

A. G. Daniels

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD



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The West Michigan Herald.

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Margaret Haughey, Editor.

The Week of Prayer.

The time for especially seeking the Lord is just before us. Over head are bright spiritual clouds heavily loaded with showers of blessing for each one of us. All heaven is intensely interested in the spiritual welfare of every believer, but unless we are individually prepared to RECEIVE of the heavenly anointing, all will be in vain so far as we are concerned.

Surely it is high time that every one of us placed ourselves in that relation to God that he can entrust us with his Holy Spirit, thus preparing us for finishing the work of warning the world—a work that must be done before Jesus comes.

Do we not all need this heavenly anointing? Shall we let anything stand in the way of our obtaining the evidence that God, for Christ's sake, has pardoned all our transgressions, and that we have in Jesus a high priest and intercessor in the heavenly sanctuary who is in fact ministering "FOR US?"

It does seem that the most important thing in all the world for us is to so humble our hearts by THOROUGH CONFESSION that the Holy Spirit may take possession of the soul temple, and shed abroad in our hearts the love of God, which will be seen in our love for the brethren, and for sinners for

whom Christ died, as promised us. Read Rom. 5:1-5.

We can begin now to prepare for the coming week of prayer. The best place will be found alone with God in the closet, in the woods, on the hay mow, out by the straw-stack, just anywhere where we can pour out our soul's repentance and confession to Jesus, the friend of sinners. And as we "pray," let us "forgive." It will not matter so much to us then even though some brother has wronged us. If the burden of the soul is to get right with God, other matters will seem trivial as compared with this, and will right themselves. Heartfelt confession will follow, if true humbling of soul is experienced ALONE WITH GOD.

What do we need more than this? Why not humble our own hearts before God now? Jesus did. He strove not for place or position or honor. He humbled HIMSELF. We do not want God to humble us. This he left for us to do. Remember Saul's experience. God humbled him, but it was a bitter experience for Saul, with no salvation in it. Let us begin now, dear brethren and sisters, to seek the Lord for a deeper experience in heavenly things. The Lord is soon coming. Everything in our world indicates this. This is the message for this time, we are the instruments foretold by the prophets through whom God will finish his work in the earth in righteousness. Let us lose no time in doing thorough work for eternity. It will have been through much humble seeking of God in prayer that the people mentioned below have be-

come prepared to do that written of them:—

"I heard those clothed with the armor speak forth the truth with great power. It had effect. Many had been bound; some wives by their husbands, and some children by their parents. The honest who had been prevented from hearing the truth, now eagerly laid hold upon it. All fear of their relatives was gone, and the truth alone was exalted to them. They had been hungering and thirsting for truth; it was dearer and more precious than life. I asked what had made this great change. An angel answered, 'It is the latter rain, the refreshing from the presence of the Lord, the loud cry of the third angel.'"—"Early Writings," page 133.

T. E. BOWEN.

PRAYER.

R. C. HORTON.

All these things that hinder our prayers must be put away. The heart must be cleansed by divine power. We must love the Lord with all the heart, might, strength, and our neighbor as ourselves. There is not a place in all this wide world where we get such clear and undimmed views of the holiness and loveliness of our God as when we are communing with him in prayer. Here, we feel our nothingness, sinfulness and weakness. "Draw nigh unto God and he will draw nigh unto you. Cleanse your hands ye sinner and purify your hearts, ye double minded." James 4:8.

Daniel, the beloved of the Lord confessed that he and his people had sinned and committed iniquity; thus he prayed before God and

made his confession, and the Lord heard him, and answered his prayer. And thus we read that "the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers; but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil." I Peter 3:12. The child of God is to watch as well as pray. Says Jesus, "Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matt. 26:41.

The Saviour pronounced a woe upon the Scribes and Pharisees because they "devoured widow's houses, and for a pretense made long prayers." Matt. 23:14. As a rule public prayer should be short, unless one is led out by the Spirit of God to continue for sometime in prayer, in that case it would have a telling effect upon all who hear.

