

A man in a dark long-sleeved shirt and dark pants stands with his back to the camera on a rocky cliff. He has his hands on his hips and is looking out over a vast valley. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and lens flare behind him. The landscape consists of rolling green hills and mountains under a clear sky.

Earliteen Sabbath School Lessons

Third Year, Third Quarter

Eden to Eden Man and the Earth

EARLITEEN

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS

THIRD YEAR, THIRD QUARTER

EDEN TO EDEN

Man and the Earth

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INTRODUCTION

The physical earth, where man was originally placed to carry out God's plan, has been directly affected by man's actions. In this quarter, the Earliteen students will study the results of sin on the earth, as well as man's relationship to it. It will be seen that only through the correct relationship to the Creator can anyone have a right relationship to his environment.

History reveals that, when under Satan's control, man exploits and ruins what God created. Furthermore, whenever man takes for himself the glory due to God, he sows the seeds of his own destruction.

As you study these lessons, relate them to your own circumstances—your schooling, your work, your social contacts, and your environment. God grant that you will be inspired and exert every effort to place yourself in the right relationship to your environment, your fellowman, and your Creator.



1

The Original Condition

Part 1: Man

“All heaven took a deep and joyful interest in the creation of the world and of man. Human beings were a new and distinct order. They were made ‘in the image of God,’ and it was the Creator’s design that they should populate the earth. They were to live in close communion with heaven, receiving power from the Source of all power. Upheld by God, they were to live sinless lives....

“God created man a superior being; he alone is formed in the image of God, and is capable of partaking of the divine nature, of cooperating with his Creator and executing His plans.” –*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 7.

“Here only can we find a history of our race, unsullied by human prejudice or human pride.”

“In God’s word alone we find an authentic account of creation. Here we behold the power that laid the foundation of the earth and that stretched out the heavens. Here only can we find a history of our race, unsullied by human prejudice or human pride.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 25.

“The holy pair were not only children under the fatherly care of God but students receiving instruction from the all-wise Creator. They were visited by angels, and were granted communion with their Maker, with no obscuring veil between. They were full of the vigor imparted by the tree of life, and their intellectual power was but little less than that of the angels. The mysteries of the visible universe—the wondrous works of Him which is perfect in knowledge’ (Job 37:16)—afforded them an exhaustless source of instruction and delight. The laws and operations of nature, which have engaged men’s study for six thousand years, were opened to their minds by the infinite Framer and Upholder of all. They held converse with leaf and flower and tree, gathering from each the secrets of its life. With every living creature, from the mighty leviathan that playeth among the waters to the insect mote that floats in the sunbeam, Adam was familiar. He had given to each its name, and he was acquainted with the nature and habits of all. God’s glory in the heavens, the innumerable worlds in their orderly revolutions, ‘the balancings of the clouds,’ the mysteries of light and sound, of day and night—all were open to the study of our first parents. On every leaf of the forest or stone of the mountains, in every shining star, in earth and air and sky, God’s

name was written. The order and harmony of creation spoke to them of infinite wisdom and power. They were ever discovering some attraction that filled their hearts with deeper love and called forth fresh expressions of gratitude....

“God made man upright; He gave him noble traits of character, with no bias toward evil. He endowed him with high intellectual powers, and presented him the strongest possible inducements to be true to his allegiance.” –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 50, 51, 49.

“The Lord blessed Adam and Eve with intelligence such as He had not given to any other creature. He made Adam the rightful sovereign over all the works of His hands.”

“He came from the hand of his Creator with a symmetrical character, endowed with such capacities for improvement that, combining divine influence with human effort, he might elevate himself almost to an angel’s sphere. Yet, when thus elevated, he will be unconscious of his goodness and greatness.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 340.

“From eternal ages it was God’s purpose that every created being, from the bright and holy seraph to man, should be a temple for the indwelling of the Creator.” –*The Desire of Ages*, p. 161.

“Adam was crowned king in Eden. To him was given dominion over every living thing that God had created. The Lord blessed Adam and Eve with intelligence such as He had not given to any other creature. He made Adam the rightful sovereign over all the works of His hands. Man, made in the divine image, could contemplate and appreciate the glorious works of God in nature....

“God created man for His own glory, that after test and trial the human family might become one with the heavenly family. It was God’s purpose to re-populate heaven with the human family, if they would show themselves obedient to His every word.” –*Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, p. 1082.

1. How great was man’s physical vitality in his original, sinless state?

“If Adam, at his creation, had not been endowed with twenty times as much vital force as men now have, the race, with their present habits of living in violation of natural law, would have become extinct.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, pp. 138, 139.

“As Adam came forth from the hand of his Creator he was of noble height and of beautiful symmetry. He was more than twice as tall as men now living upon the earth, and was well proportioned. His features were perfect and beautiful. His complexion was neither white nor sallow, but ruddy, glowing with the rich tint of health.

Eve was not quite as tall as Adam. Her head reached a little above his shoulders. She, too, was noble, perfect in symmetry, and very beautiful." –*The Story of Redemption*, p. 21.

2. Why is the Bible the best source to study for the history of the human race?
3. Who were Adam and Eve's companions?
4. List the areas of knowledge that man originally explored.
5. Man was created as a free moral agent. What is important about that?

"God might have created man without the power to transgress His law; He might have withheld the hand of Adam from touching the forbidden fruit; but in that case man would have been, not a free moral agent, but a mere automaton. Without freedom of choice, his obedience would not have been voluntary, but forced. There could have been no development of character. Such a course would have been contrary to God's plan in dealing with the inhabitants of other worlds. It would have been unworthy of man as an intelligent being, and would have sustained Satan's charge of God's arbitrary rule." –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 49.

6. God created earth's dwellers with the capacity for improvement. Does this mean that the first couple was not created perfect? What does it mean?
7. In what sense were they intended to be temples?
8. What was God's long-range plan for them?
9. Will that plan ever be completed?
Daniel 7:18; Zechariah 14:9;
Isaiah 61:11.



The Original Condition

Part 2: Earth

“Adam had themes for contemplation in the works of God in Eden, which was heaven in miniature.”

“As the earth came forth from the hand of its Maker, it was exceedingly beautiful. Its surface was diversified with mountains, hills, and plains, interspersed with noble rivers and lovely lakes; but the hills and mountains were not abrupt and rugged, abounding in terrific steeps and frightful chasms, as they now do; the sharp, ragged edges of earth’s rocky framework were buried beneath the fruitful soil which everywhere produced a luxuriant growth of verdure. There were no loathsome swamps or barren deserts. Graceful shrubs and delicate flowers greeted the eye at every turn. The heights were crowned with trees more majestic than any that now exist. The air, untainted by foul miasma, was clear and healthful. The entire landscape outvied in beauty the decorated grounds of the proudest palace. The angelic host viewed the scene with delight, and rejoiced at the wonderful works of God,...

