

Family Government Is to Be Maintained

Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, March 13, 1894

Watch, pray, work! To be in a position of watching, working, praying, and waiting, is to be in the proper position. We are to act as wise stewards, as faithful servants doing the work of the Master.¹ I am particularly exercised over the mismanagement in the training of families. The father is to be the houseband of the family. This is his position, and if he is a Christian, he will maintain family government. In every respect his authority is to be recognized. In many families the father's authority is never fully acknowledged, and a series of excuses are offered for the disobedience of the children. In many families the daily life is one of variance, full of the counterworking of the father against the mother and the mother against the father. The mother thinks the father unnecessarily severe and exacting. Why?—Because the children do not acknowledge and reverence the father, who, if he is a Christian, represents the divine authority of God, whose vicegerent he is. The father is to carry out the gracious designs of God, and establish his family in upright principles, that they may have virtuous and well-balanced characters.

If fathers and mothers are at variance, one working against the other to counteract each other's influence, the family will be in a demoralized condition, and neither the father nor the mother will receive the respect and confidence that are essential to a well-governed family. The mother will leave the impression upon the minds of the children that the father is too severe or is needlessly particular. Children are quick to discern anything that will cast a reflection upon the rules and regulations of a household, especially those regulations that restrict their actions. Would that parents would work in harmony, guiding their children in the fear of God, and remembering that they are his agents. The family is a divine institution, and parents should be wise, judicious teachers of their little ones. Children are to be patiently instructed, line upon line, and precept upon precept, here a little and there a little.² They should be trained, educated, and disciplined until they become obedient to their parents, giving respect to their authority.³ In this way respect for divine authority will be implanted in their hearts, and the family training will be like a preparatory training for the family in heaven. The training of childhood and youth should be of such a character that children will be prepared to take up their religious duties, and thus become fitted to enter into the courts above.

Let parents consider the fact that they are in place of God to their children. The weakness and inexperience

of the children are to be supplied by the practice and precepts of the parents. From the earliest age a wise education in Christ's lines is to be begun and carried forward. When the children's hearts are impressible, they are to be taught concerning eternal realities. Parents should remember that they are living, speaking, and acting in the presence of God. The heavenly intelligences are witnesses to their words and deeds. They know how they are dealing with the younger members of the Lord's family; for the children are the purchase of the only begotten Son of God. The angels look with intense interest upon every family, to see how the children are treated by parents, guardians, or friends. What strange mismanagement they witness in a family where father and mother are at variance! The tones of the voice of father and mother, their looks, their words,—all make it manifest that they are not united in the management of their children. The father casts reflections upon the mother, and leads the children to hold in disrespect the mother's tenderness and affection for the little ones. The mother thinks she is compelled to give large affection to the children, to gratify and indulge them, because she thinks the father is harsh and impatient, and she must work to counteract the influence of his severity.

O how God is dishonored in a family where there is no true understanding as to what constitutes family discipline, and children are confused as to what is discipline and government. It is true that too harsh discipline, too much criticism, unrequired laws and regulations, lead to disrespect of authority, and to the disregarding finally of those regulations that Christ would have fulfilled. The lack of family government leads to the destruction of confidence in wise regulations in the family economy. Parents should themselves be converted, and know what it is to be in submission to God's will, as little children,⁴ bringing into captivity their thoughts to the will of Jesus Christ,⁵ before they can rightly represent the government that God designed should exist in the family.

In the family, fathers and mothers should ever present before their children the example they wish to be imitated. They should manifest one to the other a tender respect in word, and look, and action. They should make it manifest that the Holy Spirit is controlling them, by representing to their children the character of Jesus Christ. The powers of imitation are strong, and in childhood and youth, when this faculty is most active, a perfect pattern should be set before

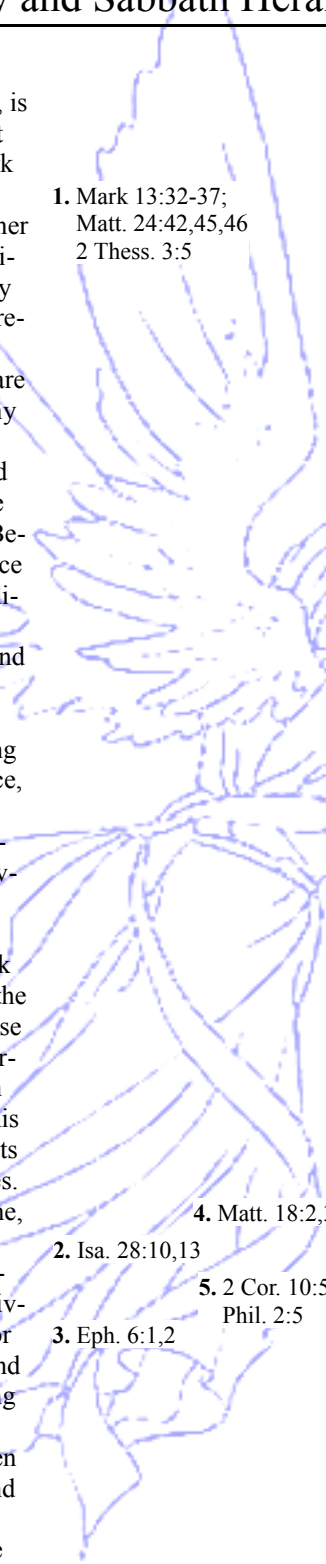
1. Mark 13:32-37;
Matt. 24:42,45,46
2 Thess. 3:5

4. Matt. 18:2,3

2. Isa. 28:10,13

5. 2 Cor. 10:5;
Phil. 2:5

3. Eph. 6:1,2



the young. Children should have confidence in their parents, and thus take in the lessons they would inculcate. Parents should make manifest in their daily life what it is to love God supremely and their neighbor as themselves.⁶ Where religion is a practical thing in the home, great good is accomplished. Religion will lead the parents to do the very work God designed should be done in the home. Children will be brought up in the fear and admonition of the Lord.⁷

Children are not to be trained to be the devotees of society. They are not to be sacrificed to Moloch; but they are to become members of the Lord's family. Parents are to be filled with the compassion of Christ, that they may work for the salvation of the souls that are placed under their influence. They are not to have their minds all engrossed in the fashions and practices of the world.⁸ They are not to educate their children to attend parties and concerts and dances, to have and attend feasts; because after this manner the Gentiles walk. Eternal vigilance must be exercised, that the children may be led in the paths of righteousness. Satan begins his work upon them from earliest childhood,⁹ and creates desires for that which God has forbidden. The safety of children depends largely upon the vigilance, watchfulness, and care of the parents over them. Parents must work in the fear of the Lord, preoccupying the garden of the heart, by sowing good seed. They must instill the right spirit, plant correct habits, and teach the children that the love

10. Psa. 111:10; Pro. 9:10

6. Luke 10:27

7. Eph. 6:4—2nd part

11. Eph. 6:4—1st part

8. 1 John 2:15

9. Rev. 12:4,9

12. Ecc. 12:14; 2 Pet. 3:7

and fear of God are the foundation of all wisdom.¹⁰ Obedience to parental authority should be inculcated in babyhood and cultivated in youth. The will of the parents must first be under discipline to Christ, molded and controlled by the Holy Spirit, and then parents must have control of the child.

