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The Logical Center of Our Colored Work



By J. S. WASHBURN

NASHVILLE is the key to the situation. It is the logical center for the work in the South, especially the work among the colored people. There are many reasons that can be given for making this statement. To one who lives here and knows the real situation, it is plain as sunlight. Then for many years the word of God has come through the Spirit of Prophecy repeating and reiterating this, and yet it does not seem to have been understood. I will call attention to a testimony that has previously been quoted, and also to a very recent one.

Why Nashville Was Chosen

Under date of November 24, 1903, we quote the following:—

"Nashville has been presented to me as the most favorable center from which to do a general work for all classes in the Southern States. . . . There is not in Nashville the bitter opposition to the work of uplifting the down-trodden colored race that exists in many cities of the South. Much is being done there to uplift the colored people and the sentiment in favor of these efforts will be a security to our people and their work. There are in Nashville large educational institutions for the colored people in which an excellent work has been done and is being done for them. The teachers and students in these institutions are to hear the message of present truth. It is for this reason that God has directed that different institutions be established in Nashville. . . . The truth is also to be brought before those who have given their means and influence for the benefit of the colored race, that their prejudice against the Bible Sabbath may be removed. They have taken a noble

stand for the uplifting of these people. They are to see a representation of our work that will be to them an object lesson. We are to do all we possibly can to remove the prejudice that exists in their minds against our work. If the efforts we put forth are in accordance with the will of God many of them will be convicted and converted."

Memorials for God

In close connection with the above occurs this:—

"A school for colored people should be established outside the city of Nashville on land that can be utilized for industrial purposes God himself has wrought to bring together in Nashville workers who are especially fitted to reach the colored people. . . . I was instructed that memorials for God were to be established in this place, not only right in the city, but a little distance from it. Efforts were to be made to reach both the white and the colored people."

Work in Colleges

From a letter dated April 17, 1907, we quote the following:—

"I have just received and read your letter, in which you tell me about your visits to the colleges in Nashville. I am so glad that you are beginning to understand why our work should be established in Nashville. A wide interest should be manifested for the colored people. . .

"We need to study the life of him who, though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, that we through his poverty, might be made rich. Then we shall not be unwilling to give kind, disinterested labor to those who need it.

"Do not lose interest in the work for the colored people. Do not rest until sanitarium work is established for them, both at Huntsville and Nashville. In the past much labor has been given to these people under the most trying circumstances; and you should not overlook what has been done by the hardest kind of labor.

"I hope you will follow up the work that has been done in Nashville, for there is much to be done for all classes in that city. Do not forget that there is an important work to be done in the schools for the colored people in that city. Give especial attention to the colleges established there.

"We must not treat the colored people as though God had no message for them. Become acquainted with the teachers. Encourage them in their work and take part with them whenever this is possible. The gospel in its simplicity is to be presented to this people. If you will labor in the Spirit of Christ, conversions to the truth will be the result of this work."

Something Very Recent

Again under date of June 14, 1097,-"The Lord has placed before me the neglect of improving opportunities for good, in failing to get acquainted with the work that is being done in the large institutions for the education of the colored people. Long ago we should have made a thorough study of the best ways for training colored people to be workers for colored people. We should use every opportunity to work wisely for the teachers and students in these large educational institutions. We do not need to work to indoctrinate hastily the workers, but we can seek in every possible way to help them and to let them know that we appreciate their labors.

"One of the strong reasons given to me why our office of publication should be established in Nashville was that through our publications the light of truth might shine to the teachers and students in these institutions. I expected to hear long ago that this work had been undertaken.

"Recently light again came to me instructing me that decided efforts should be made in an honorable way to get into the ranks of the students of these schools, and by gaining the confidence of the white teachers, get permission to give them talks on missionary subjects. It was because of the existence of these large institutions in Nashville that I was shown that this city was the most favorable place to open up our work in the Southern field. . . . A mighty influence should now be set in operation, to arouse earnest efforts in behalf of these people. . . . Now an earnest work is to be done for the teachers in Nashville, and a wise work is demanded for the colored students. . . . God will multiply our numbers and men of means, and through his converted agencies will accomplish the work that he designs shall be done.'

