREATEST blessing that I have ever received on the face of the earth in my entire lifetime. Words cannot express nor pen write nor fingers type what great blessing the Lord has bestowed upon me through your ministry.

--*Beverly Bowers, Pennsylvania*

The messages in the dreams have indeed impacted our lives greatly. It has led me personally to study the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy much more and spend more time in prayer and meditation. For the last few years we have given up entirely spending time engaged in worldly entertainment as seen on the TV and electronic media. We realized that the enemy is using these devices to keep us trapped in our various areas of weakness. I personally have experienced a marked change in my Christian experience as a result and I'm thankful and gracious to the Lord for the victory he has given me. I have struggled with a certain problem for most of my life but since making the changes that I mentioned above I have gained the victory. I have found a love for the word of the Lord that I have never had before and now it seems that time is never enough. The more time I spend with Him the more I want to spend. By His power I'm striving to abide in His presence continually. I have found myself enjoying witnessing and telling others of His soon coming. I have shared the messages of the dreams and Creeping Compromise with several members in our church and even with a few friends who are not S.D.A. I have also shared the Final Events DVD (by Amazing Facts & Doug Batchelor) with several of my friends and co-workers. The recent events in our world has opened the eyes of a lot of unbelievers who are asking questions and are curious of what is transpiring in our world. This has given us a great opportunity to share with them and tell them of the coming events so they too can be ready. May the Lord bless you and we'll continue to keep your ministry in our prayers.

--*R J (Trinidad and Tobago)*

Yesterday I read your dream of IN THE HEART OF JESUS. I repented of all sins hidden. I am asking Jesus to meet other sins forgotten. The message of God that you published hit me a lot. An alarm sounds very heavily from the sky that everyone has to awake. AMEN.

--*(from France)*

Conclusion

Would Elder Ferrell be willing to walk up to these people and tell them that it is just their imagination that they are giving up bad habits, repenting of all sins, and changing in preparation for meeting Jesus in the clouds?!

False revivals are not based on the complete truth of the Bible. Those who receive the true revival will be following the complete truth, as seen in the Bible, Ellen White's writings and Ernie's dreams. They will give up sin in their life and be granted the Spirit and power of God.

Does Elder Ferrell believe in modern prophets?

Ferrell says: (see Appendix K)

“Please make copies of these eight pages and share them widely with those who need them! It is too late in history to set aside the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, and chase after every person who comes along, claiming to have special messages for us through dreams or visions. We have enough light in God’s Word to enable us to do our duty and prepare our lives to meet Jesus! The problem is that we are not daily reading in the Inspired Writings!”

Will There Be Another Prophet? by Vance Ferrell

“There is no doubt that we live down at the close of time, and we need help guidance from the Lord. But we have the Spirit of Prophecy. A vast wealth of information is in those books, many of which few of us ever read.

“The truth is that we do not need any more prophetic guidance. We already have so much light which we do not use.

“The truth is that we are not entitled to any more guidance. God has said that only those who use what they have, will receive more. When His people do not obey His law, they will not have the guidance of His prophet (Lamentations 2:9; Ezekiel 7:26; 20:3, 12, 13-16; Jeremiah 26:4-6; Proverbs 29:18; Revelation 12:17). Our people in these last days are very, very disobedient to God’s Word.

“We are not told that there will be another genuine prophet after Ellen White, and we are not told there will not. The possibility is not ruled out, but we are given little or no encouragement that it will happen.”
<http://www.ellenwhitedefend.com/Understanding-Gift/Another-Prophet.htm>

Fact

We are alarmed to discover that Elder Ferrell states we do not need any more prophetic guidance and are not entitled to any more guidance! How can he say that? Should not that be God’s decision? The Bible verses that Elder Ferrell quotes are simply stating that there will always be those who will reject God’s prophets. The prophecies and messages are for those who will listen and accept. According to the S.D.A. Bible Commentary on Lamentations 2:9, it is a reference to the group of professionals who made up the prophetic class in Judah that were unfaithful to their calling. It does not include the faithful prophets like Ezekiel and Daniel.

Next Elder Ferrell states that we are not told there will be another genuine prophet and we are not told there will not be another but that we are given little or no encouragement that it will happen. That idea is not only discouraging but completely contradicts Joel 2:28-29 and Acts 2:17-18 as well as the following quote by Ellen White!

God says:

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 663

The word of God is sufficient to enlighten the most beclouded mind and may be understood by those who have any desire to understand it. But notwithstanding all this, some who profess to make the word of God their study are found living in direct opposition to its plainest teachings.

Then, to leave men and women without excuse, God gives plain and pointed testimonies, bringing them back to the word that they have neglected to follow." [VOL. 2, P. 455 (1870).] The word of God abounds in general principles for the formation of correct habits of living, and the testimonies, general and personal, have been calculated to call their attention more especially to these principles.

Joel 2:28-29

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

Acts 2:17-18

And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

To stress the importance of God's Spirit being poured out on *all* flesh and that sons, daughters, servants, and handmaidens (plural) would have dreams or visions and prophesy, it is included in both the Old and the New Testament. The plurality shows that it will not just be Ellen White as a prophet, but many prophets.

Ellen White said the reason God gave her testimonies is because people were not reading their Bible. Today, truths in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy are being rejected and belittled as never before. God's Church is in a crisis—the omega of apostasy—and God is loving enough to reach out to us again because we need it now more than ever!

According to Elder Ferrell's reasoning, we did not deserve Ellen White's writings, but that did not stop God from sending messages to her. The same can be said for every other prophet in the Bible. The Israelites rejected their prophets, but God still sent John the Baptist. In fact, during Israel's history, God's people were never entitled to prophetic guidance according to Elder Ferrell's argument. But the truth is that God did send prophets who were rejected and killed by those proclaiming to be God's chosen people. We don't deserve salvation either, but Jesus came to save us anyway. According to Elder Ferrell's idea, he should be rejecting Christ's crucifixion! Elder Ferrell reveals why he "kills" Ernie with his words and why he could never accept Ernie's dreams. It is because he really does not believe God will send another prophet. To him, all modern prophets are false, because like the Jews, he has entertained a misconception. How sad!

Ernie's dreams exist for the following reason:

Ellen G. White: The Australian Years, Vol. 4, p. 68

The testimonies have not been given to establish new doctrine. The doctrine is established by the Word of God, and the Spirit of Prophecy

comes in to bring out the light, revealing new beauties in it, and bringing out here and there details which help in the understanding of the Word of God. . . .

Interestingly, Elder Ferrell's arguments belittle the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, because at each stage of this earth's history when God has sent a messenger, the ones to whom the message is given use the very same argument:

- In Noah's day the people could have claimed they had everything needful for salvation and did not need to listen to Noah.
- Prior to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians, God sent prophets to warn His people to repent. These included Isaiah, Ezekiel, and Jeremiah. Why did God not just send one prophet? In fact, why bother sending any prophets? Moses had already outlined what would be the result if they turned away from God.
- Once Jesus was resurrected He used the Old Testament scriptures to prove He was the Messiah. Yet why do we accept the New Testament? Did God not reveal enough in the Old Testament for people to gain a knowledge of salvation?
- If there is enough light in the Bible, why did God send Ellen White? Because with all that light they had in their Bibles, they were not reading it like they should. God needed to guide them, like He has always guided His people. Unfortunately, each generation has shown that people do not want to be guided by God. They want to lead themselves.

God says:

Counsels on Sabbath School Work, pp. 32-33

When new light is presented to the church, it is perilous to shut yourselves away from it. Refusing to hear because you are prejudiced against the message to the messenger will not make your case excusable before God. To condemn that which you have not heard and do not understand will not exalt your wisdom in the eyes of those who are candid in their investigations of truth. And to speak with contempt of those whom God has sent with a message of truth, is folly and madness. If our youth are seeking to educate themselves to be workers in His cause, they should learn the way of the Lord, and live by every word that proceedeth out of His mouth. They are not to make up their minds that the whole truth has been unfolded, and that the Infinite One has no more light for His people. If they entrench themselves in the belief that the whole truth has been revealed, they will be in danger of discarding precious jewels of truth that shall be discovered as men turn their attention to the searching of the rich mine of God's word.

The Review and Herald, February 18, 1890

When a message is presented to God's people, they should not rise up in opposition to it; they should go to the Bible, comparing it with the law and the testimony, and if it does not bear this test, it is not true.

Conclusion

We have to wonder whether Elder Ferrell would have accepted Ellen White in her day. Would he have falsely accused her like he has done Ernie? Would he have said like so many others that her visions were the result of hypnotism? Would he have said that all we need for salvation is what is in the Bible? Think of how much light he would have missed if he had rejected Ellen White. How much light is he missing because he is rejecting Ernie messages?

Chapter conclusion

Ernie's dream "Testing the Spirits" gives over twenty specific Bible and Spirit of Prophecy tests that can be used to determine the spirit behind the dreams. Instead of Linda and Elder Ferrell judging Ernie, they should have studied those tests. Ernie's dreams perfectly promote the doctrines of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. Although Ernie and Becky are not perfect—yet—they strongly believe in and support the historic Seventh-day Adventist beliefs and are striving to follow them perfectly.

Of all those who have risen up against Ernie, Elder Ferrell has to be the most reckless among them. The many outright lies Elder Ferrell states as a matter of fact, lead us to question if he is not led directly of Satan. Instead of reading the dreams and testing them to the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, Elder Ferrell has chosen to read and form his opinions based on a letter that attacks Ernie's character. The Bible tells us the only one who attacks someone's character is the devil. He is the accuser of the brethren (Revelation 12:10) and this is what Elder Ferrell has done. One would think that someone like him, who considers himself a defender of the truth, would have at least followed the Bible counsel in Matthew 18:15 and contacted Ernie to find out if what Linda had written was true or not.

It is interesting that of all those who have criticized Ernie's dreams, Elder Ferrell never once mentions the issue of tithe, even though Linda mentions it in her letter. Why did Elder Ferrell not bring up this point, since it is the only one in which the critics claim Ernie's dreams contradict the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy? Could it be that the reason is because he is in agreement with what Ernie was shown? After all, did he not write *The Truth about Tithe* book? This just shows that those who argue that Satan is preaching to the converted is completely wrong. Here is one who we would expect to stand in support of the dreams, but instead he rejects them on someone else's word. As you read Elder Ferrell's letter, you will notice that not one point is raised to show Ernie's dreams teach error.

In concluding, let us be reminded what God's Word has to say about false accusations:

Exodus 20:16

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Exodus 23:1

Thou shalt not raise a false report: put not thine hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness.

Leviticus 19:11

Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another.

Luke 3:14

And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages.

1 Peter 3:16

Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.

The Review and Herald, January 8, 1884

Not all the names that stand registered in the church books will at last appear in the Lamb's book of life. There are tares among the wheat. There are betrayers, accusers, traitors, in the camp. These will wound, misrepresent, and falsely accuse you. They are false brethren, meddlesome and indiscrete, stumbling-blocks to others. They are doing a work for Satan far more successfully than if they were not connected with the church.

Early Writings, p. 69

I saw that those who oppose the Sabbath of the Lord could not take the Bible and show that our position is incorrect; therefore they would slander those who believe and teach the truth and would attack their characters. Many who were once conscientious and loved God and His Word have become so hardened by rejecting the light of truth that they do not hesitate to wickedly misrepresent and falsely accuse those who love the holy Sabbath, if by so doing they can injure the influence of those who fearlessly declare the truth. But these things will not hinder the work of God. In fact, this course pursued by those who hate the truth will be the very means of opening the eyes of some.

We wonder why Elder Ferrell attacks Ernie since they are both historic Adventists. It is as if he never studied Ernie's dreams.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 2, p. 123

It is not for lack of knowledge that God's people are now perishing. They will not be condemned because they do not know the way, the truth, and the life. The truth that has reached their understanding, the light which has shone on the soul, but which has been neglected or refused, will condemn them. Those who never had the light to reject will not be in condemnation. What more could have been done for God's vineyard than has been done? Light, precious light, shines upon God's people; but it will not save them unless they consent to be saved by it, fully live up to it, and transmit it to others in darkness. God calls upon His people to act. It is an individual work of confessing and forsaking sins and returning unto the Lord that is needed. One cannot do this work for another. Religious knowledge has accumulated, and this has increased corresponding

obligations. Great light has been shining upon the church, and by it they are condemned because they refuse to walk in it.

The term “ad hominem” means an argument about the person, rather than making an argument about the topic or ideas presented by the person. That is what Linda and Elder Ferrell have done to Ernie. Rather than showing where the dreams diverge from known truth, they both focused on the softer target—Ernie. Elder Ferrell used much hearsay as proof. Not only is that condemned in God’s Word, but it is not even allowed as a valid testimony in court.

Now we can clearly see in Elder Ferrell’s words that they are not the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

Chapter 7

Linda Kirk

Introduction

The Desire of Ages, p. 380

Unbelief was taking possession of their minds and hearts. Love of honor had blinded them. They knew that Jesus was hated by the Pharisees, and they were eager to see Him exalted as they thought He should be. To be united with a teacher who could work mighty miracles, and yet to be reviled as deceivers, was a trial they could ill endure. Were they always to be accounted followers of a false prophet?

On May 18, 2008, Linda Kirk wrote an open letter to Ernie Knoll giving numerous reasons why she no longer believed in the dreams. The reader can see that Linda Kirk's list of complaints seldom refers to the actual material published in Ernie's dreams. Her primary focus of accusations is at the subjective and typically unverifiable he said, she said tabloid level. The obvious problem with these kinds of accusations is that it is impossible to sort fact from fiction without a video transcript of events being claimed by Linda. This should be a "red flag" to the reader. The writers of this chapter have chosen to go by Ernie's words because they agree with God's words. They believe that Linda's words are not from God because they do not agree with God's words and, therefore, do not make sense. We pray that the readers of this chapter will come to the same conclusion.

There is nothing new in the way Linda attempts to make Ernie look like a false prophet. Ellen White suffered the same setbacks.

Manuscript Releases, No. 926, p. 54

I have been sorely tried for the past year with my workers. Fannie Bolton is disconnected with me entirely. I would not think of employing her any longer. She has misrepresented me and hurt me terribly. Only in connection with my work has she hurt me. She has reported to others that she has the same as made over my articles, that she has put her whole soul into them, and I had the credit of the ability she had given to these writings. Well, this is the fifth time this breaking out has come. It is something similar to the outbreak of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, only she has not those to unite with her because they know me and my work.

In this chapter, we will address Linda's allegations and show that they are without foundation.

Who is Linda Kirk?

Linda Kirk is a former secretary to Steve Wohlberg. She is married to Brian Kirk. Throughout this chapter, her statements originate from her open letter to Ernie regarding himself and his dreams.

A tiny bit of error?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"While there is much good counsel and truth in the dreams, which agrees with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, we cannot afford to overlook any insinuation, allusion, or hint of anything that would almost imperceptibly lead one off the narrow path. Satan doesn't mind using much truth, if he can slip in a tiny bit of error, hopefully unnoticed."

Fact

How can "any insinuation, allusion, or hint of anything" *almost* "imperceptibly lead one off the narrow path"? It either would or would not lead one off the narrow path. Regarding "a tiny bit of error" (in the published dreams), we are still waiting for someone to show what it is.

God says:

Counsels to Writers and Editors, pp. 43-44

The Test of New Light.--Our brethren should be willing to investigate in a candid way every point of controversy. If a brother is teaching error, those who are in responsible positions ought to know it; and if he is teaching truth, they ought to take their stand at his side. We should all know what is being taught among us; for if it is truth, we need it. We are all under obligation to God to know what He sends us. He has given directions by which we may test every doctrine,--"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." If the light presented meets this test, we are not to refuse to accept it because it does not agree with our ideas.

Conclusion

Linda, or anyone else, has not proved from the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy where that "tiny bit of error" is.

Pre-personating deceptions

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"We know that Satan is preparing for the ultimate deception. As Seventh-day Adventists, we are well aware that he will personate Christ. We are told just how this will happen. So, we're on guard and prepared, we think. But what if he throws in some pre-personating deceptions? Are we prepared?"

Fact

No, Linda, of those in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the majority was not prepared, is not prepared and will not be prepared. Satan already crept in soon

after our Church was organized. His first big deception came in with Dr. John Harvey Kellogg's book, *The Living Temple*, which brought in the beginning (alpha) of apostasy into our Church. Then the change in the nature of Christ appeared in the 1950s, which led to the "new theology" and to the great apostasy (omega) today. That, in turn, has brought in "a most startling nature" of spiritualism, which is discussed further in chapter 1 of volume 2. (Reference *Selected Messages*, Book 1, p. 197).

The Church has become worse than ancient Israel. We have wandered for over 120 years.

Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 69

For forty years did unbelief, murmuring, and rebellion shut out ancient Israel from the land of Canaan. The same sins have delayed the entrance of modern Israel into the heavenly Canaan. In neither case were the promises of God at fault. It is the unbelief, the worldliness, unconsecration, and strife among the Lord's professed people that have kept us in this world of sin and sorrow so many years.

Because the Church is about the most defective it can be without becoming Babylon, God is reaching out with direct communication again—with love, rebuke, and a call to repentance. Several times this Church has begun a revival, but it has died away. God is calling for it again today. That is what the For My People Ministry is about—giving the Elijah message of revival and repentance. Satan has tried to stop it from the start. However, with God's grace and power this ministry will not stop no matter how much the enemy hates it. It will continue on, and we believe that this time God's militant and backslidden Church will become victorious. We praise God for the lives that continue to change because of this ministry. We also know that He is working with a small minority of Church members around the world who have the needed faith to finish the work, to share present truth, not a diluted message.

We pray that you, Linda, will join us again to help in the last great work in the last rapid moments!

Conclusion

Satan has already deceived the Church, and the majority was not ready, is not ready, and will not be ready.

Satan will deceive

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"Think about this: Since, at the personating of Christ, Satan will 'bear the appearance of Christ in *every particular*,' 'His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the *same gracious, heavenly truths* which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people...' (5T698, GC 624) We know he is going to do that. Shouldn't we also know that, in his deceptions even now, he can appear to look and talk just like Jesus, heal people, and present the same messages Jesus presented through the Spirit of Prophecy?"

Fact

We agree that Satan will deceive. However, Linda fails to quote the next statement from *The Great Controversy*, p. 624 as follows.

God says:

The Great Controversy, p. 624

. . . and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed.

Fact

Ernie's dreams advocate the seventh-day Sabbath, not Sunday. Linda fails to mention that those who reject the messages God sends through His prophets are also deceived. Yes, there are many ways Satan can deceive God's people. However, many are so afraid of Satan's deceptions that they focus more on his power than God's power. In so doing, they reject the very messages God is sending.

God says:

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, pp. 744-745

Brethren and sisters, it is by beholding that we become changed. By dwelling upon the love of God and our Saviour, by contemplating the perfection of the divine character and claiming the righteousness of Christ as ours by faith, we are to be transformed into the same image. Then let us not gather together all the unpleasant pictures--the iniquities and corruptions and disappointments, the evidences of Satan's power--to hang in the halls of our memory, to talk over and mourn over until our souls are filled with discouragement. A discouraged soul is a body of darkness, not only failing himself to receive the light of God but shutting it away from others. Satan loves to see the effect of the pictures of his triumphs, making human beings faithless and disheartened.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 21, p. 80

The Lord looks upon impenitent cities. He sends to them by His messengers messages of reproof and of warning, but when His messengers are despised and abused and the messages rejected, when it is seen the patience and forbearance will not turn the hearts of men to Him, God will send judgments, as He has done upon San Francisco. No human power can stand against the mandates of Jehovah.

Last Day Events, p. 237

All will be tested and tried according to the light they have had. Those who turn from the truth to fables can look for no second probation. There will be no temporal millennium. If, after the Holy Spirit has brought conviction to their hearts, they resist the truth and use their influence to block the way so that others will not receive it, they will never be convinced. They did not seek for transformation of character in the probation given them, and Christ will not give them opportunity to pass over the ground again. The decision is a final one.--Letter 25, 1900.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 15, p. 302

Those who were then deceived might since have come to the light. They might rejoice in the truth as it is in Jesus, were it not for the pride of their own rebellious hearts. They will be asked in the judgment, "Who required this at your hand, to rise up against the message and the messengers I sent to My people with light, with grace and power? Why have you lifted up your souls against God? Why did you block the way with your own perverse spirit? And afterward when evidence was piled upon evidence, why did you not humble your hearts before God, and repent of your rejection of the message of mercy He sent you?" The Lord has not inspired these brethren to resist the truth.

Summation

When Satan personates Christ, he will not only heal the sick and present some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which Jesus uttered, but at the same time he will claim he has changed the seventh-day Sabbath to Sunday. In attempting to convince her readers that Ernie's dreams are not from God, Linda fails to realize that when people reject messages sent from God, that this too amounts to Satan deceiving them regardless of their being careful.

Conclusion

When we reject the truth sent to us through God's prophets, we are attributing the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan. Linda and Ernie's other critics have done this. As we continue to assess Linda's letter, we will find many accusations and no concrete evidence that the dreams are not from God.

Praying for a sign

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"Of course he can! He can put thoughts, even good thoughts, into our minds, so it seems that our prayers are being answered. Oh, how very, very careful we must be to not fall for his deceptions, which are increasing in delusive attraction. His deceptions are going to be this powerful: 'So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures.' GC 539 That tells me that we cannot be too careful in testing every little thing when dealing with supernatural experiences.

"You will recall how I expressed several times how earnestly I was praying that the Lord would reveal to me the origin of the dreams. I prayed for several signs, such as things I would like the Lord to reveal to you in a dream. None of those signs were fulfilled. My concerns and questions were mounting even while I was becoming more personally involved with your ministry."

Fact

Why will God answer a prayer for a sign when He has provided us ways in which we are to test a prophet? If we fail to appropriate these tests, God will not answer our desire for signs to prove He has sent a messenger.

God says:

Christ Object Lessons, p. 34

They rejected the antitype, and clung to their types and useless ceremonies. The Son of God had come, but they continued to ask for a sign. The message, "Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand,"

they answered by demands for a miracle. Matt. 3:2. The gospel of Christ was a stumbling block to them because they demanded signs instead of a Saviour.

The Desire of Ages, p. 386

They had seen Christ by the witness of the Holy Spirit, by the revelation of God to their souls. The living evidences of His power had been before them day after day, yet they asked for still another sign. Had this been given, they would have remained as unbelieving as before. If they were not convinced by what they had seen and heard, it was useless to show them more marvelous works. Unbelief will ever find excuse for doubt, and will reason away the most positive proof.

The Signs of the Times, January 17, 1878

Christ appeared in the disguise of humanity as a servant. But those who were partakers of his divine nature had eyes to perceive his divinity, the glory of which had upon special occasions, flashed through his human disguise, revealing indeed the Father. Sad indeed was it that one of his disciples who had been his companion, and witnessed his mighty works, had so failed to discern the character of his Saviour as to ask him for another sign. Jesus looked upon him with mild reproach.

Conclusion

Amazingly, Linda states that Satan can put thoughts into our minds so it appears that God is answering our prayers. Yet then she prays for several signs to prove that Ernie's dreams are from God. Does the Bible teach us to pray for a sign so that we can identify a deceiver? No. We have to test everything using the Bible—"to the law and to the testimony." (Isaiah 8:20) God does not bypass this simple process. As a result, we find from Linda's own admission, that she has just set herself up for Satan's deception by relying upon a test that is not biblical. It would not make any difference what the answer to her prayer was. Either way would not prove Ernie's dreams are from God, as the following points show.

- If her prayers seem to have answers, this would not prove anything, as Satan can answer our prayers (if he hears them or puts the thought into our mind if prayed silently), just as Linda suggested. However, this does not mean that God will not answer our silent prayers.
- If God did not answer her prayer for a sign, then she is going to reject the dreams.

Because Linda did not follow Bible counsel, she sets herself up for Satan's deception, because he could answer her prayer or he could decide not to answer.

Character examination or character assassination?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"While we all have our faults that need to be overcome by the blood of the Lamb, a person claiming to have a divine calling puts themselves under the microscope of character examination. The Bible tells us to test

the fruits, so we may know the origin of inspiration. The fruits are the character of the messenger and the results of the message. Therefore, the following observations are not for the purpose of character assassination, but rather to follow the biblical injunction and the Spirit of Prophecy counsel that 'By their testimony [the scriptures] every statement and every miracle must be tested.'--GC 593"

Fact

If Linda had quoted the first part of the paragraph, it would have shed more light as follows.

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 593

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah 8:20. The people of God are directed to the Scriptures as their safeguard against the influence of false teachers and the delusive power of spirits of darkness. Satan employs every possible device to prevent men from obtaining a knowledge of the Bible; for its plain utterances reveal his deceptions. At every revival of God's work the prince of evil is aroused to more intense activity; he is now putting forth his utmost efforts for a final struggle against Christ and His followers. The last great delusion is soon to open before us. Antichrist is to perform his marvelous works in our sight. So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures.

The quote refers to the Sunday law and Satan impersonating Christ in view of the whole world. It is not referring to prophets and that we must test everything they do and say and if it is not perfect, they are not of God. Since the beginning, no prophet has been perfect, since all have sinned and come short of God's glory. Ernie has never claimed perfection. If Linda had known Christ's disciples when He first called them, would she have rejected them as well? Please refer to chapter 2 of volume 2 for more details on this subject.

God says:

The Desire of Ages, p. 295

All the disciples had serious faults when Jesus called them to His service. Even John, who came into closest association with the meek and lowly One, was not himself naturally meek and yielding. He and his brother were called "the sons of thunder." While they were with Jesus, any slight shown to Him aroused their indignation and combativeness. Evil temper, revenge, the spirit of criticism, were all in the beloved disciple. He was proud, and ambitious to be first in the kingdom of God. But day by day, in contrast with his own violent spirit, he beheld the tenderness and forbearance of Jesus, and heard His lessons of humility and patience. He opened his heart to the divine influence, and became not only a hearer but a doer of the Saviour's words. Self was hid in Christ. He learned to wear the yoke of Christ and to bear His burden.

It is wrong to assume that a person who receives dreams or visions must be good enough to deserve them. God sends dreams and visions to teach, rebuke, encourage and to save us. He comes to seek and save those who are

lost. There are many examples of this in the Bible. The stories of Nebuchadnezzar and Saul are two examples. Were they perfect when God gave them their dream or vision? Far from it! Did each of these men repent and change their lives? Yes! Did they become perfect right away? No. Each progresses differently just as no two people are alike. You can say the same of Ellen White. Her following statement shows that God educates even His messengers with the messages He gives.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 686

I would not dishonor my Maker by admitting that all this light, all the display of His mighty power in my work and experience, has been valueless, that it has not educated my judgment or better fitted me for His work.

The mistake that people make is to focus more on the fallible messenger rather than on the messages and the One who sent them. Test the messages with God's words that have come before. If the messages are from God, they will pass the "fruits" test as follows.

From S. N. Haskell, quoted in F. C. Gilbert, *Divine Predictions Fulfilled*, pp. 29-33. {Ellen G. White in Europe, p. 244}

The testimony of every true prophet will agree with the testimony of the prophets of God before him, and it may be a further development of the same truth uttered by them. . . .

No one can add anything to the revelation we have in the Bible, but every prophet who is inspired will develop the subject, or the words spoken by prophets before him. . . .

In Ps. 138:2 are found these words, 'Thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.'

It is this principle alone that is a positive proof of inspiration, and any prophet who does not make other scriptures seem broader and more wonderful, does not bear the right kind of fruit.

Ernie's dream says:

In the Heart of Jesus, September 12, 2009

Someone is now shouting, "We don't need you. We have the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy." The Herald tells me that they are not one of these who are they. I am told to look closely and notice that Becky and I use a white cloth to wipe our faces and the front of ourselves as well as our shoes. I now notice a window behind us that resembles a large magnifying glass. It is showing a Bible and a book called *Spirit of Prophecy*. (I know that the book represents all the writings of Ellen G. White.)

If the Holy Spirit guides a person, they will see that the dreams do the following:

- Agree with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy
- Magnify the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy
- Further develop the same truth
- Make other scriptures seem broader and more wonderful

- Pass the “fruits” test

God says:

The Review and Herald, October 18, 1892

Whatever course the messenger may pursue, it will be objectionable to the opposers of truth; and they will make capital of every defect in the manners, customs, or character of its advocate, in order that they may prevent those from giving it their candid attention who would listen to the evidences. If there is anything through which the opposers can find occasion to falsify the character or misinterpret the action of him who presents the truth, they will take advantage of it to deter those who would accept and obey the truth from hearing or believing the message.

Christ's Object Lessons, p. 150

"God, I thank thee," he says, "that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican." He judges his character, not by the holy character of God, but by the character of other men. His mind is turned away from God to humanity. This is the secret of his self-satisfaction.

Linda claims her letter is not for the purpose of character assassination, however, according to the following definitions, she is mistaken. Her letter contains many false or exaggerated statements designed to mislead the reader and tarnish Ernie's reputation.

Wikipedia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Character_assassination

Character assassination is an attempt to tarnish a person's reputation. It may involve exaggeration or manipulation of facts to present an untrue picture of the targeted person. It is a form of defamation and can be a form of ad hominem argument.

The Free Dictionary,

<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/character+assassination>

An attempt to destroy someone's good reputation by slander or deliberate misrepresentation of his or her views: he described the accusation as 'an appalling piece of character assassination.'

Conclusion

Linda takes a Spirit of Prophecy quote out of context. Then because Linda's letter contains many false or exaggerated statements designed to mislead the reader and ruin Ernie's reputation, we see it as character assassination. In doing this, Linda has made it more difficult for God's messages to go to the world in an attempt to save people for the kingdom. Will the loss of souls be on her account? Alternatively, will she repent before it is too late?

Trying to appear humble

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"One thing that you mentioned several times is that you were not an "up front" type of person and you did not like to be in the spotlight. It seemed like you were trying to convince me that you were very humble. But in our conversation, I sensed something else. You told the story about

your trip to Ohio in the restaurant how the group of people wanted you to sit in the middle of the table, and you went to the very corner. Ernie, a humble person doesn't need to tell others how humble he is."

Fact

What we perceive and sense is not necessarily the truth. In addition, we find it necessary here to rephrase the following quote from chapter 2: There is a psychological technique frequently used by attorneys to get a jury to make a decision favorable to their client when hard evidence does not support their viewpoint. First, they create a supposition, a speculation that they offer as possible truth. Then they create a spin on those suppositions and present those as appearing to be facts. Next, they present the logical conclusion based on those "facts." Their purpose is to create enough doubt in the mind of the jury to accomplish their desired goal. Notice the frequent use of this technique as you read Linda's letter. There is intention to create doubt about the messages and thus lead people to ignore the messages rather than studying them with Scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy. An example is using the words "seemed" or "sensed."

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 13, p. 313

Your words are not always wise. When you allow your own spirit to have sway, you lose the spirit of God, and then it is that the strange fire is offered. When your spirit is stirred, your imagination is deceptive, you arrive at false conclusions, and things appear to you in a perverted light. Your imagination is wrought upon by satanic agencies. Be careful not to trace a word of your suppositions, to be immortalized.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 4, p. 234

Men's hearts are no softer today than when Christ was upon the earth. They will do all in their power to aid the great adversary in making it as hard as possible for the servants of Christ, just as the people did with Christ when He was upon the earth. They will scourge with the tongue of slander and falsehood. They will criticize, and turn against the servant of God the very efforts he is leading them to make. They will, with their evil surmisings, see fraud and dishonesty where all is right and where perfect integrity exists.

The Free Dictionary, <http://www.thefreedictionary.com/surmise>

To infer (something) without sufficiently conclusive evidence. To make a guess or conjecture. An idea or opinion based on insufficiently conclusive evidence.

God says:

The Adventist Home, pp. 440-441

We think with horror of the cannibal who feasts on the still warm and trembling flesh of his victim; but are the results of even this practice more terrible than are the agony and ruin caused by misrepresenting motive, blackening reputation, dissecting character? Let the children, and the youth as well, learn what God says about these things: "Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

The spirit of gossip and talebearing is one of Satan's special agencies to sow discord and strife, to separate friends, and to undermine the faith of many in the truthfulness of our positions.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 94

I saw that the very spirit of perjury, that would turn truth into falsehood, good into evil, and innocence into crime, is now active. Satan exults over the condition of God's professed people. While many are neglecting their own souls, they eagerly watch for an opportunity to criticize and condemn others. All have defects of character, and it is not hard to find something that jealousy can interpret to their injury. "Now," say these self-constituted judges, "we have facts. We will fasten upon them an accusation from which they can not clear themselves." They wait for a fitting opportunity and then produce their bundle of gossip and bring forth their tidbits.

Historical Sketches of the Foreign Missions of the Seventh-day Adventists, p. 122

Let not your ears listen to gossip from any one. If all would refuse to hear evil of their neighbor, the tale-bearer would soon seek other employment.

Wikipedia, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gossip>

Gossip is idle talk or rumour, especially about the personal or private affairs of others. It forms one of the oldest and most common means of sharing (unproven) facts and views, but also has a reputation for the introduction of errors and other variations into the information transmitted. The term also carries implications that the news so transmitted (usually) has a personal or trivial nature, as opposed to normal conversation.

Summation

Evil surmising and gossip are tools of Satan. He knows that most people are willing to listen to false information instead of finding out the facts. This is the major reason why God's prophets are not accepted. Luke 4:24 tells us "no prophet is accepted in his own country."

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 3, p. 315

In every advance move that God has led us to make, in every step gained by God's people, there have been ready tools of Satan among us, to stand back and suggest doubts and unbelief, and to throw obstacles in our way, to weaken our faith and courage. We have had to stand like warriors, ready to press and fight our way through the opposition raised. This has made our work tenfold harder than it otherwise would have been. We have had to stand as firm and unyielding as a rock. This firmness has been interpreted to be hardheartedness and willfulness. God never designed that we should swerve, first to the right and then to the left, to gratify the minds of unconsecrated brethren. He designed that our course should be straightforward. One and another have come to us, professing to have a great burden for us to have us go this way or that,

contrary to the light that God has given us. What if we had followed these false lights and fanatical impressions? Surely our people should not then put confidence in us. We have had to set our faces as flints for the right and then press on to work and duty.

Conclusion

There is nothing new in the way Linda tries to discredit Ernie. Ellen White faced a similar situation when one of her secretaries, Fannie Bolton, turned against her and began spreading false information.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 9, p. 273

Your words regarding me and my writings are false, and I must say that you know them to be false. Nevertheless, those unacquainted with you take your words as being the words of one who knows. Because you have been acquainted with me, and connected with me, you can state what you please, and you think that your tracks are so covered that they will never be discovered. But my writings have not stopped. They go out as I have written them. No words of my copyists are put in the place of my own words. This is a testimony that cannot be controverted. My articles speak for themselves. . . .

At that time, many people thought Fannie Bolton was sincere and they believed her lies. Linda accomplished the same destructive work.

Sons and Daughters of God, p. 309

That God who marks the fall of a sparrow, marks your deportment and your feelings; He marks your envy, your prejudice, your attempt to justify your action in the least matter of injustice. When you misconceive the words and acts of another, and your own feelings are stirred, so that you make incorrect statements, and it is known that you are at variance with your brother, you lead others, through their confidence in you, to regard him just as you do; and by the root of bitterness springing up, many are defiled. When it is evident that your feelings are incorrect, do you try just as diligently to remove the erroneous impressions as you did to make them?

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 4, p. 188

You positively neglect to do the will of God. Says Christ: "Ye are My friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." This is the condition imposed; this is the test that proves men's characters. Feelings are often deceiving, emotions are no sure safeguard; for they are variable and subject to external circumstances. Many are deluded by relying on sensational impressions. The test is: What are you doing for Christ? What sacrifices are you making? What victories are you gaining? A selfish spirit overcome, a temptation to neglect duty resisted, passion subdued, and willing, cheerful obedience rendered to the will of Christ are far greater evidences that you are a child of God than spasmodic piety and emotional religion.

The Desire of Ages, p. 385

The fact that He claimed to be the Sent of God, and yet refused to be Israel's king, was a mystery which they could not fathom. His refusal was misinterpreted. Many concluded that He dared not assert His claims because He Himself doubted as to the divine character of His mission. Thus they opened their hearts to unbelief, and the seed which Satan had sown bore fruit of its kind, in misunderstanding and defection.

Can a prophet ask questions in their dreams?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“There were several things that made me question the origin of the dreams right from the start. One of them was the fact that you could ask the “angel” anything you wanted in the dreams. It was not like you were really asleep, but that you could have a list of questions that you wanted to ask, and talk to him as if you were awake.”

Fact

Becky is periodically able to hear Ernie talking aloud in his dreams. As yet, she has not heard him asking a question, only making statements or partial statements. Perhaps the questions are just a part of the dreams and God already knows what Ernie would ask in those situations. How it all works we do not know for sure, but we do know that it happens. Just because we do not understand something, does not make it false. Linda, if God gave you the opportunity, would you not want to ask questions of Jesus or an angel in a dream? Ellen White and Bible prophets freely asked God questions in their dreams or visions, whether aloud or not, as seen in the following quotes.

God says:

Matthew 7:7

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

Daniel 7:16

I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

Broadside1, April 6, 1846

And as we were gazing at the glories of the place our eyes were attracted upwards to something that had the appearance of silver. I asked Jesus to let me see what was within there... And I saw a veil with a heavy fringe of silver and gold as a border on the bottom; it was very beautiful. I asked Jesus what was within the veil... As we were travelling along, we met a company who were also gazing at the glories of the place. I noticed red as a border on their garments; their crowns were brilliant; their robes were pure white. As we greeted them, I asked Jesus who they were? He said they were martyrs that had been slain for him.... And I saw the fruit of the tree of life, the manna, almonds, figs, pomegranates, grapes, and many other kinds of fruit. We all reclined at the table. I asked Jesus to let me eat of the fruit. He said, not now. Those who eat of the fruit of this land, go back to earth no more... I asked Jesus if his Father had a form like himself. He said he had, but I could not behold it, for said he if you should once behold the glory of his person you would cease to exist.

Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White, pp. 101-102

I asked my attending angel for an explanation of what I saw. He told me that I could see no more then, but he would shortly show me what those things that I then saw meant.

I asked my accompanying angel the meaning of what I heard, and what the four angels were about to do.

Early Writings, p. 88

Then he showed me the conductor, who appeared like a stately, fair person, whom all the passengers looked up to and revered. I was perplexed and asked my attending angel who it was. He said, "It is Satan..."

I asked the angel if there were none left. He bade me look in an opposite direction, and I saw a little company traveling a narrow pathway.

Ibid., p. 127

I asked the angel why there was no more faith and power in Israel.

Ibid., p. 176

I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen, and was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the True Witness to the Laodiceans.

Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 4b, p. 2-3

I asked the angel why simplicity had been shut out from the church, and pride and exaltation come in. I saw that this is the reason why we have almost been delivered into the hand of the enemy.

I asked the angel if the frown of God had been upon his people for commencing the Sabbath as they have. I was directed back to the first rise of the Sabbath.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 178

I asked the angel if that darkness was necessary. Said he: "Look ye!" I then saw the church begin to rise, and earnestly plead with God, and rays of light began to penetrate this darkness, and the cloud was removed.

Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White, p. 253

ALTHOUGH MRS. WHITE OFTEN SPOKE WHILE IN VISION, YET NO BREATH CAME FROM HER LIPS.

Ellen G. White: The Early Years, Vol. 1, p. 150

At times Ellen White, while in vision, spoke in short exclamations of what she was viewing. These gave clues to her companions as to the scenes passing before her. It was so in this case, and Joseph Bates, with pencil and paper in hand, noted the words as she spoke. Here are significant portions of Bates's notes:

Where did the light break out? ----- Let thine angel teach us where the light broke out! ----- It commenced from a little, when Thou didst give one light after another. ----- The testimony and commandments are linked together; they cannot be separated. ----- That comes first, the ten commandments by God. . . .

Conclusion

Linda failed to thoroughly study God's Word to find the answer. Again, she did not follow God's counsel on how to test a prophet. Nowhere in the Bible or the Spirit of Prophecy do we find that a prophet will not be able to ask questions in their dreams or visions.

Asking irrelevant questions?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"The questions that you chose to ask, I remember thinking at the time, were not questions that concerned the people of God as a whole, but more personal questions. I remember you telling me that one of the questions that you asked the angel was that if you should receive tithe, and the angel said yes. That bothered me greatly at the time. Another was about the Bible code. I don't think any serious Bible student would have even bothered with this question."

Fact

Is not tithe a very important subject, especially for someone who God called? It is not only a personal matter for Ernie but for others who are in a self-supporting ministry. Please see [chapter 1](#) for more details on the tithe issue.

Regarding the Bible code question, Ernie had been concerned about that subject before his dream that mentioned it, because some Seventh-day Adventists he knew of actually believed in the Bible code. Therefore, Linda, what one thinks is irrelevant may be very relevant to another.

God says:

In Heavenly Places, p. 150

We should take this lesson to ourselves. Again the destroying angel is to pass through the land. There is to be a mark placed upon God's people, and that mark is the keeping of His holy Sabbath. We are not to follow our own will and judgment and flatter ourselves that God will come to our terms. . . . That which looks unimportant to you may be of the highest consequence in God's special plans for the preservation of your life or the salvation of your soul. God tests our faith by giving us some part to act in connection with His interposition in our behalf. To those who comply with the conditions His promise will be fulfilled.

The Great Controversy, p. 136

At the next interview, Luther presented a clear, concise, and forcible exposition of his views, fully supported by many quotations from Scripture. This paper, after reading aloud, he handed to the cardinal, who, however, cast it contemptuously aside, declaring it to be a mass of idle words and irrelevant quotations. Luther, fully aroused, now met the

haughty prelate on his own ground--the traditions and teachings of the church--and utterly overthrew his assumptions.

Conclusion

Linda has judged what is important and what is not before knowing all the facts. Again, we cannot use our own reasoning to test a prophet.

Can a person decide on a question to ask in a dream?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"I remember sitting around our table Saturday night, October 27, with you and Becky talking about the dreams. You were explaining how you could ask the angel any questions you had. Becky and I were talking about how it would be nice to know how God felt about women wearing pants, and coloring their hair, and even plucking their eyebrows. We suggested that you put those on your list. We talked about several other issues, including knowing which people that were having dreams, like Soo, and Pebbles, were of God. Then I read in the dreams that the angel says you are asleep when you are having the dreams. Can a sleeping person decide on questions to ask in his sleep?"

Fact

Nothing is impossible with God.

God says:

Genesis 18:14

Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

Jeremiah 32:27

Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

Matthew 19:26

But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

1 Kings 3:5-12

In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, Ask what I shall give thee. And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in. And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing,

and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

Conclusion

For one to question whether a prophet can ask questions in their dream while asleep reveals a lack of faith. To the question, is anything too hard for the Lord, the answer comes back that all things are possible with God. Linda comments on a subject that is far above her understanding of how God communicates with His prophets.

Webmaster changing dream?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“Less than one month after my initial contact with you, Ernie, you called me up one morning, and said, “You’d better sit down. I have something very important to tell you.” You then proceeded to tell me that the angel had selected me to edit the dream you just had. I was to edit it, and to email it directly to the web master, without you even seeing the final copy. Before I emailed it, I was to show it to my husband, who was to make any necessary corrections to it according to information that the Lord would show him. You suggested that my husband might have a dream that might add to your dream.

“I received by email a rough draft of the SDA Church dream on September 28, 2007. I edited it, as per instructions, and emailed it to my husband, who was out of town on a business trip. He read it and said he didn’t have anything to add. He had received nothing from the Lord. We both thought this was rather strange. I then emailed it to the web master. But, I noticed that the dream that was posted had some minor changes made to my edition. I guess the web master felt at liberty to change some things that even you weren’t supposed to change.”

Ernie’s dream says:

The SDA Church, September 28, 2007

“After you awake, prepare what I have shown you. Send it to Sister Z. She will serve in editing. When she is finished she is to have her husband review it. He will know if anything has been left out as he has already been shown. When he is in agreement with what has been prepared, it is to be sent straightaway to Brother S for posting for His people.” I asked the Herald if Brother Z has received the dream. He said that many are shown and they share. Many are shown and they are afraid to share. Many are shown and they do not recall. Many are shown and they recall after the appointed time. And many are shown through the Father’s Spirit.

David Starkey wrote:

“I am the web admin. I do not change what God tells Ernie.”

David is saying that he only changed grammar or readability. He never changed the content or essence of the dreams. The other fact that Linda was

unaware of, and only needed to ask Ernie, is that Ernie did not include all the instructions in the dream or give them all to Linda. He only gave what was necessary to each individual. When Ernie spoke with David, Ernie gave David explicit details of how David was to do the final editing before posting Ernie's dream.

God says:

Pacific Union Recorder, January 15, 1903

Be very careful how you carry reports. Often what you tell to others, though seeming to you to be truth, is misrepresentation. Thus false conclusions are formed. Thread after thread of misrepresentation is woven into the web, until the pattern is spoiled. Oh, how many hearts are grieved and wounded because of statements made by those who do not really know that what they report is true! How much pain is caused by cruel handling of reputation! The course of those who utter the slander would be just as dark if represented as they represent the course of the one whom they are accusing.

Conclusion

Without checking out all the facts, Linda came to conclusions that were false. When we assume, we can get into trouble and hurt others, which, in turn, hurts our Savior.

Should names be mentioned in dreams?

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"Pride likes to be noticed. The evil angels are good at flattering their victims and making them feel special. Both my husband and myself felt at the time that it was rather unusual that the angel should single us out in this way. You wanted to put our names in the dream, but we both felt uncomfortable with that and insisted that you not do so."

Fact

Ernie never planned to use your whole names, only an initial, so that you would remain unknown. At your request, a different letter than your last name was used to keep it even more confidential.

Following are examples in which God or His messengers provided names for different reasons.

God says:

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 118

Brother and Sister ----, I saw opposite your names also, in the heavenly record, the word, "Wanting." You need to be emptied of self and the soul temple cleansed. Both of you have ability to do good, but it is unsanctified. You are greatly deficient in the simplicity of godliness. Were the church left to be molded by your standard of religion, it would be demoralized into a worldly, unconsecrated form. You might have been a great blessing to the church, but you have greatly failed. Jesus bids you come out from the spirit of the world. Sister ----, I am alarmed for you and for those who are brought in contact with your influence. You reach a low standard. "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." By your words and actions you are now casting the seed. You are either

sowing to the flesh or to the Spirit. In the day of final reckoning everyone must take the sickle and mow down the crop his own hand has sown.

2 Chronicles 11:2-4

But the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah the man of God, saying, Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren: return every man to his house: for this thing is done of me. And they obeyed the words of the LORD, and returned from going against Jeroboam.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 16, p. 171

A dream the Lord gave me August 22. I dreamed of being in a wagon with Brother Rhodes and James, and we were to pass a bridge covered with water. As we passed over the bridge I was much frightened, for the water came into the body of the wagon and it seemed that we were sinking. I had my babe with me and I was so frightened I almost let him fall into the water. Brother Rhodes assured me a number of times that there was no danger and that we must necessarily pass through the water over the bridge.

After we had passed safely through the water, my eyes were attracted to something strange in the air. I saw angels marching through the air singing with solemn, clear voices, "For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Their voices rang through the air. Upon their shoulders they had mantles that reached to their feet. Brother Rhodes began to shout with a loud voice and said, "And shall I see Him whom my soul loveth?"

James was counting the angels, and I stood trembling with fear. My life came up before [me] and looked so full of wrongs I could not see how I should be able to stand.

Life Sketches of Ellen G. White, p. 67

We all went under the tree, and sat down to look at the glory of the place, when Brethren Fitch and Stockman, who had preached the gospel of the kingdom, and whom God had laid in the grave to save them, came up to us and asked us what we had passed through while they were sleeping.

A Word to the Little Flock, p. 16

I asked Jesus to let me see what was within there. In a moment we were winging our way upward, and entering in; here we saw good old father Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Noah, Daniel, and many like them.

Linda, have you thought of the possibility that God was giving you and Brian a chance to be a part of the ministry? He was not trying to flatter you. There are always going to be ways in which the devil will try to make us feel proud about ourselves, even when that is not God's intention when He uses names or other methods. After Daniel had been praying about the Jewish captivity and the time when it would end, God sent Gabriel, the highest angel in heaven, to give him understanding. By the fact that God answered his prayer so quickly, would this

be enough to cause Daniel to feel proud about himself? Then, however, Gabriel even tells Daniel he is greatly beloved.

God says:

Daniel 9:23; 10:11

At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision. [10:11] And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling.

Conclusion

When names appear in dreams or visions, it does not violate God's Word. Linda failed to search His Word until she found the answer. Again, God has never given this as a test of a prophet.

Angel's statement does not make sense?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"You asked the angel in the dream if my husband had received the same dream. Here is the angel's answer: "Many are shown and they share. Many are shown and they are afraid to share. Many are shown and they do not recall. Many are shown and they recall after the appointed time. Many are shown through the Father's Spirit." This statement from the angel made absolutely no sense to us. Did Brian have a dream that he didn't remember? We had no clue."

Fact

God often conceals the meaning of a message for a purpose.

God says:

Matthew 13:13

Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.

Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 187

There are in the Scriptures some things which are hard to be understood, and which, according to the language of Peter, the unlearned and unstable wrest unto their own destruction. We may not, in this life, be able to explain the meaning of every passage of Scripture; but there are no vital points to practical truth that will be clouded in mystery.

S. D. A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 7, p. 919

It is true that the apostle has said that there are some things that are hard to be understood in the Scriptures. So there are. And if it were not that there are subjects that are difficult and hard to be understood, well might the skeptic who now pleads that God has given a revelation that cannot be understood--well might he, I say--have something else to plead. God's infinity is so much higher than we are, that it is impossible for man to comprehend the mystery of godliness.

Conclusion

Just because parts of Ernie's dreams seem strange or are not easy to understand, it does not mean they are not from God. Paul wrote of things that are hard to understand, yet Linda does not reject him. Regarding Daniel and Revelation, who can say there is nothing strange or hard to understand in those books? If Ernie's dreams had nothing strange in them or were all easy to understand, then we could more easily assume they are not from God.

A close friendship?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"We continued communicating with you, developing a close friendship."

Ernie and Becky disagree with Linda's statement. Even though they would have liked to develop a close friendship, they do not believe it happened after several phone calls and one visit in person within two months' time. It was a short friendship and not a close friendship.

Researching Ernie Knoll

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"I did some research of my own. First, I asked you if you were involved in a small group, such as a Bible study group or fellowship. You said no. I asked who your close friends were locally, and you said you didn't have many close friends. I asked where you fellowshiped at church, and you said that you didn't attend church regularly, because you often just rested at home on Sabbath. Other times you visited around to churches, because the church your membership was at was too far away. You also talked about your speaking appointments, but as it turned out, you had really had few speaking appointments, and two of the major ones turned out to be disasters for you because they were cancelled after you arrived.

I was trying to find others who knew you before the dreams came, from whom I could obtain a character reference. I called your pastor, but he didn't want to talk about you much, and referred me to your father-in-law. I called that number, and talked with your mother-in-law."

Fact

- The fact that Ernie was not in a Bible study group or did not have many close friends locally at the time does not prove anything.
- Ernie was not attending church regularly at the time because of his poor health. The church where he had his membership was too far away because at the time he had recently moved.
- Yes, at the time Ernie had only a few speaking appointments, because the ministry was just beginning. It is a disgrace that members of God's last-day church would actually cancel a meeting after Ernie and Becky arrived. Ernie was just beginning to learn the results of opposition. Further details of one incident appear later in this chapter. However, we fail to see why having few speaking appointments is a factor. Is it a rule that every ministry must always have lots of speaking engagements? On the other

hand, Linda spoke too soon. In 2008 and 2009, Ernie and Becky traversed the U.S. many times, giving 30 presentations.

- It is no surprise that a pastor would not discuss Ernie's ministry. The conference was already criticizing Ernie because of the tithe issue.
- The pastor referred Linda to Ernie's father-in-law because he was the head elder at his church.

God says:

Manuscript Releases, No. 926, p. 54

She goes not only to those who believe and know me to tell her story but she goes to those newly come to the faith and tells her imaginative story. The same sentiment is expressed as in Numbers 16:3.

Sketches from the Life of Paul, p. 103

When Christ was upon earth, the Jews all over the land were notified to watch his movements, for their religion was not safe where his influence was felt. He was continually followed by spies, who caught up every word and act which they could use against him. Paul had to meet the same spirit of opposition and blind prejudice. He preached first in the synagogue, reasoning from Moses and the prophets, showing what sins the Lord had most severely punished in olden times, and that murmuring and rebellion was the grievous crime that had brought God's displeasure upon the people of his choice.

Conclusion

Because Linda uses her own tests of a prophet, she takes it upon herself to conduct a "witch hunt." Again, without all the facts, she comes to wrong conclusions and false assumptions. She joins in the same spirit as those who spied on Christ, who opposed Paul, murmuring and rebelling, which brings God's displeasure upon her. Ernie's prayer is that Linda will again believe in God's messages of the dreams before it is ever too late. It is not just Ernie she opposes, but God Himself.

Worried a prediction would not happen

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"On October 21, 2007, you called me, Ernie, to tell me about a dream you had just had. I talked to both you and Becky. You stated that you were shaking, and seemed quiet emotional. I don't know what word to use to describe your feelings, but I believe you stated you were scared. You stated that this was the first dream that had a direct prophecy in it, and you expressed the fact that you were afraid that, if it was not fulfilled, that it would prove your dreams to be false. I remember mentioning to Brian afterwards, that it seems like you would certainly want to know if the dreams were false, and this would be a good way to test it! You actually seemed more worried for your reputation than about finding out if the dreams were really from God."

Fact

Please notice in Linda's description she uses the words, "I believe you stated you were scared." This does not sound like someone who remembers correctly. If Linda cannot provide proof that Ernie was scared that the dreams would

prove false, she should not have mentioned it because it amounts to gossip. Ernie states that he was not scared simply surprised. It is only natural for him to care about his reputation, because it reflects on God's ministry. Should we throw out Jonah since he "feared lest he should be regarded as a false prophet"? (*The Review and Herald*, October 18, 1906) However, Ernie was more interested in knowing if the dreams were from God. Who in their right mind would not want to know? Since that time, however, both Ernie and Becky have learned more fully that all God's promises are conditional and that, if they happen, it is in God's timing.

God says:

Fundamentals of Christian Education, pp. 405-406

Christ brought to our world a certain knowledge of God, and to all who received and obeyed His word, gave He power to become the sons of God. He who came forth from God to our world gave instruction on every subject about which it is essential that man should know in order to find the pathway to heaven. To Him, truth was an ever-present, self-evident reality; He uttered no suggestions, advanced no sentiments, notions, or opinions, but presented only solid, saving truth.

Everything not comprehended in truth is the guesswork of man.

Conclusion

Linda is in the habit of guesswork and gossip. In addition, as God stated in the "Testing the Spirits" dream, she has a memory problem.

Easier to accept if Becky had dreams?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"I felt very close to Becky, as she is a very sweet and sincere person. She seemed to have a genuine relationship with Jesus. I remember telling Brian, if Becky was the one receiving the dreams, I would find it a lot easier to believe in them."

Fact

God has never told us that if we like a person they pass the test of a prophet.

God says:

Isaiah 8:20

To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Conclusion

Again, Linda reveals how little she knows of how to test a prophet. Failing to turn to the Bible for guidance, Linda prefers to rely upon who she feels would be appropriate for the job. She places her focus more on the messenger than the messages.

