

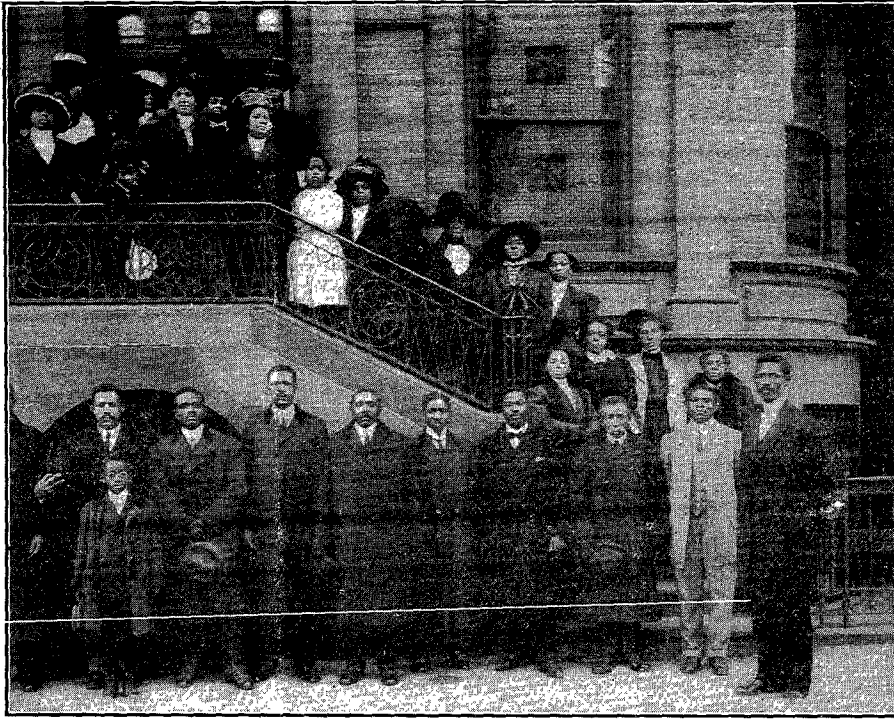
GOSPEL HERALD



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ELDER J. K. HUMPHREY AND BELIEVERS, NEW YORK CITY.

This is known as the Harlem Church. At the time of our visit in October, its membership was 371. Eighty of these became converts during the past summer's tent effort. In addition to these he has a baptismal class of seventy-five. Elder Humphrey has had charge of this work for fourteen years; and his keen foresight, perseverance, careful planning, and precise execution have been attended by Heaven's blessings. C. J. BOYD.

Lord had graciously promised to relieve all their grievances. He desired to give them a religious training under the eye of God, "that I may prove them," he said, "whether they will walk in my law, or no." The first lesson taught them was that their constant dependence for daily nourishment was upon God, and that by him their wants would be abundantly supplied.

Speak not lightly of the restrictions placed upon Israel in Sinai regarding the cooking of manna. The Lord has placed barriers around his Sabbath, that it may not be regarded with the least carelessness or irreverence. When the Lord said, "Tomorrow is the rest of the holy Sabbath: bake that which ye will bake today, and seethe that ye will seethe," he meant that Friday

Cooking On the Sabbath (Continued from last month)

AFTER all the experiences of Israel and the pledges of God to his people, we marvel at their hardness and their unbelief. But the expression of the feelings of one is contagious, and Satan stands by to inspire other hearts with the same spirit. Their present inconvenience, their thoughts of what might be, the hopeless, discouraging picture of the desolate wilderness, they were inspired by Satan to charge upon Moses and Aaron. They accused their leaders of bringing them from the slavery of Egypt to kill them and their children with hunger. All their lives they had been accustomed to walk

by sight. Here they had every evidence that they had an unseen Leader. He had just given them a statute, assuring them how much he would do for them if they would keep his commandments. "Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." Please read this whole chapter.

"And he said unto them, This is that which the Lord hath said, Tomorrow is the rest of the holy Sabbath unto the Lord: bake that ye will bake today, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning." The

should be our preparation day, in which we are to do all our cooking. The Sabbath is not to be a day when tidbits shall be prepared or cooked. If it really essential to have beans on the Sabbath, let them be cooked on Friday, and kept warm in the oven. They need not be eaten cold unless preferred. But let no remarks be made as though it were a very light thing whether or not we regard the special requirements of God in regard to the Sabbath. It is not left for any man or woman to venture to disregard one requirement of God.

