



Vol. 10

THIRD YEAR
FIRST QUARTER

Sabbath School Lessons

Revival & Reformation

YOUTH
SABBATH SCHOOL
LESSONS



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FIRST QUARTER

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A REVIVAL

INTRODUCTION

The lessons for this quarter cover a very important phase of the Advent message—"Revival and Reformation." In these days of general spiritual decline, when we are bombarded with all kinds of conflicting ideas and impressions, it is imperative that we have our eyes open to the grave dangers with which our present society is plagued.

In this great confusion, we need more than human philosophy to guide us. We have strong, divine arguments, found in the "law and testimony." Isaiah 8:20.

These are not merely Sabbath School lessons, but a unique curriculum to instruct you in the deep truths of Reformation.

Teachers, exhort your pupils to conscientiously read and study the material during the week—systematically read each Bible quotation, testimony or other note given, and the question presented; then write the appropriate answer.

May the Holy Spirit guide you into a deep knowledge of God's glorious truth for this time and lead you continually onward and upward to the feet of Jesus.

ABBREVIATIONS

AA	The Acts of Apostles	MYP . . .	Messages to Young People
COL	Christ's Object Lessons	PP	Patriarchs and Prophets
CH	Counsels on Health	PK	Prophets and Kings
DA	The Desire of Ages	RH	The Review and Herald
Ev	Evangelism	SC	Steps to Christ
EW	Early Writings	1SM . . .	Selected Messages, book 1
GC	The Great Controversy	2SM . . .	Selected Messages, book 2
GW	Gospel Workers	1T . . .	Testimonies for the Church, vol. 1 (2T etc., for vols. 2-9)
HL	Healthful Living	TM	Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers
LS	Life Sketches of Ellen G. White		
MB	Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing		

Romans 13:11. "Renewed interest in religion, after indifference and decline; a period of religious awakening." Webster.

1. What is a revival?

Revelation 2:4. "Why not come back to our simplicity and life of fervor? The reason that we are not more joyful is, that we have lost our first love. Let us then be zealous and repent, . . ." —6T, p. 368.

2. In what danger has the church always been?

Isaiah 60:1. "If there is not an awakening among us who have had so great light and so many privileges, we shall sink to ruin, and our fate will be worse than that of Chorazin and Bethsaida, . . ." —5T, p. 529.

3. What are we admonished to do because of the light we have received?

Matthew 24:43; Revelation 3:3. "The world, full of rioting, full of godless pleasure, is asleep, asleep in carnal security. Men are putting afar off the coming of the Lord. They laugh at warnings. The proud boast is made, 'All things continue as they were from the beginning.' 'Tomorrow shall be as this day, and much more abundant.' We will go deeper into pleasureloving. But Christ says, 'Behold, I come as a thief.' " —DA, p. 625.

4. How will Christ surprise people at His coming?

Acts 17:11. "The end is near, and God forbid that we shall be asleep at this time. I am so thankful to see with our ministering brethren a disposition to search the Scriptures for themselves. There has been a great lack of deep searching of the Scriptures, storing the mind with the gems of truth. How much we all lose because we do not put to the tax our minds to search with much prayer for divine enlightenment to understand His Holy Word." —1SM, p. 362.

5. In view of this, what should we do?

Joel 2:15-17; 12-14. "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.” —GC, p. 464.

“A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work.” —ISM, p. 121.

6. What true revival must and will come before the end of time?

1 John 5:15; Matthew 7:7. “A revival need be expected only in answer to prayer. While the people are so destitute of God’s Holy Spirit, they cannot appreciate the preaching of the Word; but when the Spirit’s power touches their hearts, then the discourses given will not be without effect.” —ISM, p. 121.

7. In order to experience this revival, what must we do?

Leviticus 19:32; Jeremiah 6:16. “The old standard-bearers knew what it was to wrestle with God in prayer, and to enjoy the outpouring of His Spirit. But these are passing off from the stage of action; and who are coming up to fill their places? How is it with the rising generation? Are they converted to God? Are we awake to the work that is going on in the heavenly sanctuary, or are we waiting for some compelling power to come upon the church before we shall arouse? Are we hoping to see the whole church revived? That time will never come.” —ISM, p. 122.

8. Whom should young people especially respect, and why?

Isaiah 59:1, 2; 1 Peter 5:8. “There is nothing that Satan fears so much as that the people of God shall clear the way by removing every hindrance, so that the Lord can pour out His Spirit upon a languishing church and an impenitent congregation. If Satan had his way, there would never be another awakening, great or small, to the end of time.” —ISM, p. 124.

9. What hinders a revival? Who is working behind the scenes?

Deuteronomy 27:15-26 (last sentence each verse). “Amen, So be it;—used in solemn ratification, as of a creed or prayer, or colloquially as an expression of approval.” —Webster.

“Praise the Lord in the congregation of His people. When the word of the Lord was spoken to the Hebrews anciently, the command was, ‘And let all the people say, Amen.’ When the ark of the covenant was brought into the city of David, and a psalm of joy and triumph was chanted, all the people said, ‘Amen, and praised the Lord.’ This fervent response was an evidence that they understood the word spoken, and joined in the worship of God.” —ST, p. 318.

10. What hearty response was often expressed in Bible times?

11. Should this custom be revived today?

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Lesson 2

INDIFFERENCE AND APATHY

Ezekiel 33:31, 32. “Will you, young friends, arise and shake off this dreadful indifference and stupor which has conformed you to the world? Will you heed the voice of warning which tells you that destruction lies in the path of those who are at ease in this hour of danger? God’s patience will not always wait for you, poor trifling souls. He who holds our destinies in His hands will not always be trifled with. Jesus declares to us that there is a greater sin than that which caused the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. It is the sin of those who have the great light of truth in these days, and who are not moved to repentance. It is the sin of rejecting the light of the most solemn message of mercy to the world.” —3T, p. 380.

1. To what grave danger are young people especially prone?

Isaiah 5:20, 21; Matthew 7:18. “Satan will work with 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 try to stir up against them the rage of those who, while claiming to be righteous, trample upon the law of God.” —GW, p. 264.

2. Does it matter whether we call a thing good or bad?

Amos 5:21-24. “Form and ceremony do not constitute the kingdom of God. Ceremonies become multitudinous and extravagant as the vital principles of the kingdom of God are lost. But it is not form and ceremony that Christ requires. . . .

“Gorgeous apparel, fine singing, and instrumental music in the church do not call forth the songs of the angel choir. In the sight of God these things are like the branches of the unfruitful fig tree which bore nothing but pretentious

leaves. Christ looks for fruit, for the principles of goodness and sympathy and love. These are the principles of heaven, and when they are revealed in the lives of human beings, we may know that Christ is formed within, the hope of glory. A congregation may be the poorest in the land, without music or outward show, but if it possesses these principles, the members can sing, for the joy of Christ is in their souls, and this they can offer as a sweet oblation to God." —Ev, p. 511.

3. Can impressive church services, beautiful singing and instrumental music alone commend us to God?

Romans 2:4-6. "The reason why there are so many hard-hearted men and women in the world is that true affection has been regarded as weakness, and has been discouraged and repressed. The better nature of these persons was stifled in childhood; and unless the light of divine love shall melt away their cold selfishness, their happiness will be forever ruined. If we wish our children to possess the tender spirit of Jesus, and the sympathy that angels manifest for us, we must encourage the generous, loving impulses of childhood." —DA, p. 516.

4. If Christ's stirring appeals arouse no response in us, what might be the reason?

Philippians 2:12; Hebrews 12:4. "Day by day and year by year we shall conquer self, and grow into a noble heroism. This is our allotted task; but it cannot be accomplished without help from Jesus, resolute decision, unwavering purpose, continual watchfulness, and unceasing prayer. Each one has a personal battle to fight. Not even God can make our characters noble and our lives useful, unless we become co-workers with Him. Those who decline the struggle, lose the strength and joy of victory." —MH, p. 487.

5. Is effort on our part necessary for our salvation? How much effort?

Ephesians 4:14. "God calls for men and women of stability, of firm purpose, who can be relied upon in seasons of danger and trial, who are as firmly rooted and grounded in the truth as the eternal hills, who cannot be swayed to the right or to the left, but who move straight onward and are always found on the right side. There are some, who, in time of religious peril, may almost always be looked for in the ranks of the enemy; if they have any influence, it is on the wrong side." —4T, p. 75.

