

THE GOSPEL HERALD



Volume V

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WHOSE WILL IT BE?

BY MRS. L. R. REYNOLDS.

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal; for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.—Matt. 6:19-21.

When our ground doth yield its increase
Till our barns refuse to hold,
Will we only build them larger,
Never heeding words we're told;
While our Saviour stands intreating
For a portion of our stores,
In the person of our brother,
Pleads and patiently implores?

Pleads for millions now in darkness,
In the needy fields beyond,
Who have never heard of Jesus,
Will we with our means respond?
Will we haste to send them teachers
Who will tell the Saviour's love—
How he gave his life to save them,
How he left his home above?

While some go with these glad tidings,
Leaving home and friends and all;
Will we cheerfully help to send them?
Will we list to Duty's call?
For the moment we are planning
Which dear treasure we will spare,
While we sadly gaze upon them—
All are idols of our care.

Thus again, with eyes turned earthward,
As we count our treasures o'er,
O how tightly do we clasp them
While we covet more and more!
"We cannot be always giving
For some worthless heathen race!
We have use for ev'ry dollar,
Ev'ry dollar has a place.

"We have labored hard to earn it;
And 'tis time that we should rest,
And provide for our own household
With the means with which we're blest."
Thus complacently we're saying,
"This belongeth all to me;
Soul of mine, now take thy leisure,
Eat and drink and merry be."

But this night the summons cometh—
"Fool, thy soul's required of thee!
All those things thou hast provided,
Ah! whose wealth will it now be?"
Thus are all who labor only
For this life and worldly gain,
Caring naught for heavenly riches—
All their labor will prove vain.

When the Lord with power ariseth,
And shall shake the heavens and earth;
All the treasures we have hoarded
Then will seem of little worth.
To the moles and bats we'll cast them,
All our haughtiness brought low,
And the clefts of rocks be seeking,
Into dismal caverns go.

Seeking then for place to hide us;
And to rocks and mountains call,
"Hide us! From his presence, hide us!
Rocks and mountains, on us fall!"
Then how precious had we only
All to needy fields have given;
And had sought enduring riches,
Saved secure for us in heaven?
Wichita, Kans.

An Important Offering

OCTOBER 3 is the date of the offering to be taken in all our churches for the work among the colored people of this land. In the words of a Testimony, "THE PRESENT IS AN OPPORTUNITY WE CANNOT AFFORD TO LOSE. WE CALL UPON ALL OUR PEOPLE TO HELP TO THE UTMOST OF THEIR ABILITY."

Every Seventh-day Adventist ought to bear a part in helping to sustain this part of the cause, of which the Testimony says, "THERE SHOULD BE A HUNDRED WORKERS WHERE NOW THERE IS BUT ONE."

Those who are not at the meeting on the 3rd of October should lay aside their offering just the same, to be handed to the church treasurer or sent in by mail as soon as possible.

And, dear brethren, let us not be satisfied this year to give to this important

branch of the cause of God merely a few pennies. *This should not be a nickel nor even a silver collection, but one of GOLD PIECES, GREENBACKS, and BANK BILLS.* Nothing short of this will meet the call of the hour.

We have reached a crisis in this branch of the work. Many doors are now open which will be closed ere long. "The Lord's treasures are at hand, entrusted to us for just such emergencies," says the Testimony.

Again the same authority says, "The Lord calls upon his people to make *offerings of self-denial*. Let us give up something that we intended to purchase for personal comfort or pleasure. Let us teach our children to deny self, and become the Lord's helping hands in dispensing his blessings."

"The sums which you give may be

small when compared with the necessities of the work," continues the Testimony, "but be not discouraged. Have faith in God. Hold fast the hand of infinite power, and that which seems hopeless at first will look different. The feeding of the five thousand is an object-lesson for us. He who with five loaves and two small fishes fed five thousand men, besides women and children, can do great things for his people to-day."—Vol. 7, p. 465.