Conversation centered around dreams

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"Then we met you in person when you came to our home Friday evening, October 26, 2007. We found you to be a very likeable and talkative person, with the conversation totally centered around your dreams. I was really hoping for a deep season of prayer, and some

discussion of truth as found in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, but instead the entire focus was on your dreams. Your prayer was brief and casual, not like someone who had truly encountered Divinity.”

Fact

Since Linda invited Ernie to share the dreams, would it not make sense that they be the central theme? We would think that if God gave Linda the same dreams, she would be happy about sharing them as well. Ernie was told to share the dreams. This is what he was doing.

God says:

Jeremiah 23:28

The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD.

Daniel 7:1

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

Genesis 37:5

And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.

Jeremiah 15:16; 20:9

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts. [20:9] Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.

Ernie Knoll says: (in his open letter to Linda)

“Where as I am enthusiastic about sharing the experience of the dreams I have been given, I cannot understand why you feel one would not want to hear of the things I saw in heaven, but the most precious was of my walk with Jesus. This is also why you invited us. We spent quite a time as the small group you invited had many questions and I was more than willing to answer these. Anyone experiencing the dreams I have would want to share the experience.”

Fact

Linda’s letter states that she was hoping for a deep season of prayer and some discussion of truth as found in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Ernie and Becky both remember discussing Bible and Spirit of Prophecy as well as the apostasy in the Church. They also listened as Linda and Brian shared their experiences. Therefore, to state that the entire focus and conversation centered on the dreams is a false statement.

Ernie says:

“However, you did not take into account the fact of the experience of the dream I had the day before which I shared, (‘Pray for Protection’).

You did not take into consideration that after the long drive Becky and I had that we might be tired. If you wanted to have a season of prayer you should have said so. As you readily know, we cannot share with you an expectation that you do not bring to our attention. Instead of asking if a season of prayer could be had, you now write about it in this open letter.”

Ernie's prayer was brief because of the lateness of the hour. Linda tries to make it appear that Ernie is not a very spiritual person because his prayer was short and, according to her description, “casual.” In Christ's day, the Jews believed that saying long prayers showed they were pious. However Christ, “...rebuked their long prayers on the corners of the streets, and the wearing of their long robes for the purpose of making people think they were very pious, when at the same time they would devour with exactions widows' houses.” *The Signs of the Times*, February 27, 1896.

S. D. A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 6, p. 1105

The 11th chapter of 2 Corinthians contains much instruction. It reveals to us that men who are liable to view matters after human eyesight may make very grave mistakes if they engage in a work that God has not appointed, but condemned. That work is to criticize, to climb upon the judgment seat, and pronounce sentence. How much better would it be for the spiritual advancement of such to look well to their own shortcomings and defects of character through watchful examination of their own hearts, to try to remove from them the beam of faultfinding, of evil surmising, of evil speaking, of bearing false witness, of hatred, and accusing of the brethren (MS 142, 1897).

Summation

If we had dreams like Ernie's, we should want to share them as well. Linda implies that Ernie was self-absorbed in his dreams and not a very spiritual person because of his short prayer that night. This is how she perceived the situation, but it does not mean her perception was correct.

Conclusion

It is good that Jesus will be our judge and not our fellow men. We can trust that when Jesus judges us in His judgment, He will consider all the facts.

Trivial matters?

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

“Throughout the weekend, every topic that was brought up always was redirected to your dreams. You even shared some dreams with us that were not inspired, and even a bit silly. This got a little wearisome to us. You mentioned several times how you'd like to fly your remote control airplanes on our large property. This seemed so trivial to me.”

Fact

The reason Ernie shared his common dreams was to show the difference between those and dreams from God. Regarding the mention of flying airplanes, Ernie was simply admiring their large open property. According to Ernie and Becky, not every topic was always redirected to the dreams. Yes, the dreams were the main focus but were not mentioned in every topic, such as

certain experiences of Linda and Brian or others, discussing their children or a meal, admiring their property, etc.

Conclusion

Why does Linda complain that Ernie talks about his dreams all the time, yet when he speaks about things not relating to his dreams, she accuses him of talking about trivial matters?

God says:

The Indiana Reporter, May 8, 1907

There are many who find special enjoyment in discoursing and dwelling upon the defects, whether real or imaginary, of those who bear heavy responsibilities in connection with God's cause. They overlook the good that has been accomplished, the benefits that have resulted from arduous labor and unflinching devotion to the cause, and fasten their attention on some apparent mistake, when the truth is, had they been left to do the work, they either would have refused to move at all under the attending discouragements of the case, or would have managed more indiscreetly than those who did do the work.

In your blindness you have ventured to handle the servant of God in a cruel manner. "Touch not mine anointed," saith God, "and do my prophets no harm." It is not a small matter to array yourself against men whom God has sent with light and truth for the people. Beware how you influence souls and reiterate insinuations and misrepresentations which have originated in an unsanctified heart. Souls are defiled by this root of bitterness, and are, through these questioning, murmuring ones, placed where the testimony of reproof which God sends will not reach them.

Outreach endeavors

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"I asked you about your outreach endeavors. Perhaps, I thought, you were involved in Bible studies, or distributing literature, and so on. You said that you told people whenever you got a chance that you were receiving dreams from God. This did not sound like witnessing at all to me, but rather a way to exalt yourself. This troubled me also."

Fact

Working in God's service entails more than simply giving Bible studies and handing out literature. When the disciples spoke about having been with Jesus, was that exalting themselves or witnessing? When Ellen White spoke about her visions and dreams, was she exalting herself or witnessing?

Remember that Ernie and Becky not only tell people about the dreams but also share the dream books (which also contain pertinent Bible and Spirit of Prophecy quotes) and the *Creeping Compromise* books. Their outreach has also included sharing God's Word by phone, email, traveling to give their presentations, and through their website (www.formypeople.org). Ernie and Becky have had Bible studies and distributed literature throughout the years. They praise God for the part they are able to do now and look forward to the day when God will purify the Church and "there will be thousands converted to the truth in a day who at the eleventh hour see and acknowledge the truth and the movements of the Spirit of God." {*Last Day Events*, p. 212}

God says:

Matthew 28:19

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

God's Amazing Grace, p. 211

The vine has many branches, but though all the branches are different, they do not quarrel. In diversity there is unity. All the branches obtain their nourishment from one source. This is an illustration of the unity that is to exist among Christ's followers. In their different lines of work they all have but one Head. The same Spirit, in different ways, works through them. There is harmonious action, though the gifts differ. . . . God calls for each one ... to do his appointed work according to the ability which has been given him.

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 453

As Paul spoke of what he knew, and testified of what he had seen, concerning Jesus of Nazareth as the hope of Israel, those who were honestly seeking for truth were convinced. Upon some minds, at least, his words made an impression that was never effaced. But others stubbornly refused to accept the plain testimony of the Scriptures, even when presented to them by one who had the special illumination of the Holy Spirit. They could not refute his arguments, but they refused to accept his conclusions.

Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, p. 123

The people partook largely of the same spirit, intruding upon the province of conscience and judging one another in matters that lay between the soul and God. It was in reference to this spirit and practice that Jesus said, "Judge not, that ye be not judged." That is, do not set yourself up as a standard. Do not make your opinions, your views of duty, your interpretations of Scripture, a criterion for others and in your heart condemn them if they do not come up to your ideal. Do not criticize others, conjecturing as to their motives and passing judgment upon them.

Conclusion

Once again, Linda uses human reasoning to judge and condemn Ernie. How does she know all that God has appointed Ernie to do?

Trying to impress people?

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"The concern was expressed by some who met you that day that they did not sense a spirit of humility. I mentioned to Becky on the side that she needed to tell you not to recount how muscular and strong you were as a young man, what a powerful job you had in which you told the executives in hospitals how to spend millions of dollars, how you had a mansion and expensive cars, and so on. What it felt like is that you were trying to impress everyone that you were truly an important person."

Fact

Linda should have approached Ernie with her issue to get the facts straight. Ernie has explained that he did not mention his strength as a young man to impress everyone but to compare how he was then to when he was very ill (before he was healed), which is what he was discussing with the group. When discussing his job, home and cars, it was showing how God had given but then God took away, as in the example of Job. Regarding the "mansion" and "expensive cars," they were not fancy compared to American standards, but they seemed like it to Ernie because he grew up in a very poor family.

God says:

The Desire of Ages, p. 314

Judge not, that ye be not judged." Do not think yourself better than other men, and set yourself up as their judge. Since you cannot discern motive, you are incapable of judging another. In criticizing him, you are passing sentence upon yourself; for you show that you are a participant with Satan, the accuser of the brethren. The Lord says, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves." This is our work. "If we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged." 2 Corinthians 13:5; 1 Corinthians 11:31.

Conclusion

Since no man can discern the motives of another, how then does Linda set herself up as Ernie's judge? We must realize that the way in which we judge others, including Ernie, God will judge us the same way.

No invitation from church leaders

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"Our pastor, who couldn't be at the meeting we scheduled, asked me to have the spiritual leaders of the church come and evaluate you and your message, to see if we should invite you to come and present a church-wide meeting. We all listened to you and Becky for over three hours, and had opportunity to ask any questions we wanted. After the meeting, I waited for the reactions of those present. There were a couple of women who were excited, and seemed to believe in the dreams, but neither of these women were invited there as church leaders, but just happened to be there. Brian and I found it very disconcerting that not one of the spiritual church leaders even suggested that we should have you come back to the church for an official presentation, even though they knew that was the original intention. One of the elders was especially concerned, and contacted Pastor Wohlberg, our former pastor, and you know the end of that story."

Fact

When Jesus was on earth, how many of the "spiritual leaders" accepted Jesus? In the same way, we are not surprised when regular Church members believe in the dreams, while the "spiritual leaders" of the Church do not believe in the dreams that God gives Ernie. With the knowledge that Brian and Linda had of the apostasy in the church, they should not have found it disconcerting that not one of the leaders suggested giving Ernie an invitation to speak. Yes, Ernie is aware of the "end of the story" with Pastor Steve Wohlberg and is very

saddened by this event. Ernie prays that all will see the error of their ways, as the Lord showed in Ernie's dreams.

God says:

John 7:48

Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him?

Counsels on Health, p. 357

The ministers of the popular churches will not allow the truth to be presented to the people from their pulpits. The enemy leads them to resist the truth with bitterness and malice. Falsehoods are manufactured. Christ's experience with the Jewish rulers is repeated. Satan strives to eclipse every ray of light shining from God to His people. He works through the ministers as he worked through the priests and rulers in the days of Christ. Will those who know the truth join his party, to hinder, embarrass, and turn aside those who are trying to work in God's appointed way to advance His work, to plant the standard of truth in the regions of darkness?

Conclusion

"Spiritual leaders" have rarely accepted God's prophets. Should Ernie expect any different treatment from the Church? Jesus said, "Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also." John 15:20.

Did not appear humble

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"I will share some of the impressions and concerns of the group that heard you speak to us that Sabbath, October 27, 2007. The deaconess stated that she was not impressed because of your lack of humility. When one of the elders asked questions in a very humble manner, she said that you responded rather defensively, justifying your position, and discounting his questions."

Fact

Unfortunately, the deaconess judged as wrongly as Linda did. If she thought Ernie was not being humble or was defensive, etc., she should have discussed the issue with Ernie first instead of assuming wrong. Ernie was not justifying his own position but God's, because his ministry is about sharing and defending God's messages. Ernie was simply sharing God's truth and if that set wrong with those who heard it, then "let there be difference, and even war."

God says:

The Great Controversy, pp. 45-46

To secure peace and unity they were ready to make any concession consistent with fidelity to God; but they felt that even peace would be too dearly purchased at the sacrifice of principle. If unity could be secured only by the compromise of truth and righteousness, then let there be difference, and even war.

Well would it be for the church and the world if the principles that actuated those steadfast souls were revived in the hearts of God's professed people.

Amos 3 [A dual application for modern Israel]

[1] Hear this word that the LORD hath spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying, [2] You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities. [3] Can two walk together, except they be agreed? [7] Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets. [8] The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy? [10] For they know not to do right, saith the LORD, who store up violence and robbery in their palaces. [11] Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; An adversary there shall be even round about the land; and he shall bring down thy strength from thee, and thy palaces shall be spoiled. [13] Hear ye, and testify in the house of Jacob, saith the Lord GOD, the God of hosts, [14] That in the day that I shall visit the transgressions of Israel upon him I will also visit the altars of Bethel: and the horns of the altar shall be cut off, and fall to the ground. [15] And I will smite the winter house with the summer house; and the houses of ivory shall perish, and the great houses shall have an end, saith the LORD.

Joshua 7:13

Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow: for thus saith the LORD God of Israel, There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel: thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you.

Summation

The deaconess judged and assumed wrong just as Linda did. She should have discussed the issue with Ernie first.

Conclusion

The majority of the Church members do not see the “accursed thing” among them. By God’s grace, Ernie will continue to defend God’s messages. A person should never compromise sharing truth for obtaining peace.

Joking about heavenly things?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“She was concerned about the light hearted, almost joking manner in which you talked about heavenly things.”

Fact

Where is the proof? Where are the examples? Ernie has stated that he did not mention and would not want to mention anything about heavenly things in a joking matter. However, is it a sin to be light-hearted?

The Free Dictionary, <http://www.thefreedictionary.com/lighthearted>

Not being burdened by trouble, worry, or care; happy and carefree.

God says:

Proverbs 15:13, 15; 17:22

A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

[15] All the days of the afflicted are evil: but he that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast.

[17:22] A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

Gospel Workers, p. 478

If you do not feel light-hearted and joyous, do not talk of your feelings. Cast no shadow upon the lives of others. A cold, sunless religion never draws souls to Christ. It drives them away from Him, into the nets that Satan has spread for the feet of the straying. Instead of thinking of your discouragements, think of the power you can claim in Christ's name. Let your imagination take hold upon things unseen. Let your thoughts be directed to the evidences of the great love of God for you. Faith can endure trial, resist temptation, bear up under disappointment. Jesus lives as our advocate. All is ours that His mediation secures.

Conclusion

It is becoming obvious that no matter what Ernie said or how he said it, Linda would judge him as in error.

Gospel Workers, p. 479

Cultivate the habit of speaking well of others. Dwell upon the good qualities of those with whom you associate, and see as little as possible of their errors and failings. When tempted to complain of what some one has said or done, praise something in that person's life or character. Cultivate thankfulness. Praise God for His wonderful love in giving Christ to die for us. It never pays to think of our grievances. God calls upon us to think of His mercy and His matchless love, that we may be inspired with praise.

Accepting tithe

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"But she was mostly concerned when you stated that you accepted tithe. She felt that this was inappropriate, and that you, of all people, should be most careful not to do anything that could be questionable like accepting tithe."

Fact

If Ernie or anyone else never did something because it was questionable, then they would not be able to share present truth with the world, because that is certainly questionable with the majority, even professed Christians.

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 19, p. 247

It cannot be said that the majority of those who claim to be Christians are truly spiritual-minded. As true today as when uttered by the lips of the great Teacher, are the words: "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for

many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able" [Luke 13:24]. "For wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" [Matt. 7:13, 14].

Linda failed to mention that someone in the group asked Ernie whether he accepts tithe. He does not solicit tithe, however, if someone asks whether he accepts tithe, he answers that he does. If there are those that the Holy Spirit convicts to send their tithe to Ernie, he cannot go against that conviction. Tithe is to support those who minister in the Word. Because Ernie's ministry ministers in the Word, he is entitled to a share of the tithe.

God says:

Spalding and Magan Collection, p. 117

There are ministers' wives, Sisters Starr, Haskell, Wilson and Robinson, who have been devoted, earnest, whole-souled workers, giving Bible readings and praying with families, helping along by personal efforts just as successfully as their husbands. These women give their whole time, and are told that they receive nothing for their labors because their husbands receive their wages. I tell them to go forward and all such decisions shall be reversed. The Word says, "The laborer is worthy of his hire." When any such decision as this is made, I will in the name of the Lord, protest. I will feel it in my duty to create a fund from my tithe money, to pay these women who are accomplishing just as essential work as the ministers are doing, and this tithe I will reserve for work in the same line as that of the ministers, hunting for souls, fishing for souls. I know that these faithful women should be paid wages proportionate to the pay received by ministers.

Conclusion

By God's standards, conference pastors are not the only ones who should receive tithe. Please refer to chapter 1 for more details on the tithe issue.

SAU presentation

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"Also, she had noticed on your web site that you stated that you had made a presentation at Southern University. Naturally, this would lend credibility to claims to have spoken at an SDA college. You then explained to us how you had this appointment, made the travel arrangements, and arrived at Southern, only to be told upon arrival that your meeting had been cancelled. You told how you met with some officials, and that this was a fulfillment of the dream Go Forth. You did talk to a small group out on the lawn, but this certainly was not an official meeting at Southern University. The deaconess felt that posting the meetings on the web site was a dishonest way to lend credibility to your dreams. [That posting has since been removed.]"

Fact

Ernie and Becky requested their webmaster to post the Southern Adventist University (SAU) event as an announcement, not as a reason to lend credibility

to the dreams. Because of the accusations made at the meeting with Linda's group (October 28, 2007), Ernie and Becky asked their webmaster to remove the posting. Following is the history behind the SAU incident as written by Becky.

"In March of 2007, Ernie and I began receiving emails from two SAU students who also received pertinent dreams from the Lord. They were inspired by not only their own dreams but Ernie's as well, and their lives were changing. They decided to plan a meeting at SAU where we could all share the dreams as a witness to the students. They told us they had gotten permission to do so and proceeded with the plans. They had also placed posters around the campus to announce the event for April 21, 2007.

"The meeting was ready, so we flew to SAU. However, we received a phone call Sabbath morning from one of the students to say that the meeting was off and we could go home. We were greatly disappointed to think that we would not be able to share with those who came (some from far away) and that we were not notified of this change before making the trip. The student then informed us that a teacher and some students wanted us to meet with them in private, including the two who had dreams. We did so and they audio recorded us as we were interrogated and had accusations thrown at us for quite some time. It was truly like being in front of the 'great council of elders' from the 'Go Forth' dream. In the meantime, some of the people who had driven to attend the meeting were able to find our whereabouts. They patiently waited until the private meeting ended so they could talk with us. We met with them on one of the SAU lawns and were able to share the dreams and had a wonderful fellowship together. We were smiling through our tears.

"To this day we do not know why the meeting was cancelled. Was it because the faculty discovered more details about the dreams that disagreed with their ideas? We do know that some of the students involved in the meeting setup were upset because they wanted to play their contemporary music during the meeting and we had told them we could not allow that, especially since Jesus had shared with Ernie in his 'View of Heaven' dream about the problem of that type of music in our churches (with Spirit of Prophecy quotes included). What saddens us most regarding this issue is how the enemy is destroying the lives of our young people."

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 16, p. 247

In the parable of the sower the question was asked the master, "Didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? From whence then hath it tares?" The master answered, "An enemy hath done this." [Matt. 13:27, 28.] All tares are sown by the evil one.

Ellen G. White: The Early Years, p. 360

August 22, 1857, at the house of prayer in Monterey, Michigan, I was shown that many have not yet heard the voice of Jesus, and the saving message has not taken hold of the soul and worked a reformation in the

life. Many of the young have not the spirit of Jesus. The love of God is not in their hearts, therefore all the natural besetments hold the victory instead of the Spirit of God and salvation.--1T, p. 154.

It was a startling message, portraying the needs of the young people in the church, comparing "themselves among themselves" and while doing this, neglecting "the only perfect and true standard" and pattern, Jesus, having largely lost sight of Him. She repeated the words of the angel to her:

"If such should be ushered into the City of God, and told that all its rich beauty and glory was theirs to enjoy eternally, they would have no sense of how dearly that inheritance was purchased for them. They would never realize the matchless depths of a Saviour's love. They have not drunk of the cup, nor been baptized with the baptism. Heaven would be marred if such should dwell there. Those only who have partaken of the sufferings of the Son of God, and have come up through great tribulation, and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb, can enjoy the indescribable glory and unsurpassed beauty of heaven."--*Ibid.*, p. 155.

Matthew 10:14

And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet.

Conclusion

One should not rush to conclusions without knowing all the facts.

Talk ego-centric and not spiritual?

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"An elder and his wife stated that it seemed like your talk was ego-centric. He didn't sense the message to be helpful spiritually. He was also uncomfortable about the Southern University announcement, and felt it was deceptive to use as an endorsement. They both felt very uneasy about your presentation. These are just comments that some of those present at the meetings shared with me."

Fact

Again, notice how the words "sense," "felt," and "seemed" all express one's own perception of the situation, which is not reliable at detecting truth. It is sad to think that Ernie was perceived as being egocentric when he shared what he saw in his dreams and answered questions about himself. How can one give a response or description of what they have experienced without using the words "I," "me," "my" and "myself"? People will always feel uneasy with those who do not live up to their own preconceived ideas. Fortunately, many others have shared that the messages have not only been helpful spiritually but have also changed their lives for Jesus.

God says:

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 431

All who in that evil day would fearlessly serve God according to the dictates of conscience, will need courage, firmness, and a knowledge of God and His word; for those who are true to God will be persecuted, their

motives will be impugned, their best efforts misinterpreted, and their names cast out as evil. Satan will work with all his deceptive power to influence the heart and becloud the understanding, to make evil appear good, and good evil. The stronger and purer the faith of God's people, and the firmer their determination to obey Him, the more fiercely will Satan strive to stir up against them the rage of those who, while claiming to be righteous, trample upon the law of God. It will require the firmest trust, the most heroic purpose, to hold fast the faith once delivered to the saints.

Christian Experience and Teaching of Ellen G. White, p. 140

Excessive labor, care, and anxiety, a lack of proper and nourishing food, and exposure to cold in our long winter journeys, were too much for my husband, and he sank under the burden. He became so weak that he could scarcely walk to the printing office. Our faith was tried to the utmost. We had willingly endured privation, toil, and suffering, yet our motives were misinterpreted, and we were regarded with distrust and jealousy. Few of those for whose good we had suffered, seemed to appreciate our efforts.

We were too much troubled to sleep or rest. The hours in which we should have been refreshed with sleep, were often spent in answering long communications occasioned by envy. Many hours, while others were sleeping, we spent in agonizing tears, and mourning before the Lord.

Our Father Cares, p. 267

Troublous times are before us. In many instances, friends will become alienated. Without cause, men will become our enemies. The motives of the people of God will be misinterpreted, not only by the world, but by their own brethren. The Lord's servants will be put in hard places. A mountain will be made out of a molehill to justify men in pursuing a selfish, unrighteous course.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 328

God has placed the gifts in the church that the church may be benefited by them; and when professed believers in the truth oppose these gifts, and fight against the visions, souls are in danger through their influence, and it is time then to labor with them, that the weak may not be led astray by their influence.

Conclusion

As far as possible, we are to labor with those who fight against the visions so that the "weak may not be led astray." However, what we are discovering is that those who do will meet with the same opposition as those who have dreams and visions. We must remember that the opposition never stopped Jesus from going to the cross for our sake!

Biggest red flag - Ernie's conversion and being angry with God

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

“From your own testimony, Ernie, the biggest red flag that has been raised is regarding your conversion experience. You shared with us how you were a “pew warmer” for those 25 years that you were an Elder, and didn’t have a close relationship with Jesus. Then, you got sick, lost your job, and lost everything. You began questioning God, then you started blaming God for allowing you to become sick, and cause you to lose your job, and to be humbled to being a person of no importance, even to having to vacuum your mother-in-law’s living room. When you went to bed on the night of December 9, 2006, you were discouraged, angry at God, and wanting to die. You challenged God to prove that He loved you, by coming down and talking to you like He did the other prophets.”

Fact

There is a difference between anger and discouragement. Ernie and Becky testify that he was never angry with God or yelled at Him as others have stated. Ernie actually felt that God was angry with him, and he did not feel God’s love at the time because of what he was going through, even though He knew that God is love. That is why feelings cannot always be trusted. Ernie did not realize at the time that God allowed those very trials for his good.

If Linda is willing to discredit Ernie for wanting to die, is she willing to make the same statement regarding Job and Elijah?

God says:

Job 3:11; 6:8-9; 10:1, 18-21

Why died I not from the womb? Why did I not give up the ghost when I came out of the belly? [6:8-9] Oh that I might have my request; and that God would grant me the thing that I long for! Even that it would please God to destroy me; that he would let loose his hand, and cut me off! [10:1] “My soul is weary of my life; I will leave my complaint upon myself; I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.” [18-21] Wherefore then hast thou brought me forth out of the womb? Oh that I had given up the ghost, and no eye had seen me! I should have been as though I had not been; I should have been carried from the womb to the grave. Are not my days few? Cease then, and let me alone, that I may take comfort a little, Before I go whence I shall not return, even to the land of darkness and the shadow of death.

Conflict and Courage, p. 223

In the desert, in loneliness and discouragement, Elijah had said that he had had enough of life and had prayed that he might die. But the Lord in His mercy had not taken him at his word. There was yet a great work for Elijah to do; and when his work was done, he was not to perish in discouragement and solitude. Not for him the descent into the tomb, but the ascent with God’s angels to the presence of His glory.

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 56

As the Elder Brother of our race He knows the necessities of those who, compassed with infirmity and living in a world of sin and temptation, still desire to serve Him. He knows that the messengers

whom He sees fit to send are weak, erring men; but to all who give themselves wholly to His service He promises divine aid. His own example is an assurance that earnest, persevering supplication to God in faith--faith that leads to entire dependence upon God, and unreserved consecration to His work--will avail to bring to men the Holy Spirit's aid in the battle against sin. (That is Ernie's prayer.)

Conclusion

If this is Linda's "biggest red flag," where is the biblical evidence to support it? Where does God instruct us that those who are discouraged or want to die cannot be God's prophets?

Did not know Christ?

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"We are warned in God's Word: 'Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;' Hebrews 12:15

'Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil.' Eph 4:26,27

In the above text, the word 'place' in the Greek means opportunity, power, occasion for action. According to your own testimony, you were in a miserable frame of mind that night. You had not spent significant time in God's Word, and admitted you didn't know Christ."

Fact

Has Linda ever thought of the idea that because Ernie was not living the ideal Christian life, that is why God decided to give him a dream to help him as well as others in the same condition? Nebuchadnezzar, Saul and Ellen White are examples of this. Why is it that people are willing to accept an evangelist or pastor even though their past life has not been exemplary, such as a life of theft or drug abuse? Why is this situation all of a sudden different when it comes to someone having dreams or visions in our day? What does Linda think about the life of Abraham, David, or Moses who sinned while they were prophets but still remained prophets for God? What does Linda think about the prophet Hosea who married a prostitute because that is what God instructed? (See Hosea chapters 1 and 2)

In addition, Linda fails to mention that Ernie was praying to God that night and He chose to answer his earnest request. Even after a life of sin, when a person sincerely comes to God in prayer, He does not cast them away as Linda has. Again, we are thankful that God is the Great Judge! He knows our heart and our motives.

God says:

Prophets and Kings, p. 520

For seven years Nebuchadnezzar was an astonishment to all his subjects; for seven years he was humbled before all the world. Then his reason was restored and, looking up in humility to the God of heaven, he recognized the divine hand in his chastisement. In a public proclamation he acknowledged his guilt and the great mercy of God in his restoration.

The Acts of the Apostles, pp. 101-102

At the scene of Stephen's trial and death, Saul had seemed to be imbued with a frenzied zeal. Afterward he was angered by his own secret conviction that Stephen had been honored by God at the very time when he was dishonored by men. Saul continued to persecute the church of God, hunting them down, seizing them in their houses, and delivering them up to the priests and rulers for imprisonment and death. His zeal in carrying forward this persecution brought terror to the Christians at Jerusalem. The Roman authorities made no special effort to stay the cruel work and secretly aided the Jews in order to conciliate them and to secure their favor.

After the death of Stephen, Saul was elected a member of the Sanhedrin council in consideration of the part he had acted on that occasion. For a time he was a mighty instrument in the hands of Satan to carry out his rebellion against the Son of God. But soon this relentless persecutor was to be employed in building up the church that he was now tearing down. A Mightier than Satan had chosen Saul to take the place of the martyred Stephen, to preach and suffer for His name, and to spread far and wide the tidings of salvation through His blood.

Messages to Young People, p. 250

To every sincere prayer an answer will come. It may not come just as you desire, or at the time you look for it; but it will come in the way and at the time that will best meet your need. The prayers you offer in loneliness, in weariness, in trial, God answers, not always according to your expectations, but always for your good.

Psalm 147:3

He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

Conclusion

God does use even the worst of us to carry out His plans. Sometimes "His ways are past finding out." Romans 11:33.

Ungodly state of mind?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"Your prayers were full of bitterness, blame and doubt. You disbelieved the very Word of God, which tells us beyond question of God's love for us. You were unhappy, discontented, discouraged, begging God to let you die. It was in this frame of mind that you went to sleep. Ernie, I believe your ungodly state of mind gave place to the devil, giving him opportunity, power and occasion for action. You were also begging for a supernatural experience. And you received one, did you not?"

Fact

As stated before, Ernie never doubted God's love; he simply did not feel it at the time. We do not always feel what we know to be fact. Thus, Ernie was not disbelieving God's Word as Linda suggests. Linda never asked and Ernie never told her that his actual state of mind as he went to sleep that night was one of peace, willing to accept whatever God willed for him. If Ernie was in an ungodly state of mind that night, would he even have bothered talking to God for hours

before falling asleep? In addition, because Ernie did not pray aloud that night, Satan would have no way of knowing what was on his mind. Yes, Ernie did receive a supernatural experience, just as all the other prophets of God throughout history. However, it did not come from Satan, as Linda suggests, but from the God who showed Ernie how much He loves us.

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 14, p. 133

I would speak in warning to those who have stood for years resisting light and cherishing the spirit of opposition. How long will you hate and despise the messengers of God's righteousness? God has given them His message. They bear the word of the Lord. There is salvation for you, but only through the merits of Jesus Christ. The grace of the Holy Spirit has been offered you again and again. Light and power from on high have been shed abundantly in the midst of you. Here was evidence, that all might discern whom the Lord recognized as His servants. But there are those who despised the men and the message they bore. They have taunted them with being fanatics, extremists, and enthusiasts. Let me prophesy unto you: Unless you speedily humble your hearts before God, and confess your sins, which are many, you will, when it is too late, see that you have been fighting against God. Through the conviction of the Holy Spirit, no longer unto reformation and pardon, you will see that these men whom you have spoken against have been as signs in the world, as witnesses for God. Then you would give the whole world if you could redeem the past, and be just, zealous men, moved by the Spirit of God to lift your voice in solemn warning to the world; and like them, to be in principle firm as a rock. Your turning things upside down is known of the Lord. Go on a little longer as you have gone in rejection of the light from heaven, and you are lost. "The man that shall be unclean, and shall not purify himself, that soul shall be cut off from among the congregation."

Psalm 105:15

Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.

Conclusion

Again, Linda makes false assumptions. When we accuse God's messengers, we fight against God.

Not spiritually prepared?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"It seems apparent that this is what opened the door to a satanic delusion. You were not spiritually prepared to be called to be a holy messenger of God's pure truth to His people. You were, instead, setting the scene for an encounter with demons.

Even the dream itself posed major concerns. How could God take one who was in a rebellious, doubting frame of mind and exalt him to the height few humans have ever experienced, to have direct communication with Jesus?"

Fact

God is able to use rebellious, doubting people and exalt them to a height few humans have experienced. Remember Saul and Nebuchadnezzar? What does Linda think about Esau, Pilate's wife, and others listed in the Bible who received dreams from God?

God says:

Acts 9:1-6

And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 113

Not without severe trial did Saul come to this conclusion. But in the end his education and prejudices, his respect for his former teachers, and his pride of popularity braced him to rebel against the voice of conscience and the grace of God. And having fully decided that the priests and scribes were right, Saul became very bitter in his opposition to the doctrines taught by the disciples of Jesus. His activity in causing holy men and women to be dragged before tribunals, where some were condemned to imprisonment and some even to death, solely because of their faith in Jesus, brought sadness and gloom to the newly organized church, and caused many to seek safety in flight.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 13, p. 61

God had revealed Himself to Nebuchadnezzar in giving him the dream of the great image, and in sending His servant Daniel to explain its meaning. God had made known to the king what should be hereafter, and his kingdom was represented by the head of gold... God had greatly honored the king in communicating with him; but He allowed him to follow his own inventions.

Conflict and Courage, p. 70

While Jacob was wrestling with the Angel, another heavenly messenger was sent to Esau. In a dream, Esau beheld his brother for twenty years an exile from his father's house; he witnessed his grief at finding his mother dead; he saw him encompassed by the hosts of God. This dream was related by Esau to his soldiers, with the charge not to harm Jacob, for the God of his father was with him.

Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 238

Inspiration faithfully records the faults of good men, those who were distinguished by the favor of God; indeed, their faults are more fully presented than their virtues. This has been a subject of wonder to many, and has given the infidel occasion to scoff at the Bible. But it is one of the strongest evidences of the truth of Scripture, that facts are not glossed over, nor the sins of its chief characters suppressed. The minds of men are so subject to prejudice that it is not possible for human histories to be absolutely impartial. Had the Bible been written by uninspired persons, it would no doubt have presented the character of its honored men in a more flattering light. But as it is, we have a correct record of their experiences.

Men whom God favored, and to whom He entrusted great responsibilities, were sometimes overcome by temptation and committed sin, even as we at the present day strive, waver, and frequently fall into error. Their lives, with all their faults and follies, are open before us, both for our encouragement and warning. If they had been represented as without fault, we, with our sinful nature, might despair at our own mistakes and failures. . . . He sees sin in His most favored ones, and He deals with it in them even more strictly than in those who have less light and responsibility.

Conclusion

If God could use the disciples, all of which had serious faults before Jesus called them, if He could use Saul, one who condemned Christians to death, to take up their cross and follow Jesus, if he could give dreams to Nebuchadnezzar, Esau and Pilate's wife, why could He not use Ernie? Where does the Bible say God cannot use such people? On the other hand, is this just a misguided belief of Linda's?

No sign of true repentance in your dream

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"And when you saw Jesus, and talked with Him, what was your experience then? I would have thought, according to many the biblical accounts of holy prophets who encountered divine or angelic beings, that you would have fallen on your face, in acknowledgement of great unworthiness, especially in the light of your frame of mind when you fell asleep. I would have thought that you would have wept and bemoaned your lack of faith, your blatant challenge to God, your prior wasted life in denying the power of God. A genuine conversion would have included all of this. Instead, you talked about the material aspects of heaven. That seems very shallow and superficial."

Fact

Linda is sharing her expectation of how a prophet should react. She must realize that "conversions are not all alike." Saul's experience of seeing Christ in vision was simply, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" It does not say that he wept and bemoaned his lack of faith while in vision. That came after his vision.

God says:

Evangelism, pp. 287-288

Conversions are not all alike. Jesus impresses the heart, and the sinner is born again to new life. Often souls have been drawn to Christ when there was no violent conviction, no soul rending, no remorseful terrors. They looked upon an uplifted Saviour; they lived. They saw the soul's need; they saw the Saviour's sufficiency and His claims; they heard His voice saying, "Follow Me," and they rose up and followed Him. . . .

Those men who calculate just how religious exercises should be conducted, and are very precise and methodical in diffusing the light and grace that they seem to have, simply do not have much of the Holy Spirit.

The Desire of Ages, p. 172

The wind is heard among the branches of the trees, rustling the leaves and flowers; yet it is invisible, and no man knows whence it comes or whither it goes. So with the work of the Holy Spirit upon the heart. It can no more be explained than can the movements of the wind. A person may not be able to tell the exact time or place, or to trace all the circumstances in the process of conversion; but this does not prove him to be unconverted. By an agency as unseen as the wind, Christ is constantly working upon the heart. Little by little, perhaps unconsciously to the receiver, impressions are made that tend to draw the soul to Christ. These may be received through meditating upon Him, through reading the Scriptures, or through hearing the word from the living preacher. Suddenly, as the Spirit comes with more direct appeal, the soul gladly surrenders itself to Jesus. By many this is called sudden conversion; but it is the result of long wooing by the Spirit of God,--a patient, protracted process.

Material aspects of heaven

John 14:2

In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

Revelation 21:21

And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

Isaiah 65:25

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock; and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.

James 1:12

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

God is the One who revealed those material aspects of heaven. It was His way of showing His great love to us. Is Linda still willing to call it "shallow and superficial"?

You can also read Ellen White's first vision in *Early Writings*, pp. 13-19, where she describes material aspects of heaven, and you will not find any mention of her recalling her past sins, feeling unworthy or falling on her face. As there is a time to laugh or cry, there is a time to show feeling unworthy (as Ernie was shown later in his dreams) and there is a time to walk beside Jesus.

Conclusion

Again, this is not a biblical test of a prophet. It is what Linda made up to convince herself and others, without study, that Ernie's conversion was not genuine and to discount the dreams.

Conversion impossible during sleep?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"And as I questioned you further about your conversion, you stated that you woke up converted, in love with Jesus. Please tell me, how does one become converted in his sleep? This is an absolute impossibility!"

Fact

Ernie never stated that he woke up converted. Becky had stated to Linda: "So that was the time of his true conversion, when he saw the love of Jesus in His eyes." Becky was trying to say that Ernie's conversion became evident in his life after the dream of heaven where he saw the love of Jesus. A dream like that should change anyone's life.

God says:

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 228

Paul told the Thessalonian Jews of his former zeal for the ceremonial law and of his wonderful experience at the gate of Damascus. Before his conversion he had been confident in a hereditary piety, a false hope. His faith had not been anchored in Christ; he had trusted instead in forms and ceremonies. His zeal for the law had been disconnected from faith in Christ and was of no avail. While boasting that he was blameless in the performance of the deeds of the law, he had refused the One who made the law of value.

But at the time of his conversion all had been changed. Jesus of Nazareth, whom he had been persecuting in the person of His saints, appeared before him as the promised Messiah. The persecutor saw Him as the Son of God, the one who had come to the earth in fulfillment of the prophecies and who in His life had met every specification of the Sacred Writings.

Ibid., p. 436

Paul related the story of his conversion from stubborn unbelief to faith in Jesus of Nazareth as the world's Redeemer. He described the heavenly vision that at first had filled him with unspeakable terror, but afterward proved to be a source of the greatest consolation--a revelation of divine glory, in the midst of which sat enthroned He whom he had despised and hated, whose followers he was even then seeking to destroy. From that hour Paul had been a new man, a sincere and fervent believer in Jesus, made such by transforming mercy.

1 Samuel 10:5-6, 9

After that thou shalt come to the hill of God, where is the garrison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a tabret, and a pipe, and a harp, before them; and they shall prophesy: [6] And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man. . . . [9] And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.

Conclusion

Linda reminds us of Ananias in this situation: “Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name. But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel.” Acts 9:13-15.

If God could convert Saul after his vision, is it any harder to convert Ernie after his dream? This teaches us a number of important lessons:

1. Never limit what God can do.
2. God can choose the worst sinner to become His “chosen vessel.”
3. Because God knows the beginning to the end, He chooses people because He knows what they can become.

Supernatural beings

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“Another concern was the supernatural beings that kept appearing to you, that you could see only out of the corner of your eye, as you were being pressured to tell the dream during the two weeks following the dream. That’s downright spooky. That sounds like the works of the angels of darkness, not of pure, holy, heavenly beings.

“Here is how you described it: ‘For two weeks I did not tell the next part of the dream. For two weeks I did not share the most important part of this dream. For two weeks I kept it secret, but for two weeks I would, still knowing that I was sitting at home, I wasn’t going out anywhere, I would all of the sudden see things walk around out of the corner of my eye, and I’d look and there wasn’t anybody there. But at the same time I would hear a voice say, “You need to share the end of the dream.” I’d go to sleep at night, and I’d fall asleep, only to be wakened up later, and I’d hear a voice say, “You need to share the rest of the dream.” This went on for two weeks...’ ”

Fact

What Ernie saw out of the corner of his eye was a quick flash of bright white light. He was not afraid and it was not spooky to him, because he knew it was an angel of the Lord encouraging him to share the end of the dream called, “A View of Heaven.”

God says:

My Life Today, p. 94

Could our spiritual vision be quickened, we should see souls bowed under oppression and burdened with grief, pressed as a cart beneath sheaves, and ready to die in discouragement. We should see angels flying swiftly to aid these tempted ones, who are standing as on the brink of a precipice. The angels from heaven force back the hosts of evil that encompass these souls, and guide them to plant their feet on the sure foundation. The battles waging between the two armies are as real as those fought by the armies of this world, and on the issue of the spiritual conflict eternal destinies depend.

The Acts of the Apostles, pp. 153-154

It is the work of the angels to come close to the tried, the suffering, the tempted. They labor untiringly in behalf of those for whom Christ died. When sinners are led to give themselves to the Saviour, angels bear the tidings heavenward, and there is great rejoicing among the heavenly host. "Joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." Luke 15:7. A report is borne to heaven of every successful effort on our part to dispel the darkness and to spread abroad the knowledge of Christ. As the deed is recounted before the Father, joy thrills through all the heavenly host.

Jeremiah 23:28

The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD.

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 330

And now the duty of making known to others what he [William Miller] believed to be so clearly taught in the Scriptures, urged itself with new force upon him. "When I was about my business," he said, "it was continually ringing in my ears, 'Go and tell the world of their danger.'" This text was constantly occurring to me: 'When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.' Ezekiel 33:8, 9. I felt that if the wicked could be effectually warned, multitudes of them would repent; and that if they were not warned, their blood might be required at my hand."--Bliss, page 92.

Conclusion

God has many ways to show us what He wants us to see or do. Ernie is grateful for God's instruction to share the rest of the dream, because not only has his life changed but many others. God wanted Ernie to share his dreams just as He wanted William Miller to tell everyone what he had learned from the Scriptures. Ernie is thankful that he did not make the same mistake as Hazen

Foss, who became a lost man when he refused to share his vision from God. If God sent Linda a dream, would she have shared it?

Not an SDA for over 50 years?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“There were a few other issues that were uncovered that made me continue to question your calling. One of these was the fact that you and Becky revealed to me Sunday morning after our meeting that you had become discouraged with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and had left it for a while, and joined the Seventh-day Adventist Reform movement. You were involved with them for several years, and then found that they had problems too, so you came back to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. When you state on your web site that: ‘I am a Seventh-Day Adventist Christian of over 50 years, an ordained elder for over 25 years and have served as a lay pastor’ that gives the impression of a faithful, godly, loyal Seventh-day Adventist, does it not? When the truth is known of your lack of conversion, failure to follow the health reform, and your actually leaving the church for a while, this places the matter in an entirely different light.”

Fact

Because of the misunderstandings and accusations, if Ernie put a description of himself on his website now, it would say the following:

I was a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church for over 50 years, an ordained elder (not an ordained pastor) for over 25 years and filled in as a “lay” pastor for about a year while the members searched for a replacement pastor. I was in a Laodicean condition, much like the majority of the Church members.

Then on the morning of December 10, God answered my urgent, silent prayer from the night before, as well as Becky’s silent prayers, by sending me a dream of heaven where Jesus walked and talked with me, showed me the great love in His eyes, and healed me of my acute illness. That was the day my life and Becky’s changed.

No, we are not perfect...yet. However, we know that it is possible with God’s help as we respond to His mercy and love. We have desired to be among the 144,000 since our youth and have never lost that desire. Though we stumbled and fell many times, we see the evidence that God has not forsaken us. We choose now to forget our past sins as God wants others to do. Place your focus on God and His messages, not the messenger. Our desire is to share God’s great love and truth with the world and pray that what God has done for us, He will do for others. We pray that He can continue to use us and that we will remain humble in His service to His glory, not ours. Please join us in this battle.

The world and God’s Church are on the verge of momentous events. Jesus is coming! Still watching for that small black cloud...Ernie & Becky

Soon our eyes were drawn to the east, for a small black cloud had appeared, about half as large as a man's hand, which we all knew was the sign of the Son of man. We all in solemn silence gazed on the cloud as it drew nearer and became lighter, glorious, and still more glorious, till it was a great white cloud. The bottom appeared like fire; a rainbow was over the cloud, while around it were ten thousand angels, singing a most lovely song; and upon it sat the Son of man.

Revelation 14:12

Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 154

The principalities and powers of heaven are watching the warfare which, under apparently discouraging circumstances, God's servants are carrying on. New conquests are being achieved, new honors won, as the Christians, rallying round the banner of their Redeemer, go forth to fight the good fight of faith. All the heavenly angels are at the service of the humble, believing people of God; and as the Lord's army of workers here below sing their songs of praise, the choir above join with them in ascribing praise to God and to His Son.

When Ernie and Becky joined the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement for several years, they never gave up the historic doctrines of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They are saddened and distraught, as through the years they have seen their beloved Church fall deeper into apostasy. They long for the day when God purifies the last-day church and ask that you join them in prayer toward that end.

Conclusion

Being a Seventh-day Adventist is more than having your name on the church books. It entails a settling into the present truth that Adventism teaches. Sadly, faithful Seventh-day Adventist Church members are disfellowshipped, because of the stand they take against the apostasy within the Church. Does this mean they are no longer Seventh-day Adventists? Certainly not. Linda makes it appear that Ernie and Becky left the truth, because they joined the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement for a time. This accusation is far from the truth.

Loss of employment

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“Another fact that surfaced unexpectedly was that you were actually fired from the job that you had before December 2006, and it was explained that you were confrontational and not able to get along personally with your co-workers and associates. Your testimony that you gave at our home was stated in such a way as to lead one to believe that it was your ill health that caused your loss of employment. Again, this brings up issues of integrity.”

Fact

To set the record straight, Ernie's employer did not fire Ernie from his job. Ernie resigned. His ill health was a factor in his resignation. Becky can attest to him resigning, because she worked for Human Resources at the time for the same employer and saw his personnel file, which stated that He was eligible for rehire. The unethical practices they saw affected both Ernie and Becky while employed at that Seventh-day Adventist institution. When Ernie voiced his opinions, his employer saw Ernie as being confrontational. They both were disappointed when the institution did nothing to correct the problems. Becky later resigned from her employment as the Lord instructed, and she and Ernie both are overjoyed, because now they have the Greatest Employer in the universe! It is truly the answer to many private prayers.

God says:

The Desire of Ages, p. 387

But the leaders of the people were offended, "and they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that He saith, I came down from heaven?" They tried to arouse prejudice by referring scornfully to the lowly origin of Jesus. They contemptuously alluded to His life as a Galilean laborer, and to His family as being poor and lowly. The claims of this uneducated carpenter, they said, were unworthy of their attention. And on account of His mysterious birth they insinuated that He was of doubtful parentage, thus representing the human circumstances of His birth as a blot upon His history.

Conclusion

Again, Linda rushed to a conclusion before having all the facts. How many people has she unfavorably influenced because she shared her half-truths or blatantly false statements?

Ernie a hypocrite?**Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)**

"Ernie, I have another question. According to your own testimony, on December 9, 2006, you were a pew-warming, workaholic, unconverted Laodicean. If you look at the definition of the word *hypocrite*, it also seems to apply. (definition of a hypocrite is: "a person who puts on a false appearance of virtue or religion; a person who acts in contradiction to his or her stated beliefs or feelings.") You were a church elder, and yet you stated that you did not know Jesus."

Fact

Ernie freely admits that he was a hypocrite. However, the fact that Ernie responded to God and has become a changed man proves that he is no longer a hypocrite. It is a sad fact that the Church is full of hypocrites. Just read the following message to the Laodicean church.

God says:

Revelation 3:14-22

And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I

would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

An appropriate testimony is included here from a church elder.

Ernie,

I was fortunate to be able to be encouraged by your dreams. It was shared with me by a church Brother who had gotten it from someone else. I tell you, when I started reading it at first, I was afraid and a bit scared, I guess because I know I'm a sinner. As I read on, my heart was filled with encouragement and hope. My eyes often times welled up with tears because the scenes of heaven was so very clear and beautiful. I'm also an Elder in the church, but often times I know I'm not what the Lord wants me to be. I long to be so close to Him that I can hear Him talk to me daily; I long to be able to bring others to Him like He would want me to.

Most of all, I want me and my family and friends to go to heaven and live with Him. Thank you so much for sharing. This has further helped me to realize that I need not be afraid, all I need to do is trust and believe in Him.

Pray for me please as I pray for you. God bless!

Conclusion

What a shame that Linda and others continue to call Ernie a hypocrite even though he has repented and continues to share the dreams that God asks him to share.

First two dreams

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"So, in this condition, you had 2 dreams in the spring of 2005. You said that you 'thought nothing of them' other than that they were interesting. They obviously made little impact on your lifestyle or spiritual commitment. Then, you start having more dreams, had a 'conversion' experience in your sleep, and put up a web site. Now, these first two dreams from 2005 are elevated right along with your other

dreams to become God's last day message for His people, part of the message we are commanded to believe as we bow before the being professing to be Jesus who gave them? How do you explain that?"

Fact

We do not always perceive the significance of an event at the time. God continued to knock at the door of Ernie's heart until he opened it. Some will open the door right away; for others it may take a lifetime. Unfortunately, the majority will never open the door. If Linda had searched God's Word for the answer, she would have found it.

God says:

Job 33:14-15

For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumberings upon the bed.

Conclusion

We do not often understand the importance of something until the Holy Spirit reveals it to us later. Ellen White saw events in visions that she did not recall until the time when God wanted people to know what His messenger saw. Just because Ernie never recognized the divine origin of his first two dreams does not mean they were not from heaven. Before Ellen White had her first vision, which opened up the way for her ministry, she had two dreams. (See *Life Sketches*, chapter 4.) Ellen White had the first dream while she was in a dreadful state of depression and it left her feeling worse. However, the next dream was a comfort to her. At that time, she did not realize the full importance of those dreams. If we use Linda's reasoning, we would question the origin of those first two dreams, especially considering her state of mind, believing she would be lost because she would not pray in prayer meetings. Why should we treat Ernie differently? We cannot always understand God's ways.

Consulting godly men

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"All of these things continued to add up, along with the concerns in the dreams themselves. Right at the beginning, we asked you if you had counseled with godly men regarding the source of these dreams, and if you were willing to be placed under close scrutiny. You had the attitude that, since these dreams were from God Himself, you didn't need to ask anyone permission, or to seek anyone's counsel. This is not how God operates in His church. He is the head, we are all part of the body. Not one part is to be exalted to the point of not needing to be examined, and confirmed by the rest of the body."

Fact

Ernie still abides by his answer given in Linda's statement. Where does the Bible tell us a prophet must first consult with godly men before they accept and publish their message? There is not a command or example, for it never happened. The Board of For My People Ministry gives Ernie godly counsel, as well as other individuals who provide Ernie with advice and counsel whether in person or through phone calls and emails.

God says:

Psalm 12:1

Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.

John 1:19-25

And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, What then? Art thou Elias? And he saith, I am not. Art thou that prophet? And he answered, No. Then said they unto him, Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias. And they which were sent were of the Pharisees. And they asked him, and said unto him, Why baptizest thou then, if thou be not that Christ, nor Elias, neither that prophet?

Conflict and Courage, p. 272

John the Baptist in his desert life was taught of God. He studied the revelations of God in nature. Under the guiding of the divine Spirit, he studied the scrolls of the prophets. By day and by night, Christ was his study, his meditation, until mind and heart and soul were filled with the glorious vision. He looked upon the King in His beauty, and self was lost sight of. He beheld the majesty of holiness, and knew himself to be inefficient and unworthy. It was God's message that he was to declare. It was in God's power and His righteousness that he was to stand. He was ready to go forth as Heaven's messenger, unawed by the human, because he had looked upon the Divine. . . .

The Voice in Speech and Song, p. 357

The voice of John was lifted up like a trumpet. His commission was, "Show My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins." Isa. 58:1. He had obtained no human scholarship. God and nature had been his teachers. But one was needed to prepare the way before Christ who was bold enough to make his voice heard like the prophets of old, summoning the degenerate nation to repentance.

The Desire of Ages, p. 275

The Pharisees were silenced for the time, but only became more determined in their enmity. They next sought out the disciples of John the Baptist, and tried to set them against the Saviour. These Pharisees had not accepted the mission of the Baptist. They had pointed in scorn to his abstemious life, his simple habits, his coarse garments, and had declared him a fanatic. Because he denounced their hypocrisy, they had resisted his words, and had tried to stir up the people against him. The Spirit of God had moved upon the hearts of these scorners, convicting them of sin; but they had rejected the counsel of God, and had declared that John was possessed of a devil.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 596

I viewed God's people as partaking of the spirit of the world, imitating its fashions, and getting above the simplicity of our faith. It seemed that the church at Battle Creek were backsliding from God, and it was impossible to arouse their sensibilities. The testimonies given me of God had the least influence and were the least heeded in Battle Creek of any part of the field. I trembled for the cause of God. I knew that the Lord had not forsaken His people, but that their sins and iniquities had separated them from God. At Battle Creek is the great heart of the work. Every pulsation is felt by the members of the body all over the field. If this great heart is in health, a vital circulation will be felt all through the body of Sabbathkeepers. If the heart is diseased, the languishing condition of every branch of the work will attest the fact.

My interest is in this work; my life is interwoven with it. When Zion prospers, I am happy; if she languishes, I am sad, desponding, discouraged. I saw that God's people were in an alarming condition, and His favor was being removed from them. I pondered upon this sad picture day and night, and pleaded in bitter anguish: "O Lord, give not Thine heritage to reproach. Let not the heathen say, Where is their God?" I felt that I was cut loose from everyone at the head of the work and was virtually standing alone. I dared not trust anyone.

Summation

John the Baptist did not receive his education from men, and he did not request permission from the leadership to prepare the way for Christ. At times, Ellen White could not trust the Church leadership. Why should Ernie's situation be different? He knew from the beginning that it would do no good to counsel first or get permission before sharing the heavenly messages. However, he does receive counsel from his ministry's Board as well as others.

Conclusion

Ernie has proven that he does in fact listen to counsel from others. When God first called Ernie, he had an incorrect understanding of the 144,000. It was only by listening to the counsel of others that he accepted the truth on this subject. This shows that Ernie does not consider himself to be above anyone else.

If John the Baptist had consulted with the spiritual leaders of his time before preaching the message God had given him, would they have given him permission? They definitely would not. They rejected his mission and accused him of being possessed with a devil.

Ellen White does recommend we first counsel with our brethren, but these references are never concerning a prophet who God instructed to give a message. Some of the situations that necessitate this include:

- Situations where individuals "strike out upon some new light" (*The Signs of the Times*, October 23, 1879).
- Irresponsible men who seek to set up institutions (like sanitariums) "without taking counsel with their brethren" (*Pamphlets*, p. 21).
- When workers "present new theories independent of the body" (*Historical Sketches of the Foreign Missions of the Seventh-day Adventists*, p. 125).

- Brethren in responsible positions “should not walk in their own ideas, but counsel together” (*Manuscript Releases*, Vol. 2, pp. 333-334).

So few accept the dreams

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“The fact that so few significant Bible students accepted the dreams was another major cause for concern.

“As you left our home, we hugged and all expressed our enjoyment of our time together. It was an exciting and confusing time. We remember you stating that Brian and I, along with a couple in Ohio, the web master, and a pastor in Ohio were your main supporters. While that made us feel special, it also made us wonder why so few were accepting the dreams.”

Fact

The few that Linda mentioned were the main supporters at the time (early on in the ministry), but they were not the only supporters. However, the majority have always rejected God's messages.