The Lord speaks to us in Early Writing, Supplement, on page 29, and says, "there is too much mocking the Lord, too much praying that is not praying, and that wearies the angels, and displeases God; too many vain unmeaning petitions. First we should feel needy, and then ask God for the very things we need, believing that he gives them to us, even while we ask; and then our faith will grow."

It is too bad for professed Christians to weary the Lord with their long and unsanctified prayers; but such is often the case. May the Lord help us to be true hearted Christians and "pray with the spirit and with the understanding also."

I cannot close these few brief thoughts without speaking of the rights and privileges that belong to the household of faith as children of the living God.

Christ says, "what man is there among you, whom if his son ask bread will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more then shall your Father which is in

heaven give good things to them that ask him." Matt. 7:9-11. Again he says, "ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you." Verse 7. This is the privilege of the child of God. They have a father in heaven: hence Christ taught his disciples to say, "Our Father which art in heaven." He is rich in mercy, abundant in goodness, longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." II Peter 3:9. Like-as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust." Psalms 103:13,14.

(To be continued.)

Missionary Volunteer Lesson, November 30.—Spiritual Gifts.

God has ever revealed His will to mankind through Christ. II Cor. 5:19; Phil. 2:9-11; Rev. 1:1. Patriarchs and Prophets, page 366.

This revelation has been made

By the audible voice—Gen. 3:9, 15; I Sam. 3:10.

By angels—Luke 1:11-13; Acts 27:23,24.

By prophets—Heb. 1:1; II Peter 1:21.

God reveals His will unto His prophets in visions and dreams. Num. 12:6.

His secrets are thus made known. Amos 3:7.

How was the prophetic word written? II Pet. 1:21.

Contrast the condition of the people who believe the prophets with those who have no vision. Compare II Chron. 20:20 with Prov. 29:18.

A careful study of God's people anciently reveals the fact that the testimonies of His Spirit always accompanied the keeping of His law. Read Ps. 119:2, 24, 31, 36, 59, 88, etc. The word here translated "testimonies" means exactly what we understand by the term to-day, namely, God's messages to His people through His prophets. Note that, shortly after the observance

of the true Sabbath in 1844, the Lord began to speak through His chosen messenger.

A special out-pouring of God's Spirit was predicted by the prophet Joel, Chap. 2, verses 28 and 29.

The beginning of the fulfillment of this prophecy is recorded in Acts 2. Read especially verses 16-21.

Who is included in this promise? Acts 2:38, 39.

Prophets were in the church after Christ ascended. Acts 21:8-11.

Is it safe to believe every spirit? I John 4:1.

Why should we be guarded in this respect? I Tim. 4:1.

What should we do? I Thes. 5:19-21.

How may we prove the spirits? Isa. 8:19,20. God cannot contradict Himself, and His mouthpiece will be found keeping His law and His testimony. "By their fruits ye shall know them."

When Christ ascended He gave gifts unto men. Read Eph. 4:8-11.

What was the three-fold purpose of these gifts? Eph. 4:12.

How long were they to continue in the church? Eph. 4:13.

Has the church yet reached the state of perfection? Until it does, and that will not be until the close of probation, there will be need of the operations of the Spirit as manifested in the gifts.

Every true follower of Christ has some manifestation of His Spirit. I Cor. 12:7-11.

All have not the same gifts, neither does one individual possess them all. Read I Cor. 12:28-31.

What is regarded as the best gift? I Cor. 12:31 compared with I Cor. 14:1.

Prophecy is for the especial edification of the church. I Cor. 14:22.

The true remnant church will possess this gift. Rev. 12:17 compared with Rev. 19:10.

CLIFFORD RUSSELL.

A United Report.

As we draw near to the close of the year 1907 it becomes more and more evident each day that it will

take a determined and united effort to raise the balance of the \$150,000 Fund by that date. It seems perfectly clear that every conference and every individual, no matter what has already been done, should stand ready to help if they are able to do so. The writer knows one or two conferences that may not be able to raise the amount specified by the General Conference by the first of January. It therefore seem necessary that some conferences whose names are now adorned by a star in the REVIEW list, should be willing to help in this work. There are two such conferences in the Southern Union. The Georgia Conference has passed its apportionment by nearly \$100. The president writes as follows: "I well remember when the matter was first mentioned to me my first thought was, we can never raise the amount here; the amount required of us, again I said, God is in this work and he does not require impossibilities. And God be praised, the money that was required was raised and more.