Parents who exercise a spirit of dominion and authority, transmitted to them from their own parents, which leads them to be exacting in their discipline and instruction, will not train their children aright. By their severity in dealing with their errors, they stir up the worst passions of the human heart,¹¹ and leave their children with a sense of injustice and wrong. They meet in their children the very disposition that they themselves have imparted to them. Such parents drive their children away from God, by talking to them on religious subjects; for the Christian religion is made unattractive and even repulsive by this misrepresentation of truth. Children will say, "Well, if that is religion, I do not want anything of it." It is thus that enmity is often created in the heart against religion; and because of an arbitrary enforcement of authority, children are led to despise the law and the government of heaven. Parents have fixed the eternal destiny of their children by their own misrule. They have placed their children in the ranks of the enemy, to serve the prince of darkness rather than the Prince of Light. Parents will have a fearful reckoning to meet in the day of judgment.¹² (*Continued on page 6*)

Editorial

The Voice is taking on a new look. We would like to make the Voice as enjoyable as possible to its readers, so we are working toward improving it. Expect more changes in future issues—maybe even a full color magazine!

For those who would like to send a donation to the SDRPA, I would like to bring to your attention that we are supporting two full time workers, one in Uganda and one in Colombia. Both are giving the final message. Because of this we would appreciate it if you would specify what part of the work you would like your donation to be applied to—publishing work, or mission work. Thank you!

We would also like to invite our readers

to take the time to share some of their experiences—things that the Lord has done for you, perhaps how the Voice magazine has blessed you. I would like to bring to your attention that the Voice was not designed just for publishing articles that the SDRPA board members select, but is for the Remnant movement as a whole, to share ideas, experiences and encourage one another. So send us your testimonies, mission reports, recipe's, children's stories, or anything else you think would benefit the movement. Thank you to those who have sent things already!

We are currently working on a whole new line of articles containing some information that has never been presented

before. Contrary to what many believe, the power of Islam, along with the Papacy and the Image of the Beast, plays a significant role (or is a significant power) in the end time scenario. The Ottoman Empire, without giving too much away before the articles are even published, is the very key that unlocks where we are in the line of prophetic history today. Many, too many people, are looking to the future for certain events to happen, when they have either already taken place, or are taking place right before their very eyes! Look for this series of articles in future issues of the Voice.

Editor

Seventh-day Remnant VOICE

Vol. 6, No. 1, January—March 2011.
Published by the Seventh-day Remnant Publishing Association, P.O. Box 1794, Willits, California 95490. Phone 877 SDR-PA44 (877 737-7244)

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the above address. Return postage paid.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are by donation only. Send questions about your subscription to the above address. Editor: Rick Markwell. Printed in USA. www.sdrvoice.org

IN THIS ISSUE

E.G. White.....	1
Editorial.....	2
Are You Covered?.....	3
Letters.....	5
Children's Story—Little Trees.....	6
Health Nugget—Oils part 2.....	7
Recipe—Mamma's Favorite Waffles.....	7
2 nd Children's Story—Stuck in the Closet.....	8
Mission Reports—Africa.....	9

BOOK AVAILABLE!

The SDRPA is offering the book "The Last Day Events" (non conference edition) for a suggested donation of \$13.00 US. In this spiral bound book you will find over 200 pages of unpublished letters and manuscripts of E.G. White concerning the last days. **English & Spanish** versions available! Also some earlier Voice articles are now available in Spanish!

ARE YOU COVERED?

About 3 years before King David died, he made the following statement: “The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness: according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me. For I have kept the ways of the Lord, and have not wickedly departed from my God. For all his judgments were before me: and as for his statutes, I did not depart from them. I was also upright before him, and have kept myself from mine iniquity. Therefore the Lord hath recompensed me according to my righteousness; according to my cleanness in his eye sight.”¹

Now this was written by David some 16 years after he had committed adultery with Bathsheba, had then killed Uriah her husband, and had then married Bathsheba to try and hide the fact that she was pregnant with his baby!² But as this was true, then how could David have said in truth that he was righteous, had kept the ways of the Lord and not departed from Him, as if he had never sinned with Bathsheba at all? Did he forget about these great sins of his? No.

David thought that he had carefully covered up his track of sins so that no one knew he had done wrong. But God knew, and He sent Nathan to clearly point out to David his sins. When David’s sins were plainly exposed, did he get mad? Did he try to turn the attention away from himself and onto Nathan by attacking Nathan’s character? No, David was convicted of his wrongs and he recognized that he had greatly sinned. And instead of trying to hide his wrong deeds, he acknowledged them, and then thoroughly repented of these sins.

In fact, all of Psalms 51, including the passage where he asked God to create in him a clean heart and renew a right spirit in him, and not to cast him away, was written by David from a truly humble and repentant heart for his sin with Bathsheba. And after David had fully acknowledged and repented, God sent him word that He had fully forgiven him, and said:

“The Lord also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.”³

So how could David say that the Lord had rewarded him “according to my righteousness” and “the cleanness of my hands”—even though he had greatly sinned in the past? Because God had forgiven him and had “put away” his sins! The Hebrew word for “put away” is #5674 and its primary meaning is “to cover”! So because of David’s confession and sincere repentance, his sins were covered. But covered with what?

“I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.”⁴

So because David acknowledged and sincerely repen-

ted of his sins, they were all forgiven and a robe of righteousness was given to cover him and make it as if he had never sinned! But whose righteousness was David covered with?

5. Isa. 54:17 “...their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.”⁵

So the robe of righteousness that David was covered with was the righteousness of the Lord. And when was David covered with this robe? Was it when he had sinned? No, he was only covered with this robe of the Lord’s righteousness after he had confessed and repented of his sins. While he was unrepentant, while he was living in sin, while he felt satisfied with his lifestyle, he was clothed with the garments of unrighteousness. But after David had acknowledged and fully repented of his sins, then he was covered with the pure garment of the Lord’s righteousness. Hence, this robe of the Lord’s righteousness is not given to anyone to cover them while in their sins, but to only cover those who are truly repentant of their sins.

Once covered with this precious robe, it was as if David had never sinned! And David was indeed righteous, not because he had never sinned, but even though he had sinned, yet because he had acknowledged and sincerely repented of these sins, God had fully forgiven him, and the Lord had given him His righteousness as a covering—making it as if David had never sinned in the first place! It was like the Lord had wiped David’s slate clean, and given him a second chance—hopefully to avoid repeating the same sins this time. But wow, how many of us have wished for a second chance?