God says:

The Signs of the Times, February 7, 1878

Jesus had said to the Pharisees: "This is your condemnation, that light has come into the world; and men choose darkness rather than light." In every age of the world, the majority have rejected the light that has shone forth to illuminate the darkness of error. According to the unbelief and prejudice with which men, in spite of convincing evidence, oppose the truth, is the intensity of their hatred of those who cherish it. In proportion to the light given will be the condemnation of those who reject it.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 99

It is our duty to inquire the cause of this terrible darkness, that we may shun the course by which men have brought upon themselves so great delusion. God has given the world an opportunity to learn and to obey His will. He has given them, in His word, the light of truth; He has sent them warning, counsel, and admonition; but few will obey His voice. Like the Jewish nation, the majority, even of professed Christians, pride themselves on their superior advantages, but make no returns to God for these great blessings. In infinite mercy a last warning message has been sent to the world, announcing that Christ is at the door and calling attention to God's broken law. But as the antediluvians rejected with scorn the warning of Noah, so will the pleasure lovers of today reject the message of God's faithful servants. The world pursues its unvarying round, absorbed as ever in its business and its pleasures, while the wrath of God is about to be visited on the transgressors of His law.

Redemption Or The First Advent Of Christ With His Life And Ministry, p. 57

Christ had come first to his own favored people, to proclaim the gracious words of salvation in their ears; but they refused to listen to his words. That which stirred their malice was the meekness and plainness with which he had explained the words of the prophets concerning

himself. Here was an opportunity for them to receive the great blessing which follows the reception of Christ. But they were blinded by Satan, and, in their fanatical zeal, could discover nothing in Christ, but simply the son of a carpenter. At a later period he came to Nazareth for the last time. He would give the people he loved, and whom his heart yearned to bless and save, an opportunity to redeem their past cruel conduct, and violence, toward him. The fame of his miracles, and wisdom, and power, had spread everywhere, and many of the people of Nazareth had been witnesses of his wonderful miracles. He had silenced and cast out demons, healed the sick, given sight to the blind, restored hearing to the deaf, and raised the dead to life. These evidences had been witnessed by thousands. He stood before his people in his own city, after they had had opportunity to reflect and repent of their abuse of him when he first made the public announcement that he was the Messiah. But they were no more ready to receive him, even then, than at first. They had committed themselves at the first to reject and insult him, and they retained their prejudices, and would not receive evidence, and be convinced that he was the Coming One, the Redeemer of Israel; for if they should then acknowledge him, they would condemn themselves. He came to his own nation and people, but they received him not; and ever after, their pride, which they had not controlled, was too great to accept of evidence, and admit the power of God in the mighty works performed by Christ. They rejected Christ as their Saviour, and after they had set their hearts in rebellion against him, it was not so easy for them to change their course. Notwithstanding all the mighty works they saw him do, they were too proud and self-exalted to yield their rebellious feelings. Every manifestation of his divine character increased the hatred and jealousy of the Jews. They were not content to turn from him themselves, but they sought to hinder all they could from listening to his teachings, or witnessing his miracles. The majority rejected him. They despised his humble appearance. They denied his testimony. They loved the praise of men, and the grandeur of the world. In their estimation of these things, they thought their judgment perfect, even as the judgment of God.

Conclusion

How many "Bible students" accepted Jesus when He ministered on earth? What about Noah? He gave God's message for 120 years, and only eight people went onboard the ark. How about Jeremiah, Isaiah, Jonah, and other prophets? Where were all the "Bible students" who supported their ministries? Linda Kirk's reasoning falls far short of the biblical standard.

Dreams took preeminence?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"How did the dreams affect me personally? Did they drive me to the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Well, in a certain sense they did. We did study a lot on end time events during our time of belief in the dreams. But the final result was that the dreams took preeminence in our thoughts. Since they were 'new light,' they added to and superceded what we had previously believed. I found myself funneling spiritual thoughts through the nuances found in the dreams. It actually felt like I was becoming

acquainted with a 'new' God, because I'd think about things in the dream much more than scripture or the Spirit of Prophecy. They made much more exciting reading. That should have clued me in!"

Fact

The dreams are not new light, but "old light in new settings."

God says:

Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 401

The question has been asked me, "Do you think that the Lord has any more light for us as a people?" I answer that He has light that is new to us, and yet it is precious old light that is to shine forth from the Word of truth. We have only the glimmerings of the rays of the light that is yet to come to us. We are not making the most of the light which the Lord has already given us, and thus we fail to receive the increased light; we do not walk in light already shed upon us.

Sermons and Talks, Vol. 1, p. 105

We read in the following verse, verse 17, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil." What made them think that? It was because, notwithstanding they had had Christ represented in the typical offerings and sacrifices, they could not get it out of their minds that it was the law, the law, the law that they must dwell upon as their entrance into heaven. And here Christ comes in with His lesson, not to detract from the law, but to reveal to them the old light in new settings. He comes to reveal that light in the framework of the gospel, that they might understand in regard to this light that it was essential for them to have.

Christian Education, p. 80

The Bible has been placed in the background, while the sayings of great men, so-called, have been taken in its stead. May the Lord forgive us the slight we have put upon his word. Though inestimable treasures are in the Bible, and it is like a mine full of precious ore, it is not valued, it is not searched, and its riches are not discovered. Mercy and truth and love are valuable beyond our power to calculate; we cannot have too great a supply of these treasures, and it is in the word of God we find out how we may become possessors of these heavenly riches, and yet why is it that the word of God is uninteresting to many professed Christians? Is it because the word of God is not spirit and is not life? Has Jesus put upon us an uninteresting task, when he commands us to "search the Scriptures"? [John 5:39.] Jesus says, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." [John 6:63.] But spiritual things are spiritually discerned, and the reason of your lack of interest is that you lack the Spirit of God. When the heart is brought into harmony with the word, a new life will spring up within you, a new light will shine upon every line of the word, and it will become the voice of God to your soul. In this way you will take celestial observations, and know whither you are going, and be able to make the most of your privileges today.

Counsels for the Church, p. 92

The written testimonies are not to give new light, but to impress vividly upon the heart the truths of inspiration already revealed. Man's duty to God and to his fellow man has been distinctly specified in God's word, yet but few of you are obedient to the light given. Additional truth is not brought out; but God has through the Testimonies simplified the great truths already given and in His own chosen way brought them before the people to awaken and impress the mind with them, that all may be left without excuse. The Testimonies are not to belittle the word of God, but to exalt it and attract minds to it, that the beautiful simplicity of truth may impress all....

Brother J would confuse the mind by seeking to make it appear that the light God has given through the Testimonies is an addition to the Word of God, but in this he presents the matter in a false light. God has seen fit in this manner to bring the minds of His people to His word, to give them a clearer understanding of it. The word of God is sufficient to enlighten the most beclouded mind and may be understood by those who have any desire to understand it. But notwithstanding all this, some who profess to make the Word of God their study are found living in direct opposition to its plainest teachings. Then, to leave men and women without excuse, God gives plain and pointed testimonies, bringing them back to the word that they have neglected to follow. The word of God abounds in general principles for the formation of correct habits of living, and the testimonies, general and personal, have been calculated to call their attention more especially to these principles.

The Desire of Ages, p. 74

The atmosphere of hope and courage that surrounded Him made Him a blessing in every home. And often in the synagogue on the Sabbath day He was called upon to read the lesson from the prophets, and the hearts of the hearers thrilled as a new light shone out from the familiar words of the sacred text.

Christ Object Lessons, p. 130

When we eat Christ's flesh and drink His blood, the element of eternal life will be found in the ministry. There will not be a fund of stale, oft-repeated ideas. The tame, dull sermonizing will cease. The old truths will be presented, but they will be seen in a new light. There will be a new perception of truth, a clearness and a power that all will discern. Those who have the privilege of sitting under such a ministry will, if susceptible to the Holy Spirit's influence, feel the energizing power of a new life. The fire of God's love will be kindled within them. Their perceptive faculties will be quickened to discern the beauty and majesty of truth.

Gospel Workers, p. 297

Peter exhorts his brethren to "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." [2 Peter 3:18.] Whenever the people of God are growing in grace, they will be constantly obtaining a clearer understanding of His word. They will discern new light and beauty in its sacred truths. This has been true in the history of the church in all ages,

and thus it will continue to the end. But as real spiritual life declines, it has ever been the tendency to cease to advance in the knowledge of the truth.

Ibid., p. 390

We must not for a moment think that there is no more light, no more truth to be given us. We are in danger of becoming careless, by our indifference losing the sanctifying power of truth, and composing ourselves with the thought, “I am rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing.” [Revelation 3:17.] While we must hold fast to the truths which we have already received, we must not look with suspicion upon any new light that God may send.

Summation

As the writings of Ellen White bring us back to the Word of God, so Ernie's dreams also bring us back to the Word of God and to Ellen White's writings.

Conclusion

Linda's argument for this issue, one could also say about Ellen White's writings. The detail that she gives certainly draws us closer to God, and in this sense, we become acquainted with a “new God.” In fact, this experience can happen just by reading the Bible if we let the Holy Spirit work upon our hearts. The fact that Ernie's dreams draw people into a closer walk with Jesus is proof of their origin.

Dreams had supernatural pull

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“I found the dreams to have a supernatural pull, like an addiction. I would check the web site frequently, with my heart pounding, hoping and praying that there would be a new dream. And when a new dream showed up, my excitement and interest in the dream was incredibly high. When I believed in the dreams, my emotional involvement wouldn't let me read them objectively. Things that normally would have made me uncomfortable I was able to pass over because of my attachment to the whole experience. I found that my belief in these dreams removed my objectivity, because of an addictive power that overrides reason. I believe this is a supernatural phenomena used by the devil to trap people and keep them in a delusion”

Fact

For one who has recounted all the doubts she had concerning Ernie's dreams, it is a wonder that Linda found herself “addicted” to the dreams.

God says:

John 10:27; 12:32; 14:23

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. [12:32] And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. [14:23] Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

The Desire of Ages, 339

The manifestation of supernatural power aroused the superstitions of the people, and excited their fears. Further calamities might follow from having this Stranger among them. They apprehended financial ruin, and determined to be freed from His presence.

Ibid., p. 459

Hardened as were their hearts, they were melted by His words. While He was speaking in the temple court, they had lingered near, to catch something that might be turned against Him. But as they listened, the purpose for which they had been sent was forgotten. They stood as men entranced. Christ revealed Himself to their souls. They saw that which priests and rulers would not see,—humanity flooded with the glory of divinity. They returned, so filled with this thought, so impressed by His words, that to the inquiry, "Why have ye not brought Him?" they could only reply, "Never man spake like this Man."

Ibid., p. 191

The woman had been filled with joy as she listened to Christ's words. The wonderful revelation was almost overpowering. Leaving her waterpot, she returned to the city, to carry the message to others. Jesus knew why she had gone. Leaving her waterpot spoke unmistakably as to the effect of His words. It was the earnest desire of her soul to obtain the living water; and she forgot her errand to the well, she forgot the Saviour's thirst, which she had purposed to supply. With heart overflowing with gladness, she hastened on her way, to impart to others the precious light she had received.

Ibid., pp. 365-366

He who taught the people the way to secure peace and happiness was just as thoughtful of their temporal necessities as of their spiritual need. The people were weary and faint. There were mothers with babes in their arms, and little children clinging to their skirts. Many had been standing for hours. They had been so intensely interested in Christ's words that they had not once thought of sitting down, and the crowd was so great that there was danger of their trampling on one another. Jesus would give them a chance to rest, and He bade them sit down.

Conclusion

The Word of God in the Bible, the Spirit of Prophecy, and the dreams of Ernie should have a supernatural pull on us. When Jesus spoke while on earth, His words had an effect on people like no others. Even His enemies were affected. Should it be any different today?

Was Linda "almost persuaded" until Steve Wohlberg and others pulled her away from the dreams, even instilling a fear for the dreams?

The Desire of Ages, p. 489

The people gave credence to what the priests and Pharisees taught, in place of seeking to understand the word of God for themselves. They honored the priests and rulers instead of honoring God, and rejected the

truth that they might keep their own traditions. Many had been impressed and almost persuaded; but they did not act upon their convictions, and were not reckoned on the side of Christ. Satan presented his temptations, until the light appeared as darkness. Thus many rejected the truth that would have proved the saving of the soul.

The Review and Herald, September 3, 1889

In the days of Christ, there were many who beheld his mighty works, listened to his divine instruction, were impressed, and almost persuaded; but they did not profit by their privileges, for confession was not made unto salvation. The impressions did not last because they did not act out their convictions, and those who had been almost persuaded, were not reckoned on the side of Christ. It is perilous to the soul to hesitate, question, and criticise divine light. Satan will present his temptations until the light will appear as darkness, and many will reject the very truth that would have proved the saving of their souls. Those who walk in its rays will find it growing brighter and brighter unto the perfect day.

Linda, being almost persuaded is not enough. Our prayer is that you can again receive the joy you once had as you read the messages in Ernie's dreams from your Savior. Whatever it is that pulled you away from the dreams, whether it was fear, jealousy, pride, or just listening to others' ideas, please take it to God in prayer and to His Word with an open mind and humble heart, that you may hear that still, small voice again calling you back to Jesus.

Feeling alone

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“Something that surfaces in the dreams is your feeling of being discouraged, alone or persecuted. Reference is made to spears and arrows.”

Fact

All God's prophets have felt discouraged, alone and persecuted. Even Jesus felt that way.

God says:

Jeremiah 15:16-18

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts. I sat not in the assembly of the mockers, nor rejoiced; I sat alone because of thy hand: for thou hast filled me with indignation. Why is my pain perpetual, and my wound incurable, which refuseth to be healed? wilt thou be altogether unto me as a liar, and as waters that fail?

Conflict and Courage, p. 279

Aside from the joy that John found in his mission, his life had been one of sorrow. His voice had been seldom heard except in the wilderness. His was a lonely lot.

Conflict and Courage, p. 216

If, under trying circumstances, men of spiritual power, pressed beyond measure, become discouraged and desponding, if at times they see nothing desirable in life, that they should choose it, this is nothing strange or new. Let all such remember that one of the mightiest of the prophets fled for his life before the rage of an infuriated woman.... Those who, while spending their life energies in self-sacrificing labor, are tempted to give way to despondency and distrust, may gather courage from the experience of Elijah.

Australian Union Conference Record, September 30, 1912

Last night after I had retired to rest a strange depression came over me, and for a long time I was unable to sleep.

Ellen G. White: The Later Elmshaven Years, Vol. 6, pp. 121-122

Ellen White recognized that her responsibility ended when she had done all in her skill and power to present God's messages with love, concern and appeal. But when they were not received, her heart was heavy. She recognized that the hidden forces of evil were in the fray, and at times she felt very much alone.

I am carrying a weight of great responsibility, and I scarcely venture to speak of the weight that oppresses my soul, for there is not one of those connected with me that can possibly understand the anguish of my heart. I feel that I am alone, alone as far as any soul's being able to understand is concerned. . . .

I am instructed that the less I have to draw upon human engaged in the work in helping me, even in my own house, the better. It is wise not to trust in any mortal. I must move forward, not expecting they will understand. I must work alone, alone.

Then a heavenly being spoke to her:

"Who can stand by you in the hour of fierce conflict, when in combat with the powers of darkness, with Satan and his host of invisible allies? You will, as far as human help is concerned, remain alone. The Lord alone understands. In Him you may trust. Commit the keeping of your soul to Him who has given your special work to you.

The Retirement Years, p. 208

AT HOME DEVOTING HERSELF TO WRITING DURING EARLY MONTHS OF 1907. IN OAKLAND FEB. 15-18; UNITED WITH ELDER AND MRS. HASKELL IN THE WORK THERE; HAD TO BEAR PLAIN TESTIMONY AND MEET DIFFICULT SITUATION. IN MARCH WROTE OF THE HEAVY WEIGHT OF RESPONSIBILITY SHE WAS BEARING THAT NO ONE COULD UNDERSTAND. FELT ALONE.

Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White, p. 163

I then saw a company pressing through the crowd with their eyes intently fixed upon the heavenly crown. As they earnestly urged their way through the disorderly crowd, angels attended them, and made room for them to advance. As they neared the heavenly crown, the light

emanating from it shone upon them and around them, dispelling their darkness, and growing clearer and brighter, until they seemed to be transformed, and resembled the angels. They cast not one lingering look upon the earthly crown. Those who were in pursuit of the earthly, mocked them, and threw black balls after them. These did them no injury while their eyes were fixed upon the heavenly crown, but those who turned their attention to the black balls were stained with them.

The Desire of Ages, p. 92

Yet through childhood, youth, and manhood, Jesus walked alone. In His purity and His faithfulness, He trod the wine press alone, and of the people there was none with Him. He carried the awful weight of responsibility for the salvation of men. He knew that unless there was a decided change in the principles and purposes of the human race, all would be lost. This was the burden of His soul, and none could appreciate the weight that rested upon Him. Filled with intense purpose, He carried out the design of His life that He Himself should be the light of men.

Ibid., p. 111

He who had come to break the power of Satan would be denounced as Beelzebub. No one upon earth had understood Him, and during His ministry He must still walk alone. Throughout His life His mother and His brothers did not comprehend His mission. Even His disciples did not understand Him. He had dwelt in eternal light, as one with God, but His life on earth must be spent in solitude.

The Review and Herald, July 12, 1892

And Peter said, Man, I am not. And about the space of one hour after another confidently affirmed, saying, Of a truth this fellow also was with him; for he is a Galilean." It was then that with cursing and swearing, Peter denied his Lord. How this cut to the heart of Jesus! There was the Man of sorrows, surrounded by his enemies, accused by false witnesses, buffeted and insulted by the mob, but the denial of Peter cut deeper than all the mockings of his foes.

Conclusion

To feel discouraged and alone is not a sin. Jeremiah, Elijah, John the Baptist, Ellen White and many other prophets felt that way. Even Jesus experienced the pain of feeling alone. Did God reject them because they felt that way? Surely not. Should we reject Ernie for feeling the same way? No prophet would have felt that way, if people had accepted their messages. Sadly, history shows that the majority of people choose to reject God's prophets. Jesus said: "Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." Matthew 5:12.

Constant affirmation

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"You seem to be receiving constant affirmation and special tokens throughout your dreams. This focus on emotion, and coddling seems to be encouraging the opportunity for pride and self-exaltation. Would this

tend to increase your humility? Would not Christ be concerned lest you be puffed up with pride at your high, exalted position?"

Fact

God does express His love to His children in a way that He deems necessary.

God says:

Daniel 9:23; 10:11, 19

At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision. [10:11] And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. [10:19] And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.

Numbers 12:6-8

And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream. My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

S.D.A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 2, p. 1034

Elijah prays, Be it known this day that thou art the God of Israel. The honor of God is to be exalted as supreme, but the prophet asks further that his mission also may be confirmed.

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 286

The apostle Paul, in his labors at Ephesus, was given special tokens of divine favor. The power of God accompanied his efforts, and many were healed of physical maladies. "God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: so that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them." These manifestations of supernatural power were far more potent than had ever before been witnessed in Ephesus, and were of such a character that they could not be imitated by the skill of the juggler or the enchantments of the sorcerer.

Ibid., p. 54

It is true that in the time of the end, when God's work in the earth is closing, the earnest efforts put forth by consecrated believers under the guidance of the Holy Spirit are to be accompanied by special tokens of divine favor.

Selected Messages, Book 3, p. 369

In the future we shall have special tokens of the influence of the Spirit of God--especially at times when our enemies are the strongest against

us. The time will come when we shall see some strange things; but just in what way--whether similar to some of the experiences of the disciples after they received the Holy Spirit following the ascension of Christ--I cannot say.

The Signs of the Times, January 12, 1882

Our gracious Redeemer looked down the stream of time, and beheld the perils that would in the last days surround his chosen. For our encouragement he declares, in the words of the prophet Malachi: "Then they that feared the Lord speak often one to another; and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him."

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 395

He who has appointed "to every man his work," according to his ability, will never let the faithful performance of duty go unrewarded. Every act of loyalty and faith will be crowned with special tokens of God's favor and approbation. To every worker is given the promise: "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

Webster's 1828 Dictionary says:

APPROBATION, n. [L. approbatio. See Proof and Prove.]

1. The act of approving; a liking; that state or disposition of the mind, in which we assent to the propriety of a thing, with some degree of pleasure or satisfaction; as, the laws of God require our approbation.
2. Attestation; support; that is, active approbation, or action in favor of what is approved.

Loma Linda Messages, p. 574

I thank the Lord that He encouraged me to walk by faith, and I pray that He will help you to show others their privilege in this matter.

Summation

God does pour out special tokens and approbation on His people—Daniel, Moses, Elijah, Paul, and Ellen White are just some, as well as others in the last days.

Conclusion

What Linda sees as flattery in Ernie's dreams is actually God's way of not only showing His love but also His encouragement for Ernie to keep going in spite of opposition such as hers. Has Linda ever thought what it would be like if she had to share similar dreams? Would Linda assume that Paul should not have been healing people, because it would make him proud as people flocked to him?

Dreams confusing?

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"There are many confusing things in the dreams themselves, that would leave the readers wondering how they are supposed to respond. A few that come to mind are:

Watch, As I am Coming: 'Smiling again the angel explains, "Because you do not understand, you know. If you were to know, you would not understand. All of heaven knows, as well as all of earth, whom God has chosen." ' This is very confusing!"

Fact

We may not understand everything in the Bible either. Does that mean we do away with it? God forbid. Why should it be any different with Ernie's dreams? However, God will help us understand what is important for our salvation, if we ask for spiritual discernment.

God says:

John 9:39-41

And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also? Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.

1 Corinthians 1:27; 2:14

But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty.

[2:14] But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

2 Peter 3:16

As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

John 6:59-60

These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum. Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?

The Desire of Ages, p. 390

The unbelieving Jews refused to see any except the most literal meaning in the Saviour's words. By the ritual law they were forbidden to taste blood, and they now construed Christ's language into a sacrilegious speech, and disputed over it among themselves. Many even of the disciples said, "This is an hard saying; who can hear it?"

Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 187

There are in the Scriptures some things which are hard to be understood, and which, according to the language of Peter, the unlearned and unstable wrest unto their own destruction. We may not, in this life, be able to explain the meaning of every passage of Scripture; but there are no vital points to practical truth that will be clouded in mystery.

Conclusion

Confusing elements in Ernie's dreams are not proof that they are from Satan. Much of what Jesus spoke was confusing to the Jews because they did not understand the truth. Because of this, they believed it was proof He was not the Messiah. We can see that Linda has done the same in not understanding Ernie's dreams.

Counsel on music

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"A View of Heaven Dream: 'The two of us walk and talk together for quite some time. One of the things we talked about was how beautiful the music was that I heard in heaven. I mentioned that it was unlike anything I had ever heard in our worship services on Earth. I asked Him if He enjoys the music and worship services we have. He responded, "That is just it. They are your worship services not mine. He said that some of the music we have is inspired not by Himself, the Father or the Holy Spirit but by a whole different spirit.'"

This paragraph brings up more questions than answers. Does Jesus not like any of our music? If He does like some, what kind does He like? When the being says in the dream, 'They are your worship services not mine,' what is meant by that? Are all our worship services displeasing to Him? How do we know when we go into a church on Sabbath if the worship service is displeasing to Him? Should we even go to church if the worship services are not Jesus'? I find this leaves message leaves me totally confused. While we can know some music is not spiritual music because it is based on worldly principles, this "message from Jesus" does [not] provide anything that can be helpful to us in knowing how to worship Jesus in a way that is pleasing to Him."

Fact

Linda failed to include in her letter the rest of the details from Ernie's dream regarding music and worship. If Linda had prayed for discernment, read the context of Ernie's dream regarding music and compared it with the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, she would have received the answers to her questions. The following quotations provide a good foundation on the subject of worship and music.

God says:

2 Chronicles 5:13

It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD.

Evangelism, p. 508

Those who make singing a part of divine worship should select hymns with music appropriate to the occasion, not funeral notes, but cheerful, yet solemn melodies. The voice can and should be modulated, softened, and subdued.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 492

The melody of song, poured forth from many hearts in clear, distinct utterance, is one of God's instrumentalities in the work of saving souls. All the service should be conducted with solemnity and awe, as if in the visible presence of the Master of assemblies.

Fundamentals of Christian Education, p. 97

The art of sacred melody was diligently cultivated. No frivolous waltz was heard, nor flippancy song that should extol man and divert the attention from God; but sacred, solemn psalms of praise to the Creator, exalting His name and recounting His wondrous works. Thus music was made to serve a holy purpose, to lift the thoughts to that which was pure and noble and elevating, and to awaken in the soul devotion and gratitude to God.

Selected Messages, Book 2, pp. 36, 38

A bedlam of noise shocks the senses and perverts that which if conducted aright might be a blessing. The powers of satanic agencies blend with the din and noise to have a carnival, and this is termed the Holy Spirit's working. . . . Those things which have been in the past will be in the future. Satan will make music a snare by the way in which it is conducted.

Ernie's dream says:

A View of Heaven, December 10, 2006

Pertaining to the style of music in our worship services, Jesus explained that what we call Christian rock and praise music is an abomination to Himself and the Father. He explained that we begin our worship services asking for the Holy Spirit to come. Why do we believe that they would be there in something that God finds an abomination. He explained that praise music is nothing more than repetition, a carefully designed instrument of worship by Satan himself.

How wrong is it for us to bring the world's popular type of music into our body temple? How much worse is it for us to bring it into God's holy temple?

Conclusion

When read in context, there is nothing confusing in Ernie's dream about the worship services Jesus likes. It clearly reveals that "Christian" rock and praise music (the repetitious, popular type) are an abomination to Jesus. Critics like Linda also find it easier to quote the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy out of context to support their ideas. The reader can easily see that there should be no confusion with what God has instructed regarding music.

Ernie placed above us?

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"At our meeting, we remember someone asking you what kind of music you listened to, and you responded, I really don't like to listen to any music, because I've heard heavenly music, so any earthly music is not appealing to me. This is certainly not helpful to the rest of us. It tends to place you above us."

Fact

Ernie's dream says: "How wrong is it for us to bring the world's popular type of music into our body temple? How much worse is it for us to bring it into God's holy temple?" In other words, just as we are not to listen to the world's popular type of music in our worship services, we should also not listen to it the rest of the week. Would Linda place Ellen White above us because of what she said in the following quotes?

God says:

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, p. 146

I have been shown the order, the perfect order, of heaven, and have been enraptured as I listened to the perfect music there. After coming out of vision, the singing here has sounded very harsh and discordant. I have seen companies of angels, who stood in a hollow square, everyone having a harp of gold. At the end of the harp was an instrument to turn to set the harp or change the tunes. Their fingers did not sweep over the strings carelessly, but they touched different strings to produce different sounds. There is one angel who always leads, who first touches the harp and strikes the note, then all join in the rich, perfect music of heaven. It cannot be described. It is melody, heavenly, divine, while from every countenance beams the image of Jesus, shining with glory unspeakable.

Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White, p. 98

I begged of my attending angel to let me remain in that place. I could not bear the thought of coming back to this dark world again. Then the angel said, "You must go back, and if you are faithful, you, with the 144,000, shall have the privilege of visiting all the worlds and viewing the handiwork of God."

Early Writings, pp. 19-20

I saw the fruit of the tree of life, the manna, almonds, figs, pomegranates, grapes, and many other kinds of fruit. I asked Jesus to let me eat of the fruit. He said, "Not now. Those who eat of the fruit of this land go back to earth no more. But in a little while, if faithful, you shall both eat of the fruit of the tree of life and drink of the water of the fountain." And He said, "You must go back to the earth again and relate to others what I have revealed to you." Then an angel bore me gently down to this dark world. Sometimes I think I can stay here no longer; all things of earth look so dreary. I feel very lonely here, for I have seen a better land. Oh, that I had wings like a dove, then would I fly away and be at rest!

After I came out of vision, everything looked changed; a gloom was spread over all that I beheld. Oh, how dark this world looked to me. I wept when I found myself here, and felt homesick. I had seen a better world, and it had spoiled this for me.

Conclusion

After receiving her visions, Ellen White had no desire to remain in this dark, dreary world. The music she heard in heaven was so beautiful that it made earthly music sound harsh and discordant. Why should Ernie be criticized for preferring the heavenly music he heard in his dreams, considering Ellen White expressed similar feelings after coming out of vision? Does Linda condemn Ellen White for desiring to have wings to “fly away and be at rest”? Linda’s agenda to discredit Ernie’s dreams is guided by Satan, because he does not want anyone to give up the wrong kind of music, especially in worship.

Bible never superseded

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“The Work Now Begins: ‘As for me not having a broad understanding of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, the Herald says that I have a broader understanding than I might know and that because I am not ordained of man does not mean I am not ordained of God. The angel says that the Great Teacher has many ways of teaching other than what one can read in what He has written.’ This last sentence directly contradicts the following statement: ‘The Bible will never be superseded by miraculous manifestations. The truth must be studied, it must be searched for as hidden treasure. Wonderful illuminations will not be given aside from the Word or to take the place of it.’ 2SM 48 This clearly says that God will not bypass His Word.”

Fact

Ernie has never said his dreams supersede the Bible or the Spirit of Prophecy. The dreams continually lift up and quote the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy as the source of truth and wisdom. How did God teach His prophets of old? Through revelation. That is right that God will not bypass His Word, just as He did not bypass His Word in the dreams He gave to Ernie. If one reads the next page from where Linda quotes (*Selected Messages*, Vol. 2, p. 49), the context is connected with disregarding God’s law. Linda, please show us where Ernie’s dreams disregard God’s law?

God says:

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 302

Paul was an inspired apostle. The truths he taught to others he had received "by revelation," yet the Lord did not directly reveal to him at all times just the condition of His people.

S.D.A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 6, p. 1106

Through Paul God has given many wonderful lessons for our instruction. In his visions Paul saw many things not lawful for a man to utter. But many other things which he saw in the heavenly courts were woven into his teachings. The truth flashed from his lips as a sharp, two-edged sword. The impressions made upon his mind by the Holy Spirit were strong and vivid, and they were presented to the people in a way

that no one else could present them. Paul spoke in the demonstration of the Spirit and with power (Letter 105, 1901).

Ibid, p. 1107

Mysteries which had been hidden for ages were revealed to him [Paul], and as much as he could bear of the workings of God, and of His dealings with human minds, was made known. The Lord told Paul that he must preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ. Light was to be given to the Gentiles. This is a mystery which had been hidden for ages (ST Jan. 30, 1912).

Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 251

Heavenly angels shed their light around him. Here, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, he wrote the book of Genesis. The long years spent amid the desert solitudes were rich in blessing, not alone to Moses and his people, but to the world in all succeeding ages.

The Great Controversy (1911), viii

In harmony with the word of God, His Spirit was to continue its work throughout the period of the gospel dispensation. During the ages while the Scriptures of both the Old and the New Testament were being given, the Holy Spirit did not cease to communicate light to individual minds, apart from the revelations to be embodied in the Sacred Canon. The Bible itself relates how, through the Holy Spirit, men received warning, reproof, counsel, and instruction, in matters in no way relating to the giving of the Scriptures. And mention is made of prophets in different ages, of whose utterances nothing is recorded. In like manner, after the close of the canon of the Scripture, the Holy Spirit was still to continue its work, to enlighten, warn, and comfort the children of God."

Steps to Christ, p. 87, 93

God speaks to us through His providential workings and through the influence of His Spirit upon the heart. In our circumstances and surroundings, in the changes daily taking place around us, we may find precious lessons if our hearts are but open to discern them...

God speaks to us in His word. Here we have in clearer lines the revelation of His character, of His dealings with men, and the great work of redemption...

Through nature and revelation, through His providence, and by the influence of His Spirit, God speaks to us.

John 16:13-14

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

Ernie's dream says:

The Work Now Begins, December 14, 2007

I tell him that I know Jesus does not make mistakes, but can He send these dreams instead to someone who is important and well versed in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, someone who is better suited for this task...

As for me not having a broad understanding of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, the Herald says that I have a broader understanding than I might know and that because I am not ordained of man does not mean I am not ordained of God...

Do you not know that He is the Great Teacher? When it is time you will share the things you know, along with what you are to share from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.

Summation

The apostle Paul was taught by divine revelation. Moses wrote the book of Genesis under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist was taught through nature, revelation and providence, just as Jesus was. Ellen White says that God can speak to us through a number of different ways.

Conclusion

Everything Ernie sees in his dreams must be tested by the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. But this does not mean that God cannot teach His prophets by divine revelation. Ellen White says that miraculous manifestations will not supersede the Bible. This means that the Bible stands in its correct place. All visions and dreams must be compared with the Bible, and previously proven revelations such as the Spirit of Prophecy. If we accepted Linda's view, then all the prophets would have to be rejected. Why does Linda continue to exaggerate and take Gods words out of context?

The Word of God our only safe guide

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"If God was going to go against all His biblical principles in selecting you as His end-time messenger, and exalting you above all other humans on the earth as having the final Word from Him, how would we be able to know that? Based on your word? By miracles? By your emotional love for the being that has appeared before you? By "miraculous" feelings and impressions. None of these are safe guides. We are left with the option of standing by the God of the Bible, who has revealed Himself to us through His Word and the Spirit of Prophecy."

Fact

How has God gone against all His biblical principles in selecting Ernie as an end-time messenger? This is Linda's subjective idea of who God can and cannot use. We agree with Linda that our only option is to stand by the God of the Bible who has revealed Himself to us through His Word and the Spirit of Prophecy. We also know that Ernie's dreams fit the description of His Word and the Spirit of Prophecy.

God says:

Isaiah 8:20

To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

The Desire of Ages, p. 276

Now when Jesus came mingling with the people, eating and drinking at their tables, they accused Him of being a glutton and a winebibber. The very ones who made this charge were themselves guilty. As God is misrepresented, and clothed by Satan with his own attributes, so the Lord's messengers were falsified by these wicked men.

The Pharisees would not consider that Jesus was eating with publicans and sinners in order to bring the light of heaven to those who sat in darkness. They would not see that every word dropped by the divine Teacher was a living seed that would germinate and bear fruit to the glory of God. They had determined not to accept the light; and although they had opposed the mission of the Baptist, they were now ready to court the friendship of his disciples, hoping to secure their co-operation against Jesus. They represented that Jesus was setting at nought the ancient traditions; and they contrasted the austere piety of the Baptist with the course of Jesus in feasting with publicans and sinners.

Ibid., p. 355

The servant is not above his master. The Prince of heaven was called Beelzebub, and His disciples will be misrepresented in like manner.

The Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 3, p. 61

They not only rejected Christ themselves but took the most unfair means to prejudice the people against him, deceiving them by false reports and gross misrepresentations. In all ages of the world truth has been unpopular; its doctrines are not congenial to the natural mind; for it searches the heart, and reproves its hidden sin. Those who persecute the advocates of God's truth have ever, like the Pharisees, misrepresented their words and motives.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 3, p. 571

Many of them are inspired by Satan with insane madness against those who are keeping the commandments of God. We shall be maligned and misrepresented; all our motives and actions will be misjudged, and our characters will be attacked. The wrath of the dragon will be manifested in this manner. But I saw that we should not be in the least discouraged. Our strength is in Jesus, our Advocate. If in humility we trust in God and hold fast to His promises, He will give us grace and heavenly wisdom to withstand all the wiles of Satan and to come off victors.

Conclusion

What a shame that Linda has not followed her own counsel and stood firmly on the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy in her assessment of Ernie's dreams. In pointing out that God would have to go against all that He has revealed if He chose Ernie as an end-time messenger, Linda provides no biblical support for this. Did she not read of Paul's conversion? If God cannot use Ernie, how could He possibly have used Paul?

Love and endure

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“As you ended your video, your prayer for each one who viewed the video was stated as this: “And I know that my prayer would be that, if my prayer could be answered that every one that watches this and has read this dream, that you could see what I see when I look into the eyes of Jesus. There’s a love that we cannot describe, there’s no words, except just to say of the love of the love of the love.”

Ernie, do you really think it is in the wise plan of God to give each one of His children a vision of Jesus? And if we don’t have such a vision, should we feel that we aren’t special enough? This does not sound like the prayer of a prophet to me. A true prophet would encourage God’s people to endure, as seeing Him who is invisible, by faith. “Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.” 1 Peter 1:8”

Fact

Linda’s interpretation of Ernie’s prayer for all to see the love in the eyes of Jesus is not correct. It was meant to be symbolic, not literal. Ernie did not mean that everyone must have a dream to see the love in the eyes of Jesus. He was simply praying that all could “see” Christ’s love with their mind’s eye (through faith), just as 1 Peter 1:8 tells us.

Linda states that a true prophet will encourage God’s people to endure. Ernie was shown this very thing in one of his dreams as follows.

In the Heart of Jesus, September 12, 2009

The Workman [the Holy Spirit] now picks up a sandstone that looks strong but is rough on the outside. He says, “Other stones do not hold up under pressure.” He squeezes it and it crumbles. . . . I ask Him if He is ready to begin His project now. He answers, “Oh, no. There is still a process that each stone must go through. . . . As He slowly moves the stone into the furnace, I see it turn bright. It stays together but pieces of impurity fall off and are consumed in the fire. I see imperfections disappear. . . . All the remaining stones go through the same process and now appear like most precious jewels of different colors. . . . As He places the jewels into the frame, He is creating the most beautiful piece of art. . . . Many want to be called, but very few can hold up to the pressure, the trying of the furnace. Many do not want to be reformed nor have their imperfections shown. God can select and use those who are worthy in His hands. . . . Many want to pretend they are great stones but are hollow on the inside. . . . Our Father is looking for only the genuine type that will not crumble under pressure, the type that are not pretending on the outside or trying to be something they are not. He is looking for the type that does not paint themselves to look how they want to be seen. After a thorough sifting and shaking, a thorough separation and selection, after each is placed in a furnace and had the imperfections and impurities removed, after each has allowed themselves to be molded or reshaped to fit, what is left is a scene of perfection and love.”

If Linda had been patient and endured, she would have read this dream and not had to make the statement that she did.

On the other hand, we cannot discount that others may have a dream or vision and see the love in the eyes of Jesus.

God says:

Acts 2:17

And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

1 Corinthians 14:1

Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.

Would Linda have a problem with Daniel who wrote the following?

Daniel 10:6

His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude.

Was that Daniel's way of describing the great love in the eyes of Jesus?

Would Linda have a problem with Ellen White who wrote the following description of Jesus from a dream?

Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White, p. 27

The loving eyes of Jesus were still upon me, and His smile filled my soul with gladness.

Conclusion

One has to wonder what would influence Linda to make the statement she did, especially regarding the great love in the eyes of Jesus. Again, was it fear, jealousy, pride or just listening to others' ideas? Ernie's prayer is still that God's people, including Linda, will see that love in the eyes of Jesus, whether it is in the mind's eye or through dreams and visions, and that they will endure to the end.

Steve Wohlberg and tithe

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"It was after speaking with Steve Wohlberg on the weekend retreat at Wawona Camp in Yosemite in March of this year that I realized the absolute danger of these dreams. Besides all the concerns I had listed above, the tithe issue was the clincher.

In a real practical way, I thought this out: Let's say a pastor in our conference is mingling spiritualistic theories in his teaching. I express my concern to the conference president. Nothing is done, the teaching continues. I decide to give my tithe to you, Ernie, instead of to my conference, since you are "doing the Lord's bidding" and I wouldn't want

to be responsible for supporting the pastor who was teaching spiritualism. What would happen to my own godly pastor's salary if I withheld my tithe? What if all my friends did the same? What if half of the people in my conference did the same? Wouldn't that be what the "Jesus" in your dreams would want us to do, so we wouldn't support that spiritualistic pastor? So, what happens to my godly pastor whose salary comes from the same fund? He's out of a job!

Multiply that scenario around the world, and what happens to the church? I think you get my point. However you interpret the Spirit of Prophecy statements about tithe, this teaching in the dream could only bring upheaval and confusion to the church."

Fact

Was Linda supportive of the dreams until she spoke with Steve Wohlberg in March of 2008?

God says:

The Review and Herald, October 16, 1900

The eternal Father is waiting for us to take our eyes off finite man, and place our dependence on him. Then look not to man for your light and strength. Put not your trust in the arm of flesh.

The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials, p. 170

Those who have not been in the habit of thinking and investigating for themselves, believe certain doctrines because their associates with them in the work believe them. They resist the truth without going to the Scriptures for themselves to learn what is truth. Because those in whom they have had confidence oppose the light, they oppose it, not knowing they are rejecting the counsel of God against themselves.

Our only safety is in testing everything by the Word of God. Those who rejected the 1888 message failed to follow this principle. According to Linda's hypothetical situation, if half the Conference stopped supporting the Church with their tithes, perhaps the Conference would follow the example of Nehemiah.

Prophets and Kings, pp. 669-670

Solemnly and publicly the people of Judah had pledged themselves to obey the law of God. But when the influence of Ezra and Nehemiah was for a time withdrawn, there were many who departed from the Lord. Nehemiah had returned to Persia. During his absence from Jerusalem, evils crept in that threatened to pervert the nation. Idolaters not only gained a foothold in the city, but contaminated by their presence the very precincts of the temple. Through intermarriage, a friendship had been brought about between Eliashib the high priest and Tobiah the Ammonite, Israel's bitter enemy. As a result of this unhallowed alliance, Eliashib had permitted Tobiah to occupy an apartment connected with the temple, which heretofore had been used as a storeroom for tithes and offerings of the people.

Because of the cruelty and treachery of the Ammonites and Moabites toward Israel, God had declared through Moses that they should be

forever shut out from the congregation of His people. See Deuteronomy 23:3-6. In defiance of this word, the high priest had cast out the offerings stored in the chamber of God's house, to make a place for this representative of a proscribed race. Greater contempt for God could not have been shown than to confer such a favor on this enemy of God and His truth.

On returning from Persia, Nehemiah learned of the bold profanation and took prompt measures to expel the intruder. "It grieved me sore," he declares; "therefore I cast forth all the household stuff of Tobiah out of the chamber. Then I commanded, and they cleansed the chambers; and thither brought I again the vessels of the house of God, with the meat offering and the frankincense."

Not only had the temple been profaned, but the offerings had been misapplied. This had tended to discourage the liberalities of the people. They had lost their zeal and fervor, and were reluctant to pay their tithes. The treasuries of the Lord's house were poorly supplied; many of the singers and others employed in the temple service, not receiving sufficient support, had left the work of God to labor elsewhere.

Nehemiah set to work to correct these abuses. He gathered together those who had left the service of the Lord's house, "and set them in their place." This inspired the people with confidence, and all Judah brought "the tithe of the corn and the new wine and the oil." Men who "were counted faithful" were made "treasurers over the treasuries," "and their office was to distribute unto their brethren."

If the Conference failed to follow Nehemiah's example, then according to Ellen White's example, supporting godly ministers directly would be appropriate. We do not believe that godly pastors would be without a job, because there would either be godly people who would support them or they would find secular employment. God would provide, just as we see from the previous quote as follows: ". . . many of the singers and others employed in the temple service, not receiving sufficient support, had left the work of God to labor elsewhere." For further details on tithe, please refer to chapter 1.

2 Timothy 4:3

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears.

The Review and Herald, August 11, 1903

In this time evil angels in the form of men will talk with those who know the truth. They will misinterpret and misconstrue the statements of the messengers of God.

The General Conference Bulletin, April 2, 1903

I know that we are our worst enemies when we listen to the suggestions of the enemy. Let us not allow the truth, the precious, sanctifying truth of God, to pass by without our laying hold upon it. We are to be sanctified by the truth. The Lord will help us if we will but humble our hearts before Him, and accept Him as our personal Saviour.

Only the living, acting power of our Redeemer can save us from the wiles of the enemy.

Conclusion

As pointed out in [chapter 1](#), God holds us accountable for supporting corruption if we are aware of it and do nothing to try to correct it. As Elijah was accused of being the one who had caused all of Israel's troubles, so Linda does not have any problem accusing Ernie of bringing "upheaval and confusion to the church." Perhaps we should be asking who is really bringing this trouble.

Betrayed a trust

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"At that time, I knew I could no longer be connected in any way with the 4HisPeople ministry. I told Steve Wohlberg the name of the person in the Much To Do dream. That was part of my disassociation from the dreams."

Fact

As for Linda asserting that she was part of the 4 His People Ministry, she was not. The Herald's instruction invited Linda to edit "The SDA Church" dream, which was the extent of her involvement with the ministry.

For Linda to have betrayed a trust is not something a Christian would do.

God says:

Pastoral Ministry, p. 41

Should I, who am a Christian, a child of God; one called to be the light of the world, a preacher of righteousness; who have so often expressed my confidence in the truth and the way in which the Lord has led us, should I unite my influence with those who bitterly oppose the work of God? Should I, a steward of the mysteries of God, open to His worst enemies the counsels of His people? Would not such a course embolden the wicked in their opposition to the truth of God and to His covenant-keeping people? Would not such concession prevent me from opening my lips in exhortation, warning, or entreaty in my own family or in the church of God? If Paul or Peter were placed in similar circumstances, would he thus betray a sacred trust?--ST Jan. 3, 1884.

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 36

It was a betrayal of sacred trust to take that which Jesus designed should be kept secret, and publish it to others, and bring upon the cause of truth reproach and injury.

Gospel Workers (1892), pp. 443-444

Brethren sometimes associate together for years, and think they can trust those they know so well, just as they would trust members of their own family. There is a freedom and confidence in this association which could not exist among those not of the same faith. This is very pleasant while brotherly love continues; but let the "accuser of the brethren" gain admittance to the heart of one of these men, controlling the mind and the imagination, and jealousies are created, suspicion and envy are harbored;

and he who supposed himself secure in the love and friendship of his brother, finds himself mistrusted, and his motives misjudged. The false brother forgets his own human frailties, forgets his obligation to think and speak no evil lest he dishonor God and wound Christ in the person of his saints; and every defect that can be thought of or imagined is commented upon unmercifully, and the character of a brother is represented as dark and questionable.

There is a betrayal of sacred trust. The things spoken in brotherly confidence are repeated and misrepresented; and every word, every action, however innocent and well-meaning, is scrutinized by the cold, jealous criticism of those who were thought too noble, too honorable, to take the least advantage of friendly association or brotherly trust. Hearts are closed to mercy, judgment, and the love of God; and the cold, sneering, contemptuous spirit which Satan manifests toward his victim is revealed.

Conclusion

Linda has revealed her true character. Judas revealed his character after he betrayed Jesus. Unless truly repented of, one who betrays a trust cannot be trusted.

False prophecy?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“I determined to dig a little deeper and find out from Shawn Boonstra if he had received any impressions about your dreams, either from God or Satan. You’ve probably seen the statement from IIW that was made as a result of my inquiry. No matter what the angel tries to say about God’s timing, the prophecy, made Oct. 21, 2007 was made when you asked Jesus: “Is there someone I can be connected with so that these messages can go out faster? Jesus replies “Yes, I will connect you with Shawn Boonstra.”

Over six months later, Shawn Boonstra dictated the following statement: ‘A number of people have communicated with our office recently, asking about our official position on the dreams and visions of Mr. Ernie Knoll. More specifically, some have been asking if Shawn Boonstra has received any sort of confirmation from God that Mr. Knoll’s experience is genuine. At this point in time, Pastor Boonstra has had no such experience... To date, It Is Written has not come into possession of any information that suggests the claims of Mr. Knoll are genuine.’

The bottom line is, Jesus did not connect you with Shawn Boonstra so that the messages can go out faster. Even if he were to “connect” with you today, over six months after your appeal to help the dreams go out faster, it’s obvious that he didn’t help them go out faster! Anybody can see that. There is no question that this was a false prophecy.”

Fact

Instead of “digging a little deeper” to get someone’s impression, Linda should have dug deeper into God’s Word. Ernie was never given a date as to when Shawn Boonstra (of It Is Written) would support the dreams. God never said anything to Ernie about a quick fulfillment. However, this is what Linda

assumed, without any evidence to support her belief. The part of “getting the dreams out faster” refers to once God fulfills the prophecy. God does not fulfill His promises as quickly as we would like, as can be seen in the 120-year wait for the Flood in Noah’s time and the fact that we are still waiting for Christ’s return ever since He made that promise about 2,000 years ago. Ellen White believed time was about to end and was even shown that people then living would be translated. However, the church did not follow God’s direction. As a result, the prediction did not happen. Nevertheless, that does not make her a false prophet. We must always go by the weight of evidence.

Life Sketches of James White and Ellen G. White, p. 321

But we were yet to pass through another severe trial. At the Conference a very solemn vision was given me. I saw that some of those present would be food for worms, some subjects for the seven last plagues, and some would be translated to Heaven at the second coming of Christ, without seeing death.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, pp. 675-676

Those who desire to doubt will have plenty of room. God does not propose to remove all occasion for unbelief. He gives evidence, which must be carefully investigated with a humble mind and a teachable spirit, and all should decide from the weight of evidence. God gives sufficient evidence for the candid mind to believe; but he who turns from the weight of evidence because there are a few things which he cannot make plain to his finite understanding will be left in the cold, chilling atmosphere of unbelief and questioning doubts, and will make shipwreck of faith.

It is possible that because Linda divulged the person’s name, that God’s will did not happen in His desired time. If man had and would cooperate with God’s will, we would see a different timetable. If the Israelites had obeyed God, they would not have wandered 40 years in the desert before entering the Promised Land. If Seventh-day Adventists had obeyed God, they would not have been here “many more years” as Ellen White predicted. If we cooperate with God, we can hasten Christ’s return. When God delays a promise, it does not necessarily mean He will not be fulfilling His promise. That applies to the prediction in Ernie’s dream as well.

God says:

Evangelism, pp. 696-697

We may have to remain here in this world because of insubordination many more years, as did the children of Israel; but for Christ’s sake, His people should not add sin to sin by charging God with the consequence of their own wrong course of action.--Letter 184, 1901.

By giving the gospel to the world it is in our power to hasten our Lord’s return.

It is the privilege of every Christian, not only to look for, but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Were all who profess His name bearing fruit to His glory, how quickly the whole world would be sown with the seed of the gospel. Quickly the last harvest would be ripened,

and Christ would come to gather the precious grain.--Testimonies, vol. 8, pp. 22, 23

The Desire of Ages, p. 32

But like the stars in the vast circuit of their appointed path, God's purposes know no haste and no delay. . . . So in heaven's council the hour for the coming of Christ had been determined. When the great clock of time pointed to that hour, Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

Last Day Events, p. 38

It should be remembered that the promises and threatenings of God are alike conditional. [See Jeremiah 18:7-10; Jonah 3:4-10]

Prophets and Kings, p. 704

These promises were conditional on obedience.

Ernie's dream says:

Testing the Spirits, May 12, 2008

You and others have been privately as well as in a group been praying as to why I have not sent you _____ as I said I would in the dream called 'Much to Do.' We both know that you entrusted to a certain individual in confidence the name of _____. In lack of faith this individual gave out the name. This person, who also has a problem with memory, has forgotten that a trust was given and that they were to be used as a witness. I so want My people to have faith. Will I not find faith but in a very few? I will send you _____ but not until it is time by My watch. This individual is not ready. Be patient and wait for My voice so that I may speak in My time."

Summary

- Helping the dreams to go out faster is also part of the timing factor.
- Linda determined how long we should have waited before the prophecy was fulfilled—only six months.
- God does not always fulfill promises quickly. Even though God delays a promise, it does not necessarily mean it will not happen.
- The promises and threatenings of God are conditional. God cannot go against man's freedom of choice.
- Because of man's disobedience, God does not always work His will as we expect or desire.
- If we remain "in Christ," we can hasten His return.

Conclusion

God is telling us to have faith, to be patient and wait on His time and His way. "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12. Are we to follow man's or God's timeline? "He hath made every thing beautiful in his time." Ecclesiastes 3:11. Would Linda have boarded Noah's ark, or would she have condemned him after six months of no rain?

Another false prophecy?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

“Another false prophecy was given on Aug. 14, 2007 in the dream Watch, As I Am Coming. The angels said to you regarding Doug Batchelor: ‘You both walk a road parallel and your roads will cross.’ You thought perhaps this prophecy may have been fulfilled shortly after that when you attended a church where Doug Batchelor was speaking, although there was no conversation between you. Regarding the parallel paths, his secretary, Bonnie Ensminger, stated to me on April 23, 2008 that Pastor Batchelor has refused, and continues to refuse to meet with you and talk with you, although there was an attempt to make an appointment with him. That doesn’t sound like parallel roads to me! He certainly is not in agreement with the road that you are on!”

Fact

When Ernie made the statement that Linda referred to, Ernie did not mean that Linda should take it seriously. He was simply repeating what Becky had whispered to him that day at the church (with a smile on her face). Neither one believes that was the fulfillment of the prediction.

Neither Ernie nor anyone in his ministry attempted to make an appointment with Doug Batchelor (of Amazing Facts). The person responsible for that was acquainted with both Doug and Ernie and because of plans to visit their area from out of state had attempted ahead of time to schedule a visit with Doug and Ernie.

Ernie and Becky know that the “parallel roads” refers to the fact that each ministry shares the same belief system. Their prayer regarding Doug Batchelor and Shawn Boonstra follows.

God says:

Habakkuk 2:3

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Ezekiel 12:28

Therefore say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; There shall none of my words be prolonged any more, but the word which I have spoken shall be done, saith the Lord GOD.

Conclusion

Linda again makes hasty assumptions and loses patience, thus causing more doubt as to the true source of Ernie’s dreams. Ernie and Becky look forward to the day when God’s people all unite in truth and are one in purpose to finish the work. It is time to go home!

Revival and changed lives**Linda Kirk says:** (see [Appendix L](#))

“What about all the ‘miracles,’ the changed lives, the sweet fellowship and new friendships, and increased love for Jesus that the followers of the dreams seem to have experienced? How could Satan be doing all this? Listen: ‘Popular revivals are too often carried by appeals to the

imagination, by exciting the emotions, by gratifying the love for what is new and startling. Converts thus gained have little desire to listen to Bible truth, little interest in the testimony of prophets and apostles. Unless a religious service has something of a sensational character, it has no attractions for them. A message which appeals to unimpassioned reason awakens no response. The plain warnings of God's word, relating directly to their eternal interests, are unheeded.' {NL 9.2}"

"The fact that the spiritual awakening came as a result of an emotionally charged supernatural dream causes one to wonder: Would those whose lives have been changed by the hearing of your dreams have responded to a biblical message without the 'appeals to the imagination, by exciting the emotions, by gratifying the love for what is new and startling'?" And if not, then, have their lives really been changed for the better?"

"There seems to be a revival, but it is based on a shaky foundation. Just because there is a seeming revival at a new, startling, exciting message does not mean that it is of God. False revival look very close to true revivals."

Fact

Satan can never increase our love for Jesus! The "followers" of the dreams did not seem to have experienced a closer walk with Jesus, they did. Anyone can see that fact from the For My People Ministry testimonials.

Referring to the quote referenced by Linda, there are good emotions and good imagination. If experiencing "heaven" here now means experiencing emotion and imagination, then so be it. There is a right way to use what God has created in us.

In addition, how do Ernie's dreams gratify the love for what is new, startling, and exciting, when they simply illuminate the same truths already in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, with added details or allegories (parables)?

If Linda has a problem with what is new and exciting, does she have a problem with the announcement on her church's website as follows? Has she gone to her pastor and complained about the "new and exciting ways"?

Spirit & Truth Radio Broadcast with Pastor Myers

Sunday Mornings on KPRL

Listen to Pastor Myers preach the word in new and exciting ways,
each Sunday Morning at 8:00 a.m. on KPRL 1230 AM.