Speaking directly of the Southern field, its needs, and of our duty toward this field, Sister White says:—

"The work there needs means. God has given warnings, but they have not been heeded. Church-members in America who have pleasant homes and surroundings, should remember the Southern field. It is in need of special atten-

tion and support. . . . The work which should have been done in that field has not been done.

"Why do you neglect this work? God has made it your duty to deal with this poor, oppressed race as their circumstances demand. Let the work go forward. Encourage the people who are favorably situated to help in this field.

"There are men who will tell you that the work in the South has been misrepresented, that it is not so arduous as it is made to appear. Let no one suppose that the Southern field is an easy place to work; for IT IS THE MOST DIFFICULT PORTION OF THE LORD'S VINEYARD, AND SOON IT WILL BE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT. The greatest wisdom must be exercised. All connected with the work must be as wise as serpents and as harmless as doves."

"I call upon every church in our land to look well to your own souls. 'Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?' God makes no distinction between the North and the South."

"Sin rests upon us as a church because we have not made greater effort for the salvation of souls among the colored people. Let us do what we can to send to this class laborers who will work in Christ's name, who will not fail nor be discouraged. We should educate colored men to be missionaries among their own people. We should recognize talent where it exists among that people, and those who have ability should be placed where they may receive an education.

"The converting power of God must work a transformation of character in many who claim to believe the present truth, or they cannot fulfil the purpose of God. They are hearers, but not doers of the Word. Pure, unworldly benevolence will be developed in all who make Christ their personal Saviour. There needs to be far less of self and more of Jesus. The church of Christ is ordained of God that its members shall be representatives of Christ's character. He says, 'You have given yourselves to me, and I give you to the world. I am the light of the world; I present you to the

world as my representatives.' As Christ in the fullest sense represents the Father, so we are to represent Christ. Let none of those who name the name of Christ be cowards in his cause. For Christ's sake stand as if looking within the open portals of the city of God."

These quoted paragraphs, though not written with special reference to the present offering, are just as true of the situation which now exists as of the situation when they were first made public. These appeals have never met with the general and enthusiastic response demanded by the situation, and called for by the Spirit of God.

What are the twenty-eight mission schools now in operation among the many millions of colored people in our land? It still remains true, as stated by Sister White, July 24, 1895, that this work "has been touched with only the tip ends of our fingers," compared with that which must be done. Is it not high time we were taking hold of it in a whole-hearted way, never to let go until the great Master himself says, "It is enough"?

Interesting Facts about the Atlanta Property

We received a letter a few days ago from Elder Westworth, President of the Southeastern Union Conference, calling upon us for money to pay for the lots selected some months ago in Atlanta, for the proposed school and church building and mission home, to serve as headquarters in that city for the colored work in Georgia.

These lots are located within one block of a car line. Each lot is forty by one hundred feet, making a plot of ground eighty by one hundred feet. The purchase price of the ground is \$700. We had been endeavoring for some months to secure this property, but several defects in the title had to be cured before we could feel free to purchase it. This has required much work; but now the title is perfect and we can feel safe in paying for the lots and erecting buildings upon them.

The ground slopes just enough to make the location very advantageous for fitting up a well-lighted basement. Our plan is to erect a church building twenty-four

by forty-eight feet on the corner of this plot of ground, the building to stand back only about ten feet from the street on which the lots front and not more than three or four feet from the side street. A high and well-lighted basement will be built of brick; and upon this will be erected a chapel for church and mission purposes.

Then as soon as possible, we intend to build a cottage to be used as mission home and treatment rooms, the latter to be in the basement probably, which will be fitted up for that purpose.

While so convenient to a car line, this property is almost in the country. On two sides it is well built up; but on the other two sides it is surrounded by a forest of large oak trees with little or no undergrowth, making the location a very pleasant one indeed, admirably adapted for the purpose for which it is intended, because while within easy walking distance of a large colored population, the property will have many of the advantages of a country location.

