1	
2	
3	Revival Now!
4	Dan & Rose Augsburger
5	
6	I. Recognize Your Need of Revival
7	They Were Busy Sacrificing, Praying and Fasting
8 9	Isa. 1:1 "the days of Ussiah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah." (2Chron 26:1)
10	Isa. 1:10 "To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices?"
11	Isa. 1:15 "Though you make many prayers, I will not hear."
12	Isa. 58:2 "They seek Me daily as a nation that did righteousness"
13	Isa. 58:3 "Why have we fasted"
14	Isa. 59:1,2 "Behold the Lord's hand is not shortened"
15 16	2Chron. 36:15,16they mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets
17 18	Jer. 5:30,31prophets prophesy falsely, And the priests rule by their own power; And My people love to have it so.
19	Luke 13:25-28 "Lord, Lord, open for us"
20	
21	God Promised a Better Day
22 23	Zech. 13:1,2 "In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David"
24	On the Day of Pentecost the Promises Were Fulfilled!
25	Acts 2:41-43 " that day about three thousand souls were added"
26	The second and the second seco
27	The Spirit Was Poured Out
28	What was the result of the outpouring of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost? The glad
29	tidings of a risen Saviour were carried to the uttermost parts of the inhabited
30	world. As the disciples proclaimed the message of redeeming grace, hearts yielded to
31	the power of this message. The church beheld converts flocking to her from all
32	directions. Backsliders were reconverted. Sinners united with believers in seeking the
33 34	pearl of great price. Some who had been the bitterest opponents of the gospel became its champions Every Christian saw in his brother a revelation of divine love
35	and benevolence. One interest prevailed; one subject of emulation swallowed up all
36	others. The ambition of the believers was to reveal the likeness of Christ's
37	character and to labor for the enlargement of His kingdom. – {AA 48.1}
38	"With great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and
39	great grace was upon them all." Acts 4:33. Under their labors were added to the church
40	chosen men, who, receiving the word of truth, consecrated their lives to the work of
41	giving to others the hope that filled their hearts with peace and joy. They could not be
42	restrained or intimidated by threatenings. The Lord spoke through them, and as they
43 4.4	went from place to place, the poor had the gospel preached to them, and miracles of divine grace were wrought $(AAABB)$
14	of divine grace were wrought. – {AA 48.2}

Today there are few who are heartily serving God. The most of those who compose our congregations are spiritually dead in trespasses and sins. They come and go like the door upon its hinges. For years they have complacently listened to the most solemn, soul-stirring truths, but they have not practiced them. They are less and less sensible of the preciousness and value of truth, because they neglect the practice of those things which are pleasing in the sight of God. The stirring testimonies of reproof and warning do not arouse them. The sweetest melodies that come from God through human lips—justification by faith, and the righteousness of Christ—do not bring forth from them a response of love and gratitude. {RH April 4, 1893 Par. 4}

We are living in a most solemn time. In the last vision given me, I was shown the startling fact that but a small portion of those who now profess the truth will be sanctified by it and be saved. Many will get above the simplicity of the work. They will conform to the world, cherish idols, and become spiritually dead. The humble, self-sacrificing followers of Jesus will pass on to perfection, leaving behind the indifferent and lovers of the world. – {1T 608.3}

I have waited anxiously, hoping that God would put His Spirit upon some and use them as instruments of righteousness to awaken and set in order His church. I have almost despaired as I have seen, year after year, a greater departure from that simplicity which God has shown me should characterize the life of His followers. There has been less and less interest in, and devotion to, the cause of God. I ask: Wherein have those who profess confidence in the Testimonies sought to live according to the light given in them? Wherein have they regarded the warnings given? Wherein have they heeded the instructions they have received? – {2T 484.1}

I saw that great changes must be wrought in the hearts and lives of very many before God can work in them by His power for the salvation of others. They must be renewed after the image of God, in righteousness and true holiness. Then the love of the world, the love of self, and every ambition of life calculated to exalt self will be changed by the grace of God and employed in the special work of saving souls for whom Christ died. Humility will take the place of pride, and haughty self-esteem will be exchanged for meekness. Every power of the heart will be controlled by disinterested love for all mankind. Satan, I saw, will arouse when they in earnest commence the work of reformation in themselves. He knows that these persons, if consecrated to God, could prove the strength of His promises and realize a power working with them that the adversary would not be able to gainsay or resist. They would realize the life of God in the soul. – {2T 484.2}

God's Diagnosis

After the descent of the Holy Spirit, when the disciples went forth to proclaim a living Saviour, their one desire was the salvation of souls. They rejoiced in the sweetness of communion with saints. They were tender, thoughtful, self-denying, willing to make any sacrifice for the truth's sake. In their daily association with one another, they revealed the love that Christ had enjoined upon them. By unselfish words and deeds they strove to kindle this love in other hearts. – {AA 547.3}

But gradually a change came. The believers began to look for defects in others. Dwelling upon mistakes, giving place to unkind criticism, they lost sight of the Saviour and His love. They became more strict in regard to outward ceremonies, more particular about the theory than the practice of the faith. In their zeal to condemn others, they overlooked their own errors. They lost the brotherly love that

- 96 Christ had enjoined, and, saddest of all, they were unconscious of their loss. They
- 97 did not realize that happiness and joy were going out of their lives and that, having
- 98 shut the love of God out of their hearts, they would soon walk in darkness. {AA 548.1

- 100 Rev. 2:4 "Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love."
- Rev. 2:14 "... you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam...." (Num. 23:3,4)
- Rev. 2:20,21 "...you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to
- teach and seduce..." (1 Kings 16:31)
- Rev, 3:1 "... you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead."
- Rev. 3:15-17 "...do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and
- 106 naked...."

107108

Will We Cheer a Half Dead Christianity?