I see no question in this matter as to what we shall have on the Sabbath day. The food which we have provided on the preparation

day can be placed on the table warm, especially in cold weather. In traveling, persons eat cold lunches for days together, and realize no inconvenience or harm. We want palatable, healthful food every day of the week; but upon the Sabbath, let your cook have her day of rest, in the place of cooking for a family. Let every provision be made on Friday. But do not let the Sabbath be regarded as a day in which to get something especially gratifying to eat. Educate your children and every member of the family to enjoy plain, simple food, and to be ready to receive the blessing which the Lord of the Sabbath is waiting to bestow upon all who are in an attitude to receive it. He has this for every one who shows his love for God in keeping holy the Sabbath day, God's great memorial of creation. *Speak softly, walk softly. Let not a word of lightness or trifling come from your lips. This is God's day. He has blessed the seventh day, as his Sabbath, to be sacredly observed.* (Italics ours).

The Sabbath is not to be a gloomy day, a day of unrest and uneasiness. Parents must take their children outdoors, in the groves, in the flower gardens, and teach them that the Lord has given them these beautiful things as an expression of his love. Christ has said: "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, what shall we eat? or, what shall we drink? or, wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the gentiles seek): for your Heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God; and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

Let the Mind be directed to the lessons of the book of nature, and to nature's God, who made the world in six days, and rested on the seventh; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it." Do not make light of the Sabbath requirement; and when it comes to eating on the Sabbath, those who would feed on Christ, who would have the rich blessing of God, will partake of a very simple diet on that day.

The thoughts are not to be educated to be full of what we shall eat, and what we shall drink, and wherewithal we shall be clothed. We need to prepare for the Sabbath. The clothing that we shall wear on that day is to be put in order. The boots should not be left unblackened or unpolished until the Sabbath. You dishonor God by doing this work on that day. How easy is it to allow reckless neglect of the preparation for the Sabbath!

Teach the children that God means just what he says. The very same Jesus who has given us the Sabbath, and has directed us how to keep it holy, is the Alpha of Genesis, and carries us step by step through the ages, through the incarnation, through his offering of himself as the living sacrifice for the redemption of a fallen world. He was tried, but was not condemned, because there was nothing to condemn. After the trial Pilate said, "I find no fault in him." Yet he gave himself up to be murdered because his own nation was jealous of him, and hated him. Christ died as a malefactor on the cross of Calvary. He was laid in the grave. The third day he rose from the dead, and proclaimed, over the rent sepulcher of Joseph: "I am the resurrection, and the life." He ascended to his Father, and today he is our advocate in the courts of heaven.

We trace Christ through the Old Testament and the New. "And, behold, I come quickly: and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are they that do his commandments that they may enter in through the gates into the

city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

Here we have the Alpha of Genesis and the Omega of Revelation. The blessing is promised to all those who keep the commandments of God, and who co-operate with him in the proclamation of the third angel's message. "I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star." That which Christ has spoken in the Old Testament is for all the world. What he has said in reference to his commandments is not yea and nay, but yea and amen.

In this perilous period, when we see universal contempt placed upon the law of God, when the world is choosing between the holy Sabbath of the fourth commandment and the spurious sabbath, shall we say one word that will detract from the words of the Lord of the Sabbath? The Lord God of heaven knew what a deadening influence the abounding iniquity would have upon the chosen believers, what a paralyzing power it would be against piety and true loyalty to God. In giving us the statement of the occurrence which would mark the approach of the second advent of our Lord and Saviour, Christ says, "Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold." We see this fulfilled to the letter. The experience of many is becoming dwarfed and sickly and wonderfully deformed. Everything that surrounds us creates an atmosphere that is saturated with unrighteousness. Even under the most probable surroundings, it is difficult to hold fast the Christian profession of faith unto the end, to stand decidedly and earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. But it is most difficult to

keep true and loyal to God's holy commandments, when there are few in number to help and encourage one another, and when many of these are sickly and ready to die because they do not honor God by keeping his commandments truly and loyally.