The Society has sufficient money on hand to purchase this property, but very little to apply on the building fund. Are there not among us two or three individuals who would esteem it a privilege to donate \$2,500 to provide the necessary buildings for this property? We have considered the matter very carefully and feel that the interests of this branch of the work not only in Atlanta but in the whole state of Georgia as well, demand that reasonable facilities be provided for the work in that part of the field.

The need is an urgent one. Elder Sebastian, our colored minister in Atlanta, is pleading in every letter we receive from him, for a building; and Elder Westworth, president of that union conference, is very anxious indeed that the work there be placed upon vantage ground, as it certainly would be by the erection of the buildings contemplated.

There should be as little delay as possible in going forward with this work. Indeed, we hoped some months ago to be able to provide these buildings in time

for the opening of the mission school the first Monday in September. In this we were disappointed. It would be possible, however, if we could secure the money promptly, to erect the school and church building and have it ready for occupancy immediately after the Christmas vacation. It would certainly bring cheer and comfort to the hearts of our colored brethren in Georgia, as well as to Elder Westworth, if we could bid them go ahead with the erection of the necessary buildings, especially the one for school and church purposes, although a cottage is also much needed.

Brethren and sisters, let us hear from you concerning this matter. The call is most urgent.

HUNTSVILLE

THE Lord has said that Huntsville is one of the centers of influence. Vol. 7, p. 231. This place, I am sure, is well known to us as a people,—to my own race in the United States and elsewhere. Do you know that we should be interested in the school at Huntsville?

The Lord has said through the spirit of prophecy that the school should receive encouragement and help, for the Lord led in the establishment of the Huntsville School. If he takes an interest in us, surely we ought to take an interest in the school that he has established. Let all of our families be interested and be in harmony with our school. Talk to your friends about the school. Pray for it; talk about it. But let us not talk evil about it, for the Lord has established it.

Vol. 7, par. 2: "In the night season I was taken by my Guide from place to place, from city to city in the South. I saw the great work to be done,—that which ought to have been done years ago. We seemed to be looking at many places. Our first interest was for the places where the work has already been established, and for those where the way has opened for a beginning to be made. One of these places was . . . Huntsville, where we have an industrial school.

"A good beginning has been made in the Southern field. This is true about Huntsville. . . . It would do your soul good if you could visit the school and see what has been accomplished from the donations sent there. Of course there are other improvements to be made. But these cannot be made until our dear

brethren and sisters respond to the call."

The new sanitarium at Oakwood is very much needed for our people. Will you help to get this building completed?

We are so glad for the steps that have been taken again for a sanitarium at Nashville for our people. I do not believe that we have any in operation, but we are praying and waiting patiently for the Lord to work in our behalf.

We have felt for these past years that we have been without an arm, but we see light piercing the gloom. Will you help the light to come through?

We thank you for what you have done for us as a people. We highly appreciate it; and to God we give the glory and honor, which are due his name.

W. H. SEBASTIAN.

STILL PLEADING FOR ATLANTA

If a man was drowning in the river and saw that he could not get out, he would then call for help. Help is what we need in Atlanta. Our buildings should have been up before now, but for some reason there has been delay. Perhaps when we get all the means we need, then every other thing will move along in our favor.

True, we have been calling for help, *help, HELP*; but how miserable we would feel if there were no one for us to help! "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom."

Before this great blessing is given, we must first *give*, "and it shall be given unto you." "The Lord is not slack concerning his promises."

Do not give grudgingly, or of necessity; for "God loveth a cheerful giver." Offer willingly unto the Lord. "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? For all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee." 1 Chron. 29: 14.

"And the multitude of them that believed were of *one heart* and of *one soul*; neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common."

When we allow the Holy Spirit to have possession of our being, we will permit him also to have possession of our means.

"Had those to whom God has given great light and many opportunities done

the work that he desires them to do, there would to-day be memorials all through the Southern field,—churches, sanitariums, and schools."—Vol. 7, p. 222.

Brethren and sisters, is it time to build? If so, help us with your means.

Vol. 7, p. 223 asks the following question: "If the Lord is soon to come, is it not time that something was done for the Southern field?"