- In many hearts there seems to be scarcely a breath of spiritual life. This makes me very
- sad. I fear that aggressive warfare against the world, the flesh, and the devil has not
- been maintained. Shall we cheer on, by a half-dead Christianity, the selfish,
- 112 covetous spirit of the world, sharing its ungodliness and smiling on its
- falsehood?—Nay! By the grace of God let us be steadfast to the principles of truth,
- holding firm to the end the beginning of our confidence. {1SM 127.1}
- The church is like the unproductive tree, which, receiving the dew, and rain, and the
- sunshine, should have produced an abundance of fruit, but on which the divine
- 117 Searcher finds nothing but leaves. Solemn thought for our churches, solemn indeed
- for every individual. Marvelous is the patience and forbearance of God, but "except
- thou repent," it shall be exhausted; the churches, our institutions, will go from
- weakness to weakness, from cold formality to deadness while they are saying, "I
- am rich and increased in goods, and have need of nothing."
- 122 There is to be in the churches a wonderful manifestation of the power of God, but
- it will not move upon those who have not humbled themselves before the Lord
- and opened the door of the heart by confession and repentance. In the
- manifestation of that power which lightens the earth with the glory of God, they will
- see only something which in their blindness they think dangerous, something
- which will arouse their fears, and they will brace themselves to resist it. {PC
- 128 341.3}

129130

Revival is Our Most Urgent Need

- 131 A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our
- needs. To seek this should be our first work. There must be earnest effort to obtain
- the blessing of the Lord, not because God is not willing to bestow His blessing
- 134 **upon us, but because we are unprepared to receive it.** Our heavenly Father is more
- willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than are earthly parents to give
- good gifts to their children. But it is our work, by confession, humiliation,
- 137 repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfill the conditions upon which God has
- promised to grant us His blessing. A revival need be expected only in answer to
- 139 **prayer.** {1SM 121.1}
- 140 A revival and a reformation must take place, under the ministration of the Holy Spirit.
- 141 Revival and reformation are two different things. Revival signifies a renewal of
- spiritual life, a quickening of the powers of mind and heart, a resurrection from
- spiritual death. Reformation signifies a reorganization, a change in ideas and

144145146147	theories, habits and practices. Reformation will not bring forth the good fruit of righteousness unless it is connected with the revival of the Spirit. Revival and reformation are to do their appointed work, and in doing this work they must blend.—The Review and Herald, February 25, 1902. — {1SM 128.1}
148	
149	II. By Confession, Humiliation, Repentance
150	2 Chron. 7:14 "if My people will humble themselves, pray seek My face, turn"
151	Acts 2:38 " Repent, and let every one of you be baptized"
152	
153	God Greatly Blessed at Pentecost
154 155 156 157 158	What was the result of the outpouring of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost? The glad tidings of a risen Saviour were carried to the uttermost parts of the inhabited world The church beheld converts flocking to her from all directions. Backsliders were reconverted. Sinners united with believers in seeking the pearl of great price. {AA 48:1}
159	
160	Everything Has Changed In Our Day!
161162	2Tim 4:3 "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine"
163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170	A new order of things has come into the ministry The young ministers seek to be original, and to introduce new ideas and new plans for labor. Some open revival meetings, and by this means call large numbers into the church. But when the excitement is over, where are the converted ones? Repentance and confession of sin are not seen. The sinner is entreated to believe in Christ and accept Him, without regard to his past life of sin and rebellion. The heart is not broken. There is no contrition of soul. The supposed converted ones have not fallen upon the Rock, Christ Jesus – {2SM 18.4}
171	God's Remedy
173 174 175 176 177	Our heavenly Father is more willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than are earthly parents to give good gifts to their children. But it is our work, by confession, humiliation, repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfill the conditions upon which God has promised to grant us His blessing. A revival need be expected only in answer to prayer. {1SM 121.1}
179	We Must Confess
180	Matt. 3:16 "Confessing their sins"
181	Acts 19:18 "Confessing and telling their deeds"
182	James 5:16 "Confess your trespasses to one"
183	Ps. 32:5 "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD
184	1John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive"
185 186	Pr. 28:13 "He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy"
187 188	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. The same work, only in greater degree, must be done 189 190 now. {RH March 2, 1897 Par. 4}
- 191 Confession would break up the fallow ground of the heart; it would rid you of your
- pride and self-complacency. While you neglect this work, wonder not that the Holy 192
- Spirit has not softened your heart and led you into all truth. God could not have 193
- blessed you without sanctioning sin and confirming you in unbelief. You have been 194
- deceiving yourselves and deceiving others, and the Holy Spirit will never by its 195

work or witness make God a liar. {RH, December 16, 1890 par. 24} 196

197 198

199

200

201

202

203

204

205

206

What Needs Confessing?

Idols Bring A Lack of Power

The question is often asked, Why is there not more power in the church? Why not more vital godliness? The reason is, the requirements of God's word are not complied with in verity and in truth; God is not loved supremely, and our neighbor as ourselves. ... Outward forms take the place of the inner work of grace. They are whited sepulchers,—beautiful without, as far as claims to piety and a profession of the truth are concerned, but within full of uncleanness. The theory of the truth has converted the head, but the soul temple has not been cleansed from its idols. -{RH August 28, 1879 Par. 1}

207 208 209

210

211

212

213

214

215

216

217

219

220

Self Is The Greatest Idol

Many have their hearts filled with the love of self. They are not aware that the great heavenly Artist is taking cognizance of every act, every word; that their deportment, and even the thoughts and intents of the heart, stand faithfully delineated; and that old and young will have the faithful picture presented to them in all its deformity at the execution of the judgment. Those vain, frivolous words are all written in the book. Those words are written. Those deceptive acts, whose motives were concealed from human eyes, but discerned by the all-seeing eye of Jehovah, are all written in living characters. Every selfish act will be exposed. Signs

218 of the Times, May 1, 1884. {ST, May 1, 1884 par. 4}

Many love self supremely. They seek their own enjoyment, disregarding the good of others. Those in whose hearts love of self is strong will hate those who refuse to sustain them in a wrong course of action. {10MR 54.1}

221 222 223

224 225

226

227

228

Self Manifests Itself In Many Ways

Selfishness

The sin which is indulged to the greatest extent, and which separates us from God and produces so many contagious spiritual disorders, is selfishness. There can be no returning to the Lord except by self-denial. Of ourselves we can do nothing; but, through God strengthening us, we can live to do good to others, and in this way

229 **shun the evil of selfishness**. [Testimonies, vol. 2 p. 132]

There is a great deal said about religion, and many claim to possess religion. But **true** 230 231 religion is very rare. There are many external forms, but in many cases these only serve as a cloak to cover up the most soul-destroying selfishness. – {10MR 54.2} 232

233 234

Self-Exaltation

235 If Satan can get us to enshroud ourselves in garments of self-righteousness, then we will not wear the robe of Christ's righteousness. Self-exaltation and pride of position 236

and self-importance were the sins of Satan in heaven. True religion dies out of the heart when these take possession and are developed in the character. {21MR 330.3}

