



# Elijah The Laodicean Message

Living In Times Of Judgment  
Dan Augsburg

# Notes & Information

- All scriptures are taken from the New King James Version unless stated otherwise.
- Audio: [discipleheart.com](http://discipleheart.com)
- Articles on same subject: [discipleheart.com](http://discipleheart.com)
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# James White's Confession



# James White

## A Solemn Appeal

Pamphlets

A

### SOLEMN APPEAL

TO THE

MINISTRY AND THE PEOPLE.

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BY ELDER JAMES WHITE.

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1873.



“I have been closely examining my life, and my errors and sins have come before me in a light in which I have never before seen them....

## THE APPEAL.

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DEAR BRETHREN AND SISTERS : I take up my pen to appeal to you with feelings such as I never had before. I have been closely examining my life, and my errors and sins have come before me in a light in which I have never before seen them.

For some time past the Lord has been leading me to the very position I now occupy. I was first led into the subject of 1 John, chap. 1, to see the wonderful privilege of the children of God holding fellowship with the Father and the Son and walking in the light as God is in the light. This I have written out for the *Review*.

I then began to feel and see that I was far from being in such a position. And in the same chapter I saw that my duty was clearly pointed out, namely, confession. I was led to Isaiah, chapters 58 and 59. I first decided that they may be safely applied to this time, and to those who are engaged in the Sabbath reform. The time has come to “Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins. Chap. 58 : 1. Please read both chapters. I viewed myself in the position of those in verses 2, 3. I have offered many fervent prayers for light and direction, and, as described in these verses, I have almost murmured that I did not obtain clearer light



and more strength to work in the cause. But I finally felt the force of the words of chap. 59:1, "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save, neither his ear heavy that it cannot hear; but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you that he will not hear."

In these words I saw my just condemnation, and they also gave me hope that I might come very nigh to God when I had put my sins away from between me and God by confessing and forsaking them; that his ear was not heavy, nor was his hand short; and that it was my privilege to walk in the light as God is in the light. He can hear, and his hand can bring salvation.

I then began to search for my sins, errors, and mistakes, and the Spirit of God has been helping me. And I find that my wrongs have grown out of not being suitably affected by what God has shown my wife, especially what she has been shown of my dangers and wrongs.

To not be affected by the common means of grace is just what will sink common sinners in perdition. But when Christians err from the right way, and God in infinite love and mercy condescends to make their individual necessities his opportunity to speak from Heaven to them, to correct their errors, and point out the right way, if they neglect this special means of grace, they commit one of the highest sins, if not the very highest sin, that can be committed against God. They insult the Holy Spirit, and place themselves where God can do no more for them. Having neglected the very greatest means of grace,

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I have clearly seen the position and importance of the Testimonies in the work of the third message, and have prized them highly, and have designed ever to conform to their teachings. But I have not given them that reflection and attention I should. I have not read them over and over in order to keep their teachings fresh in my mind, as I should. I have seen so much to do, and so many responsibilities have been put upon me by my brethren, that I have hurried along without giving the Testimonies proper attention, and have excused myself on the ground of



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**“I have been able to make the full surrender of all to God, and as I have confessed my sins to God and those with me, and united with them in prayer for pardon, and restoration to peace of mind, faith, hope, and physical strength and health, the Spirit of God has come upon us in a wonderful degree. . . . I now feel sure that God has forgiven my sins, so far as I have seen them, and confessed them in the spirit of true repentance. My sins do not longer separate me from God.” —James White**

and more strength to work in the cause. But I finally felt that the Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save. In these words I saw my just condemnation, and they also gave me hope that I might come very nigh to God by confessing and forsaking them; and that it was my privilege to walk in the light as God is in the light. He can hear and his hand can save. I then began to search for my sins, errors, and mistakes, and the Spirit of God has been shown of the future history of the cause which time alone could explain. For the past ten years the visions have appeared plain. I have not given them that reflection and attention I should. I have not kept their teachings in my mind, as I should. I have so much to do, and so many responsibilities have been laid upon me by my brethren, that I have hurried along without giving the Testimonies proper attention, and have excused myself on the ground of



# Message to the Laodiceans

“And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write: These things saith the Amen, the faithful and True Witness, the beginning of the creation of God: **I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot; I would thou wert cold or hot. ...**” Rev. 3:14



# Message to the Laodiceans

Because thou sayest, **I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.**” Rev. 3:15-17



# Message to Modern Laodiceans

“The people of God are represented in the message to the Laodiceans in a position of carnal security. **They are at ease, believing themselves in an exalted condition of spiritual attainments.**” *Review and Herald*, September 16, 1873 Par. 3



# Message to Modern Laodiceans

**“What greater deception can come upon human minds than a confidence that they are right, when they are all wrong?”** *Review and Herald*, September 16, 1873 Par. 5



# Message to Modern Laodiceans

“We are, as a people, triumphing in the clearness and strength of the truth.  
**We are fully sustained in our positions by an overwhelming amount of plain scriptural testimony. ...**



# Message to Modern Laodiceans

**But we are very much wanting in Bible humility, patience, faith, love, self-denial, watchfulness, and a spirit of sacrifice.”** *Review and Herald*, September 16, 1873 Par. 7



# Message to Modern Laodiceans

**“Many cling to their doubts and their darling sins,** while they are in so great a deception as to talk and feel that they are in need of nothing. ...