Now, is David the only person that can have all of their sins forgiven and be clothed with the Lord’s righteousness—making His righteousness their own?

“Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth... and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.”⁶

So how many can, like David, have all of their sins forgiven and be clothed with the Lord’s righteousness? Was his name to be called “The Lord David’s Righteousness”? No, his name was called “The Lord OUR Righteousness!” Then all who have sinned, if they will follow the same steps that David followed, can have the Lord’s righteousness! And what were the steps David took? Once he became convicted of his sins, he confessed that he had sinned, and then fully and sincerely repented of them. Then his sins were forgiven and he was clothed with the Lord’s righteousness, and made as if he had never committed sin! And this includes us today! We can also become clothed with the Lord’s righteousness and be as if we had not sinned! We also can have our slate wiped clean and get that second chance—just like David did!

1. 2 Sam. 22:21-25

2. 2 Sam. 11

6. Jer. 23:5-6

3. 2 Sam. 12:13

4. Isa. 61:10

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”⁷

So if we today would acknowledge our sins and repent of them all to God, then we can indeed be cleansed from all unrighteousness, and become as if we had never sinned—having the robe of righteousness given to us! And where does our robe of righteousness come from? From the Lord. It is His righteousness that covers us!

But without this precious and pure robe of the Lord’s righteousness covering us, we are covered with something less than pure—something that has been contaminated with our sins. And with these soiled and dirty garments on us, any thing that we do—even any good that we might accomplish, is contaminated because it is done with these filthy clothes on us. This is strikingly portrayed in Isaiah.

“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our **righteousnesses** are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. And there is none that calleth upon thy name, that stirreth up himself to take hold of thee...”⁸

So our sins have stained and made our clothes filthy! And when our sins are pointed out, and we become convicted that we have done wrong, then we have a choice to make: to either remain content to continue living in our sins and clothed with our filthy stained garments, or to become unsatisfied with our sinful life and then stir ourselves up to call upon the Lord, confess and repent of our sins, so that we can be forgiven, our sinful stained clothes can be removed, and we can instead be clothed with the pure garments of the Lord’s righteousness. And once we take hold of the Lord and His righteousness and this change of garments occurs with us, instead of feeling discontented and unsatisfied with our life, we will finally be at peace and rest!

God tells us:

“Let him take hold of my strength (#4581 meaning the Rock Christ Jesus), that he may make peace with me; and he shall make peace with me... By this therefore shall the iniquity of Jacob be purged...”⁹

“...we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...”¹⁰

And Jesus tells us:

“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”¹¹

This wonderful process of having your filthy garments that are stained with your sins removed from you and then having the spotless robe of the Lord’s righteousness placed upon you, is beautifully and touchingly portrayed in Zechariah.

“And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan... is not this a brand plucked out of the fire? Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment. And I said, Let

7. 1 John 1:9 12. Zech. 3:1-5

them set a fair mitre upon his head. **So they set a fair mitre upon his head**, and clothed him with garments.”¹²

You will notice that Satan is not happy that this wonderful change can take place in your and my life. And he stands right by our side and tries everything he can, and suggests to us every excuse he can think of, to try and prevent us from being convicted of our sins, from then making true confession and repentance for our sins, so that this wonderful change from sin to righteousness will not take place in us.

But to all who are truly repentant and sorry for all their sins, and who stir themselves up to take hold of the Lord and His righteousness, what does God state to Satan? “The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan.” And what’s amazing is that God apparently points to us during this cleansing process of having our sins forgiven and being clothed with this robe of righteousness, and then declares to Satan: “is not this (person named Susie, or John) a brand plucked out of the fire?”

So it is the Lord’s righteousness that covers you! It is His righteousness that makes you as if you had never sinned! It is His righteousness that gives you this second chance. It is not your own righteousness, but the Lord’s righteousness! So if someone asks you what has made this great change in your life, what will you say to them?

“Surely, shall one say, in the Lord have I righteousness and strength... In the Lord shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.”¹³

13. Isa. 45:24-25

Thus in the Lord you have righteousness: in the Lord you shall be justified. But what does being justified mean? The Hebrew word “justified” is #6663 and it means “to make right or to cleanse, to clear self.” So after you have confessed and repented of your sins, then the Lord justifies you, or cleanses you from all your sins, placing His righteousness on you and making you righteous in Him—as if you had never sinned. This would then clear you from the condemnation of sin—which is death, and enable you to obtain salvation and eternal life. That’s why this robe or garment of righteousness is also likened to a garment of salvation! And just like David, you will not die because of the sins you have committed—no matter how big or great they are, because the Lord mercifully forgave you, justified you, and gave you His righteousness. So you have really passed from death unto life, and all because of and through Jesus Christ alone.

Now how much did this precious robe of the Lord’s righteousness cost David? It was given to him for free! So how much does this robe cost us today some 3000 or so years later?

“Wherefore, as by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned... But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many... for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification. For if by one man’s offence death reigned by one; much more they

9. Isa. 27:5, 9

10. Rom. 5:1

11. Matt. 11:28

which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous."¹⁴

So how much does this precious robe of Christ's righteousness cost us today? No money at all. It comes without any financial debt—it is a free gift. Are we deserving of it? No, not at all, not in the least. We are deserving of condemnation and death. But we are enabled by grace to have these sins forgiven and to be clothed with Christ's righteousness—not because we deserve it, but because it is given to us as a gift from the Lord.

Yet sadly, not everyone will accept this gift—even though it is free. And not everyone is willing to acknowledge and sincerely repent of their sins when they are convicted of them. This precious robe of righteousness will only be given to those whom God has mercifully forgiven because they freely confessed their sins and accepted this gift from Christ. Those who refuse to confess their sins will not be forgiven. Thus they cannot be clothed with this precious robe, but will remain in their filthy garments, and will not obtain salvation.

15. Pro.28:13

"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."¹⁵

So how many today can be clothed with the robe of righteousness? As many as will confess and repent of their sins and accept this precious gift! And where does their robe of righteousness come from? From the Lord Jesus Christ. It is His righteousness that makes you as if you had never sinned! It is not your own righteousness, but Christ's righteousness!

Since we cannot give any money to buy this gift of righteousness, can we somehow work for it? No. Can we somehow become good enough to obtain justification and righteousness? No.

"...by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested... Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin."¹⁶

So we cannot purchase justification and righteousness at any price, and we cannot work or become good enough to obtain these either. They are given to us as gifts just as we are. (*To be continued*)

Bob Sessler

14. Rom. 5:12-19

16. Rom.3:20-21, 4:6-8

—Letters—

GERMANY

Here is my mailing address: (address given)

I am looking forward to the Voice! It is so different now to receive something from you, as I know you now and got familiar with what you believe.

M. K. Germany

PERU

Greetings in Jesus' name from Lima city, Peru.

This is _____. I am an educator on social sciences and philosophy. I have been receiving your newspapers for many years. Please continue sending printed one (Voice Magazine). Thank you.