The reason that more power does not attend the proclamation of the truth for this time, is that there is too much reliance placed upon the ability of man, too much trust in the talent and tact of the workers, and not enough reliance upon the arm of Infinite Power. The gospel of truth is not preached in demonstration of the Spirit and in the power of God. Self is ready to take the credit if any measure of success attends the work, self is flattered, self is exalted, and the impression is not made upon minds that God is all and in all. Signs Of The Times, April 7, 1890. {ST, April 7, 1890 par. 2}

Self-Sufficiency

The most hopeless, the most incurable of all sins is pride, self-sufficiency. This sin stands in the way of all advancement, all growth in grace. It has caused the ruin of thousands and thousands of souls. A man may be a great sinner, but if he realizes that he has sinned against God, if he repents and confesses his sin, and strives to make restitution for the past, he will receive forgiveness. {ST, April 9, 1902 par. 1}

Self-Complacency

God sends to the church the greatest blessing he can give them in a knowledge of themselves. Satan is alluring them to sin that they may be lost; God gives a clear presentation of their sins that they may repent and be saved. The greatest danger of the world is, that sin does not appear sinful. This is the greatest evil existing in the church; sin is glossed over with self-complacency. Blessed indeed are they who possess a sensitive conscience; who can weep and mourn over their spiritual poverty and wanderings from God; who are poor in spirit and can receive the reproof God sends them; and who, with confessions and brokenness of heart, will take their places, all penitent, in humiliation at the cross of Christ. {ST, June 15, 1876 par. 5}

Oh, how many flatter themselves that they have goodness and righteousness, when the true light of God reveals that all their lives they have only lived to please themselves! Their whole conduct is abhorred of God. How many are alive without the law! In their gross darkness they view themselves with complacency; but let the law of God be revealed to their consciences, as it was to Paul, and they would see that they are sold under sin and must die to the carnal mind. Self must be slain. {3T 475.1}

Self –Esteem

From the light which God has given me, I know that the Lord would do far more for us as a people if we would walk in humility before him. Every one of God's people will be tested and proved, and we want you to be in a position where you will bear the proving of God, and not be found wanting when your moral worth is weighed in the balances of the sanctuary. We want you to be constantly moving onward and upward; but that which hinders your progress in a large degree is your self-esteem, the high opinion that you entertain of your own ability. If there was ever a place where self needed to die, it is here. Let us see the death struggle. Let us hear the dying groans. Review and Herald, June 18, 1889. {RH, June 18, 1889 par. 2}

Ind	นใด	red	An	petite
TIIM	415	,04	1 10	Petre

288

289

290

291292

We need to learn that indulged appetite is the greatest hindrance to mental improvement and soul sanctification. With all our profession of health reform, many of us eat improperly. Indulgence of appetite is the greatest cause of physical and mental debility, and lies largely at the foundation of feebleness and premature death.

Let the individual who is seeking to possess purity of spirit bear in mind that in

Christ there is power to control the appetite. {9T 156.2}

293294

295

296

297298

299

300 301

302

303

304

306

307

308

Withholding of Means

Men are robbing God; and with self-complacency they look up and say, "Wherein have we robbed thee?" The answer comes from him, "In tithes and in offerings." There are men in the ranks of Sabbath-keepers who are holding fast their earthly treasure. It is their god, their idol; and they love their money, their farms, their cattle, and their merchandise better than they love their Saviour, who for their sakes became poor, that they, through his poverty, might be made rich. They exalt their earthly treasures, considering them of greater value than the souls of men. Will such have the "Well done" spoken to them? No; never. The irrevocable sentence, "Depart," will fall upon their startled senses. Christ has no use for them. They have been slothful servants, hoarding the means God has given them, while their fellow-

men have perished in darkness and error. {RH, March 14, 1878 par. 2}

Many live for themselves alone. They look upon their lives with great complacency, flattering themselves that they are blameless, when in fact they are doing nothing for God, and are living in direct opposition to his expressed word.

309 ... There should be a perfect trust in God, a childlike dependence upon his promises,

and an utter consecration of self to his will. {RH, February 19, 1880 par. 6}

When the Lord's portion, which He has reserved as His own in tithes and offerings, is used for common purposes while the church is displaying a love of self-indulgence and selfish gratification, the Lord will not, cannot bless churches and will withdraw His

314 Spirit from all who serve themselves and dishonor God. {21MR 185.1}

315

316

Quarreling and Relational Differences

A sleepy, Christless church, quarreling and surmising evil, will have no reward, and need look for no revival, unless its members repent, and do the first works. – {RH June 26, 1888 Par. 9}

There are in our churches those who profess the truth who are only hindrances to the

work of reform. They are clogs to the wheels of the car of salvation. This class are frequently in trial. Doubts, jealousies, and suspicion, are the fruits of selfishness,

and seem to be interwoven with their very natures. I shall name this class chronic

church-grumblers. They do more harm in a church than two ministers can undo.

325 They are a tax to the church and a great weight to the ministers of Christ. They live in

an atmosphere of doubts, jealousies, and surmisings. Much time and labor of the

327 embassadors of Christ are required to undo their work of evil, and restore harmony and

union in the church. {ST, September 4, 1879 par. 13}

329 Unity is the strength of the church. Satan knows this, and he employs his whole

force to bring in dissension. He desires to see a lack of harmony among the members

of the church of God. {1NL 22.2}

Envy, evil surmising, backbiting, and faultfinding,--let these not be named among

333 Christ's disciples. These things are the cause of the present feebleness of the

334 **church**. We have a perfect Pattern, even the life of Christ. It is to be our eager desire to

do as he has done, to live as he lived, that others, by seeing our good works, may be led to glorify God. The blessing of heaven will rest upon those who try to help others by doing the work that Christ came to do. {RH, May 10, 1906 par. 13}

Ungodly Amusements

2 Tim. 3:4 "Lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God."

In every school Satan has tried to make himself the guide of the teachers who instruct the students. It is he who has introduced the idea that selfish amusements are a necessity. Students sent to school for the purpose of receiving an education to become evangelists, ministers and missionaries to foreign countries, have received the idea that amusements are essential to keep them in physical health, while the Lord has presented before them that the better way is to embrace in their education manual labor in the place of amusements. This amusement question, if practiced, will soon become a passion that gives disrelish to useful, healthful exercise of mind and body, which makes students useful to themselves and others. {SpM 49.4}

When the students at the school went into their match games and football playing, when they became absorbed in the amusement question, Satan saw it a good time to step in and make of none effect the Holy Spirit of God in molding and using the human subject. {1888 1211.1}