Much so-called Christianity passes for genuine, faithful soundness, but it is because those who profess it have no persecution to endure for the truth's sake. When the day comes when the law of God is made void, and the church is sifted by the fiery trials that are to try all that live upon the earth, a great proportion of those who are supposed to be genuine will give heed to seducing spirits, and will turn traitors and betray sacred trusts. They will prove our very worst persecutors. "Of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them;" and many will give heed to seducing spirits.

Those who have lived on the flesh and blood of the Son of God—his Holy Word—will be strengthened, rooted, and grounded in the faith. They will see increased evidence why they should prize and obey the word of God. With David, they will say, "They have made void thy law. Therefore love I thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold." While others count them dross, they will arise to defend the faith. All who study their convenience, their pleasure, their enjoyment, will not stand in their trial. "Who so eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him." Precious words! "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

The fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah is to be read, studied, and practised. "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the

hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy reward. Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; and if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: and the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in. If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

Let no one yield to temptation and become less fervent in his attachment to God's law because of the constant contempt placed upon it; for that is the very thing that should make us pray with all our heart, and soul and voice, "It is time for thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void thy law." Therefore, because of the universal contempt, I will not turn traitor when God will be most glorified and most honored by my loyalty."

What! shall Seventh-day-Adventists relax their devotedness when all their capabilities and powers

should be placed on the Lord's side; when an unflinching testimony, noble and uplifting, should come from their lips? "Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold." When the law of God is most derided and brought into the most contempt, then it is time for every true follower of Christ, for those whose hearts have been given to God, and who are fixed to obey God, to stand unflinchingly for the faith once delivered to the saints. "Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not." It is time to fight when champions are most needed.

Those who make light of the third angel's message do so because they know little of Daniel or the Revelation. They have not read these prophecies with a determination to find out the meaning by prayer, by study, and by fasting. If they had had the experience of Daniel or of John, they would know that the third angel's message will go forth unto perfect victory. Those who proclaim that message because they see and believe it, will understand that very much is comprehended by it. The third angel is represented as flying through the heavens with a banner on which is inscribed, "The commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." All who will gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their defections, and loyalty from their treason, will triumph with the third angel's message.—*Mrs. E. G. White, in Review and Herald, June, 1897.*

The Enchanted Ground

THE time of test is the time of waiting. "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick." When month after month, and year after year, we have sought the fruition of our hopes, the time begins to drag wearily, and it is natural for us either to turn from our pursuit, or to pursue our quest with less eagerness. This is as true in spiritual things as in other questions of life. The Scriptures of truth recognize this, and warn us against this danger:—

"Cast not away therefore your

confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul."

In the progress of this great movement we have reached, as it were, a tarrying time. For long years fulfilling signs and prophecies have indicated the speedy coming of the Lord. We have seen the special gospel message of this generation spread from a small beginning to earth's remotest bounds; and believers are rejoicing in it in nearly every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. We have seen evil influences marshaling themselves against the truth in fulfilment of prophetic prediction. From an unknown and obscure people, our church has so increased in membership, and particularly as an active, progressive force in the propagation of truth, and in with-standing the evil combinations seeking for a union of church and state, that our name is respected by many, and our influence feared by those who are seeking to commit the nation to wrong principles. Still, notwithstanding this onward march of events, and the fulfilment of the prophetic word, the Lord delays his coming.

This is the time of greatest danger to the church of God. And this period of waiting, this time of apparent peace and prosperity, this time when men speak well of us and of the work we are doing in the world, is the time above all others when we need to guard closely our religious experience. We are passing now over the enchanted ground. We may well beware of the miasma of sin, which in an unguarded hour may creep in upon us and benumb our sensibilities.

Satan cares not what means he employs to draw us from our allegiance to God, so long as his efforts are successful. He will employ the means best suited to the individual. He knows the weak points in each character, the vulnerable place at

which to aim his fiery darts. He will gain entrance to the citadel of one soul through the pleasures of the world, the follies and excitement of society, love of dress, indulgence of appetite, or the pride of life. Another will be ensnared by the spirit of money-making. The value of gold will be magnified above the value of truth, and the soul will be bartered for the material things of life.