“Everything that God had made was the perfection of beauty, and nothing seemed wanting that could contribute to the happiness of the holy pair; yet the Creator gave them still another token of His love, by preparing a garden especially for their home.” —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 44, 46, 47.

“Adam had themes for contemplation in the works of God in Eden, which was heaven in miniature.” —*Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, p. 1082.

“Very happy were the holy pair in Eden. Unlimited control was given them over every living thing. The lion and the lamb sported peacefully and harmlessly around them, or slumbered at their feet. Birds of every variety of color and plumage flitted among the trees and flowers and about Adam and Eve, while their mellow-toned music echoed among the trees in sweet accord to the praises of their Creator.

“Adam and Eve were charmed with the beauties of their Eden home. They were delighted with the little songsters around them, wearing their bright yet graceful plumage, and warbling forth their happy, cheerful music. The holy pair united with them and raised their voices in harmonious songs of love, praise, and adoration to the Father and His dear Son for the tokens of love which surrounded them. They recognized the order and harmony

of creation, which spoke of wisdom and knowledge that were infinite.” –*The Story of Redemption*, p. 22.

“In the days of Noah ... the earth was still rich and beautiful in the gifts of God’s providence. The hills were crowned with majestic trees supporting the fruit-laden branches of the vine. The vast, gardenlike plains were clothed with verdure, and sweet with the fragrance of a thousand flowers. The fruits of the earth were in great variety, and almost without limit. The trees far surpassed in size, beauty, and perfect proportion any now to be found; their wood was of fine grain and hard substance, closely resembling stone, and hardly less enduring. Gold, silver, and precious stones existed in abundance.” –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 90.

1. How did the earth as God created it compare with what we see today?
2. How did God His newly created world? Genesis 1:31.
3. How did Eden compare with the rest of the created world? What was special about it?

4. What were some unique characteristics of the trees then, as compared to now?



5. How pure was the air?
6. Where could one find precious stones and metals?
7. Describe what you imagine it was like to be among the animals on the sinless earth.
8. Did God spare any effort in preparing the most wonderful place for the beings whom He created?
9. How did the environment surrounding Adam and Eve contribute to their worship of God?

The First Curse

1. What brought a change to the perfect environment that God had created? Genesis 3:6.
2. Who was responsible for causing sin to enter the universe and this world? Ezekiel 28:12-15; Isaiah 14:13, 14.
3. What was his purpose in tempting man to sin?

“It was Satan’s plan that Adam and Eve should by disobedience incur God’s displeasure; and then, if they failed to obtain forgiveness, he hoped that they would eat of the tree of life, and thus perpetuate an existence of sin and misery.” *–Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 60.

4. What was a consequence of Adam and Eve’s disobedience? Genesis 3:23, 24.
5. Explain the meaning of Genesis 3:15. What did the Creator plan to do to redeem fallen man?
6. What would Eve and all women from henceforth endure? Genesis 3:16.

“In the creation God had made her the equal of Adam. Had they remained obedient to God—in harmony with His great law of love—they would ever have been in harmony with each other; but sin had brought discord, and now their union could be maintained and harmony preserved only by submission on the part of the one

or the other.... It was by her solicitation that Adam sinned, and she was now placed in subjection to her husband.” *–Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 58.

The first part of the curse placed upon woman—sorrow in the conception and birth of children—has been interpreted by many to mean that by necessity a woman must suffer excruciating pain and agony in childbirth. But, to believing parents, the birth of a child is the most wonderful event and one of the most beautiful experiences in life. The sorrow that a woman feels is keen, however, when she brings her tiny newborn into a world of sin, sickness, and suffering, for she knows that it will be only by the grace of God that he will endure and find salvation.

7. What was the first curse placed upon the physical earth, the environment? Genesis 3:17-19.

“After the transgression of Adam, God might have destroyed every opening bud and blooming flower, or He might have taken away their fragrance, so grateful to the senses. In the earth seared and marred by the curse, in the briars, the thistles, the thorns, the tares, we may read the law of condemnation; but in the delicate color and perfume of the flowers, we may learn that God still loves us, that His mercy is not wholly withdrawn from the earth.”
–Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, vol. 1, p. 1085.

8. What has Satan done to make this curse even more severe?



"Not one noxious plant was placed in the Lord's great garden, but after Adam and Eve sinned, poisonous herbs sprang up. In the parable of the sower the question was asked the master, 'Didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? how then hath it tares?' The master answered, 'An enemy hath done this.' All tares are sown by the evil one. Every noxious herb is of his sowing, and by his ingenious methods of amalgamation he has corrupted the earth with tares." –*Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, p. 1086.

9. Nevertheless, how was the first curse placed upon the earth a blessing for man?

"The world, though fallen, is not all sorrow and misery. In nature itself are messages of hope and comfort."

"Yet even amid the suffering that results from sin, God's love is revealed. It is written that God cursed the ground for man's sake. The thorn and the thistle—the difficulties and trials that make his life one of toil and care—were appointed for his good as a part of the training needful in God's plan for his uplifting from the ruin and degradation that sin has wrought. The world, though fallen, is not all sorrow and misery. In nature itself are messages of hope and comfort. There are flowers upon the thistles, and the thorns are covered with roses." –*Steps to Christ*, pp. 9, 10.

"And the life of toil and care which was henceforth to be man's lot was appointed in love. It was a discipline rendered needful by his sin, to place a check upon the indulgence of appetite and passion, to develop habits of self-control. It was a part of God's great plan for man's recovery from the ruin and degradation of sin." –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 60.



4

The Second Curse and the Antediluvian World

1. What basic character differences existed between Adam and Eve's first two sons? Genesis 4:2-5.

"Cain and Abel, the sons of Adam, differed widely in character. Abel had a spirit of loyalty to God; he saw justice and mercy in the Creator's dealings with the fallen race, and gratefully accepted the hope of redemption. But Cain cherished feelings of rebellion, and murmured against God because of the curse pronounced upon the earth and upon the human race for Adam's sin. He permitted his mind to run in the same channel that led to Satan's fall—indulging the desire for self-exaltation and questioning the divine justice and authority." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 71.