"God will reward you when he comes to make up his jewels."

Let us do all that we can to push the work. Send all donations to Southern Missionary Society, Madison, Tenn.

W. H. SEBASTIAN.

If you have not done so recently, please read the stirring appeal for the colored race found on page 222, vol. 7, of Testimonies for the Church, and give as you feel God would be pleased to have you give.

"FAITH is the assurance of things hoped for, the proving of things not seen."

RECEIPTS FOR JULY, 1908

THE following report is for the donations received during the month of July, 1908.

Donations	
J V Moore.....	\$1.00
Miss Ann E Kain.....	.70
Sever Jacobson.....	1.30
Mrs J Frikart.....	1.00
Florence Whitney.....	2.00
Mrs M A Williams.....	3.65
W Harper.....	2.60
B Hillery.....	4.70
L R Houpt.....	1.00
A Friend.....	15.00
Wm Rapp.....	4.00
Mrs M V Billings.....	.10
Miss Ann E Kain.....	2.00
Total	\$38.45
From the Self-Denial Boxes	
Mrs M A Clement.....	\$1.21
Mrs Isaac.....	1.00
Lida Polson.....	2.00
Mary Spencer.....	5.00
J N Webb.....	2.00
Mrs A D Alden.....	1.83
Mrs Jennie Wood.....	.70
Miss Hortense Andre.....	.30
Jane Slayton.....	3.71
Mrs H C Mitchell.....	1.30
D Gavin.....	2.00
Arthur Moon.....	4.50
Marshall Chapin.....	1.20
Mrs J A Dill.....	.25
Mrs P Alderman.....	1.00
Mrs Julia E Johnson.....	.60
W H Brown.....	3.50
Mrs Dora E Guy.....	3.00
Mrs S C Mansfield.....	.25
Mrs. James Smith.....	.50
H L Andrews.....	.60
Mrs. Hinchcliff.....	3.00
J S Jacobson.....	1.50
S W Burkhardt.....	2.00
Mrs C H Ward.....	1.20
Mrs Geo H Scott.....	.50
Mrs J W Davidson.....	.90
Mrs C A Skoog.....	.63
L S and L A Whitney	1.50
Ruth Belden.....	.10
Rolen Belden.....	.05
Clifford Kinker.....	.25
E Y Smith.....	.10
Verna Mason.....	.05
Mrs Adams.....	.25
Nellie Hinkle.....	.25
Toledo S D A Church.....	1.20
Mrs John Sheldon.....	2.52
Susan McConnoughay.....	.50
Oxford Sabbath-School.....	2.15
Sarah J Brown.....	5.00
Mrs M A Hutchinson.....	2.00
F A Mott.....	.25
A Friend.....	2.50
Clara B Turner.....	1.00
Joseph and Jennie Hayes.....	.60
Mrs Daisy Jefferson.....	3.00
Emma L Runck.....	5.00
Jacob H Peters.....	.90
Harry Beddoe.....	1.05
Mrs L E Fuller.....	.60
D A Piper.....	.32
J B Sheppard.....	1.00
Martha J Sevrens.....	1.10
Mrs Hanley.....	4.00
Total	\$83.42
For the Support of Ministers Working for the Colored People	
A Friend.....	\$1.25
F H Schramm.....	7.18
C A Frederick.....	34.00
Rosa Leitzman.....	3.45
Total	\$45.88
Atlanta Building Fund	
Previously Reported.....	\$677.68
Mrs J W Davidson.....	1.25
Mrs James Rogers.....	2.65
Total	\$681.58

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We desire to be placed in correspondence with every contributor to 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 OUTLOOK

THE outlook for the work among the colored people of our Southland was never more encouraging than now. The colored people themselves who have received the truth "have a mind to work." They exhibit the same zeal and earnestness seen among white converts to the third angel's message.

The number of colored workers is increasing encouragingly. The Oakwood School is sending out graduates into the mission school work, and the mission schools are in turn sending their most promising pupils to Oakwood, there to be trained to become "workers together with God."