You need to study carefully the question of amusements. Ask yourself, What is the influence of amusements on mind and character, and on the work which I have come to do? Ask yourself, What bearing has the question of amusements on my religious life, on my character as a Christian? Do the games in which you participate, fit you to engage in prayer and in the service of God? Do they aid you to bring as much zeal and earnestness into the Lord's work as you put into the games you play? Have not these amusements in which you have engaged, absorbed your interest so that you have not been able to put as much fervor into the learning of your lessons as you should have done? Which is to have the supremacy,—the service of God, or the service of self? Let every student closely examine the ground on which he is standing. {YI, May 17, 1894 par. 7}

I was told by my Guide: "Look ye, and behold the idolatry of My people, to whom I have been speaking, rising up early, and presenting to them their dangers. I looked that they should bring forth fruit." There were **some who were striving for the mastery, each trying to excel the other in the swift running of their bicycles**. There was a spirit of strife and contention among them as to which should be the greatest. **The spirit was similar to that manifested in the baseball games on the college ground.** Said my Guide: "**These things are an offense to God**. Both near and afar off souls are perishing for the bread of life and the water of salvation." When Satan is defeated in one line, he will be all ready with other schemes and plans which will appear attractive and needful, and which will absorb money and thought, and encourage selfishness, so that he can overcome those who are so easily led into a false and selfish indulgence. {8T 52.1}

Pleasure-lovers may have their names upon the church-records, they may stand high as worldly-wise men; but they have no connection with Christ of Calvary. The apostle Paul describes a class who are "lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof." Concerning them he says, "From such turn away." [2 Timothy 3:4, 5.] Be not deceived by them, do not imitate their practices. {4SP 295.1}

Compromise

384 385

386

387

388

389

390

391

392 393

394

395

396 397

398

399

There is still, as with ancient Israel, a constant tendency among the professed people of God to depart from the Lord's instructions, and to imitate the customs and practices of worldlings. ... The Christianity which will yield to the influence of the world, and conform itself to their principles and customs, is looked upon with favor by men who are the enemies of God. But when the necessity for holiness of heart and life is presented, then the world feels that its rights are endangered. When the church rebukes fashionable follies, demoralizing amusements, extravagance, and selfindulgence; when Christianity is spiritual, positive, earnest, and aggressive,--then the opposition of the world will be excited. {ST, September 15, 1881 par. 3}

No compromise with sin can ever be accepted by a pure and holy God. No conversion is genuine which does not radically change the heart, the character, -278- and every line of conduct. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." The gift of the Lord Jesus is a new character, a new creature in Christ Jesus. Not a moment should be wasted on a patchwork religion. We must shine as lights in the world. May the Lord bless you and your family, that you may reveal Christ in a life of faith, purity, true godliness and holiness. {18MR 277.4}

400 401 402

403

404

405

406 407

408

409

Ungodly Influence

It is not an increase of light that is needed; it is the surrendering of the soul to God, that by the power of His grace He may make the light He has caused to shine into the heart a living principle of action. When a man who has had great light, who is supposed to be led and taught by God, turns out of the way because of self-confidence, he makes false paths for his feet. He follows crooked practices, and many who have admired the supposed nobility and integrity of his character, follow his example, thinking that the Lord is leading him. The false step he took resulted in thousands of false steps. {11MR 102.2}

410 411 412

413

414

415

416

417 418

419

420

421

422

423

427

428 429

430

431

Partial Surrender

Until the heart is surrendered unconditionally to God, the human agent is not abiding in the true vine, and can not flourish in the vine, and bear rich clusters of **fruit.** God will not make the slightest compromise with sin. If he could have done this, Christ need not have come to our world to suffer and die. No conversion is genuine which does not change both the character and the conduct of those who accept the truth. The truth works by love, and purifieth the soul. 1311 {1888 1310.2}

There are many who do not make an entire surrender. They do not die to self that Christ may live in them. They adopt His name, they wear His badge, but they are **not partakers of His nature**. They have not overcome their unholy ambition and their love for the world. They do not take up the cross and follow Christ in the path of self-denial and self-sacrifice. Almost Christians, yet not fully Christians, they seem near the kingdom of heaven, but they can not enter there. Almost, but not wholly

424 saved, means to be wholly lost. {ST January 6, 1904 par. 3} 425 426

When you give up your own will, your own wisdom, and learn of Christ as He has invited you, then you shall find entrance to the kingdom of God. Entire, unreserved surrender He requires. Give up your life for Him to order, mold, and fashion; take upon your neck His yoke; submit to be led and taught as well as to lead and teach; learn that unless you become as a little child you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Abide in Him, to be and do only what He wills. These are the

conditions of discipleship. {21MR 231.4} 432

Why the Christian life is so difficult to many is because they have a divided heart. 433

They are double-minded, which makes them unstable in all their ways. Were they 434 435

richly imbued with Christian zeal, which is ever the result of consecration to God,

instead of the mournful cry, "My leanness! my leanness!" the language of the soul 436

would be, "Hear what the Lord has done for me." {PH099 28.2} 437

438 439

440

441 442

443 444

445

446

447

448

449

450

451

452

These Hinder Another Outpouring!

Another year has now passed into eternity with its burden of record; and the light which shone from heaven upon you was to prepare you to arise and shine, to show forth the praises of God to the world as his commandment-keeping people. Your were to be living witnesses; but if no special endeavor of a high and holy character bears testimony before the world, if no higher effort has been made than that which is seen in the popular churches of the day, then the name of God has not been honored, and his truth has not been magnified before the world, by presenting divine credentials in the people who have received great light. If they have had no greater appreciation of the manifest power of God than to eat and drink, and rise up to play, as did ancient Israel, then how can the Lord trust his people with rich and gracious manifestations? If they act directly contrary in almost every respect to the known will of God, and are found in carelessness, in levity, in selfishness, in ambition and pride, corrupting their way before the Lord, how can he give them another outpouring of the Holy Spirit? {RH, February 6, 1894 par. 5}

453 454 455

456

457

458

459

460

461

462 463

464

465

466

467

468

469

470

471

472

How To Confess?

When there are set before us things that are a cross for us to take up, we can never be one with Christ until we have lifted the cross. It may be the cross of confession, the cross of repentance, the cross of humiliation; but whatever it may be, let us remember that in lifting it, we are one with Christ, partakers of the divine nature. ... – {RH May 18, 1905 Par. 7}

When those in our churches commit sins, they should repent of them before God, and they should also repent of them before their brethren, asking the pardon that they will be willing to give. Then the light that shines from the face of Christ will shine upon them. Let us clear the King's highway; let us plead with God until we know that we have received pardon. He will give it to us. But if you cover up your sin, you will have less and less sense of its sinfulness, and you will go on in the same line. – {RH May 18, 1905 Par. 8}

Keep nothing back from God, and neglect not the confession of your faults to **your brethren**. "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed" (James 5:16). Many a sin is left unconfessed to confront the sinner in the day of final account; better far to confront your sins now, to confess them and put them away, while the atoning Sacrifice pleads in your behalf. Do not fail to learn the will of God on this subject. {1SM 326.2}

473 474 475

We Must Make Things Right!