2. Was this difference in characters a result of their upbringing?

"So far as birth and religious instruction were concerned, these brothers were equal. Both were sinners, and both acknowledged the claims of God to reverence and worship. To outward appearance their religion was the same up to a certain point, but beyond this the difference between the two was great....

"Cain had the same opportunity of learning and accepting these truths as had Abel. He was not the victim of an arbitrary purpose. One brother was not elected to be accepted of God, and the other to be rejected. Abel chose faith and obedience; Cain, unbelief and rebellion." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 72.

3. To what tragic end did Cain's rebellion lead? Genesis 4:8.
4. What curse did God pronounce upon the earth because of Cain's terrible deed? Genesis 4:11, 12.
5. What lesson did God's sparing Cain's life give to the entire universe?

“Notwithstanding that Cain had by his crimes merited the sentence of death, a merciful Creator still spared his life, and granted him opportunity for repentance. But Cain lived only to harden his heart, to encourage rebellion against the divine authority, and to become the head of a line of bold, abandoned sinners. This one apostate, led on by Satan, became a tempter to others; and his example and influence exerted their demoralizing power, until the earth became so corrupt and filled with violence as to call for its destruction.

“In sparing the life of the first murderer, God presented before the whole universe a lesson bearing upon the great controversy. The dark history of Cain and his descendants was an illustration of what would have been the result of permitting the sinner to live on forever, to carry out his rebellion against God. The forbearance of God only rendered the wicked more bold and defiant in their iniquity.” –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 78.

6. How great were the physical, mental, scientific, and technological abilities of the antediluvians? Genesis 4:17, 21, 22.

“Could illustrious scholars of our time be placed in contrast with men of the same age who lived before the Flood, they would appear as greatly inferior in mental as in physical strength.”

“Notwithstanding the wickedness of the antediluvian world, that age was not, as has often been supposed, an era of ignorance and barbarism. The people were granted the opportunity of reaching a high standard of moral and intellectual attainment. They possessed great physical and mental strength, and their advantages for acquiring both religious and scientific knowledge were unrivaled. It is a mistake to suppose that because they lived to a great age their minds matured late; their mental powers were early developed, and those who cherished the fear of God and lived in harmony with His will continued to increase in knowledge and wisdom throughout their life. Could illustrious scholars of our time be placed in contrast with men of the same age who lived before the Flood, they would appear as greatly inferior in mental as in physical strength.... How limited are these acquirements in comparison with those of men whose mental and physical powers were developing for centuries!

“The antediluvians were without books, they had no written records; but with their great physical and mental vigor, they had strong memories, able to grasp and to retain that which was communicated to them, and in turn to transmit it unimpaired to their posterity. And for hundreds of years there were seven generations living upon the earth contemporaneously, having the opportunity of consulting together and profiting each by the knowledge and experience of all.

“The advantages enjoyed by men of that age to gain a knowledge of God through His works have never been equaled since.”
–*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 82, 83.

7. In light of the above statement, and in view of the present-day world, what technology do you think the antediluvians possessed? To what lengths can you imagine that especially the wicked went?

“In the days of Noah a double curse was resting upon the earth in consequence of Adam’s transgression and of the murder committed by Cain. Yet this had not greatly changed the face of nature....

“Had that long-lived people, with their rare powers to plan and execute, devoted themselves to the service of God, they would have made their Creator’s name a praise in the earth, and would have answered the purpose for which He gave them life, but they failed to do this. There were many giants, men of great stature and strength, renowned for wisdom, skillful in devising the most cunning and wonderful works; but their guilt in giving loose rein to iniquity was in proportion to their skill and mental ability.



“God bestowed upon these antediluvians many and rich gifts; but they used His bounties to glorify themselves, and turned them into a curse by fixing their

affections upon the gifts instead of the Giver. They employed the gold and silver, the precious stones and the choice wood, in the construction of habitations for themselves, and endeavored to excel one another in beautifying their dwellings with the most skillful workmanship. They sought only to gratify the desires of their own proud hearts, and reveled in scenes of pleasure and wickedness. Not desiring to retain God in their knowledge, they soon came to deny His existence. They adored nature in place of the God of nature. They glorified human genius, worshiped the works of their own hands, and taught their children to bow down to graven images.” –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 90, 91.

8. What parallels to the above conditions existing in the antediluvian world do you see in the world around you? See also Genesis 6:5, 11-13; Matthew 24:38.

The Third Curse

1. What sad decision did God come to? Genesis 6:7.
2. What conditions in society made this necessary? Genesis 6:5, 6, 11-13.
3. What brought these brilliant, blessed inhabitants of the earth to this point? Romans 1:28.

“God bestowed upon these antediluvians many and rich gifts; but they used His bounties to glorify themselves, and turned them into a curse by fixing their affections upon the gifts instead of the Giver.” –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 90.

4. To enter the ark and have their lives preserved, what would Noah and his family have had to leave behind?
5. For how long did God extend mankind’s probation? Genesis 6:3.
6. But how defiant did the people become?

“They manifested their contempt for the warning of God by doing just as they had done before the warning was given. They continued their festivities and their gluttonous feasts; they ate and drank, planted and builded, laying their plans in reference to advantages they hoped to gain in the future; and they went to greater lengths in wickedness, and in defiant disregard of God’s requirements, to testify that they had no fear of the Infinite One. They asserted that if there were any truth in what Noah had said,

the men of renown—the wise, the prudent, the great men—would understand the matter.” *–Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 97.

7. What did the people see destroyed first in the flood waters? What was significant about this?

“The people first beheld the destruction of the works of their own hands.”

“The people first beheld the destruction of the works of their own hands. Their splendid buildings, and the beautiful gardens and groves where they had placed their idols, were destroyed by lightning from heaven, and the ruins were scattered far and wide. The altars on which human sacrifices had been offered were torn down, and the worshipers were made to tremble at the power of the living God, and to know that it was their corruption and idolatry which had called down their destruction.” *–Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 99.

8. What would have happened to the righteous and to God’s plan for this world if the flood had not destroyed the wicked? Compare this to the conditions existing in the world now. Matthew 24:22.

“He [Satan] had delighted to control so powerful a race, and desired them to live to practice their abominations and continue their rebellion against the Ruler of heaven.” *–Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 99.