These are but a few of the many Testimonies in regard to the importance of work being properly established in Nashville. There is one thing that can be done at once and that is the work for the teachers and students in the colleges that have been established for the colored people, and this can be immediately taken up and carried forward. We need the help of our brethren and sisters in the great work which the Spirit of God has so strongly emphasized. The writer has visited these institutions and those who are really interested in the work for the colored people will be cordially received. There are brave, fearless Southern as well as Northern men in Nashville who believe that a great work can be done for the colored people.

Helpful Influences

The editor of the Atlanta Constitution of May 17, 1907, quotes from a sermon preached by Dr. Ira D. Landrith of Nashville, a Southern man, the following words:—

"The slogan of 'Negro domination' is a myth, valuable only for ignoble political ends, and among a few anti-unionists for ecclesiastical uses. The strongest leaders and most upright members of the Negro race are not ambitious for social equality, but are content to be, and to help their people to become, the best examples of what God made of them—Negroes, not white people, nor yet the unwelcome intimates of white people in white homes and schools and churches.

"The Negro wants, and the white la-

bor system of the South demands, that the Negro shall have a place to work where he shall be protected by laws, and where he shall receive the just recognition of his labors, and the Negro must be fitted and willing to do good work, whether among his own people or for his white fellow countrymen. The certain remedy, therefore, of all racial ills lies in the direction of good schools and churches - good, but racially separate schools, in which the children are taught the dignity, and as far as possible, the arts of honest toil, and good, but for the best interests of all concerned, racially separate congregations, in which the broad and deep truths of Christianity, and not the murderous prejudices of racial and sectional hatred, are heartily preached and sincerely accepted."

A part of the editorial comment on these words is as follows:—

"Dr. Landrith points the way out of this situation, in which the saddening and threatening influences play about an equal part. He stresses what every honest Southern man knows—that 'Negro domination' is a myth, conjured by demagogues whose crime against the white race may some day come tragically knocking at their doors.

"But he also indicates the solemn duty of the ruling race. The Negro must be trained for the work for which he is fitted; his mind and his soul must be modeled into that Christian viewpoint which substitutes peace for violence, and industrious, sensible endeavor for political dreaming and bitter hatreds—both as futile as they are eventually fatal.

"When the churches of the white race discharge their duty of assistance in this regard, the remainder of Doctor Landrith's logical outline—such as protection by the law for both races, a just recognition of the work of the Negro, domestic tranquillity, the solution of the labor problem,—will appear as an inevitable sequence.

"We are not preaching practical Christianity to the Negro now. But we are tolerating those,—both North and South—who preach incendiarism, who sow seeds of racial prejudice, who keep flaming the basest passions of both races.

"The churches can mitigate these evils and start us on the path which leads to racial tranquillity. Is it not about time that from out the volume of academic discussion there evolved a tangible beginning, no matter how infinitesimal?"

The above is not only Nashville doctrine but Nashville practice. Fiske, Walden, and other great universities for the colored people are doing a noble work although the leading men in these institutions of learning do not have the great light God has given to this people

yet there are many things we can learn from them.

The Testimonies and what is quoted from the words of the leading paper in Atlanta, show that there is a great work to be done for the colored people. Now is the time to strike out; now while those who believe in the education and evangelization of the colored are holding back the reactionary tide, that would sweep us back to the conditions of fifty years ago. Just now is time, the accepted time, to build up the work here in Nashville. When the work is thus established in its logical center, we beliève there will dawn a new day for the colored people a work which we have as yet but touched with the tips of our fingers Now is the accepted time. God help us to realize the situation as he has plainly revealed it to his people.

REPORT FROM GREENVILLE, MISS.