Source: http://templetonhillchurch.com/upcoming_events

The followers of the dreams do not have "little desire to listen to Bible truth" or "little interest in the testimony of prophets and apostles," because that is what the dreams are about. They are intensely studying the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy and reforming. Already someone made a website, wrote three books, and co-authored another—all using the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy to support the dreams. The followers are not interested in a "sensational character" but only the pure, unvarnished truth. They are not attracted to things of this world,

only the world to come. Their focus is to cleanse themselves of all sin in order to be like Jesus in preparation for His imminent return and to share the truth with others. Those who believe the dreams do not focus on the opposition. Instead, they focus on what they can do for Jesus—through His power. They see the great love in His eyes, realize His sacrifice for them, and look forward to His return. With all this in mind, how can Ernie's message "awaken no response"? How can it be that the "plain warnings of God's word, relating directly to their eternal interests," are unheeded?

God says:

The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials, pp. 1250-1251

The baptism of the Holy Ghost as on the day of Pentecost will lead to a revival of true religion, and to the visitation of angels and the performance of many wonderful works. Heavenly intelligences will come among us, and men will speak as they are moved upon by the Holy Spirit of God. But should the Lord work upon men as he did on, and after the day of Pentecost, many who now claim to believe the truth, would know so very little of the operation of the Holy Spirit, that they would cry, "Beware of fanaticism." They would say of those who were filled with the Spirit, "These men are drunk with new wine." The time is not far off now when men will want a much closer relation to Christ, a much closer union with his Holy Spirit than ever they have had, or will have, unless they give up their will and their way, and submit to God's will and God's way. The great sin of those who profess to be Christians is that they do not open the heart to receive the Holy Spirit. When souls long after Christ, and seek to become one with him, then those who are content with the form of godliness, exclaim "Be careful, do not go to extremes." When the angels of heaven come among us, and work through human agents, there will be solid, substantial conversions, after the order of the conversions after the day of Pentecost. Now brethren, be careful and do not go into or try to create human excitement. But while we should be careful not to go into human excitement, we should not be among those who will raise inquiries, and cherish doubts in reference to the work of the Spirit of God; for there will be those who will question and criticize when the Spirit of God takes possession of men and women, because their own hearts are not moved; but are cold and unimpressible.

General Conference Daily Bulletin, April 13, 1891 [March 24, 1891 by Ellen White]

In the revival work that has been going forward here during the past winter we have seen no fanaticism. But I will tell you what I have seen. I have seen men who were so lifted up in themselves, and so stubborn, that their hearts were enshrouded in darkness. All the light that Heaven graciously sent them was interpreted to be darkness. When the enemy presents a device of his own, some are ready to accept that; but they have been so very cautious that they would not receive the light which would have made them wise unto salvation. The mission of God's servants was to open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God. The bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness, if received, would have illuminated the soul-temple, and driven out the

buyers and sellers, the pride of opinion and the lust of the flesh. But there are some who have criticised and depreciated, and even stooped to ridicule, the messengers through whom the Lord has wrought in power.

Satan has always led his agents to misrepresent true revivals. When God pours out the latter rain upon those who are ready for it, unbelievers will also accuse them as well. Linda's accusation that Ernie's dreams are the result of Satan's false revival is without biblical evidence. It is a matter of eternal salvation that Linda and her sympathizers follow the Bible counsel and not call good evil.

Isaiah 5:20

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Regarding "an emotionally charged supernatural dream," many said this about the great advent awakening in the 1840's. Many believed Jesus was coming. The excitement at that time ran high. The message was new. However, did this make it wrong? No, it was part of God's divine plan.

Matthew 7:20

Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

The Review and Herald, June 19, 1900

Ye shall know them by their fruits." Do those who accuse God's children come under the head of "contrite ones"?--Instead, they show to the world, to angels, and to men, that they have chosen to stand under the banner of the prince of darkness, to swell the number of those who love and make a lie.

Life Sketches of Ellen G. White, p. 425

I have been deeply impressed by scenes that have recently passed before me in the night season. There seemed to be a great movement -- a work of revival -- going forward in many places. Our people were moving into line, responding to God's call. My brethren, the Lord is speaking to us. Shall we not heed His voice? Shall we not trim our lamps, and act like men who look for their Lord to come? The time is one that calls for light-bearing, for action.

Operation Global Rain

In case the reader has not heard of Operation Global Rain (OGR), it was a movement started at a local Seventh-day Adventist church that Linda attends. She accuses Ernie of creating a false revival. However, please read the following information and come to your own conclusion as to whether her church promoted a false revival. Following is advertising from their website in 2007.

Imagine (sound of thunder)

16 million Seventh-day Adventists worldwide,
all praying at the same time for the same thing.

Imagine. Operation: Global Rain. (sound of thunder) 6.27.07 to
7.07.07 www.operationglobalrain.com

Can we now apply the quote that Linda referenced in her letter to OGR? Can we say that their advertisement “appeals to the imagination, excites the emotions, and is new and startling? Is that why the “converts thus gained” through OGR “have little desire to listen to Bible truth, little interest in the testimony of prophets and apostles” such as Ernie? Since a local Seventh-day Adventist conference endorsed OGR, did that make many Adventists excited? Does this make it right? As you continue reading, we pray that you will come to the right conclusion.

Does OGR have their chronology wrong? Where is their focus on repentance and the early or former rain first?

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, pp. 506-507

Unless the early showers have done their work, the latter rain can bring no seed to perfection.

If we do not place ourselves in an attitude to receive both the former and the latter rain, we shall lose our souls, and the responsibility will lie at our own door.

Does not the following quote prove that the loud cry and latter rain come after the Sunday law, not before?

Evangelism, pp. 234-235

None are condemned until they have had the light and have seen the obligation of the fourth commandment. But when the decree shall go forth enforcing the counterfeit sabbath, and the loud cry of the third angel shall warn men against the worship of the beast and his image, the line will be clearly drawn between the false and the true. Then those who still continue in transgression will receive the mark of the beast.

In the following statement, Ellen White says the latter rain will be falling and people will not even know it. This would mean that OGR is not a true revival, because they would be telling the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church when the latter rain begins.

The Review and Herald, March 2, 1897

Only those who are living up to the light they have, will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain. It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it.

Is OGR the false latter rain before the true?

Early Writings, p. 260

Satan deceives some with Spiritualism. He also comes as an angel of light and spreads his influence over the land by means of false reformations. The churches are elated, and consider that God is working marvelously for them, when it is the work of another spirit. The

excitement will die away and leave the world and the church in a worse condition than before.

There is nothing in the Bible that advocates the following procedure done by OGR:

"I had all my elders (6) come forward. We knelt and I anointed all of them on their eyelids (this was explained from Rev. 3, that we might all see our true need, and be enabled to see what needed to be cleansed from our homes, etc.) I then prayed aloud for them."

"Two of the Elders in turn anointed my eyelids and both prayed for me aloud.

"We continued this until all heads of household had been anointed on their eyelids."

In reading Revelation 3:17-20, the eye salve comes from Jesus not the elders, and the key is to repent and ask Jesus to abide with us.

Does OGR promote the keeping of feast days?

"Sunset Friday, May 18, is the beginning of the Sixth Sabbath of the Seven Sabbaths towards Pentecost! The 43rd Day in the count of Omer. That was the same day Yeshua ascended to heaven as per Acts 1:9-10. Counting backwards to ^{the} first day that Yeshua was being seen you arrive at the Third Day of the week, or don't you? That day began at sunset on a Monday, do you see?

Source: <http://operationglobalrain.webdevdepot.net/wp/2007/05/08/perfect-timing-may-18-and-the-40-days-of-prayer/>

With widespread apostasy in the Church, the latter rain cannot fall.

The Review and Herald, July 21, 1896

When we have entire, wholehearted consecration to the service of Christ, God will recognize the fact by an outpouring of His Spirit without measure; but this will not be while the largest portion of the church are not laborers together with God. God cannot pour out His Spirit when selfishness and self-indulgence are so manifest; when a spirit prevails that, if put into words, would express that answer of Cain,-- "Am I my brother's keeper?"

For those who have not heard the presentation Ernie and Becky shared in their speaking engagements, here are portions from the ending on revival and repentance. As you read it, compare it with OGR and come to your own conclusion as to whether Ernie promotes a true revival.

S.D.A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 4, p. 1184

"In this age, just prior to the second coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven, God calls for men who will prepare a people to stand in the great day of the Lord. Just such a work as that which John did, is to be carried

on in these last days. The Lord is giving messages to His people, through the instruments He has chosen, and He would have all heed the admonitions and warnings He sends. The message preceding the public ministry of Christ was, ‘Repent publicans and sinners; repent, Pharisees and Sadducees; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Our message is not to be one of peace and safety. As a people who believe in Christ’s soon appearing, we have a definite message to bear,--‘Prepare to meet thy God.’ ”

What must we do to prepare? We must know what sin is. God’s word tells us what sin is. If we do not know, we cannot repent. Without repentance we can never have a genuine revival and reformation. Without revival and reformation we cannot have the latter rain. We must know the forgiveness, cleansing, justification, and power from God for victory over sin through the early rain. We must win the battle over self and sin. Without that belief and experience, it will be impossible for God to pour out His latter-rain power upon us.

Upward Look, p. 87

“When you have determined what reforms need to be carried out, labor with persevering, fearless courage to that end. Do not expect to carry out the pure, uplifting principles of true reform without meeting opposition. God’s Word plainly teaches that all who will live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution from those who seek to tear down what God declares to be truth and righteousness. . . . There is no action of our lives in which God is not concerned, no interest which is not precious in His sight. ‘Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world,’ He declares (Matt. 28:20). God is the shield and buckler of His people. He spreads His hands above His trusting children, and no one can wound a child of His without smiting the hand of God.”

This is not the time to be celebrating. The celebrating comes after Jesus takes us home. This is a time for repentance. He will save us from sin not in sin. If we continually seek God’s will, not our own, then we will continually have the victory over sin. Remember that temptation is not a sin, but giving in to temptation is sin.

If we fall, we must pick ourselves up and begin again, just as a child who is learning to walk. In this same way we learn to walk with Jesus.

God is reaching out to His people. He is waiting for us to die to self and sin. Then and only then can God revive us to spiritual life. Are we beholding Satan and his kingdom or Christ and His kingdom? The choice is ours. By beholding we become changed.

God longs for His character to be in each one of us. When this happens, God will have a people who will move the world in the power of the latter rain and the loudcry.

"It will cost us an effort to secure eternal life. It is only by long and persevering effort, sore discipline, and stern conflict, that we shall be overcomers."

We, who are modern Israel, have been wandering in the desert too many years. We are now standing at the Jordan River. Jesus is about ready to return. Let's cross that river and take possession of the Promised Land.

God is looking for those who have the faith of Abraham and the boldness of Daniel and his three friends. He is asking if He will find faith when He returns—the faith of a little child—for we are but His little children. He is looking for those who will give all for Him as He gave His all for us.

Today you have heard of the Lord's great love for you. Will you not love Him in return by surrendering all to Him?

It is no wonder why Satan tried to and continues to try to destroy Ernie and Becky and their ministry. The enemy does not want anyone saved from their sins.

Why did OGR do the opposite of what God has said to do? Did they desire something new and exciting? How can one ask for the latter rain when they are not ready? Why pour clean water into a filthy pitcher? Our vessels need to be clean first. We must pray for the early rain before the latter rain, which comes after the national Sunday law.

God says:

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 507

The heart must be emptied of every defilement and cleansed for the indwelling of the Spirit.

Maranatha, p. 240

Not one of us will ever receive the seal of God while our characters have one spot or stain upon them. It is left with us to remedy the defects in our characters, to cleanse the soul temple of every defilement. Then the latter rain will fall upon us as the early rain fell upon the disciples.

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 506

Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain." "He will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain." In the East the former rain falls at the sowing time. It is necessary in order that the seed may germinate. Under the influence of the fertilizing showers, the tender shoot springs up. The latter rain, falling near the close of the season, ripens the grain and prepares it for the sickle [the harvest at Christ's Second Coming.]

Conclusion

The description of the characteristics of false revivals Linda quotes has no relevance to the effects Ernie's dreams and presentations have.

1. Those who read the dreams are not lead to disregard the Bible. There is an increased love for it and a change of life toward preparing for Christ's return.
2. Those who accept the dreams do not participate in sensational worship services. The dreams condemn this kind of worship.
3. The dreams emphasize the warnings of the Bible, leading the reader to experience true repentance, which is what true revivals do. If false revivals look very close to true revivals, how is Linda so sure that this revival is a false one? Where is her proof?

In the 1844 revival, not everyone who expected Jesus to return had truly repented. Nevertheless, this did not make that revival a false one. Out of that great movement, God raised up His last-day church. Ellen White became the most prolific writer God has ever called. Similarly, there will be people who do not truly repent after reading Ernie's dreams. This does not mean the dreams are not from God any more than the Bible, as many who read it might choose to be lost. Jesus is asking, "Will I find faith?"

Righteousness by sight?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"Ernie, I appeal to you to consider the foundation of your religious experience. The heart of our message is righteousness by faith. "For we walk by faith and not by sight." Righteousness by faith, is the three angels messages in verity, in truth. Faith is trusting in God's love and mercy, believing that His Word is true, and that He means what He says. Faith is based on that which is not seen. "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

Ernie, the "righteousness" you obtained in your dream-conversion was righteousness by sight, the "love" you "felt" when you looked into the eyes of the arch anti-christ. This is what "converted" you, and it was a false conversion experience, based on emotion and not on faith. God could never accept this false conversion and then exalt you to be His mouthpiece to the people whom He has called to experience and proclaim the great message of righteousness by faith. You have never experienced righteousness by faith, only by sight."

Fact

If it was all right for other prophets to see the eyes of Jesus, why is it wrong for Ernie? If he experienced a "false conversion" then we must conclude the same for Paul. The heart of Ernie's message is righteousness by faith. It is only natural for someone who receives a dream or vision of heaven to want others to be able to see that same glory. Ellen White did the same. How often do people share emails that have touched their lives? They do this because they want others to share in the same blessing they have experienced. Ernie's desire for people to be able to see the love of Jesus in no way proves he is

spiritually ignorant. This should be what we desire for everyone, whether they are surrendered to Christ or not.

God says:

Matthew 7:1

Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

2 Peter 1:16

For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

Acts 9:1-6

And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

Numbers 12:8

With him Moses will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 17

For three years and a half the disciples were under the instruction of the greatest Teacher the world has ever known. By personal contact and association, Christ trained them for His service. Day by day they walked and talked with Him, hearing His words of cheer to the weary and heavy-laden, and seeing the manifestation of His power in behalf of the sick and the afflicted. Sometimes He taught them, sitting among them on the mountainside; sometimes beside the sea or walking by the way, He revealed the mysteries of the kingdom of God. Wherever hearts were open to receive the divine message, He unfolded the truths of the way of salvation. He did not command the disciples to do this or that, but said, "Follow Me." On His journeys through country and cities, He took them with Him, that they might see how He taught the people. They traveled with Him from place to place. They shared His frugal fare, and like Him were sometimes hungry and often weary. On the crowded streets, by the lakeside, in the lonely desert, they were with Him. They saw Him in every phase of life.

The Desire of Ages, p. 439

Let the repenting sinner fix his eyes upon "the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29); and by beholding, he becomes changed. His fear is turned to joy, his doubts to hope. Gratitude springs up. The stony heart is broken. A tide of love sweeps into the soul. Christ is in him a well of water springing up unto everlasting life. When we see Jesus, a Man of Sorrows and acquainted with grief, working to save the lost, slighted, scorned, derided, driven from city to city till His mission was accomplished; when we behold Him in Gethsemane, sweating great drops of blood, and on the cross dying in agony,--when we see this, self will no longer clamor to be recognized. Looking unto Jesus, we shall be ashamed of our coldness, our lethargy, our self-seeking.

We shall be willing to be anything or nothing, so that we may do heart service for the Master. We shall rejoice to bear the cross after Jesus, to endure trial, shame, or persecution for His dear sake.

Conclusion

Righteousness by faith has always been the way in which God saves His people. According to Linda, if Ernie received righteousness by sight, what do we do about all of God's prophets? Moses spoke face-to-face with Christ. The disciples walked with Jesus for three and half years. Paul received visions of things that were not "lawful" for him to repeat. Ellen White received constant communication from heaven for over seventy years. Did they obtain righteousness by sight as well, after such wonderful revelations from God?

Ernie's conversion a model?

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"If your conversion experience is held up as a model to your followers, they would see that this is a strange, new religion, not the Christianity of the Bible, and certainly not the calling of the remnant church. Just this morning I read, 'If we have not a deep experience in the things of God, if we have not a thorough knowledge of His Word, we shall be beguiled to our ruin by the errors and sophistries of the enemy.' Mar. 95."

Fact

Ernie has never held up his conversion experience as a model for anyone. In fact, Linda is the one who initiated it as an issue. However, she will have to reject Paul's conversion, because according to her reasoning, it was "a strange, new religion, not the Christianity of the Bible." Linda is quick to judge regarding Ernie's conversion. How can she do that when only God can accurately read a person's heart?

God says:

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 516

Human beings, themselves given to evil, are prone to deal untenderly with the tempted and the erring. They cannot read the heart; they know not its struggle and its pain.

Conclusion

Everyone's conversion is different. No one should be a model for another. Is Linda willing to reject Paul's conversion, because it might provide the wrong impression regarding true conversion? Linda's facts do not line up.

No deep understanding of Bible?

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"Ernie, because of your admitted lack of a deep understanding and knowledge of the Word, you have been beguiled, and you are spreading your error around the world."

Fact

We are still waiting for someone to prove from God's Word what error is in Ernie's dreams. The error that actually needs fixing is the apostasy in the Church, starting at the top. God often calls the humble, unlearned, and teachable. These people are more receptive to God's teaching. If we are honest with ourselves, we will see that Linda is the beguiled one who is spreading error around the world.

God says:

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 17

For the carrying on of His work, Christ did not choose the learning or eloquence of the Jewish Sanhedrin or the power of Rome. Passing by the self-righteous Jewish teachers, the Master Worker chose humble, unlearned men to proclaim the truths that were to move the world. These men He purposed to train and educate as the leaders of His church. They in turn were to educate others and send them out with the gospel message. That they might have success in their work they were to be given the power of the Holy Spirit. Not by human might or human wisdom was the gospel to be proclaimed, but by the power of God.

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 171

In the choice of instrumentalities for the reforming of the church, the same divine plan is seen as in that for the planting of the church. The heavenly Teacher passed by the great men of the earth, the titled and wealthy, who were accustomed to receive praise and homage as leaders of the people. They were so proud and self-confident in their boasted superiority that they could not be molded to sympathize with their fellow men and to become colaborers with the humble Man of Nazareth. To the unlearned, toiling fishermen of Galilee was the call addressed: "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19. These disciples were humble and teachable. The less they had been influenced by the false teaching of their time, the more successfully could Christ instruct and train them for His service. So in the days of the Great Reformation. The leading Reformers were men from humble life--men who were most free of any of their time from pride of rank and from the influence of bigotry and priestcraft. It is God's plan to employ humble instruments to accomplish great results. Then the glory will not be given to men, but to Him who works through them to will and to do of His own good pleasure.

Conclusion

When Ernie says in a humble way he does not know much, people accuse him of lacking a deep understanding of the Bible. If Ernie had said he knew a lot about the Bible, Linda would have condemned him for being proud. It is not necessarily a person of deep understanding of the Bible that God can use, but a humble willingness to rely upon Him. Jesus passed by the great educators of His day when He chose humble fishermen as His disciples. Who of Christ's disciples would Linda have accused of not having a deep understanding of Christ? All of them or just the ones she liked and approved of? Sadly, it was not until Christ was no longer with His disciples that they began to deeply understand Him.

My eyes were opened

Linda Kirk says: (see [Appendix L](#))

"I am grieved that I dishonored my Lord by falling for such a lie, and I praise Him for opening my eyes. I pray for all those who have believed your lies, that their eyes will be opened, and they will receive the love of the truth, so that God will not send them strong delusions, that they should believe a lie."

Fact

God is not the only one who can open our eyes.

God says:

Genesis 3:7

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 55

The serpent plucked the fruit of the forbidden tree and placed it in the hands of the half-reluctant Eve. Then he reminded her of her own words, that God had forbidden them to touch it, lest they die. She would receive no more harm from eating the fruit, he declared, than from touching it. Perceiving no evil results from what she had done, Eve grew bolder. When she "saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat." It was grateful to the taste, and as she ate, she seemed to feel a vivifying power, and imagined herself entering upon a higher state of existence. Without a fear she plucked and ate. And now, having herself transgressed, she became the agent of Satan in working the ruin of her husband. In a state of strange, unnatural excitement, with her hands filled with the forbidden fruit, she sought his presence, and related all that had occurred.

Conclusion

Who really opened Linda's eyes? Let us remember the experience of Adam and Eve. Who opened their eyes?

Repent of your wickedness

Linda Kirk says: (see Appendix L)

"Ernie, the Lord is calling to you to repent of your wickedness, and to turn to Him with all your heart, with deep contrition and sorrow for your sins. Surrender your entire will to Him, and let Him guide you in the necessary work of restoration. He wants you to strip off your pride, and allow Him lay your glory in the dust, so He alone can be exalted. He can do a great work in you if you are willing to be crucified with Christ. Praise God, there still is hope. Do not delay. "Cast off the works of darkness," and "Christ shall give thee light." "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." Rom 13:12, Eph 5:14, James 4:7"

Fact

God is still purifying Ernie and Becky. They are in the process of restoration and reformation, which includes the asking of forgiveness for unconfessed sins that the Holy Spirit brings to their remembrance. They are striving to be victorious Christians through the power of Jesus. They pray, Linda, that you do the same.

The Review and Herald, March 21, 1878

The barren fig-tree received the withering curse of God because it was a pretentious hypocrite, professing superiority over the other fig-trees by displaying its luxuriant foliage, while it was as destitute of fruit as the leafless trees. The barren fig-tree well represents those who profess to keep the commandments, as did the Jews, thus presenting the appearance of fruitfulness, yet whose religion, like that of the Pharisees, is a sham, bearing no fruit to the glory of God.

Conclusion

We must make sure we are not doing what we are accusing someone else of doing. To illustrate, here are a few examples: when pointing a finger, three fingers point back; judge not lest you be judged; the beam in your eye, etc. Linda, have the "spiritual leaders" of your church counseled with you about your sin of discrediting Ernie's dreams? If not, it is because they are "in the same boat" as you are. "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!" Matthew 23:13.

Renounce your dreams**Linda Kirk says:** (see Appendix L)

"I urge you, I implore you, to take your dreams off of your web site, and replace them with a message renouncing your dreams, and the demonic beings in your dreams. How tragic if souls are lost because of their belief in your dreams! Redeem the time, and make quick work of restoring the truth to the hearts of these precious souls. And stop receiving the holy tithe that is dedicated to God's work."

Fact

Satan has always tried to have God's people renounce the truth.

God says:

The Great Controversy (1911), p. 109

He was now delivered up to the secular authorities and led away to the place of execution. An immense procession followed, hundreds of men at

arms, priests and bishops in their costly robes, and the inhabitants of Constance. When he had been fastened to the stake, and all was ready for the fire to be lighted, the martyr was once more exhorted to save himself by renouncing his errors. "What errors," said Huss, "shall I renounce? I know myself guilty of none. I call God to witness that all that I have written and preached has been with the view of rescuing souls from sin and perdition; and, therefore, most joyfully will I confirm with my blood that truth which I have written and preached."--Wylie, b. 3, ch. 7. When the flames kindled about him, he began to sing, "Jesus, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me," and so continued till his voice was silenced forever.

Ibid., pp. 135-136

As a matter of policy, the Romanists had decided to attempt to win Luther by an appearance of gentleness. The legate, in his interviews with him, professed great friendliness; but he demanded that Luther submit implicitly to the authority of the church, and yield every point without argument or question. He had not rightly estimated the character of the man with whom he had to deal. Luther, in reply, expressed his regard for the church, his desire for the truth, his readiness to answer all objections to what he had taught, and to submit his doctrines to the decision of certain leading universities. But at the same time he protested against the cardinal's course in requiring him to retract without having proved him in error.

The only response was: "Retract, retract!" The Reformer showed that his position was sustained by the Scriptures and firmly declared that he could not renounce the truth. The legate, unable to reply to Luther's arguments, overwhelmed him with a storm of reproaches, gibes, and flattery, interspersed with quotations from tradition and the sayings of the Fathers, granting the Reformer no opportunity to speak. Seeing that the conference, thus continued, would be utterly futile, Luther finally obtained a reluctant permission to present his answer in writing.

Ibid., p. 138

In defense, Luther urged that the legate or the pope show him his errors from the Scriptures, and pledged himself in the most solemn manner to renounce his doctrines if they could be shown to contradict the word of God. And he expressed his gratitude to God that he had been counted worthy to suffer in so holy a cause.

Ernie's dream says:

If You Love Me, September 4, 2007

Then another angel says, "You need to go back and recant the things you have said. You did not understand what you were shown. You do not understand about the things you spoke of. . . .

Conclusion

By urging Ernie to renounce the dreams without providing any Scriptural proof that they are not of God, Linda is as guilty as those who persecuted the great reformers. How tragic if souls are lost because of their unbelief in the dreams! (see chapter 1 regarding tithe)

Chapter conclusion

It is clear that after reading Linda's open letter, we are saddened to see many of Satan's tactics used to discredit Ernie's dreams. This includes:

1. Gossip (unsubstantiated rumors)
2. Slander
3. Character assassination
4. Untrue accusations
5. Subtle insinuations
6. Casting doubt
7. Judging
8. Deception

It is interesting to note that instead of following the plain Bible counsel on how to test a prophet, Linda makes up her own tests. Some examples are as follows.

1. Linda prayed for a sign to prove the dreams were of God. When the Pharisees asked for a sign, Jesus rebuked them saying that an adulterous generation seeks for a sign. Because God did not answer her prayer, this led her to question the dreams.
2. Linda did not believe it was possible for Ernie to ask questions in his dreams.
3. Linda felt it was impossible for God to choose someone who failed her man-made tests. She prefers to rely on who she feels would be appropriate for the job and focuses more on the messenger than the messages.
4. Because so few Bible students had accepted the dreams, she saw this as a cause for concern.

When she thought that Ernie failed these man-made tests, she questioned the source of the dreams. This led her to reject God's messages, betray Ernie's trust, and slander his character.

God says:

The Review and Herald, June 19, 1900

"Ye shall know them by their fruits." Do those who accuse God's children come under the head of "contrite ones"?--Instead, they show to the world, to angels, and to men, that they have chosen to stand under the banner of the prince of darkness, to swell the number of those who love and make a lie.

Counsels for the Church, p. 93

Satan has ability to suggest doubts and to devise objections to the pointed testimony that God sends, and many think it a virtue, a mark of intelligence in them, to be unbelieving and to question and quibble. Those who desire to doubt will have plenty of room. God does not propose to

remove all occasion for unbelief. He gives evidence, which must be carefully investigated with a humble mind and a teachable spirit, and all should decide from the weight of evidence. God gives sufficient evidence for the candid mind to believe; but he who turns from the weight of evidence because there are a few things which he cannot make plain to his finite understanding will be left in the cold, chilling atmosphere of unbelief and questioning doubts, and will make shipwreck of faith.

Ellen G. White: The Later Elmshaven Years, p. 123

All false statements made will appear just as they are, for it is against Christ that they do this evil, working on the enemy's side. They are poor, deceived souls, but they choose the darkness when they might have the light. They are those who are learning their lessons from the fallen apostate and they have eyes, but they will not acknowledge the evidence. They have ears to hear, but they report the very opposite of the truth which they hear, turning it to falsehood. There is not any dependence to be placed in the words they speak.

Final appeal to Linda

Linda, your open letter has caused many, who once believed in the dreams and were reforming, to walk away as they read the deceptive information you sent out. It even influenced those who did not yet have a chance to study the dreams for themselves. It persuaded those of influence, such as Vance Ferrell (see chapter 6) to discredit the dreams. As you requested of Ernie to repent and recant, we now ask that of you. If you do not, God has warned that you will give an account for what you have said. Realize the serious necessity of this so that God will not have to hold you personally accountable for the accusations you made that caused God's people to doubt His messages.

Linda, you have done great harm to the work of God. You have spread lies against God's chosen messenger, betrayed a sacred trust, and twisted the truth. In attacking the messenger, you have attacked your Savior. You asked Ernie if he would be willing to lay down his reputation for God. He has done that many times over. Now, we are asking if you will do that. Please read the following again.

Repent, as I Am Coming, November 12, 2008

The Herald then says, "You did not err when sending your letter to Linda Kirk, as the Spirit of God worked with you. She did not attack the messages you have been given but you as the messenger. She sent her comments and Satan used many to convey her twisted misconceptions of you. Being led by the controlling hand of Satan, she caused doubt and unbelief. The comments she made were read and believed by many. The souls that are lost are on her hands and God will hold her personally accountable. She will receive the weight of the sins of those who fell away, unless she approaches the merciful throne of God and openly confesses to all of her wrongs. She needs to ask if it is better to save her earthly name and character on this earth or repent and receive a new name from God. Right now God has turned His face from her and His countenance no longer shines upon her.

Linda, the Lord loves you but does not love what you have done. Please do not disappoint Him. Please do not let the following words apply to you. Time is running out.

God says:

Matthew 25:40

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Chapter 8

Laura Lee Jones

Introduction

In April 2008, Laura Lee Jones sent a letter to David Gates (see Chapter 5) that admonished him to rethink his support of Ernie's dreams. The letter makes a lot of accusations, but like so many other critics, it does not provide any proof.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 16, p. 215

But there were quite a number who held fast their evil surmisings and clung to the distorted representations made of me, as though these reports were too precious to be given up, although they had not one real vestige of evidence that I had changed. It seemed to be their preference to believe the false reports. I felt deeply grieved that my brethren who had known me for years and had evidence of the character of my labor should continue to remain in the deception they were in and, rather than confess that they had been mistaken, hold on to the same false impressions as though they were truth.

Who is Laura Lee Jones?

Laura Lee Jones is a mother of five children who co-authored a book with her mother titled, *The Great Calendar Controversy*, which promotes the keeping of Lunar Sabbaths. Laura Lee also promotes the keeping of the Jewish feast days. These two subjects will be covered further in this chapter.

Information most people don't have

Laura Lee Jones says: (see [Appendix M](#))

"I am writing specifically about Ernie Knoll because I have information most people do not know about; but I feel this is a serious enough issue that you need to have the information I have before you make a final decision as to whether or not Ernie Knoll's dreams are of God.

"I first read his dreams in Feb./March of 2007. At the time, he'd had only three. I will say that initially I was leery. I wanted them to be from God – who wouldn't? But I did not want to get deceived so I studied

them carefully. There were two problems I found within the first and third dreams.”

Fact

The information Laura Lee claims she has is simply her word. In her letter, she offers no proof to support her information.

God says:

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 11, p. 329

Your words regarding me and my writings are false, and I must say that you know them to be false. Nevertheless, those unacquainted with you take your words as being the words of one who knows. Because you have been acquainted with me, and connected with me, you can state what you please, and you think that your tracks are so covered that they will never be discovered. But my writings have not stopped. They go out as I have written them. No words of my copyists are put in the place of my own words. This is a testimony that cannot be controverted. My articles speak for themselves.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 9, p. 23

My work has been in the field since 1845. Ever since then I have labored with pen and voice. Increased light has come to me as I have imparted the light given me. I have very much more light on the Old and New Testament Scriptures, which I shall present to our people if my way is not blocked by such influences as the influence exerted by Fannie Bolton. Such a work as hers calls for my pen and voice to contradict her statements, in order to save poor souls from being entirely swamped by her assertion that she has received the Holy Ghost. This is another phase of her desire to exalt herself as ordained by the Lord to bear a message to His people. The Lord did not send her, yet she ran. She will not honor the cause of God, but will mislead others.

Those who have been unwilling to receive the true testimonies of God, notwithstanding that these testimonies have been in the field for so many years, who know not the voice of the Lord, may listen to the voice of a stranger, and receive from a poor, deceived, unbalanced human agent what is supposed to be truth. What is the chaff to the wheat? Know that you are on trial for spiritual life, and accept no delusive sentiments. God save His people from Satan's snare.--Letter 61a, 1900, pp. 4,6,7. (To G. A. Irwin, April 23, 1900.)

Conclusion

Fanny Bolton, one of Ellen White's secretaries, claimed to know information about Ellen White that no one else knew. She spread this false information and led people to doubt Ellen White's prophetic ministry. Is it any different today for Ernie?

The table in heaven

Laura Lee Jones says: (see [Appendix M](#))

“#1 – In Ernie's dream of the table in heaven, he stated that he could not see the length of it, in clear contradiction to Ellen White's statement that the table was ‘many miles in length’ yet they could see the length of

it. While this discrepancy was of concern, I did not consider it to be a ‘deal breaker.’ Perhaps his position (sitting at the table) varied from hers (possibly standing at the end?) so that might explain the difference . . .?”

Fact

Ernie could not see the full length of the table because he was reclining at the table. Ellen White did not state that she was sitting at the table.

David Starkey says:

“One of her comments was about not seeing the end of the table in heaven. I asked Ernie about this when it was a new dream. He told me that he couldn’t see the end because of his angle with others in the way as they were all reclining. He could, however, see the city within the city when he was flying which was 700+ miles away so I would say that his vision in heaven is consistent with Ellen White’s experience.”

David Starkey maintained the previous 4 His People Ministry website and is referred to by Laura Lee in her letter to David Gates (see [Appendix M](#)).

Conclusion

If Laura Lee didn’t think this issue was significant and fully realized that Ernie may not have been able to see to the end of the table because of where he sat, why did she mention it? Was it to cast doubt on Ernie’s dreams?

Changing the dreams

Laura Lee Jones says: (see [Appendix M](#))

“This was more serious. It was an interpretation of the 144,000 that clearly contradicted what little Spirit of Prophecy had to say about them. The dream is on his website, entitled ‘A View of Heaven and a Message for His People.’ However, the version that is now on there is not the same one I read a year ago – there has been quite a bit of editing done. I wanted to know more about his last conversation with ‘Jesus’ in the third dream and so I called and spoke to him.”

Fact

The matter regarding Ernie’s initial misunderstanding of the 144,000 is covered later in this chapter. His dream does not contain an interpretation of the 144,000. It simply makes a reference to the “perfect square.” It certainly does not contain any contradictions to what Ellen White wrote concerning the subject.

As far as editing of the dreams, at the beginning of the ministry, a few dreams were modified to make them more readable, but the essence of the dreams did not change. The only exception was the “View of Heaven” dream where details were added in the section on music, because Ernie did not remember it all right away. Many times the Lord repeats the details to help him remember. Notice the following example of how Ellen White had the same experience.

Selected Messages, Book 3, p. 442

WHILE MOTHER WAS WRITING THIS BOOK, MANY OF THE SCENES WERE PRESENTED TO HER OVER AND OVER AGAIN IN VISIONS OF THE NIGHT. THE VISION OF THE DELIVERANCE

OF GOD'S PEOPLE, AS GIVEN IN CHAPTER XL, WAS REPEATED THREE TIMES; AND ON TWO OCCASIONS, ONCE AT HER HOME IN HEALDSBURG AND ONCE AT THE ST. HELENA SANITARIUM, MEMBERS OF HER FAMILY, SLEEPING IN NEARBY ROOMS, WERE AWAKENED FROM SLEEP BY HER CLEAR, MUSICAL CRY, "THEY COME! THEY COME!"

SEVERAL TIMES WE THOUGHT THAT THE MANUSCRIPT OF THE BOOK WAS ALL READY FOR THE PRINTER, AND THEN A VISION OF SOME IMPORTANT FEATURE OF THE CONTROVERSY WOULD BE REPEATED, AND MOTHER WOULD AGAIN WRITE UPON THE SUBJECT, BRINGING OUT THE DESCRIPTION MORE FULLY AND CLEARLY. THUS THE PUBLISHING WAS DELAYED, AND THE BOOK GREW IN SIZE.

Editing the dreams was a learning process, as it would be for anyone. In a couple instances a description was eliminated because it was causing too much confusion. However, this does not alter the truth in them. Following is an example of why Ernie has the authority to edit the dreams as needed.

Ellen G. White: *The Early Years*, Vol. 1, p. 270
Why Were the Lines Omitted in 1851?

It may be asked, then, why were the three lines omitted from the printing of the vision in 1851 in Mrs. White's first book? In introducing the vision in the book, she gives a very general reason for all omission--space and repetition of subject matter. This would apply more to the paragraphs descriptive of the new earth than the three lines in question. As to the statement embodied in them, the author herself had the right, even the responsibility, to choose content and wording for her book that would correctly convey what was revealed to her. If there were phrases that were capable of distortion or interpretation to mean that which she did not intend to teach, she had the privilege and even the duty of handling the matter in such a way that the printed account would correctly reflect her intentions.

God says:

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 569

John was accordingly summoned to Rome to be tried for his faith. Here before the authorities the apostle's doctrines were misstated. False witnesses accused him of teaching seditious heresies. By these accusations his enemies hoped to bring about the disciple's death.

Conclusion

As can be seen from the Spirit of Prophecy, Ernie has the authority to edit the dreams as needed.

The 144,000

Laura Lee Jones says: (see [Appendix M](#))

"In speaking to Ernie, it was evident that he believed some of the 144,000 had already died. In his friendly, loquacious way, he was upfront with his belief that he was probably #143,998 . . . and he stopped really

quickly, backed up, and said, 'Well, there aren't that many more left to be made up. The number is almost made up and as soon as it is, it will be over.' He was clear in his belief that God started making up the 144,000 ever since 1844 and that at the Close of Probation, not all would be alive. However, at the special resurrection, they would all be raised to see Jesus come. When I asked where he got that belief, Becky quickly quoted from Early Writings, I believe it was, referring to where Ellen White had asked to eat of the fruit of the tree of life.

"The angel told her something along the lines of: 'All who eat of the fruit of this land, nevermore return to earth. However, if you are faithful, you with the 144,000 will have the pleasure of visiting all the worlds in God's creation.'

"This, Ernie and Becky believed, proved that Ellen White was one of the 144,000. However, if I invite David Gates to come speak at my church and I stand with David Gates on the platform, that does not necessarily mean that I am David Gates. I am only standing with him."

Fact

Ernie admits that at the beginning of his calling he misunderstood the 144,000. Some in Adventism still believe what Ernie did. In fact, two of Adventism's pioneers--Uriah Smith and J. N. Loughborough--taught this view as quoted below.

Uriah Smith

Review and Herald, August 10, 1897

Thus the evidence seems clear and conclusive that the 144,000 are gathered from the last generation before Christ comes; that they are brought out by the third angel's message; that even those of them who die in the message are blessed, being restored to the number by resurrection before Christ appears; and that all crowned at last with the peculiar privilege of composing the cabinet of the King of kings and Lord of lords, to follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth (Rev.14:4), joyful in His constant presence, and sustained by His unfailing grace. Rev.7:15,17.

By J. N. Loughborough

Questions on the Sealing Message, 1916, pp. 3-4

In reference to the subject matter of this book - the sealed 144,000 - I have been greatly moved by the Spirit of God to write and publish the facts as to how the sealing message was obtained - not only from the Bible, but by direct instruction in visions of Sister E. G. White; also as to how the message was received and taught by our ministers and people down to the year 1894, when the "new light" theory found its advocate in one who afterwards apostatized from the faith, and died without seeing the fulfillment of his expectation that he would live to the end of time, and hence be one of the 144,000. His claim was that later testimonies of Sister White taught that all the 144,000 would be made up of those who had never died.

When I found that some were teaching that "all of the 144,000 who will be sealed are now living," I thought it time that someone should speak, and show that it is not the manner of God's prophets to make

positive statements at one time, and afterwards teach entirely contrary to them. Such surely was not the course of Bible prophets. The whole of this "new light" is produced by taking words out of their connection, and away from the things of which they are spoken, and giving them a general application, as you will see when we come to the analysis of the matter.

You will find these two works on the Ellen G. White Writings Comprehensive Research edition, 2008. (CD)

David Starkey says:

"As there are many questions circulating about statements made by Ernie Knoll in and around March of 2007, I would like to offer the following:

Mr. Knoll, at my invitation, came to speak at two of the local SDA churches in my area. During the afternoon meeting, he discussed the 144,000 indicating that the sealing started back in Ellen White's day. He further stated that the 144,000 were nearly made up. He made reference to Ellen White being one of the 144,000.

As host for the speaking event, I was concerned, as I knew this was not correct. I presented documentation to support this concern. Ernie was perplexed. I asked him to tell me exactly what Jesus said. He said that Jesus said that His people were being sealed since 1844. I pointed out that the sealing spoken of in Ellen White's day did not mean that they would be part of the 144,000. This simply means that those who died keeping all the commandments were sealed and would be resurrected at the last day. The references given below describe the sealing Jesus discussed.

The Signs of the Times 03-22-1910

The Sabbath of the fourth commandment is the seal of the living God. It points to God as the Creator, and is the sign of His rightful authority over the beings He has made. Those who obey this law will bear the seal of God, for He has set apart this day as a sign of loyalty between Himself and His people. To Moses on Mount Sinai He said, "Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily My Sabbaths ye shall keep; for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you."

Last Day Events

The Seal of God and the Mark of the Beast

PG- 222

I saw that she [Mrs. Hastings] was sealed and would come up at the voice of God and stand upon the earth, and would be with the 144,000. I saw we need not mourn for her; she would rest in the time of trouble.--2SM 263 (1850).

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PG- 225

What is the condition of those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus? If in families there are those who are refusing obedience to the Lord in keeping His Sabbath, then the seal cannot be placed upon them. The sealing is a pledge from God of perfect security to His chosen ones (Ex. 31:13-17). Sealing indicates you are God's chosen. He has appropriated you to Himself. As the sealed of God we are Christ's purchased possession, and no one shall pluck us out of His hands. The seal given in the forehead is God, New Jerusalem. "I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God" (Rev. 3:12).

Ernie acknowledged that Jesus spoke to him about the sealing of His people, not that these sealed ones made up the 144,000, which he assumed to be the case. The point in sharing this event is that Ernie Knoll, along with the rest of us are capable of misinterpreting the messages. I am reminded of William Miller, who was directed by God to give the message he did in 1843 and 1844. He thought that the Earth was the sanctuary and therefore it would be cleansed by fire, which to him represented the 2nd coming of Christ. Even though his interpretation was incorrect, it did not invalidate or in any way diminish the message.

Jesus taught many things in a manner not always easy to understand. Many of His messages were given in parables. The disciples often asked Jesus to speak to them plainly, as they did not understand. Even after Jesus resurrection, they did not fully understand His mission as they inquired if He would now set up His kingdom.

There is no question that the messages being given to Ernie Knoll are from God. Any person with a true heart who is willing to pray and study them out for themselves will hear God's voice in them. Each time a new message comes; we should study what it says to see if everything is in agreement with scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy. The references for the dreams come from doing just that.

After the meetings of March 2007, Ernie changed his talk concerning the 144,000 and those sealed. I do not count this as a fault, but rather a credit to him that he is humble enough to acknowledge a misinterpretation. To those who criticize him for statements made at the beginning of this ministry, I ask you to put yourself in his place. This was and is a daunting and solemn task. How many of us would be willing to put ourselves to so much criticism and scrutiny for the sake of God's revealed word? God knew exactly what he was doing when He chose Ernie Knoll. I will also add that over the last year, Ernie, his wife Becky, and many people all over the world have prayed and searched the scriptures more diligently than ever before and have been blessed immensely by doing so. Lives have been changed and many have been drawn closer to our Saviour as a result of Ernie's willingness to share these messages. Remember; by their fruits you shall know them. A good tree brings forth good fruit."

Summation

David Starkey invited Ernie to speak in his area. When Ernie discussed the 144,000, David was concerned because it was not correct, so he provided Ernie with some Spirit of Prophecy references. Ernie accepted these and changed his understanding of the 144,000. Since it was David who was instrumental in showing Ernie the truth of the 144,000, and since he was Ernie's webmaster from the beginning, why would he post dreams that contradicted his own understanding of the 144,000? Laura Lee expects us to believe that after David convinced Ernie he was wrong, he then put on the website Ernie's dream that "supposedly" contradicted Ellen White regarding the 144,000. This does not make sense.

Conclusion

Simply because Ernie had a wrong understanding of the 144,000 doesn't mean his dreams are not of God. At the time of Christ, John the Baptist and all the Jews, including the disciples, had a wrong conception of the Messiah's first Advent. William Miller and those who expected Jesus to return in 1844, including Ellen White, misunderstood the 2,300 day prophecy. Joseph Bates tried to share the truth of the Sabbath with Ellen White, but she refused to accept it, and this was after she had started receiving visions. God takes us where we are and reveals His truth to us.

Personal interpretation

Laura Lee Jones says: (see Appendix M)

"I wasn't sure whether or not this was his own, personal interpretation of the 144,000 or whether or not he had expressly been told this in the dream.

"I asked Ernie, point blank: 'Is this what you believe about the 144,000, or was this told you by the Great Instructor in your dream – that the 144,000 have been being made up since 1844 and that some will be resurrected at the special resurrection?' (Initially, he never referred to Jesus in his dream. He only ever referred to the 'Great Instructor.' Referring to the Great Instructor as 'Jesus' is part of later editing.)

"Ernie promptly answered, 'The Great Instructor explained it all to me in the dream.'

" 'Just like that?' I pressed.

" 'Just like that,' he insisted. Ernie went on to say that he wasn't a big Bible scholar and the Great Instructor knew that, so He'd had to tell Ernie everything He wanted him to know."

Fact

We must remember this phone conversation cannot be verified; therefore, it is not proof of what Ernie supposedly said. The simple facts are that He misunderstood what he was shown, interpreting what Jesus had said to him based on his own understanding of the 144,000. Ernie knows full well that God is not going to reveal everything He wants him to know. That is why the Lord stressed Bible and Spirit of Prophecy study and prayer in the dreams. (The "Great Instructor" is covered later in this chapter.)

God says:

The Desire of Ages, pp. 392-393

As those disaffected disciples turned away from Christ, a different spirit took control of them. They could see nothing attractive in Him whom they had once found so interesting. They sought out His enemies, for they were in harmony with their spirit and work. They misinterpreted His words, falsified His statements, and impugned His motives. They sustained their course by gathering up every item that could be turned against Him; and such indignation was stirred up by these false reports that His life was in danger.

The news spread swiftly that by His own confession Jesus of Nazareth was not the Messiah. And thus in Galilee the current of popular feeling was turned against Him, as, the year before, it had been in Judea.

Conclusion

Ernie freely admits that at the beginning of his ministry he had a wrong understanding of the 144,000. Ernie does pray and read the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy more than ever. He continues to learn new things from not only what God has revealed in the past but what He continues to reveal through his dreams.

No call to repentance?

Laura Lee Jones says: (see [Appendix M](#))

“Just one week after my last conversation with Ernie, he was due to be visiting some churches back in the Mid-West, one of which a friend of mine attends. After attending, she was very troubled. She said, ‘There was no call to repentance. All it was, was him standing up there and talking about what everything looked like. But never was there any deep call to seek the Lord and obey Him and repent.’ The whole spirit, she said, was just wrong and she was very oppressed the entire following week.”

Fact

Ernie was asked to share his dreams. He was not asked to have an altar call. He is a messenger not a trained evangelist. Following are some of the points that were shared in the above-referenced meeting.

- A description of heaven, of Jesus and His great love.
- The perfect music of heaven and the proper music we are to use in our worship services.
- Do not get caught up in the trivial things of this world.
- Horrible events are to happen but these need to happen before Jesus returns.
- Jesus will be with us in all our tests and trials.
- Do not worry about today or tomorrow because Jesus is coming.
- Bible texts and Spirit of Prophecy quotes were also shared.

These are messages of inspiration, encouragement, love, warning and reform. After sharing the dreams, there was a question and answer time. Most wanted to hear the description of heaven; some asked questions on the topic of reform. Soon after this meeting, Ernie did receive the dream, “A Call to Repentance.”

Conclusion

If some do not receive a blessing from this, one can only feel sorry for them. There were those who did receive a blessing and wanted to do what was necessary to prepare for Christ's return. From *Signs of the Times*, May 17, 1883: "If any at the close of the convocation meeting still feel that they are not blessed, the fault is with themselves."

Third-hand information

Laura Lee Jones says: (see [Appendix M](#))

"Apparently, that Saturday night, two men visited with Ernie until late in the night. They, too, had picked up on the discrepancies with what Ernie was saying about the 144,000. They showed him from Spirit of Prophecy where what he was saying was in clear contradiction to what Ellen White said. At one point, the conversation got a little heated and Ernie stated that he didn't care what Ellen White said, he would believe what was told him in his dreams. The two men would not back down that he was wrong in his stance because Spirit of Prophecy said so clearly the exact opposite of what he was claiming the Great Instructor told him."

Fact

Laura Lee was not in that meeting. The information she received was third-hand. A person at the meeting she speaks of, who was also offended about what Ernie Knoll was shown about feast days, told a friend of Laura Lee about it, who then told Laura Lee. Does this make her an authority on what was actually said? David Starkey, however, was there, since the meeting occurred in his home. This is what he had to say: "The event spoken of occurred in our family room. Ernie made no such statement about holding the dreams above Ellen White's writings. In fact, he took the documents I provided from her writings and studied them to understand his misinterpretation of what Jesus told him." What has Laura Lee done?

God says:

Battle Creek Letters, pp. 119-120

Men have linked up with you to do a work, the consequences of which they did not understand. You have been the spokesman repeating the words of accusation and condemnation of the arch-deceiver. Your science has been used to benumb the sensibilities and confuse the judgment of others. In long night-talks you have presented your mind and plans and works have become their mind and plan and works. In listening to your words, these men have imbibed the very science of the tempter. You have twisted and manipulated and misstated and misrepresented the testimonies that God has given, making them of no effect.

This whole matter has been presented to me. You have worked as Lucifer worked in the heavenly courts to persuade his associates to unite with him. The enemy has used his arts upon your mind. Your boasted study of science and your assertion that you had obtained something excellent have deceived the men connected with you, and they have refused to listen to the warnings sent to keep them from listening to your false representations.

Conclusion

Laura Lee's description of what happened is not correct. Since she was not there, her description amounts to nothing, especially since David Starkey was there and he contradicts her.

Ernie being coached?

Laura Lee Jones says: (see [Appendix M](#))

“One of the men, who later became his webmaster and is his staunch supporter, told him, ‘You can’t do that, Ernie. You can’t put any of yourself and your own interpretation on things. You **MUST** say only what was told you.’ This man has kind of taken Ernie under his wing and began coaching him. Anytime some little discrepancy would creep in, he would point to what is actually said in Spirit of Prophecy and ask, ‘Ernie, are you putting too much ‘Ernie’ in again?’ ”

Fact

Laura Lee reached a conclusion without the evidence. What discrepancies crept in that David Starkey managed to keep out? Where is the proof?

God says:

Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 64

The fact in the case is, that in these visions I was carried forward to the time when the resurrected saints shall be gathered into the kingdom of God. In the same manner the judgment, the second coming of Christ, the establishment of the saints upon the new earth have been presented before me. Does anyone suppose that these scenes have yet transpired? My adversaries show the spirit by which they are actuated in thus accusing me of deception on the strength of a mere “conjecture.”

Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 72

It matters not how blameless the character and life of those who speak to the people the words of God; this procures for them no credit. And why? Because they tell the people the truth. This, brethren, is my offense. But if a false report is circulated, if by some inference or conjecture an imputation is cast upon the character of Christ's ambassador, with what absurd credulity is it received! How many are ready to magnify and spread the slander! Such are revealing their real character. "He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God" (John 8:47).

Summation

Ellen White's critics also spoke falsely of her, and people were ready to spread the slander.

Conclusion

Laura Lee speaks as though she knows all the facts, yet she provides absolutely no evidence to support her case. Amazingly, people are ready to spread her false reports.

Ernie changed his view so he wouldn't lose supporters?

Laura Lee Jones says: (see Appendix M)

“This is very troublesome to me. First of all, I know that, a week and a half before this man ever spoke to him, I asked him point blank whether or not what he was saying about the 144,000 was his own interpretation or not. When he answered that it was what the Great Instructor had explained to him in the dream, I pressed him, wanting to know if the Great Instructor had explained the 144,000 to him just like that and he confirmed that it was indeed, just like that.

“Then, a week and a half later, he meets with two men who know their Spirit of Prophecy and won’t back down and he sees that he may lose a following if he doesn’t back down and all of a sudden it’s because he put ‘too much Ernie’ into it?” Either he lied to me or he lied to them. Either way, he lied to one of us.”

Fact

Ernie never lied to either of them. This has already been explained earlier in this chapter. Laura Lee provides no proof to support her statements. She assumes the reason why Ernie accepted he was wrong on the 144,000 and provides no proof to support it. There is a big difference between an assumption and the truth. The truth is that David Starkey provided the evidence Ernie needed to understand the correct viewpoint. Ernie was actually distraught because he did not want to lead anyone astray on this subject. It was not because he was concerned about losing supporters. (Note: Later, in the “Two Cars” dream, Ernie was told that Ellen White would be with, not a part of, the 144,000.)

God says:

Matthew 7:1-2

Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 64

In another passage from the book *A Word to the Little Flock*, I speak of scenes upon the new earth, and state that I there saw holy men of old, "Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Noah, Daniel and many like them." Because I speak of having seen these men, our opponents conjecture that I then believed in the immortality of the soul and that having since changed my views upon this point, I found it necessary to suppress that passage. They are as near the truth here as in other conjectures.

Conclusion

Satan never changes his tactics. Ellen White’s critics falsely accused her and so do Ernie’s.

Angry with God?**Laura Lee Jones says:** (see Appendix M)

“There are other serious problems, too, such as his admission that the night before his ‘heaven’ dream he was so angry at God over his health problems that he was yelling at God and telling Him that he hated Him.”

Fact

Here is what actually happened: It was the same night of the dream that Ernie thought could be his last, in which he prayed fervently and silently to himself that God would come down and speak to him. He needed to sense God's love and closeness. He needed some answers to his questions. Ernie was not feeling anger or hate toward God, nor did he yell at Him.

Conclusion

It is a shame that Laura Lee did not get her facts straight or remember correctly what Ernie really stated.

Ernie does not know his Bible all that well?**Laura Lee Jones says:** (see [Appendix M](#))

"What troubles me most, however, is that under the man's tutelage, discrepancies that would be and should be red flags are weeded out. Ernie repeatedly told me that he didn't know his Bible and Spirit of Prophecy all that well. Having someone 'cover' for him, weeds out what would be warning signs – and that really concerns me."

Fact

The "weeding out" has already been discussed earlier in this chapter. Regarding Ernie not knowing the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy that well, he was being conservative when he made that statement. God showed him that he knows it better than he thinks. As stated in [Chapter 4](#), it is more important to follow what you know than to be a "giant" in Scripture knowledge but not follow it. If David Starkey was "covering" for him, then he would have never brought to Ernie's attention about the misunderstanding on the 144,000.

Conclusion

Again, Laura Lee, where is the proof?

Great Instructor**Laura Lee Jones says:** (see [Appendix M](#))

"... the term 'Great Instructor' has largely been replaced with 'Jesus' which was never used before."

Fact

Jesus' name was added to the dream to help clarify who the Great Instructor was, because Ernie had received many emails inquiring about it. A few other dreams had explanations added to them afterwards as clarification to misunderstandings.