9. What third curse came upon the physical earth as the result of the flood?

“The entire surface of the earth was changed at the Flood. A third dreadful curse rested upon it in consequence of sin. As the water began to subside, the hills and mountains were surrounded by a vast, turbid sea. Everywhere were strewn the dead bodies of men and beasts. The Lord would not permit these to remain to decompose and pollute the air, therefore He made of the earth a vast burial ground. A violent wind which was caused to blow for the purpose of drying up the waters, moved them with great force, in some instances even carrying away the tops of the mountains and heaping up trees, rocks, and earth above the bodies of the dead. By the same means the silver and gold, the choice wood and precious stones, which had enriched and adorned the world before the Flood, and which the inhabitants had idolized, were

“Where once had been earth’s richest treasures of gold, silver, and precious stones, were seen the heaviest marks of the curse.”

concealed from the sight and search of men, the violent action of the waters piling earth and rocks upon these treasures, and in some cases even forming mountains above them. God saw that the more He enriched and prospered sinful men, the more they would corrupt their ways before Him. The treasures that should have led them to glorify the bountiful Giver had been worshiped, while God had been dishonored and despised.

“The earth presented an appearance of confusion and desolation impossible to describe. The mountains once so beautiful in their perfect symmetry, had become broken and irregular. Stones, ledges, and ragged rocks were now scattered upon the surface of the earth. In many places hills and mountains had disappeared, leaving no trace where they once stood; and plains had given place to mountain ranges. These changes were more marked in some places than in others. Where once had been earth’s richest treasures of gold, silver, and precious stones, were seen the heaviest marks of the curse. And upon countries that were not inhabited, and those where there had been the least crime, the curse rested more lightly.” —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 107, 108.



"Satan is constantly at work, with intense energy and under a thousand disguises, to misrepresent the character and government of God. With extensive, well-organized plans and marvelous power, he is working to hold the inhabitants of the world under his deceptions...."

"The holy inhabitants of other worlds were watching with the deepest interest the events taking place on the earth. In the condition of the world that existed before the Flood they saw illustrated the results of the administration which Lucifer had endeavored to establish in heaven, in rejecting the authority of Christ and casting aside the law of God. In those highhanded sinners of the antediluvian world they saw the subjects over whom Satan held sway. The thoughts of men's hearts were only evil continually. Genesis 6:5. Every emotion, every impulse and imagination, was at war with the divine principles of purity and peace and love. It was an example of the awful depravity resulting from Satan's policy to remove from God's creatures the restraint of His holy law." *—Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 78, 79.

"Had they gone on unchecked, they would have demoralized the world in its infancy. Their confederacy was founded in rebellion; a kingdom established for self-exaltation, but in which God was to have no rule or honor:"

After the Flood, the "Babel builders determined to keep their community united in one body, and to found a monarchy that should eventually embrace the whole earth. Thus their city would become the metropolis of a universal empire; its glory would command the admiration and homage of the world and render the founders illustrious. The magnificent tower, reaching to the heavens, was intended to stand as a monument of the power and wisdom of its builders, perpetuating their fame to the latest generations...."

"Had they gone on unchecked, they would have demoralized the world in its infancy. Their confederacy was founded in rebellion; a kingdom established for self-exaltation, but in which God was to have no rule or honor. Had this confederacy been permitted, a mighty power would have borne sway to banish righteousness—and with it peace, happiness, and security—from the earth. For the divine statutes, which are 'holy and just and good' (Romans 7:12), men were endeavoring to substitute laws to suit the purpose of their own selfish and cruel hearts...."

“In mercy to the world He defeated the purpose of the tower builders and overthrew the memorial of their daring. In mercy He confounded their speech, thus putting a check on their purposes of rebellion....

“After the dispersion from Babel idolatry again became well-nigh universal, and the Lord finally left the hardened transgressors to follow their evil ways, while He chose Abraham, of the line of Shem, and made him the keeper of His law for future generations.”
—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 119, 123, 125.

Satan uses technology to distract men's minds from the Creator and Lawgiver.

Viewing the technology around them, young people today tend to be influenced by what they hear about how “advanced” civilization is now. Schools teach that people now are the wonderful result of evolution, that never before in history has there been such advanced technology—computers, increasingly rapid means of communication, transportation, and space travel, medical miracles, alternative power sources, and highly sophisticated weapons. But, as indicated in previous lessons, as well as this one, Satan uses technology to distract men's minds from the Creator and Lawgiver. As the antediluvians and the Babel builders misused their skills for evil purposes, so today technology and human theories block God from people's minds.

Archaeological finds show that the antediluvian world and the civilizations that arose after the flood and around the time of Babel were highly technological—probably more so than today. As described in *Secrets of the Lost Races*, by Rene Noorbergen (The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Inc., Indianapolis, New York, 1977), the common view taught in secular history books about the ancient world (primitive people with little knowledge or tools) is not correct. In harmony with the statements of Sister Ellen G. White, these archaeological finds give evidence of highly intelligent people.

In addition to documenting the worldwide evidence for the flood, the above book describes “ooparts,” a shortened word for “out-of-place artifacts.” Amazing discoveries have been made in many locations around the world that do not fit into the commonly accepted historical explanation for the development of man and civilization. Since there is no place for such findings in today's accepted scientific dogma, such things are generally relegated to some forgotten museum shelf, thrown in a junk pile, given an erroneous explanation, or simply ignored. Following is a sample of findings:



- A set of petrified tracks left in the Paluxy River bed in Texas—found next to each other—of a dinosaur and a human being. The human footprints are 15 inches in length.

- A metallic vase dynamited out of solid rock in Dorchester, Massachusetts, reported in *Scientific American*, June 1851—"The body of this vessel resembles zinc in color, or a composition metal in which there is a considerable portion of silver. On the sides there are six figures of a flower, a bouquet, beautifully inlaid with pure silver, and around the lower part of the vessel, a vine, or wreath, inlaid also with silver. The chasing, carving and inlaying are exquisitely done by the art of some cunning craftsman. This curious and unknown vessel was blown out of the solid pudding stone, fifteen feet below the surface." The scientists estimated the stone in which the vase was found to be at least several million years old. Page 41.
- A lump of coal found on June 9, 1891, in Morrisonville, Illinois, containing a gold chain of intricate workmanship. The coal sample was thought to be several million years old. Page 41.
- A two-inch metal screw, found in a piece of feldspar in 1865 in Treasure City, Nevada; the rock was estimated to be several million years old. Page 42.
- When the sepulcher of Pallas was opened near Rome in the early 1400's, it was found to be lighted by a lantern which had kept the inside of the tomb illuminated for more than two thousand years. Page 51.
- A number of medieval and Renaissance maps that are extremely accurate—so accurate that the longitude and latitude measurements, as well as the knowledge of the earth's surface that is revealed, extend far beyond the capabilities of the early historical cartographers. These cartographers admitted—and there is proof of this in the maps—that their maps were copies of still older maps whose origins were lost in antiquity. Page 94.
- A model plane discovered in 1898 in a tomb near Saqqara, Egypt, dated at approximately 200 B.C., demonstrating an amazing knowledge of aerodynamics on the part of the builders. Aerodynamics engineers and pilots who examined the plane found its features remarkably similar to a plane under consideration at the time by the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The little plane still soars through the air for a considerable distance with only a slight push of the hand. Pages 125, 126.
- A layer of fused green glass a quarter of an inch thick and covering an area of several hundred square feet unearthed at the 16-foot level in Israel in 1952. It is made of fused quartz sand with green discolorations, similar in appearance to the layers of vitrified sand left after the atomic tests in Nevada