It stands us in hand in this time to be vigilant and constantly on our guard lest through deceitfulness of sin we lose our connection with God and fall into the snare and thralldom of the enemy of our souls. "In a little while he that shall come will come, and will not tarry." In a little space from this the opening heavens will reveal the glory of our coming King. Let us be patient. Let us lift up our heads and rejoice, for our redemption draweth nigh. We should arouse our energies for the sharp and decisive conflict which is just ahead.

While a power from beneath is springing up and fast taking hold of satanic agencies, marshaling them for the last final conflict, God is waiting graciously to send from above that power which will energize his people and prepare them to stand stiffly for his truth in the hour of trial. Long have we waited for the fulfilment of the promise made unto our fathers. Eagerly have we longed for the baptism of the Spirit of power. If we are faithful, that longing will one day be satisfied, but let us emphasize here again, as has been emphasized many times before, that before the day of power must come the day of complete consecration.

The seal of God will not be placed upon the unholy or impure; the power of God can not be imparted to the world-loving and unconsecrated. God can entrust his spirit to, and use efficiently, only those possessing clean hands and pure hearts. God today calls upon his people to forsake their idols, to remove from the highway the stones of stumbling, to clear away from the door of their hearts the rubbish of sin and selfishness, and let the Lord Jesus Christ come in and take full and complete possession.

This little time of waiting affords

opportunity for heart-searching, for confession of sin, for the righting of every wrong. Who this day will consecrate himself anew to God? Who in this waiting hour will place his all upon God's altar for sanctified service in connection with this closing work? The consecration must begin in the individual life, it must be manifest in the home, in the church, and from there go out into all the world as a savor of life, and a blessing unto men.

May God grant that the sense of none of his people may become bewildered, or their hearts gross and heavy, as we pass over the enchanted ground toward the eternal city. Earnestness and faith on our part will bring corresponding peace and blessing and power through the Spirit of truth. He is waiting to be gracious. This is the day of his power. May we have a part in the refreshing.—*F. M. W. In Advent Review and Sabbath Herald.*

Almost Gone

THE time is rapidly passing when periodicals can be purchased at the old prices. Have you renewed your *Review*? Here are some testimonies to its value:

"I tried to get along without it two or three years. I felt I couldn't take it, (not because I did not want to). But oh, what I suffered. No one knows how I missed it. I bore the agony as long as I could, and finally decided I would again subscribe for it at any cost. I felt I would be willing to go without some things less needful in order to have the good old *Review* come to my home once more. Being an isolated Sabbath keeper, it is truly comforting and keeps one in touch with the message and our ministers and workers in the field."

"To me the *Review* is one of the essentials of spiritual growth. I cannot be without it so long as I desire to keep growing in the message work!"

"Sometimes I get weary, lonely and the time looks long but the good old *Review* follows me around the country, and if it does not reach me when the Sabbath comes I miss it terribly. It cheers me on my way. It keeps me abreast with the times. It shows me what God's people are doing all around the world. It tells

me that the poor heathen are getting won by the thousands for Christ. The best of all it tells me that Christ is soon coming in the clouds with great power and all his host of holy angels. Then we are going to be caught up to meet the Lord in the air."

"I could not get along without it and I am glad I can not. It brings us all as believers in this message closer together. I believe I have taken it ever since I became a Seventh-day Adventist, and I hope to take it till the end."

"I can truthfully say it has been a great help and comfort to me these many years as I have been a reader of the *Review* ever since I was sixteen years old in my father's house. I have read it more than forty years and I could not do without it now."

"I have been a subscriber for the *Review* five years. I would not do without it. I had rather go hungry than to do without the *Review*. I also subscribed for it for two of my daughters. One of my daughters has been giving it to her neighbor and she has commenced to keep the Sabbath. When I have read mine I send it to a niece, who seems to appreciate it very much. She writes that she and her husband both enjoy reading it. Her husband before this time was almost an infidel, and she says he spent one whole Sunday reading our literature."

"I have had the good old *Review* to read most of the time ever since I can remember. My father always took it while he lived, and I hope I never will be without it while the world stands. Our people do not know what they are missing when they are without the *Review*."

"Dear old *Review*:— How could I do without your weekly visits? I I should feel lost, deserted, and lonely. I am looking for you every Thursday. The many sermons the *Review* carries to me! A live minister has not been to visit us here for more than a year. But the *Review* brings us sermons full of life-reviving in their influence, comforting and strengthening us."