- Ezek. 33:15 "If the wicked restore the pledge...." 476
- 477 Luke 19:8 "If I have taken any thing..."
- Let those who have committed wrong give proof of their repentance by seeking to 478
- make full restitution, let them in their after-life give evidence of a genuine 479
- reformation, and they will assuredly enjoy the peace of Heaven. {RH January 3, 480
- 481 1882 Par. 7}

- 482 God requires repentance and confession, and restitution will always follow genuine
- repentance. If you have prevaricated, if you have borne false witness, if you have
- 484 misjudged and misinterpreted your brother, if you have misstated his words,
- ridiculed him, if you have injured his influence in any way, go right to the persons
- 486 with whom you have conversed about him, with whom you have united in this
- work, and take all your injurious misstatements back. Confess the wrong that you
- 488 have done your brother; for your sin will stand charged against you in the books of
- record until you do all that lies in your power to correct the evil your words have
- wrought. When you have done all that God requires of you, pardon will be written
- 491 against your name. {RH, May 28, 1889 par. 13}
- There are many who will not be blessed till they make restitution of the tithe
- 493 which they have withheld. God is waiting for you to redeem the past. The hand of the
- 494 holy law is laid upon every soul who enjoys God's benefits. Let those who have kept
- back their tithe make an accurate reckoning, and bring to the Lord that of which
- 496 they have robbed His work. Make restitution, and bring the Lord peace offerings.
- "Let him take hold of my strength, that he may make peace with me; and he shall make
- 498 peace with me." If you acknowledge that you have done wrong in misappropriating
- 499 His goods, and freely and fully repent, He will forgive your transgression. {RH,
- 500 December 10, 1901 par. 9}

Humbling Is Also Needed.

- James 4:10 "Humble yourselves...."
- Deut. 8:16 "... that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good
- in the end."
- 2 Chron. 7:14 "...will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from
- their wicked ways, then I will hear"
- Isa. 57:15 "... with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the
- 509 humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones."
- 510 2 Cor. 7:10 "Godly sorrow produces repentance..."
- 1 Pet. 5:6 "Therefore humble yourselves ... that He may exalt you in due time...."
- I saw that many prayed for God to humble them; but if God should answer their
- prayers, it would be by terrible things in righteousness. It was their duty to humble
- themselves. I saw that if self-exaltation was suffered to come in, it would surely lead
- souls astray, and if not overcome would prove their ruin. When one begins to get lifted
- up in his own eyes and thinks he can do something, the Spirit of God is withdrawn, and
- 517 he goes on in his own strength until he is overthrown. I saw that one saint, if he were
- right, could move the arm of God; but a multitude together, if they were wrong, would
- be weak and could effect nothing. {EW 120.2}
- 520 The Lord cannot save men while they refuse to humble themselves under the
- 521 reproofs and warnings that He sends, strenuously asserting their own will, and
- following their own course of action. {UL 134.4}
- Humiliation, confession and most earnest prayer will bring about that which all
- 524 the devising of men, be they high or low, cannot accomplish. {11MR 100.1}
- 525 At the very heart of the work there is necessity for sincere, true humiliation,
- which has not yet been seen. God will vindicate every message He has given to His
- 527 people. He will justify all His dealings with them. They have departed out of the way,
- and the only course that can bring relief and hope and success in bearing the
- solemn message for this time is for them to humble themselves under the mighty
- hand of God. {11MR 100.3} There is a careless, venturesome spirit which needs to

531532533534535536	be guarded. It is humiliating for us to acknowledge that we have done wrong, but this is -101- often necessary. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Prayer will draw down from heaven great blessings when those who claim to believe the truth shall come down from their stilts of self-exaltation and afflict their souls, even as Daniel afflicted his soul. {11MR 100.4}
537	Repent
538	Joel 2:14 "Rend your hearts and not your garments"
539	Matt. 3:2 "Repent for the kingdom"
540	Matt. 4:17 ("Repent, for the Kingdom"
541	Acts 2:38 ("Repent and be converted"
542	Acts 17:30 "Commands men everywhere"
543	Acts 26:19,20 "That they should repent"
544	
545	Repentance is Necessary
546 547 548 549 550	The Old and New Testament Scriptures show us the only way in which this work should be done. Repent, repent, repent was the message rung out by John the Baptist in the wilderness. Christ's message to the people was "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:5). And the apostles were commanded to preach everywhere that men should repent. – {2SM 19.1}
551552553554	There is no evidence of genuine repentance unless it works reformation. If he restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, confess his sins, and love God and his fellow men, the sinner may be sure that he has passed from death unto life. $-\{SC 59.1\}$
555	Repentance Is A Gift From God
556	Rom. 2:4 "Goodness of God leads to repentance"
557 558 559 560 561 562	The Spirit of God will answer the cry of every penitent heart; for repentance is the gift of God, and an evidence that Christ is drawing the soul to Himself. We can no more repent of sin without Christ, than we can be pardoned without Christ, and yet it is a humiliation to man with his human passion and pride to go to Jesus straightway, believing and trusting Him for everything which he needs {1NL 65.4}
563	
564	Repentance Is More Than Feeling Sorry
565 566 567 568 569 570 571	Some who cherish defects confess that they are doing wrong; but year after year passes, and finds them still in bondage to these sins. Each year the same acknowledgment is made, but no change appears in the life. They confess, but they do not repent. They do not realize how grievous their sins are in the sight of God. If they were really one with Christ, if his Spirit were dwelling in them, they would see the sinfulness of sin. Not only would they confess; but they would forsake that which God abhors. – {YI March 5, 1903 Par. 8}
572	D 4 Tr 1
573	Remove the Hindrances
574 575	By prayer and confession of sin we must clear the King's highway. As we do this, the power of the Spirit will come to us. We need the Pentecostal energy. This will

come, for the Lord has promised to send His Spirit as the all-conquering power. -