Mission schools are not, however, and never can become, self-supporting. The patrons of these schools are poor in this world's goods, though as capable as white people of becoming "rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that God has prepared for them that love him."

The increase in the number of mission schools during the past year and a half from eighteen to twenty-eight, is most encouraging. But what are twenty-eight schools among so large a population?

Mission schools should be established in many places. Every such school becomes a center from which the light of truth shines forth in every direction.

Another encouraging thing in connection with colored mission school work is the fact that our brethren in the North are beginning to have a better understanding of this branch of the cause of God and of the relation they should sustain to it.

The pennies and nickels that find their way into the Self-denial Boxes are help-

ful, but they will not suffice to carry forward the work of the Southern Missionary Society. There are many who should give hundreds of dollars in order that this branch of the cause may be rapidly extended.

Surely the time has come for us to cut loose from this world. By putting our earthly treasure into the cause of God, the temporal wealth of earth may be transmuted into the eternal riches of heaven. Brethren and sisters, let us believe God.

Inasmuch as there are in the South various lines of work both for white and colored people, it is important that all donations sent through the regular channels be plainly labeled for the particular branch of the work for which they are designed by the donors. This should never be neglected.

REMEMBER the offering for the colored work the first Sabbath in October.

The twenty-eight mission schools with which the present school year opens call for more means than the eighteen such schools in operation last year.

Then there is the urgent call for help for the large city of Atlanta, Ga. The need there is great.

At the summer school at Oakwood, it was touching to hear the mission school teachers relate their experiences. All were of good courage; there was no drawing back; but some told of school rooms without glass windows, of rude benches and make-shift desks. One teacher told of a school-room furnished wholly with soap boxes.

Shall we not send these faithful workers help by a liberal offering the first Sabbath in October?

We firmly believe that now is the final opportunity to do under comparatively favorable conditions, the work that the Lord expects us to do for the colored people of the South.

A SELF-DENIAL BOX user writes thus: "Find enclosed \$1.00, Self-denial Box money, sent with the hope that it may help some dear soul to accept the truth.

"Over five years ago I promised God I would send the Self-denial Box money every three months, and if there was not twenty-five cents in it, I would make it up. Thank God, I have never failed and almost always have \$1.00 to send.

"My heart aches when I read of the

wants of the poor colored people. May the dear Lord bless his work everywhere.

"I am the only Adventist in the neighborhood, but hope to see dear ones and friends accept the truth soon. Pray for me."

At the recent camp-meeting at Madison, the people of Wisconsin contributed over thirty-one hundred dollars for the colored work in the South. This magnificent donation was made to the Nashville Treatment Rooms and Mission Home on Foster Street, East Nashville.

Now, will not the people of some other conference do as well for Atlanta? The need is even greater there than it was in Nashville. Brethren, we invite \$500 donations, as well as gifts of smaller sums for this branch of the cause of God.

THE editor of the GOSPEL HERALD has just returned from a somewhat prolonged tour of the Lake Union Conference. He wishes to express thus publicly his appreciation of the kind reception he everywhere met with. During this tour about forty-three hundred dollars in cash and pledges was raised for the colored work in this field for which all interested in that branch of the work are profoundly thankful. Wisconsin is to be especially commended for the practical manner in which the people of that conference manifested their interest in the work for the negroes of the South. Wisconsin's contribution was something over \$3,600, in cash and pledges. One pledge of \$500 is conditional on the sale of forty acres of land.

A CHEERING REPORT FROM ELDER SEBASTIAN

WE pitched our tent here in Atlanta on August 26 and 27. On the evening of the 27th, we opened our services with a good attendance.

On Sabbath we had a Pentecostal shower. We had ten visitors present. A brother who said he had been preaching for twenty-six years, told me, after the Sabbath services (as he invited me to his home), that he would keep the next Sabbath. His wife joins with him in this. Pray for our success.

Surely we need a building in this city.

W. H. SEBASTIAN.

287 "A" Chapel St., Atlanta, Ga.