# Message to Modern Laodiceans

**They think the testimony of the  
Spirit of God in reproof is uncalled  
for, or that it does not mean them.”**

*Review and Herald*, September 16,  
1873 Par. 7



# Message to Modern Laodiceans

“I am very sure that the greatest reason why the people of God are now found in this state of spiritual blindness, **is because they will not receive correction.** Many have despised the reproofs and warnings given them. ...



# Message to Modern Laodiceans

The True Witness **condemns the lukewarm condition of the people of God, which gives Satan great power over them....** *Review and Herald*,  
September 16, 1873 Par. 10



# Four Articles: Elijah & Laodicean Church

- September 16, 1873 — The Laodicean Church (**Elijah's Burden For Israel**)
- September 23, 1873 — The Laodicean Church (**Blaming & Hating Elijah**)
- September 30, 1873 — The Laodicean Church (**Mt. Carmel & Sin of Indifference**)
- October 7, 1873 — The Laodicean Church (**Elijah Praying for Rain & Discouragement**)



# **Elijah Bore A Laodicean Message**

**“Those whom God has chosen for an important work, have ever been received with distrust and suspicion. Anciently, when Elijah was sent with a message from God to the people, they did not heed the warning. ...**



# **Elijah Bore A Laodicean Message**

**They thought Elijah unnecessarily severe. He must, they thought, have lost his senses, that he would denounce them, the favored people of God, as sinners....”** *Review and Herald*, September 16, 1873 Par. 25



# Elijah

One Man's  
Quest  
For Revival





# Elijah's Story



He Was Burdened



# 1 Kings 16:33

“And Ahab made a wooden image. Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.”



He Prayed



# James 5:17

“Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.”



He Delivered The  
Message



# 1 Kings 17:1

“And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word.”



He Obeyed  
God's Direction



# 1 Kings 17:2-4

“2 Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 3 **“Get away from here and turn eastward,** and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. 4 And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and **I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.”**



Obeying, He Enjoyed  
God's Ongoing Provision



# 1 Kings 17:8

“8 Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 9 **“Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.”**

He Obeyed In  
Returning To Ahab



# 1 Kings 18:1

“And it came to pass after many days that the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, **“Go, present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the earth.”**

A Great Victory  
Was Won



# 1 Kings 18:38-39

**“38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench. 39 Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, “The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!”**

He Recognized and  
Accepted Personal  
Responsibility For Rain



# 1 Kings 18:41-42

“41 Then Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain.” 42 So Ahab went up to eat and drink. **And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees....”**

He Persisted



# He Persisted

“and said to his servant, “Go up now, look toward the sea.” So he went up and looked, and said, “There is nothing.” **And seven times he said, “Go again.”** 1 Kings 18:43

# He Persisted

“When upon Mt. Carmel he offered the prayer for rain, **his faith was tested, but he persevered in making known his request unto God.** Six times he prayed earnestly, and yet there was no sign that his petition was granted, but with a strong faith he urged his plea to the throne of grace. ...



# He Persisted

**Had he given up in discouragement at the sixth time, his prayer would not have been answered, but he persevered till the answer came. ...**

# He Persisted

**He wants us to have all our interests interwoven with His interests, and then He can safely bless us;** for we shall not then take glory to self when the blessing is ours, but shall render all the praise to God.

...



# He Persisted

God does not always answer our prayers the *first* time we call upon Him; for should He do this, we might take it for granted that we had a right to all the blessings and favors He bestowed upon us." *Prayer*  
139.2

He Searched  
His Heart



# Searched His Heart

“And **seven times he said, “Go again.”** 1 Kings 18:43b

# Searched His Heart

“But the prophet did not give up in discouragement. **He kept reviewing his life, to see where he had failed to honor God**, he confessed his sins, and thus continued to afflict his soul before God, while watching for a token that his prayer was answered. ...



# Searched His Heart

As he searched his heart, **he seemed to be less and less, both in his own estimation and in the sight of God.** It seemed to him that he was nothing, and that God was everything; ...

# Searched His Heart

**and when he reached the point of renouncing self, while he clung to the Saviour as his only strength and righteousness, the answer came.** *Review and Herald*, May 26, 1891.



The Latter Rain's Descent  
Depends On Our Prayers

# Ask For The Latter Rain

**“Ask ye of the Lord rain** in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain.” Zech. 10:1



# Ask For The Latter Rain

**“He will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain.” Joel 2:23**

# Ask For The Latter Rain

**“Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain.”** Do not rest satisfied that in the ordinary course of the season, rain will fall. Ask for it.”