in the 1950s. A similar sheet was found in 1947 in southern Iraq, near Babylon, spread in a thin layer some distance below Babylonian, Sumerian, and Neolithic cultural levels. Similar evidence of ancient nuclear reactions has been found in China, Europe, Easter Island, and South and North America. Pages 141-144.



Quarried and transported stones at Sacsahuaman, Peru

- Many architectural wonders around the world made of quarried and transported stones, often weighing tens to hundreds of tons each. One such stone at Sacsahuaman in the Andes, the size of a five-story house, weighs an estimated 20,000 tons! Modern technology has no means of moving such objects over the distances and terrains apparently accomplished by the ancients. Pages 196, 197.

Why are many human accomplishments such as these not described in the Bible and the writings of Sister White? They are referred to only in general terms, telling of the great intelligence of the people as well as their failure to seek God. What good were these human accomplishments, for they now lie waste? The evidence points to highly developed civilizations arising after the dispersion from Babel, but what happened to them? The Bible implies that God left them to their own devices and turned to the few people who would follow Him; and very possibly the “advanced” civilizations destroyed each other with the same weapons mankind is amassing today.

1. What is Satan’s aim for man and his relationship to the earth?
2. Why did God consider it necessary to confuse the languages and purposes of the builders of the tower of Babel? Genesis 11:6. What might these words have meant?
3. What are “ooparts”? How do they contradict the theory of evolution?
4. What do you think God thought of the accomplishments of the civilizations around the time of Babel?

5. What does advanced technology tend to do to man's relationship to his Creator?
6. Does God build cities? Why do you think He does or does not?
7. What places on the earth are, and always have been, the refuge of God's people? Why?

"The race of Cain, spreading from the place of their first settlement, dispersed over the plains and valleys where the children of Seth had dwelt; and the latter, in order to escape from the contaminating influence, withdrew to the mountains, and there made their home. So long as this separation continued, they maintained the worship of God in its purity." –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 81.

"Behind the lofty bulwarks of the mountains—in all ages the refuge of the persecuted and oppressed—the Waldenses found a hiding place." –*The Great Controversy*, pp. 65, 66.

8. As has happened in the past, what would happen to the righteous today if God did not restrain the wicked and their plans? Psalm 14:4; Matthew 24:22.
9. Therefore, to whom do the wicked owe their lives?
10. What did Satan originally hope to accomplish?

"... Satan thought that if he could carry the angels of heaven with him in rebellion, he could carry also the other worlds. He had artfully presented his side of the question, employing sophistry and fraud to secure his objects. His power to deceive was very great, and by disguising himself in a cloak of falsehood he had gained an advantage. Even the loyal angels could not fully discern his character or see to what his work was leading." –*The Great Controversy*, p. 497.

11. What do you think would happen to the world if God permitted men to develop technology without restraint?

Redemption through Christ

1. List four basic changes that came upon this earth as the result of sin's entrance. Romans 5:12; Isaiah 24:5; 2 Corinthians 4:4; 1 Corinthians 13:12.

"At his creation Adam was placed in dominion over the earth. But by yielding to temptation, he was brought under the power of Satan.... When man became Satan's captive, the dominion which he held, passed to his conqueror. Thus Satan became 'the god of this world.' 2 Corinthians 4:4. He had usurped that dominion over the earth which had been originally given to Adam." *—Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 67.

2. Could man extricate himself from the terrifying situation in which he found himself?

"The fall of man filled all heaven with sorrow. The world that God had made was blighted with the curse of sin and inhabited by beings doomed to misery and death. There appeared no escape for those who had transgressed the law....

"Man had become so degraded by sin that it was impossible for him, in himself, to come into harmony with Him whose nature is purity and goodness." *—Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 63, 64.

3. But what plan did Heaven have before the earth and man were created? Revelation 13:8, last part.
4. What was the foundation of this great plan? John 3:16; 1 John 4:10.
5. What did this sacrifice mean for Heaven and God?

“In all the universe there was but One who could, in behalf of man, satisfy its claims. Since the divine law is as sacred as God Himself, only One equal with God could make atonement for its transgression. None but Christ could redeem fallen man from the curse of the law and bring him again into harmony with Heaven. Christ would take upon Himself the guilt and shame of sin—sin so offensive to a holy God that it must separate the Father and His Son. Christ would reach to the depths of misery to rescue the ruined race....

“The plan of salvation had been laid before the creation of the earth;... yet it was a struggle, even with the King of the universe, to yield up His Son to die for the guilty race.... Oh, the mystery of redemption! the love of God for a world that did not love Him! Who can know the depths of that love which ‘passeth knowledge’? Through endless ages immortal minds, seeking to comprehend the mystery of that incomprehensible love, will wonder and adore.”
—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 63, 64.

6. What original relationship between earth and the rest of the universe, which sin had broken, did Jesus restore?

“Though earth was struck off from the continent of heaven and alienated from its communion, Jesus has connected it again with the sphere of glory.” —*Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, p. 1085.

7. What did this earth become that made His victory possible?

“Lucifer revolted from his allegiance and makes war on the divine government. Christ is appointed to put down the rebellion. He makes the world His battlefield. He stands at the head of the human family. He clothes His divinity with humanity and He passes over the ground where Adam fell and endures all the assaults of Satan’s temptations, but He does not yield in a single instance.”
—*Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 4, p. 1163.

8. For the time being, what has God forbidden the earth to do?

“All nature is confused; for God forbade the earth to carry out the purpose He had originally designed for it. Let there be no peace to the wicked, saith the Lord. The curse of God is upon all creation.

Every year it makes itself more decidedly felt.” –*Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, p. 1085.