P. S. Do you have cds of messages, sermons done, and books?

R. M. Peru

NEW ZEALAND

We really love and appreciate your magazine. At 75 & 88 years God is so good. God bless you.

G. & H. New Zealand

CANADA

Dear Friends,

We would like to thank you for your paper and ask to use your 'Gossip' story on our web site. Thank You. Sincerely,

J. W. Canada

CALIFORNIA

Dear friends,

My name is _____, I am _____'s sister. Thank you so much for the pamphlet you sent. I enjoyed every article.

This is to inform you—for the past 7 years, I have lived at a new address. (address given) Thank you for correcting this. May God continue to bless you.

G.G. California

Children's Story—*Little Trees*

Proverbs 27:11; 22:6

"A guy can't have any fun," grumbled Tom. "It's just 'do' and 'don't' from morning till night. You have to do this, and you have to learn that, don't go there, don't say that, and don't do the other thing. At school you are tied up so tight to rules. At home mother shakes her head once and it's as good as a dozen don'ts. Seems a pity a boy can't have his own way half the time, and do something as he likes."

"Are you going to school this morning Tom?" asked Uncle Ted from the next room.

"Yes," replied Tom.

"Going across the square?"

"Why, of course, I always go that way."

"I wish you would take a look at the new

trees they've been planting there. You know so much about trees, I'd like to know if you think they are being cared for the way they should be."

Tom was very proud to be asked his opinion on the trees and looked them over very carefully. That evening on the porch Uncle Ted asked, "What did you think of those trees, Tom?"

"Oh they look really good. I don't think anyone could do a better job," replied Tom.

"But don't they seem cramped to you? All snipped off short on top and tied up so snug to those poles?"

"No, that's just the way they should be.

They can't grow crooked that way. They

are going to be beautiful straight trees one day. Haven't you seen the trees in Mr. Hanson's yard? They are all tall and scraggly, crooked and ugly because they were allowed to grow just as they pleased and no one can straighten them out now. That won't happen to the ones down in the square."

"I wonder though," remarked Uncle Ted. "Just how those trees feel about 'do's and don'ts.'"

Tom suddenly got very red and quiet and never again grumbled about "do's and don'ts."

Adapted from Our Little Friend
by Virginia Maxwell

Family Government Is to Be Maintained—(Continued from page 2)

The Lord will inquire, What have you done with my heritage in the children I gave into your trust? Where is my revenue, my inheritance? Then the mismanagement will appear with terrible distinctness before the parents, who have been weighed in the balance and found wanting.

Their neglect to cultivate their children in righteous ways will not only be the ruin of their own families, but the wrong principles they inculcated in them, bear fruit in other lives, and are transmitted from parent to child to the third and fourth generation.¹³ There will be a harvest to be gathered that will be hard to be reaped. The irreligious practices of the children produced effects in their own characters and in the characters of others, and instead of being a blessing in the world, they became a curse.¹⁴

The family circle is to be an educating circle. Father and mother are to be teachers, and unitedly, under the rule of Jesus Christ, they are to bear their responsibility. They cannot give their time to visiting, to the cultivation of worldly habits, to the entertainment of such visitors as will cause them to neglect their children. They are to devote their time to teaching children how to be useful, how to be a blessing to others. Where this is neglected, Satan early takes the children into his school, and teaches them his hellish arts. Jesus spoke of the synagogue of Satan. He has a reli-

gion that he teaches, and those who learn in his school soon reveal the fact that he is their teacher. Satan is watching to catch the children through the neglect of their parents. One disobedient child will do great harm to those with whom he associates; for he will fashion other children after his own pattern.¹⁵

Parents lose much by being half-converted. Of Abraham it was said by the Lord Jesus Christ, "I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment."¹⁶ By the combined influence of love and authority, Abraham ruled his house. He was to walk before his household without hypocrisy or any deception, and there was no betrayal of sacred trust on his part. With living faith in God he combined works,¹⁷ and met the standard that is erected for masters, servants, and children,—the great moral standard of righteousness. O how few bring religion into their home life! Parents, what course are you pursuing? Are you acting upon the idea that in religious matters your children should be left free of all restraint? Are you leaving them without counsel or admonition through childhood and youth? Are you leaving them to do as they please? If so, you are neglecting your God-given responsibilities.

by Mrs. E.G. White

Children are not to be trained to be the devotees of society.
They are not to be sacrificed to Moloch;
but they are to become members of the Lord's family.

Health Nugget—*Oils part 2*

History In North America

While olive oil and other pressed oils have been around for millennia, Procter & Gamble researchers were innovators when they started selling cottonseed oil as a creamed shortening, in 1911. Ginning Mills were happy to have someone haul away the cotton seeds. Procter & Gamble researchers learned how to extract the oil, refine it, partially hydrogenate it (causing it to be solid at room temperature and thus mimic natural lard), and can it under nitrogen gas. Compared to the rendered lard Procter & Gamble was already selling to consumers, Crisco was cheaper, easier to stir into a recipe, and could be stored at room temperature for two years without turning rancid. (Procter & Gamble sold their fats and oils brands—Jif and Crisco—to The J.M Smucker Co. in 2002.)

Soybeans were an exciting new crop from China in the 1930s. Soy was protein-rich, and the light tasteless oil was extremely high in polyunsaturates. Henry Ford established a soybean research laboratory, developed soybean plastics and a soy-based synthetic wool, and built a car almost entirely out of soybeans. Roger Drackett had a successful new product with Windex, but he invested heavily in soybean research, seeing it as a smart investment. By the 1950s and 1960s, soybean oil had become the most popular vegetable oil in the US.

In the mid-1970s, Canadian researchers developed a low-erucic rapeseed cultivar. Because the word "rape" was not considered optimal for marketing, they coined the name "canola" (from "Canada Oil"). The FDA approved use of the canola name in January 1985, and U.S. farmers

started planting large areas that spring. Canola oil is lower in saturated fats, and higher in mono-unsaturates and is a better source of omega-3 fats than other popular oils. Canola is very thin (unlike corn oil) and flavorless (unlike olive oil) so it largely succeeds by displacing soy oil, just as soy oil largely succeeded by displacing cottonseed oil.

Waste Oil

As of 2000, the United States was producing in excess of 110 billion gallons of waste vegetable oil annually, mainly from industrial deep fryers in potato processing plants, snack food factories and fast food restaurants.

Currently, the largest uses of waste vegetable oil in the U.S. are for animal feed, pet food, and cosmetics. Since 2002, an increasing number of European Union countries have prohibited the inclusion of waste vegetable oil from catering in animal feed. Waste cooking oils from food manufacturing, however, as well as fresh or unused cooking oil, continues to be used in animal feed.

More recently, waste oil has become known for its ability to be refined into Bio Diesel fuel.