6. Should we treat doctrines of truth with indifference? Why not?

Matthew 26:40, 41. "But the disciples trusted to themselves. They did not look to the mighty helper as Christ had counseled them to do. Thus when the Saviour was most in need of their sympathy and prayers, they were found asleep. Even Peter was sleeping.

"And John, the loving disciple who had leaned upon the breast of Jesus, was asleep. Surely, the love of John for his Master should have kept him awake." —DA, p. 688.

7. What great weakness did the disciples reveal in a time of crisis?

1 Thessalonians 5:6. "Watch, brethren, the first dimming of your light, the first neglect of prayer, the first symptom of spiritual slumber. 'He that endureth to the end shall be saved.' It is by the constant exercise of faith and love that believers are made to shine as lights in the world. . . .

"Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation.' There are stern battles for you to fight. You should put on the whole armor of righteousness, and prove yourselves strong and true in your Redeemer's service." —4T, pp. 124, 125.

8. Are we in the same danger today? Why?

Matthew 24:48-50. "Faith in the soon coming of Christ is waning. 'My Lord delayeth His coming' is not only said in the heart, but expressed in words, and most decidedly in works. Stupidity in this watching time is sealing the senses of God's people as to the signs of the times. The terrible iniquity which abounds calls for the greatest diligence and for the living testimony, to keep sin out of the church. Faith has been decreasing to a fearful degree, and it is only by exercise that it can increase." —3T, pp. 255, 256.

9. What is another great danger? Why?

2 Peter 3:9; Hebrews 10:35-37. "Our Lord delays because of His long-suffering to us-ward, 'not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.' But when we, with all the redeemed, shall stand upon the sea of glass, with harps of gold and crowns of glory, and before us the immensity of eternity, then we shall see how short was the waiting period of probation. 'Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when He cometh shall find watching.' " —5T, p. 485.

10. Why has Christ not come yet? Of what may we be sure?

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THE MANY

Ephesians 2:2, 3; 1 John 5:19. "If members were an evidence of success, Satan might claim the pre-eminence; for in this world his followers are largely in the majority." —6T, p. 143.

"The spirit of the world is no more in harmony with the spirit of Christ today than in earlier times; and those who preach the word of Christ in its purity will be received with no greater favor now than then. The forms of opposition to the truth may change, the enmity may be less open because it is more subtle; but the same antagonism still exists, and will be manifested to the end of time." —GC, p. 144.

1. Who is ruling the majority of people on earth? How do you know?

Romans 3:10-18; 2 Timothy 3:1-5. "We are living in the midst of an 'epidemic of crime,' at which thoughtful, God-fearing men everywhere stand aghast. The corruption that prevails is beyond the power of the human pen to describe. Every day brings fresh revelation of political strife, bribery, and fraud; every day brings its heartsickening record of violence and lawlessness, of indifference to human suffering; of brutal, fiendish destruction of human life. Every day testifies to the increase of insanity, murder, and suicide." —9T, p. 89.

2. What is the general condition of society today? Can you see this yourself?

Isaiah 24:5, 6. "In this time of prevailing iniquity we may know that the last crisis is at hand. When the defiance of God's law is almost universal, when his people are oppressed and afflicted by their fellowmen, the Lord will interpose." —COL, p. 178.

"We are living in an age of great wickedness. Multitudes are enslaved by sinful customs and evil habits, and the fetters that bind them are difficult to break. Iniquity, like a flood, is deluding the earth. Crimes almost too fearful to be mentioned, are of daily occurrence. And yet men professing to be watchmen on the walls of Zion will teach that the law was designed for the Jews only, and passed away with the glorious privileges that ushered in the gospel age. Is there not a relation between the prevailing lawlessness and crime, and the fact that ministers and people hold and teach that the law is no longer of binding force?" —1SM, pp. 219, 220.

3. What is the cause for all the iniquity in the world? Why?

Genesis 6:5, 7, 11-13. "It was not multitudes or majorities that were on the side of right. The world was arrayed against God's justice and His laws, and Noah was regarded as a fanatic. . . . 'The threatenings of God,' they said, 'are for the purpose of intimidating, and will never be verified. You need not be alarmed. Such an event as the destruction of the world by the God who made it, and the punishment of the beings He has created, will never take place. Be at peace; fear not. Noah is a wild fanatic.'" —PP, p. 96.

4. What calamity befell the vast majority of people on earth in Noah's day? Will it be different today?

Romans 9:27. "The majority of nominal Christians, while they profess to be living for Christ, are really living for the world. They do not discern the excellence of heavenly things, and therefore cannot truly love them. Many profess to be Christians because Christianity is considered honorable. They do not discern that genuine Christianity means cross-bearing, and their religion has little influence to restrain them from taking part in worldly pleasures." —MYP, p. 374.

5. Even if God's professed church would number in the millions today, would they all be saved? Why not?

Romans 7:14, 15, 19; 6:16. "Fallen man is Satan's lawful captive. The mission of Jesus Christ was to rescue him from his power. Man is naturally inclined to follow Satan's suggestions, and he cannot of himself successfully resist so terrible a foe, unless Christ, the mighty conqueror, dwells in him, guiding his desires, and giving him strength. God alone can limit the power of Satan." —MYP, p. 51.

6. Why does sin have such power over all humanity?

Isaiah 60:2, first part; John 1:5; 3:19. "As error is fast progressing, we should seek to be awake in the cause of God, and realize the time in which we live. Darkness is to cover the earth, and gross darkness the people. And as nearly all around us are being enveloped in the thick darkness of error and delusion, it becomes us to shake off stupidity and live near to God, where we can draw divine rays of light and glory from the countenance of Jesus. As darkness thickens and error increases, we should obtain a more thorough knowledge of the truth, and be prepared to maintain our position from the Scriptures." —EW, pp. 104, 105.

7. With what is this general condition compared?

Exodus 23:2; 1 Corinthians 1:19, 20. "The opinions of learned men, the deductions of science, the creeds or decisions of ecclesiastical councils, as numerous and discordant as are the churches which they represent, the voice of the majority—not one nor all of these should be regarded as evidence for or against any point of religious faith. Before accepting any doctrine or precept, we should demand a plain 'Thus saith the Lord' in its support. . . .

"The multitudes do not want Bible truth, because it interferes with the desires of the sinful, world-loving heart; and Satan supplies the deception which they love." —GC, p. 595.

8. In matters of faith and truth, whom should we not listen to? Why not?

Revelation 17:15. "In Revelation 17, an angel explained that waters represent 'peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.' Winds are a symbol of strife. The four winds of heaven striving upon the great sea, represent the terrible scenes of conquest and revolution by which kingdoms have attained to power." —GC, p. 440.

9. With what are the multitudes of people compared?

Matthew 7:13; Jeremiah 21:8. "God sets before man life and death. He can have his choice. Many desire life, but still continue to walk in the broad road. They choose to rebel against God's government, notwithstanding His great mercy and compassion in giving His Son to die for them. Those who do not choose to accept of the salvation so dearly purchased, must be punished. . . . After the wicked are destroyed from off the earth, all the heavenly host will say, 'Amen.' " —EW, p. 221.

"There are thousands who are traveling the road of darkness and error, the broad road which leads to death, who flatter themselves that they are in the path to happiness and Heaven; but they will never find the one nor reach the other." —3T, p. 438.

10. What road does the multitude travel? How many ways are there?

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Lesson 4

THE FEW

Luke 13:23, 34. "It is not possible for us to drift into heaven. No sluggard can enter there. If we do not strive to gain an entrance into the kingdom, if we do not seek earnestly to learn what constitutes its laws, we are not fitted for a part in it. Those who refuse to cooperate with God on earth, would not cooperate with Him in heaven. It would not be safe to take them to heaven." —COL, p. 280.

1. What did someone ask Jesus, and what was His answer? Why is this so?

Isaiah 1:9; 4:3; Romans 11:5. "A train of cars was shown me, going with the speed of lightning. The angel bade me look carefully. I fixed my eyes upon the train. It seemed that the whole world was on board, that there could not be one left. . . .

"I asked the angel if there were none left. He bade me look in an opposite direction, and I saw a little company traveling in a narrow pathway. All seemed to be firmly united, bound together by the truth, in bundles, or companies." —EW, pp. 88, 89.

2. Are there any people left who will obey God? How many?

1 Peter 3:20. "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." —PP, p. 102.

3. How many of the millions in Noah's day were saved?

Judges 7:6, 7; 1 Samuel 14:6, last part. "The three hundred chosen men not only possessed courage and self-control, but they were men of faith. They had not defiled themselves with idolatry. God could direct them, and through them He could work deliverance for Israel. Success does not depend upon numbers. God can deliver by few as well as by many. He is honored not so much by the great numbers as by the character of those who serve Him." —PP, pp. 549, 550.