"At our camp-meeting——, came and made another pull, I told him before he came that we had already raised our share, but if he desired to come and try I would help him all I could.

"He made a few remarks, and then I made another plea, and the money came in, with pledges, to the amount of about \$75.00, so when we get this all in it will swell our amount to nearly the \$300.00 mark.

"I hope this will be raised before the year passes, and you MAY DEPEND UPON US DOING ALL WE CAN TO have this done."

"The president of the North Carolina Conference writes: "Will say that though a star now adorns our name in the lists of States, we are not ceasing to press our efforts at every reasonable opportunity. Am glad to give assurance of our CONTINUED INTEREST, ENERGY, and ATTENTION to this, UNTIL the people shall be restrained from giving."

Canvassers' Report.

Name	Address	Hrs.	Orders	Value	Val. Orders	Helps	Total	Deliveries
Mrs. R. B. Dickey.	Battle Creek.	18	2	\$2 00		\$3 45	\$ 5 45	60
Mrs. R. M. Ross.	Muskegon.	14	4	6 00		6 50	12 50	
W. H. Hunt.	Fennville.		2	3 00		3 75	6 75	63 00
Mrs. Carrie Kingston.	Bangor.		4	10 00			10 00	

We believe this to be the right principle, and if all the conferences and individuals will work energetically on this line, the whole of the \$150,000 Fund can easily be made up before the first of January, 1908.

J. S. WASHBURN.

Obituary.

Greenman.—Died at his home near Sturgis, St. Joseph Co., Mich., Nov. 13, 1907, Alonzo Greenman, aged 68 years and 24 days.

Brother Greenman was born in New York state. He served the cause of his nation during the Civil war, and at its close was married to Mary Greenman at Rippon, Wis. From there they moved to Michigan where he lived to the time of his death. The deceased was a staunch believer in the faith and doctrine held by the Seventh Day Adventist people, a keeper of the commandments of God, and looking for the soon coming of Christ. He died in the same hope in which he lived. He leaves a sorrowing wife, an aged mother, and two brothers. Funeral service was conducted in the home by the writer.

E. F. COLLIER.

Cedar Lake Academy.

One more student has entered school, making an enrollment of forty-nine.

Elder Matthews talked to the students during chapel hour Wednesday, November 6.

Brother Clifford A. Russell has been visiting the school for a few days. He gave us a very interesting talk Wednesday morning, November 21.

The following subject was discussed last week: "Is it right to accuse any one of dishonesty?" It was shown that by so doing we might be mistaken and so discourage an honest person and cause them to become dishonest.

The students raised forty-one dollars and fifty cents to pay for fifty copies of the Signs of the Times for six months for Brother J. C. Brower to use in the missionary work in Porto Rico.

Mrs. W. W. Shepard of Otsego has been here visiting her daughter. The students appreciated her presence so much that they all signed a petition requesting her to remain during the winter term and assist Mrs. Straight in preparing deserts only. We had a sample of her deserts and we wished for more. She had to refrain because of duties at home.

HAROLD WILLIAMS.

One Way to Finish the Work.

The following extract from a letter written by Walter Harper, at Tonopah, Nev., Nov. 10, 1907, contains an excellent suggestion as to how the balance of the \$150,000 Fund could be made up before the first of January, 1908. We commend it to all those who have given and to those who have not. "I will state by the grace of God I have paid my individual quota of the \$150,000 Fund over and over, directly and indirectly, and of late sent it in again, and now I will suggest a plan if it will be accepted by our dear brethren and sisters all over our land how we can swing this Fund around to a finish easily by Jan. 1, 1908, never miss it, and be greatly blessed in the doing. We will be only too glad we did this thing. It is this: Let each one give one days work, or wages between now and Dec. 25, to this Fund. (There is no limit, each can give not only one days work and its proceeds, or several days if God so leads their minds.) I will give the net results of one days canvassing, some day between now and December 10, to this Fund. I hope it will be large—one of the largest days I ever did. The "sur-

prise party" plan on the \$100,000 Fund began in California. It was, under God, a grand success. It was contagious. May this be too. May it start also, not only in California but all through the broad harvest field, and the shout of victory be heard that the work is finished. It can be done so easily too. Let us lend a willing hand and push it to a FINISH NOW. Yours in the hope of Christ's soon coming in glory. (Signed.) Walter Harper."