God says:

The Christian Educator, August 1, 1897

In Christ the deity was represented. He was the great instructor in divine philosophy.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 15, p. 301

The conference at Minneapolis was the golden opportunity for all present to humble the heart before God and to welcome Jesus as the great Instructor, but the stand taken by some at that meeting proved their ruin.

Conclusion

The term “Great Instructor” was also used by Ellen White to describe Jesus as a teacher. The term “Jesus, the Great Instructor” was included so that the reader would know without question Who was speaking. Jesus has many titles, because He does many things.

In Ellen White’s writings, she not only refers to Jesus as the Great Instructor, but as the Great Physician (listed over 400 times on the Ellen White CD). Does Laura Lee have a problem because Ellen White did that? If not, then why raise objections when Ernie does?

Not “bad-mouthing” Ernie?

Laura Lee Jones says: (see [Appendix M](#))

“I am not trying to bad-mouth Ernie. I am not going around after him and sharing with all and sundry my experience with him. Neither am I trying to convince you to believe as I do. That is not my job; that’s the Holy Spirit’s job to convince all as they study for themselves.”

Fact

In sharing this unsubstantiated evidence against Ernie with David Gates, Laura Lee has proved that she has bad-mouthed God’s messenger. David Gates, in turn, shared her letter in his newsletter. Where else did it go from there?

God says:

Matthew 12:37

For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 40

I saw the state of some who stood on present truth, but disregarded the visions--the way God had chosen to teach in some cases, those who erred from Bible truth. I saw that in striking against the visions they did not strike against the worm--the feeble instrument that God spake through--but against the Holy Ghost. I saw it was a small thing to speak against the instrument, but it was dangerous to slight the words of God.

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 96

I would speak in warning to those who have stood for years resisting light and cherishing the spirit of opposition. How long will you hate and despise the messengers of God’s righteousness? God has given them His message. They bear the word of the Lord. There is salvation for you, but only through the merits of Jesus Christ. The grace of the Holy Spirit has been offered you again and again. Light and power from on high have been shed abundantly in the midst of you. Here was evidence, that all might discern whom the Lord recognized as His servants. But there are those who despised the men and the message they bore. They have taunted them with being fanatics, extremists, and enthusiasts. Let me prophesy unto you: Unless you speedily humble your hearts before God, and confess your sins, which are many, you will, when it is too late, see that you have been fighting against God. Through the conviction of the Holy Spirit, no longer unto reformation and pardon, you will see that

these men whom you have spoken against have been as signs in the world, as witnesses for God. Then you would give the whole world if you could redeem the past, and be just such zealous men, moved by the Spirit of God to lift your voice in solemn warning to the world; and, like them, to be in principle firm as a rock. Your turning things upside down is known of the Lord. Go on a little longer as you have gone, in rejection of the light from heaven, and you are lost. "The man that shall be unclean, and shall not purify himself, that soul shall be cut off from among the congregation."

Ernie's dream says:

Repent, as I am Coming, November 12, 2008

The Father has seen how LJ has caused many to doubt the messages of the messenger. The Father waits for these to approach the throne of mercy, to repent and begin a work of reformation before the marking angel completes the assigned work given and it is too late. The Father is asking those who have erred to show the error of their ways and to not walk proudly by not admitting their sins.

Conclusion

It is a fearful thing to speak against God's messengers. Isaiah says, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!" Isaiah 5:20-21.

Testing the spirits

Laura Lee Jones says: (see Appendix M)

"However, because of your influential position and stating it as you did in your newsletter, I felt I needed to share with you what I know and encourage you to make it a matter of earnest prayer and a whole lot more study before deciding that he must be of God simply because he 'tested the spirits.'

"I would like to remind you, Brother Gates, that in the late 1980s with the rise of the New Age Christs, demons (when thus 'tested') would indeed admit that Jesus Christ came 'in the flesh' – but they did it for purposes to deceive.

"There is a difference between 'spiritism' and 'occultism.' Spiritism is simply a belief in communicating with the dead. Occultism, on the other hand, is a belief in magic. 'Testing' the spirits is not some magic mantra that will automatically reveal whether they are of God or Satan. The devil knows as well as you or I that Jesus certainly did come in the flesh of Adam after the fall and he's perfectly willing to admit that (as proven by various testimonies of those who later came out of the New Age movement) for purposes to deceive."

God says:

Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White, p. 246

THE INCARNATION OF JESUS CHRIST, THE DIVINE SON OF GOD, "CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY," IS THE GREAT THEME OF THE GOSPEL. "IN HIM DWELLETH ALL THE FULLNESS OF THE GODHEAD BODILY. AND YE ARE

COMPLETE IN HIM." COLOSSIANS 1:27; 2:9, 10. THE ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF THIS VITAL TRUTH IS ONE OF THE DIVINELY APPOINTED TESTS OF ONE WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE THE GIFT OF PROPHECY.

"BELIEVE NOT EVERY SPIRIT," WRITES THE APOSTLE JOHN, "BUT TRY THE SPIRITS WHETHER THEY ARE OF GOD: BECAUSE MANY FALSE PROPHETS ARE GONE OUT INTO THE WORLD. HEREBY KNOW YE THE SPIRIT OF GOD: EVERY SPIRIT THAT CONFESSETH THAT JESUS CHRIST IS COME IN THE FLESH IS OF GOD: AND EVERY SPIRIT THAT CONFESSETH NOT THAT JESUS CHRIST IS COME IN THE FLESH IS NOT OF GOD." 1 JOHN 4:1-3.

FALSE PROPHETS DO NOT EXALT CHRIST. THEY RATHER DRAW ATTENTION TO THEMSELVES. "SPEAKING PERVERSE THINGS," THEY "DRAW AWAY DISCIPLES" AFTER THEMSELVES. ACTS 20:30. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, THEY TEACH IN A MANNER TO PLEASE THE CARNAL MIND OF THOSE WHO IN THEIR HEARTS "SAY TO THE SEERS, SEE NOT; AND TO THE PROPHETS, PROPHECY NOT UNTO US RIGHT THINGS, SPEAK UNTO US SMOOTH THINGS." ISAIAH 30:10. THESE ALLEGED PROPHETS OR TEACHERS ARE "OF THE WORLD: THEREFORE SPEAK THEY OF THE WORLD, AND THE WORLD HEARETH THEM." 1 JOHN 4:5.

The Signs of the Times, September 3, 1894

But God has given us a rule whereby to test what is truth. The prophet says: "To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." . . . Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God; 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.

Ernie's dream says:

Love and Rebuke, April 12, 2008

Several counseled me to "test the spirits." I was counseled to follow 1 John 4:1-3, which says: "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 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."

Knowing that an angel of Satan can only answer that Jesus did not come in the flesh, if the Herald stated this, it would prove that he is an agent of Satan and is trying to deceive many. However, if the Herald answered that Jesus did come in the flesh, then that would mean I am not being deceived. With these verses in mind, I invited some to join me in

prayer that if the Father would send another dream that I would be allowed to ask this question of the Herald. This morning I was given the following dream.

Fact

S.D.A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 7, p. 660

Confesseth. . . . seems to carry a twofold meaning: (1) to acknowledge the truth of the doctrine of the incarnation of the Son of God; (2) to reveal in the life the effect of believing this doctrine. The fullest interpretation calls for more than verbal agreement with a teaching: it demands the Christ-filled life.

Not only did the Herald pass the 1 John 4:1-3 test, but he gave an inspiring, detailed account of how he watched Christ from birth until His resurrection. He wanted to leave no doubt in anyone's mind that he was sent from God. He has passed every biblical test. He has a "Christ-filled life."

Conclusion

1 John 4:1-3 is a valid test of a prophet or spirit. However, it is not the only test. No test should be used by itself. Ernie never stated that this test ought to be used by itself. We need to keep in mind that Ernie uses this while he is in a dream. Before he had his dream, he prayed that God would give him the correct answer. Jesus tells us, "And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?" Luke 11:9-11. Do we really believe these verses? If so, why couldn't God answer Ernie's prayer as well as the others that prayed?

To the law and to the testimony

Laura Lee Jones says: (see [Appendix M](#))

"From what I have studied of his dreams, and I have read every single one of them, they do not stand up to the acid test of 'to the law and to the testimony.' "

Fact

Where is the evidence for this statement?

God says:

2 Timothy 4:3

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears.

Conclusion

Is it not strange that Laura Lee provides no evidence where Ernie's dreams do not pass the acid test of "to the law and to the testimony"? She states she had read all the dreams up to April 2008, which is the majority of them, yet her letter has no proof at all. Why would anyone want to believe what she has to say, without evidence, rather than what God has to say?

What does Laura Lee Jones believe?

Now that we have assessed the false accusations Laura Lee made regarding Ernie, it is necessary that the reader know exactly what she believes. Some of this information was discussed in Chapter 5. On her website (www.4angelspublications.com), she claims that, "We are Seventh-day Adventists and this website is from a Seventh-day Adventist point-of-view." However, as we are about to see, she doesn't even keep the seventh-day Sabbath.

Laura Lee believes:

The Sabbath does not always fall on Saturday, the 7th day, but on different days of the week each month depending on the phase of the moon.

"Their belief is that the 'true' system of counting time is tied to what is called a 'lunisolar' calendar, based upon both the sun and phases of the moon. They contend every new moon restarts the seven-day cycle, rather than having a continuous seven-day cycle which currently runs the world.

" 'I could have gone my whole life and such a concept would have never occurred to me,' says Laura Lee Vornholt-Jones, a 39-year-old full-time mother in Spokane, Wash., who has adjusted her traditional Seventh-Day Adventist outlook of Saturday observance to this alternate method since learning of it in late 2006. 'It was Earth-shattering to say the least.'

Vornholt-Jones has posted this theory on her 4AngelsPublications website, where she offers her book on the issue, 'The Great Calendar Controversy,' for sale and for free viewing online.

"She told WND she still observes a Sabbath – that is to say, a biblical day of rest – every seven days; but she says the precise day of the week for that Sabbath actually floats from month to month when compared to the Gregorian calendar commonly used today.

The theory suggests whatever day of the week the new moon occurs on, that particular day becomes "Day One" of the month.

Then, count seven days from Day One until you reach the initial Sabbath of the month, which would always be on the eighth calendar day of the month. The next day of rest would be on the 15th, then the 22nd and 29th."

Source: <http://www.wnd.com/?pageId=73013>

Fact

The Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy both reveal that only Saturday is the Sabbath day.

God says:

Genesis 2:1-3

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

Exodus 20:10-11

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: 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.

Life Sketches, pp. 95-96

Elder Bates was resting upon Saturday, the seventh day of the week, and he urged it upon our attention as the true Sabbath. I did not feel its importance, and thought that he erred in dwelling upon the fourth commandment more than upon the other nine.

But the Lord gave me a view of the heavenly sanctuary. The temple of God was open in heaven, and I was shown the ark of God covered with the mercy seat. Two angels stood one at either end of the ark, with their wings spread over the mercy seat, and their faces turned toward it. This, my accompanying angel informed me, represented all the heavenly host looking with reverential awe toward the law of God, which had been written by the finger of God.

Jesus raised the cover of the ark, and I beheld the tables of stone on which the ten commandments were written. I was amazed as I saw the fourth commandment in the very center of the ten precepts, with a soft halo of light encircling it. Said the angel, "It is the only one of the ten which defines the living God who created the heavens and the earth and all things that are therein."

When the foundations of the earth were laid, then was also laid the foundation of the Sabbath. I was shown that if the true Sabbath had been kept, there would never have been an infidel or an atheist. The observance of the Sabbath would have preserved the world from idolatry.

Counsels on Health, p. 491

When thinking men find that our restaurants are closed on the Sabbath, they will make inquiries in regard to the principles that lead us to close our doors on Saturday. In answering their questions we shall have opportunity to acquaint them with the reasons for our faith. We can give them copies of our periodicals and tracts, so that they may be able to understand the difference between "him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not."

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 17, p. 79

The temptation will come. If you keep the Sabbath, the very day the fourth commandment has specified, you shall have to give up this source of gain. You shall have to close your business on Saturday, the busiest and most profitable day in the week. And when you hesitate to comply with a plain "Thus saith the Lord," because you will lose profit, and riches will not increase unto you, you continue in disobedience to God and bow the knee to Satan as he tempted Christ to do.

The Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 180

There were some among them, however, who honored the Sabbath of the fourth commandment. Such was the belief and practice of Carlstadt, and there were others who united with him. John Frith, who aided Tyndale in the translation of the Scriptures, and who was martyred for his faith, thus states his views respecting the Sabbath: "The Jews have the word of God for their Saturday, since it is the seventh day, and they were commanded to keep the seventh day solemn. And we have not the word of God for us, but rather against us; for we keep not the seventh day, as the Jews do, but the first, which is not commanded by God's law."

The Review and Herald, May 11, 1876

Another brother says it is only a few months since he has been enlightened in regard to the truth by reading a Review. He received the Signs of the Times also; and became convicted through reading these papers that Saturday was the Sabbath of the Lord. He felt that he must have something more than merely the light upon the Sabbath. He wanted to know some things for himself which had never been told him. He offered his first prayer forty miles from home while in camp. He sought the Lord then and there, and had come to this meeting to obtain further light and to follow it. This brother received the ordinance of baptism, and fully identified himself with this people.

Conclusion

The Sabbath fell on the seventh day of the creation week. It was never based on the cycle of the moon. Why would we keep any other day? How would the majority go to church to keep their "Sabbath" during a week day if they held a job? Again, this does not make sense. Worse yet, if you change the calendar you use, it changes other biblical beliefs. With something as important as the Sabbath, why would God not inform His prophet Ellen White that she and the other pioneers were worshipping on the wrong day? If they were wrong, then our entire Seventh-day Adventist Church history would be wrong!

Statements from Laura Lee's book on lunar sabbaths

"New Moon day was a worship day followed by six working days, with the seventh-day Sabbath on the eighth of the month. Three more successive weeks completed the month."

"The idea that the Jews have never lost track of the true Sabbath is as erroneous as the idea that the weekly cycle in use today is the same one since Creation."

"The text, from which they extrapolated the idea that the Sabbath was to start at sunset, is found in Leviticus 23:32: ". . . from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath." Rather than investigating further, Seventh-day Adventists have always just assumed that text applied to the seventh-day Sabbath."

"Dawn was when a new day started, not sunset."

God says:

Genesis 1:31-2:3

And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

1 Timothy 4:1

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.

Isaiah 2:22

Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?

Signs of the Times, March 20, 1879

The first week, in which God performed the work of creation in six days and rested on the seventh day, was just like every other week. The great God, in his days of creation and day of rest, measured off the first cycle as a sample for successive weeks till the close of time. "These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created." God gives us the result of his work on each of the days of creation. Each day was accounted of him a generation, because every day he generated, or produced, some new portion of his work. On the seventh day of the first week God rested from his labor, and then blessed the day of his rest, and set it apart for the use of man. The weekly cycle of seven literal days, six for labor and the seventh for rest, which has been preserved and brought down through Bible history, originated in the great facts of the first seven days.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 7, p. 173

I have been shown that sleepless vigilance is the price of safety. The truth is still the truth. Not a peg of the principles of our faith has been moved, or will be moved. Even though you and many others apostatize and turn from the precious light that has come to our world, that will not make truth error. Men will arise as they have done to impair confidence in the faith once delivered to the saints.

Manuscript Releases, Vol. 7, p. 189

The truths that have been substantiated by the manifest working of God are to stand fast. Let no one presume to move a pin or a foundation-stone from the structure. Those who attempt to undermine the pillars of our faith are among those of whom the Bible says that "in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils."

When did Laura Lee's issues begin?

Ernie's dreams say:

Watch, as I Am Coming, August 14, 2007

I see many people sitting in a room with tables. He says, "These are brothers and sisters from your church but are not of the same faith." I notice some have what looks like a long towel with fringes and knots tied in the ends and these are draped around their neck. As they kneel to pray, they pull this cloth over their head. Many have a small round cloth disk on their head. I see many inanimate objects on the tables. There are trumpets laid out but pointed in different directions. I notice scrolls with words underlined and words they have added to the scrolls. I see what I can only describe as cornucopias filled with different kinds of foods. They would also worship a day of the week if the moon was in a certain phase and call it the Sabbath.

If You Love Me, September 4, 2007

Many of the traditions when I was with you on earth are no more. The study of ancient rituals is a device of Satan to keep you pursuing a wrong path. I have shown you this. All I ask now is that you keep My commandments and love Me.

Conclusion

Laura Lee's issues began when statements were made in the dreams that were contrary to her belief in keeping Jewish feast days and lunar Sabbaths.

Chapter conclusion

Laura Lee misconstrues comments Ernie made without providing proof to support them. If her accusations were to be brought before a court of law, they would be thrown out. God has instructed us on how we are to receive this kind of information:

1 Timothy 5:19

Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.

Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 386

The Bible specially teaches us to beware of lightly bringing accusation against those whom God has called to act as His ambassadors. The apostle Peter, describing a class who are abandoned sinners, says, "Presumptuous are they, self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord." 2 Peter 2:10, 11. And Paul, in his instruction for those who are placed over the church, says, "Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses." 1 Timothy 5:19.

In her letter, Laura Lee stated she read all of Ernie's dreams, up to that point, and they did not bear the acid test of "to the law and to the testimony." Considering she does not pass this test because of her rejection of the true

Sabbath, what authority does she have in accusing Ernie of failing the test? What parts of Ernie's dreams contradict the Bible? Strangely, she does not provide any proof. Might this silence mean that her own beliefs are rebuked in Ernie's dreams as quoted below?

Sabbath vs. Sunday, June 21, 2007

In my dream, it is early morning as I find myself walking on a sidewalk next to a church. I am taking a couple of my radio controlled airplanes to go fly. As I walk past the church, I hear one man say to another, "Happy Sabbath." I stop and exclaim, "Sabbath! I thought it was Sunday, not Saturday." One of the men says, "It is Sunday, the Sabbath." I turn, smile at him, and say, "Nooooo, Sunday is not the Sabbath, Saturday is.

Ibid.

I now explain to the professor, with the others listening, how today is Sunday, the first day of the week and that the Bible teaches that God created our planet and all life in six days but rested on the seventh day. I share how Saturday has always been referred to as the Sabbath and that in different languages Saturday is called Sabbath. I mention there are several places in the Bible that say the seventh day of the week, Saturday, is the Sabbath. I also state that the fourth commandment is the only one that starts with 'Remember.' I ask, "Have you all forgotten?"

Stand Fast, February 5, 2008

A few registers over, I hear a commotion going on. A lady next to us says, "It is one of those people that don't want to keep God's day reverent. It's one of those Saturday people. They are the scourge of the earth. Can't wait till they can all be done away with." The Herald says, "It is time to go."

Get Ready, March 18, 2008

I watch as others stop to discuss the ancient books of the best ways to fly. They get out charts to plot and study the wind currents and try to figure out what is the best way to ascend.

While Ellen White was alive, many rejected her visions because they did not support their ideas.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 49

You despise and reject the testimonies because they reprove your darling sins and disturb your self-complacency.

Counsels for the Church, p. 93

In many cases the Testimonies are fully received, the sin and indulgence broken off, and reformation at once commences in harmony with the light God has given. In other instances sinful indulgences are cherished, the Testimonies are rejected, and many excuses which are untrue are offered to others as the reason for refusing to receive them. The true reason is not given. It is a lack of moral courage—a will,

strengthened and controlled by the Spirit of God, to renounce hurtful habits.

Ernie's dream says:

Repent, as I am Coming, November 12, 2008

The Father has seen how the one who calls herself LJ--Laura Lee Jones--follows the observance of feast days and the lunar Sabbaths even though she has been shown that this is wrong. She does not listen to the voice of God the Father but the voice of the father of lies. She misconstrued comments you made and used them against you. God knows how she contacted David Gates and spoke with a lying tongue, convincing him to follow her--a woman that is led by Satan, the prince of deception.

Laura Lee, please refer to Luke 6:42. "Either how canst thou say to thy brother, Brother, let me pull out the mote that is in thine eye, when thou thyself beholdest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye."

Appendix A

G. Edward Reid's March 2008 Newsletter

In chapter 1, reference is made to Elder Reid's March, 2008 newsletter. This appendix contains the section of the newsletter concerning Ernie Knoll.

Source: <http://www.adventiststewardship.org/images/1707/pdf/Mar08.doc>

False Prophet of Tithing **By G Edward Reid**

I have a keen personal interest regarding prophecy and thank God that He has chosen to use that method of communication with mankind. We know that there will be false prophets near the end. Four times in Matthew 24 alone, Jesus counsels us to beware of false prophets. But we can't just dismiss everyone who claims to be led of God. Paul counseled "Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good" (1 Thes. 5:20,21). Accordingly, when a person claims to be speaking for God, we must test his/her counsel according to the Word of God to determine the veracity of the counsel.

Recently several people have brought to my attention the "dreams" of one, Ernie Knoll. He claims to be a Seventh-day Adventist who is being given dreams from God about the condition of the church and what is coming on the earth. It is interesting that in his February 5, 2008 "dream" he gives a series of footnotes from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. I had never seen footnoted dreams before but in evaluating this one I note that he gives "tithe counsel" directly contrary to what I already know to be true.

The "false counsel" is: "It is important that His people understand while it is important that we are to return a tithe to God's storehouse, it is equally important that they understand what the funds are being used for. If an

individual is providing funds and they understand that the funds are not being used according to His will, that person will be held accountable." To say that the individual donor of tithe and offerings is responsible for any mismanagement on the part of church leaders is totally false. There is no place in the Bible – Old or New Testament – where God has told His followers to withhold or redirect their tithes when they feel that they are being misused by the church leaders. In fact, the only offering that Jesus ever commended was when a poor widow gave two mites (apparently all she had) to a church that was just about to crucify Him! (See Mark 12:41-44).

We have two very relevant documents on our NAD website that address this very issue. They are "Timely Counsels" and "The Work in Michigan" under the Tithe tab. Here are some representative statements:

"Some have been dissatisfied and have said: 'I will not longer pay my tithe; for I have no confidence in the way things are managed at the heart of the work.'" But will you rob God because you think the management of the work is not right? Make your complaint, plainly and openly, in the right spirit, to the proper ones. Send in your petitions for things to be adjusted and set in order; but do not withdraw from the work of God, and prove unfaithful, because others are not doing right" (9T 249).

The other article notes: "Cannot you see that it is not best under any

circumstances to withhold your tithes and offerings because you are not in harmony with everything that your brethren do? The tithes and offerings are not the property of any man, but are to be used in doing a certain work for God. Unworthy ministers may receive some of the means thus raised, but dare anyone, because of this, withhold from the treasury and brave the curse of God? I dare not” (2 Sermons and Talks, 74).

There are several statements in the writings of Ellen White where she notes that those who are faithful in returning to God that which is His “will not lose their reward” but those who (among church leaders) make a wrong use of the funds will be required to give an account of their stewardship. (See 2T 518,519).

The bottom line here is that, when we play the role of donors we must be faithful in returning to God through His church storehouse what he requires. Once the money gets there, those in charge have the responsibility of using it in harmony with God’s plan.

Appendix B

The Watson Letter

In chapter 1, references are provided showing that Ellen White used her tithe money to support people who were not employed by the Church. This appendix contains the Watson letter written by Ellen White to Elder G.F. Watson, president of the Colorado Conference. It reveals a number of important points regarding the issue of tithing.

Spalding and Magan Collection, p. 215-216
The Use of the Tithe.
Mountain View, Calif., Jan. 22, 1905.

Elder Watson:

My brother, I wish to say to you, Be careful how you move. You are not moving wisely. The least you have to speak about the tithe that has been appropriated to the most needy and the most discouraging field in the world, the more sensible you will be.

It has been presented to me for years that my tithe was to be appropriated by myself to aid the white and colored ministers who were neglected and did not receive sufficient properly to support their families. When my attention was called to aged ministers, white or black, it was my special duty to investigate into their necessities and supply their needs. This was to be my special work, and I have done this in a number of cases. No man should give notoriety to the fact that in special cases the tithe is used in that way.

In regard to the colored work in the South, that field has been and is still being robbed of the means that should come to the workers of that field. If there has been cases where our sisters have appropriated their tithe to the support of the ministers working for the colored people in the South, let every man, if he is wise, hold his peace.

I have myself appropriated my tithe to the most needy cases brought to my notice. I have been instructed to do this; and as the money is not withheld from the Lord's treasury, it is not a matter that should be commented upon; for it will necessitate my making known these matters, which I do not desire to do, because it is not best.

Some cases have been kept before me for years, and I have supplied their needs from the tithe, as God has instructed me to do. And if any person shall say to me, Sister White, will you appropriate my tithe where you know it is most needed, I shall say, Yes, I will; and I have done so. I commend those sisters who have placed their tithe where it is most needed to help to do a work that is being left undone; and if this matter is given publicity, it will create knowledge which would better be left as it is. I do not care to give publicity to this work which the Lord has appointed me to do, and others to do.

I send this matter to you so that you shall not make a mistake. Circumstances alter cases. I would not advise that any should make a

practice of gathering up tithe money. But for years there have now and then been persons who have lost confidence in the appropriation of the tithe who have placed their tithe in my hands, and said that if I did not take it they would themselves appropriate it to the families of the most needy minister they could find. I have taken the money, given a receipt for it, and told them how it was appropriated.

I write this to you so that you shall keep cool and not become stirred up and give publicity to this matter, lest many more shall follow their example.

(Signed) Ellen G. White

The facts

1. In the case, Ellen White and others were supporting ordained ministers in the south and not, as some have assumed, self-supporting ministries.
2. Conference officials were not happy that people were sending their tithe to workers in the south.
3. Ellen White was instructed by God to appropriate her own tithe to those who had been neglected. This was done for years.
4. Ellen White points out that her tithe was not “withheld from the Lord’s treasury.”
5. Ellen White was happy to send other people’s tithe to the southern workers.
6. Ellen White commended people for sending their tithe to where it was most needed.
7. This work was appointed by God.
8. For years people who had lost confidence in the appropriation of the tithe by their conferences gave it to Ellen White for the workers in the south.
9. Circumstances alter cases.

The Watson letter vs. the Conference

Conference	Watson Letter
The conference says we have to return our tithe to our local church.	The Watson letter shows we can return our tithe to any division or neglected gospel worker.
The conference says there are no exceptions to their tithe regulations.	The Watson letter says that circumstances can alter cases.
The conference says if we have lost confidence in the leadership or the way our tithe is being used, we must still return our tithe to our local Conference church.	The Watson letter shows that if we have lost confidence in those who appropriate our tithe, it is acceptable to send it someplace else where it will be used correctly.

Conference	Watson Letter
The conference says that because Ellen White was a prophet, it was acceptable for her to appropriate her own tithe.	The Watson letter shows that God appointed other people also to appropriate their own tithe.

Circumstances alter cases

One important point the Watson letter reveals is Ellen White’s comment that, “Circumstances alter cases.” Both the neglect of the southern workers and the misappropriation of the tithe by the conference were valid reasons for a change in circumstances. This is a Biblical principle as can be seen in the following verses:

2 Kings 4:42-44

And there came a man from Baalshalisha, and brought the man of God [Elisha] bread of the firstfruits, twenty loaves of barley, and full ears of corn in the husk thereof. And he said, Give unto the people, that they may eat. And his servitor said, What, should I set this before an hundred men? He said again, Give the people, that they may eat: for thus saith the LORD, They shall eat, and shall leave thereof. So he set it before them, and they did eat, and left thereof, according to the word of the LORD.

The firstfruits were to be given to the priests (Leviticus 23:10; Deuteronomy 18:1-4). On this occasion however, the firstfruits were given to Elisha the prophet who was not a Levite. One of the reasons this may have occurred is because all the priests had fled to Judah (2 Chronicles 11:13-14). Circumstances can alter cases.

In another example, Ellen White says, “There are exceptional cases, where poverty is so deep that, in order to secure the humblest place of worship, it may be necessary to appropriate the tithes. But that place is not Battle Creek or Oakland.” Manuscript Releases, Vol. 1, p. 191. It is very clear from Ellen White’s writings that she upheld that tithe was only to be used for the support of the gospel ministry (Gospel Workers, p. 227). Yet under severe circumstances, this may be altered.

Appendix C

2009 Spring Council Financial Report

Chapter 1 makes reference to General Conference investments. This appendix contains three slides from the 2009 financial report. To view all the slides, please visit the following source:
<http://news.adventist.org/assets/2009%20Spring%20Meeting%20treas%20report.pdf>

Slide 7

2008 Performance of GC Owned Investments

- December 31, 2008 investment balances and net market fluctuations and earnings by fund in millions:

* Operating	128.7	(6.3)
* Extraordinary Tithe	88.6	3.1
* Donor Advised	18.3	(.6)
* Plant Fund	24.5	(.6)
* Endowment Fund	22.8	(2.8)
* Other Funds	12.7	(.4)
* Totals	295.6	(7.6)

Slide 8

Performance of GC Owned Investments during 2008

- Of the approximately \$295 million invested, the net return, including market fluctuations, dividends and interest, was a decrease of 7.6 million or approximately 2.7%.
- The decrease of \$7.6 million came from
 - Unrealized losses (\$15.2 million)
 - Realized losses (.4 million)
 - Investment earnings 8.0 million



Appendix D

Tithe Used to Pay Church Litigation

In chapter 1, reference is made to the Church using tithe money to pay for litigation. This appendix contains a letter from the General Conference in 1989 proving this is true.

Office of General Counsel
Telephone (202) 722-6270



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS: 6840 EASTERN AVENUE NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20012 USA
TELEPHONE: (202) 722-6000 • CABLE: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON • TELEX: 440185

April 10, 1989

Mr.

Dear Brother :

Thank you for your recent letters concerning trademarks. Elder Wilson's office asked me to respond.

First, enclosed is a copy of the questions and answers we have released on the question. Perhaps you already have seen it in the January 12 issue of the Adventist Review.

Second, you inquired whether tithe is used to pay church litigation. The treasury informs me that all litigation is paid from the annual appropriation made at the Annual Council, and that appropriation comes from tithe.

If you have additional questions, please write. —

Sincerely,

Robert W. Nixon
Associate General Counsel

Appendix E

Ángel Manuel Rodríguez's Letter

THE DREAMS OF BROTHER ERNIE KNOLL

Brother Ernie Knoll claims to be having dreams from God. He was a local church elder and supposedly has identified himself as an ordained pastor. His local church did not re-elect him as church elder in part because of his dreams. There is little on his webpage about the history of his experiences with the dreams. Based on the little we know he at first did not see himself as a prophet. He was having vivid dreams for which he provided his own interpretations. At some point an angel interpreter was introduced in his dreams and guided and interpreted the dreams for him. Consequently he claimed to be receiving revelations from the Lord, that is to say he became a prophet. It is very difficult to evaluate such claims. Church members should not accept them based on the fact that the person is having dreams and that he is also claiming that an angel is involved. There are several things that we should keep in mind as we examine the evidence.

First, Brother Ernie states that he wanted God to communicate with him. This was something that he cherished in his heart. This is a little strange and lends itself to different interpretations. But perhaps what is more important is that we hardly find in the Bible a person who was eager to be a prophet. When called to the prophetic ministry those persons were not initially delighted. Very often their first reaction was to resist the divine call. This was also the case with Ellen G. White. This interest in being a prophet may have had some psychological impact on his experiences.

Second, his dreams deal with different topics but are not of deep significance for the church. A number of them are about his ministry and serve to encourage him to continue to do what he is doing. In others he deals with the health message, worship, the Lord's Supper, the coming of destruction, and the need for reformation in the church—he particularly mentions the Adventist Book Centers. In one of the dreams, the KJV was identified as the Bible version that we should use. As I read that, I wondered about Bible versions in other languages. Why should the Lord limit Himself to one language? In some cases it is very difficult to find the purpose or the message of a dream.

Third, in many of the dreams Brother Ernie is the center of interest or they are about him. For instance, he dreams he is in heaven sitting at a large table. While there he begins to think about the sins he committed while on earth. I tried to find a message in the dream but I could not. It was about the burden of sin that he was still carrying while in heaven. To me this is a rather strange situation.

Fourth, he makes a great effort to demonstrate that he has the characteristics of a true prophet as found in the Bible. Therefore, Brother Ernie includes in the narratives of his dreams passages from the Bible and statements from the Spirit of Prophecy that support the message of his

dreams. In other words, he is trying to demonstrate that his messages are supported by God's previous revelations to his people. This makes his dreams almost irrelevant for the church. What we need to do is read the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. But one of the dreams created a problem for him. In it tithing was discussed and the teaching was not in agreement with what the Bible teaches about tithing. The angel tells him that the individual decides to whom he or she should give the tithe. This is not what you find in the Bible and in the writings of Ellen G. White. Apparently Brother Ernie received quite a bit of reaction to this dream and some alleged that he modified it. But the truth is that he is still promoting this dream on his webpage. It has also been stated that he changed one of his dreams about the 144,000 because the original version of it contradicted the Spirit of Prophecy.

What can we conclude about the dreams? It is extremely difficult to assign the dreams to a particular source of origin. The last point we made about tithing as well as the overall nature of the dreams raise serious questions about their divine origin. But perhaps one of the main problems we face is that the influence of the dreams may lead people to rely more on them than on the Scripture. Consequently, they could be distracted from the study of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. This could lead them to emphasize our subjective experiences as a reliable guide in the search for truth. The times in which we live are dangerous times and the closer we stay to the Bible, spending time studying it, the safest it would be for the church. We do not deny that the Lord will pour His Spirit out on His people in an unprecedented way, but we should also be aware of the deceptions of the last days. I do not believe that Brother Ernie is trying to deceive anybody. I only call you, the reader, to be wise and prudent and wait for the Lord instead of spending time with dreams whose origin we cannot clearly verify.

Angel Manuel Rodriguez
February 2009

Appendix F

Doctrines in Ernie Knoll's Dreams

Dreams	Doctrines	Bible & Spirit of Prophecy References
1. At the Table	a. Heaven b. Jesus as our Savior	a. Isa. 65:17-25; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:1-7, 22:1-5; EW 16-17, 289 b. Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:6-11; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; 1 Pet. 2:21-24; 1 Jn. 2:2; 4:10; FLB 75
2. The White Blanket	a. Righteousness by faith (our protection)	a. Gal. 5:5; Heb. 11:7; GW 161
3. A View of Heaven	a. Judgment during millennium b. Jesus as Creator c. Love of God and Christ d. Correct type of music e. 144,000	a. 1 Cor. 6:2-3; Rev. 20:1-4; EW 52; GC 660, 661 b. Jn. 1:1-3; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2; DA 288 c. Jn. 3:16; Rom. 8:35, 39; Eph. 3:19; 5:2, 25; Phil. 2:5-8; 1 Jn. 3:1; 4:9-11; DA 493; FE 234 d. Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Phil. 4:8; Col. 3:16; Jam. 5:13; Ev 508.1; FE 97.4; MYP 295.1; 2SM 36-38; 3SM 333.1; 1T 496-497; 5T 492.3 e. Rev. 7:3-8; 14:1-5; EW 15-17; 1SAT 72.3
4. Old Gray Gate	a. Shaking time	a. Eze. 38:19; Amos 9:9; EW 269, 270; 1T 181.1; 251.1
5. Buildings Falling	a. Destruction foretold	a. 1 Thes. 5:3; Ev 29; 8T 49.2-3; GC 589.3
6. Call to Repentance	a. God's judgments and wrath b. Need for repentance	a. Lk. 21:26; Rev. 11:18; 15:4; 16:7; 18:4; AA 62 b. Acts 3:19; Rev. 3:19; SC 23.2
7. Angel on a White Horse	a. Instruction to share the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy (Ellen White) b. Instruction to share God's messages in the dreams	a. Rom. 10:15; 2 Tim. 4:2; PM 375 b. 1 Kings 22:14; Jer. 1:4-7; Eze. 2:3-5; 3:27; EW 20
8. Go Forth	a. Work of Holy Spirit b. Opposition to truth c. Call for God's workers	a. Lk. 12:11-12; Jn. 16:7-8, 13-15; Rom. 5:5; 1 Cor. 2:12-13; AA 49 b. 2 Tim. 2:24-25; RH, Dec. 23, 1890 par. 18 c. Matt. 22:14; Jn. 4:35; GC 612.1; LDE 203.3, 204.2

Dreams	Doctrines	Bible & Spirit of Prophecy References
9. Stand on the Truth	a. Importance of the cross	a. 1 Cor. 1:18; TDG 176.5
10. Sabbath vs. Sunday	a. Remember the seventh-day Sabbath	a. Gen. 2:2-3; Ex. 16:26; 20:8-11; 31:13-17; Deut. 5:12-15; Isa. 58:13-14; Ezek. 20:12, 20; Lk. 4:16; 23:56; Heb. 4:4; LDE 220.5
11. Prepare...	a. Prepare for God's wrath b. Time is short	a. Rev. 14:7-12; PK 278; 5T 212 b. Rev. 22:12, 20; TDG 322.4
12. Build an Ark	c. Do not lean on "arm of flesh" d. The Flood	e. Ps. 118:8-9; 146:3; Isa. 2:22; Jer. 17:5-6; Mic. 7:5-7; PK 198.4; TDG 82.3 f. Gen. 7:17-20; 3SG 64.2-71.1
13. The Mailroom	a. Gospel work b. Books of a new order c. Four winds held back	a. Matt. 24:14; Rev. 14:6; PK 221.3 b. Acts 19:13-20; AH 413.1-2; 1SM 204.2 c. Rev. 7:1-4; EW 38.2
14. Creeping Compromise	a. Reverence in church	a. Lev. 19:30; Ps. 89:7; CG 540.2
15. Keep Going	a. Work of angels	b. Gen. 28:12; Ps. 91:11; Lk. 1:19; Heb. 1:14; EW 39.1; GC 312.1; LDE 207.1; ML 171.7; 1SM 17.1
16. Watch, as I Am Coming	a. Ellen G. White as a prophet b. Importance of overcoming sin c. False beliefs exposed d. Instruction for the 144,000 e. Work of "Elijah"	a. Rev. 12:17; 19:10; 1SM 31.3-32.5 b. Ps. 4:4; Matt. 1:21; Matt. 5:48; Rom. 6:1-22; 8:1-14; 1 Cor. 15:34; CET 113.1; HP 146.5; MH 180.5; 3T 365.1 c. Matt. 16:6-12; 23:13-33; 2 Tim. 4:2; Rev. 2:15; 1SAT 387.1 d. Rev. 14:3-5; 7BC 978.1; 3T 266.2 e. Mal. 4:5-6; Lk. 1:17; 2BC 1037.1; PK 119, 235.1
17. Only One Place to Be	a. Importance of being close to God	a. Matt. 11:28; Jn. 7:37; OFC 239; RH, March 4, 1884 par. 5
18. Two Roads	a. Admonition to choose Christ	a. Josh. 24:15; 1 Kings 18:21; UL 345.5; YI, Mar. 6, 1902 par. 8

Dreams	Doctrines	Bible & Spirit of Prophecy References
19. If You Love Me	b. Danger of evil a. Ten Commandments stressed b. Work of humble people	c. Eph. 4:27; 6:11; 1 Pet. 5:8; CSW 49.2; CT 479.1; ST, Feb. 12, 1902.11 d. Ex. 20:6; Jn. 14:15, 21; EW 42.1 a. Num. 12:3-8; Matt. 18:4; 5T 253.1; 7T 26.3-4
20. Sudden Darkness	a. Additional destruction	a. 1 Thes. 5:3; Ev 29; 8T 49.2-3; GC 589.3
21. The New Earth	a. Description of New Earth b. Sabbath on the New Earth	a. Isa. 65:17; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:1; EW 18-19 b. Isa. 66:22-23; DA 769; EW 217.2; 6T 368.3
22. The SDA Church	a. False church services b. Church triumphant	a. Rev. 3:14-19; 2SM 36 b. Rev. 21:2; CET 228; Ev 707.1; 2SM 380.2
23. Much to Do	a. Instruction for ministry	a. Ex. 25:8-9; Acts 9:1-16; 22:10; 18:24-26; AA 47.1; CET 140.2-141.1
24. The ABC	a. Instruction on proper books and music	a. Books: Ex. 24:7; Neh. 13:1; Matt. 21:42; AH 410.1-417.2; Music: Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; Ev 508.1; FE 97.4; 2SM 38.1; 3SM 333.1; 5T 492.3
25. Pray for Protection	a. Satan's hatred of God's messages, especially the book, <i>The Great Controversy</i>	a. Gen. 3:15; Rev. 12:17; 3SM 100
26. A Great Work	a. Health message (diet)	a. Lev. 11; Dan. 1:8; 1 Cor. 3:17; 6:19; CD 73.2
27. The Work Now Begins	a. God's worldwide work b. Instruction regarding false dreams	c. Rev. 14:6; Mar 19.1 a. Deut. 13:1-4; 18:20-22; Isa. 8:20; 7BC 952.2; Mar 192.5; 2SM 21.4-22.1, 78.1, 86.4; 1T 569.2
28. Stand Fast	b. Prayer c. Tithe and offerings a. First plague b. Financial difficulties c. Deaths d. Martyrs	e. Ps. 62:8; 65:2; Matt. 6:9-13; 7:7; Phil. 4:6; MB 102-122 a. Gen. 14:20; Mal. 3:8-10; Heb. 7:2; 2SAT 74.4 b. Rev. 16:2 c. Rev. 13:17; 9T 13.3-14.1 d. Ps. 37:38; Rev. 14:13; Ev 29.4; 21MR 80.2 e. Rev. 13:15; 20:4; GC 665.2; 3SM 397.4

Dreams	Doctrines	Bible & Spirit of Prophecy References
29. Get Ready	a. Satan's impersonation of Christ b. God's love c. Witnessing	d. 2 Cor. 11:14; GC 624.2; LDE 162 e. Jn. 3:16; Rom. 8:35, 39; Eph. 3:19; 5:2, 25; Phil. 2:5-8; 1 Jn. 3:1; 4:9-11; DA 493; FE 234 f. Isa. 43:12; 44:8; Matt. 16:15; 28:19; Acts 4:33; 10MR 338.2-3
30. Love and Rebuke	a. God's rebuke b. Angel's testimony c. Nature of Christ	a. Rev. 2:12-17; 3:14-22; 1MR 361.2 b. Dan. 10:12-14; Lk. 1:26-37; DA 98.4-99.1 c. Rom. 1:3; 8:3; 1 Tim. 3:16; Heb. 2:11, 16-18; DA 112.3; EW 152.2; MM 181.3; RH Dec. 15, 1896 par. 7; 1SG 25.1; 1SM 253.1, 256.1; 3SM 134.2; 2SP 39.3; YI Dec. 20, 1900 par. 7
31. Testing the Spirits	a. Christ in Most Holy Place b. Instruction on testing the spirits	a. Dan. 8:14; Rev. 3:7-8; EW 42, 253 b. Isa. 8:20; 1 Jn. 4:1-3; RH, Jan. 31, 1888 par. 1
32. The Cross	a. Lord's Supper b. True church services	a. Lk. 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:20; FLB 300.2-3 b. Ps. 89:7; Ev 508.1; 2SM 36.2-37.2; 5T 496, 609
33. In His Time	a. Apostasy b. Conversion	a. 2 Thes. 2:3; 2 Tim. 4:3-4; ChL 20.4; PK 322.1; RH, Feb. 4, 1909 par. 8 b. Ps. 51:13; Matt. 18:3; Lk. 22:32; Acts 3:19; SC 57.2
34. Repent, as I Am Coming	a. Help the poor b. Study God's Word c. Be humble d. Submit to Christ e. Enjoy nature f. Inhabitants of unfallen worlds g. Second Coming	a. Isa. 58:7; Gal. 2:10; Jam. 2:2-6; ST, June 21, 1899 par. 10 b. 2 Tim. 2:15; Ev 214.4; SC 35.2 c. Prov. 16:19; 29:23; Isa. 57:15; Matt. 18:4; Jam. 4:10; TDG 73.1 d. Jam. 4:7; YRP 363.1 e. Ps. 19:1; ML 294; SD 135; 3T 377 f. Job 38:7; DA 37.2; EW 39.3 g. Ps. 50:3; Matt. 24:30; 26:64; 1 Thes. 4:16; Rev. 1:7; Mar. 12

Dreams	Doctrines	Bible & Spirit of Prophecy References
35. In the Heart of Jesus	a. Forgiveness b. Justification c. Sanctification d. Overcoming sin and character perfection e. Work of Holy Spirit (who is as much a person as God) f. Sifting time g. God destroys and allows Satan to destroy h. Christ as High Priest i. Christ in Gethsemane j. Godhead (three persons who are one in purpose, mind, and character) k. Institution of marriage	a. Ps. 25:18; 86:51; Jer. 31:34; Matt. 6:14-15; Eph. 1:7; Jn. 1:9; 2:1; SC 26.1-2; 37.2-4 b. Rom. 3:24, 28; 4:25; 5:16-18; 1 Cor. 6:11; Titus 3:7; FW 104 c. 1 Cor. 6:11; 1 Thes. 4:3-4; 2 Thes. 2:13; 1 Pet. 1:2; AA 532.2, 559-561 d. Ps. 4:4; Matt. 1:21; Matt. 5:48; Rom. 6:1-22; 8:1-14; 1 Cor. 15:34; CET 113.1; HP 146.5; MH 180.5; 3T 365.1 e. Jn. 14:16; 15:26; Ev 616.5 f. Amos 9:9; 5T 79.4 g. Gen. 6:7; 7:11; 19:13-14; 28-29; Ex. 23:27; Job 1:12; 2:6; Isa. 28:2; EW 54.1 h. Heb. 2:17; 3:1; 4:14-15; TMK 108.3 i. Matt. 26:36-43; Lk. 22:39-45; DA 693.3 j. Col. 2:9; CH 222.2; DA 671.2; Ev 615; Ev 617.3; 7MR 299.2 k. Gen. 1:27-28; 2:23-24; Matt. 19:4-6; 1 Cor. 7:2-5; Eph. 5:22-33; AH 100.1
36. Two Cars	a. Special resurrection b. First resurrection c. SDA Church (wheat/tares; church militant/church triumphant) d. Sealing time e. False shepherds f. Close of probation g. Satan's work h. God's creations in the universe	a. Dan. 12:2; GC 637.1 b. 1 Cor. 15:52; Rev. 20:6; GC 644 c. Matt. 13:24-30; LDE 52.2, 61.2-62.2; ST June 22, 1904 d. Jn. 9:4; Mar 242; RH, June 8, 1886 par. 1 e. Matt. 7:15; LDE 247.2; ST July 18, 1892 f. Amos 8:11-13; Rev. 22:11; EW 281; SR 402.1-2 g. 1 Peter 5:8; RH Dec. 15, 1904 par. 7; 3SM 19.2 h. Rev. 21:1; AG 129

Key to Abbreviations of Spirit of Prophecy books by Ellen G. White

AA – *The Acts of the Apostles*

AG – *God's Amazing Grace*

AH – *The Adventist Home*

BC – *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*

CD – *Counsels on Diet and Foods*

CET – *Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White*

CG – *Child Guidance*

CH – *Counsels on Health*

CHL – *Christian Leadership*
CSW – *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*
CT – *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*
DA – *The Desire of Ages*
Ev – *Evangelism*
EW – *Early Writings*
FE – *Fundamentals of Christian Education*
FLB – *The Faith I Live By*
FW – *Faith and Works*
GC – *The Great Controversy*
GW – *Gospel Workers*
HP – *In Heavenly Places*
LDE – *Last Day Events*
Mar – *Maranatha*
MB – *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*
MH – *The Ministry of Healing*
ML – *My Life Today*
MM – *Medical Ministry*
MR – *Manuscript Releases* (21 vols.)
MYP – *Messages to Young People*
OFC – *Our Father Cares*
PK – *Prophets and Kings*
PM – *The Publishing Ministry*
RH – *The Review and Herald*
SAT – *Sermons and Talks* (2 vols.)
SC – *Steps to Christ*
SD – *Sons and Daughters of God*
SG – *Spiritual Gifts* (4 vols.)
SM – *Selected Messages* (3 books)
SR – *The Story of Redemption*
ST – *The Signs of the Times*
T – *Testimonies for the Church* (9 vols.)
TDG – *This Day With God*
TMK – *That I May Know Him*
UL – *The Upward Look*
YI – *The Youth's Instructor*
YRP – *Ye Shall Receive Power*

Appendix G

Steve Wohlberg's First letter

This appendix contains Steve Wohlberg's first letter.

March 25, 2008

Re: Ernie Knolls dreams

From: Steve Wohlberg

Because many are now asking White Horse Media about Ernie Knoll's dreams, I have decided to put my personal thoughts into one document. I became aware of Ernie's dreams about 5 months. Because Acts 2:16, 17 says that God will give dreams and visions, and because I long for heaven, I first read Ernie's dreams with great interest, with an open mind, and with much prayer. Then I called the Knoll's and spoke with them at length. After talking with Ernie and Becky, I was very satisfied that they are sincere Adventists who want nothing more than for Jesus to come soon. Because of this, I remained sympathetic, but still cautious, for a number of months.

Yet everything changed when I read the Feb. 08 dream, particularly what "the Herald" said about tithe. Page 4 says:

The Herald turns to me and says, "It is important that His people understand while it is important that we are to return a tithe to God's storehouse, it is equally important that they understand what the funds are being used for. If an individual is providing funds and they understand that the funds are not being used according to His will, that person will be held accountable. The Great Creator has said to pay a tribute to those who do His bidding. The Herald explains that many tributes are used toward Lucifer's work of using spiritualism from within God's church by those who collect and place the funds in a storehouse. The Herald says, "That is not God's storehouse..."

Here the Herald says that if someone gives "tithe" and "they understand that the funds are not being used according to His will, that person will be held accountable." He also said that because "many tributes [tithe]" are being used for "spiritualism within God's church" that therefore, "That is not God's storehouse."

After reading this, my mind was deeply troubled. Then I compared the Herald's statements with what Ellen White wrote. Then I wrote up my findings in a Word document. Then I spoke with Ernie and Becky on the phone. After doing this, I sent my document to them. Here it is:

From Steve Wohlberg:

Brethren, these are quotes, comparisons, and inquiries that have stirred my mind after reading what the Herald said about "tithe."

[in the dream] The Herald turns to me and says, "It is important that His people understand while it is important that we are to return a tithe to God's storehouse, it is equally important that they understand what the funds are being used for. If an individual is providing funds and they understand that the funds are not being used according to His will, that person will be held accountable. The Great Creator has said to pay a tribute to those who do His bidding. The Herald explains that many tributes are used toward Lucifer's work of using spiritualism from within God's church by those who collect and place the funds in a storehouse. The Herald says, "That is not God's storehouse."

[The Bible] "Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much. Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, **"Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury;** for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood" (Mark 12:41-44).

Steve's comment: The Jewish "treasury" at that time was corrupt, yet Jesus commended the poor woman for putting her money there because she loved God's cause. Jesus did not hold her "accountable" for what was occurring in that temple, or because of how her money might be misused. Instead, He commended her unselfish act and inspired His gospel writers to record this event to instruct His church to the end of time.

[Ellen White] Some have been dissatisfied and have said: "I will not longer pay my tithe; for I have no confidence in the way things are managed at the heart of the work." **But will you rob God because you think the management of the work is not right? ... do not withdraw from the work of God, and prove unfaithful, because others are not doing right** (9T 249)

Steve's comment: If some are not doing right, even at "the heart of the work," we should still pay our tithe there, or we are robbing God.

[Ellen White] Cannot you see that **it is not best under any circumstances to withhold your tithes and offerings because you are not in harmony with everything that your brethren do?** The tithes and offerings are not the property of any man, but are to be used in doing a certain work for God. Unworthy ministers may receive some of the means thus raised, but dare anyone, because of this, withhold from the treasury and brave the curse of God? I dare not (2 Sermons and Talks, 74).

Steve's comment: Some of our tithe may be misused and go to "unworthy ministers," but this is no reason not to pay our tithes into "the treasury." It is "not best under *any* circumstances" to withhold our tithe; if we do, we risk the curse of God.

[Ellen White] I was shown that the recording angel makes a faithful record of every offering dedicated to God and put into the treasury, and also of the final result of the means thus bestowed... **Even though the means thus consecrated be misapplied,** so that it does not accomplish the object which the donor had in view,--the glory of God and the salvation of souls,--those who made the sacrifice in sincerity of soul, with an eye single to the

glory of God, **will not lose their reward**. Those who have made a wrong use of means dedicated to God will be required to give an account of their stewardship (2T 518-519).

Steve's comment: Even if the tithe is misapplied, the angels make a faithful record of the giver's contribution. They will not lose their reward.

[Ellen White] When persons declare that they will **not pay their tithes because the means is not used as they think it ought to be**, will the elder of the church or the minister sympathize with the sinners? **Will he aid the enemy in his work?** Or will he, as a wise man endowed with knowledge, go to work to correct the evil and remove the stumblingblocks? Let those who are dissatisfied state plainly their grievances to the ones who they think have erred instead of talking the matter over with others and **thus fanning the flame of discontent** (2 Sermons and Talks, 75).

Steve's comment: Those who don't pay their tithes because they think it is being misused are unknowingly aiding the enemy in his work and "fanning the flame of discontent."

[Ellen White] God's reserved resources are to be used in no such haphazard way. The tithe is the Lord's, and those who meddle with it will be punished with the loss of their heavenly treasure unless they repent. Let the work no longer be hedged up because the tithe has been diverted into various channels other than the one to which the Lord has said it should go (9T 249).

Steve's comment: The tithe issue is a life and death matter. Thus who "meddle" with it will be "punished" with the "loss of their heavenly treasure." The tithe is not to be diverted into other channels, or paid in a "haphazard way," for this would hinder God's work.

Summary comments: Ellen White's position is clear. Even if some of the tithe is misused, we are still to pay it, or we are robbing God. Those held accountable are not those who pay tithe (as "the Herald" said), but those who misuse it. Those who don't pay their tithe because they think it is not being used right, aid the enemy. Under no circumstances are we to withhold our tithe from "the treasury." Thus, in this instance, it seems that "the Heralds" counsel and Ellen White's counsel are not in agreement with each other here. "The Herald" contradicts her counsel, yet he says that it "important" for God's people to understand what he says.

[Significant EGW quotes about the of Anna Rice Phillips] All along our pathway to the heavenly Canaan we see many souls that have made shipwreck of faith, and in their false movements have led others astray through the supposition that they were led of God in special revelations. I have had to write many, many pages to correct these errors. I have been burdened and oppressed night after night, unable to sleep because of the agony of my soul for God's heritage, His people, who are in danger of being misled. Many things in these visions and dreams seem to be all straight, a repetition of that which has been in the field for many years; but soon they introduce a jot here, a tittle of error there, just a little seed which takes root and flourishes, and many are defiled therewith (2 SM 86).

The greatest care should be exercised concerning those who claim to receive revelations from God. There needs to be much close watching and much praying. Those who are acting a part in the great work for these last days need to counsel together in regard to every new thing that shall be introduced, for no one man's mind is to be left to judge of, or to place before the public, important matters which have a relation to the cause of God (2 SM 91).

[Satan mixes truth with error] It was by deception that Satan seduced angels; thus he has in all ages carried forward his work among men, and he will continue this policy to the last. Should he openly profess to be warring against God and His law, men would beware; but he disguises himself, and mixes truth with error. The most dangerous falsehoods are those that are mingled with truth. It is thus that errors are received that captivate and ruin the soul. By this means Satan carries the world with him. But a day is coming when his triumph will be forever ended (PP 338).