576

577

{CCh 326.5}

578 There is need today of such a revival of true heart religion as was experienced by

ancient Israel. **Repentance is the first step** that must be taken by all who would return

to God. No one can do this work for another. We must individually humble our souls

before God and put away our idols. When we have done all that we can do, the Lord

will manifest to us His salvation. – {PP 590.2}

Our churches are in need of a spiritual revival. Now is the time for the work of

repentance and confession of sin to extend deeper. Now is the time for God's people

to allow the Holy Spirit to make clean and thorough work, in order that all

selfishness, all wrong, may be uprooted from their hearts. May the Lord help you and

the whole church, is my prayer. – {AUGleaner September 9, 1903 Par. 8}

588 589

590

591

592593

594

595596

597

598599

600 601

602

603

604

605

587

Repentance Will Change Our Churches

Unless this converting power shall go through our churches, unless the revival of the Spirit of God shall come, all their profession will never make the members of the church Christians. There are sinners in Zion who need to **repent of sins that have been cherished as precious treasures.** Until these sins are seen, and thrust from the soul, until every faulty, unlovely trait of character is transformed by the Spirit's influence, God cannot manifest Himself in power. There is more hope for the open sinner than for the professedly righteous who are not pure, holy, and undefiled. – {RH February 7, 1957 Par. 9}

Who is willing to take himself in hand? Who is willing to lay his finger **upon his cherished idols of sin**, and allow Christ to purify the temple by casting out the buyers and sellers? Who is prepared to allow Jesus to enter the soul and **cleanse it from every thing that tarnishes or corrupts?** The standard is, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." God calls upon men and women to empty their hearts of self. Then His Spirit can find unobstructed entrance. **Stop trying to do the work yourself. Ask God to work in and through you** until the words of the apostle become yours: "I live; ye not I, but Christ liveth in me." – {RH February 7, 1957 Par. 12}

606 607 608

609

610

611

612

613

614

The Outcome Will Be Wonderful!

God rebukes His people for their sins, that He may humble them, and lead them to seek His face. As they reform, and His love revives in their hearts, His loving answers will come to their requests. He will strengthen them in reformatory action, lifting up for them a standard against the enemy. His rich blessing will rest upon them, and in bright rays they will reflect the light of heaven. Then a multitude not of their faith, seeing that God is with His people, will unite with them in serving the Redeemer. {RH, February 25, 1902 par. 16}

- III. Receiving Pardon, The Righteousness of Christ And Victory
- Rom. 5:1 "... we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ..."
- Rom. 5:8,9 "while we were still sinners, Christ died for us..."
- Rom. 5:19 "... by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous."
- Php. 3:9 "...be found in Him, not having my own righteousness ... that which is
- 622 through faith in Christ...."
- No deep-seated love for Jesus can dwell in the heart that does not see and realize
- 624 its own sinfulness. The soul that is transformed by grace will admire his divine
- character; but if we do not see our own moral deformity, it is unmistakable

evidence that we have not had a view of the beauty and excellence of Christ. The

- less we see to esteem in ourselves, the more we shall see to esteem in the infinite
- purity and loveliness of our Saviour. A view of our own sinfulness drives us to Him
- who can pardon. Jesus will accept us; for his word is pledged. As our substitute,
- 630 he takes our guilt on his own soul, and imputes his righteousness to the sinner.
- 631 {RH, February 17, 1885 par. 18}
- The thought that the righteousness of Christ is imputed to us, not because of any merit
- on our part, but as a free gift from God, is a precious thought. The enemy of God and
- man is not willing that this truth should be clearly presented; for he knows that if
- the people receive it fully, his power will be broken. {RH, December 24, 1908 par.
- 636 2}
- It was possible for Adam, before the fall, to form a righteous character by obedience
- to God's law. But he failed to do this, and because of his sin our natures are fallen
- and we cannot make ourselves righteous. Since we are sinful, unholy, we cannot
- perfectly obey the holy law. We have no righteousness of our own with which to
- meet the claims of the law of God. But Christ has made a way of escape for us. He
- 642 lived on earth amid trials and temptations such as we have to meet. He lived a
- sinless life. He died for us, and now He offers to take our sins and give us His
- righteousness. If you give yourself to Him, and accept Him as your Saviour, then,
- sinful as your life may have been, for His sake you are accounted righteous.
- 646 Christ's character stands in place of your character, and you are accepted before
- 647 God just as if you had not sinned. {SC 62.2}
- 648 More than this, Christ changes the heart. He abides in your heart by faith. You
- are to maintain this connection with Christ by faith and the continual surrender
- of your will to Him; and so long as you do this, He will work in you to will and to do
- according to His good pleasure. So you may say, "The life which I now live in the
- 652 flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me."
- 653 Galatians 2:20. So Jesus said to His disciples, "It is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of
- of your Father which speaketh in you." Matthew 10:20. Then with Christ working in you,
- 655 you will manifest the same spirit and do the same good works --works of
- 656 righteousness, obedience. {SC 62.3}
- 657 My dear sister in Christ Jesus, you cannot keep yourself one moment. You are
- kept by the power of God through faith. Let your faith rest in His merits, rely
- upon His mercy, trust in the sufficiency of His grace to keep you every moment.
- Never allow the enemy to obtain an advantage over you because you do not think
- you are good enough to be called a child of God. By faith you are constantly to
- repose in the righteousness which God has provided you through His Substitute,
- 663 **Jesus Christ the Righteous.** He forgiveth sins and pardoneth iniquities and
- transgressions. He takes away our sin, and in its place imputes His own righteousness.
- What a blessing this is for us! It is only as you take God at His word, and accept Jesus
- 666 Christ as your Redeemer that you preserve the honor of God and show that you are
- "kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last
- 668 time" (1 Peter 1:5). {12MR 36.2}
- Justification is the opposite of condemnation. God's boundless mercy is exercised
- 670 toward those who are wholly undeserving. He forgives transgressions and sins for
- the sake of Jesus, who has become the propitiation for our sins. Through faith in Christ
- the guilty transgressor is brought into favor with God and into the strong hope of life
- 673 eternal. . . . {CTr 150.4}

Experience Transformation

- 677 Ezek. 36:25,26 "... I will cleanse you ... I will give you a new heart..."
- Rom. 6:1-5 "... Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not..."
- 679 Gal. 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live...."
- 680 2 Cor. 5:17 "If any man is in Christ he is a new creation..."