What about your *Signs* weekly club, that paper so greatly used of the Lord in saving souls? Have you sent in your renewal, and increased your club for the greater

needs of next year? That those not of our faith value this paper and are benefited by it the following statements show:

"We read the *Signs of the Times* from beginning to end, and it is the best little paper of its kind we have ever read. Thank you."

"I am sending in one year's subscription for the *Signs of the Times*, and also one year's subscription for the *Signs Magazine*. I have not been taking them, but have been getting them of some Adventist neighbors. I like them fine, and I think what they advocate is all right, so I concluded I would send in a subscription of my own." I think it is just great of you to write to me as you have and to send that instructive paper, the *Signs of the Times*, so frequently. As little drops of water wear away the hardest rock, so has the influence of the *Signs of the Times* effected a change in my outlook on life and things in general."

"I am not a Seventh-day Adventist, but I believe in the *Signs of the Times*, and the soon coming of Christ. Your paper deals very plainly with this subject, and I shall be glad to take it again."

"I found a copy of the *Signs of the Times* and found truth in every word I read."

"One of our isolated sisters sent us an order for five weekly *Signs* to be sent to her neighbors. Accompanying the order was a very interesting letter from a person who has been reading the paper, and who finds in it much light for this time. She also tells of another person who is so interested in the paper that she can hardly wait for the next one to reach her. Still another, who has been reading the *Signs* for only a few weeks, is very anxious to learn more."

Surely you want to share in the circulation of a paper that is having so much influence. Get your order for your *Signs* club before the year ends and have the benefit of the old prices.

How about the *Church Officers' Gazette*? Every church officer should take it and study it, in order to be better fitted to be a leader in God's work. No one should be content with present attainments, but all should strive to have better

efficiency. Matter for the *Gazette* is prepared by workers of long and varied experience. Up to the end of this year it is fifty cents for single subscriptions, and thirty-five cents for two or more copies to one address for the year. After that it is ten cents more. Get in your orders and renewals early.

EDITH M. GRAHAM.

FOOD PLEDGE WEEK

AMERICA is a large nation and, owing to our recent prosperity a wasteful nation. We are told that—

"There are 20,009,000 homes in the United States, and if the average waste in each one was—

"A slice of bread each day, it would mean 14,000,000 ounces of flour, or a million one-pound loaves each day; or for the year 319,000,000 pounds of flour, equal to 319,000,000 loaves of bread.

"A pat of serving butter (one-fourth ounce), it would mean 312,500 pounds a day, or 114,062,500 pounds a year.

"A half a cup of milk, it would mean 2,500,000 quarts a day, or 912,500,000 quarts a year—the total product of 400,000 cows."

In an Italian book on the present food situation these good rules occur:

"1. He that wasteth to-day will be hungry tomorrow."

"2. He that wastes in his own house increases the price of his neighbor's dinner."

"3. If your neighbor throws away four ounces of bread he will reduce the food of your children.

"4. Wasted material belongs to no one; it might have belonged to all.

"5. If I could have what the Italian nation wastes in a day I should be rich for life.

"6. The mother of a family who does not economize today is taking tomorrow's bread out of the mouths of her children.

"7. The man who looks after his own interests and economizes in his expenditures is an altruist.

"8. The man who laughs at you today for saving will envy you tomorrow.

"9. The belly is a greater cause of poverty than the sword.

"10. Don't grumble; produce more."

We wish that all our members would read the article "Conserving the Nation's food Supply" by Brother L. A. Hanson in the *Review* of a few weeks ago. This article gives detailed information on the system of cards and pledges started by the government to assist in conserving food.—*Selected.*

A cigarette can add to a man's nervous trouble, subtract from his strength, multiply his sorrow, divide his mental powers, take from his work and discount his chances for success, deplete his pocketbook, bankrupt his morality and destroy his soul.—*Selected.*

A Dream and a Story.