J. S. WASHBURN.

News and Notes.

The week of prayer will be December 14-21, 1907.

Elder W. R. Mathews and H. C. Pitton are laboring at Lake View.

Elder A. G. Haughey spent last Sabbath with the church at Grand Rapids.

We hope our workers will not forget to send us some reports for the Herald.

Brethren R. J. White, E. F. Collier and William Herd of Kalamazoo gave the office a call last Sunday.

Miss Edna Wilbur, who has been taking a rest, has entered the work again. She will labor in Wayland.

The Review and Herald bearing date of November 21, 1907, contains the readings for the week of prayer.

Sunday evening, December 1, Brother E. F. Collier will begin Sunday evening services in the Kalamazoo church.

We hope our Sabbath-school superintendents and teachers will read the contents of the question box in the December "Worker."

Mrs. Cleora Green says that she is having some good experiences in Union City. The Lord is opening the way for her in a marvelous manner.

This blue pencil mark means that your subscription expires with this issue. We hope you enjoy the Herald and want it to visit you another year.

We now have a new supply of the Mount Vernon Convention report. We hope every family in the West Michigan Conference will get a copy of this report.

Our readers will be pained to learn of the sudden death of Elder W. D. Curtis, Lake Union Conference Educational Superintendent. We hope to have full particulars later.

Brother John E. Hanson writes as follows: "The interest in Grand Rapids is splendid. A large number are circulating literature and doing personal and house to house work."

One thousand dollars a week for missions from the United States and Canada is the motto for 1907. We hope West Michigan Sabbath-schools will do their part in this good work.

The December Sabbath School Worker contains test questions for the junior division for the fourth quarter of 1907, and the intermediate and primary divisions from April to December, 1907.

We had the privilege of visiting the church at Buchanan, Sabbath, November 16. We found a nice Sabbath-school and Missionary Volunteer Society. Brother Myron Butterfield has charge of the work at that place.

We attended the chapel exercises at the Emmanuel Missionary College Monday morning, Nov. 18. We were pleased to see the pleasant faces of so many students. Many improvements are being made. One that is appreciated the most is the steam heat, which makes the rooms more comfortable than they have ever been in the history of the institution.

The prices of "Our Truth Number" of the Youth's Instructor are as follows: 5 cents a single copy; 2 to 25 copies to one address, 2½ cents a copy; 25 or more copies, 2 cents a copy. Send all orders to West Michigan Tract Society, Otsego, Michigan.

For Sale.--A small farm of twenty acres of land, good nine room house, newly painted, good well, a fair barn. All fences in good repair. Located four and one-half miles from Sturgis. Inquire of J. W. Irving, Berrien Springs, Mich. Care College.

General Meetings.

At the recent Workers' Council held at Battle Creek it was unanimously voted by those in attendance to hold a number of general meetings in the conference during the present winter.

By request of the Potterville church the first one of these meetings will be held in that church, November 30 and December 1. All of our people living near enough to come to these meetings are requested to attend. At this place the meetings will all be held in the day time. We expect that all the departmental workers of the conference will attend most of these meetings.

The second one of these general meetings is to be held at Carleton Center, December 2 and 3. We hope the brethren in that locality will join with the Carleton Center brethren in making this meeting a profitable one.

We plan to go from Carleton Center to Carson City, where we desire to meet all the brethren in that part of the conference December 4 and 5; thence to Edmore, December 6 and 7; and from thence to Wright, December 8 and 9. We trust it will be possible to hold evening sessions at Carleton Center, Carson City, Edmore and Wright.

A. G. HAUGHEY.