The Bible is the Great Transforming Agent

Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17. The Scriptures are the great agency in the transformation of character. Christ prayed, "Sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy word is truth." John 17:17. If studied and obeyed, the word of God works in the heart, subduing every unholy attribute. The Holy Spirit comes to convict of sin, and the faith that springs up in the heart works by love to Christ, conforming us in body, soul, and spirit to His own image. Then God can use us to do His will. The power given us works from within outwardly, leading us to communicate to others the truth that has been communicated to us. – {COL 100.1}

Received into the heart, the leaven of truth will regulate the desires, purify the thoughts, and sweeten the disposition. It quickens the faculties of the mind and the

693 energies of the soul. It enlarges the capacity for feeling, for loving. – {COL 101.1}

The purity, the holiness, of the life of Jesus as presented from the Word of God, possess more power to reform and transform the character than do all the efforts put forth in picturing the sins and crimes of men and the sure results. One steadfast look to the Saviour uplifted upon the cross will do more to purify the mind and heart from every defilement than will all the scientific explanations by the ablest

tongue. – {TSB 108.2}

The Bible is the storehouse that supplies their souls with nourishing food. They meditate upon the incarnation of Christ, they contemplate the great sacrifice made to save them from perdition, to bring in pardon, peace, and everlasting righteousness. The soul is aglow with these grand and elevating themes. Holiness and truth, grace and righteousness, occupy the thoughts. Self dies, and Christ lives in His servants. In contemplation of the word their hearts burn within them as did the hearts of the two disciples while they went to Emmaus and Christ walked with them by the way and opened to them the scriptures concerning Himself. – {CT 341.2}

Secret Prayer is Also Key

"Prayer is a necessity; for it is the life of the soul. Family prayer, public prayer, have their place; but it is secret communion with God that sustains the soul life.—{RH, December 31, 1908 par. 10}

God's Special Messages Should Be Studied Too

There are not many of you that really know what is contained in the Testimonies. You are not familiar with the Scriptures. If you had made God's Word your study, with a desire to reach the Bible standard and attain to Christian perfection, you would not have needed the Testimonies. It is because you have neglected to acquaint yourselves with God's inspired Book that He has sought to reach you by simple, direct testimonies, calling your attention to the words of inspiration which you had neglected to obey, and urging you to fashion your lives in accordance with its pure and elevated teachings. 119 {CCh 92.5}

We Must Be Broken

We must fall upon the Rock and be broken before we can be uplifted in Christ.

- 726 Self must be dethroned, pride must be humbled, if we would know the glory of
- 727 **the spiritual kingdom**. The Jews would not accept the honor that is reached through
- humiliation. Therefore they would not receive their Redeemer. He was a sign that was
- 729 spoken against. {DA 56.5}
- 730 You say, "The surrender of all my idols will break my heart." This is what is
- 731 needed. In giving up all for God, you fall upon the rock and are broken. Give up
- all for him without delay, for unless you are broken, you are worthless. {ST,
- 733 August 8, 1892 par. 2}

- 735 We Must Die to Self
- 736 Mark 10:21 "...One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have ... take up
- 737 the cross, and follow Me."
- 738 Luke 9:23 "... 'take up his cross daily, and follow Me."
- 739 1 Cor. 15:31 "I die daily." (also note Eph. 5:18)
- 2 Cor. 4:11,12 "For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake...."
- Jesus bade His followers take up the cross and bear it after Him. To the disciples His
- words, though dimly comprehended, pointed to their submission to the most
- 543 bitter humiliation,--submission even unto death for the sake of Christ. No more
- complete self-surrender could the Saviour's words have pictured. {DA 416.3}
- 745 It is because men are not more than half converted that the church is so dead and
- 746 lifeless. There are many who are and have been all their lives half Christians.
- 747 Their names are in the Book of Life, and if they turn to the Lord with full purpose of
- heart, they then respect the voice that says unto them, "Seek ye My face," and reply,
- "Thy face, Lord, will I seek," and they shall see God with a clear, elevated, spiritual
- 750 sense. The religious sentiment awakened in the heart is recognized as God's call, and
- 751 is obeyed. {21MR 368.2} Everyone will be tested and tried in the very way that
- 752 is the most trying. Men cannot trust to their own wisdom. Self-sufficiency, if
- 753 indulged, will be their stumbling block. Self must die and not have a resurrection
- every other day. The words must be truly spoken, "I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in
- 755 me." The "I" is a very hard personality to kill. "I" rises into life in full
- 756 proportions if given the least opportunity or encouragement. Then, confident in
- 757 their own supposed wisdom, men forsake the right way. {21MR 368.3}
- "He selects men of His own wisdom who make Him their trust, their dependence, their
- efficiency. He hews and polishes the rough stones He has quarried out of the world. He
- 760 works through men who realize that they must submit to the axe, the chisel, and
- 761 the hammer, lying passive under the divine hand. Through those who voluntarily
- submit themselves to Him in all matters, who seek Him in faith and hope, He works
- 763 out His plans. {BEcho, August 12, 1901 par. 1}
- 764 "Why is it so hard to lead a self-denying, humble life? Because professed
- 765 Christians are not dead to the world. It is easy living after we are dead. But there
- 766 is a hankering after the leeks and onions of Egypt. They have a disposition to dress and
- act as much like the world as possible, and yet go to heaven. Such climb up some other
- 768 way. They do not enter through the narrow way and straight gate. {RH, January 6,
- 769 1863 par. 10}
- 770 The new birth is a rare experience in this age of the world. This is the reason why there
- are so many perplexities in the churches. Many, so many, who assume the name of
- 772 Christ are unsanctified and unholy. They have been baptized, but they were buried

alive. Self did not die, and therefore they did not rise to newness of life in Christ. {12MR 51.1}

774775776

777

778

779780

781

782 783

784

785

786

787

788 789

790

791

792

793

794 795

796

797

798 799

800

801

802

773

We Must Be Emptied of Self

We cannot retain self and yet be filled with the fullness of God. We must be emptied of self. If heaven is gained by us at last, it will be only through the renunciation of self, and the receiving of the mind of Christ. Pride and self-sufficiency must be crucified, and the vacuum supplied with the Spirit and power of God. Are we willing to pay the price required of us for eternal life? Are we ready to sit down and count the cost, and conclude that heaven is worth the sacrifice of dying to self, of having our will brought into perfect conformity with the will of God? Until we are willing, the transforming grace of God will not be manifested upon us. When we present our emptied nature to God, he will by his Holy Spirit supply the vacuum made by the renunciation of self, and give us of his fullness. The Lord would not have us perish. He would have us consecrate to his service all there is of us; for he desires to bless us more than we desire to be blessed. He would have us abide in Christ, receive his blessing, and diffuse it to others while we live, that we may enjoy a blessed eternity. Life is short, but eternity is endless. {ST, November 21, 1892 par. 4} No outward observances can take the place of simple faith and entire renunciation of self. But no man can empty himself of self. We can only consent for Christ to accomplish the work. Then the language of the soul will be, Lord, take my heart; for I cannot give it. It is Thy property. Keep it pure, for I cannot keep it for Thee. Save me in spite of myself, my weak, unchristlike self. Mold me, fashion me, raise me into a pure and holy atmosphere, where the rich current of Thy love can flow through my soul. {COL 159.3}