Negative Health Effects

A high consumption of omega-6 polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs), which are found in most types of vegetable oil (e.g. soybean oil, corn oil—the most consumed in USA, sunflower oil, etc.), may increase the likelihood that postmenopausal women will develop breast cancer. Similar effect was observed on prostate cancer in mice. However, plant based oils high in Monounsaturated Fatty Acids, such as Olive oil, peanut oil, canola oil, and Palm

oil are relatively low in omega-6 PUFAs and can be used in place of high-polyunsaturated oils. In addition, naturally saturated non-hydrogenated Coconut and Palm-Kernel oil are very low in omega-6 PUFA and are viable alternatives to high PUFA oils.

Conclusion

After all the talk of saturated, unsaturated and trans fats, maybe we need to know what is really meant. All fats and oil are composed of a carbon chain with hydrogen and oxygen attached in an organized way.

Let's think of the carbon chain as an octopus. When all the suction cups on the arms (carbon atoms) have hydrogen and/or oxygen attached, we can say the arm (carbon atom) is saturated. If some of the little suction cups are free/empty, they are looking for something to grasp. In a fat we say it is unsaturated. And the unsaturated can grasp oxygen to become rancid. None of us like the taste of that!

Saturated fat chains are straight but when we have a double carbon bond the attachments can repel each other. Think of two of the suction cups side by side each having a large clam. They don't fit too well and the arm would then have to be bent. That is just what happens with some fats. But with a trans fat the clams are on every other suction cup so the arm is straight. But the fat can take on oxygen and the body then cannot digest the fat. That's when it needs help from the pancreas and gall bladder and still ends up as "plaque" in the blood vessels!

Jean Johnson

RECIPE—*Mamma's Favorite Waffles*

Ingredients:

2 ½ C—Rolled Oats
¾ C—Cornmeal
¾ C—Whole Wheat Flour
1 t—Salt
4 ½ to 5 C—Water
1 T—Vanilla
6—Dates

Directions:

- Blend the dates, rolled oats, and about ½ the water.
- Add remaining ingredients and blend until smooth.
- The batter will be thin.
- Bake in hot waffle iron for 8 minutes or more.
- Do not attempt to open the iron for at least 8 minutes.
- May be frozen and reheated in a toaster.

by Virginia Markwell

2nd Children's Story—*Stuck in the Closet*

Susan wandered down the hall to her bedroom, looking for something to do. Daddy was busy giving school assignments to her brother Brian. She wished Brian didn't put up such a fight when it came to schoolwork. Checking his assignments and giving him new ones always put both Brian and Daddy in a bad mood and she hated it when they were in a bad mood. She was not going to do anything in the living room while they were working on schoolwork.

Susan was 9 and Brian was 14. Daddy and Mamma had been homeschooling both of them ever since Susan started 1st grade. Daddy did schoolwork with Brian and Mamma did schoolwork with Susan. Right now, Mamma was busy in the laundry room, sorting laundry and starting the washing machine. Then she would be in the kitchen cleaning up from breakfast. After that she would want to do school with Susan.

Susan slipped past the laundry room hoping Mamma wouldn't see her, she might want her to help with the dishes or give her a school assignment to do and Susan didn't feel like doing any of that right now. She was thinking about her favorite game, hide and seek. It was fun to play hide and seek inside the house and outside. You could find some really good hiding places inside that no one would ever think to look in. Susan loved finding a good hiding place that no one else had thought of. Maybe now it would be a good

time to find one of those perfect spots.

Hey, maybe there was a good spot in the linen closet. She opened the door and looked in. It was a small closet just a little wider than the door way. The door was just the same size as her bedroom door. There were shelves from the top of the closet to the bottom. Mamma had all the sheets and towels arranged nicely on the shelves. The bottom shelf was about a foot and a half off the floor and there was nothing stored in this space.

"Perfect hiding place!" Thought Susan.

Getting down on her hands and knees she slid under the shelf. It was easy to fit under the shelf if she kept her head down. But how to close the door? She couldn't reach the door handle from this position, but she could grab the bottom of the door and swing it closed. With a soft click, the door latched. Instantly Susan realized she was trapped. There was a small space between the shelf and the door but there was no way to get into a position where she could reach the door handle. It was dark in the closet and she was cramped with her head between her knees. How long would it be before someone opened the door? An hour? Two hours? A day? How long till Mamma started looking for her? Her heart was pounding in her chest. Would she ever get out of here? Would she die here?

"Mamma! Mamma!" She called. She knew Mamma was just around the corner in the laundry room and Daddy and Brian

where there in the living room. But no one heard her cries, or at least they didn't come.

"Dear Jesus, please help me to get out of here." She prayed. Then she realized that no one knew where she was, even if they could hear her. What could she do? Oh, she could just slip her fingers under the edge of the door.

"Mamma! Mamma!" She called again, wiggling her fingers under the door.

"Mamma!" Then she heard footsteps.

"Susan, where are you?" Asked Mamma.

"I'm right here." Said Susan, wiggling her fingers frantically under the door. Mamma opened the door and Susan scrambled out from under the shelf.

"What are you doing in there?" Asked Mamma.

"I thought it would be a good place to hide but never thought about not being able to open the door from inside. I'm sorry." Sniffled Susan as a tear rolled down her cheek.

Mamma hugged her and said she was just glad she had been able to find her. Brian laughed at her and teased her for locking herself in the linen closet.

Later she thanked Jesus for helping her to get out of the closet and prayed that He would help her to remember to think carefully in the future before doing something that might get her into trouble.

by Virginia Markwell

Christ's white robe of righteousness will never cover any soul that is found in sin unrepented of and unforsaken.

"Sin is the transgression of the law."

Therefore those who are trampling upon the law of God, and teaching others to disregard its precepts, will not be clothed with the righteousness of Christ.

Jesus came not to save people in their sins, but from their sins.

{*Review & Herald, August 28, 1894*}

MISSION REPORTS—Africa

ZAMBIA

February 17, 2010

Dear Elder _____,

Greetings to you in Jesus name. First and foremost allow me to say sorry for the great delay in sending the reports. I have been so busy pursuing the certificate.

Brother _____ I want to be open with you and others there, that the certificate issue was a hard thing to be done. Despite doing all the payments needed there was a lot to be spent. Praise God this is history now, the paper is with me and I am making copies for other churches to have. Finally, a copy has been taken to _____ home church where we had strong opposition last year when we lost one of the sisters in the faith. I humbly want to say long live the SDRPA board members in the USA for the great support that you gave in this matter. Kindly be blessed and may the Almighty God add more blessings to all who took part in contributing to our request. Brethren you have really shown a peculiar spirit in this country and it is my prayer that this same spirit be used to help others in the same faith.