Question: If “the Herald” is a fallen angel disguising himself as one of God’s angels, and if the long-term purpose of his communications is to deceive God’s people, then how can we explain the great “good” that have definitely come through the dreams so far, hearts being renewed, lives being changed, etc.

Possible answer: The Holy Spirit still works through “truth,” even when it is quoted by the devil.

The leaven of truth works a change in the whole man, making the coarse refined, the rough gentle, the selfish generous (COL, 102).

It is by the Spirit of truth, working through the word of God, that Christ subdues His chosen people to Himself (DA 671).

Error is never harmless. It never sanctifies,
but always brings confusion and dissension
(5T 291, 292)

After this, I began to look even more critically at the dreams. For the next few weeks, I thought a lot about this, and continued to pray. Then during the weekend of March 21-23 my family went to a church retreat with many of our friends from the Templeton Hills Church where I used to pastor. Ernie had visited the church earlier and met with the elders. Many of the church members were aware of the dreams. The response was mixed. Throughout the weekend, many of us discussed this in more detail. Upon arriving home, I had trouble sleeping that night. The next day I sent this letter to Ernie and his board:

March 24, 2008

Dear Ernie, Becky, Steve H., and the 4HisPeople board,

Please pray before you read this.

Last night [March 23] at about 2:00 am, I couldn’t sleep. Many thoughts were going through my head. Bible verses. SOP quotes. Every spiritual bone in my body tells me that the Holy Spirit was earnestly instructing me. I sensed His presence strongly. For over an hour I tossed and turned

thinking about the danger that you are in. I write this as a strong friend, not as an enemy.

These are some of the thoughts that came to me.

1. Throughout her ministry, Ellen White was instructed by one she referred to as “my accompanying angel,” but that angel never identified himself by any specific name. Angels often instructed people in Bible times too, but they never gave themselves names, except one, “Gabriel,” whose name appears only in Daniel 8/9 (in connection with the 70 week/2300 day prophecy) and Luke 1 (in connection with the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus Christ). Because these events were so important, it seems that God felt “Gabriel” should mention his name. *But no other angel sent from God has ever done this.*
2. Holy angels never flatter men. EGW wrote: “The Holy Spirit flatters no man” (Signs, Sept. 27, 1899). “We cannot praise and flatter any man without doing him a great wrong” (5T, 75). “A man that flattereth his neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet” (Prov. 29:5). It seems to me that “the Herald’s” comments about Ernie as “the bold one” could easily be part of a well-thought out “flattery” strategy to gain Ernie’s confidence to “spread a net for his feet.”
3. In the ABC dream an angel “keeps smiling all the time while the machine is smashing and chomping [music] CDs and DVDs.” Compare this with this. Once EGW saw young people playing bad music. Then she wrote: “...such songs were poured forth as *made the watching angels weep*” (Adventist Home, 514). Thus God’s angels “weep” over bad music. This is nothing to “smile” about.
4. In the “If You Love Me” dream, three evil angels were allowed to talk to Ernie. This is most unusual. In no other heavenly dream that I am aware of are evil angels portrayed as talking directly to the receiver of the dream. This is not God’s method of communication. In EGW’s dreams, God often exposed Satan, *but he never allowed Satan to talk directly to his servant in a dream.*

I have other concerns too, but this is enough for now.

Someone recently told me about Roger Morneau’s book, *Beware of Angels: Deceptions in the Last Days*, published by the Review and Herald. I plan on reading this book soon. From what I now know of it, it is about a group of very conservative Adventists who started receiving visitations from “angels” telling them that they had been sent by God to prepare them for the time of trouble and the return of Jesus Christ. These visitations continued for a number of years. *Everything the “angels” taught seemed correct and without error, for a long, long time.* But then, once the “net was spread for their feet,” *the deceptions began.* Here is what one reviewer wrote:

“This book is a true account of a prayer group that was deceived by demons. They were true sincere Christians that were visited by angels that told them they were

chosen of God, and all sorts of other things that stroked their ego. They figured that because these beings were beautiful and said they were from God, that they **MUST** be from God. Long story short, the demons little by little snuck in a little mixed in a world of truth, kind of like giving a thirsty person a big glass of water with a little drop of cyanide until the person dies.”

This is exactly what EGW warned about concerning the “visions and dreams” of Anna Rice Phillips. “Many things in these visions and dreams seem to be all straight, a repetition of that which has been in the field for many years; but soon they introduce *a jot here, a tittle of error there, just a little seed* which takes root and flourishes, and many are defiled therewith” (2 SM 86).

The “Beware of Angels” story ends in murder!

I am very concerned that this is exactly what is happening through the dreams and communications of “the Herald.” Last night, the Holy Spirit warned me strongly about this. Today I am doing my duty to write this out for you.

Many are reading the dreams. As EGW warned, much is “all straight.” But once “the Herald” gains people’s confidence, we don’t know where this will go. Someone might say, “Yes, that’s why we keep testing everything by the Bible and SOP, for the Herald himself said to do this.” Well, two dreams ago the Herald made comments about tithe that were *clearly wrong* (see my earlier document sent to Steve H.). He introduced “a jot here, a tittle of error there.” His words have now alerted many, many people, that the Herald is a deceiver. Just this past weekend I was at a church retreat with many of my friends from the Templeton Hills church, where I used to pastor. Ernie had previously spoken to some of the leaders of that church. Since that time, some had been reading the dreams, watching this develop. But when the Herald spoke about tithe, *that was it*. They knew he was wrong, *and this changed everything*. It was one of the elders of that church that mentioned Roger Morneau’s book to me. In the last dream “the Herald” said, “Many did not understand the things you were shown in the last dream either.” Well, the problem for the Herald is that some of us *do understand, all too well, exactly what he said, and now we know that he is a demon, not a true angel of God*. We will give no credence to any future “explanations,” for we are “not ignorant of his devices” (2 Cor. 2:11). Paul warned about those who “*by good words and fair speeches* deceive the hearts of the simple” (Romans 16:18).

Think about it. What if God did speak to me last night? What if this letter is true? If so, then what is happening is truly frightening, and you are in great danger. Then those that are reading the dreams, and who trust them, are also being baited. Once confidence is gained, *then Satan has direct access to many precious souls*. And if some of us see through his devices, and blow the whistle, then he can just give another dream and say that we just “don’t understand” what he is saying. Satan is smarter than we are. How can he reach solid Adventists anyway? The answer is obvious – by

pretending to be one himself, and by teaching the truth, for a long time, until the net is laid. Then he will spring the trap.

It is highly possible that in another dream “the Herald” might even mention me. If he does, *don't believe him*.

Ernie and Becky (and Steve), I hope we can talk again soon. I am praying for you everyday. *What the Herald said about tithing is enough*. Now we know who he is. His words don't line up with “the law and the testimony.” In light of all of this, and the great danger involved to so many souls, my earnest counsel to you is this: *Remove the website. Tell Jesus you don't want these dreams anymore*. Ernie, if you get another dream, *don't talk to the Herald at all. Don't even listen to him*. Remember, this is how Eve fell. She talked to the devil and was deceived. Read 2 Cor. 11:3. Quote Scripture only, like Jesus did in the wilderness. If the Herald is a demon, you can't reason with him. He's too smart. Don't take a chance. Read “*Beware of Angels*.”

Again, I hope to talk to you soon.

Your brother in Jesus Christ,

Steve Wohlberg

Shortly after this letter was sent I discovered that my friend Ed Reid, the Stewardship Director of the North American Division, had also written a piece on Ernie's dreams called “False Prophet of Tithing” which focused on the same statement of the Herald that bothered me, and that used the exact same quotes from EGW's writings that God led me to. To me, God's providence was plainly evident.

For information's sake, here is an email I recently received about the same issue.

Hi Pastor Steve: I have a quick question. I am wondering what your thoughts are on the dreams that Mr. Ernie Knoll has been having? I had thought they were perhaps true.... biblically. However he had a dream in Feb that has me questioning whether God is leading in these dreams. It was regarding the tithing issue. It stated that if someone is aware that their tithe money isn't being used correctly....or there is corruption where their money is going....then you are to put your tithe money elsewhere where God can use it. That isn't biblical.....and I am very perplexed by this dream.

Not that I need dreams to tell me what is right, but I guess because I know the bible doesn't say what he said in his dream....and we are to judge people with their last day dreams....by the Bible....then he can't be legit to me.

What are your thoughts. I would value your opinion in this matter.

Sincerely,

xxxxxx

Clackamas, Oregon

All of this shows that Ed Reid, myself, and the person in Oregon were all alerted to the exact same problem independently of each other. Here's another email from a friend:

The result of this advice [the Herald's statement about tithes] will be for those who read these dreams to withhold their tithes, thus crippling the church. Satan would be well-pleased with this. I have found that Sister White wrote directly contrary to this. It does not, however, mean that the things which are talked about in the dream otherwise are soon to take place, but I cannot read the dreams anymore. I believe that Jesus is coming very soon, and that I can get clearly from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy as revealed in the writings of Sister White.

Xxxx [Loma Linda, CA]

Here is a portion of one more significant email I just received from an SDA pastor:

While it's fresh on my mind. On the last part of your "Herald and Tithe" doc you ask:

Question: If "the Herald" is a fallen angel disguising himself as one of God's angels, and if the long-term purpose of his communications is to deceive God's people, then how can we explain the great "good" that have definitely come through the dreams so far, hearts being renewed, lives being changed, etc.

Possible answer: The Holy Spirit still works through "truth," even when it is quoted by the devil.

Another good statement I found the other day is this one:

"Why," asked a man who had been and still was practicing wickedness, "are souls converted to the truth through my influence?" I answered, "Christ is constantly drawing souls to Himself, and flashing His own light in their path. The seeker after salvation is not permitted to read the character of him who teaches him. If he himself is sincere, if he draws nigh to God, believing in Him, confessing his sins, he will be accepted.--Letter 12, 1890. {Ev 682.2}

In other words; God will use the elements of truth spoken even through unconverted or unsanctified channels to draw souls to himself. Example: It was a violent Hollywood horror movie called the 'Omen' that inspired me 10 years later to pick up a bible and begin reading it towards conversion. Did God inspire the movie, not likely. But, he allowed the element of truth spoken in it to lead me to His word.

Just a thought.

Have a Christ centered day.

xxxxx

This is where everything stands as of today, March 25, 2008. Because Ernie's dreams are public, on his website, and because many minds are now seeking information about these important matters, I have no reason to consider as "private" the communications included in this letter. These are my thoughts and concerns. May Jesus lead us all, protect us from Satan's subtle snares, and prepare us for heaven.

In Him,

Steve Wohlberg

Appendix H

Steve Wohlberg's Second letter

This appendix contains Steve Wohlberg's first letter.

Comments about the latest dream, "Love and Rebuke," given to Ernie Knoll

By Steve Wohlberg

April 22, 2008

Please pray before reading this.

On page 1, Ernie admits that some readers of his dreams are concerned that "the Herald" is a deceiver. He also states that some have counseled him to test the Herald with 1 John 4:3. Ernie wrote:

Knowing that an angel of Satan can only answer that Jesus did **not** come in the flesh, if the Herald stated this, it would prove that he is an agent of Satan and is trying to deceive many. However, if the Herald answered that Jesus **did** come in the flesh, then that would mean I am not being deceived.

How do we know for certain that Satan's angels cannot make such a confession? And even if the Herald does make a true confession, does this really "prove" that he is of God and that Ernie has not been deceived? Concerning the "1 John 4:3 Test," here are some thoughts to consider:

1. The test is biblical, but it is not the only test in God's Word.
2. The context reveals that this test should be used to detect "false prophets" who have "gone out into the world" (vs. 1). These verses do not say that such a test should be directly applied to an angel, or that a fallen angel cannot make this confession.
3. Demons are brilliant deceivers. They know exactly who Jesus is. The question should be asked: Why can't demons confess that "Jesus Christ has come in the flesh" if they so choose? What would stop them from doing so? Luke reports: "And demons came out of many, crying out and saying, '*You are the Christ, the Son of God!*'" Luke 4:41. This confession was correct. Thus demons can correctly confess who Jesus Christ is, and still be demons.
4. A key message within 1 John is that a simple verbal confession or profession is not enough. Six times in chapters one and two, John wrote, "If we say..." (1:6; 1:8; 1:10) and "He who says..." (2:4; 2:6; 2:9), showing that mere words are not enough. Making his point, John wrote, "My little children, *let us not love in word or in tongue*, but in deed and in truth" (3:18).

5. Many Adventists today openly “confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh,” even in fallen flesh, but this doesn’t mean they are led of God in everything they do or teach. Thus it is obvious that a *human being* can make the correct confession, but still be a deceiver. Why can’t a demon do the same thing?
6. Truly confessing Jesus Christ means more than merely speaking words. “He who would confess Christ must have Christ abiding in him...The disciples might speak fluently on doctrines, *they might repeat the words of Christ Himself*; but unless they possessed Christlike meekness and love, *they were not confessing Him. A spirit contrary to the spirit of Christ would deny Him, whatever the profession*” (*The Desire of Ages*, 357). “A mere profession of godliness is worthless” (*The Faith I Live By*, 130).

On page 2, the dream begins. At the bottom of page 2, after seeing three angels, and hearing one of them quote Philippians 2:5-11, Ernie wrote:

I now know I am safe because of what the angel just quoted and that these are angels of God and not of Satan. These three angels meet the criteria of testing the spirits. I hold out my right hand and we quickly ascend. We are traveling extremely fast. Their wings have the appearance of pure light.

To me, Ernie is too quick to trust these “angels.” Cannot Satan quote Scripture too? Yes. We know this from Matthew 4:6 where, while tempting Jesus, Satan also says, “It is written...” Thus, when Ernie said, “I now know I am safe *because of what the angel just quoted...*” he is not on solid ground. Just because an “angel” quotes Scripture before us, this is not really proof that he is of God, and that we are “safe.”

On page 3 a scene is presented and three individuals are seen. One holds a sign that says, “The Herald is of Satan.” Ernie told me in an email that these three represent me, Ed Reid, and Ethel Price. Concerning “the woman” (Ethel Price), the dream declares:

The woman stands proudly and proclaims, “I have studied and I know all there is to be known. I have all the answers and will correct you of your errors. Listen only to what I say.”

I admit that I don’t know Ethel really well, but we have met, and corresponded some. But from what I do know of her, this is a very unfair characterization of her life and convictions. Concerning Ed Reid, the dream states:

The third man, whom I do not recognize, is counting money. I hear him say, “All money belongs to God and is to be kept in only my storehouse.”

I do know Ed Reid. He is a good friend and one of the godliest men I know. His end-time books, 3ABN presentations, and many talks at camp meetings have blessed tens of thousands of people. He is a true man of God seeking to prepare others for the return of Jesus Christ. Yet the dream acknowledges none of this. Ed is only portrayed as a money counter who wants to keep the money in “my storehouse.” How unjust! The dream then prepares for the Herald’s “confession” of 1 John 4:3:

I stand on the left side by myself. In front of where I stand is a podium and on it lays a very large Bible with very large letters. The Herald stands in the middle of the room and faces us. The three angels that escorted me here quickly go and stand one to the left, one to the right and one directly behind the Herald. I notice that the Herald stands a little taller than the other three angels. Several angels in battle gear enter the room and stand on the left and right side of the room. I then hear a voice descend over us from above that all at the same time has the sound of a thundering waterfall, a soft gentle stream and a quiet trickle of water. The voice says, "Ask so as all may see whom My Herald serves." The Herald takes one step forward. I look at the Bible and the pages instantly turn to 1 John 4. I look down and read verses 1, 2 and 3 aloud. I then look back at the Herald. He is not smiling but has a look of calm, yet his demeanor is one of humbleness.

One would assume that the "voice" heard is the voice of God. It seems quite strange that God Almighty would so dramatically seek to defend an angel!

On page 4, the Herald says,

He says, "This is a question that if I answer quickly many will not understand. Many will say it was too vague. Many will say that it was not made plain enough for them to accept. Please allow me to share in great detail so all cannot wonder, but acknowledge Whom I serve. This will be so all can continue on as one in the great work we all have ahead."

It seems to me that a true angel from God would not make so much out of a mere verbal "confession." According to "the Herald," the purpose of his "confession" to convince "all" that he speaks the truth, so that we may all unite with him "in the great work." But if he is a demon, such a strategy is makes perfect sense.

The balance of page 4, and most of page 5, contains the Herald's "confession" to prove his orthodoxy and divine credentials. While most of it sounds good, the careful reader may discern some problems. He stated,

I watched as it was decided that Jesus would come to Earth *as a created Being*.

While it is true that Jesus Christ is acknowledged by the Herald as being our Creator, it is not true that He came to earth "as a created Being." The Herald stated this a number of times. Do a Bible search. Do a SOP search. You will never find such language applying to the Son of God. Instead, both the Bible and the SOP teach that the Eternal Son of God *took on human form and clothed His divinity with humanity*. Yet all throughout, "*God was manifest in the flesh*" (1 Timothy 3:16). Even after taking human form, Jesus was still the great "I AM" (see John 8:58). Significantly, immediately following Paul's statement in 1 Timothy 3:16, *in the very next verse*, he warned that "seducing spirits" will teach otherwise and lead some to "depart from the faith" (1 Timothy 4:1). Notice this:

Satan fell because of his ambition to be equal with God. He desired to enter into the divine counsels and purposes, from which he was excluded by his own inability, as a created being, to comprehend the wisdom of the Infinite One. It was this ambitious pride that led to his

rebellion, and by the same means he seeks to cause the ruin of man
(The Faith I Live By, p. 68).

Thus it is Satan who is “a created being,” and his jealousy of Jesus Christ over this very issue is part of the reason why he fell! Thus it makes sense that one of his angels would portray Jesus in this way. But again, it’s not true. Here, *the Herald lied*.

On page 5, the Herald’s “confession” reaches its climax:

You ask if I will confess that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. With my testimony and my witness to all that I have seen I do stand before my Creator, the Father, the Holy Spirit, and all of His created beings throughout the universe. I do openly and without reservation declare with my voice, yes, Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, came in the flesh.”

It is obvious that the Herald is trying hard to prove his divine credentials. But think about it: doesn’t it seem strange that a true angel would present such proof? Have you ever heard of a heavenly angel trying so hard to defend himself? I haven’t. The whole thing seems highly suspicious, and *very much like what a demon would do to gain our confidence*. Next, the three angels “shoot upwards” like “three beams of pure light.” While “pure light” is good, Paul also warns that “Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light” (2 Cor. 11:14).

On page 6 the Herald says, referring to Christ,

He has placed in my hands a message for all. It is a message of love but it is also a message of rebuke. I will read what He has sent and it is up to you to take His rebuke and walk in the light that has been given. If you who are His are willing to accept the testimony of what I just shared as well as the messages God has sent to His servant that stands here today, *you must acknowledge these messages are of God.*”

Here the Herald declares, “*you must acknowledge these messages are of God.*” This is quite forceful. According to this statement, it is not enough for us to acknowledge the truth that is in the Bible and SOP (salvation through Jesus Christ, the Three Angel’s Messages, etc), but now we “*must acknowledge these messages are of God.*” Thus he points, not just to Biblical truth, *but to the dreams themselves*. Then the Herald rebukes Ernie. Let’s analyze his rebuke carefully. The Herald told Ernie:

You were wrong in sharing your response with a few that had questions in the “Stand Fast” dream regarding tithe. You must understand, you like I am just a messenger. *You were told if they do not understand you were to ONLY tell them to take their questions to the One who holds the keys to the Great Storehouse.* You were wrong in what you did in sharing your studies. How can others learn and depend on God if you do the studying for them? How can they learn to have a close relationship to the Father if you don’t allow them to pray?

Here the Herald informs Ernie, “You were wrong...in sharing your studies” about tithe with others. This is a very strange “rebuke” from Jesus. Nowhere in the Bible or in the SOP are we *commanded not to share what we study with others*. Paul said, “*study...*” (2 Tim. 2:15) Then he said, “*teach*” (verse 24). Then the Herald rebukes Ernie for not doing what he was “told” to do. This is all highly significant. Thus the Herald tells everyone that we “*must*” acknowledge his messages, and that Ernie

should do what he is “told.” *Here he is becoming quite controlling and is acting exactly like we would expect a demon to act.* Take note:

The enemy does everything in his power to gain control of the minds of men and women (Sermons and Talks, Vol. 2, p. 196).

With a determination that many do not dream of he [Satan] is seeking to gain control of their minds and to make the commandments of God of no effect in their lives.--MS 93, 1909.

Before we leave his rebuke of Ernie, notice this one sentence. The Herald asked Ernie, “How can they learn to have a close relationship to the Father if you don’t allow them to pray?” Personally, I don’t think this is a fair statement to Ernie, or an accurate one. In sharing his studies, did Ernie really intend to not allow people to pray? By sharing personal studies, does this prevent people from praying? I don’t think so.

After his rebuke of Ernie, on the bottom of page 6, the Herald then begins to rebuke those who have opposed his “messages”:

The Herald now steps back and walks to the middle of the room. He holds out the three glass tablets as one tablet and says, “This is a message for all who will accept and be willing to hear.” The tablet says, “Let he that rides dismount and prostrate before the Lord of hosts, the Creator of the universe, He who came to be the created. *Bow before your Master and confess your sins so all will hear of your rebellion. A message was sent to a chosen messenger and you denied your Lord’s ear and convinced others to turn away.*”

Here the Herald declares that those who oppose the dreams should “confess” their “sins so all will hear of your rebellion”! *Here there is absolutely no recognition whatsoever of the true motivation of many who are opposing the dreams.* The Herald simply states, “sins” and “rebellion.” When I first read this, the Spirit of Truth only deepened my conviction that the Herald is a deceiver, and not an angel sent from the One who died for my sins. Let me speak for myself (as I am apparently one of the “three” people specifically rebuked in this dream), what has motivated me is not “sins” and “rebellion,” *but a sincere desire to follow God’s counsel and to watch out for demonic deceptions* (see Mat. 24:4; 2 Cor. 11:14, etc). The real Jesus Christ knows both the truth and my heart; yet in this case, the Herald totally missed it. He “misspoke,” just like Hillary Clinton recently did concerning her landing in Bosnia under sniper fire. In a previous document to Ernie’s board I shared the following quote. *This is what been driving me to become concerned about these dreams:*

All along our pathway to the heavenly Canaan we see many souls that have made shipwreck of faith, and in their false movements have led others astray through the supposition that they were led of God in special revelations. I have had to write many, many pages to correct these errors. I have been burdened and oppressed night after night, unable to sleep because of the agony of my soul for God’s heritage, His people, who are in danger of being misled. Many things in these visions and dreams seem to be all straight, a repetition of that which has been in the field for many years; but soon they introduce a jot here, a tittle of error there, just a little

seed which takes root and flourishes, and many are defiled therewith (2 SM 86).

The greatest care should be exercised concerning those who claim to receive revelations from God (2 SM 91).

None of this is acknowledged by the Herald. He just says, “sins” and “rebellion.” Dear reader, *God knows the truth, and in his “rebuke” the Herald is not speaking it.* Finally, at the conclusions of the dream, the Herald ends his “rebuke” with these words,

Kneel, confess your sins lest the streams and rivers dry up and the horse that drinks die, lest you walk the face of the earth and every ear turn away from you as the words you speak fall like rocks from your mouth. Repent lest the Lord God spew you out of His mouth as boiling seawater. Let he that holds the keys to the vault repent for the evil you have done and spoken against Me and My servant. Let him prostrate himself before the Master Key Maker and ask for forgiveness and walk no more in the ways of your errors. Let him confess before all of misconstruing what he knows is truth as he has been shown. Confess before all lest the keys be knocked from your hand and placed in the hands of another. Let this person humble them self before the Lord of truth for speaking errors. Let this person acknowledge a proud boasting walk and ask for humbleness. Let this person admit their faults of using a tongue that speaks against truth lest that tongue be cut off and you walk the earth dumb. Let all who have spoken evil against the message and messenger I have sent prostrate themselves before the throne of God. Ask for forgiveness in the name of His Son. Let them admit fault and take up their cross and follow the path of Jesus. Let them do this before the book is closed and the name is not written in the book.”

What a threat! Here the Herald says that if those who oppose these dreams don’t “repent” their tongues will be “cut off” and they will be spewed out of God’s mouth “as boiling seawater!” After reading this, a number of Bible texts came to my mind. First, I thought about Jesus Christ’s warning about “ravenous wolves” who come “in sheep’s clothing” (Matthew 7:15). Many times in these dreams, the Herald smiles and his dimples show. Yet in the above “rebuke,” the wolf speaks and snarls. As for me, the only conviction the Herald’s wild rebuke brings is a deeper conviction that he is a demon. This text also brought great comfort to my mind:

In the Lord I put my trust;

How can you say to my soul,

“Flee as a bird to your mountain”?

For look! The wicked bend their bow,

They make ready their arrow on the string,

That they may shoot secretly at the upright in heart

(Ps. 11:1,2)

On page 7, Ernie then wrote, “This is where my dream ends.” And this is where my comments end. I urge everyone who reads this, including Ernie, Becky, and their board, to pray earnestly for spiritual discernment and for the fulfillment in each of our lives of this Bible text:

And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen (Romans 16:20).

Appendix I

Eugene Prewitt's Reasons for Rejecting the Dreams

This appendix contains Eugene Prewitt's document pointing out the reasons why he cannot accept Ernie Knoll's dreams.

Regarding Dreams and Ernie Knoll
By Eugene Prewitt
April 4-14, 2008

SECTION ONE: INTRODUCING THE DREAMS

I first read a dream of Ernie Knoll many months ago. A large church with a variety of worship styles figured prominently in the dream. It was the Seventh-day Adventist Church in figure. Irreverence, fashion, anxiety over baptismal rates, and worldly music characterized a number of church sanctuaries within the large structure.

My values and ideas about the future were well expressed in the overall presentation. A shaking is coming that will remove unfaithful persons, restore reverential worship, and will lead to an influx of earnest Christians.

I didn't know that the dreamer thought his dream was inspired.

Perhaps you have read the dreams of Ernie Knoll. It seems that two or three persons each week ask me what I think of his dreams. Now I am committing my response to those frequent questions to print.

One encouraging aspect of this business is that anyone who reads this document carefully will come away with a wealth of truth from the pen of Ellen White that will certainly be helpful in life – even if Ernie had never had a dream that needed to be evaluated.

Testing the Dreams

My first thought is that we are not ready for this kind of test. We are not spiritually mature. We, as a whole, are “yet carnal.” And spiritual things are spiritually discerned.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. . . . [And] ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? 1Co 2:14, 3:3

Every one of us will be sorely tempted; our faith will be tried to the uttermost. We must have a living connection with God; we must be partakers of the divine nature; then we shall not be deceived by the

devices of the enemy, and shall escape the corruption that is in the world through lust. {2SM 50.1}¹

My second thought is that we are remarkably ignorant of thoroughly-revealed truths. We are sadly deficient in our obedience to “beware of false prophets.” We seem oblivious to the idea that sheep’s clothing recommends no man as a safe guide to the flock.

A third point: We have an entire book section of the Testimonies devoted to helping us in evaluating revelations and dreams. The section is neither obscure nor difficult to locate. You may find it in chapters 4 through 11 of *Selected Messages*, volume 2.

Point four: The idea that Satan would not do or teach something useful to God’s cause is, well, not well thought out. What do I mean? I mean that if the devil were to make a stab at introducing a new prophet, it would be a great idea to have that prophet bring many people into the church, promote canvassing, translate the book *Evangelism* into a new tribal dialect, etc.. A believable false prophet is quite a trophy and may be worth a little loss in some other fields. We should not be so easy to trick.

A fifth point and then we will go to the dreams themselves: This kind of dream-related scenario is going to come up again. There will be true manifestations of God-given dreams in the last days. And we have been hyper-warned that there will be an increase in the manifestations of false dreams. When one considers how many persons claimed to be led by God through dreams in Ellen White’s day, the idea of “increase” is significant.

In fact, you might want to skip to Section Three before reading Section Two. There you will find a great deal more about prophets in general. And there you will find that the most prominent false prophets of 20th century Adventism were able to write and testify for quite some time making neither a single glaring inconsistency with themselves nor with the Testimonies.

It is for this reason that you will find Ellen White urging great caution to those entertaining hopeful thoughts regarding new persons claiming to have dreams from heaven.

SECTION TWO: THE DREAMS

Meaningful Elements in Symbolic Dreams

The following is a quotation from one of Ernie’s dreams.

I notice on the far mountain ridge what looks like a black panther of some type. Myself and one of the men watch as this creature leaps through the air, landing just above the opening of the cave. I now notice it is an awful looking creature. Its skin looks dry and black. It looks down at me and hisses. Its teeth are long and it is drooling. It says, “I hate you! I am going to kill you!”

Let me place next to this the most similar type of writing I can find by an inspired author.

¹ Throughout this document Ellen White’s quotations have standard references. To avoid confusion, Ernie’s dreams (the entirety of which, by April 4, 2008, were only three times the length of this document) have no references to them.

Da 7:7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

Here are a few differences that I notice between the two passages. In the second, Daniel 7:7, the beast represents a nation. This is explained a little later in that chapter. The strength of the beast represents the comparative strength of Rome to Greece and Persia. The iron in the teeth is a reference to the metal that enabled that nation to engulf other nations. The residue stamped represents the remnant – shown to be overcome by the same beast in Revelation 13. The word “diverse” is a reference to a change from the continual pattern of nations to the papacy (we find that it is the “little horn” later in the chapter that makes this beast “diverse.”) The ten horns represent ‘ten kings’ as we are told later in the chapter. In short, every element is significant. Every element is explained by scripture.

But I wonder about the mountain ridge (in the Sierras, we read earlier in the dream), the “one” person with “myself”, the leap, the “above” the “opening”, the dry skin, the hissing, the teeth, the drool. These elements are not explained in Ernie’s dreams. Nor are they explained in scripture. Nor in the Testimonies. How do we know what they mean?

My dreams are often filled with fascinating elements. I don’t tend to have scary dreams, but if I did this dream would be similar in character to something that might come to me if I had gone to sleep thinking on religious themes.

Ec 5:3 For a dream cometh through the multitude of business;

The contrast between Daniel 7:7 and Ernie’s dream is not conclusive evidence against his inspiration. But it is a significant contrast to be kept in mind.

Evidence from Providence

There are several times on the website when the word “providence” appears. These are cases, stories, of God’s guidance of Ernie or others. The “testimonies” section and the story of Ernie’s personal healing from colitis are both interesting.

Do these indications of providence point to Ernie as an inspired individual? I am afraid that the fact that they are advertized on the website makes these providences point in the very opposite direction.

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. If we keep these things before the people, they will produce an evil effect, an unhealthful emotion. The genuine working of the Holy Spirit on human hearts is promised, to give efficiency through the Word. Christ has declared the Word to be spirit and life. "The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of Jehovah, as the waters cover the sea" (Habakkuk 2:14, A.R.V.). {2SM 48.1}

Inerrancy in Ernie’s Actions regarding the Dreams

I might be able to reason like this: “Maybe Ernie shouldn’t be advertising these providences as evidence in favor of the dreams. But this was his idea, not an idea from the dreams, so it really isn’t evidence one way or the other.”

But that would be faulty on one major account: Ernie claims inspiration, not only for the dreams, but even for the way the website is designed. Quoting from one of the dreams:

What Becky and I are doing with the ministry is exactly as He has planned. There is no error in anything we have done. These are messages that He has sent to His people. He is the author and inspiration of not only the dreams, but also the correspondence and the website. The 4 His People Ministry is very important.

This phrase, “no error in anything we have done” seems contrary to the spirit and tone of all that is written in the writings of apostles and prophets.

Spirit-Guided Bible Study versus Spiritual Impressions

Now consider one of the most significant troubles I find in the dreams. Ernie and his believers are led to expect guidance and answers from the Holy Spirit and from angels and from dreams. And where they might be directed to do earnest Bible study or searching of the Testimonies, they are rather directed to seek direction from a more direct communication from heaven. This is sometimes subtle, yet pervasive throughout.

Here is the crux of the matter: Satan fears the effect of earnest Bible study. He has always been gratified if he could lead men to seek for impressions of the “Holy Spirit.” Ellen White never cooperated with this hellish aim. Her warnings are filled with calls to earnest Spirit-powered Bible searching.

False messengers of the past have led the people, as we might expect, to seek for spiritual feelings, for the guidance of the “Holy Spirit.” They confound the feelings for the Spirit.

The people want a sign, as in the days of Christ. Then the Lord told them that no sign should be given them. The sign that should be manifest now and always is the working of the Holy Spirit upon the mind of the teacher, to make the Word as impressive as possible. The Word of God is not a dead, dry theory, but spirit and life. Satan would like nothing better than to call minds away from the Word, to look for and expect something outside of the Word to make them feel. They should not have their attention called to dreams and visions. If they would have eternal life, they must eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of God.--Letter 68, 1894. {2SM 95.3}

Those who search the Scriptures will find explicit instruction as to what God requires of them on points of practical religious life. You are making a mistake in calling the attention of the flock of God from the Word, the unerring word of prophecy. Take heed what you hear, and be cautious what you receive. {2SM 88.1}

Now contrast this idea, that the Spirit is given to make the Word impressive, with the idea held by some persons that had dreams in Luther’s day:

Luther had presented to the people the word of God as the rule by which their character and faith should be tested. These men substituted for that unerring guide the changeable and uncertain standard of their own feelings and impressions.

"What is the use," asked they, "of such close application to the Scriptures? Nothing is heard of but the Bible. Can the Bible preach to us? Can it suffice for our instruction? If God had intended to instruct us by a book, would he not have sent us a Bible direct from Heaven? It is by the Spirit only that we can be enlightened. God himself speaks to us, and shows us what to do and what to say." Thus did these men seek to overthrow the fundamental principle on which the Reformation was based,—the word of God as an all-sufficient standard of faith and practice. By this act of setting aside the great detector of error and falsehood, the way was opened for Satan to control minds as best pleased himself. {ST, October 18, 1883}

Contrast how the "Herald" responds to Ernie's limited Biblical knowledge with the statement by Ellen White that follows it:

Ernie:

As for me not having a broad understanding of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, the Herald says that I have a broader understanding than I might know The angel says that the Great Teacher has many ways of teaching other than what one can read in what He has written.

White:

There is constant danger of allowing something to come into our midst that we may regard as the workings of the Holy Spirit, but that in reality is the fruit of a spirit of fanaticism. So long as we allow the enemy of truth to lead us into a wrong way, we cannot hope to reach the honest in heart with the third angel's message. We are to be sanctified through obedience to the truth. I am afraid of anything that would have a tendency to turn the mind away from the solid evidences of the truth as revealed in God's Word. I am afraid of it; I am afraid of it. We must bring our minds within the bounds of reason, lest the enemy so come in as to set everything in a disorderly way. {2SM 43.2}

Of course, what the "angel" says is true. God has many means of teaching. But that is not a truth intended to comfort persons who are neglecting to become giants in their knowledge of scripture. Even honored prophets are expected to study diligently (Daniel 9:1-5). Even Jesus was a diligent student of the scriptures.

When Ernie made reference to his lack of breadth in knowledge he could have been directed by the angel in the same way that Godly men have always been directed. The "many ways" is not the way they have been directed to supplement their lack of Biblical breadth.

Many of our ministers can present to the people only a few doctrinal discourses. The same exertion and application which made them familiar with these points, will enable them to gain an understanding of others. The prophecies and other doctrinal subjects should be thoroughly understood by them all. But some who have been engaged in preaching

for years, are content to confine themselves to a few subjects, being too indolent to search the Scriptures diligently and prayerfully, that they may become giants in the understanding of Bible doctrines and the practical lessons of Christ. {GW92 169.1}

This key point – that men ought to seek direction and answers through scripture rather than through angels and impressions and dreams – seems to be most vital.

The Spirit was not given--nor can it ever be bestowed--to supersede the Bible; for the Scriptures explicitly state that the word of God is the standard by which all teaching and experience must be tested. Says the apostle John, "Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." 1 John 4:1. And Isaiah declares, "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah 8:20. {GC vii.3}

Now consider the source of authority suggested to Ernie in some of the statements from his dreams. How can Ernie know if something he does is wrong? No need to compare himself with scripture. He will be *told*.

The angel states that Jesus and the Father are very well pleased with how we share the dreams. If there is something wrong He will tell me

How does Ernie know he is on the right road when others are going the opposite direction? Not because of scripture study, but because of the encouragement of the *angels*.

I ask those in the car I am in about those in the other cars, "Why is everyone not seeing these angels? Why are they saying we are going the wrong way when the angels are pointing for us to keep going the way we are going?"

Satan, the one of "great disguise" is "placing traps for all." But how may we escape his snares? The angel says "by having a discerning eye and ear" and by placing one's heart in God's hand. That is how we "will know" regarding divisive questions such as feast-day keeping.

The angel continues by stating that the one of great disguise is placing traps for all, but the discerning eye and ear of those who have placed their heart in the hand of God will know when the evil one has them worshipping pagan and old laws—things that were done away with when Jesus was nailed to the cross and died.

One named Jesus in his dreams responds to Ernie's many questions. Where does this Jesus suggest Ernie seek answers? Not through diligent study, but by the Spirit's guidance.

"I know you have many questions. Did I not send the Holy Spirit to guide and be with you?"

Some cities will be destroyed in the coming judgments. Some won't be. Ernie knows, he believes, which ones will be destroyed but is not permitted to tell us. How does the Herald indicate that Adventists may be safe? If he had directed us to study we might learn that we are to move out of the large cities into smaller towns and country settings. But the angels that talk to Ernie are emphatic that we should learn how to be guided by the spirit. And I am very suspicious.

There are many towns and cities that are not destroyed. I ask the Herald if I may tell which cities. He answers, "No, that is not permitted." He explains that each must learn the guidance of the Holy Spirit concerning where God would have them live.

What if someone confronts Ernie regarding his revelations regarding tithe? (I will address the tithe issue later). How should Ernie direct them to resolve the apparent discrepancy between his vision and Ellen White's counsel? Careful study is not suggested. They are to pray and ask "for God's guidance concerning whom and what they support."

Someone is probably thinking, "But we do need to pray, *do* need to ask, *do* need to rely on God's guidance, *do* need the Holy Spirit. How can the dreams be faulted in this way?"

Where we should pay our tithe, where we should make our homes, the answers to just such questions as Ernie poses regarding feast-keeping, whether we are doing well to share our dreams – these are all questions with plainly revealed answers for those who will search diligently.

These are not the kind of questions where impressions should be sought for a solution. As a colporteur leader I pray for wisdom from the Spirit to know which students to place on which streets. I want to be Spirit-guided. But for wisdom to know how to conduct the canvassing programs I am directed by earnest study of God's counsels.

When we pray well for guidance on doctrinal and practical issues on which He may have communicated His will through the Testimonies, we are praying that God will help us understand His revelations. We are asking that He will guide us to the relevant counsels and truths. We are asking for help in finding Bible teachings that would help us test the spirits who are suggesting thoughts to our minds.

It is when we lose the sense of God speaking to us in Scripture that we long for Him to speak to us some other way. Ellen White writes:

Let those who are inclined to [seek guidance from men] read and receive the Bible as the word of God to them. The Bible is the voice of God to his people. As we study the living oracles, we are to remember that God is speaking to his people out of his Word. We are to make this Word the man of our counsel. "Search the Scriptures," Christ said; "for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." If we realized the importance of searching the Scriptures, how much more diligently we would study them! With awe we would take up the inspired Word, and with earnest desire search its pages, beginning a new life of genuine experience in the things of God. The Scriptures would be read and studied as the sure evidence of God's will concerning us. {RH, March 22, 1906 par. 2}

Interestingly, Ellen White shared something similar to what the Herald said. Namely, Satan is seeking to trip us up. First, "God has messengers and messages for his people." (The ones she refers to below are Jones and Waggoner.) But notice how she suggest that listeners should relate to God's messages through God's messengers when they differ doctrinally from "our former doctrine."

God has messengers and messages for his people. If ideas are presented that differ in some points from our former doctrines, we must not condemn them without diligent search of the Bible to see if they are true. We must fast and pray and search the Scriptures as did the noble Bereans, to see if these things are so. We must accept every ray of light that comes to us. Through earnest prayer and diligent study of God's word, dark things will be made plain to the understanding. {ST, May 26, 1890 par. 12}

Some fanatics in the past have repudiated the need for scriptural study. Ernie has not done this. But a more subtle error is not a safer one. Notice the effect of the former fanaticism and beware of any milder version that points in the same general direction.

[Some] are governed by impressions which they regard as the voice of God in the soul. But the spirit that controls them is not the Spirit of God. This following of impressions, to the neglect of the Scriptures, can lead only to confusion, to deception and ruin. It serves only to further the designs of the evil one. Since the ministry of the Holy Spirit is of vital importance to the church of Christ, it is one of the devices of Satan, through the errors of extremists and fanatics, to cast contempt upon the work of the Spirit and cause the people of God to neglect this source of strength which our Lord Himself has provided. {GC vii.4}

During [Adventism's early] trying days some of our most precious believers were led into fanaticism. I said further that before the end we would see strange manifestations by those who professed to be led by the Holy Spirit. There are those who will treat as something of great importance these peculiar manifestations, which are not of God, but which are calculated to divert the minds of many away from the teachings of the Word. {2SM 41.2}

But though this issue regarding scripture is a key and central issue, it is not the last one we will notice.

Taking Time to Study and to Evaluate the Messages

I have hesitated to say plainly that Ernie is a false prophet. That is because I remember that Ellen White counseled us to take our time in evaluating persons claiming inspiration. We are to give them time to develop their fruits. We must not be urged into accepting or rejecting their messages. False prophets may initially appear true. True prophets may appear false because of my misunderstanding of scripture. I must take time.

A. T. Jones thought he took enough time to evaluate Anna. Apparently he did not.

I am more sorry than I can express to you that the matter has been handled unwisely. We shall have scores of just such developments, and if our leading brethren shall catch up things of this character and endorse them as they have done in this case, we shall have one of the most sweeping tidal waves of fanaticism that has been seen in our experience. . . . In such cases as these, it is essential that we let our moderation be seen. The Lord is at hand. We cannot afford to work in such a way as those have done who have given the productions of Anna Phillips to our

churches without clear and certain evidence that God is speaking to His people through her. For our ministers to rush a thing before the people as bearing the divine credentials, unless they know for a surety that it is of God, will do a work that God has told them not to do. Many things intended to deceive will come, bearing some of the marks of truth. Just as soon as these shall be set forth as the great power of God, Satan is all ready to weave in that which he has prepared to lead souls from the truth for this time.... {2SM 92.2}

This cautionary counsel to Jones is one reason why I was so interested in the dream Ernie had regarding Noah.

A friend of mine raised some valid questions regarding the “what if” ending of the dream.² But my friend noted that Jesus had promised Eve that of her seed he would raise a Deliverer. Enoch was already in heaven. Would God’s promise to Eve fail?

But my question regarding the Noah dream is of an entirely different nature. Satan, it is obvious, would be at a disadvantage if those he was deluding were to be evaluated over a significant volume of time. He would have a motive to encourage people to accept the dreams, the messages, uncritically, quickly.

How are we to judge messages? By comparing them with scripture. Then it would serve the Devil just well to draw an illustration from the days prior to earth’s first written revelation, and use that time as an illustration of how we should accept God’s messengers quickly. And those commissioned by God to guard the church from pretensions like those of Anna Phillips, the “leading men” of the testimony above, Satan would like to discredit for their healthy skepticism.

This is just the picture that is painted by the Noah dream.

The man explains that God told him to build an ark. He said he was given the dimensions as well as specific instructions on how to build it. The men turn to each other and discuss the matter. Then one of them says, “No, Noah, we need to think, pray, and evaluate this discussion you say you had with God. We need to wait and see. We should not rush into these things. We must make sure that was not Satan talking to you.”

I watch as Noah comes in over and over and over again. He goes before the men to say that God repeatedly told him that it is imperative that he build an ark. The “Great Educators” are insistent that a message like this should not be rushed into but that sometimes it takes many years to understand. They state that one has to contemplate through thorough prayer as to the validity of these talks he says he has with God. They continue to question if that was Satan talking to him.

This sounds much like sophistry. It sounds like the same innuendo found in the vision of the ascending birds. There one bird in 800 make it. Escaping the valley is an illustration of salvation in the bird dream. I am not confident that the ratio, 1 in 800, is a poor one. But there the one bird that makes it is the one that flies straight up. What about the birds that pause to do diligent study? They are pictured also. It is not clear

² For those unfamiliar, Ernie was shown that if Noah had heeded the cautionary elders of his day that every human in the world would have been destroyed in the flood and that God would have started over by recreating man from the mud at the bottom of the flood, as it must have been on the “46th day.”

what “ancient” writings they are studying. But one thing is clear. The careful students don’t make it.

I watch as others stop to discuss the ancient books of the best ways to fly. They get out charts to plot and study the wind currents and try to figure out what is the best way to ascend.

The Sacred and the Common

Another warning Ellen White gave about false messengers is that they might mingle the solemn and the silly, the holy and the common. God has always worked to keep these distinct. Satan has always sought to confound them.

Anna Garmire was thus injured. Her father and mother made her believe that her childish dreams were revelations from God. Her father talked to the child as one chosen of God; all her fancies and dreams were written down as Anna’s visions. She had figures and symbols presented to her, and had reproofs for her mother and for her father. After a scathing reproof, there followed the most flattering representations of the wonderful things the Lord would do for them. These things I was pointed to as spurious, a deception. They descended to the most minute and trifling matters, commingled common, cheap things with important subjects. {2SM 89.1}

Their visions were Satan’s work. The things revealed were often common, earthly matters, such as, who should get breakfast the next morning, who should prepare the dinner, who should wash the dishes. Mingled with these frivolous things were sacred truths, which they had found in the Bible and testimonies. Satan’s hand was in all this, to disgust people, and cause them to spurn everything in the nature of visions. Thus the false and the true would be rejected together. And even those who were engaged in the deception, when they should become weary of it, would be inclined to doubt all visions. {2SM 77.2}

This mingling of the common and sacred, of the “sublime and the ridiculous” (2SM 89), caught my attention several times while reading the dreams of Mr. Knoll.

As a minor example, he repeatedly mentions the “dimples” of the “Herald.”

But when I read his sublime illustration of how God will prepare persons for the end (it is illustrated by the process of baking bread), I was surprised to read the Herald speaking regarding a symbolic bakery baking symbolic bread:

He looks at me, smiles, and replies, "It smells good in here, doesn't it?"

Humor forms no part of angelic communications to men. Much less would an angel distract a man from a solemn spiritual lesson by a reference to a trivial passing aroma.

Ernie seems to appreciate the light side of things himself. After hearing a dream that used a “clear” clipboard as a symbol, one of Ernie’s friends made a humorous quip. Ernie quoted it.

(Brother J, from the Go Forth dream, noticed this represents the “clear testimony” no matter how you look at it.)

You may search in vain for this kind of lightness regarding revealed truths on the part of truly inspired persons. But it shows up even in the angelic demeanor in Ernie's dreams.

Not long ago there was a lady named Soo that had dreams that were widely regarded as from heaven. One of the interesting features of her dreams was that angels waved at her and she at them. This was a warning sign to me. Angels, holy ones, have always acted with the greatest solemnity and dignity when communicating openly with men. But angels in Ernie's dreams have the same buddy-buddy flair as they did in Soo's.

Inspiration

Another point that strikes me with force relates to one of the most crucial issues in our church today. The question is the nature of inspiration. One of Ernie's dreams shows Jesus inspiring Ellen White by kneeling "on one knee" next to her.

I see Ellen White sitting in a chair with a pen in her hand. It is early in the morning and all is quiet. She is surrounded by many, many, many angels. Jesus kneels on one knee next to her and is instructing her what to write.

Whether Jesus literally comes to earth (rather than being here by His Holy Spirit, while abiding physically in the heavenly sanctuary), is a question the careful student would want to consider. But this is not the ground of my solemn concern.

It is, rather, the statement he makes about the wonderful little book *Creeping Compromise*.

I see Jesus kneeling on one knee next to him. He is telling him what to write. The angel says, "He is writing *Creeping Compromise*. This is what 'those which are they' should be. This instruction is needed to perfect the character of those striving to be one of the 144,000. . . . [Crews'] book, inspired by Jesus, is a foundation of what to do."

What caught my attention immediately was the diluting of the significance of the Testimonies by claiming for Joe Crews the same quality of inspiration granted to Ellen White. Does the reader realize that this was the argument used by many in the South Pacific who claimed to believe in Ellen White's "inspiration." They understood her to be "inspired" in the same sense that a consecrated preacher is "inspired."

If Joe Crews had been a prophet, even for a short enough time to write *Creeping Compromise*, he would have written more as a prophet than three fourth's of the prophets that wrote the Bible.

But who is authorized to claim inspiration for a book written decades ago by an author that never claimed anything of the sort? Is the sequel, *Reaping the Whirlwind*, also inspired? Which other books? No need to worry over these questions. God has spoken plainly about how he communicates to those chosen to be his inspired persons.

Nu 12:6 And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.

This shows that no one becomes a prophet unawares. Prophets speak for God on His authority. They do not have the same kind of inspiration as animates consecrated authors and musicians.

Talking to Evil Spirits

Other writers have called attention to a glaring issue in Ernie's dreams. In one of them he encounters three evil angels. They appear to him in his dream. (How did they get there?). He talks with them. It is no symbolic talk. For a time Ernie supposes they are good angels. Then he becomes suspicious and challenges them to say his "new heavenly name" which he supposes no evil angel could know. They fail to pronounce it and Ernie calls for heavenly assistance against them.

These evil angels don't make eye contact with Ernie. And they plainly state that what they say should be accepted over the authority of – Ernie's dreams. And they add that "the *enemy* wants all to love and worship God in their own way!" (I doubt that evil angels would be that clumsy in their words on accident. In fact, the talk of the evil angels in this dream is so very clumsy as to be similar to the productions of a 7th grade trickster. This seems even a bit too low for a reverse-psychology scenario and makes me wonder if Satan is quite limited in his ability to control the details of dreams. Then again, perhaps he has learned well that 7th-grade level reverse psychology works just fine with the average reader!)

Now think these things through for a minute. Since when is Satan unable to make eye-contact with someone he is tricking? And since when should we identify evil angels by their ability to say our new name? And how do evil angels get into a God-inspired dream? And is all heaven watching the dream at the same time? The Herald says:

The Herald looks at me and smiles so that his dimples show. I look into his eyes and see such love and patience! He calls me by my heavenly name (the name I wanted to hear, but can only remember during a dream). He says, "All of heaven was watching and waiting until you cried out for help."

The fact is that we should never never never talk to evil spirits. It is the most dangerous thing we could do. They are incredibly skilled at overmastering our minds. That God would permit Ernie, in a dream, to talk to them; that God would model how to identify false angels in such a way as to make it easy for Satan to take advantage³, is unthinkable.

Literal and Symbolic

Ernie sees a number of future events that can't be too far off from correct in the way he presents them. But interlaced through a narrative of a decent guess of what the future may hold you may find phrases and images borrowed from the Spirit of Prophecy and from the Bible.

³ Step A – appear to man as holy angel and tell him his heavenly name. Step B – appear to man as bad angel and be frustrated to not be able to know the heavenly name. Step C – appear as holy angel, use heavenly name as alternate source of authentication, and proceed to teach whatever you want. A very simple trick.

That is great, in general. But some of those images are used in a way that confounds the literal and the symbolic.

I am thinking of the pictures of mass execution by an engineered mass guillotine. As each person dies, surrendering all, the Herald bids Ernie “watch closely.”

I watch as each assigned guardian angel has placed in his left arm a white robe to hold for the individual that just surrendered all. The robe is pure white with a large red border at the bottom. {9} In their right hand is placed a pure silver tablet with a pure gold border and a red ribbon wrapped around it. The tablet reads Revelation 2:10.

Martyrs will get literal white robes with red hems. This is true. They get these, however, at the resurrection.

Martyrs also get symbolic white robes – no red hems. This is pictured in Revelation 5. This happens when their name comes up in the judgment. Some face the judgment in heaven before they die. Some face it after they die. But no one faces it at the moment of death. So this picture is a disturbing mixing of metaphors – it is either a spiritualizing of a literal robe, or the literalizing of a symbolic one. And either way, it is confusing the timing.

Such confusion prevents people from understanding Revelation 5 and Revelation 3:5 correctly by leading them to associate the white robes in those passages with the memorable robes Ellen White saw on individuals in heaven.

And such confusion over elements in scripture appears also in the Herald’s statements relating to Jesus’ beautiful statements on faith.

One of these statements is that faith should have the same characteristics of a mustard seed. Mustard seed grows from the smallest of herb seeds into a tree-like bush. Jesus taught, by this illustration, that great faith is cultivated and grows like a plant.

So a statement by the Jesus in Ernie’s dream is odd. It seems to refer to the teachings of Jesus about great faith and mustard seeds and mountains – but it mixes the metaphors in a way that removes the force from what Jesus was teaching in scripture. Great faith becomes measured by an ability to perform odd miracles. This is the way Satan has always wanted the Bible passages to be understood and it makes me quite suspicious.

Placing both hands into the pitcher again, Jesus turns to Anonymous and places His hands on this person’s head. He then says, “Great is the faith of one who commands that a mustard seed will become a mountain.”

Tithe

Ernie’s most violent opposition has come over the statements he has made regarding tithe. The contrast between Ernie’s Herald and the Testimony of Jesus is notable. As you read both, ask yourself the following: What if I know that part of my tithe is being used to support unworthy ministers that are employed by my conference? What should I do?

The Herald turns to me and says, “It is important that His people understand while it is important that we are to return a tithe to God’s storehouse, it is equally important that they understand what the funds are

being used for. If an individual is providing funds and they understand that the funds are not being used according to His will, that person will be held accountable. The Great Creator has said to pay a tribute to those who do His bidding. The Herald explains that many tributes are used toward Lucifer's work of using spiritualism from within God's church by those who collect and place the funds in a storehouse. The Herald says, "That is not God's storehouse. Those that give a tribute will be able to see the blessing they give in faith when it is placed in God's storehouse."

... He says, "Let us leave here, as many will not understand what you have been shown. Anyone who does not understand, you are to only tell them that each has to pray and ask for God's guidance concerning whom and what they support. They are to understand that they will be held accountable for what and whom they support. Again, I am to tell you to tell them that they are to support and pay a tribute to those who do His bidding." I tell the Herald that this is a very controversial subject, and that there is much confusion as to God's storehouse. He calls me by my heavenly name and says, "They are to understand that you, like I, are a messenger. I was instructed to share exactly what I have. You are to share exactly what I have shared with you. Those who have questions are to take it to the One who holds the keys to the Great Storehouse."

Frankly, this statement is emphatic. It refers to God as holding "keys" to a "Great Storehouse." It refers to tithes as a "tribute." This is very odd. The tithe belongs to God. It is not a tax. It is not a thank offering. It is not a confession that we have been conquered. In short, how is it a "tribute?"

But that is a small issue compared to the questions I suggested you ask yourself. These Ellen White answers plainly.