4. Does it take large numbers to gain victories in God's cause? Why not?

Deuteronomy 7:7; Revelation 12:17. "Concerning Israel, the Lord declared, 'The people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations.' Numbers 23:9. To us, as well as to ancient Israel, these words apply. God's people are to stand alone." —7T, p. 109.

"Never be ashamed of your faith; never be found on the side of the enemy. 'Ye are the light of the world.' Your faith is to be revealed as precious truth—truth which all should have, and all must have, if they are saved. As a people, we are in the minority. We are not popular. Our enemies will be watching us for evil, to betray us, and to ruin our souls. They will not appreciate our motives." —5T, pp. 520, 521.

5. Should we compare the size of God's church with that of other churches? Why not?

Matthew 22:14; 7:21. "The word of God plainly tells us that few will be saved, and that the greater number of those even who are called, will prove themselves unworthy of everlasting life. They will have no part in Heaven, but will have their portion with Satan, and experience the second death." —2T, p. 294.

6. Is it enough to be a baptized member of a church? Give reasons!

Zephaniah 3:12, 13; Revelation 14:5. "Oh, how many I saw in the time of trouble without a shelter! They had neglected the needful preparation; therefore they could not receive the refreshing that all must have to fit them to live in the sight of a holy God. . . . I saw that none could share the 'refreshing,' unless they obtain the victory over every besetment, over pride, selfishness, love of the world, and over every wrong word and action. . . . Let all remember that God is holy and that none but holy beings can ever dwell in His presence." —EW, p. 71.

7. In what spiritual condition must the few genuine believers be found? Why?

Ezekiel 9:4; Matthew 5:4. "The class who do not feel grieved over their own spiritual declension, nor mourn over the sins of others, will be left without the seal of God. . . .

"At the time when the danger and depression of the church are greatest, the little company who are standing in the light will be sighing and crying for the abominations that are done in the land. But more especially will their prayers arise in behalf of the church, because its members are doing after the manner of the world." —5T, pp. 211, 209, 210.

8. What special characteristic marks the small remnant church?

James 4:7-10. "Real sorrow for sin is the result of the working of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit reveals the ingratitude of the heart that has slighted and grieved the Saviour, and brings us in contrition to the foot of the cross. By every sin, Jesus is wounded afresh; and as we look upon Him whom we have pierced, we mourn for the sins that have brought anguish upon Him. Such mourning will lead to the renunciation of sin." —DA, p. 300.

9. Why should we weep and mourn over our sins?

Acts 1:13, 14. "Putting away all differences, all desire for the supremacy, they came close together in Christian fellowship. They drew nearer and nearer to God, . . ." —AA, p. 37.

"Revival signifies a renewal of spiritual life, a quickening of the powers of mind and heart, a resurrection from spiritual death." —RH, February 25, 1902.

"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?" —ISM, p. 402.

10. What experience did the disciples need? Is this experience also necessary for us today?

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Lesson 5

EMOTIONAL, FALSE REVIVALS

Isaiah 2:1-5. "I saw that God has honest children among the nominal Adventists and the fallen churches, and before the plagues shall be poured out, ministers and people will be called out from these churches and will gladly receive the truth. Satan knows this; and before the loud cry of the third angel is given, he raises an excitement in these religious bodies, that those who have rejected the truth may think that God is with them. He hopes to deceive the honest and lead them to think that God is still working for the churches." —EW, p. 261.

1. What great false religious revival will sweep the world in the last days?

2 Corinthians 11:13-15. "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 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. . . . 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." —GC, p. 464.

2. When God's true revival is due, what will Satan do? Are we aware of Satan's deceptions?

Joel 3:9-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:3. "The battle of Armageddon is soon to be fought. He on whose vesture is written the name, King of kings, and Lord of lords, is soon to lead forth the armies of heaven." —6T, p. 406.

3. In reality, what is taking place behind the scenes?

Revelation 13:13, 14. "Fearful sights of a supernatural character will soon be revealed in the heavens, in token of the power of miracle-working demons. The spirits of devils will go forth to the kings of the earth and to the whole world, to fasten them in deception, and urge them on to unite with Satan in his last struggle against the government of heaven. By these agencies, rulers and subjects will be alike deceived." —GC, pp. 623, 624.

4. Will supernatural miracles work in favor of this false revival? Why?

Genesis 3:6. Appetite, beauty, and intelligence. "Satan's influence is constantly exerted upon men to distract the senses, control the mind for evil, and incite to violence and crime. He weakens the body, darkens the intellect, and debases the soul. Whenever men reject the Saviour's invitation, they are yielding themselves to Satan. Multitudes in every department in life, in the home, in business, and even in the church, are doing this today. It is because of this that violence and crime have overspread the earth, and moral darkness, like a pall of death, enshrouds the habitations of men." —DA, p. 341.

5. As in his first deception, through what senses will Satan control the mind?

Proverbs 25:28. The word "emotion" is not used in the Bible; instead we find it described as the "spirit" in man, meaning his inner sensibilities.

"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." —4T, p. 188.

"Religion is not merely an emotion, a feeling. It is a principle which is interwoven with all the daily duties and transactions of life." —2T, p. 506.

"Satan leads people to think that because they have felt a rapture of feeling they are converted. But their experience does not change. Their actions are the same as before. Their lives show no good fruit. . . . They are deceived. Their experience goes no deeper than feeling. They build upon the sand, and when adverse winds come their house is swept away." —MYP, p. 71.

6. What is said of one who cannot control his emotions? Can we trust our emotions or depend on them? Why not?

Romans 12:2. "The minds of many take so low a level that God cannot work either for them or with them. The current of their thoughts must be changed, their moral sensibilities must be aroused, before they can feel the claims of God." —CH, p. 22.

7. What change must take place in our minds before we can acknowledge God's claims?

Amos 5:23. "The things you have described as taking place. . . , the Lord has shown me would take place just before the close of probation. Every uncouth thing will be demonstrated. There will be shouting, with drums, music, and dancing. The senses of rational beings will become so confused that they cannot be trusted to make right decisions. And this is called the moving of the Holy Spirit.

"The Holy Spirit never reveals itself in such methods, in such a bedlam of noise. This is an invention of Satan to cover up his ingenious methods for making of none effect the pure, sincere, elevating, ennobling, sanctifying truth for this time. . . . 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.

"No encouragement should be given to this kind of worship." —2SM, pp. 36, 37.

8. What means, used in false revivals, does God not approve of?

2 Timothy 3:1, 5; Matthew 7:21; Luke 6:46. "We are not only to say, 'I believe,' but to practice the truth. It is by conformity to the will of God in our words, our deportment, our character, that we prove our connection with Him. Whenever one renounces sin, which is the transgression of the law, his life will be brought into conformity to the law, into perfect obedience. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. . . . The line of demarcation will be plain and distinct between those who love God and keep His commandments, and those who love Him not and disregard His precepts." —6T, p. 92.

9. What will be outstanding in the last days, but what will be lacking?

2 Peter 1:10; 1 Corinthians 10:12. "The welfare of your soul, and your eternal happiness depend upon whether your foundation is built upon Christ. While others are panting after earthly enjoyments, be ye panting after the unmistakable assurance of the love of God, earnestly, fervently crying, Who will show me how to make my calling and election sure? One of the signs of the last days is, that professed Christians are lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God. Deal truly with your own soul. Search carefully. How few, after a faithful examination, can look up to Heaven and say, 'I am not one of those thus described! I am not a lover of pleasure more than a lover of God!' How few can say, 'I am dead to the world. . . .'" —2T, p. 145.

10. What alone can keep us from falling into the last-day deceptions?

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Lesson 6

A TRUE REVIVAL BY GOD'S SPIRIT

Ephesians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 2:4. "Only the mind and heart cleansed by the sanctification of the Spirit can discern heavenly things.

"Brethren, in the name of the Lord I call upon you to awake to your duty. Let your hearts be yielded to the power of the Holy Spirit, and they will be made susceptible to the teaching of the word. Then you will be able to discern the deep things of God.

"May God bring His people under the deep movings of His Spirit! May He lead them to arouse, to see their peril, and to prepare for what is coming upon the earth!" —8T, p. 301.