A DISCOURAGED worker had the following strange dream: He thought he was standing on the top of a great granite rock, trying to break it with a pickax. Hour after hour he worked on with no result. At last he said "It is useless; I will stop." Suddenly a man stood by him and asked; "Was not this task allotted to you? And if so, why are you going to abandon it?" "My work is vain; I can make no impression on the granite." The stranger solemnly replied: "That is nothing to you. Your duty is to pick, whether the rock yields or not. The work is yours, the results are in other hands. Work on." In his dream he set himself anew to his labor, and at his first blow the rock flew into hundreds of pieces. It was only a dream, but it proved a valuable lesson to the worker and a means of comfort and cheer to his soul.

So much for the dream. Brother Ernest Lloyd, who is associated with some of our Lake Union missionary secretaries for a few weeks in interest of our pioneer missionary paper, the *Signs*, tells of a California paper worker who, supposing it would be wasted effort to call at a certain miner's house that set well back from the road, passed by a number of times. At last feeling that duty demanded a visit, the worker called and was agreeably surprised to secure a subscription. Three months later while continuing his work in another town, our brother again met the miner, who said, "The *Signs* is the best religious

paper I ever read. I am now keeping the true Sabbath. My daughter in the East, to whom I have been sending my paper, has also begun the observance of the Sabbath. She wrote me that she had passed the paper on to her neighbor and that she, too, had taken her stand for the truth. This neighbor in turn gave the paper to a deacon of the Methodist Church, of which she was a member, with the result that he embraced the Sabbath also." Acting upon the suggestion of the miner our worker wrote to his daughter and learned that she had interested others in the truths presented in the *Signs of the Times*, and all desired to see a Seventh-day Adventist minister. The president of the conference was written to, a tent effort was held there, and a church was organized as a result. Yes, the *Signs of the Times* does bring people into the truth.

Persons who formerly refused the *Signs* gladly accept and read it now. There is a genuine spirit of inquiry everywhere. How are we relating ourselves to it? Consider seriously the idea of securing a large club of *Signs* for use among your neighbors. Think of it! 80 cents each for a whole year if your club is for five or more copies, and only 85 cents each for five or more copies if you order the paper sent direct from the publishers to the persons whose name you might furnish. Remember the dream if you are tempted to ask, does it pay?

—*Lake Union Herald.*

Houston, Texas

"SON, go work today in my vineyard." Matthew 21:28.

Although being one of the youngest of my father's sons, this admonition was given me as soon as I had tarried sufficiently at Jerusalem (Oakwood). Without consulting earthly parents I hastened to immediately obey my Heavenly Father, beginning my first labors in a large vineyard in the state of Texas, June 1, 1917.

Knowing that the assurance "all things whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive," came from my Father to me, I unhesitatingly asked for the cooperation of the Holy Spirit to back up

my youthful endeavors. In response to the same, the Father has permitted his son to tend six branches of grape vines thus far; some containing twelve, and some twenty, for which I am grateful. The Lord has enabled me to organize six Bible classes among the citizens of Houston, two of which are among the young people, whose ages range from six to sixteen. The remaining four are conducted among the more experienced, once every week. In these last mentioned classes subjects are discussed on Biblical truths for this day and time in which we live.

Since Elder Miller (whom I have been assisting), has reported to our conference paper about our summer's campaign, it is not necessary for me to give a full report of this meeting at this time. However, I wish to say that the Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad. Although we were delayed, somewhat, in beginning our tent effort, and our tent was blown down, our meetings were well attended, considering the fact that at the same time the Methodists and Baptists were having two city revivals. As the result of our effort put forth in a humble way, there are fourteen persons observing the Sabbath of the commandment, and four of this number have taken their stand to live up to all the requirements of this last important message to God's people.

The little company here in Houston numbers sixteen. Just a few; but we are of good courage and our "hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness."

Men and brethren, the time has come for the stars of Ethiopia to rise and shine in this neglected part of the Southland. This is indeed the Macedonian field. In the largest state of the Union there is just a handful of workers, comparatively speaking, when considering the amount in other states not half so large. We need your prayers, services, and means. "Come over to Macedonia and help us." If you cannot come, send your means and pray that it may assist some one to heed the call from Oakwood Junior College. 'Tis not I who is calling, but your Master calleth you.

May the Lord help you to respond.
 "He is counting on you,
 On life, money, and prayer:
 And the day shall declare
 If you let him have all
 In response to his call;
 Or if he in that day
 To your sorrow must say
 'I had counted on you,
 But you failed me,'—
 What then?"