Moreover, even when there was a struggle in getting the certificate I could not rest, but had to take time to visit other home churches that needed encouragement. We praise God the leaders in _____ are hard working people in the spreading of the gospel. For a long time we had waited to open up other home churches in some areas due to restrictions from the government. But, from the time we received the paper, the board members of SDR CZ (Seventh Day Remnant Church of Zambia) had two strong meetings on how we are going to enter unentered areas where we have calls. Last month, January, I asked the Lord to help me sort out the car problems so that we can reach the areas where we need our own transportation, but I am still waiting for the Lord to give this help so that I can service the car and start moving around. Please I humbly ask all the brethren around the world, those willing to help us with 500 dollars to get new spare parts to replace those that have broken down.

Elder _____, God willing I need to fulfill the _____ trip this year. Many calls have come up for the past three years to go and organize the new home churches where _____ is assembling. I need support for this trip. I am praying

that king Jesus will give me strength and power to do that which I can as long as I live. My Lord is willing and when the right time comes, I know He will provide means, but right now we are asking each home church around the world to contribute any amount they can, so that we can do some more printing, as we are low on materials. As workers in _____ we are now ready for the work and we are coming out openly in all our churches that those who doubted about our truth may find access to this light.

God be with you and pray with us now because the enemy is annoyed with me because of this work. Others who have gone back to the SDA church have become bitter to our SDR CZ leadership. Please pray for us. We know the devil is annoyed with us because of the certificate that is allowing us to work openly and in many places.

Your brother in faith,

B. W.

UGANDA

March 24, 2010

Heb. 6:10-11

The beginning of the year 2010 has been marked with terrible calamities of quakes, floods, and mudslides—warning the inhabitants of this world for repentance! (Mark 1:15) “And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.” The survivors of all these calamities happening everywhere are aroused to work with a distinctive understanding: (1) That the Second Advent—bringing us nearer the close of this present world and ushering in the eternal kingdom is at hand. (2) That Christ’s coming will destroy all the unbelieving and will resurrect and transform all the redeemed in a new world—consequently ending suffering for all mankind and leaving only the immortal saints to live on this earth (after the 1000 years). (3) That thereafter, the rest of the dead (that is, all the unsaved) will be resurrected to receive their final judgment!

Here in _____ as the first rains of the season started, a huge mudslide on one of the highest mountains took place burying three villages in _____ district, followed by the flooding from the rivers which originate on these mountains, affecting the

neighboring villages which lay in the plains of _____, my home District! These were the worst water floods that I experienced for many years and multitudes of people were moving to and fro seeking for aid and trying to save their livelihood.

This gave me (us) the opportunity to pass out the Present Truth message in tracts to those who looked weary and needed refuge for their families in upper lands for settlement. Fortunately, other than the survivors of _____ who have ended up in managed camps, those of _____ fleeing the floods were welcomed by relatives scattered in the neighboring villages that were slightly safer for settlement. We have interacted with many of them. We managed to give out about 1,000 tracts to different individuals who were coming to our sub-county for temporary settlement. We also gave 100 booklets to the different homes I’ve been visiting to give comfort. We were also instructing the relatives of those people who had fled the floods from the affected areas of _____ Sub-county. This has been a challenging month to feed those who are really hungry, to give a drink to the thirsty, and give a stranger a possession for the mean time. I have managed to console ten families which are settling in my village of _____ and on 6th March 2010, five visitors have managed to fellowship with us. For three Sabbaths, they have continued to come for church services constraining me to open an outreach mission in these areas of _____ which were badly affected by the floods as these areas are drying up! Four times, _____ and I have traveled to these places introducing Christ, the comfort of every heavy burdened life (Matt. 11:18). We shared that if they accept Christ, the spiritual presence of Christ affords restoring hope while they are still in this world; and the character of Christ (being reflected in them) would bring them closer to their Creator!

This has been possible because for one and a half weeks, we have been cut off from motorized transport. This meant that we decided to save some time by moving from house to house meeting with those returning to their homes.

Once again, allow me to say that “the truth for this time, the third angel’s message, is to be proclaimed with a loud

voice, meaning with increasing power, as we approach the great final test... We stand as the remnant people in these last days to promulgate the truth and swell the cry of the third angel's wonderful distinct message, giving the trumpet a certain sound." 1888 Materials, 1710.

"The work is before us; will we engage in it? We must work fast, we must go steadily forward. We must be preparing for the great day of the Lord. We have no time to lose, no time to be engaged in selfish purposes. The world is to be warned. What are we doing as individuals to bring the light before others? God has left to every man his work; every one has a part to act, and we cannot neglect this work except at the peril of our souls." 1SM 126.

Elder _____ of _____ and I have agreed that we must go ahead and begin the registration to represent the remnant people of _____. I have been contacting everybody we are in agreement with over this important issue on my phone. We have also agreed to hold a meeting to confirm the members suggested representing us for the first year's term of office so that order is seen among his people. I have managed to translate and print out all the contents in 8RH 10-12-1905 for easy reference of each individual Church and review of how order was managed at certain times in the past.

God bless you.

B. J.

UGANDA

June 29, 2010

Heb. 6:10-11

I am indeed thankful for having the privilege of meeting with those who are laboring to spread the light of Present Truth in the various countries of Africa. It is a grand, noble work, and one which should call forth every energy of the laborer. Requiring a more sacred nearness to Him, and a closer fellowship with one another, that our prayers and efforts may not be hindered. We must not expect in our own strength to meet and press through the moral darkness that is in the world, especially in Africa. We must perseveringly labor for that strength which is found alone in Jesus. There is a great, great work to be done in Africa which may seem to move slowly and hard at first, but God is working mightily through you and many of us at the time when we need to walk by faith, not by feeling.

We may not know what faith really is until we try to exercise it. We all need to

imagine more of that firm, persevering faith that Jacob manifested while wrestling with the angel on that eventful night.

On 16th /06/2010, I traveled to _____ to board a bus to _____ and reached there in the evening to book a Horizon bus to travel that very night. As soon as I entered the bus, I committed my life to the Almighty Father because I knew that we were going to enter and travel through a lawless country where our life would be at His mercy!

In the morning of 17th /06/2010 I reached _____ at 6:25 am and then took my luggage and booklets to _____ place where I always stay when I am in _____. By the time I reached her premises, she had gone to collect stones in town for the construction of her other plot within the Town. I met _____, a student staying with _____ who hurried to call her back. She welcomed me in Jesus name and prepared my breakfast as I waited for _____ who was to help with all the translations in _____ and their broken _____ when we cross to the _____.

On the 17th /06/2010, we entered _____ through the _____ boarder at around 3:30 pm. At the entrance of the _____, I had to pay 50 dollars for the visa and my brother _____ had a travel document of _____ Province allowing him to move freely in the _____.

At _____, there are many separated brethren with a church of about two hundred people. We spoke to a few of them and told them that our mission was to reach deep inside of the _____ where they had organized a conference and we were to speak in that meeting at _____. We also wanted to show them how they should rest their abilities on the scriptures to withstand the soul destroying dogma being upheld by Christendom. They were very happy to receive me (us) and only cautioned us over our travels in the dangerous places where rebel activities were still strong.