9. Where and when did Jesus win the earth back from the evil usurper?

“To the angels and the unfallen worlds the cry, ‘It is finished,’ had a deep significance. It was for them as well as for us that the great work of redemption had been accomplished. They with us share the fruits of Christ’s victory.

“... For the sake of man, Satan’s existence must be continued. Man as well as angels must see the contrast between the Prince of light and the prince of darkness. He must choose whom he will serve.”

“Not until the death of Christ was the character of Satan clearly revealed to the angels or to the unfallen worlds. The archapostate had so clothed himself with deception that even holy beings had not understood his principles.

“Satan saw that his disguise was torn away. His administration was laid open before the unfallen angels and before the heavenly universe. He had revealed himself as a murderer. By shedding the blood of the Son of God, he had uprooted himself from the sympathies of the heavenly beings....

“Yet Satan was not then destroyed. The angels did not even then understand all that was involved in the great controversy. The principles at stake were to be more fully revealed. And for the sake of man, Satan’s existence must be continued. Man as well as angels must see the contrast between the Prince of light and the prince of darkness. He must choose whom he will serve.” –*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 758, 761.



Earth's Present Condition

1. For what purpose did God create the earth?

"Infinite love—how great it is! God made the world to enlarge heaven. He desires a larger family of created intelligences."
—*Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, p. 1081.

2. Despite the many changes that have occurred, what does God control?

"The hand of the Infinite One is perpetually at work guiding this planet."

"It is not by inherent power that year by year the earth yields its bounties and continues its march around the sun. The hand of the Infinite One is perpetually at work guiding this planet. It is God's power continually exercised that keeps the earth in position in its rotation. It is God who causes the sun to rise in the heavens. He opens the windows of heaven and gives rain...."

"It is by His power that vegetation is caused to flourish, that every leaf appears, every flower blooms, every fruit develops." —*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 416.

3. What would Satan do if he had his way?

"Satan's hatred against God leads him to hate every object of the Saviour's care. He seeks to mar the handiwork of God, and he delights in destroying even the dumb creatures. It is only through God's protecting care that the birds are preserved to gladden us with their songs of joy." —*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 356, 357.

4. How does Satan use the earth for his own purpose?

"Satan works through the elements also to garner his harvest of unprepared souls. He has studied the secrets of the laboratories

of nature, and he uses all his power to control the elements as far as God allows.... Satan has control of all whom God does not especially guard. He will favor and prosper some in order to further his own designs, and he will bring trouble upon others and lead men to believe that it is God who is afflicting them.

“While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation. Even now he is at work. in accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow. He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous.” –*The Great Controversy*, pp. 589, 590.

5. List at least five ways that you know of in which men are helping Satan to accomplish his destructive work.
6. How is the earth suffering under the curse of sin? Isaiah 24:4, 5.
7. Therefore, what will the Lord do? Revelation 11:18, last part. Whom does this include?
8. What would happen if Christ did not come soon?

“The present enfeebled condition of the human family was presented before me. Every generation has been growing weaker, and disease of every form afflicts the race. Thousands of poor mortals with deformed, sickly bodies, shattered nerves, and gloomy minds are dragging out a miserable existence. Satan’s power upon the human family increases. If the Lord should not soon come and destroy his power, the earth would ere long be depopulated.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 304.

9. What convulsions of nature will occur when Jesus comes in glory? Isaiah 24:20.

"It is at midnight that God manifests His power for the deliverance of His people. The sun appears, shining in its strength. Signs and wonders follow in quick succession.... Everything in nature seems turned out of its course. The streams cease to flow. Dark, heavy clouds come up and clash against each other....

"The mountains shake like a reed in the wind, and ragged rocks are scattered on every side. There is a roar as of a coming tempest. The sea is lashed into fury. There is heard the shriek of the hurricane like the voice of demons upon a mission of destruction. The whole earth heaves and swells like the waves of the sea. Its surface is breaking up. Its very foundations seem to be giving way. Mountain chains are sinking. Inhabited islands disappear. The seaports that have become like Sodom for wickedness are swallowed up by the angry waters.... The proudest cities of the earth are laid low." –*The Great Controversy*, pp. 636, 637.

10. Of what may God's children be assured, both now and at Christ's coming? Psalm 37:39, 40; Isaiah 25:9.



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Man's Present Condition

1. What question did Jesus ask His disciples? Luke 18:8, last part. Why do you think that He asked this?
2. To what time did He compare the conditions that will exist in society just prior to His coming? Matthew 24:37-39.
3. What sins did the apostle Paul see as characterizing the “last days”? 2 Timothy 3:1-7.
4. In what places of the earth are these characteristics now the strongest?
5. What is the reason for the moral conditions of today's world? Ecclesiastes 8:11; 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12.

“The setting aside of the divine precepts gave rise to thousands of springs of evil, discord, hatred, iniquity, until the earth became one vast field of strife, one sink of corruption.” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 655.

6. On a global scale, where is human violence leading? Matthew 24:6, 7; Revelation 16:14-16.
7. Against whom will men's wrath and violence, fired on by Satan himself, be directed as the time for the earth's end draws near? Revelation 12:17; 13:15-17.

8. Who are especially responsible for the wickedness of the nations? Jeremiah 23:1, 2; 25:34, 35.

“Ministers and people see that they have not sustained the right relation to God. They see that they have rebelled against the Author of all just and righteous law.... This is the view that now appears to those who rejected truth and chose to cherish error. No language can express the longing which the disobedient and disloyal feel for that which they have lost forever—eternal life. Men whom the world has worshiped for their talents and eloquence now see these things in their true light. They realize what they have forfeited by transgression, and they fall at the feet of those whose fidelity they have despised and derided, and confess that God has loved them.

“The people see that they have been deluded. They accuse one another of having led them to destruction; but all unite in heaping their bitterest condemnation upon the ministers. Unfaithful pastors have prophesied smooth things; they have led their hearers to make void the law of God and to persecute those who would keep it holy. Now, in their despair, these teachers confess before the world their work of deception.” —*The Great Controversy*, pp. 655, 656.

9. Just before the destruction of all wickedness, what one last call of mercy will go out to the world? Revelation 18:4, 5.

“The earth is to be encircled with an atmosphere of grace.”

“In the future the earth is to be lightened with the glory of God. A holy influence is to go forth to the world from those who are sanctified through the truth. The earth is to be encircled with an atmosphere of grace. The Holy Spirit is to work on human hearts, taking the things of God and showing them to men.” —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 9, p. 40.