FEBRUARY, 1907, I was asked to take charge of the school work here. At first I refused, thinking the responsibility too great, but when Elder Murphy told me how much they were in need of workers, I said, "If the Lord will help me, I will lay aside my plans and go." I found here a company of varying opin-Some thought they could not be instructed sufficiently by a woman, others were willing to accept even a child if sent to them. With no experience in the work, I faced every duty, asking the Lord to teach and guide me. I early fell ill by an attack of la grippe, then nearly all the little company suffered similarly. and one brother passed away, leaving a wife and six little children. Through all this the Lord was with us. We had a good attendance in school and closed the term very successfully.

The writer spent the summer vacation at the Oakwood School, Huntsville, Ala., trying to become better prepared for future work. The Southern Missionary Society have a care for their workers. This they proved by providing for the comfort of the teachers in their employ, leaving us with unburdened minds to study and prepare to do better work.

I believe every one was much benefited by the institute, and with the Lord to help, better work will be done in the field as a result. I was offered other places to labor this term, but it seemed that Greenville with its difficulties was uppermost in my mind. I prayed that whatever was the right way, the door would be opened and the others hedged up. I find myself at this place again, where I was very cordially received by all.

Our school is in session, but the attendance is very small on account of harvest time—cotton picking. Our company is mostly composed of widows with from four to six children each: they are all picking cotton to keep back hunger and suffering during the winter months. At present, none of our Adventist children are in school, but we have a nice attendance from some of the best colored families in the city.

We have here a very neat home with four rooms, including the chapel; but it was unfinished when I came. The Southern Missionary Society kindly supplied our needs, and in return, we are trying to sell "Story of Joseph" to replace the money spent for furnishing. An elegant sweet-toned organ was presented to us by Sister M. Jones of Akron, Ohio. Sister Hartman of Montrose, Colo., Sister Mary L. Watkins, 115 W. 51st St., Chicago, Ill., and others have donated several barrels of clothing. For all these gifts we are very thankful.

We have tried to respond to every call, and out of our little means gave what we could. The children made fifty-two mats to be sold for the Southern Missionary Society.

\$38.45

We hope to do more for the work both spiritually and financially this term than last. Little Willie Cheatham, age eight years, who has been attending school five months, sold *Watchman* and made fifty cents. He gave all he had to the Southern field. The following Sunday he sold seventy-five cents' worth of the *Watchman*.

Pray for us that the Lord may help to unite us as one that more may be done in this field for the cause of Christ.

The following are names and donations, Sabbath, Oct. 5, 1907:—

Brother and Sister A. A. Johnson \$2.00	
Sister Troy Clark (widow) 1.00	
Ellen Snell (widow five children) 1.00	
Mary Terry (widow six children)50	
Lizzie Herror (widow 4 children) .25	
Brother Job Stovall50	
Brother Henry Guice	
Brother W. Dotson	
H. H. Battle (visitor)	
M. A. Murphy 1.00	
Brother Jno. Snell	
Willie Cheatham	
Harriet and Willie Snell, 15 cents;	
Adonia and Bud Terry, 10 cents .25	
Sabbath School	
Yours in the work,	
M. A. Murphy.	

REPORT OF ATLANTA BUILDING FUND

ELDER SEBASTIAN still pleads for a building for school and church purposes in Atlanta. The fund is still several hundred dollars short of the sum required to purchase a lot and erect a building. Let us make up the necessary means quickly. Previously reported as received at

this office	419.23
Friends	6.02
J. M. Hyatt	20.95
J. N. Loughborough	10.00
Louisa M. Woolsey	10.00
W. W. Durgan	2.30
Mrs. Belle Derlie	.35
Mrs. M. T. Cole	.13
E. G. Bennett	1.00
Total\$	469.98
Amount reported on hand in At-	
lanta	140.00

INGERSOLL, OKLA., SEPT. 8, 1907. SOUTHERN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Total funds available.......\$609.98

NASHVILLE, TENN.

DEAR BRETHREN:

Again I am sending you the list of names I secured for the Gospel Herald at the Kansas camp-meeting. Could you please send the August number to the names? I think this number is so good that it will do them good to read it. I am interested in the work in the South, although poor in this world's goods, I pray that those who can will open their hearts and pocket books to God's needy cause in the South.