However, while still at _____, we learned that we were going to use dollars in most of our financial transactions, though _____ had its currency alongside the _____ shillings and _____ francs. I exchanged some 50,000 _____ shillings into dollars to enable us to proceed to the next town called _____, about 40km from the border on motorbike. After paying 10 dollars we spent a night there at _____ place. This lady was a committed Christian who at one time had been robbed of 3,000 dollars by the rebels leaving her groaning from whip lashes. She

could either surrender the money or lose her life! She told us her experience in the Christian faith and said that the hope for the people of _____ lies with the Almighty Father, sighting the massacre that was in _____ just a few kilometers from _____ in 2007. I led them through the evening study with a key text in (2 Tim. 3:12-13). "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." I encouraged her not to renounce her cause for Christ. That it is likely to cost us our dear possessions, but when we fully understand the afflictions, not only how we suffer, but how we are supported and comforted under these sufferings. Then, instead of being discouraged, we shall be animated by them. Especially, considering that we are told before that we must cast all upon Christ. We prayed for a night and _____ led us in the morning watch and prayer and then we had to continue up to _____ a provincial capital.

On 18th /06/2010 early in the morning, we had to look for a local money dealer so that we could get 100 dollars to help us to reach _____, our final destination. After all that, a lorry packed with charcoal arrived at the stage, being the main transportation system that the majority use from remote villages. We climbed on top and were driven for 8 hours to reach _____. As we entered the city, we could see signs of volcanic eruptions which had occurred 2 years back! And I was told that about 7,000 people died and properties were lost! We could see bare dark stones with no plants and only new beautiful buildings being erected, a clear manifestation of signs of the end!

From _____, we continued to another small town called _____, 30 minutes drive in a commuter mini bus. We wasted no time there and just hired motorbikes to climb the rifted mountainous region of north _____ province until we reached _____ town which is deep inside of the _____. This is one of the rich fertile areas of the _____ and rebel activity is high. I praised God that evening as we met our brethren welcoming the Sabbath at brother _____ place. We joined them and prayed together in preparation for the morning worship. After the prayers, they organized some warm water for us to bathe, plus a charcoal stove to warm ourselves due to coldness.

This place looked like a new settlement for the displaced because of the clustered buildings in this area. The majority of the people spoke _____ which brother _____ was well conversant with! The main languages spoken were broken

_____, _____ and _____. In some places _____ was spoken and sometimes con-men mix the four languages together to steal from foreigners! Finally we were in the _____, a rain forest region and very cold.

On 19th /06/2010, by 8:00 am, after our breakfast we traveled to a rich mans farm called _____ in an open space where the Sabbath worship gathering was held! By the time we reached there, a few members had gathered and slowly many more people came to attend Sabbath School. I was overwhelmed by the number of people who came to attend! They welcomed us in Jesus name and gave us opportunity to make formal introductions by greeting the people. A program was already made and _____ spoke first, preaching in _____ about the New Testament movement.

I was given an opportunity to speak and first passed on our apologies on behalf of the people of _____ thereby clearing the poor perceptions about myself since many of the rebels there had come from _____. I told them that there is a close link between the people of the _____ and _____ because we all emerged from the central African region which is believed to be the _____. After all that, I embarked on my first lesson of the day which was on—the pillars of our faith. My key text was Isaiah 49:22. I told them that we need a standard of character among God's people that is according to His purpose, especially since we are in the last days.

UL 152 (see also—Manuscript 46, May 18, 1904) "The Lord desires us to realize that it is of great importance that we stand in these last days upon the platform of eternal truth. Those who think that the church militant is the church triumphant make a great mistake. The church militant will gain great triumphs, but it will also have fierce conflicts with evil that it may be firmly established upon the platform of eternal truth. And every one of us should be determined to stand with the church upon this platform..." The more glorious triumph which God has promised to Zion is what we now wait for when Christ appears! On the Sabbath day 3 people spoke to the congregation and we closed at 5:30 pm without breaking for afternoon session! In great detail I tried to explain how deeply we were committed to giving out the messages of the Present truth.

I gave them a few booklets in French which we had carried and they were happy to read the important lessons prepared by elder _____. People were so many that these materials were like a little drop of water in a drum! There was no

need to direct them to the internet because it is unheard of inside the _____. Few actually know of the modern means of communication.

"God can use every person just in proportion as He can put His Spirit into the soul temple. The work that He will accept is the work that reflects His image. His followers are to bear, as their credentials to the world, the ineffaceable characteristics of His immortal principles." MH 37.

On 20th /06/2010, I spoke first before brother _____. The majority wanted to know my Christian experience and I had to go through a little bit of the church history starting from 1844 and beyond! I told them that there is great need for the people of God to separate from Babylon since all churches have allied with the world including the SDA Church. After my speech, everyone now accepted me as one of them and they requested us to come back and speak in another conference in another place on 14-16th/08/2010. This was a clear sign to show that they had comprehended what we had taught them. After the meeting all members agreed to go and work for the church by carrying heavy material for brother _____ so that he can pay that money to the church. We all participated in carrying of the stones and this pleased the brethren because they felt we were part of them! After working, we went back to brother _____ place for farewell speeches and in my speech, I told them that we needed to be united in order to fulfill Christ's prayer in John 17. I told them that this was the main reason why we traveled to the _____ and read to them this quote found in 7T 182, par. 2.

"As we approach the last crisis, it is of vital moment that harmony and unity exist among the Lord's instrumentalities. The world is filled with storm and war and variance. Yet under one head—the papal power—the people will unite to oppose God in the person of His witnesses. This union is cemented by the great apostate. While he seeks to unite his agents in warring against the truth he will work to divide and scatter its advocates. Jealousy, evil surmising, evilspeaking, are instigated by him to produce discord and dissension. The members of Christ's church have the power to thwart the purpose of the adversary of souls. At such a time as this let them not be found at variance with one another or with any of the Lord's workers. Amidst the general discord let there be one place where harmony and unity exist because the Bible is made the guide of life. Let the people of God feel that a responsibility rests upon them to build up His instrumentalities." _____, _____ and I

prayed for the people and we departed. We remained for awhile to prepare for the long journey home.

On 22nd /06/2010 we set off from _____ in the morning to travel to _____ on motorbikes to book a minibus to _____. On reaching _____, we were arrested by the intelligence officer in plain clothes who requested us to present our identifications! When I handed in my passport, he told me that the 50 dollars paid at the border was for that province of north _____ and now this was another province called _____! They said that I needed to pay another sum for traveling in their province! _____ advised me that _____ is _____! Instead of wasting time to explain all the detail of our mission, they are just very much interested in money. (He told me in English language which they could not understand!) So they requested 10 dollars to let us go without wasting our time at the police station! I had reserved 50 dollars to enable us to reach home safely and selected the 10 dollars to give to the four officers who had surrounded us, ready to take us to the police. Finally, they let us board a minibus to _____.