1. What should be the compelling force behind every revival?

1 Corinthians 2:14, 11. "It is impossible for us, of ourselves, to escape from the pit of sin in which we are sunken. Our hearts are evil, and we cannot change them. . . . Education, culture, the exercise of the will, human effort, all have their proper sphere, but here they are powerless. . . . There must be a power working from within, a new life from above, before man can be changed from sin to holiness." —SC, p. 18.

2. Can we, by nature, be Christians? Why not? What must happen first?

John 3:3, 5-8. "While the wind is itself invisible, it produces effects that are seen and felt. So the work of the Spirit upon the soul will reveal itself in every act of him who has felt its saving power. When the Spirit of God takes

possession of the heart, it transforms the life. Sinful thoughts are put away, evil deeds are renounced; love, humility, and peace take the place of anger, envy, and strife. Joy takes the place of sadness, and the countenance reflects the light of heaven. . . . Then that power which no human eye can see, creates a new being in the image of God." —DA, p. 173.

3. What experience will bring the Holy Spirit into our lives? Have you had this experience?

John 20:21, 22. "Before He left His disciples, Christ 'breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost.' Again He said, 'Behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you.' But not until after the ascension was the gift received in its fulness. Not until through faith and prayer the disciples had surrendered themselves fully for His working, was the outpouring of the Spirit received. . . . The gifts are already ours in Christ, but their actual possession depends upon our reception of the Spirit of God." —COL, p. 327.

4. What did Jesus do before He sent the Holy Spirit in full measure?

Hosea 6:3; Joel 2:23. "Many have in a great measure failed to receive the former rain. They have not obtained all the benefits that God has thus provided for them. They expect that the lack will be supplied by the latter rain. When the richest abundance of grace shall be bestowed, they intend to open their hearts to receive it. They are making a terrible mistake. . . . It was by the confession and forsaking of sin, by earnest prayer and consecration of themselves to God, that the early disciples prepared for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. The same work, only in a greater degree, must be done now." —TM, p. 507.

5. Before the Holy Spirit comes in the Latter Rain, what must we receive first? What will it do for us?

Revelation 3:18, last part. "The eyesalve is that wisdom and grace which enables us to discern between the evil and the good, and to detect sin under any guise. God has given His church eyes which He requires them to anoint with wisdom, that they may see clearly; . . . The divine eyesalve will impart clearness to the understanding." —4T, pp. 88, 89.

"Oh that you individually would apply the eye-salve, that you might see your defects of character, and realize how God regards your love of the world, which is crowding out the love of God." —4T, p. 615.

6. What must the earnest believer in Laodicea buy to receive clear eyesight?

Luke 11:13. "Since this is the means by which we are to receive power, why do we not hunger and thirst for the gift of the Spirit? Why do we not talk of it, pray for it, and preach concerning it? The Lord is more willing to give the Holy Spirit to those who serve Him than parents are to give good gifts to their children." —AA, p. 50.

7. What else must we do to receive the Holy Spirit?

Galatians 5:22-24. "As you receive the Spirit of Christ—the spirit of unselfish love and labor for others—you will grow and bring forth fruit. The graces of the Spirit will ripen in your character. Your faith will increase, your convictions deepen, your love be made perfect. More and more you will reflect the likeness of Christ in all that is pure, noble, and lovely." —COL, p. 68.

8. How will it be seen that the Holy Spirit is dwelling in us?

Acts 4:19, 20; Romans 8:14. "The truth is to be set forth in the power of the Holy Spirit. This alone can make our words effective. Only through the Spirit's power will victory be gained and held. The human agent must be worked by the Spirit of God." —6T, p. 396.

"If we are forbidden by men to do this work, then we may say, as did the disciples, 'Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.' " —AA, p. 69.

9. If the Holy Spirit inspires us, can anything stop us from witnessing? Why not?

Colossians 4:5. "The third angel's message is swelling into a loud cry, and you must not feel at liberty to neglect the present duty, and still entertain the idea that at some future time you will be the recipients of great blessing, when without any effort on your part a wonderful revival will take place. Today you are to give yourselves to God, that He may make of you vessels unto honor, and meet for His service. Today you are to give yourselves to God, that you may be emptied of self, emptied of envy, jealousy, evil surmising, strife, everything that shall be dishonoring to God." —1SM, pp. 190, 191.

10. As we near the end of time, what must we do? Why?

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Lesson 7

THE NEED FOR REFORMATION

Jeremiah 6:16; Malachi 3:7; Hosea 6:1. ". . . Ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein."

"Let none seek to tear away the foundations of our faith—the foundations that were laid at the beginning of our work, by prayerful study of the Word and by revelation. Upon these foundations we have been building for more than fifty years [as of 1915]. Men may suppose that they have found a new way, that they can lay a stronger foundation than that which has been laid; but this is a great deception." —GW, p. 307.

"We have wandered away from the old landmarks. Let us return. If the Lord be God, serve Him; if Baal, serve him. Which side will you be on?" —5T, p. 137.

1. What does a "reformation" generally mean?

Exodus 20:3-5. "Jehovah, the eternal, self-existent, uncreated One, Himself the Source and Sustainer of all, is alone entitled to supreme reverence and worship. Man is forbidden to give to any other object the first place in his affections or his service. Whatever we cherish that tends to lessen our love for God or to interfere with the service due Him, of that do we make a god.

"The attempt to represent the Eternal One by material objects would lower man's conception of God." —PP, pp. 305, 306.

2. What do the first two commandments teach? Of what do we sometimes make a god?

Matthew 4:8, 9. "After the gospel has been proclaimed in the world for nearly two thousand years, Satan still presents to men and women the same scene that he presented to Christ. In a wonderful manner he causes the kingdoms of the world in their glory to pass before them. These he promises to all who will fall down and worship him. Thus he seeks to bring men under his dominion." —6T, p. 14.

3. Who expects us to pay homage and worship to him?

Matthew 6:24. "Between the worldly man and the one who is faithfully serving God, there is a great gulf fixed. Upon the most momentous subjects—God and truth and eternity—their thoughts and sympathies and feelings are not in harmony. One class is ripening as wheat for the garner of God, the other as tares for the fires of destruction. How can there be unity of purpose or action between them?" —2SM, p. 127.

4. What is impossible for any man to do? Why?

2 Corinthians 6:14-18. "Some are constantly leaning to the world. Their views and feelings harmonize much better with the spirit of the world than with that of Christ's self-denying followers. It is perfectly natural for them to prefer the company of those whose spirit will best agree with their own. And such have quite too much influence among God's people. They take part with them, and have a name among them, and are a text for unbelievers and the weak and unconsecrated ones in the church. These persons of two minds will ever have objections to the plain, pointed testimony which reproves individual wrongs. In this refining time, these persons will either be wholly converted, and sanctified by obeying the truth, or they will be left with the world, where they belong, to receive their reward with them." —1T, p. 288.

5. Therefore, with whom can we not agree?

Hebrews 6:4-6. "Let us be careful not to neglect the danger signals, and the warnings given in His word. Unless heed is given to these warnings, and defects of character are overcome, these defects will overcome those who possess them, and they will fall into error, apostasy, and open sin. The mind that is not elevated to the highest standard, will in time lose its power to retain that which it had once gained. 'Let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall.' " —5T, p. 537.

6. Is there a danger for us to fall away from the truth? How?

Isaiah 1:4. "Not only is Satan leading the world captive, but his deceptions are leavening the professed churches of our Lord Jesus Christ. The great apostasy will develop into darkness deep as midnight. To God's people it will be a night of trial, a night of weeping, a night of persecution for the truth's sake." —PK, p. 717.

7. Can churches, collectively speaking, fall away from the truth? How?

Revelation 3:17. "You know not the time of your visitation. The great sin of the Jews was that of neglecting and rejecting present opportunities. As Jesus views the state of His professed followers today, He sees base ingratitude, hollow formalism, hypocritical insincerity, Pharisaical pride and apostasy. . . .

"You are following the same path as did ancient Israel. There is the same falling away from your holy calling as God's peculiar people." —5T, pp. 72, 75, 76.

8. Is there apostasy in the S.D.A. church?

Romans 2:21-23; 1 Corinthians 10:12. "Only obedience to the requirements of Heaven will keep man from apostasy. God has bestowed upon man great light and many blessings; but unless this light and these blessings are accepted, they are no security against disobedience and apostasy. . . .

"Till the conflict is ended, there will be those who will depart from God. . . . Not one moment can we be secure except as we rely upon God, the life hidden with Christ. Watchfulness and prayer are the safeguards of purity." —PK, pp. 83, 84.