*Review and Herald*, March 2, 1897,  
par. 6



# Ask For The Latter Rain

“The descent of the Holy Spirit upon the church is **looked forward to as being in the future; but it is the privilege of the church to have it now.** Seek for it, pray for it, believe for it.” *General Conference Bulletin*  
February 28, 1895 par. 2

We Must Prepare  
For The Latter Rain



# Prepare For The Latter Rain

“When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they **were all with one accord in one place.**” Acts 2:1

# Prepare For The Latter Rain

**“So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the Lord your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.” Joel 2:13**



# Prepare For The Latter Rain

“Every individual must realize his own necessity. **The heart must be emptied of every defilement, and cleansed for the indwelling of the Spirit. . . .**

# Prepare For The Latter Rain

It was by **the confession and forsaking of sin**, by **earnest prayer and consecration of themselves** to God, that the early disciples prepared for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. ...



# Prepare For The Latter Rain

The **same work, only in greater degree, must be done now.** *Review and Herald*, March 2, 1897

Believe!



# Believe!

“Then Elijah said to Ahab, **“Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain.”** 1 Kings 18:41

# Believe!

“Then it came to pass the seventh time, that he said, **“There is a cloud, as small as a man's hand, rising out of the sea!”** So he said, **“Go up, say to Ahab, ‘Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you.’ ”** 1 Kings 18:44



# Believe!

“What we need is the quickening influence of the Holy Spirit of God.

“Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts.”

**Pray without ceasing, and watch by working** in accordance with your prayers. ...

# Believe!

**As you pray, believe,** trust in God. **It is the time of the latter rain, when the Lord will give largely of his Spirit.** Be fervent in prayer, and watch in the Spirit.” *Review and Herald*, March 2, 1897, par. 14



# Review

- Elijah was **burdened** and **prayed!**
- Elijah **obeyed**; gave **the message!**
- He **obeyed**. He **obeyed again**.
- He **called people** to make decision.
- He **prayed till the rain came**.

# Application

## Idols Are Still Problem

**“An idol is anything that human beings love and trust in instead of loving and trusting in the Lord their Maker.** Whatever earthly thing men desire and trust in as having power to help them and do them good, leads them away from God, and is to them an idol. ...



# Application

## Idols Are Still Problem

**Whatever divides the affections, or takes away from the soul the supreme love of God, or interposes to prevent unlimited confidence and entire trust in God, assumes the character and takes the form of an idol in the soul temple.”** *Selected Messages, Vol. 3, p. 330.2*

# Application

## Many Refuse Correction

“Many will not receive the message Heaven in mercy sends them. They **cannot endure to be told of their wrongs, and of their neglect of duty, of their selfishness, their pride, and love of the world.**”

*Review and Herald*, September 16,  
1873 Par. 19



# Application

## Few Take Stand For God

**“Who are standing in the counsel of God at this time? Is it those who virtually excuse wrongs among the professed people of God, and murmur in their hearts, if not openly, against those who would reprove sin? Is it those who take their stand against them, and sympathize with those who commit wrong? ...**

# Application

## Few Take Stand For God

**No, indeed!** These, unless they repent, and leave the work of Satan in oppressing those who have the burden of the work, and holding up the hands of sinners in Zion, **will never receive the mark of God's sealing approval.**” *Review and Herald*, September 23, 1873 Par. 5



# Application

## Messenger Often Hated

**“Because Elijah dared to utter the word of woe which God had bidden him, he has made himself the object of their hatred. ...**

# Application

## Messenger Often Hated

They **could not see God's hand in the judgments** under which they were suffering because of their sins. They charged them to the man Elijah.

...



# Application

## Messenger Often Hated

They **abhorred not the sins** which had brought them under the chastening rod, **but hated the faithful prophet, God's instrument, to denounce their sins and calamity.**" *Review and Herald*, September 23, 1873 Par. 29

# Application

## Indifference Is Great Sin

“If God abhors one sin above another, of which his people are guilty, it is of doing nothing **in a case of emergency. Indifference or neutrality in a religious crisis is regarded of God as a grievous crime**; and equal to the **very worst type of hostility against God.**” *Review and Herald*, September 23, 1873 Par. 9



# Application

## God Will Care For His People

**“I saw that our bread and water will be sure at that time, and that we shall not lack or suffer hunger; for God is able to spread a table for us in the wilderness.** If necessary He would send ravens to feed us, as He did to feed Elijah, or rain manna from heaven, as He did for the Israelites.” *Early Writings*, p. 56.2

# Application

## We Must Search Our Hearts

“Every individual must realize his own necessity. **The heart must be emptied of every defilement, and cleansed for the indwelling of the Spirit. ...**



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# Pray For Rain!

Audio: [discipleheart.com](http://discipleheart.com) at  
“Living In Times Of Judgment” link





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Articles on same subject: [discipleheart.com](http://discipleheart.com) at  
“Living In Times Of Judgment” link





# Pray For Rain!

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