The Christian and the Earth

1. For what purpose did God create the earth and everything in it? Psalm 24:1; Isaiah 45:18.

“The beauty that clothes the earth is a token of God’s love. We may behold it in the everlasting hills, in the lofty trees, in the opening buds and the delicate flowers. All speak to us of God. The Sabbath, ever pointing to Him who made them all, bids men open the great book of nature and trace therein the wisdom, the power, and the love of the Creator.” –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 48.

2. What treasure can God’s people still find in the earth?

“With proper, intelligent cultivation the earth will yield its treasures for the benefit of man.”

“If the land is cultivated, it will, with the blessing of God, supply our necessities. We are not to be discouraged about temporal things because of apparent failures, nor should we be disheartened by delay. We should work the soil cheerfully, hopefully, gratefully, believing that the earth holds in her bosom rich stores for the faithful worker to garner, stores richer than gold or silver. The niggardliness laid to her charge is false witness. With proper, intelligent cultivation the earth will yield its treasures for the benefit of man.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 178.

3. What promise is given, even in view of the poisons poured upon the earth by wicked men?

“The mountains and hills are changing; the earth is waxing old like a garment; but the blessing of God, which spreads a table for His people in the wilderness, will never cease.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 178.

4. In harmony with God’s plan, what is man’s relationship to the physical resources of earth?

"In our labor we are to be workers together with God. He gives us the earth and its treasures; but we must adapt them to our use and comfort. He causes the trees to grow, but we prepare the timber and build the house. He has hidden in the earth the gold and silver, the iron and coal; but it is only through toil that we can obtain them...."

"To us has been given a degree of control over the forces of nature. As God called forth the earth in its beauty out of chaos, so we can bring order and beauty out of confusion. And though all things are now marred with evil, yet in our completed work we feel a joy akin to His, when, looking on the fair earth, He pronounced it 'very good.'" –*Education*, pp. 214, 215.

5. Where should man live?

"... The Lord would have thousands ... working upon the soil who are crowded into the cities...."

"There is wisdom for him who holds the plow, and plants and sows the seed. The earth has its concealed treasures, and the Lord would have thousands and tens of thousands working upon the soil who are crowded into the cities to watch for a chance to earn a trifle; in many cases that trifle is not turned into bread, but is put into the till of the publican, to obtain that which destroys the reason of man formed in the image of God.

"Those who will take their families into the country, place them where they have fewer temptations. The children who are with parents that love and fear God, are in every way much better situated to learn of the Great Teacher, who is the source and fountain of wisdom." –*Fundamentals of Christian Education*, p. 326.

6. What suffering has sin brought upon the animal world? Romans 8:22.

7. Therefore, what is the Christian's responsibility?

"Surely, then, it becomes man to seek to lighten, instead of increasing, the weight of suffering which his transgression has brought upon God's creatures. He who will abuse animals because he has them in his power is both a coward and a tyrant. A disposition to cause pain, whether to our fellowmen or to the brute creation, is satanic. Many do not realize that their cruelty will ever be known, because the poor dumb animals cannot reveal it.

But could the eyes of these men be opened,... they would see an angel of God standing as a witness, to testify against them in the courts above. A record goes up to heaven, and a day is coming when judgment will be pronounced against those who abuse God's creatures." *—Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 443.*

8. Make a list of things that you can do to benefit the earth and its creatures.

"The world, with everything in it, is yours so far as it can do you good." *—Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, 110.*



The Christian and Man

1. What sadly unique characteristic applies to man?

“Of all the creatures that God has made upon the earth, man alone is rebellious.” –*The Sanctified Life*, p. 76.

2. Because of this, what has happened to him and his body?

“Our bodies are Christ’s purchased property, and we are not at liberty to do with them as we please.”

“Our bodies are Christ’s purchased property, and we are not at liberty to do with them as we please. Man has done this. He has treated his body as if its laws had no penalty. Through perverted appetite its organs and powers have become enfeebled, diseased, and crippled. And these results which Satan has brought about by his own specious temptations he uses to taunt God with. He presents before God the human body that Christ has purchased as His property, and what an unsightly representation of his Maker man is! Because man has sinned against his body and has corrupted his ways, God is dishonored.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 369.

3. Nevertheless, what value does God place upon every human being?
John 3:16.

“Rich and poor, high and low, free and bond, are God’s heritage. He who gave His life to redeem man sees in every human being a value that exceeds finite computation. By the mystery and glory of the cross we are to discern His estimate of the value of the soul.” –*The Ministry of Healing*, pp. 162, 163.

4. Realizing this, what will be our attitude toward every other person on earth? Philippians 2:3; John 13:34.

“If Christ dwells in us, we shall reveal His unselfish love toward all with whom we have to do.”

“Every human being is the object of loving interest to Him who gave His life that He might bring men back to God. Souls guilty and helpless, liable to be destroyed by the arts and snares of Satan, are cared for as a shepherd cares for the sheep of his flock....

“The same interest and tenderness and longsuffering that He has manifested toward us, we are to manifest toward others.... If Christ dwells in us, we shall reveal His unselfish love toward all with whom we have to do. As we see men and women in need of sympathy and help, we shall not ask, ‘Are they worthy?’ but ‘How can I benefit them?’” –*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 162.

5. What does man not have to be concerned about? Whose responsibility is this? Luke 6:37; John 5:26, 27, 30.
6. Where should men’s minds be turned for both intellectual and spiritual growth?

“As a means of intellectual training, the Bible is more effective than any other book, or all other books combined. The greatness of its themes, the dignified simplicity of its utterances, the beauty of its imagery, quicken and uplift the thoughts as nothing else can. No other study can impart such mental power as does the effort to grasp the stupendous truths of revelation. The mind thus brought in contact with the thoughts of the Infinite cannot but expand and strengthen.

“And even greater is the power of the Bible in the development of the spiritual nature. Man, created for fellowship with God, can only in such fellowship find his real life and development.” –*Education*, p. 124.

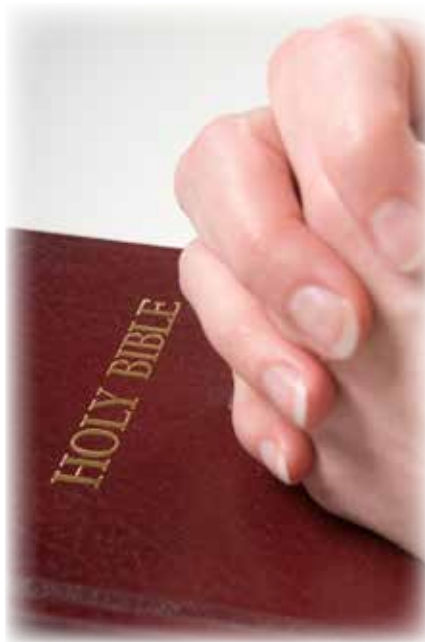
7. What facts should be constantly kept in mind?