9. Is there also danger for us as Reformers to apostatize? Why?

1 Corinthians 1:20, 21; 2 Peter 1:16. "The apostasy prevailing today is similar to that which in the prophet's [Elijah's] day overspread Israel. In the exaltation of the human above the divine, in the praise of popular leaders, in the worship of mammon, and in the placing of teachings of science above the truths of revelation, multitudes today are following after Baal. . . . It is publicly taught that we have reached a time when human reason should be exalted above the teachings of the Word." —PK, p. 170.

10. What false wisdom often leads to apostasy?

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Lesson 8

BIBLICAL REFORMATIONS

Deuteronomy 13:6-10. "The principles set forth in Deuteronomy for the instruction of Israel, are to be followed by God's people to the end of time. . . . Never can we afford to compromise principle by entering into alliance with those who do not fear Him.

"There is constant danger that professing Christians will come to think that in order to have influence with worldlings, they must to a certain extent conform to the world. But though such a course may appear to afford great advantages, it always ends in spiritual loss." —PK, p. 570.

1. What severe punishment came to those who drew others away from divine worship? What must we never do?

Leviticus 26:1. "Idolatry and all the sins that followed in its train were abhorrent to God, and He commanded His people not to mingle with the other nations, to 'do after their works,' and forget God. He forbade their marriage with idolaters, lest their hearts should be led away from Him. It was just as necessary then as it is now that God's people should be pure, 'un-

spotted from the world.' They must keep themselves free from its spirit, because it is opposed to truth and righteousness." --PP, p. 369.

2. What outstanding sin should spiritual Israel beware of today? Why?

Isaiah 2:2, 6-8, 18. "Men today may not pay homage to heathen gods, yet thousands are worshiping at Satan's shrine as verily as did the king of Israel. The spirit of idolatry is rife in the world today, although, under the influence of science and education, it has assumed forms more refined and attractive than in the days when Ahaziah sought to the god of Ekron." --PK, p. 210.

3. Can we expect idol worship in these last days?

Exodus 32:26. "The Lord abhors indifference and disloyalty in a time of crisis in His work. . . . His special blessing accompanies the labors of men of action; men who will not be swerved from the straight line of duty, but who with divine energy will inquire, 'Who is on the Lord's side?' men who will not stop merely with the inquiry, but who will demand that those who choose to identify themselves with the people of God shall step forward and reveal unmistakably their allegiance to the King of kings and Lord of lords. Such men make their wills and plans subordinate to the law of God." PK, p. 148.

4. What was Moses' call when Israel fell into apostasy?

1 Kings 18:21, 22. "What strange work Elijah would have done in numbering Israel at the time when God's judgments were falling upon the backsliding people! He could count only one on the Lord's side. But when he said, 'I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life,' the word of the Lord surprised him, 'Yet I have left Me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal.' " --PK, p. 189.

5. What call did the great reformer, Elijah, extend; and what was his experience?

2 Chronicles 14:5; 15:1, 2. "Greatly encouraged by these words, Asa soon led out in a second reformation in Judah. He 'put away the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from Mount Ephraim, and renewed the altar of the Lord, that was before the porch of the Lord.' (2 Chronicles 15:8)." --PK, p. 112.

6. In which way did faithful King Asa show himself as a reformer?

Jeremiah 25:11; Deuteronomy 4:25-28. "Moses traced the evils that would result from a departure from the statutes of Jehovah. Calling heaven and earth to witness, he declared that if, after having dwelt long in the Land of Promise, the people should introduce corrupt forms of worship and bow down to graven images and should refuse to return to the worship of the true God, the anger of the Lord would be aroused, and they would be carried away captive and scattered among the heathen." --PK, p. 295.

7. Why did ancient Israel go into captivity for 70 years?

Ezra 7:10. "Many of those who had sinned were deeply affected. 'The people wept very sore.' In a limited degree they began to realize the heinousness of sin and the horror with which God regards it. They saw the sacredness of the law spoken at Sinai, and many trembled at the thought of their transgressions. . . .

"This was the beginning of a wonderful reformation. With infinite patience and tact, and with a careful consideration for the rights and welfare of every individual concerned, Ezra and his associates strove to lead the penitent of Israel into the right way." --PK, p. 622.

8. After their return, who led out in a thorough reformation?

Nehemiah 1:6-11; 4:16; 9:1, 2. "In the work of reform to be carried forward today, there is need of men who, like Ezra and Nehemiah, will not palliate or excuse sin, nor shrink from vindicating the honor of God. Those upon whom rests the burden of this work will not hold their peace when wrong is done, neither will they cover evil with a cloak of false charity. They will remember that God is no respecter of persons, and that severity to a few may prove mercy to many." --PK, p. 675.

9. Besides Ezra, who proved himself a loyal reformer?

Philippians 2:5-8; 8:15. "Reformers are not destroyers. They will never seek to ruin those who do not harmonize with their plans and assimilate to them. Reformers must advance, not retreat. They must be decided, firm, resolute, unflinching; but firmness must not degenerate into a domineering spirit. God desires to have all who serve Him firm as a rock where principle is concerned, but meek and lowly of heart, as was Christ. . . . A rude, condemnatory spirit is not essential to heroism in the reforms for this time." --6T, p. 151.

10. Whose spirit should all true reformers reveal? Why?

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REFORMATIONS IN THE CHRISTIAN ERA

Acts 20:29, 30; 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 7. "When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel, and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and in order to control the consciences of the people she sought the support of the secular power. The result was the papacy, a church that controlled the power of the State, and employed it to further her own ends, especially for the punishment of 'heresy.' . . .

"It was apostasy that led the early church to seek the aid of the civil government, and this prepared the way for the development of the papacy—the beast."—GC, p. 443.

1. What did Paul predict would happen in the first Christian church?

Revelation 2:2. "Idolaters were led to receive a part of the Christian faith, while they rejected other essential truths. . . . With some concessions on their part, they proposed that Christians should make concessions, that all might unite on the platform of belief in Christ.

"Now the church was in fearful peril. Prison, torture, fire and sword were blessings in comparison with this. Some of the Christians stood firm, declaring that they could make no compromise. . . .

"Most of the Christians at last consented to lower their standard, and a union was formed between Christianity and paganism. . . .

"There have ever been two classes among those who profess to be followers of Christ."—GC, pp. 42, 43.

2. What led to this apostasy? What about the present ecumenical movement? Is it of God?

2 Corinthians 6:17. "After a long and severe conflict, the faithful few decided to dissolve all union with the apostate church if she still refused to free herself from falsehood and idolatry. They saw that separation was an absolute necessity if they would obey the word of God. . . . If unity could be secured only by the compromise of truth and righteousness, then let there be difference, and even war."—GC, p. 45.

3. What was the final decision of the faithful few?

Revelation 12:6. "But of those who resisted the encroachments of the papal power, the Waldenses stood foremost. . . . For centuries the churches of Piedmont maintained their independence; but the time came at last when Rome insisted upon their submission. . . . There were some, however, who refused to yield to the authority of pope or prelate. They were determined to

maintain their allegiance to God, and to preserve the purity and simplicity of their faith. A separation took place. Those who adhered to the ancient faith now withdrew; . . ."—GC, pp. 63, 64.

4. What church of the wilderness developed as true reformers?

Daniel 11:33, 34. "In the fourteenth century arose in England the 'morning star of the Reformation.' John Wycliffe was the herald of reform, not for England alone, but for all Christendom. The great protest against Rome which it was permitted him to utter, was never to be silenced. That protest opened the struggle which was to result in the emancipation of individuals, of churches, and of nations."—GC, p. 80.

5. Which great reformer arose in the 14th century in England? What is he called?

Daniel 12:3. "Workers were raised up who ably defended the faith once delivered unto the saints. History bears record to the fortitude and heroism of these men. . . . The Waldenses, John Wycliffe, Huss and Jerome, Martin Luther and Zwingle, Cranmer, Latimer, and Knox, the Huguenots, John and Charles Wesley, and a host of others brought to the foundation material that will endure throughout eternity."—AA, p. 598.

6. What heroic reformers does history mention? Name some of their deeds.

Revelation 2:10. "Hitherto Huss had stood alone in his labors; but now Jerome, who while in England had accepted the teachings of Wycliffe, joined in the work of reform. . . .

"God permitted great light to shine upon the minds of these chosen men, . . .

"With daily increasing boldness, Huss thundered against the abominations which were tolerated in the name of religion; and the people openly accused the Romish leaders as the cause of the miseries that overwhelmed Christendom."—GC, pp. 102, 103.