H. D. GREENE.

Dignity and Self-Esteem Contrasted

DIGNITY and self-esteem are often confounded; self-importance is sometimes called dignity, and the term dignity is often applied to self-estimation. Self-sufficiency may have an outward appearance of dignity but careful observation and discernment well reveal a wide difference in character.

Dignity defined is, "Elevation of mind and character; nobility of sentiment and action; true worth." Dignity of manner is the result of dignity of character. This true dignity ought to be found in a greater degree among God's people who have such a grand truth which will develop that nobleness of character productive of dignity of manner.

This true dignity is self-distrustful, submissive, unassuming, meek, humble, gentle, considerate, quiet, refined, full of the love of God. "Simplicity in Christ is the pure, sacred dignity of the truth."

Self-importance is boastful, defiant, assuming, proud, self-conceited, inconsiderate, unrefined, overbearing, dictatorial, usually loud, full of the love of self. Self often assumes to lead and speaks in such a loud, commanding manner that we sometimes listen to it rather than to the still, quiet voice. If we perish in our own ways the Lord will let us have what we want although it is not his way. We may have light or darkness, truth or error, we may go in the right way or in the wrong way, as we choose. Why indulge this self-esteem? May God's converting power come into each heart and deliver us from it. It is the Son of Righteousness which, if permitted, will shine upon the self-sufficient and animate him with the power of a divine life, clothe him

with the dignity and beauties of holiness, and lay his stones in the spiritual temple with fair colors—even the beautiful, harmonious attributes of the character of Christ. ISA. 24:11. There will then be no room in the heart for self-estimation.

If we wish to hear that still, small voice telling us the way, we must maintain a meek, quiet, listening attitude. This voice will not contend above the clamor of our own reasonings, but will leave us to reap the fruits of our own sowing, which is the only way God can teach the self-important, perfect a nobility of character and save such.

The conduct of our lives should be pure and dignified, becoming the purity and dignity of the doctrine of Christ—the gospel. Seek diligently and earnestly for the true, sanctified, dignified uprightness which comes from the Lord himself. Yield to the Spirit and thus be dignified by grace and become his finished, exquisite workmanship. "Though ye have lain among the pots ye shall be as the wings of a dove covered with silver and her feathers as yellow gold."

"We must lay self aside, or God will lay us aside."

"And must I part with all of self,
 My dearest Lord for thee?
 It is but right since thou hast done
 Much more than this for me.
 "Yes, let it go; one look from thee
 Will more than make amends
 For all the losses I sustain
 Of honor, riches, friends.

"Ten thousand worlds, ten thousand lives,
 How worthless they appear
 Compared with thee, supremely good,
 Divinely bright and fair!"

Nora Evelyn Harvey.

—In *Central Union Outlook*.

Behavior In The House of God

THAT there is a growing tendency on the part of many to regard the house of God with less respect and reverence than formerly, has been remarked many times. But God is as holy now as in ancient days. His name demands the same honor. His people will soon stand in his presence, and be at home in his courts. Surely, then, instead of slackness there should be a more earnest seeking of God for that

solemn reverence and faith with which angels come into his presence.

God has not left us untaught in this matter. Paul says: "These things write I unto thee, . . . that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." 1 Tim. 3:14,15.

While this text refers to more than the behavior of a person in the church building, it evidently embraces this also. In "*Testimonies for the Church*," Vol. 5, page 491, we read: "From the sacredness which was attached to the earthly sanctuary, Christians may learn how they should regard the place where the Lord meets with his people. There has been a great change, not for the better, but for the worse, in the habits and customs of the people in reference to religious worship.

"The reverence which the people had anciently for the sanctuary where they met with God in sacred service, has largely passed away."

This is how God regards these matters. It is a serious condition. We hear some boast of their liberty and freedom to speak and do as they choose. If they would choose God's way, it might be a safe guide, but a man's own way invariably leads downward. From the text quoted above it is plain that God would have order in his church.

Please study the following quotation from the *Testimonies* on this subject:—

"There should be rules in regard to the time, the place, and the manner of worshiping. . . . When the worshipers enter the place of meeting, they should do so with decorum, passing quietly to their seats. . . . The whispering and laughing and talking which might be without sin in the common business place, should find no sanction in the house where God is worshiped. . . . Let there be no stopping in the aisles to visit or gossip, thus blocking them up so that others can not pass out. . . .