It was already late, but we hurried to get a special minibus to _____. I now developed fears in my heart to sleep in _____ and wanted to go and stay in a village vicinity rather than a town area. My experience in the _____ is that there are many soldiers loitering with guns and the life of anyone was at risk! We passed through thick forests, making the region a sanctuary for many criminal offenders. The history of the _____ within my mind was dark and whenever we passed soldiers, I could only praise God in my heart for the mighty security He was offering. Every 2 kilometers we passed soldiers who were guarding the road side!

We reached _____ at 7:30 pm and went to _____ place once again for a night. He welcomed us warmly and this time _____ from _____ escorted us to see us off to _____. _____ offered a simple prayer after our supper and then we rested until the next morning.

We booked a Fuso lorry to travel to _____ border and then cross to _____, my homeland. It is unfortunate that when you pass soldiers in the _____ territory, money may be spent! However, we crossed safely and hired a motorbike to _____ at noon for a simple rest and in the evening we booked a bus to _____. _____ was not there for a whole day and I left _____ without seeing her, but I had to wait for _____ to give me my second bag which I used for carrying

booklets and tracts. I told her that I will be passing by again in the near future when going back to the _____! The work in the _____ is so great that I could not compare it with any other area I had ever visited! I also found out that we should register only those few who have reached the same level of understanding of the sure principles of truth which God has revealed. The lapse of time shall not lessen its value. (See 4SP 239.)

I traveled the whole night to _____ until morning to book a bus to _____ town. I booked another minibus to _____. I thank the Almighty Father for leading me in that wonderful long Journey and impressing all those who sent in the Tithe money to support us.

God bless you.

B. J.

UGANDA

July 30, 2010

Heb. 6:10-11

Fondly do I hope and fervently do pray that God will continue to do all as we strive on to finish the work with firmness in establishing Gospel Order among our separated brethren within the region. This is aimed at lifting up God's standards (banner) among nations. The gracious God never calls men to perform a work without furnishing them with adequate strength; and to refuse to do it on the pretense of inability is little short of rebellion against God. (Num. 11:17.)

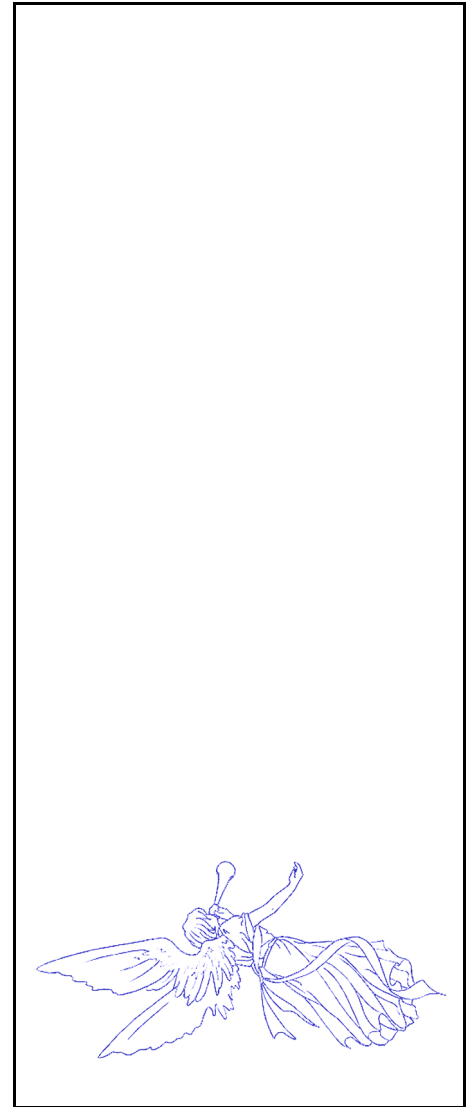
On 11th/ 07 / 2010, the Islamic terrorist group of Al-Shabab based in Somalia claimed to have hit the world cup celebration in _____ and about 74 people died! This raised my concerns about our pending issue of registration and on 13th / 07/ 2010, I traveled to _____ to pick up fresh forms for registration and also to attend a yearly camp-meeting at _____, which had started on 11th / 07 /2010, the day of the incident! Security had become so tight that it called for hard questionings if one wanted to get these forms from the internal affairs ministry! Each person in _____ feared a stranger on sight, thus everyone now wanted to know all the details of each person, group, or gathering anywhere within the country, especially in busy places where many people tend to gather! At this time, I couldn't get the forms because the officer in charge of issuing these forms could not be easily contacted and I had to get on with other business. I started thinking that our camp-

meeting was in danger of being targeted! When I called upon elder _____, he had traveled to _____ and would join the campers later. _____ was also out of _____ told me. _____ could not be contacted since his phone was off! _____ of _____ had also traveled to _____ 56 kilometers from _____ town and promised to come back within a few days when we meet to finalize our discussion over the issue of registering. We agreed to meet in _____ later after the camp-meeting and together with the local church members, we would go through every paragraph of the constitution and elect representatives. Thus when the right time comes, we could all sign in favor it. Many brethren after studying the situation came to the camp-meeting towards the end and by His mercies it was finished properly! One important position reached was that the brethren agreed to have a week of prayer and fasting so that our differences could be put aside and registration be done. I praised God for this. Once again, I now embarked on printing a few more copies of our constitution this time binding both the English and _____ copy together for the benefit of those who knew how to read _____ only. I printed some 50 copies which would be distributed to the different churches for duplication and distribution to any member who would wish to get a personal copy. My failure to meet some of the brethren like _____, _____, _____ and _____ provided an opportunity to those who may not have read/gone through our constitution at the time I first printed it to do so before a historical step would be accomplished! I believed that the Lord wants to turn us into responsible and steadfast servants and He will be faithful to do this. We need to humbly open our hearts to the work of His Word and His Spirit.

In all perspectives, the critical matter is having God at work in our lives, doing what He alone can do. Doing what we could not do in our own time nor produce on our own. But He still awaits our efforts and courage to accomplish the work!

Dear brethren, considering the present standing, we have to allow the Lord to increase our confidence that registration will be done by focusing first on His promises in inspired writings:

"Messages of every order and kind have been urged upon Seventh-day Adventists, to take the place of the truth which, point by point, has been sought out by prayerful



study... The principles of truth that God has revealed to us are our only true foundation. They have made us what we are. The lapse of time had not lessened their value... No line of truth that has made the Seventh-day Adventist people what they are, is to be weakened. We have the old landmarks of truth, experience, and duty, and we are to stand firmly in defense of our principles, in full view of the world." CW 52 (Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 2, pp. 59, 51) and (6T 17).

Thank you, for all the spiritual writings and financial support you send each month to have the messages of Present Truth passed on across Africa. My prayer is that as the Lord reached me, He will continue to enlarge my thinking by His promises and transform my vision and my prayers to include the entire world, in Jesus name, Amen.

Be blessed!

B. J.