7. What promise is applicable to Huss and Jerome, and what was said about them as reformers?

Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14. "The infamous traffic was set up in the church, and Tetzl, ascending to the pulpit, extolled indulgences as the most precious gift of God. He declared that by virtue of his certificates of pardon, all the sins which the purchaser should afterward desire to commit would be forgiven him, and that 'not even repentance is necessary.' . . .

THE ADVENTIST REFORMATION

"As Tetzl continued his traffic and his impious pretensions, Luther determined upon a more effectual protest against these crying abuses. An occasion soon offered. . . . Luther, joining the crowds that were already making their way to the church, posted on its doors a paper containing ninety-five propositions against the doctrine of indulgences." —GC, pp. 127, 129, 130.

8. What caused Martin Luther to enter more boldly upon his work of reformation? What did he now do?

Psalm 40:9; Matthew 10:18. "Unless therefore I am convinced by the testimony of Scriptures or by the clearest reasoning, unless I am persuaded by means of the passages I have quoted, and unless they thus render my conscience bound by the word of God, 'I cannot and I will not retract, for it is unsafe for a Christian to speak against his conscience. Here I stand, I can do no other; may God help me. Amen.'" —GC, p. 160.

9. What was Luther's unflinching testimony when brought before the Imperial Diet?

Hebrews 11:36-40. "The heirs of God have come from garrets, from hovels, from dungeons, from scaffolds, from mountains, from deserts, from the caves of the earth, from the caverns of the sea. On earth they were 'destitute, afflicted, tormented.' Millions went down to the grave loaded with infamy, because they steadfastly refused to yield to the deceptive claims of Satan. By human tribunals they were adjudged the vilest of criminals. But now 'God is judge Himself.' Now the decisions of earth are reversed." —GC, p. 650.

10. What has generally been the lot of all true reformers and children of God?

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Isaiah 58:12, 13. "In the time of the end, every divine institution is to be restored. The breach made in the law at the time the Sabbath was changed by man, is to be repaired. God's remnant people, standing before the world as reformers, are to show that the law of God is the foundation of all enduring reform and that the Sabbath of the fourth commandment is to stand as a memorial of creation, a constant reminder of the power of God." —PK, p. 678.

"I was shown that if the true Sabbath had always been kept, there would never have been an infidel or an atheist. The observance of the Sabbath would have preserved the world from idolatry." —1T, p. 76.

1. What stamps the Advent Movement as a reformation? What is it built upon?

Nehemiah 8:14, 17. Joshua lived about 1,445 years before Christ. From his days, up to Nehemiah, who found the book of the law in about B.C. 445, or about 1,000 years later, the feast of tabernacles had not been observed. But as soon as the divine light on this subject was revealed, the people responded immediately with a joyful heart.

2. What divine ordinance had been completely forgotten by Israel? For how long?

Daniel 7:25. "Prophecy had declared that the papacy was to 'think to change times and laws.' This work it was not slow to attempt. To afford converts from heathenism a substitute for the worship of idols, . . . the adoration of images and relics was gradually introduced into the Christian worship. . . .

"In the early part of the fourth century, the emperor Constantine issued a decree making Sunday a public festival throughout the Roman empire. . . . He was urged to do this by the bishops of the church, who, inspired by ambition and thirst for power, perceived that if the same day was observed by both Christians and the heathen, it would promote the nominal acceptance of Christianity by pagans, . . .

"Thus the pagan festival came finally to be honored as a divine institution, . . ." —GC, pp. 51-53.

3. What was the "man of sin" (Antichrist) to do with God's law? Why did he do it?

Ecclesiastes 8:11-13. "Reforms must be entered into with heart, and soul, and will. Errors may be hoary with age; but age does not make error truth, nor truth error. Altogether too long have the old customs and habits been followed. The Lord would now have every idea that is false put away from teachers and students. We are not at liberty to teach that which shall meet the world's standard or the standard of the church, simply because it is the custom to do so." —6T, p. 142.

4. Are age-old traditions always correct? Why not?

Exodus 20:8-11. "The seal of God's law is found in the fourth commandment. This only, of all the ten, brings to view both the name and the title of the Lawgiver. . . . When the Sabbath was changed by the papal power, the seal was taken from the law. The disciples of Jesus are called upon to restore it, by exalting the Sabbath of the fourth commandment to its rightful position as the Creator's memorial and the sign of His authority." —GC, pp. 451, 452.

5. In what commandment do we find the "seal of God"? What elements of a seal does it contain?

Revelation 14:6, 7. " 'And worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.' "

"This message, if heeded, will call the attention of every nation and kindred and tongue and people to a close examination of the Word, and to the true light in regard to the power that has changed the seventh-day Sabbath to a spurious sabbath. . . . The Sabbath memorial, declaring who the living God is, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, has been torn down, and a spurious sabbath has been given to the world in its place." —2SM, pp. 105, 106.

6. What message of reform is therefore being sounded in all the world?

1 Corinthians 6:19, 20; 3:16, 17. "Reform, continual reform, must be kept before the people, and by our example we must enforce our teachings. True religion and the laws of health go hand in hand. It is impossible to work for the salvation of men and women without presenting to them the need of breaking away from sinful gratifications, which destroy the health, debase the soul, and prevent divine truth from impressing the mind." —CH, p. 445.

7. What further message of reform is being sounded? Why?

2 Kings 20:1-3, 7; John 9:6, 7. "There are many ways of practicing the healing art; but there is only one way that Heaven approves. God's remedies are the simple agencies of nature, that will not tax or debilitate the system through their powerful properties. Pure air and water, cleanliness, a proper diet, purity of life, and a firm trust in God, are remedies for the want of which thousands are dying; yet these remedies are going out of date because their skillful use requires work that the people do not appreciate." —5T, p. 443.

"Our institutions are established that the sick may be treated by hygienic methods, discarding almost entirely the use of drugs. . . .

"Drugging should be forever abandoned; for while it does not cure any malady, it enfeebles the system, making it more susceptible to disease." —HL, pp. 246, 244.

8. What is included in health reform?

1 Timothy 2:9, 10; Deuteronomy 22:5. "My views were calculated to correct the present fashion, the extreme long dress, trailing upon the ground, and also to correct the extreme short dress, reaching about to the knees, which is worn by a certain class. I was shown that we should shun both extremes. . . .

"There is an increasing tendency to have women in their dress and appearance as near like the other sex as possible, and to fashion their dress very much like that of men, but God pronounces it abomination." —1T, pp. 464, 457.

9. What is also an integral part of the Adventist Reformation? What evil does God call an abomination?

2 Corinthians 6:14, 15; Isaiah 41:21-24. "The Lord would have His people bury political questions. On these themes silence is eloquence. . . . We cannot with safety vote for political parties; for we do not know whom we are voting for. We cannot with safety take part in any political scheme. . . .

"What are we to do, then?—Let political questions alone. . . .

"It is a mistake for you to link your interests with any political party, to cast your vote with them or for them." —GW, pp. 391, 393.

10. In what other point should a reform be effected? Why?

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A CRISIS AND A REFORMATION

Matthew 26:52; 5:44. "Satan delights in war; for it excites the worst passions of the soul, and then sweeps into eternity its victims steeped in vice and blood. It is his object to incite the nations to war against one another; for he can thus divert the minds of the people from the work of preparation to stand in the day of God." —GC, p. 589.

1. Why should a Christian refrain from all participation in military activities?

2 Corinthians 6:14, 15. "I was shown that God's people, who are His peculiar treasure, cannot engage in this perplexing war, for it is opposed to every principle of their faith. In the army they cannot obey the truth and at the same time obey the requirements of their officers. There would be a continual violation of conscience." —1T, p. 361.

2. What original Adventist position was revealed by the pen of inspiration?

The Executive Committee of the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference addressed a "Statement of Principles" to the governor of Michigan:

"To His Excellency, Austin Blair, Governor of the State of Michigan:

"We, the undersigned, Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, respectfully beg leave to present for your consideration the following statements:—

"The denomination of Christians calling themselves Seventh-day Adventists, taking the Bible as their rule of faith and practice, are unanimous in their views that its teachings are contrary to the spirit and practice of war; hence, they have ever been conscientiously opposed to bearing arms. If there is any portion of the Bible which we, as a people, can point to more than another as our creed, it is the law of ten commandments, which we regard as the supreme law, and each precept of which we take in its most obvious and literal import. The fourth of these commandments requires cessation from labor on the seventh day of the week, the sixth prohibits the taking of life, neither of which, in our view, could be observed while doing military duty. Our practice has uniformly been consistent with these principles. Hence, our people have not felt free to enlist into the service. In none of our denominational publications have we advocated or encouraged the practice of bearing arms; and, when drafted, rather than violate our principles, we have been content to pay, and assist each other in paying, the \$300 commutation money. And while that provision remained of universal application, we did not deem any public expression of our sentiments on this question called for.