"Parents, elevate the standard of Christianity in the minds of your children; help them to weave Jesus into their experience; teach them to have the highest reverence for the house of God. . . . Brethren, will you not devote a little thought on this subject, and notice how you con-

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duct yourselves in the house of God, and what efforts are you making by precept and example to cultivate reverence in your children? . . . God gave rules of order, perfect and exact, to his ancient people. Has his character changed? Is he not the great and mighty God who rules in the heaven of heavens? . . . Parents should not only teach, but command their children to enter the sanctuary with sobriety and reverence." —*Id.*, pages 491-496.

One serious feature that leads to the disrespect shown by many children in the house of God, is found in the statement, "They are too often found in groups away from their parents, who should have charge of them."

And ministers need to exercise care. "There should be a radical change in this matter all through our churches. Ministers themselves need to elevate their ideas, to have finer susceptibilities in regard to it. It is a feature of the work that has been sadly neglected." —*Id.*, page 499.

The lack of respect that is so often manifested by both parents and children, as indicated in the above Testimony, produce results even beyond the days of meeting and character building in this world. I will quote another most solemn Testimony:—

"In heaven there is perfect order, perfect obedience, perfect peace and harmony. Those who have had no respect for order or discipline in this life would have no respect for the order which is observed in heaven. They can never be admitted into heaven; for all worthy of an entrance there will love order and respect discipline. . . . When Christ

shall come, he will not change the character of an individual." —*Id.*, Vol. IV, page 429.

Selected.

A Test of Faith

AT the Council in Minneapolis a very careful study was given to the problem of producing our literature at prices that would cover the rapidly increasing cost of production. Various plans were considered and rejected as unworkable and finally it was decided that the retail prices of many books and periodicals, all tracts, and the *Signs* and *Watchman* magazines must be raised.

This brings to our magazine sellers a real test of faith. The yearly subscription will be \$1.50, and the retail price 15 cents per single copy. The one who sells the paper will get more profit on each paper sold and subscriptions taken, but it will doubtless be somewhat more difficult to sell magazines at the higher prices.

Should difficulties cause us to abandon the work? We have been told that the last years of our work would be a time of difficulty, when we would meet many obstacles. But what if we do? We have a God with us who is omnipotent, all of whose biddings are enablings, and no difficulties should cause us to lessen our efforts, but they should rather be an incentive to greater things.

The publishers intend to make the magazines the best they can for the price. They will be full of world problems, that every one is longing for light on, which will be there for them. They will have a wide influence, if they are only placed in the hands of the people.

We are not alone in raising the prices of our magazines, for many others have advanced in price. The public expects prices to raise, for it has become an everyday experience.

"Here is the patience of the saints; here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Rev. 14:12. The faith of Jesus was strong at all times. He was never discouraged by difficulties, but went steadily on with his work at all times, and under all circumstances. The faith he had

is the faith the remnant people are to keep. The text does not say they are to have it, but to keep it, showing that they will meet with experiences that would be likely to cause them to lose it. In spite of all they go through, the true people of God will keep the faith of Jesus to the end.

Now is the time for all magazine workers to keep the faith of Jesus. The Lord has spoken many times in a very definite way in regard to the duty of God's people to sell periodicals. This makes the magazine worker, who has faith in God, invincible. The Lord can cause people to buy magazines at 15 cents just as well as at 10 cents. All he wants is a people with willing, trusting hearts to take them to the public, and he will give the success.

"Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." Josh. 1:9. EDITH M. GRAHAM.

God answers prayer. Sometimes
when hearts are weak
He sends the very gifts believers
seek.
But often faith must learn a deeper
rest
And trust God's silence when he
does not speak.
For he, whose name is love, will send
the best.
Stars may burn out, nor mountain
walls endure,
But God is true, his promises sure
to those who seek.

—*Selected*

"Just stand aside and watch yourself go by.
Think of yourself as 'he' instead of 'I.'
Then pick flaws; find fault; forget the man is you,
And strive to make your estimate ring true.
The faults of others then will dwarf and shrink,
Love's chain grow stronger by one mighty link,
When you, with 'he' as substitute for 'I',
Have stood aside and watched yourself go by."