I attended the Kansas camp-meeting and also the Oklahoma camp-meeting, and I did not hear the Southern Mis-

sionary Society mentioned in all the meetings.

I believe if our leading men would talk a little at the camp-meetings of the needs of the South, and the importance of helping quickly to push that work, it would help our people to understand better the necessity of helping the work there now.

I cannot understand why this work should be made secondary or left out entirely. I don't believe that Jesus ever forgets that field,—a downtrodden people whose pitiful condition has caused the eyes of Christ to fill with tears, and holy angels to hush the music of their harps as they looked upon that people, should surely move the hearts of Seventh-day Adventists "as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind."

I think every Seventh-day Adventist that can read, would do well to read the "Appeal for the Colored Race," found in volume VII, page 222, of "Testimonies for the Church."

Knowing that the coming of the King of glory is at the doors, and of the vast number of colored souls yet unwarned, the light kindled by the love of Christ, should penetrate every corner of the "black belt."

Difficulties like mountains will vanish away before the earnest prayer of faith. Nothing shall hinder the work of God; but means withheld by those to whom God has entrusted them, will hinder their entering the pearly gates of the city of gold.

May the Lord strengthen and bless his work everywhere is my prayer.

MATTIE A. PRICE.

R. E. WILLIAMS, our teacher at Palmer, Miss., writes thus encouragingly:

"I began school this week with only four students. I expect them all to turn out next week for their parents have told me so. The public school began in May, and is still in session. I learned that it will continue for the whole year. Only two of my students have gone over to that because their parents do not like to pay tuition. The people in this place are drawing nearer to us. A man has begun to keep the Sabbath; he has kept three Sabbaths now. There is another one that has come for me to give him instruction on the different points of truth. Pray for me that my light may so shine that men may see my good works and be led to glorify our Father which is in heaven."

The Gospel Herald

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE
SOUTHERN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
North Station, Nashville, Tenn.

November, 1907. Price 10 Cts. a Year

We desire to be placed in correspondence with every one supporting the mission school work. To this end we encourage remittances direct to this Society. To be cut off from direct communication with the friends of this work would mean the death of the Southern Missionary Society.

THE school recently established in Atlanta has almost outgrown its present quarters. This emphasizes the need of a building in that city. The fund for this purpose is still growing, but not as rapidly as it should.

THE Nashville mission school, which opened a few weeks ago with one teacher, has increased in numbers to that extent that it demands a second teacher. This want we hope to supply before this item falls under the eye of the reader.

Mrs. A. E. Gibson, who taught last year at Columbus, Miss., but who is now in charge of the school at Atlanta, Ga., is much improved in health. The change to Atlanta has been a great benefit to her healthwise. We are thankful for this. We have no teachers to spare from the work.

Mrs. Cornelia Murphy, who was principal of the Vicksburg school last year, has returned from the Sanitarium at Battle Creek very much improved in health, but not able to engage in school work. We hope, however, that she will be able to take up regular work by the beginning of the winter term.

A CORRESPONDENT in Natchez, Miss., writes: "We are in receipt of your letter of the 18th inst., and are delighted with the little folder entitled, 'Southern Missionary Society,' giving a resume of its well directed efforts to uplift our people, and feel sure that God is well pleased for your faithful work. The neat little houses of worship draw forth our admiration; their design being at once ap-

propriate and beautiful in simplicity. Our anticipations of soon being able to worship God in a similar one, all our own, fills us with sincere joy. In conclusion, we pray that God will multiply your efforts, and that the gratitude of thousands may be your consolation."

THE SELF-DENIAL BOX PLAN

Under date of July 6, 1904, Sister White wrote these words concerning the plan of raising money for mission schools by means of the Self-Denial Boxes:

"Many should become interested in the work of placing these Boxes in homes. Ask old and young to aid the work for the colored people by placing these Boxes in every home possible. A blessing will surely follow the gifts of Self-denial thus brought to the Master.

A MICHIGAN correspondent writes: "Dear Brethren,—I see that my subscription has expired, so I will enclose ten cents in stamps to pay for it for another year. I like the little paper, and am interested in the work which is being done in the South for the colored people."