The tithe is sacred, reserved by God for Himself. It is to be brought into His treasury to be used to sustain the gospel laborers in their work. For a long time the Lord has been robbed because there are those who do not realize that the tithe is God's reserved portion. {CS 93.2}

Some have been dissatisfied, and have said, "I will not longer pay my tithe; for I have no confidence in the way things are managed at the heart of the work." But will you rob God because you think the management of the work is not right? Make your complaint, plainly and openly, in the right spirit, to the proper ones. Send in your petitions for things to be adjusted and set in order; but do not withdraw from the work of God, and prove unfaithful, because others are not doing right.--9T 249. {CS 93.3}

Summary of Section Two

There is more than enough in Ernie's writings to conclude that he is not someone to become enthusiastic about. The angels he speaks to seem oblivious to the fact that we will be tested over impressions-vs-scripture. Evil angels have access to his dreams. He contradicts Ellen White on the issue of tithe. He mixes Biblical metaphors in a way that makes odd miracles look like the evidence of virtuous faith. He pipes in on the ongoing issue of inspiration – and muddies the water. He introduces lightness and trivial observations into solemn messages. His dreams urge uncritical acceptance and

belittle studied evaluation. His symbolic panther story is full of non- explained symbols.

But suppose I just misunderstand all these things – every one of them. You should know the contents of the next section. It warns that false prophets certainly will come, certainly will advocate something. Handled wrongly one or two will multiply into a “tidal wave” of fanaticism that will make our work for the world very difficult as wordlings look at us as a bunch of weird persons.

Horrors.

SECTION THREE: A TIDAL WAVE OF FANATICISM

Let me briefly leave the topic of Ernie and speak of great general truths about the end of time. Ellen White writes:

Fanaticism will appear in the very midst of us. Deceptions will come, and of such a character that if it were possible they would mislead the very elect. *If marked inconsistencies and untruthful utterances were apparent in these manifestations, the words from the lips of the Great Teacher would not be needed.* It is because of the many and varied dangers that would arise, that this warning is given. {2SM 16.4}

The reason why I hang out the danger signal is that through the enlightenment of the Spirit of God I can see that which my brethren do not discern. It may not be a positive necessity for me to point out all these peculiar phases of deception that they will need to guard against. It is enough for me to tell you, Be on your guard; and as faithful sentinels keep the flock of God from accepting indiscriminately all that professes to be communicated to them from the Lord. If we work to create an excitement of feeling, we shall have all we want, and more than we can possibly know how to manage. Calmly and clearly "Preach the word." We must not regard it as our work to create an excitement. {2SM 16.5, emphasis added.}

More enthusiasm “than we can possibly know how to manage”? What did she have in mind?

We must bring our minds within the bounds of reason, lest the enemy so come in as to set everything in a disorderly way. There are persons of an excitable temperament who are easily led into fanaticism; and should we allow anything to come into our churches that would lead such persons into error, we would soon see these errors carried to extreme lengths, and then because of the course of these disorderly elements, a stigma would rest upon the whole body of Seventh-day Adventists. {2SM 43.2}

Ellen White wrote to A. T. Jones regarding his encouragement of Anna:

How is it, my brother, that you have taken up these communications, and presented them before the people, weaving them in with the testimonies God has given Sister White? Where is your evidence that these are of God? You cannot be too careful how you hear, how you receive, how you believe. You cannot be too careful how you talk of the

gift of prophesying, and state that I have said this and that in reference to this matter. Such statements, I well know, encourage men and women and children to imagine that they have special light in revelations from God, when they have not received such light. This, I have been shown, would be one of Satan's masterpieces of deception. You are giving to the work a mold which it will take precious time and wearing soul labor to correct, to save the cause of God from another spasm of fanaticism. . . . {2SM 86.3}

One thing, Ellen White wanted to say as little as possible about Anna. Fanaticism is better treated with a calming influence than with an agitation. And Ellen White knew that scores of similar cases would arise in the future. She wrote of "tidal waves" that would come were leading men to take up a prophet like Anna and support his or her claims.

I want to say just as little as possible in regard to Anna Phillips. The less this matter is talked over and agitated, the better. There is a "dead fly in the ointment." Before this reaches you, you will have received a letter giving a more complete statement in regard to what we may expect in the case. I am more sorry than I can express to you that the matter has been handled unwisely. We shall have scores of just such developments, and if our leading brethren shall catch up things of this character and endorse them as they have done in this case, we shall have one of the most sweeping tidal waves of fanaticism that has been seen in our experience.

With these and a few other statements it is easy enough to picture what Satan is trying to do. First, he works through a hyper imagination to create an impressible "prophet." Then he advocates being led by the "Spirit." Then he pours out a mighty gushing of this kind of enthusiasm, a false latter rain of dreams and visions.

It is that tidal wave that Ellen White sought to avert. Ernie seems to allude to the wave, and the possibility that his allusion is based in fact is scary.

The Herald calls me by my heavenly name and says, "If you could only see and understand the impact these messages are making on new souls and the awakening they are having on old souls. Many are beginning to awake from their sleep. *You are one of many that Jesus is working with all over the world. There are others who speak a different language with whom the Great King is working.* You are not alone. You are being led by His Spirit. Those who make accusations against you will have to give an account before the Great Judge.

Yes, I will have to answer before the Great Judge. So also, reader, will you. You can not be too careful how you hear, how you accept. If there are no "glaring inconsistencies" nor "untruthful utterances" in Ernie's work, that will not be cause enough to advocate his dreams. That is how Jones fell into advocating the false dreams of the young lady.

And what if you have resolved the issue of Ernie already? Ellen White indicates "scores" of similar experiences would occur. I can count about a score of them. Maybe there are a score I know nothing about it. That would still leave room for several more. Why did Jesus say "beware?" Because the false would not be obvious – that is how Ellen White explained it.

SECTION FOUR: SMALL THINGS

This section isn't really for the average reader. As I read through Ernie's dreams (and I did read all of them carefully), I noted a number of small things. These are the kind of observations that gave me hints that something was not quite right with the dreams. But some of them are not obvious contradictions of true principles. Noticing them might even be nit-picking.

But, then again, they might be helpful to those seeking to shake a misplaced trust. So I record them here.

Interrupting the Dream

Can a prophetic dream be interrupted by an outsider? In Ellen White's visions no one was able to disturb her communion with heaven.

"As I was unconscious to all that transpired around me while in vision, I will copy from Brother Nichols' description of that meeting. {LS80 232.2}

"Sister Ellen was taken off in vision with extraordinary manifestations, and continued talking in vision with a clear voice, which could be distinctly understood by all present, until about sundown. The opposition was much exasperated, as well as excited, to hear Sister E. talk in vision, which they declared was of the devil; they exhausted all their influence and bodily strength, to destroy the effect of the vision. They would unite in singing very loud, and then alternately would talk and read from the Bible in a loud voice, in order that she might not be heard, until their strength was exhausted, and their hands would shake so they could not read from the Bible. But amidst all this confusion and noise, Sister Ellen's clear and shrill voice, as she talked in vision, was distinctly heard by all present. The opposition of these men continued as long as they could talk and sing, notwithstanding some of their own friends rebuked them, and requested them to stop. But Robbins said, "You are bowed to an idol; you are worshiping a golden calf." {LS80 232.3}

What about Ernie's dream? It seems one dream was interrupted by his wife, Becky. It makes one wonder.

We are now in the corridor again. The Herald says, "What I show you now, I was showing you when Becky awoke you from your dream. Permission was given then to share a little of what was shown you."

Bible Versions

I use the King James Version for study and memory work. And I consider it to be based on the highest quality of Greek manuscripts. It is an excellent version.

Ellen White used it generally. When other versions came into existence late in her ministry, she also made significant use of them.

Ernie's visions emphasize, in a way very different from Ellen White's relation to the various versions, the chosenness of the King James Version. Why the difference

between Ellen White and Ernie on this point? There are many that would find in this very point evidence of Ernie's legitimacy. I hope we are not tricked that easily. The devil knows how to preach to the choir.

Flattery

Ellen White described how Anna's visions would flatter persons that had been rebuked earlier. Flattery is not a good thing. But the Herald absolutely flatters "Anonymous." You will find nothing like it in all the thousands of encouraging statements to individuals in the *Testimonies*. And what he says to him is a twisting of Bible metaphors similar to the one mentioned earlier.

He talks about Anonymous and how He is very well pleased with this person. He says how He would like to see others just like this person. He explains that this person's faith is so strong that this person can "tell a mustard seed to become a mountain." And by this person's faith it would happen.

Witnesses

Ernie was shown that some prominent person would rise to be his helper in the work of promoting the dreams. He was shown the name of that person, but has not revealed it because he wants that person to join of his own free will. However, to give confirmation to God's foreknowledge of the person's decision, Ernie has shared the name with "a few select persons to be used as witnesses."

The fulfillment of some predictions is not, of course, an evidence of the truthfulness of the claims of the predictor. Incredibly, some of the predictions of false prophets came to be fulfilled during Ellen White's time:

In one place, four in one family professed to have communications from the Lord, reproving wrong, and they predicted things that actually did take place. This inspired confidence in them. But the things that did not take place were kept in the dark, or were treated as something mysterious, which would be understood later. Whence did these receive their inspiration?--From satanic agencies, which are many. The Lord laid it upon me to meet these things, and bear a decided testimony against them.... {2SM 76.4}

Still, it would be helpful to know the names of those entrusted with the name of the individual. Their reputation for integrity and honesty would be something interesting to check into. Why? Because none other than Joseph Smith relied heavily on "witnesses" to confirm events that tended to back his claims. But after a decade many of these "witnesses" had repudiated their statements of affirmation and were shown to be generally unreliable persons even at the time they were chosen as witnesses.

Repentance

John the Baptist and Jesus and the Disciples, and Jesus through John to Laodicea all call men to repent. To repent is to turn in heart and practice from a confessed sin. When preachers cry aloud and show the church "its transgressions and the house of Israel" their sins, the people should be called to repent of those same sins.

And in Revelation 3 when Jesus says to our church, “be zealous and repent” it is a good question to ask, “repent of what sins?” This is why the Testimonies were given.

So when we read in the Bible of men calling others to repent, we understand that the call to repentance involved instruction on how to live. Both Paul and John the Baptist mentioned “works meet for repentance.” Ac 26:20; Lu 3:8.

So I was very interested at the added word (capitalization in the original) “just” given to persons commissioned to share the spirit’s messages. There is just something strange about adding the word “just” in a place where it doesn’t belong, in a place where it changes a summary into a contradiction.

He goes quickly to Brother and Sister M, places His hands on their head and says, “Go and JUST tell them to REPENT.”

Elijah’s Message

The angel also refers to the Elijah message. What is most interesting about this is that the angel speaks in Greek. Ernie, presumably not knowing Greek, asks the angel to spell the word. The angel spells, in English characters, a transliteration of a Greek word.

I don’t mean to be too technical, but something is really wrong here. Greek has a number of characters that do not have a one-for-one correspondence to English characters. So when I want to type in Greek I have to adjust my thinking. Sometimes “j” and “h” and “q” and “v” are redefined (Greek doesn’t have those characters, and different Greek fonts use different keys for the unparallel characters) to represent other sounds.

The angel says that Ernie and the faithful are, together “Hliva.”

Now you can search all day with the best resources you can find in your Bible reference works and you will never find this word. But do not worry. There is a hyperlink on the website to another site that has this very word for Elijah.

Here is the problem. The “H” is a capital vowel with the sound of a long “A” and the “v” is a substitute character that, when typed in Greek, looks like an “s.” And for that matter, it is “s” – sigma. And the “va” is a typo⁴ on the website – it should be “av.”⁵ How would an accurate transliteration of the Greek be spelled in English characters? Not “Hliva” but “Aye-lee-as” or “Elias” as it is found in scripture.

Would an angel copy a font goof from a Greek website when spelling to a prophet a Greek word?

The Herald

Another writer has observed the anomaly of the angel visitor being called “the Herald.” As this point doesn’t strike me with the force it does him, I will not spend much time on it. But his point is that angels, throughout scripture, are without titles.

⁴ I can’t really say this. Probably, more accurately, the website has vowel markings and failed to supply a font that would read the characters, so the result is neither Greek nor English.

⁵ Elias, in Greek, usually appears in the accusative, sounding more like Elian.

The notable exception, Gabriel, shows up only twice, in Daniel and again in relation to the virgin birth of Jesus.

Ellen White the Prophet

Several times in the dreams Jesus refers to “His prophet, Ellen White.” I, for one, consider Ellen White to be a prophet. But that was not the name Jesus chose for her while she was alive. It was because of the prejudice against those claiming to be prophets, and also because her work was more than that of a prophet, that she took the title “messenger.”

Why have I not claimed to be a prophet?--Because in these days many who boldly claim that they are prophets are a reproach to the cause of Christ; and because my work includes much more than the word "prophet" signifies. {1SM 32.4}

It was John the Baptist of whom Jesus said he was “a prophet, yeah, more than a prophet.” It is possible that our Savior would choose to call Ellen White “a prophet” in our day. But it is interesting that this would be a change from what was done in her life time.

There are other interesting things.

Without an Intercessor

Ernie has also had instruction about the close of human probation. That is a time, we learn from Ellen White and from the sanctuary symbols, when men will stand before God without an intercessor. One popular author has written a book titled *Never without an Intercessor* and has criticized the idea of living without one. Satan has tried to word the question about that time like this, “Will we have the help of Jesus or not have the help of Jesus during the Time of Trouble?”

But that is the wrong question. Jesus offers more than one type of help. To heavenly angels Jesus gives power and wisdom and might. To humans He is giving these and more. He is pardoning our sins and blotting them out.

Will we have help during the Time of Trouble? During that time there will be no pardon for sins. But we, like all holy intelligences throughout eternity, will be dependant on Christ’s power and light, his wisdom and indwelling Spirit. It will be Jesus’ authority, for example, that commissions angels to feed and protect us during that time.

It was impossible for the plagues to be poured out while Jesus officiated in the sanctuary; but as His work there is finished, and His intercession closes, there is nothing to stay the wrath of God, and it breaks with fury upon the shelterless head of the guilty sinner, who has slighted salvation and hated reproof. In that fearful time, after the close of Jesus’ mediation, the saints were living in the sight of a holy God without an intercessor. Every case was decided, every jewel numbered. Jesus tarried a moment in the outer apartment of the heavenly sanctuary, and the sins which had been confessed while He was in the most holy place were placed upon Satan, the originator of sin, who must suffer their punishment. {EW 280.2}

I saw the saints leaving the cities and villages, and associating together in companies, and living in the most solitary places. *Angels provided them food and water*, while the wicked were suffering from hunger and thirst. . . . In some places, before the time for the decree to be executed, the wicked rushed upon the saints to slay them; but angels in the form of men of war fought for them. Satan wished to have the privilege of destroying the saints of the Most High; but *Jesus bade His angels watch over them*. God would be honored by making a covenant with those who had kept His law, in the sight of the heathen round about them; and *Jesus would be honored by translating, without their seeing death, the faithful, waiting ones who had so long expected Him*. {EW 282.2}

When Ernie's guide writes of this time the guide's words do not help clarify this truth. Those inclined to think that they will be unsupported during that time are left to think that way still. And what does it mean to "smile like Christ"? And, honestly, what will a saint see in the moral mirror when he compares himself to Jesus? Contrast the dream and the scripture.

How can you be like Christ and not look like Him? You say you want to be one of the 144,000, and yet how can you when you cannot stand without Christ holding you up to the Father? If you look like Christ, walk like Christ, smile like Christ, then you will be able to stand in that last day when Jesus cannot hold you up to the Father. When you look in a mirror and you see a clean vessel without any filth, then you will receive the blessing Jesus has commanded to pour forth."

Job 9:20 If I justify myself, mine own mouth shall condemn me: if I say, I am perfect, it shall also prove me perverse.

No, a sanctified man will never perceive himself as a "clean vessel without any filth." And certainly that will not be the condition of receiving the Latter Rain.

If I were to be totally honest, the teachings of Ernie, and of Soo before him, are so strange, so odd, that I at times wonder if they are like the hired prophet in the story of Nehemiah. Have a small group of men, anxious to make believers in Ellen White look silly, hired Ernie and Soo to make up these stories and act them out? It seems like a silly hypothesis even to me. I am not advocating it.

But neither would I be surprised if the silly hypothesis turned out to be true. Satan could have done better, it seems to me.

In summary, there are many small things that have caught my attention while reading Ernie's dreams. These range from subtle twisting of scriptural phrases to evidence that his dreams were interruptible. They include the use of flattery and the misuse of Greek. They involve end-time confusion. But these are not the real reasons to reject Ernie. They are, rather, the reasons to not accept him. They are reasons to take time to wait for more telling evidences.

And they are a warning that we must be more diligent in our studies.

Section Five: The Herald Replies to Criticism

Within 48 hours of the completion of this paper, sections 1-4, Ernie had and published another dream, one of the longest.

It is fascinating. I do not expect to update this paper at each future dream's release. But this most recent one suggests one more significant warning.

Before getting to that warning I will point out that the inspiring agent behind the dreams is a bit political. This dream had, for example, a carefully muted implication that persons should study. And it replied to questions about the title "Herald" by adjusting that to read "herald." (But I am the one that removed the capitol. The dream just said "Herald" is not a name.)

There were other adjustments that seem reactionary to criticism. But they are all small things.

The big thing is a false test. First, Ellen White:

Whenever I have been called to meet fanaticism in its varied forms, I have received clear, positive, and definite instruction to lift my voice against its influence. With some the evil has revealed itself in the form of man-made tests for ascertaining a knowledge of the will of God; and I was shown that this was a delusion which became an infatuation, and that it is contrary to the will of the Lord. {2SM 28.3}

In the past the false prophets suggested that their truthfulness could be tested by signs. But the Herald has suggested a false test that is . . . very Biblical. In the dream the following Bible passage is quoted:

1Jo 4:1-2 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.
2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

I have preached on this passage before. If we take it the way that Ernie suggests I am afraid we would have to acknowledge the Spirit behind most Adventist false prophets – Victor Houteff⁶ not excepted.

The way the Herald understands John's test, a false prophet can be tested by asking him "Did Jesus come in the fallen nature of Adam, or not?" If the prophet says "yes" then he is a true prophet.

Yikes. Either the devil is supernaturally forbidden to say "yes" in that scenario, or this is a false test. And not only must the devil be forbidden to say "yes", every lying man, every schizoid, every hired "prophet" must be absolutely forbidden to say "yes, I believe Jesus came in the flesh."

And if we take this same premise, we would be forced by 1Jo 4:15 to admit that Joseph Smith and every pope and most Pentecostal prophets must be included among the faithful.

1Jo 4:15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

Does the Bible explain what kind of confession is required to indicate that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh? That He is the Son of God? Indeed, it does. John introduces no new test. It is the same test taught through-out scripture.

⁶ The founder of the Shepherd's Rod

The summary is that our works may say something very different than our words. What our words say is a profession. What our works say is also a profession. When they speak (*legeo*) the same thing (*homo*), that is a confession (*homelegeo*). When they differ, that is a *denial*.

Tit 1:16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

Jesus was given power over all flesh. (John 17:3). When I live in a way that is merely a form of godliness, my works deny the power that Jesus has been given.

2Ti 3:5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. Jude 1:4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lip service has never been the badge of legitimacy for God's people.

Isa 29:13 Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:

How did the patriarchs confess that they were strangers and pilgrims? By living a life that showed their values.

Heb 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

Now I am not sure that this is the best way to explain 1 John 4:1-3.

It might be more accurate to say that the in-the-flesh test is a one way test. In other words, if someone denies the Law of God, then we know that there is no light in them. But it doesn't follow that if someone acknowledges the Law of God that they are true. The to-the-law test is a one-way test, capable of invalidating a prophetic claim, but incapable of validating one.

If this is the case with 1 John 4 then the key is in the meaning of the word "spirit." The passage would be saying "Don't believe every one claiming to be inspired. If a person admits that Christ is come in the flesh, that idea was revealed to men by God, so it doesn't give cause for worry. But if a person denies this, that idea has been prophesied to be a defining characteristic of antichrist, and we should beware of it."

In summary, though I am not sure which way to understand 1 John 4:1-3, I am certain that Ernie's way is an open door to the tidal wave mentioned in section three. Any lying spirit can say "I know you, you are the Christ." Consider the Herald's test and what conclusion it would have brought someone to 2000 years ago:

1Jo 4:15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

Mt 8:29 And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, *Jesus, thou Son of God?* art thou come hither to torment us before the time?

Mr 5:7 And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, *Jesus, thou Son of the most high God?* I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.

I wouldn't want to be led to a parallel conclusion today.

Section VI – The Conclusion

This won't be long.

First, Ernie has gone far too far to be evaluated as a confused dreamer – someone that has common dreams and mistakes them for divine pictures. His two-way conversations and the reactionary nature of the dreams brand him as one of three: Either a true prophet, or one in communion with evil spirits, or one hired to confuse the workers with outright lies.

Second, big issues in the dreams eliminate the “true prophet” option. His relation to impressions of the “Spirit”, his false tests of “Do you know my name?” and of “What of 1Jo 4:1-3?”, his contradiction of the Testimonies on tithe, his mixing of the sacred and the common, and more, his mixing of Biblical metaphors, these and other major issues leave me no choice but to consider him false – whether in cahoots with demons or merely men.

Third, his most important paragraph in any dream, perhaps, was the statement that many like him in other places, and speaking other languages, are having the same experience. May God, our Father in heaven, prepare us for the tidal wave of sensational fanatical outpouring. It is time to search our hearts, almost too late if we have been neglecting this work.

Fourth, future claimants to inspiration may not have the “big issues” apparent in anything they say. We must not be hurried into accepting any message “heaven.” We have time to study, time to watch. Little things may be our only clue to wait longer still. We can not be too careful how we hear, how we receive.

Fifth, we should not test spirits by talking to them, nor by listening to them talk. Think it through. Satan was a liar from a very early date.

Sixth, see the second point. I am through with www.4hispeople.com. The devil has no right to distract me from my work by making up new and confusing dreams. I grant that he is able. But not that he has the right. I will not be further distracted.

Appendix J

Would You Have Accepted Them?

Listed below are names of prophets, including Jesus, and descriptions that mention "objectionable" points about their life or ministry. With hindsight it is easy to answer the questions below correctly, but try to imagine you were there and give an honest answer. A negative answer to any of these questions may indicate that you, along with Mr. Prewitt, are susceptible to limiting the work of God and may be deceived when God sends a true prophet.

Prophet	Description	Question
Noah	Noah preached a message that was not only unpopular but totally against the beliefs of the scientists of his day, who thought it was impossible for it to rain, not to mention flood the whole earth. Noah could not prove his message from a scientific point of view, but he knew it was from God. (Genesis 6:17)	Would you have accepted Noah's message even though it went against scientific proof?
Abraham	Abraham was a faithful person and is often referred to as a man of faith. Yet one day he and his son, Isaac, left their home to go on a strange mission. God had instructed Abraham to sacrifice his son. This is what the pagans did to appease their gods. (Genesis 22:1-2)	Would you have believed that God would tell His servant to kill his son?
Moses	Moses was a stranger to the people of God. He murdered an Egyptian and then fled for his life. Forty years later he returns, only to claim that God spoke to him from a burning bush, instructing that he was to lead God's people out of Egypt. (Exodus 2:11-12; 3:2; 4:29-30)	Would you have believed Moses, even though you thought it strange that God would speak from a burning bush and even though Moses had killed someone?
	When approaching the Red Sea, the armies of Egypt came to destroy the children of Israel. With nowhere to go, the people blamed Moses and accused him of leading them out to die in the wilderness. (Exodus 14:10-12)	Would you have trusted that God was still leading Moses in spite of the seemingly impossible situation?
	After the children of Israel had complained and accused Moses of leading them into the desert to die, he disobeyed God by striking the rock, thus forfeiting his chance of entering the Promised Land. (Numbers 20:9-12)	Would you still have accepted Moses as God's messenger, even though he disobeyed God?

Prophet	Description	Question
Ezekiel	<p>God asked Ezekiel to get a brick and draw Jerusalem on it and portray a war against Jerusalem. (Ezekiel 4:1)</p> <p>God told Ezekiel to bake his bread with dried human feces (as a fuel) and eat it in front of the people. (Ezekiel 4:12)</p>	<p>Would you believe Ezekiel was God's prophet even though he was asked to perform what seemed like a childish act?</p> <p>Again, would you believe that Ezekiel was God's prophet even though he was given such a strange request?</p>
Hosea	Hosea's life defies all of our logic. God asked him to marry a prostitute, knowing that she would not be faithful to him. (Hosea 1; 2)	Would you believe that Hosea was a prophet of God even though he married a prostitute?
John the Baptist	John the Baptist chose to live by himself in a secluded place in the wilderness. He never went to the church to get authority to preach, and part of his message was to denounce the leadership. (Matthew 3:1-7)	Would you have accepted John the Baptist after he had rebuked the church leadership and after the leadership rejected him?
Jesus	<p>The birth of Jesus looked very suspicious, and He grew up in a wicked town. (Matthew 1:18; John 1:46)</p> <p>Even though Jesus did many mighty miracles, the church leaders were not convinced He was from God. They even accused Him of performing His miracles through the power of Satan. (Matthew 12:24)</p> <p>At one time Jesus taught that if we did not eat His flesh and drink His blood that we would not have eternal life. Because of what He said, many of those who had followed Him left and never believed in Him again. (John 6:53)</p>	<p>Would you have believed Jesus was the Messiah, considering the rumors of His birth and the surroundings of His environment?</p> <p>Considering the opposition Jesus received from church leaders, would you have believed His miracles were from God? (Would Mr. Prewitt have believed it was the "devil preaching to the choir"?)</p> <p>Would you have continued to follow Jesus in spite of what He said?</p>

Prophet	Description	Question
	<p>At another time Jesus was having a meal with Simon, and Mary came in and anointed His head with some very costly perfume. Some at that meal thought it was a terrible waste of money, and that it should have been used to feed the poor. Jesus did not agree with that idea. (Mark 14:3-9)</p> <p>Jesus was often found with the outcasts and sinners. He was accused of keeping bad company. (Luke 5:30-32)</p> <p>Jesus was very critical of the church leadership. He called them serpents, hypocrites, fools, and blind guides. (Matthew 23)</p> <p>Eventually Jesus was arrested by the church leaders and they crucified Him. While hanging from the cross, Jesus cried to God, "Why hast thou forsaken me?" (Mark 15:34)</p>	<p>Would you have agreed with Jesus in this situation?</p> <p>Would you have still believed in Jesus even knowing the kind of people He associated with?</p> <p>Would you have continued to accept Jesus even though He denounced the church leaders?</p> <p>After hearing those words, would you have still believed in Jesus as the Son of God?</p>
Paul	<p>Paul hated Christians and had some put into prison or killed. On his way to Damascus, he had a vision of Jesus and was converted. (Acts 9)</p>	<p>Would you have believed Paul's conversion was real and accepted him into fellowship even knowing his past deeds?</p>
Ellen White	<p>Ellen White was a teenage girl when God first called her to be a messenger. (<i>Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White</i>, p. 65)</p> <p>Many rejected Ellen White for various reasons—one being that she had been hypnotized. (<i>Testimonies</i>, Vol. 1, p. 71)</p> <p>Ellen White was called to rebuke many people during the course of her ministry. Some people accepted her rebukes, while others rejected them.</p>	<p>Considering how women were regarded in Ellen White's day, would you have accepted her as a prophet?</p> <p>Would you still have accepted Ellen White as God's messenger in spite of the accusation that she was hypnotized?</p> <p>Would you have still believed Ellen White was of God even though she rebuked others or even yourself?</p>

Appendix K

Vance Ferrell's Open Letter

This appendix contains Vance Ferrell's open letter to Ernie Knoll, July 2008.

A copy of an *Open Letter to Ernie Knoll* was given to me several days ago. Upon carefully reading it, I am astonished at what I discovered. Since it is nineteen full pages in length, it is too large to reprint. So, in this brief report, I am going to provide you with its basic message—and it is an important one.

The letter was written by Linda Kirk to Ernie Knoll, who claims to regularly have dreams given him by an angel of God for the Advent people.

Since the spring of 2005, Ernie has had a series of dreams which he claims are inspired by God.

Linda first learned of his dreams from an e-mail sent her by a friend in late August or early September of 2007. Casting aside all caution, and hoping he might be a “last-day prophet,” she obtained Ernie’s phone number and spoke with him.

Hoping that he might have special light from God for God’s people today, she became a “strong supporter” of Ernie’s dreams. Soon she became even more deeply involved.

“I got heavily involved in his ministry, promoting his dreams, and communicating frequently with Ernie and Becky [his wife]. In the *SDA Church dream*, the angel selected me to edit the dream, and my husband to give his final approval. I was also selected as one of the five witnesses for the name given in the prophecy in *Much to Do*. So I am writing with firsthand information.

“In the following letter, which is rather lengthy, I am detailing my personal experience in how I changed my position regarding the dreams . .

“My heart is heavy with concern for Ernie. I care about him deeply. I feel that I am partly responsible for his clinging to the dreams, because of my former support and encouragement. That is why I am speaking out, because I want to do whatever I can to help him to reconsider. Those who support the dreams provide great encouragement to him to continue. We each are responsible for our influence.

“The content of your dreams, Ernie, appeals to many that are serious about following God . . . Thus, when these topics are presented in the dreams, in a similar way to the Spirit of Prophecy, it seems to be speaking to our hearts, and we are in agreement with the message . . . But let’s consider what else we know from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. **If Satan has a specific target in our world today, it would be the sincere, spiritually minded Seventh-day Adventists,** who are sighing and crying for the abominations done in the land and in the church. They are open to prophecy because they believe in the Spirit of Prophecy.

“Of course he [Satan] can! He can put thoughts, even good thoughts, into our minds, so it

seems that our prayers are being answered. **Oh, how very, very careful we must be to not fall for his deceptions,** which are increasing in delusive attraction. His deceptions are going to be this powerful: **‘So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true, that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures.’** GC 593. That tells me that we cannot be too careful in testing every little thing when dealing with supernatural experiences.”

Ernie claims to be a godly man—When Ernie came to visit Linda and her husband, they learned a lot about him.

“Using the Spirit of Prophecy as a guide, here is what we were looking for in you, since you are claiming to be receiving messages directly from God: ‘The holy deportment of the minister of Christ should be a rebuke to vain, frothy professors. **The beams of truth and holiness shining from your serious, heavenly conversation** will convict others and lead them to the truth, and those around you will be compelled to say, “God is with this man, of a truth.”’ — *I Testimonies*, p. 434.

“The quote on your web site tells us that, in looking for proof of the genuineness of the dreams, we must take into account the persons who have them, and the circumstances under which they are given [*I Testimonies*, 569-570]. So, that is what we will do now: take into account your character, and under what circumstances you had the dreams, particularly the first three.”

The angel told Ernie he could ask any mundane questions, and he would

answer them—That is not how angels communicate God’s messages to mankind! They give what God has told them to say, instead of listening to and answering mundane questions.

“There were several things that made me question the origin of the dreams right from the start. **One of them was the fact that you could ask the ‘angel’ anything you wanted in the dreams** . . . The questions that you chose to ask, I remember thinking at the time, were not questions that concerned the people of God as a whole, but more personal questions . . . [One] was about the *Bible Code*. I don’t think any serious Bible student would have even bothered with this question.

“I remember sitting around our table Saturday night, October 27, with you and Becky talking about the dreams. You were explaining how you could ask the angel any questions you had. Becky and I were talking about how it would be nice to know how God felt about women wearing pants, and coloring their hair, and even plucking their eyebrows. We suggested that you put those on your list.”

Linda also wondered how Ernie could remember which questions to ask when he was sound asleep.

“Then I read in the dreams that the angel says you are asleep when you are having the dreams. Can a sleeping person decide on questions to ask in his sleep?”

Changing the dreams—Another thing that disturbed Linda was that, after Ernie told her the angel wanted her to edit the dreams, the angel specifically said she was to type them, and her husband, Brian, was then to check them over. Then she was not to send them to Ernie to verify, but to Ernie’s webmaster

who was to put them on the internet exactly as received from Linda. **But she later found that the description of what was said in the dreams would be significantly changed later before being placed on the internet.** So that which finally appeared was not the original content of what Ernie was supposed to have dreamed.

Unintelligible statements—One of Ernie’s unimportant questions to the angel was whether Linda’s husband, Brian, was also receiving those dreams. Of course, he never did. Why would Ernie wonder whether he was also receiving dreams? **The angel gave an extremely confusing reply:**

“You asked the angel in the dream if my husband had received the same dream. Here is the angel’s answer: ‘Many are shown and they share. Many are shown and they are afraid to share. Many are shown and they do not recall. Many are shown and they recall after the appointed time. Many are shown through the Father’s Spirit.’ This statement from the angel made absolutely no sense to us. Did Brian have a dream that he didn’t remember? We had no clue.”

Later in her letter, Linda mentions another strange statement by the angel.

“Smiling again the angel explains, ‘Because you do not understand, you know. If you were to know, you would not understand. All of heaven knows, as well as all of earth, whom God has chosen.’ This is very confusing!”

No religious contacts of any kind—Linda also learned that Ernie has almost no religious contacts, shares no literature, or does anything to help and bless others where he is. He just stays to himself, has dreams; and, we will learn later, is either elated or worries.

Predictions that did not come true—Although not major ones, **yet none of these ever occurred.** One concerned a person who would contact Ernie. The angel said Linda would be one of five people who would verify when it happened.

“My reaction was that I was happy, knowing that soon I would know for sure if the dreams were from God, and I wouldn’t have to wonder anymore! If the fulfillment came true, they were from God. If it didn’t, they were false! Simple as that! I was then given the name of the person who was supposed to connect with you to help the dreams go out faster. I was to be one of the five witnesses who would verify, when this person contacted you, that this was a fulfilled prophecy. And so I waited.”

But nothing ever happened. Mention is made later in her letter of predictions about Shawn Boonstra and Doug Batchelor, which also did not occur.

No answers to Linda’s silent prayers—Since Ernie told her that the angel said that she, Linda, must work closely with him in typing out the dreams, she silently prayed that, if the dreams were true, that God would give her a sign by having him dream certain things. Although this was done repeatedly, no such evidence was ever forthcoming. **Ernie’s “angel” was not able to know what was in Linda’s silent prayers to God.**

There were very astounding discoveries when they personally met Ernie—It was not until Ernie actually visited Linda’s home, and spoke with her group, that she really learned what he was like. Those discoveries fill two full pages of her open letter.

“Then we met you in person when you came to our home Friday evening, October 26, 2007. We

found you to be a very likeable and talkative person, with the conversation totally centered around your dreams. **I was really hoping for a deep season of prayer, and some discussion of truth as found in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy**, but instead the entire focus was on your dreams. **Your prayer was brief and casual, not like someone who had truly encountered Divinity.**

“Throughout the weekend, every topic that was brought up always was redirected to your dreams. **You even shared some dreams with us that were not inspired, and even a bit silly.** This got a little wearisome to us. You mentioned several times how you’d like to fly your remote control airplanes on our large property. This seemed so trivial to me.

“I asked you about your outreach endeavors. Perhaps, I thought, you were involved in Bible studies, or distributing literature, and so on. **You said that you told people whenever you got a chance that you were receiving dreams from God. This did not sound like witnessing at all to me**, but rather a way to exalt yourself. This troubled me also.”

Other Advent believers in Linda’s area were present that day. They also noticed that Ernie was not really a deep, earnest Christian.

“The concern was expressed by some who met you that day that they did not sense a spirit of humility. I mentioned to Becky [Ernie’s wife] on the side that **she needed to tell you not to recount how muscular and strong you were as a young man, what a powerful job you had in which you told the executives in**

hospitals how to spend millions of dollars, how you had a mansion and expensive cars, and so on. What it felt like is that you were trying to impress everyone that you were truly an important person.”

The next day, on Sabbath afternoon, October 27, 2007, Ernie spoke to her group of believers. Here are some of the things they learned:

“Our pastor, who couldn’t be at the meeting we scheduled, asked me to have the spiritual leaders of the church come and evaluate you and your message, to see if we should invite you to come and present a church-wide meeting. **We all listened to you and Becky for over three hours, and had opportunity to ask any questions we wanted.** After the meeting, I waited for the reactions of those present.. I will share some of the impressions and concerns of the group that heard you speak to us that Sabbath, October 27, 2007. The deaconess stated that **she was not impressed by your lack of humility.** When one of the elders asked questions in a very humble manner, he said that **you responded rather defensively, justifying your position, and discounting his questions.** He was concerned about **the light-hearted, almost joking manner in which you talked about heavenly things.**”

One lady who was present noticed that, upon being questioned, **Ernie said something different than what he wrote on his website.**

“She had noticed on your web site that **you stated that you had made a presentation at Southern [Adventist] University.** Naturally, this would lend credibility to claims to have spoken at an SDA

college. You then explained to us how you had this appointment, made the travel arrangements, and arrived at Southern, only to be told upon arrival that your meeting had been canceled. You told how you met with some officials, and that this was a fulfillment of the dream *Go Forth*. You did talk to a small group out on the lawn, but this certainly was not an official meeting at Southern University. The deaconess felt that posting the meetings on the web site was a dishonest way to lend credibility to your dreams.

"An elder and his wife stated that it **seemed like your talk was egocentric. He didn't sense the message to be helpful spiritually.** He was also uncomfortable about the Southern University announcement, and felt it was deceptive to use this as an endorsement. They both felt very uneasy about your presentation. These are just comments that some of those present at the meetings shared with me."

There was no indication of ever having had a conversion experience when "Christ" told him he would start having dreams to give to Adventists—We now come to some of the most astounding facts about Ernie:

"Since I had written in support of the dreams on a forum, **many of the people on the forum had given me questions to ask you.** There was quite a list of questions that you addressed the next morning on a video tape. **These were mostly personal questions regarding your past.** Here are some of the words you spoke, that were recorded on video at my home . . ."

Then followed actual tape-recorded statements by Ernie. He

stated that, until December 2006, he was a "nominal Adventist" who did not have a "close relationship with Jesus." He would work long hours, six days a week, and "wasn't observing the health message at all." He had no contact with Adventists throughout the week or on Sabbath. "I was putting work before God."

"But, fully a year and a half before December 2006 (in the "spring of 2005"), Ernie received his first two dreams. He continued being a 'nominal Adventist' for a time [after that],—and then several events occurred in his life and he began hating God."

On the night of December 9, 2006, Ernie had some kind of illness and thought he was going to die that night—and **he seemed to reach a climax in his hatred of God at that time. So he told God to kill him** that night. *Quoting Ernie's recorded words:*

"Before I got sick, I was a nominal Adventist. After I got sick, we lost everything, we lost our house, all of our personal belongings, the fine cars that we had, all of our earthly treasures that we think about now, we lost them all because I could not support our family. And so **we lost all that, and I took all that out on God** and at first started off asking Him why this was happening, **and then over the course of two years I started blaming Him for everything that was happening.**

"And on December 9th, I remember going to sleep that night asking God to take my life, that I was unhappy, and I know that He says that He loves me but I did not feel loved. And I begged Him and I had been begging Him to please come down and talk to me like He does the other prophets and the other people in the Bible. But I

never felt like He would ever come down. I didn't feel like there was any love, no love. Actually I felt hate, I felt like God hated me. And I could not figure out why He would hate me. What had I done to do this? Well, that night, December 9, I said good night to you (Becky), I was also saying good-bye and I went to sleep after many hours of prayer.

"At this juncture in Ernie's narrative, his wife, Becky, said, 'Can you share with us what you were praying that night?' Ernie replied:

"That night I was asking God, bluntly, to end my life. I was asking Him just to stop it, that I did not feel the love that I thought a person would feel, and of course you can tell that it is hard for me to relate this, because this is not a story or something you'd watch on TV or some story you'd read out of a book. This was my real life; this is what I've experienced. But that night I went to sleep, and the next morning I woke up. Sunday morning I woke up and I had just finished having this tremendous dream!"

This is utterly astonishing! After having spent a number of years in Adventist Church membership, **on the very night that Ernie's hatred of God reached its climax,—he received a dream from a supernatural being, that he was to be a prophet to the Advent people, and was going to receive more dreams which he should share with them! Can anyone really believe that such dreams are coming from God?**

Repeatedly, in those dreams, Ernie is praised by the angel, and told that God loves him deeply. Yet there is no evidence that Ernie ever experienced a genuine conversion, before, during, or

after starting to have these supernatural dreams. A genuine repentance is founded on heartfelt repentance of sin, confession and forsaking it, and acceptance of the enabling grace of Christ to live a better life—and then to start living it.

Later in the letter, Linda mentions that, **in addition to hating God, he told Him to kill Him that night. —He also challenged Him to talk to him "like He did the other prophets." What an open-door invitation for Satan to contact him that night!** This is what Linda said:

"When you went to bed on the night of December 9, 2006, you were discouraged, angry at God, and wanting to die. You challenged God to prove that He loved you, by coming down and talking to you like He did the other prophets."

We will later learn that, **even at the present time, Ernie expresses little interest in the study of either the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy, and says God has other ways to communicate truth to him.**

Ernie says Christ appeared to him— Earlier in the letter, Linda said that it would be expected that, although he said that "Christ" appeared to him that night, it could easily be Satan that was speaking to him.

"Think about this: Since, at the personating of Christ, Satan will 'bear the appearance of Christ in every particular,' 'His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the *same gracious, heavenly truths* which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people' (5T 698, GC 624). We know he is going to do that. Shouldn't we also know that, in his deceptions even now, he can appear to look and talk just like Jesus, heal people, and present the

same messages Jesus presented through the Spirit of Prophecy?" [Italics hers].

It is an intriguing fact that (as we will discover later) **while Ernie says he does not study the Spirit of Prophecy, and does not need to, yet the messages given him by the "angel" sound very similar to what Ellen White wrote.** The demons are well-acquainted with the contents of those books, and they are anxious to deceive as many of God's people as they can.

Returning now to Ernie's narration:

"It wasn't until this time [of the dream on the night he wanted to die] that I really knew who Jesus was!"

After describing that first dream, Ernie tells, in disconnected sentences on the recorded tape, about Jesus coming and talking with him.

"When I came in to land, I had seen Jesus way up to the left, and when I came in to land, my intention was to return to the temple where I had been in before when the dream first started, but Jesus walked down and he approached me and I knew it was Jesus. I automatically knew it was Jesus, but I also noticed as he walked toward me, I noticed that angels would bow and acknowledge him as the Creator of the universe. But Jesus walked down and even till this point in the dream, I really didn't know who he really was but after he came down, the two of us, just Jesus and I, we started walking and of course I didn't have a watch. I don't know how long it was for, but I've guesstimated that Jesus and I walked and we talked for half an hour. It could have been longer. It could have been an hour. I kind of like to think it was an eternity.

"But Jesus and I walked and we talked, and we discussed many things I'd seen, the things in the temple, the animals I saw, the birds I saw flying, the angels, the different types of people, the different heights of the people, the wall of the city, we talked about many, many different things, but as I would walk and talk with Him, the same Jesus I had talked about, sang songs about, the same Jesus I had prayed to, I don't know how to put it, but I developed a love unlike any love that I could ever tell, and I know many people have asked, Well, when you saw Jesus, what did he look like? And I always tell them, Well the characteristics I noticed was that he was dressed in a white garment that went from his neck to his feet to his wrist, but His skin was very well tanned, His hair was straight back, not parted.

"And people always want to ask about His eyes. What color is His eyes? I don't know what color His eyes were. I've never noticed the color of His eyes but what attracted me more than anything was what I saw in His eyes. The color of His eyes was not important but what I saw in His eyes when I looked in his eyes and the only way that I've been able to describe that is the love, of the love. When you look in Jesus' eyes, you see a love that is indescribable.

"People ask, Well, why are you wanting to share these dreams? Well, I want to share because I've been told to but it's also because of what I have seen. And I know that my prayer would be that, if my prayer could be answered that every one that watches this and has read this dream, that you could see what I see when I look into the eyes of Jesus. There's a love that

we cannot describe, there's no words, except just to say of the love of the love of the love."

That is the end of Ernie's taped account of his first dream. Linda comments:

"From your own testimony, Ernie, the biggest red flag that has been raised is regarding your conversion experience. You shared with us how you were a 'pew warmer' and didn't have a close relationship with Jesus. Then, you got sick, lost your job, and lost everything. You began questioning God. Then you started blaming God for allowing you to become sick, and cause you to lose your job, and to be humbled to being a person of no importance, even to having to vacuum your mother-in-law's living room. **When you went to bed on the night of December 9, 2006, you were discouraged, angry at God, and wanting to die. You challenged God to prove that He loved you, by coming down and talking to you like He did the other prophets.**

"We are warned in God's Word: 'Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled.' Hebrews 12:15.

"Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil." Eph 4:26, 27.

"In the above text, **the word 'place' in the Greek means opportunity, power, occasion for action.** According to your own testimony, you were in a miserable frame of mind that night. You had not spent significant time in God's Word, and **admitted you didn't know Christ. Your prayers were**

full of bitterness, blame and doubt. You disbelieved the very Word of God, which tells us beyond question of God's love for us. **You were unhappy, discontented, discouraged, begging God to let you die. It was in this frame of mind that you went to sleep. Ernie, I believe your ungodly state of mind gave place to the devil, giving him opportunity, power and occasion for action. You were also begging for a supernatural experience. And you received one, did you not?**

"It seems apparent that this is what opened the door to a satanic delusion. You were not spiritually prepared to be called to be a holy messenger of God's pure truth to His people. You were, instead, setting the scene for an encounter with demons."

Once again Linda noted the strangeness of a new last-day messenger from God, who was suddenly being anointed for his work—without ever having gone through the regular conversion process of repentance and confession of sin;—and instead, he says he was converted while he was asleep.

"Even the dream itself posed major concerns. How could God take one who was in a rebellious, doubting frame of mind and exalt him to the height few humans have ever experienced, to have direct communication with Jesus? And when you saw Jesus, and talked with Him, what was your experience then? I would have thought, according to many of the Biblical accounts of holy prophets who encountered divine or angelic beings, that you would have fallen on your face, in acknowledgment of great unworthiness, especially in the light of your frame of mind

when you fell asleep. I would have thought that you would have wept and bemoaned your lack of faith, your blatant challenge to God, your prior wasted life in denying the power of God. A genuine conversion would have included all of this. Instead, you talked about the material aspects of heaven. That seems very shallow and superficial.

“And as I questioned you further about your conversion, **you stated that you woke up converted**, in love with Jesus. Please tell me, **how does one become converted in his sleep?** This is an absolute impossibility!”

Beings flitting nearby while awake—Ernie mentioned that, **while awake, he would see supernatural beings flitting around** off to his right or left.

“Another concern was the supernatural beings that kept appearing to you, that you could see only out of the corner of your eye, as you were being pressured to tell the dream during the two weeks following the dream. That’s downright spooky. That sounds like the works of the angels of darkness, not of pure, holy, heavenly beings.

“Here is how you described it: ‘For two weeks I did not tell the next part of the dream. For two weeks I did not share the most important part of this dream. For two weeks I kept it secret, but for two weeks I would, still knowing that I was sitting at home, I wasn’t going out anywhere, **I would all of a sudden see things walk around out of the corner of my eye, and I’d look and there wasn’t anybody there.** But at the same time I would hear a voice say,

‘You need to share the end of the dream.’”

The good angels do not work in this manner. **This is a pattern that demons often use with their mediums, to keep them fearful.** Each evening, when Adolf Hitler went to bed, he could see a demon sitting in the corner glaring at him. This kept him in a fearful state of mind, so he would keep fulfilling their wishes for the enslavement of Europe. **At various times, Ernie likewise expresses various fears that grip his mind.**

The twofold test—Linda mentions the two ways to verify the genuineness of these dreams:

“Again we will consider the quote on your web site that you have selected for giving evidence of the divine origin of the dreams:

“ ‘Dreams from the Lord are classed in the Word of God with visions and are as truly the fruits of the spirit of prophecy as visions. **Such dreams, taking into the account [1] the persons who have them and [2] the circumstances under which they are given, contain their own proofs of their genuineness’** ” [1T 569, 570].

“Throughout this letter, we have been *taking into account the person who had them, and the circumstances under which they are given.* This character examination is required for testing the dreams.” [Italics hers.]

Another untruthful statement—Linda refers to another item which was not truthfully stated:

“Another fact that surfaced unexpectedly was that you were actually fired from the job that you had before December 2006, and it was explained that you were confrontational and not able to get along personally with your co-workers and associates. Your testimony that you gave at our

home was stated in such a way as to lead one to believe that it was your ill health that caused your loss of employment. Again, this brings up issues of integrity.”

More about the first two dreams—Linda mentions how Ernie later elevated two earlier dreams of little consequence to a position of highest importance.

“Ernie, I have another question.

According to your own testimony, on December 9, 2006, you . . . stated that you did not know Jesus. So, in this condition, you had two dreams in the spring of 2005. **You said that you ‘thought nothing of them’ other than that they were interesting. They obviously made little impact on your lifestyle or spiritual commitment. Then, you started having more dreams, had a ‘conversion’ experience in your sleep, and put up a web site. Now, these first two dreams from 2005 are elevated right along with your other dreams to become God’s last-day message for His people,** part of the message we are commanded to believe as we bow before the [supernatural] being professing to be Jesus [in your dream] who gave them? How do you explain that?”

Addictive effect of the dreams—Linda found that, **after having initially accepted the dreams as genuine, she had a compulsion to keep learning what was in the latest one,—until she came to believe they were more important than reading the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy.**

“How did the dreams affect me personally? Did they drive me to the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Well, in a certain sense they did. We did study a lot on end time events during our time of belief in the dreams. But **the final result was that the dreams took**

preeminence in our thoughts. Since they were ‘new light,’ they added to and superseded what we had previously believed. **I found myself funneling spiritual thoughts through the nuances found in the dreams.** It actually felt like I was becoming acquainted with a ‘new’ God, because **I’d think about things in the dreams much more than Scripture or the Spirit of Prophecy.** They made much more exciting reading. That should have clued me in!

“I found the dreams to have a supernatural pull, like an addiction. I would check the web site frequently, with my heart pounding, hoping and praying that there would be a new dream. And when a new dream showed up, my excitement and interest in the dream was incredibly high. When I believed in the dreams, my emotional involvement wouldn’t let me read them objectively. Things that normally would have made me uncomfortable I was able to pass over because of my attachment to the whole experience. I found that my belief in these dreams removed my objectivity, because of an addictive power that overrides reason. I believe this is a supernatural phenomena used by the devil to trap people and keep them in a delusion.”

Continually feeling discouraged, alone, or persecuted—Lacking peace of heart (because he is not at peace with God through daily repentance and the study of His Word), Ernie lives with many concerns. If you read my book, *The Demons of Witchcraft*, which will be published this fall, you will find that **those guided by demons live in a state of alternate elation, and depression and fear.**

“Something that surfaces in the dreams is your feeling of being discouraged, alone or persecuted. Reference is made to spears and arrows. You seem to be receiving constant affirmation [by the angel] and special tokens [of favor by him] throughout your dreams.”

When not dreaming, Ernie feels depressed. During a dream, the angel is building him up emotionally, telling him how important he is. This cyclic pattern is a spiritually unhealthy one.

“This focus [in your dreams] on emotion and coddling seems to be encouraging the opportunity for pride and self-exaltation. Would this tend to increase your humility? Would not Christ [if He were really communicating with you] be concerned lest you be puffed up with pride at your high, exalted position?”

Jeanine Sautron was the best-known false prophet in Adventism in the late 1980s and early 1990s. She deceived many people (see my booklet, *Jeanine Sautron*). Her first dream was also about being taken to heaven, and there treated by Jesus and the angels as though she were an utterly great person. Compare that with *Early Writings*, 76-81.

Earthly music and worship services not good—Linda was concerned that Ernie’s dreams tend to downgrade the value of our efforts to worship God. Just about everything is bad, and nothing is told us about what can be acceptable.

“The two of us [“Jesus” and Ernie] walk and talk together for quite some time. One of the things we talked about was how beautiful the music was that I heard in heaven. I mentioned that it was unlike anything I had ever heard in our worship services on Earth. I

asked Him if He enjoys the music and worship services we have. He responded, ‘That is just it. They are your worship services not mine.’ He said that some of the music we have is inspired not by himself, the Father or the Holy Spirit but by a whole different spirit.

“This paragraph brings up more questions than it answers. **Does Jesus not like any of our music? If He does like some, what kind does He like?** When the being says in the dream, ‘They are your worship services not mine,’ what is meant by that? Are all our worship services displeasing to Him? **How do we know when we go into a church on Sabbath if the worship service is displeasing to Him?** Should we even go to church if the worship services are not pleasing to Jesus? I find this message leaves me totally confused. While we can know some music is not spiritual music because it is based on worldly principles, **this ‘message from Jesus’ does not provide anything that can be helpful to us in knowing how to worship Jesus in a way that is pleasing to Him.**

“At our meeting, we remember someone asking you what kind of music you listened to, and **you responded, I really don’t like to listen to any music,** because I’ve heard heavenly music, so any earthly music is not appealing to me. This is certainly not helpful to the rest of us. It tends to place you above us.”

Bible and Spirit of Prophecy study unimportant and unnecessary—Ernie knows little about the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. He has little interest in studying either of them; and the angel has told him that the dreams will give

him better spiritual guidance,—and that there are many non-Scriptural ways to learn truth from God. This is from the transcript of one of Ernie's dreams:

"As for me not having a broad understanding of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, the Herald says that I have a broader understanding than I might know [if he, Ernie, had bothered to study them], and that because I am not ordained of man does not mean I am not ordained of God. The angel says that the Great Teacher has many ways of teaching other than what one can read in what He has written."

So he is saying that his "Herald" will teach him more than if he had studied the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy.

This is Linda's comment about that:

"This last sentence directly contradicts the following statement: 'The Bible will never be superseded by miraculous manifestations. The truth must be studied, it must be searched for as hidden treasure. Wonderful illuminations will not be given aside from the Word or to take the place of it.' 2SM 48. This clearly says that God will not bypass His Word."

This next paragraph by Linda is powerful:

"If God was going to go against all His Biblical principles in selecting you as His end-time messenger, and exalting you above all other humans on the earth as having the final Word from Him, how would we be able to know that? [1] Based on your word? [2] By miracles? [3] By your emotional love for the being that has appeared before you? [4] By 'miraculous' feelings and impressions. None of these are safe

guides. We are left with the option of standing by the God of the Bible, who has revealed Himself to us through His Word and the Spirit of Prophecy."

Linda makes her decision—
Eventually, the continually increasing evidence reached such a point, that Linda decided to reject the dreams—and do it openly. This was not an easy decision; for the dreams had such an almost hypnotic attraction to her, after she started reading them.

"I decided to stop checking the dreams. Amazingly, this was a difficult decision for me, and required a struggle. As I mentioned, **the addictive power of the dreams is strong.** Even with all my doubts and concerns, I still had been in the habit of checking the web site almost daily.

"I went through a time of purging the dreams from my thoughts, and repenting to the Lord for believing in the dreams. On April 19, 2008, I felt convicted by the Lord to make a statement on the same forum in which I had posted in support of your dreams. That was the first time I publicly spoke out against the dreams, even though I had not been promoting them for quite a while.

"The more I turned away from the dreams, the more powerfully the Lord convicted me that these dreams were not from Him. It was almost as if a light came on, and I can see now! I began processing all the information I had, and the truth came out clearly that I had been ensnared in a delusion."

Two predictions which did not come true—One was about Shawn Boonstra; the other was about Doug Batchelor.

"The prophecy of Oct. 21, 2007, was made when you asked Jesus: 'Is there someone I can be

connected with so that these messages can go out faster?’ Jesus replies ‘Yes, I will connect you with Shawn Boonstra.’