“Teach the children that because of God’s great love their natures may be changed and brought into harmony with His.” –*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, p. 98.

“All men are of one family by creation, and all are one through redemption. Christ came to demolish every wall of partition, to throw open every compartment of the temple courts, that every soul may have free access to God. His love is so broad, so deep,

so full, that it penetrates everywhere. It lifts out of Satan's influence those who have been deluded by his deceptions, and places them within reach of the throne of God, the throne encircled by the rainbow of promise." –*Prophets and Kings*, p. 370.

8. List some ways in which you can carry out these principles in your own life.



1. What does the plan of redemption accomplish for the physical earth?

“The great plan of redemption results in fully bringing back the world into God’s favor. All that was lost by sin is restored. Not only man but the earth is redeemed, to be the eternal abode of the obedient.” –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 342.

2. Why will God not accept failure in His plan for this earth? Isaiah 45:18.
3. What is going to happen to all of the defilement, both physical and spiritual, of this earth? Malachi 4:1; 2 Peter 3:10; Revelation 20:10, 14, 15.
4. What will the new earth be like? Isaiah 35:1, 2; 1 Corinthians 2:9.
5. How long will the new earth last? What will be remembered of this present world? Isaiah 65:17, 18.
6. Where does all beauty—both now and in eternity—come from?

“In the varied scenes of nature also are lessons of divine wisdom for all who have learned to commune with God....

“From the solemn roll of the deep-toned thunder and old ocean’s ceaseless roar, to the glad songs that make the forests vocal with melody, nature’s ten thousand voices speak His praise. In earth and sea and sky, with their marvelous tint and color, varying in gorgeous contrast or blended in harmony, we behold His glory. The everlasting hills tell of His power. The trees that wave their green

“All the brightness and beauty that adorn the earth and light up the heavens speak of God.”

banners in the sunlight and the flowers in their delicate beauty point to their Creator. The living green that carpets the brown earth tells of God’s care for the humblest of His creatures. The caves of the sea and the depths of the earth reveal His treasures. He who placed the pearls in the ocean and the amethyst and chrysolite among the rocks is a lover of the beautiful. The sun rising in the heavens is a representative of Him who is the life and light of all that He has made. All the brightness and beauty that adorn the earth and light up the heavens speak of God...

“Let all that is beautiful in our earthly home remind us of the crystal river and green fields, the waving trees and living fountains, the shining city and the white-robed singers, of our heavenly home—that world of beauty which no artist can picture, no mortal tongue describe.” —*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, pp. 54, 55.

7. What special place will be there?

“When the tide of iniquity overspread the world, and the wickedness of men determined their destruction by a flood of waters, the hand that had planted Eden withdrew it from the earth. But in the final restitution, when there shall be ‘a new heaven and a new earth’ (Revelation 21:1), it is to be restored more gloriously adorned than at the beginning.

“Then they that have kept God’s commandments shall breathe in immortal vigor beneath the tree of life; and through unending ages the inhabitants of sinless worlds shall behold, in that garden of delight, a sample of the perfect work of God’s creation, untouched by the curse of sin—a sample of what the whole earth would have become, had man but fulfilled the Creator’s glorious plan.” —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 62.

8. How should one’s imagination be engaged to think about the blessings that God is preparing for His people and to long to be in the new earth?

“A fear of making the future inheritance seem too material has led many to spiritualize away the very truths which lead us to look upon it as our home. Christ assured His disciples that He went to prepare mansions for them in the Father’s house. Those who accept the teachings of God’s word will not be wholly ignorant concerning the heavenly abode.” —*The Great Controversy*, pp. 674, 675.

9. What delight will be found in the animals inhabiting the new earth? Isaiah 11:6-9.
10. What especially gives you joy when you read about the glorious capital city of the new earth? Revelation 21:2, 10-21, 25.

“The light of the sun will be superseded by a radiance which is not painfully dazzling, yet which immeasurably surpasses the brightness of our noontide. The glory of God and the Lamb floods the Holy City with unfading light. The redeemed walk in the sunless glory of perpetual day.” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 676.



1. What will each one of the redeemed take with him from this earth to heaven and the new earth? Revelation 3:21.

“A character formed according to the divine likeness is the only treasure that we can take from this world to the next. Those who are under the instruction of Christ in this world will take every divine attainment with them to the heavenly mansions. And in heaven we are continually to improve. How important, then, is the development of character in this life.” —*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 332.

2. What will the inhabitants of the new earth do? Isaiah 65:21; 32:18; 66:23.

“There the grandest enterprises may be carried forward, the loftiest aspirations reached, the highest ambitions realized; and still there will arise new heights to surmount, new wonders to admire, new truths to comprehend, fresh objects to call forth the powers of mind and soul and body.” —*The Great Controversy*, p. 677.

3. Why is eternity called a school?

“Heaven is a school; its field of study, the universe; its teacher, the Infinite One. A branch of this school was established in Eden; and, the plan of redemption accomplished, education will again be taken up in the Eden school.” —*Education*, p. 301.

4. What lies between the two Eden schools?

“Between the school established in Eden at the beginning and the school of the hereafter there lies the whole compass of this

world's history –the history of human transgression and suffering, of divine sacrifice, and of victory over death and sin.” –*Education*, pp. 301, 302.

5. What marks of love's victory over sin will remain for eternity? Habakkuk 3:3, 4.

“One reminder alone remains: our Redeemer will ever bear the marks of His crucifixion. Upon His wounded head, upon His side, His hands and feet, are the only traces of the cruel work that sin has wrought.... And the tokens of His humiliation are His highest honor; through the eternal ages the wounds of Calvary will show forth His praise and declare His power.” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 674.

6. What truth will ring throughout the universe? 1 John 4:16.
7. Will anyone ever get tired of what God has prepared in eternity for those who love Him?

“And the years of eternity, as they roll, will bring richer and still more glorious revelations of God and of Christ. As knowledge is progressive, so will love, reverence, and happiness increase. The more men learn of God, the greater will be their admiration of His character....” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 678.

8. What will then have been accomplished?

“The great controversy is ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation.... From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love.” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 678.