"We would further represent that Seventh-day Adventists are rigidly anti-slavery, loyal to the government, and in sympathy with it against the rebellion.

"But not having had a long existence as a distinct people, and our organization having but recently been perfected, our sentiments are not yet extensively known. The change in the law renders it necessary that we take a more public stand in the matter. For this reason we now lay before Your Excellency the sentiments of Seventh-day Adventists, as a body, relative to bearing arms, trusting that you will feel no hesitation in endorsing our claim that, as a people, we come under the intent of the late action of Congress concerning those who are conscientiously opposed to bearing arms, and are entitled to the benefits of said laws.

JOHN BYINGTON,
J. N. LOUGHBOROUGH,
GEORGE W. AMADON,
*General Conference Executive Committee
of Seventh-day Adventists.*

Battle Creek, Michigan, August 2, 1864."

—*In Time of War*, p. 58.

Which of the three provisions open to them did the Adventists prefer? "It is said that the next draft will take about one in three able-bodied men, liable to the draft. And it is supposed that this proportion of Seventh-day Adventists will be drawn; that is, one in three. In this case if each should pay into the treasury \$100.00, the same would be sufficient to pay \$300.00 for all drawn in the coming draft." —Elder James White, *Review and Herald*, January 24, 1865.

3. What was the General Conference stand following Sister White's vision?

Acts 5:29. "We are to recognize human government as an ordinance of divine appointment, and teach obedience to it as a sacred duty, within its legitimate sphere. But when its claims conflict with the claims of God, we must obey God rather than men. God's word must be recognized as above all human legislation. A 'Thus saith the Lord' is not to be set aside for a 'Thus saith the church' or a 'Thus saith the state.' The crown of Christ is to be lifted above the diadems of earthly potentates." —AA, p. 69.

4. In what were the Advent believers everywhere instructed?

Isaiah 5:20, 21. "While we stand on the fundamentals of the Holy Scriptures, and seek to fulfill the precepts of Christendom, keeping the Rest Day (Saturday) that God established in the beginning, by endeavoring to put aside all work on that day, still in these times of stress, we have bound ourselves together in defense of the 'Fatherland,' and under these circumstances we will also bear arms on Saturday (Sabbath). On this point we take our stand on the Scripture found in 1 Peter 2:13-17." —Elder H. F. Schuberth, President, to the German War Ministry, August 4, 1914. [Emphasis ours].

5. When World War I came in 1914, what did the European S.D.A. leaders do under government pressure?

Romans 11:3-5. "At the beginning of the war our [S.D.A.] denomination divided into two parts. While ninety-eight percent of our membership took the position on Bible ground that it was their conscientious duty to defend the Fatherland with weapons, and that also on the Sabbath, and this united position of the leaders was at once forwarded to the War Department; two percent, however, did not submit themselves to this united resolution, . . ." —S.D.A. Release in *Dresden Latest News*, April 12, 1918.

6. How many Adventists were led astray? How many remained faithful?

Isaiah 66:5; Zephaniah 3:19. "Two percent, however, did not submit themselves to this united resolution, and therefore had to be disfellowshipped because of their unchristian conduct." —*Dresden Latest News*, April 12, 1918.

"During the course of the war there were nevertheless isolated members among them [S.D.A.'s] which did not confess their own conscientious scruples publicly before the government, but rather withdrew secretly from their duties, and furthermore walked from town to town to entice others in word and writing to take the same step. Called to account for this by the church, because of their stiff endurance in their position, and as threatening the internal and external peace, they had to be disfellowshipped out of the church." —*Berlin Local News*, August 24, 1918.

7. What happened to these few faithful believers? Did they separate from the truth?

Isaiah 3:12, last part; 9:16. "Any departure from the revealed standard by leaders called to be examples and exponents of the will of God, must bring confusion into the ranks of His people. Honest souls are perplexed and confused over what ought to be plain and clear. In such a situation the people are left to one of two conclusions only; there is no alternative. They must condemn the practice of such leaders and hold to the Lord's standard themselves, or they must conclude that if such leaders are approved and accepted of God, then the Lord must not be so particular as they had supposed in regard to exact obedience to His standard, and so decide that they too may depart from it, and still hope to be accepted of God." —*The Medical Evangelist*, vol. 9, No. 2, p. 9.

8. Who, therefore, is responsible for the creation of this Reform Movement among Seventh-day Adventists?

1 Peter 2:16. "We have taken the position that each one should act according to his own conscience in this matter." —A. G. Daniells, General Conference President (1920).

"But we grant to each of our church members **absolute liberty to serve their country, at all times and in all places, in accordance with the dictates of their personal conscientious convictions.**" —S.D.A. General Conference Committee, Gland, Switzerland, January 2, 1923. [Emphasis ours].

9. What erroneous teaching of the General Conference did the apostate European leaders take advantage of?

Romans 2:21-24. "Were men free to depart from the Lord's requirements and to set up a standard of duty for themselves, there would be a variety of standards to suit different minds and the government would be taken out of the Lord's hands. The will of man would be made supreme, and the high and holy will of God—His purpose of love toward His creatures—would be dishonored, disrespected." —MB, pp. 51, 52.

10. Do we, as members of God's church, have personal liberty to transgress God's law? Why not?

Ephesians 5:27; 1 Corinthians 5:13. "God is sifting His people. He will have a clean and holy church. We cannot read the heart of man. But the Lord has provided means to keep the church pure." —1T, p. 99.

"Sin and sinners in the church must be promptly dealt with, that others may not be contaminated. Truth and purity require that we make more thorough work to cleanse the camp from Achans. Let those in responsible positions not suffer sin in a brother. Show him that he must either put away his sins or be separated from the church." —5T, p. 147.

11. Is it of utmost importance to keep God's church pure? Why?

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Lesson 12

THE SHAKING, OR SIFTING

Amos 9:9; Luke 22:31, 32. "Sift: to separate with or as with, a sieve." —*Webster's Dictionary*.

"I saw some, with strong faith and agonizing cries, pleading with God. Their countenances were pale and marked with deep anxiety, expressive of their internal struggle. Firmness and great earnestness was expressed in their countenances; large drops of perspiration fell from their foreheads. . . .

"Evil angels crowded around, pressing darkness upon them. . . ." —EW, p. 269.

"I was shown the people of God, and saw them mightily shaken." —1T, p. 179.

1. What is prophesied to occur among God's people in the end times?

Malachi 3:3; Isaiah 1:25. "I know that a work must be done for the people, or many will not be prepared to receive the light of the angel sent down from heaven to lighten the whole earth with His glory. Do not think that you will be found as vessels unto honor in the time of the latter rain, to receive the glory of God, if you are lifting up your souls unto vanity, speaking perverse things, in secret cherishing roots of bitterness." —LS, pp. 327, 328.

"I saw that none could share the 'refreshing,' unless they obtain the victory over every besetment, over pride, selfishness, love of the world, and over every wrong word and action." —EW, p. 71.

2. Before what event will this cleansing process take place? For what purpose?

Revelation 3:14-17. "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." —EW, p. 270.

"While those addressed are flattering themselves that they are in an exalted spiritual condition, the message of the True Witness breaks their security by the startling denunciation of their true condition of spiritual blindness, poverty, and wretchedness. The testimony, so cutting and severe, cannot be a mistake, for it is the True Witness who speaks, and His testimony must be correct." —3T, p. 253.

3. What statement of the True Witness (Christ) to the Laodicean Adventist church causes this shaking? How?

Revelation 3:18. "The True Witness counsels us to buy of Him gold tried in the fire, white raiment, and eye-salve. The gold here recommended as having been tried in the fire, is faith and love. It makes the heart rich, for it has been purged until it is pure, and the more it is tested the more brilliant is its luster. The white raiment is purity of character, the righteousness of Christ imparted to the sinner. This is indeed a garment of heavenly texture, that can be bought only of Christ for a life of willing obedience. The eye-salve is that wisdom and grace which enables us to discern between the evil and the good, and to detect sin under any guise. . . . Christ is the depository of all graces. He says, 'Buy of Me.' " —4T, pp. 88, 89.