“Over six months later, Shawn Boonstra dictated the following statement: ‘A number of people have communicated with our office recently, asking about our official position on the dreams and visions of Mr. Ernie Knoll. More specifically, some have been asking if Shawn Boonstra has received any sort of confirmation from God that Mr. Knoll’s experience is genuine. At this point in time, Pastor Boonstra has had no such experience. To date, It Is Written has not come into possession of any information that suggests the claims of Mr. Knoll are genuine.’

“The bottom line is, **Jesus did not connect you with Shawn Boonstra so that the messages can go out faster.** . . . It’s obvious that he didn’t help them go out faster! Anybody can see that. There is no question that this was a false prophecy.

“Another false prophecy was given on Aug. 14, 2007, in the dream *Watch, As I Am Coming*. **The angel said to you regarding Doug Batchelor: ‘You both walk a road parallel and your roads will cross.’** You thought perhaps this prophecy may have been fulfilled shortly after you attended a church where Doug Batchelor was speaking, although there was no conversation between you. Regarding the parallel paths, his secretary, Bonnie Ensminger, stated to me on April 23, 2008, that **Pastor Batchelor has refused, and continues to refuse to meet with you** and talk with you, although there was an attempt to

make an appointment with him. That doesn’t sound like parallel roads to me! **He certainly is not in agreement with the road that you are on!”**

It is an intriguing fact that, **instead of giving messages which agree with the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, the demons will give predictions about important people. Jeane Dixon, a false prophet in the 1950s and 1960s, regularly did this.** She would give prophecies about famous people; most of these did not come true.

Love for Bible and Spirit of Prophecy study returns—It was not until she separated from the dreams and openly rejected them,—that Linda’s love for reading the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy returned—and, with it, the deep, abiding presence of God. No longer was she troubled by worrisome forebodings.

“It may seem strange to you that I hung on so long after having so many concerns. Let me tell you, I wanted so much for these dreams to be from God! I was willing to overlook many of the concerns, and keep hanging on. **Like a friend expressed to me, ‘If I turn away from the dreams, what do I do with all the feelings of hope and closeness to God they’ve generated?’** I felt that way, but now I realize those feelings were strictly emotion, not reality.

“Since I have let go of the dreams, I have been drawn closer to God than I’ve ever been before! It has lifted a heavy burden off of me. God has been teaching me many valuable lessons for which I am extremely grateful. I am so thankful for the Word of God. I have immersed myself in the Scriptures with a fervor like never before! I thank God for a good memory, and for the hundreds and

hundreds of scriptures that I have hidden in my heart. Now, in the night, these scriptures are my delightful meditation.”

The basis of false revivals—

According to God’s Word, **false revivals are based, not on Scripture, but on emotional appeals to the imagination and something new and startling.** People attend Pentecostal meetings, another device of the devil, because they imagine that doing so is changing their lives for the better.

“What about all the ‘miracles,’

the changed lives, the sweet fellowship and new friendships, and increased love for Jesus that the followers of the dreams seem to have experienced? How could Satan be doing all this? Listen:

‘Popular revivals are too often carried by appeals to the imagination, by exciting the emotions, by gratifying the love for what is new and startling. Converts thus gained have little desire to listen to Bible truth, little interest in the testimony of prophets and apostles. Unless a religious service has something of a sensational character, it has no attractions for them. A message which appeals to unimpassioned reason awakens no response. **The plain warnings of God’s Word, relating directly to their eternal interests, are unheeded’** (GC 463).

“The fact that the spiritual awakening came as a result of an emotionally charged supernatural dream causes one to wonder: Would those whose lives have been changed by the hearing of your dreams have responded to a Biblical message without the ‘appeals to the imagination, by exciting the emotions, by gratifying the love for what is new and

startling’? And if not, then, have their lives really been changed for the better? There seems to be a revival, but it is based on a shaky foundation. Just because there is a seeming revival at a new, startling, exciting message does not mean that it is of God. False revivals look very close to true revivals.”

Linda’s summary—Here are some of the final, key points in her letter:

“If your conversion experience is held up as a model to your followers, they would see that this is a strange, new religion, not the Christianity of the Bible, and certainly not the calling of the remnant church. Just this morning I read, ‘If we have not a deep experience in the things of God, if we have not a thorough knowledge of His Word, we shall be beguiled to our ruin by the errors and sophistries of the enemy.’ Mar, 95. Ernie, because of your admitted lack of a deep understanding and knowledge of the Word, you have been beguiled, and you are spreading your error around the world.

“To sum up this letter, we have, according to the Biblical injunction, placed the messenger and the message under the spotlight of God’s Word. The conclusion is that:

“• As we follow the counsel in the very statement used on the web site regarding testing the genuineness of the dreams **by considering who has the dreams and under what circumstances, we can clearly see that the dreams are not genuine.**

“• The character of the messenger lacks integrity and humility. There is no evidence of genuine repentance and conversion. The ‘conversion’

described goes against righteousness by faith. The Bible is not exalted as the final authority. Feelings and impressions are used as a guide. There is error in the dreams. There is confusion in the dreams.

“• The results of the dreams are manifested in a false revival based on ‘appeals to the imagination, by exciting the emotions, by gratifying the love for what is new and startling.’ Followers are being forced to make decisions that will eventually separate them from the fellowship of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. There seems to be an unreasonable loyalty and defensiveness among the believers in the dreams.

“• At least two false prophecies were made.

“• The last two dreams contain the spirit of control, manipulation and force that is not in harmony with God’s character of grace and mercy. In light of all of the above, we must conclude that the dreams come from a demonic source.”

—Please make copies of these eight pages and share them widely with those who need them! It is too late in history to set aside the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, and chase after every person who comes along, claiming to have special messages for us through dreams or visions. We have enough light in God’s Word to enable us to do our duty and prepare our lives to meet Jesus! The problem is that we are not daily reading in the Inspired Writings!

—vf

Appendix L

Linda Kirk's Letter

This appendix contains the open letter that Linda Kirk wrote to Ernie Knoll.

May 18, 2008

Dear Ernie,

Before you read this letter, please pray, specifically asking God for “the wisdom that is from above” which is “easy to be intreated.”

It is with much prayer and loving concern that I write this letter to you. I feel the need to give you an explanation as to why I have come to believe, after much prayerful consideration over the past six months, that the dreams are not from God.

The content of your dreams, Ernie, appeals to many that are serious about following God, and the counsel of the Spirit of Prophecy – the conservative Seventh-day Adventist. We believe in lifting the standards high. We are grieved about the worldliness in the church, worldliness in adornment, entertainment, sports, diet, music, dress and many other issues. We are concerned about the general Laodicean condition, the love of money, and focus on material things. We long for the outpouring of the latter rain. We have studied about the shaking, end-time events, the time of trouble, the Sunday law, and we are on the lookout for signs of the end. We know about the calamities and destruction during the time of trouble because we read about them in the Spirit of Prophecy. We know we are in the time of the end, and believe in the imminent return of Christ. These topics are present truth, and are very close to our hearts.

Thus, when these topics are presented in the dreams, in a similar way to the Spirit of Prophecy, it seems to be speaking to our hearts, and we are in agreement with the message. We long for the church to wake up and follow the straight testimony. The thought comes, if these dreams can help God reach our brothers and sisters, and bring stronger conviction to our hearts as well, then they must be from God.

But let's consider what else we know from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. If Satan has a specific target in our world today, it would be the sincere, spiritually minded Seventh-day Adventist, who is sighing and crying for the abominations done in the land and in the church. They are open to prophecy because they believe in the Spirit of Prophecy. They are open to new light because Ellen White has said there will be new light. They are open to dreams and visions, because Ellen White had dreams and visions, and the Bible prophesies that this will take place in the last days. So, what deception could Satan use to reach this group?

Since Satan is the master deceiver, and he especially hates God's remnant people, wouldn't we expect that he would mastermind a deception specifically

targeted to this select group of people? And since he is the master deceiver, wouldn't we expect it to be so close to the truth that it is barely discernable? With those thoughts in mind, when something comes along that has many of the earmarks of the true prophetic gift, we should be ever so cautious to investigate it thoroughly, lest Satan catch us off guard, and pull us into his deception.

While there is much good counsel and truth in the dreams, which agrees with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, we cannot afford to overlook any insinuation, allusion, or hint of anything that would almost imperceptibly lead one off the narrow path. Satan doesn't mind using much truth, if he can slip in a tiny bit of error, hopefully unnoticed.

We know that Satan is preparing for the ultimate deception. As Seventh-day Adventists, we are well aware that he will personate Christ. We are told just how this will happen. So, we're on guard and prepared, we think. But what if he throws in some pre-personating deceptions? Are we prepared?

Think about this: Since, at the personating of Christ, Satan will "bear the appearance of Christ in every particular," "His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people..." (5T698, GC 624) We know he is going to do that. Shouldn't we also know that, in his deceptions even now, he can appear to look and talk just like Jesus, heal people, and present the same messages Jesus presented through the Spirit of Prophecy?

Of course he can! He can put thoughts, even good thoughts, into our minds, so it seems that our prayers are being answered. Oh, how very, very careful we must be to not fall for his deceptions, which are increasing in delusive attraction. His deceptions are going to be this powerful: "So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures." GC 539 That tells me that we cannot be too careful in testing every little thing when dealing with supernatural experiences.

You will recall how I expressed several times how earnestly I was praying that the Lord would reveal to me the origin of the dreams. I prayed for several signs, such as things I would like the Lord to reveal to you in a dream. None of those signs were fulfilled. My concerns and questions were mounting even while I was becoming more personally involved with your ministry.

While we all have our faults that need to be overcome by the blood of the Lamb, a person claiming to have a divine calling puts themselves under the microscope of character examination. The Bible tells us to test the fruits, so we may know the origin of inspiration. The fruits are the character of the messenger and the results of the message. Therefore, the following observations are not for the purpose of character assassination, but rather to follow the biblical injunction and the Spirit of Prophecy counsel that "By their testimony [the scriptures] every statement and every miracle must be tested."--GC 593

Using the Spirit of Prophecy as a guide, here is what we were looking for in you, since you are claiming to be receiving messages directly from God: "The holy

deportment of the minister of Christ should be a rebuke to vain, frothy professors. The love of truth and holiness manifested in your serious, heavenly conversation, will convict others, and lead them to the truth, and those around you will be compelled to say, "God is with this man, of a truth." "--Vol. I, p. 434

The quote on your web site tells us that in looking for proof of the genuineness of the dreams, we must take into account the persons who have them, and the circumstances under which they are given. So, that is what we will do now: take into account your character, and under what circumstances you had the dreams, particularly the first three.

I will be recounting many of our shared experiences together, and let you know some of my thoughts and concerns that I was having at that time. When I first heard about the dreams from an email from Ethel Price back in late August or early September, 2007, I wanted to know more. I was open to the thought that God might have a last day prophet, and if He did, I certainly wanted to know what He had to say to us. So, I did an Internet search, found your phone number and called you. We talked for over an hour, as we did during another conversation a couple of weeks later. Then I found out that you and Becky were going to be close to our area at the end of October. We talked on the phone frequently until you came down to visit, so I felt like I knew you and Becky before we even met.

I enjoyed our conversations as you are a pleasant and personable individual, and very enthusiastic about your dreams. There is a sense of importance that one can gain by associating with one they believe has a direct line to God. This can be very attractive to humanity.

One thing that you mentioned several times is that you were not an "up front" type of person and you did not like to be in the spotlight. It seemed like you were trying to convince me that you were very humble. But in our conversation, I sensed something else. You told the story about your trip to Ohio in the restaurant how the group of people wanted you to sit in the middle of the table, and you went to the very corner. Ernie, a humble person doesn't need to tell others how humble he is.

There were several things that made me question the origin of the dreams right from the start. One of them was the fact that you could ask the "angel" anything you wanted in the dreams. It was not like you were really asleep, but that you could have a list of questions that you wanted to ask, and talk to him as if you were awake. The questions that you chose to ask, I remember thinking at the time, were not questions that concerned the people of God as a whole, but more personal questions. I remember you telling me that one of the questions that you asked the angel was that if you should receive tithe, and the angel said yes. That bothered me greatly at the time. Another was about the Bible code. I don't think any serious Bible student would have even bothered with this question.

I remember sitting around our table Saturday night, October 27, with you and Becky talking about the dreams. You were explaining how you could ask the angel any questions you had. Becky and I were talking about how it would be nice to know how God felt about women wearing pants, and coloring their hair,

and even plucking their eyebrows. We suggested that you put those on your list. We talked about several other issues, including knowing which people that were having dreams, like Soo, and Pebbles, were of God. Then I read in the dreams that the angel says you are asleep when you are having the dreams. Can a sleeping person decide on questions to ask in his sleep?

Less than one month after my initial contact with you, Ernie, you called me up one morning, and said, "You'd better sit down. I have something very important to tell you." You then proceeded to tell me that the angel had selected me to edit the dream you just had. I was to edit it, and to email it directly to the web master, without you even seeing the final copy. Before I emailed it, I was to show it to my husband, who was to make any necessary corrections to it according to information that the Lord would show him. You suggested that my husband might have a dream that might add to your dream.

I received by email a rough draft of the SDA Church dream on September 28, 2007. I edited it, as per instructions, and emailed it to my husband, who was out of town on a business trip. He read it and said he didn't have anything to add. He had received nothing from the Lord. We both thought this was rather strange. I then emailed it to the web master. But, I noticed that the dream that was posted had some minor changes made to my edition. I guess the web master felt at liberty to change some things that even you weren't supposed to change.

Pride likes to be noticed. The evil angels are good at flattering their victims and making them feel special. Both my husband and myself felt at the time that it was rather unusual that the angel should single us out in this way. You wanted to put our names in the dream, but we both felt uncomfortable with that and insisted that you not do so.

You asked the angel in the dream if my husband had received the same dream. Here is the angel's answer: "Many are shown and they share. Many are shown and they are afraid to share. Many are shown and they do not recall. Many are shown and they recall after the appointed time. Many are shown through the Father's Spirit." This statement from the angel made absolutely no sense to us. Did Brian have a dream that he didn't remember? We had no clue.

We continued communicating with you, developing a close friendship. While we felt supportive of the dreams, it was not without some reservations. You told me about a forum where they were talking negatively about you and the dreams, and I wrote on the forum in support of the dreams. Actually, I was not totally endorsing the dreams, but mostly appealing to people to be willing to check them out before they discounted the dreams. It seemed to me that some were willing to make a final decision about the dreams without any investigation. I felt that something as huge as a claim to be receiving direct communication from Jesus needs to be put to the test, to see if the claim is valid.

I did some research of my own. First, I asked you if you were involved in a small group, such as a Bible study group or fellowship. You said no. I asked who your close friends were locally, and you said you didn't have many close friends. I asked where you fellowshiped at church, and you said that you didn't attend church regularly, because you often just rested at home on Sabbath. Other times

you visited around to churches, because the church your membership was at was too far away. You also talked about your speaking appointments, but as it turned out, you had really had few speaking appointments, and two of the major ones turned out to be disasters for you because they were cancelled after you arrived.

I was trying to find others who knew you before the dreams came, from whom I could obtain a character reference. I called your pastor, but he didn't want to talk about you much, and referred me to your father-in-law. I called that number, and talked with your mother-in-law.

On October 21, 2007, you called me, Ernie, to tell me about a dream you had just had. I talked to both you and Becky. You stated that you were shaking, and seemed quiet emotional. I don't know what word to use to describe your feelings, but I believe you stated you were scared. You stated that this was the first dream that had a direct prophecy in it, and you expressed the fact that you were afraid that, if it was not fulfilled, that it would prove your dreams to be false. I remember mentioning to Brian afterwards, that it seems like you would certainly want to know if the dreams were false, and this would be a good way to test it! You actually seemed more worried for your reputation than about finding out if the dreams were really from God.

My reaction was that I was happy, knowing that soon I would know for sure if the dreams were from God, and I wouldn't have to wonder any more! If the fulfillment came true, they were from God. If it didn't, they were false! Simple as that! I was then given the name of the person who was supposed to connect with you to help the dreams go out faster. I was to be one of the 5 witnesses who would verify, when this person contacted you, that this was a fulfilled prophecy. And so I waited.

I felt very close to Becky, as she is a very sweet and sincere person. She seemed to have a genuine relationship with Jesus. I remember telling Brian, if Becky was the one receiving the dreams, I would find it a lot easier to believe in them.

Then we met you in person when you came to our home Friday evening, October 26, 2007. We found you to be a very likeable and talkative person, with the conversation totally centered around your dreams. I was really hoping for a deep season of prayer, and some discussion of truth as found in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, but instead the entire focus was on your dreams. Your prayer was brief and casual, not like someone who had truly encountered Divinity.

Throughout the weekend, every topic that was brought up always was redirected to your dreams. You even shared some dreams with us that were not inspired, and even a bit silly. This got a little wearisome to us. You mentioned several times how you'd like to fly your remote control airplanes on our large property. This seemed so trivial to me.

I asked you about your outreach endeavors. Perhaps, I thought, you were involved in Bible studies, or distributing literature, and so on. You said that you told people whenever you got a chance that you were receiving dreams from God. This did not sound like witnessing at all to me, but rather a way to exalt yourself. This troubled me also.

The concern was expressed by some who met you that day that they did not sense a spirit of humility. I mentioned to Becky on the side that she needed to tell you not to recount how muscular and strong you were as a young man, what a powerful job you had in which you told the executives in hospitals how to spend millions of dollars, how you had a mansion and expensive cars, and so on. What it felt like is that you were trying to impress everyone that you were truly an important person.

Our pastor, who couldn't be at the meeting we scheduled, asked me to have the spiritual leaders of the church come and evaluate you and your message, to see if we should invite you to come and present a church-wide meeting. We all listened to you and Becky for over three hours, and had opportunity to ask any questions we wanted. After the meeting, I waited for the reactions of those present. There were a couple of women who were excited, and seemed to believe in the dreams, but neither of these women were invited there as church leaders, but just happened to be there. Brian and I found it very disconcerting that not one of the spiritual church leaders even suggested that we should have you come back to the church for an official presentation, even though they knew that was the original intention. One of the elders was especially concerned, and contacted Pastor Wohlberg, our former pastor, and you know the end of that story.

I will share some of the impressions and concerns of the group that heard you speak to us that Sabbath, October 27, 2007. The deaconess stated that she was not impressed because of your lack of humility. When one of the elders asked questions in a very humble manner, she said that you responded rather defensively, justifying your position, and discounting his questions. She was concerned about the light hearted, almost joking manner in which you talked about heavenly things. But she was mostly concerned when you stated that you accepted tithe. She felt that this was inappropriate, and that you, of all people, should be most careful not to do anything that could be questionable like accepting tithe.

Also, she had noticed on your web site that you stated that you had made a presentation at Southern University. Naturally, this would lend credibility to claims to have spoken at an SDA college. You then explained to us how you had this appointment, made the travel arrangements, and arrived at Southern, only to be told upon arrival that your meeting had been cancelled. You told how you met with some officials, and that this was a fulfillment of the dream Go Forth. You did talk to a small group out on the lawn, but this certainly was not an official meeting at Southern University. The deaconess felt that posting the meetings on the web site was a dishonest way to lend credibility to your dreams. [That posting has since been removed.]

An elder and his wife stated that it seemed like your talk was ego-centric. He didn't sense the message to be helpful spiritually. He was also uncomfortable about the Southern University announcement, and felt it was deceptive to use as an endorsement. They both felt very uneasy about your presentation. These are just comments that some of those present at the meetings shared with me.

Since I had written in support of the dreams on a forum, many of the people on the forum had given me questions to ask you. There was quite a list of questions that you addressed the next morning on a video tape. These were mostly personal questions regarding your past.

Here are some of the words you spoke, that were recorded on video at my home:

Ernie: “Up until last December, I was, what I call, a nominal Adventist. I didn’t have what I called a close relationship with Jesus that most Seventh-day Adventist should have. Very close to before December 2006 I became a workaholic where I was working 6 days a week. I was traveling Sunday through Friday, come home Friday evening, get ready for Sabbath, and you (Becky) and I and our daughter would enjoy Sabbath together, and then I’d get up again and get ready to go. I found that I was putting work before God....”

[Description of your health condition.] “I wasn’t observing the health message at all....”

[About the first two dreams] “That was spring of 2005. The first two dreams I had, we didn’t really think anything about it. I shared them with you (Becky) and some other close friends, and we really never thought anything about it. We just thought these were really interesting dreams.

[Describing the evening of December 9, 2006] “Later, after the pain went away, you helped me get in bed, and that’s when you were talking to me, and I knew that was when I was going to die that night. I knew that this had to be it. I told you good night but I was actually saying good bye. But, I should also back up, and share, of course I had this disease, I was very sick, but I should also share that up until this point, my walk with God had changed. Before I got sick, I was a nominal Adventist. After I got sick, we lost everything, we lost our house, all of our personal belongings, the fine cars that we had, all of our earthly treasures that we think about now, we lost them all because I could not support our family. And so we lost all that, and I took all that out on God and at first started off asking Him why this was happening, and then over the course of two years I started blaming Him for everything that was happening.

“And on December 9th, I remember going to sleep that night asking God to take my life, that I was unhappy, and I know that He says that He loves me but I did not feel loved. And I begged Him and I had been begging Him to please come down and talk to me like He does the other prophets and the other people in the Bible. But I never felt like He would ever come down. I didn’t feel like there was any love, no love. Actually I felt hate, I felt like God hated me. And I could not figure out why He would hate me. What had I done to do this? Well, that night, December 9, I said good night to you (Becky), I was also saying good-bye and I went to sleep after many hours of prayer.”

[Becky talks: “Can you share with us what you were praying that night?]

Ernie: “That night I was asking God, bluntly, to end my life. I was asking Him just to stop it, that I did not feel the love that I thought a person would feel, and of course you can tell that it is hard for me to relate this, because this is not a story or something you’d watch on TV or some story you’d read out of a book.

This was my real life; this is what I've experienced. But that night I went to sleep, and the next morning I woke up. Sunday morning I woke up and I had just finished having this tremendous dream..."

"I have to tell you, at this point in my life, before the dream, I had read about Jesus, I had spoken about Jesus, I had sung songs about Jesus, I had prayed to Jesus. But it wasn't until this time that I really knew who Jesus was..."

[Describing the end of the dream] Ernie: "When I came in to land, I had seen Jesus way up to the left, and when I came in to land, my intention was to return to the temple where I had been in before when the dream first started, but Jesus walked down and he approached me and I knew it was Jesus, I automatically knew it was Jesus, but I also noticed as he walked toward me I noticed that angels would bow and acknowledge him as the Creator of the universe. But Jesus walked down and even till this point in the dream, I really didn't know who he really was but after he came down, the two of us, just Jesus and I, we started walking and of course I didn't have a watch, I don't know how long it was for, but I've guesstimated that Jesus and I walked and we talked for half an hour. It could have been longer. It could have been an hour. I kind of like to think it was an eternity.

"But Jesus and I walked and we talked, and we discussed many things I'd seen, the things in the temple, the animals I saw, the birds I saw flying, the angels, the different types of people, the different heights of the people, the wall of the city, we talked about many, many different things, but as I would walk and talk with Him, the same Jesus I had talked about, sang songs about, the same Jesus I had prayed to, I don't know how to put it, but I developed a love unlike any love that I could ever tell, and I know many people have asked, well, when you see Jesus, what did He look like, and I always tell them, well the characteristics I noticed was that he was dressed in a white garment that went from his neck to his feet to his wrist, but his skin was very well tanned, his hair was straight back, not parted.

"And people always want to ask about his eyes, what color is his eyes. I don't know what color his eyes were. I've never noticed the color of his eyes but what attracted me more than anything was what I saw in his eyes. The color of his eyes was not important but what I saw in his eyes when I looked in his eyes and the only way that I've been able to describe that is the love of the love of the love. When you look in Jesus' eyes, you see a love that is indescribable, and I know now that when I sing songs about Jesus and I pray, it's all different now. And people ask well, why are you wanting to share these dreams, well, I want to share because I've been told to but it's also because of what I have seen. And I know that my prayer would be that, if my prayer could be answered that every one that watches this and has read this dream, that you could see what I see when I look into the eyes of Jesus. There's a love that we cannot describe, there's no words, except just to say of the love of the love of the love."

[Becky: "So that was the time of his true conversion, when he saw the love of Jesus in his eyes."]

From your own testimony, Ernie, the biggest red flag that has been raised is regarding your conversion experience. You shared with us how you were a "pew

warmer” for those 25 years that you were an Elder, and didn’t have a close relationship with Jesus. Then, you got sick, lost your job, and lost everything. You began questioning God, then you started blaming God for allowing you to become sick, and cause you to lose your job, and to be humbled to being a person of no importance, even to having to vacuum your mother-in-law’s living room. When you went to bed on the night of December 9, 2006, you were discouraged, angry at God, and wanting to die. You challenged God to prove that he loved you, by coming down and talking to you like He did the other prophets.

We are warned in God’s Word: “Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;” Hebrews 12:15

“Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil.” Eph 4:26,27

In the above text, the word “place” in the Greek means opportunity, power, occasion for action. According to your own testimony, you were in a miserable frame of mind that night. You had not spent significant time in God’s Word, and admitted you didn’t know Christ. Your prayers

were full of bitterness, blame and doubt. You disbelieved the very Word of God, which tells us beyond question of God’s love for us. You were unhappy, discontented, discouraged, begging God to let you die. It was in this frame of mind that you went to sleep. Ernie, I believe your ungodly state of mind gave place to the devil, giving him opportunity, power and occasion for action. You were also begging for a supernatural experience. And you received one, did you not?

It seems apparent that this is what opened the door to a satanic delusion. You were not spiritually prepared to be called to be a holy messenger of God’s pure truth to His people. You were, instead, setting the scene for an encounter with demons.

Even the dream itself posed major concerns. How could God take one who was in a rebellious, doubting frame of mind and exalt him to the height few humans have ever experienced, to have direct communication with Jesus? And when you saw Jesus, and talked with Him, what was your experience then? I would have thought, according to many the biblical accounts of holy prophets who encountered divine or angelic beings, that you would have fallen on your face, in acknowledgement of great unworthiness, especially in the light of your frame of mind when you fell asleep. I would have thought that you would have wept and bemoaned your lack of faith, your blatant challenge to God, your prior wasted life in denying the power of God. A genuine conversion would have included all of this. Instead, you talked about the material aspects of heaven. That seems very shallow and superficial.

And as I questioned you further about your conversion, you stated that you woke up converted, in love with Jesus. Please tell me, how does one become converted in his sleep? This is an absolute impossibility!

Ernie, I ask you to seriously search your heart regarding these things I am sharing with you. I care about you, and about your eternal salvation. Jesus does love you! He has loved you your whole life. He was calling you to surrender your heart to Him even when you lost your job, lost your possessions, and became seriously ill. He wanted you to turn to Him of your own free will, because of your recognition of your sinfulness and deep need of Him. We struggle with feelings of inadequacy because of self. When we are dead to self, we no longer have to deal with insecurity and problems with ego. Jesus knew of your struggle with your lack of self-worth, and He wanted you to know that, like all of us, you are special only as you are abiding in Him, because He alone is worthy!

Another concern was the supernatural beings that kept appearing to you, that you could see only out of the corner of your eye, as you were being pressured to tell the dream during the two weeks following the dream. That's downright spooky. That sounds like the works of the angels of darkness, not of pure, holy, heavenly beings.

Here is how you described it: "For two weeks I did not tell the next part of the dream. For two weeks I did not share the most important part of this dream. For two weeks I kept it secret, but for two weeks I would, still knowing that I was sitting at home, I wasn't going out anywhere, I would all of the sudden see things walk around out of the corner of my eye, and I'd look and there wasn't anybody there. But at the same time I would hear a voice say, 'You need to share the end of the dream.' I'd go to sleep at night, and I'd fall asleep, only to be awakened up later, and I'd hear a voice say, 'You need to share the rest of the dream.' This went on for two weeks..."

There were a few other issues that were uncovered that made me continue to question your calling. One of these was the fact that you and Becky revealed to me Sunday morning after our meeting that you had become discouraged with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and had left it for a while, and joined the Seventh-day Adventist Reform movement. You were involved with them for several years, and then found that they had problems too, so you came back to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. When you state on your web site that: "I am a Seventh-Day Adventist Christian of over 50 years, an ordained elder for over 25 years and have served as a lay pastor" that gives the impression of a faithful, godly, loyal Seventh-day Adventist, does it not? When the truth is known of your lack of conversion, failure to follow the health reform, and your actually leaving the church for a while, this places the matter in an entirely different light.

Again we will consider the quote on your web site that you have selected for giving evidence of the divine origin of the dreams:

"Dreams from the Lord are classed in the word of God with visions and are as truly the fruits of the spirit of prophecy as visions. Such dreams, taking into the account the persons who have them and the circumstances under which they are given, contain their own proofs of their genuineness." {1T 569, 570}

Throughout this letter, we have been taking into account the person who had them, and the circumstances under which they are given. This character examination is required for testing the dreams.

Another fact that surfaced unexpectedly was that you were actually fired from the job that you had before December 2006, and it was explained that you were confrontational and not able to get along personally with your co-workers and associates. Your testimony that you gave at our home was stated in such a way as to lead one to believe that it was your ill health that caused your loss of employment. Again, this brings up issues of integrity.

Ernie, I have another question. According to your own testimony, on December 9, 2006, you were a pew-warming, workaholic, unconverted Laodicean. If you look at the definition of the word hypocrite, it also seems to apply. (definition of a hypocrite is: “a person who puts on a false appearance of virtue or religion; a person who acts in contradiction to his or her stated beliefs or feelings.”) You were a church elder, and yet you stated that you did not know Jesus.

So, in this condition, you had 2 dreams in the spring of 2005. You said that you “thought nothing of them” other than that they were interesting. They obviously made little impact on your lifestyle or spiritual commitment. Then, you start having more dreams, had a “conversion” experience in your sleep, and put up a web site. Now, these first two dreams from 2005 are elevated right along with your other dreams to become God’s last day message for His people, part of the message we are commanded to believe as we bow before the being professing to be Jesus who gave them? How do you explain that?

All of these things continued to add up, along with the concerns in the dreams themselves. Right at the beginning, we asked you if you had counseled with godly men regarding the source of these dreams, and if you were willing to be placed under close scrutiny. You had the attitude that, since these dreams were from God Himself, you didn’t need to ask anyone permission, or to seek anyone’s counsel. This is not how God operates in His church. He is the head, we are all part of the body. Not one part is to be exalted to the point of not needing to be examined, and confirmed by the rest of the body. The fact that so few significant Bible students accepted the dreams was another major cause for concern.

As you left our home, we hugged and all expressed our enjoyment of our time together. It was an exciting and confusing time. We remember you stating that Brian and I, along with a couple in Ohio, the web master, and a pastor in Ohio were your main supporters. While that made us feel special, it also made us wonder why so few were accepting the dreams.

How did the dreams affect me personally? Did they drive me to the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Well, in a certain sense they did. We did study a lot on end time events during our time of belief in the dreams. But the final result was that the dreams took preeminence in our thoughts. Since they were “new light,” they added to and superceded what we had previously believed. I found myself funneling spiritual thoughts through the nuances found in the dreams. It actually felt like I was becoming acquainted with a “new” God, because I’d think about things in the dream much more than scripture or the Spirit of Prophecy. They made much more exciting reading. That should have clued me in!

I found the dreams to have a supernatural pull, like an addiction. I would check the web site frequently, with my heart pounding, hoping and praying that there would be a new dream. And when a new dream showed up, my excitement and interest in the dream was incredibly high. When I believed in the dreams, my emotional involvement wouldn't let me read them objectively. Things that normally would have made me uncomfortable I was able to pass over because of my attachment to the whole experience. I found that my belief in these dreams removed my objectivity, because of an addictive power that overrides reason. I believe this is a supernatural phenomena used by the devil to trap people and keep them in a delusion.

Something that surfaces in the dreams is your feeling of being discouraged, alone or persecuted. Reference is made to spears and arrows. You seem to be receiving constant affirmation and special tokens throughout your dreams. This focus on emotion, and coddling seems to be encouraging the opportunity for pride and self-exaltation. Would this tend to increase your humility? Would not Christ be concerned lest you be puffed up with pride at your high, exalted position?

There are many confusing things in the dreams themselves, that would leave the readers wondering how they are supposed to respond. A few that come to mind are:

Watch, As I am Coming: "Smiling again the angel explains, "Because you do not understand, you know. If you were to know, you would not understand. All of heaven knows, as well as all of earth, whom God has chosen." This is very confusing!

A View of Heaven Dream: "The two of us walk and talk together for quite some time. One of the things we talked about was how beautiful the music was that I heard in heaven. I mentioned that it was unlike anything I had ever heard in our worship services on Earth. I asked Him if He enjoys the music and worship services we have. He responded, "That is just it. They are your worship services not mine. He said that some of the music we have is inspired not by Himself, the Father or the Holy Spirit but by a whole different spirit."

This paragraph brings up more questions than answers. Does Jesus not like any of our music? If He does like some, what kind does He like? When the being says in the dream, "They are your worship services not mine," what is meant by that? Are all our worship services displeasing to Him? How do we know when we go into a church on Sabbath if the worship service is displeasing to Him? Should we even go to church if the worship services are not Jesus'? I find this leaves message leaves me totally confused. While we can know some music is not spiritual music because it is based on worldly principles, this "message from Jesus" does provide anything that can be helpful to us in knowing how to worship Jesus in a way that is pleasing to Him.

At our meeting, we remember someone asking you what kind of music you listened to, and you responded, I really don't like to listen to any music, because I've heard heavenly music, so any earthly music is not appealing to me. This is certainly not helpful to the rest of us. It tends to place you above us.

The Work Now Begins: “As for me not having a broad understanding of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, the Herald says that I have a broader understanding than I might know and that because I am not ordained of man does not mean I am not ordained of God. The angel says that the Great Teacher has many ways of teaching other than what one can read in what He has written.” This last sentence directly contradicts the following statement: “The Bible will never be superseded by miraculous manifestations. The truth must be studied, it must be searched for as hidden treasure. Wonderful illuminations will not be given aside from the Word or to take the place of it.” 2SM 48 This clearly says that God will not bypass His Word.

If God was going to go against all His biblical principles in selecting you as His end-time messenger, and exalting you above all other humans on the earth as having the final Word from Him, how would we be able to know that? Based on your word? By miracles? By your emotional love for the being that has appeared before you? By “miraculous” feelings and impressions. None of these are safe guides. We are left with the option of standing by the God of the Bible, who has revealed Himself to us through His Word and the Spirit of Prophecy.

There are many other things in the dreams that bring confusion. I will not go into them all. Those who have read the dreams should know what I am talking about.

As you ended your video, your prayer for each one who viewed the video was stated as this: “And I know that my prayer would be that, if my prayer could be answered that every one that watches this and has read this dream, that you could see what I see when I look into the eyes of Jesus. There’s a love that we cannot describe, there’s no words, except just to say of the love of the love of the love.”

Ernie, do you really think it is in the wise plan of God to give each one of His children a vision of Jesus? And if we don’t have such a vision, should we feel that we aren’t special enough? This does not sound like the prayer of a prophet to me. A true prophet would encourage God’s people to endure, as seeing Him who is invisible, by faith. “Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.” 1 Peter 1:8

The first part of this year, there was quite a dry spell with no dreams, and I had little communication with you and Becky. My confidence was waning..

It was after speaking with Steve Wohlberg on the weekend retreat at Wawona Camp in Yosemite in March of this year that I realized the absolute danger of these dreams. Besides all the concerns I had listed above, the tithe issue was the clincher.

In a real practical way, I thought this out: Let’s say a pastor in our conference is mingling spiritualistic theories in his teaching. I express my concern to the conference president. Nothing is done, the teaching continues. I decide to give my tithe to you, Ernie, instead of to my conference, since you are “doing the Lord’s bidding” and I wouldn’t want to be responsible for supporting the pastor who was teaching spiritualism. What would happen to my own godly pastor’s salary if I withheld my tithe? What if all my friends did the same? What if half of

the people in my conference did the same? Wouldn't that be what the "Jesus" in your dreams would want us to do, so we wouldn't support that spiritualistic pastor? So, what happens to my godly pastor whose salary comes from the same fund? He's out of a job!

Multiply that scenario around the world, and what happens to the church? I think you get my point. However you interpret the Spirit of Prophecy statements about tithe, this teaching in the dream could only bring upheaval and confusion to the church.

At that time, I knew I could no longer be connected in any way with the 4HisPeople ministry. I told Steve Wohlberg the name of the person in the Much To Do dream. That was part of my disassociation from the dreams.

I decided to stop checking the dreams. Amazingly, this was a difficult decision for me, and required a struggle. As I mentioned, the addictive power of the dreams is strong. Even with all my doubts and concerns, I still had been in the habit of checking the web site almost daily.

I went through a time of purging the dreams from my thoughts, and repenting to the Lord for believing in the dreams. On April 19, 2008 I felt convicted by the Lord to make a statement on the same forum in which I had posted in support of your dreams. That was the first time I publicly spoke out against the dreams, even though I had not been promoting them for quite a while.

The more I turned away from the dreams, the more powerfully the Lord convicted me that these dreams were not from Him. It was almost as if a light came on, and I could see now! I began processing all the information I had, and the truth came out clearly that I had been ensnared in a delusion.

I determined to dig a little deeper and find out from Shawn Boonstra if he had received any impressions about your dreams, either from God or Satan. You've probably seen the statement from IIW that was made as a result of my inquiry. No matter what the angel tries to say about God's timing, the prophecy, made Oct. 21, 2007 was made when you asked Jesus: "Is there someone I can be connected with so that these messages can go out faster? Jesus replies "Yes, I will connect you with Shawn Boonstra."

Over six months later, Shawn Boonstra dictated the following statement: "A number of people have communicated with our office recently, asking about our official position on the dreams and visions of Mr. Ernie Knoll. More specifically, some have been asking if Shawn Boonstra has received any sort of confirmation from God that Mr. Knoll's experience is genuine. At this point in time, Pastor Boonstra has had no such experience... To date, It Is Written has not come into possession of any information that suggests the claims of Mr. Knoll are genuine."

The bottom line is, Jesus did not connect you with Shawn Boonstra so that the messages can go out faster. Even if he were to "connect" with you today, over six months after your appeal to help the dreams go out faster, it's obvious that he didn't help them go out faster! Anybody can see that. There is no question that this was a false prophecy.

Another false prophecy was given on Aug. 14, 2007 in the dream Watch, As I Am Coming. The angels said to you regarding Doug Batchelor: "You both walk a road parallel and your roads will cross." You thought perhaps this prophecy may have been fulfilled shortly after that when you attended a church where Doug Batchelor was speaking, although there was no conversation between you. Regarding the parallel paths, his secretary, Bonnie Ensminger, stated to me on April 23, 2008 that Pastor Batchelor has refused, and continues to refuse to meet with you and talk with you, although there was an attempt to make an appointment with him. That doesn't sound like parallel roads to me! He certainly is not in agreement with the road that you are on!

It may seem strange to you that I hung on so long after having so many concerns. Let me tell you, I wanted so much for these dreams to be from God! I was willing to overlook many of the concerns, and keep hanging on. Like a friend expressed to me, "If I turn away from the dreams, what do I do with all the feelings of hope and closeness to God they've generated?" I felt that way, but now I realize those feelings were strictly emotion, not reality.

Since I have let go of the dreams, I have been drawn closer to God than I've ever been before! It has lifted a heavy burden off of me. God has been teaching me many valuable lessons for which I am extremely grateful. I am so thankful for the Word of God. I have immersed myself in the scriptures with a fervor like never before! I thank God for a good memory, and for the hundreds and hundreds of scriptures that I have hidden in my heart. Now, in the night, these scriptures are my delightful meditation.

This entire experience has not been all bad: God can take these things, and use them to make us stronger and wiser in Him. I will be more equipped with His Word for the next deception that comes along. And we are told that we will face many false prophets as we near the end so we all need to have our minds fortified with the scriptures.

What about all the "miracles," the changed lives, the sweet fellowship and new friendships, and increased love for Jesus that the followers of the dreams seem to have experienced? How could Satan be doing all this? Listen: "Popular revivals are too often carried by appeals to the imagination, by exciting the emotions, by gratifying the love for what is new and startling. Converts thus gained have little desire to listen to Bible truth, little interest in the testimony of prophets and apostles. Unless a religious service has something of a sensational character, it has no attractions for them. A message which appeals to unimpassioned reason awakens no response. The plain warnings of God's word, relating directly to their eternal interests, are unheeded." {NL 9.2}

The fact that the spiritual awakening came as a result of an emotionally charged supernatural dream causes one to wonder: Would those whose lives have been changed by the hearing of your dreams have responded to a biblical message without the "appeals to the imagination, by exciting the emotions, by gratifying the love for what is new and startling"? And if not, then, have their lives really been changed for the better? There seems to be a revival, but it is based on a shaky foundation. Just because there is a seeming revival at a new, startling,

exciting message does not mean that it is of God. False revival look very close to true revivals.

Ernie, I appeal to you to consider the foundation of your religious experience. The heart of our message is righteousness by faith. "For we walk by faith and not by sight." Righteousness by faith, is the three angels messages in verity, in truth. Faith is trusting in God's love and mercy, believing that His Word is true, and that He means what He says. Faith is based on that which is not seen. "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

Ernie, the "righteousness" you obtained in your dream-conversion was righteousness by sight, the "love" you "felt" when you looked into the eyes of the arch anti-christ. This is what "converted" you, and it was a false conversion experience, based on emotion and not on faith. God could never accept this false conversion and then exalt you to be His mouthpiece to the people whom He has called to experience and proclaim the great message of righteousness by faith. You have never experienced righteousness by faith, only by sight.

Jesus said, "Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." John 20:29. Your "prophet's prayer" at the conclusion of your video reveals your spiritual ignorance, as you are desiring all God's people to receive righteousness by sight by "seeing the love of Jesus in his eyes."

If your conversion experience is held up as a model to your followers, they would see that this is a strange, new religion, not the Christianity of the Bible, and certainly not the calling of the remnant church. Just this morning I read, "If we have not a deep experience in the things of God, if we have not a thorough knowledge of His Word, we shall be beguiled to our ruin by the errors and sophistries of the enemy." Mar. 95. Ernie, because of your admitted lack of a deep understanding and knowledge of the Word, you have been beguiled, and you are spreading your error around the world.

I am grieved that I dishonored my Lord by falling for such a lie, and I praise Him for opening my eyes. I pray for all those who have believed your lies, that their eyes will be opened, and they will receive the love of the truth, so that God will not send them strong delusions, that they should believe a lie.

Ernie, the Lord is calling to you to repent of your wickedness, and to turn to Him with all your heart, with deep contrition and sorrow for your sins. Surrender your entire will to Him, and let Him guide you in the necessary work of restoration. He wants you to strip off your pride, and allow Him lay your glory in the dust, so He alone can be exalted. He can do a great work in you if you are willing to be crucified with Christ. Praise God, there still is hope. Do not delay. "Cast off the works of darkness," and "Christ shall give thee light." "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." Rom 13:12, Eph 5:14, James 4:7

I urge you, I implore you, to take your dreams off of your web site, and replace them with a message renouncing your dreams, and the demonic beings in your dreams. How tragic if souls are lost because of their belief in your dreams!

Redeem the time, and make quick work of restoring the truth to the hearts of these precious souls. And stop receiving the holy tithe that is dedicated to God's work.

No doubt Satan will endeavor to offer you stronger inducements to continue doing his bidding, but in the strength of Jesus, resist him. Jesus was willing to lay aside His glory, and made Himself of no reputation for us. Are you willing to lay down your lofty position and your reputation for His sake?

To sum up this letter, we have, according to the biblical injunction, placed the messenger and the message under the spotlight of God's Word. The conclusion is that:

- As we follow the counsel in the very statement used on the web site regarding testing the genuineness of the dreams by considering who has the dreams, under what circumstances, we can clearly see that the dreams are not genuine.
- The character of the messenger lacks integrity and humility. There is no evidence of genuine repentance and conversion. The "conversion" described goes against righteousness by faith. The Bible is not exalted as the final authority. Feelings and impressions are used as a guide. There is error in the dreams. There is confusion in the dreams.
- The results of the dreams are manifested in a false revival based on "appeals to the imagination, by exciting the emotions, by gratifying the love for what is new and startling." Followers are being forced to make decisions that will eventually separate them from the fellowship of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. There seems to be an unreasonable loyalty and defensiveness among the believers in the dreams.
- At least 2 false prophecies were made.
- The last two dreams contain the spirit of control, manipulation and force that is not in harmony with God's character of grace and mercy. In light of all of the above, we must conclude that the dreams come from a demonic source.

Ernie, these are not spears and arrows directed at you. This letter is written out of love and concern for you. I am acting toward you as I would want done to me if I were in your place. Please, please, open your heart to receive these words. Someday, I pray, you will thank me for writing this letter. All of us are targets of the enemy, and we need each other's prayers and encouragement. I am praying earnestly for you and for all those who believe in the dreams.

Does God have a special work for you? Absolutely! "Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God." COL 326. I pray that you will be encouraged and comforted by the mercy and grace of our Lord, and allow Him to show you His true will for your life.

My prayer for everyone that reads this letter who has believed in the supernatural beings that have been communicating with you is that God will "open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God,

that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith." Acts 26:18

I will close with this powerful quotation on our need for understanding the Word of God:

"We see and feel the importance of each having an understanding of the Scriptures. There may be those who will tell us of the things contained in the Word of God, but that will not meet the requirements. We must search the Scriptures for ourselves. There are special points that we must understand pertaining to our own time. We are living in an age of error and heresy on every hand. Christ has told us that 'there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, who shall show great signs and wonders: insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.' Matt. 24:24. These teachers spoken of by Christ will come in sheep's clothing, and will delude the people with their heresies, and this we shall see more and more as we draw nearer the end. Consequently it is of the greatest necessity that we search the Scriptures for ourselves, and learn their contents.

"Our text tells us that we have something sure, and that is the Scriptures that are revealed to us, and this is the voice of God that is speaking to us. One may come and say that he has truth, and such teachers will multiply, but we must not take their word in the matter. We must go directly to the Word. Feelings should not be our guide. The plain declaration of the Word is what is required. 'All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.' 2 Timothy 3:16-17."--Manuscript 43, 1886.

Praise God for His Word!

In Christ's love,

Linda Kirk

Statement from Brian Kirk: Ernie, I've read the above letter, and having witnessed or been a participant of a large portion of the conversations, I agree with its accuracy. I hope and pray that you will humbly reconsider the facts that clearly indicate the source of these dreams, and act accordingly.

Appendix M

Laura Lee Jones' Letter to David Gates

This appendix contains the letter that Laura Lee Jones sent to David Gates. It appeared in David Gates' May 2008 newsletter.

Dear Brother Gates:

A friend sent me your latest newsletter. Praise God for His wonderful watch-care over you!

I am writing specifically about Ernie Knoll because I have information most people do not know about; but I feel this is a serious enough issue that you need to have the information I have before you make a final decision as to whether or not Ernie Knoll's dreams are of God.

I first read his dreams in Feb./March of 2007. At the time, he'd had only three. I will say that initially I was leery. I wanted them to be from God – who wouldn't? But I did not want to get deceived so I studied them carefully. There were two problems I found within the first and third dreams:

- 1) A description that did not fit with EGW's;
- 2) An interpretation that contradicted Spirit of Prophecy.

#1 – In Ernie's dream of the table in heaven, he stated that he could not see the length of it, in clear contradiction to Ellen White's statement that the table was "many miles in length" yet they could see the length of it. While this discrepancy was of concern, I did not consider it to be a 'deal breaker.' Perhaps his position (sitting at the table) varied from hers (possibly standing at the end?) so that might explain the difference . . . ?

Because that difference could possibly be explained away, I prayed for God to show me clearly whether or not Ernie's dreams were of God.

#2 – This was more serious. It was an interpretation of the 144,000 that clearly contradicted what little Spirit of Prophecy had to say about them. The dream is on his website, entitled "A View of Heaven and a Message for His People." However, the version that is now on there is not the same one I read a year ago – there has been quite a bit of editing done. I wanted to know more about his last conversation with "Jesus" in the third dream and so I called and spoke to him.

Ernie is a very friendly, charming and loquacious man. He put me on speaker phone so that his wife could hear, too, and the three of us had a very pleasant conversation. He was very willing to answer any and every question I had.

In speaking to Ernie, it was evident that he believed some of the 144,000 had already died. In his friendly, loquacious way, he was upfront with his belief that he was probably #143,998 . . . and he stopped really quickly, backed up, and said, "Well, there aren't that many more left to be made up. The number is almost made up and as soon as it is, it will be over."

He was clear in his belief that God started making up the 144,000 ever since 1844 and that at the Close of Probation, not all would be alive. However, at the special resurrection, they would all be raised to see Jesus come. When I asked

where he got that belief, Becky quickly quoted from Early Writings, I believe it was, referring to where Ellen White had asked to eat of the fruit of the tree of life. The angel told her something along the lines of: "All who eat of the fruit of this land, nevermore return to earth. However, if you are faithful, you with the 144,000 will have the pleasure of visiting all the worlds in God's creation."

This, Ernie and Becky believed, proved that Ellen White was one of the 144,000. However, if I invite David Gates to come speak at my church and I stand with David Gates on the platform, that does not necessarily mean that I am David Gates. I am only standing with him.

I wasn't sure whether or not this was his own, personal interpretation of the 144,000 or whether or not he had expressly been told this in the dream.

I asked Ernie, point blank: "Is this what you believe about the 144,000, or was this told you by the Great Instructor in your dream – that the 144,000 have been being made up since 1844 and that some will be resurrected at the special resurrection?" (Initially, he never referred to Jesus in his dream. He only ever referred to the "Great Instructor." Referring to the Great Instructor as "Jesus" is part of later editing.)

Ernie promptly answered, "The Great Instructor explained it all to me in the dream."

"Just like that?" I pressed.

"Just like that," he insisted. Ernie went on to say that he wasn't a big Bible scholar and the Great Instructor knew that, so He'd had to tell Ernie everything He wanted him to know.

This was a deal breaker to me. Ellen White makes it clear that the 144,000 go through Jacob's Time of Trouble and none are killed after the close of probation, so none of the 144,000 are raised in the special resurrection, as they're all alive anyway.

Just one week after my last conversation with Ernie, he was due to be visiting some churches back in the Mid-West, one of which a friend of mine attends. After attending, she was very troubled. She said, "There was no call to repentance. All it was, was him standing up there and talking about what everything looked like. But never was there any deep call to seek the Lord and obey Him and repent." The whole spirit, she said, was just wrong and she was very oppressed the entire following week.

Apparently, that Saturday night, two men visited with Ernie until late in the night. They, too, had picked up on the discrepancies with what Ernie was saying about the 144,000. They showed him from Spirit of Prophecy where what he was saying was in clear contradiction to what Ellen White said. At one point, the conversation got a little heated and Ernie stated that he didn't care what Ellen White said, he would believe what was told him in his dreams. The two men would not back down that he was wrong in his stance because Spirit of Prophecy said so clearly the exact opposite of what he was claiming the Great Instructor told him.

Finally, the lateness of the hour was such that Ernie backed down a little bit and said that he would have to go pray about it and it was dropped for the night. Next morning, Ernie was all smiling apologies, "Well, you were right. I

was wrong. I guess I just put too much ‘Ernie’ into it. I put my own interpretation on it and I wasn’t really told that.”

One of the men, who later became his webmaster and is his staunch supporter, told him, “You can’t do that, Ernie. You can’t put any of yourself and your own interpretation on things. You MUST say only what was told you.” This man has kind of taken Ernie under his wing and began coaching him. Anytime some little discrepancy would creep in, he would point to what is actually said in Spirit of Prophecy and ask, “Ernie, are you putting too much ‘Ernie’ in again?”

This is very troublesome to me. First of all, I know that, a week and a half before this man ever spoke to him, I asked him point blank whether or not what he was saying about the 144,000 was his own interpretation or not. When he answered that it was what the Great Instructor had explained to him in the dream, I pressed him, wanting to know if the Great Instructor had explained the 144,000 to him just like that and he confirmed that it was indeed, just like that.

Then, a week and a half later, he meets with two men who know their Spirit of Prophecy and won’t back down and he sees that he may lose a following if he doesn’t back down and all of a sudden it’s because he put “too much Ernie” into it? Either he lied to me or he lied to them. Either way, he lied to one of us. There are other serious problems, too, such as his admission that the night before his “heaven” dream he was so angry at God over his health problems that he was yelling at God and telling Him that he hated Him.

What troubles me most, however, is that under the man’s tutelage, discrepancies that would be and should be red flags are weeded out. Ernie repeatedly told me that he didn’t know his Bible and Spirit of Prophecy all that well. Having someone “cover” for him, weeds out what would be warning signs – and that really concerns me. A few other little things that people were questioning in this dream, have since been edited out and the use of the term “Great Instructor” has largely been replaced with “Jesus” which was never used before.

I am not trying to bad-mouth Ernie. I am not going around after him and sharing with all and sundry my experience with him. Neither am I trying to convince you to believe as I do. That is not my job; that’s the Holy Spirit’s job to convince all as they study for themselves. However, because of your influential position and stating it as you did in your newsletter, I felt I needed to share with you what I know and encourage you to make it a matter of earnest prayer and a whole lot more study before deciding that he must be of God simply because he “tested the spirits.”

I would like to remind you, Brother Gates, that in the late 1980s with the rise of the New Age Christs, demons (when thus “tested”) would indeed admit that Jesus Christ came “in the flesh” – but they did it for purposes to deceive.

There is a difference between “spiritism” and “occultism.” Spiritism is simply a belief in communicating with the dead. Occultism, on the other hand, is a belief in magic. “Testing” the spirits is not some magic mantra that will automatically reveal whether they are of God or Satan. The devil knows as well as you or I that Jesus certainly did come in the flesh of Adam after the fall and he’s perfectly willing to admit that (as proven by various testimonies of those who later came out of the New Age movement) for purposes to deceive.

There is no magic mantra that shows what is of God and what is of Satan. It remains, as always, in the realm of here a little, there a little – which requires a lot of prayerful study. “To the law and to the testimony, if they speak not according to this word, there is no light in them.” From what I have studied of his dreams, and I have read every single one of them, they do not stand up to the acid test of “to the law and to the testimony.”

Please, Brother Gates, do some more prayerful, careful study before you throw the weight of your influence behind him. You and your pastor friends may not find anything wrong with his dreams as they appear on the website now, but please be aware that plenty of editing has been done and that not everything on there is indeed in accordance with scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy.

May God continue to bless you and yours in your work.

Sincerely,

L. J.

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the **TRUTH**
the whole **TRUTH**
and nothing but the **TRUTH**

The truth has rarely been accepted by the majority of those who profess to be the children of God. Many of God's prophets lost their lives for the stand they took against the apostasy of their day. Even Jesus, the author of truth, lost His life at the hands of those who professed to be chosen of God.

Today we live in a more enlightened age. We are technologically advanced, more civilized, and more educated than the past, but are we any different than past generations? Does God's last day church cherish the love of the truth more than the Jews did?

As the prophets of old were rejected for their unpopular stand, so God's last messenger has been rejected. Documented within the pages of this book are answers to many of the prominent critics, as well as a description of the true condition of God's remnant church. It is time for God's people to wake up. Stupendous events are about to take place, but like the people of Noah's day, many who profess to be the chosen of God are instead caught up in the ways of the world, pursuing pleasure, careers or saving for retirement.

In mercy to His people, God is now sending one last warning—a message of repentance and reformation. Will we accept this message, or will we remain as the Bible describes us—wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked? (Revelation 3:17)



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