D. E. Blake and Dr. Lottie C. Isbell were married recently and will labor together hereafter. In addition to his evangelistic work Elder Blake will assist the doctor in building up the sanitarium work in Birmingham. We think the combination a very happy one, and wish the doctor and her husband much success in their joint labors.

WE still have on hand a limited supply of that invaluable little booklet, "The Southern Work," compiled from the writings of Mrs. E. G. White relative to work for the colored people. Now that the eyes of all our people are being turned toward this field as never before everybody ought to have a copy of this pamphlet. As long as our supply lasts we will fill orders at 15 cents a copy or two to one address for 25 cents.

WE are thankful that the Lord is enabling us to extend the work of the Southern Missionary Society. During the past month we have added new schools at Mobile, Ala., Newellton, La., Charleston, S. C., and Atlanta, Ga. The Society has also undertaken the support of a minister in Alabama. We trust

the day is not far distant when the work of the Southern Missionary Society will be as broad as the needs of the field in which it operates.

Now is the time to help the mission schools by selling the "Story of Joseph." We honor all orders from those who are willing fo sell the books and send the full price, 25 cents a copy, to this Society for the support of mission schools. Send for the books and pay for them when you sell them.

The weather is growing cold and we are reminded that winter is coming. This does not mean as much to us here in the South as it does to our friends in the North; nevertheless there is much suffering every winter among the very poor. We can use therefore almost any number of second hand garments. Shoes are especially wanted. Our teachers and mission workers can use clothing and shoes to good advantage in helping their pupils and in gaining access to homes and hearts otherwise closed to the truth. All shipments should be sent freight prepaid.

N. B.—Before shipping write to us for definite directions. It is much cheaper to ship direct than to send to us here and then we have to reship.

RECEIPTS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1907

The following report is for the donations received during the month of September, 1907

DONATIONS

Mrs Geo W Davis	SI OO	
Ed Olesen	1 00	
Mrs Lena Iden	4 90	
M T Clark	50	
HA&DS Mead Arizona Conference	25 00	
Arizona Conference	4 25	
Alex Keifer	50	
Elizabeth Pirtle	I 50	
Mrs Euphemia Spicer	3 co	
John H Saare	5 35	
Ethel M Williams	5 00	
J N Loughborough	10 00	
Mrs P B Chambers	10 00	
Toledo Church	I 43	
A Sabbath-keeper	3 00	
Marjorie West	55	
Lawrence West	25	
Ira Sneppard	1 00	
Mrs Mary Kingsley	25	
Total	78 48	
FROM SELF-DENIAL BO	OXES	
Mrs Jane LaFave	25	
Mrs Wm Russell	1 40	
Mrs Wm Russell Mrs E G Hoffer Mrs Ella Beck	1 40	
Mrs Ella Heck	60	
K K Kelmhold	1 00	
Miss Elza Deardorff	1 15	
W G Twitchell &	_ 4	
Family	1 00	
Oscar Morris	1 20	
Mrs Cora Olson	60	
Mrs Cora Olson Mrs M A Neff Mrs Jennie Northrup.	50	
Chair & Flian Francisco.	50	
Chris & Ellen Foss L Leroy	1 25	
Mary Warfald	10 00	
Mary Werfield	75	
Lillie Fish & Family.	50	
Mr & Mrs S C Mans-	30	
field	50	
H L Andrews	бо	
Mrs James Smith	30	
A Friend	20	
Γ M Bradford	2 35	
Mrs E M Parish	52	
ay Parish	22	
Mrs E Bergstrom	1, 15	
Mrs Cynthia Bush	5 00	

TIONS
Miss Dottie & Lula Davids.n
\$55 61 FOR THE SUPPORT OF MINISTERS WORKING FOR THE COLORED PROPLE
A Friand
THE NATCHEZ CHURCH BUILDING FUND
Previously reported . \$18 50 F H Schramm . 7 09 J N Loughborough . 10 00 Friends . 11 10 Friends . 11 10 Friends . 69 55 Armona Church . 18 20

\$196 13