4. What is the only remedy to keep us from being "spewn out," or eternally lost?

Matthew 7:20; Isaiah 62:10. "This will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver, and will lead him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth." —EW, p. 270.

"No line of truth that has made the Seventh-day Adventist people what they are, is to be weakened. We have the old landmarks of truth, experience, and duty, and we are to stand firmly in defense of our principles in full view of the world." —6T, p. 17.

"Death before dishonor or the transgression of God's law, should be the motto of every Christian. As a people professing to be reformers, treasuring the most solemn, purifying truths of God's word, we must elevate the standard far higher than it is at the present time. Sin and sinners in the church must be promptly dealt with, that others may not be contaminated." —5T, p. 147.

5. How will it be revealed in the life whether one has accepted this message to the Laodiceans? Have you accepted it?

Revelation 2:10. "There is a prospect before us of a continued struggle, at the risk of imprisonment, loss of property, and even of life itself, to defend the law of God, which is made void by the laws of men. In this situation worldly policy will urge an outward compliance with the laws of the land, for the sake of peace and harmony. And there are some who will even urge such a course from the scripture, 'Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. . . . The powers that be are ordained of God.' " —5T, p. 712.

"Those who have step by step yielded to worldly demands, and conformed to worldly customs, will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment and death. The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men." —5T, p. 81.

6. In what great danger are God's people often found when meeting a crisis?

Isaiah 43:10. "Our Redeemer sends His messengers to bear a testimony to His people. He says, '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.' Revelation 3:20. But many refuse to receive Him. The Holy Spirit waits to soften and subdue hearts, but they are not willing to open the door and let the Saviour in, for fear that He will require something of them. And so Jesus of Nazareth passes by." —6T, p. 262.

7. Whom does God use as instruments to carry the Laodicean message to His people?

Judges 7:2-7. "I was shown the people of God, and saw them mightily shaken. . . .

"The number of this company had lessened. Some had been shaken out, and left by the way. . . ." —1T, pp. 179, 182.

"Soon God's people will be tested by fiery trials, and the great proportion of those who now appear to be genuine and true will prove to be base metal. . . .

"To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few—this will be our test." —5T, p. 136.

"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." —GC, p. 608.

8. What was Gideon's experience? Will it be the same today?

Revelation 7:4. "An angel with a writer's inkhorn by his side returned from the earth and reported to Jesus that his work was done, and the saints were numbered and sealed. Then I saw Jesus, . . . throw down the censer. He raised His hands, and with a loud voice said, 'It is done.' And all the angelic host laid off their crowns as Jesus made the solemn declaration, 'He that is unjust, let him be unjust still; . . . and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still; . . .

"Every case had been decided for life or death. . . .

"All heaven had united with Jesus, as they heard the fearful words, 'It is done. It is finished.' The plan of salvation had been accomplished, but few [144,000] had chosen to accept it." —EW, pp. 279, 281.

"The living saints, 144,000 in number, knew and understood the voice, . . ." —EW, p. 15.

9. When all is finished, how many living saints will be sealed to meet the Lord?

2 Corinthians 6:14-18. "I saw that decided efforts should be made to show those who are unchristian in life their wrongs, and if they do not reform, they should be separated from the precious and holy, that God may have a clean and pure people that He can delight in. Dishonor Him not by linking or uniting the clean with the unclean." —1T, pp. 117, 118.

"Few are listening for the voice of God, and ready to accept truth in whatever guise it may be presented. Often those who follow in the steps of the Reformers are forced to turn away from the churches they love, in order to declare the plain teaching of the word of God. And many times those who are seeking for light are by the same teaching obliged to leave the church of their fathers, that they may render obedience." —DA, p. 232.

10. Since the shaking (purification) comes before the Latter Rain, what duty is placed upon us as a people?

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THE REWARD OF LOYALTY

Revelation 22:12. "Before the final reward is given, it must be decided who are fitted to share the inheritance of the righteous. This decision must be made prior to the second coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven; for when He comes, His reward is with Him, 'to give every man according as his work shall be.' Before His coming, then, the character of every man's work will have been determined, and to every one of Christ's followers the reward will be apportioned according to his deeds." —COL, p. 310.

1. What will Christ bring with Him when He comes? For whom only?

2 Corinthians 5:10. "The cases of the righteous dead have been passing in review before God. When that work shall be completed, judgment is to be pronounced upon the living. How precious, how important are these solemn moments! Each of us has a case pending in the court of heaven. We are individually to be judged according to the deeds done in the body. . . .

"If we have any regard for our souls' salvation, we must make a decided change. We must seek the Lord with true penitence; we must with deep contrition of soul confess our sins, that they may be blotted out." —ISM, p. 125.

2. According to what measure will we be rewarded? What does this call for?

1 Timothy 6:17-19. "As you regard your eternal interest, arouse yourselves, and begin to sow good seed. That which you sow, you shall also reap. The harvest is coming—the great reaping time, when we shall reap what we have sown. There will be no failure in the crop; the harvest is sure. Now is the sowing time. Now make efforts to be rich in good works, 'ready to distribute, willing to communicate, laying up in store for yourselves a good foundation against the time to come, that ye may lay hold on eternal life.' " —2T, p. 31.

3. Where should our riches be deposited?

Romans 2:4, 5. "Oh, fearful histories will be opened to the world at the judgment—histories of sins never confessed, of sins not blotted out! Oh, that these poor souls might see that they are heaping up wrath against the day of wrath! Then the thoughts of the heart, as well as the actions, will be revealed. I tell you, my brethren and sisters, there is need of humbling your souls before God. 'Cease to do evil,' but do not stop here, 'Learn to do well.' You can glorify God only by bearing fruit to His glory." —TM, p. 146.

4. What do many heap up for themselves?

1 Corinthians 3:11-13. "Young men and women should regard a good character as a capital of more value than gold or silver or stocks. It will be unaffected by panics and failures, and will bring rich returns when earthly possessions shall be swept away. The youth need a higher, nobler view of the value of Christian character. Sin blinds the eyes and defiles the heart. Integrity, firmness, and perseverance are qualities which all should seek earnestly to cultivate; for they clothe the possessor with a power which is irresistible—a power which makes him strong to do good, strong to resist evil, strong to bear adversity. It is here that true excellence of character shines forth with the greatest luster." —4T, p. 656.

5. What must the youth especially develop?

Matthew 25:21, 23. "It is the faithfulness, the loyalty to God, the loving service, that wins the divine approval. Every impulse of the Holy Spirit leading men to goodness and to God, is noted in the books of heaven, and in the day of God the workers through whom He has wrought will be commended.

"They will enter into the joy of the Lord as they see in His kingdom those who have been redeemed through their instrumentality." —COL, p. 361.

6. What reward will the faithful servants receive?

1 Corinthians 2:9. "Glorious will be the reward bestowed when the faithful workers are gathered about the throne of God and the Lamb. When John in his mortal state beheld the glory of God, he fell as one dead; he was not able to endure the sight. But when mortal shall have put on immortality, the ransomed ones are like Jesus, for they see Him as He is. . . . They are partakers with Him in the joy of beholding souls saved through their instrumentality to praise God through all eternity." —5T, p. 467.

7. What joy will be their final reward?

2 Timothy 4:7, 8. "To win a perishable prize, the Grecian runners spared themselves no toil or discipline. We are striving for a prize infinitely more valuable, even the crown of everlasting life. How much more careful should be our striving, how much more willing our sacrifice and self-denial!" —AA, p. 312.

8. What is waiting for the overcomer?

James 1:12. "The Lord will never forsake the soul that trusts in Him, and seeks His aid. The crown of life is placed only upon the brow of the overcomer. There is, for every one, earnest, solemn work for God, while life lasts. . . . Not only have we each a work to do for our own souls, but we have also a duty to arouse others to gain eternal life." —5T, pp. 70, 71.

9. On what condition is the eternal crown promised?

Revelation 21:10, 11. "In the Bible are revealed visions of future glory, scenes pictured by the hand of God, and these are dear to His church. By faith we may stand on the threshold of the eternal city, and hear the gracious welcome given to those who in this life cooperate with Christ, regarding it as an honor to suffer for His sake. As the words are spoken, 'Come, ye blessed of My Father,' they cast their crowns at the feet of the Redeemer, exclaiming, 'Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing. . . . Honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever.'" —AA, pp. 601, 602.

10. What great joy will the redeemed finally share?

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