It is not only at the beginning of the Christian life that this renunciation of self is to be made. At every advance step heavenward it is to be renewed. All our good works are dependent on a power outside of ourselves. Therefore there needs to be a continual reaching out of the heart after God, a continual, earnest, heartbreaking confession of sin and humbling of the soul before Him. Only by constant renunciation of self and dependence on Christ can we walk safely. {COL 159.4}

803 804 805

806

807

808

809

810

811

812

813

814

815

816

817

We Must Be Filled By Our Indwelling Saviour

The Lord Jesus loves his people, and when they put their trust in him, depending wholly upon him, he strengthens them. He will live through them, giving them the inspiration of his sanctifying Spirit, imparting to the soul a vital transfusion of himself. He acts through their faculties, and causes them to choose his will and to act out his character. {SSW, February 1, 1896 par. 3}

- Jesus "has life in himself," and this life he offers to impart freely to souls that are dead in trespasses and sins. Yea, he shares with them his purity, his honor, and exaltation. "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of God." The sapless branch, ingrafted into the living vine, becomes a part of the vine. It lives while united to the vine. So the Christian lives by virtue of his union with Christ. The sinful and human is linked to the holy and divine. {RH, September 11, 1883 par. 6}
- At the altar of self-sacrifice,—the appointed place of meeting between God and the soul,—we receive from the hand of God the celestial torch, which searches the heart, revealing our great need of an abiding Christ. — {ST October 11, 1899 Par. 14} When we feel our heart need, when we long after the quickening influence of the

Holy Spirit, Christ draws night to us. Self is crucified. Christ lives in us, and the

power of the Spirit attends our efforts; then the soul is refined and elevated. Light from

- the heavenly sanctuary shines upon us, and we are enabled to exert an influence which
- is a savor of life unto life. By a union with Christ, by living faith, we are privileged to enjoy the efficacy of His mediation. We are crucified with Christ, buried with
- Christ, risen with Christ, to walk in newness of life. {ST October 11, 1899 Par.
- 828 15}

829830

853

- Trials Will Be Used in the Purifying Process
- 831 Rom. 8:28 "... all things work together for good...."
- 832 Eph. 5:20 "...giving thanks always for all things..."
- Heb. 5:8 "... He learned obedience by the things which He suffered."
- The purification of God's people cannot be accomplished without suffering. God
- permits the fire of affliction to consume the dross, to separate the worthless from
- the valuable, in order that the pure metal may shine forth. He passes us from one
- 838 **fire to another, testing our true worth**. True grace is willing to be tried. If we are
- loath to be searched by the Lord, our condition is one of peril. God is the refiner and
- purifier of souls. He places us in the heat of the furnace, that the dross may be
- forever separated from the true gold of Christian character. Jesus watches the
- 842 test. He knows just what fire of temptation and trial is needed to purify the
- precious metal, in order that the radiance of divine love may be reflected. {RH,
- 844 April 10, 1894 par. 3}
- Some seek to control their surroundings, thinking that if they are placed in favorable
- positions, the bad traits in their character will not be developed. But God orders our
- surroundings, and he will place us where we shall have test after test, to prove us
- and to reveal what is in our hearts. Again and again we shall be brought into
- strait places, that it may be known whether we are indeed crucified with Christ or
- 850 **full of self-love**. How will this proving, testing process end with each of us? The
- prince of darkness will put forth all his power to retain us in his possession; but we
- have a mighty helper.—Review and Herald, June 3, 1884. {RH, June 3, 1884 par. 11}
- 100 mayor a mighty helper. Review and Herard, June 3, 100 m. (Rtf., June 3, 100 m.)
- cleanse them. It is a bitter draught, and they can make it still more bitter by

God has shown me that he gave his people a bitter cup to drink to purify and

- murmuring, complaining, and repining. But those who receive it thus, must have
- another draught, for the first does not have its designed effect upon the heart.
- And if the second does not effect the work, then they must have another, and
- another, until it does have its designed effect, or they will be left filthy and impure
- in heart. I saw that this bitter cup can be sweetened by patience, endurance and
- in heart. I saw that this bitter cup can be sweetched by parency endurance and
- prayer, and that it will have its designed effect upon the hearts of those who thus received it, and God will be honored and glorified.—{EW 47.1}
- 862 The Father's presence encircled Christ, and nothing befell Him but that which
- 863 infinite love permitted for the blessing of the world. Here was His source of
- comfort, and it is for us. He who is imbued with the Spirit of Christ abides in Christ.
- Whatever comes to him comes from the Saviour, who surrounds him with His
- 866 presence. Nothing can touch him except by the Lord's permission. All our
- sufferings and sorrows, all our temptations and trials, all our sadness and griefs, all our
- 868 persecutions and privations, in short, all things work together for our good. All
- 869 experiences and circumstances are God's workmen whereby good is brought to
- 870 **us**. {MH 488.4}

872

Do you ask, "How am I to abide in Christ?" In the same way as you received Him at 873 first. "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him." "The 874 just shall live by faith." Colossians 2:6; Hebrews 10:38. You gave yourself to God, to 875 be His wholly, to serve and obey Him, and you took Christ as your Saviour. You could 876 not yourself atone for your sins or change your heart; but having given yourself to 877 God, you believe that He for Christ's sake did all this for you. By faith you became 878 879

Victory Will Come

Christ's, and by faith you are to grow up in Him--by giving and taking. You are to give all,--your heart, your will, your service,--give yourself to Him to obey all His

880 requirements; and you must take all,--Christ, the fullness of all blessing, to abide in 881 882

your heart, to be your strength, your righteousness, your everlasting helper,--to

give you power to obey. {SC 69.2} 883

884 885

886 887

888

889

IV. Adopt Jesus' Lifestyle in Taking Up His Yoke

God Wants To Bring Revival

We have the assurance that in this age of the world the Holy Spirit will work with mighty power, unless by our unbelief, we limit our blessings, and thus lose the advantages we might obtain. ... {SW December 5, 1899 Par. 1}

890 Dating from the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was to be poured forth on sons and daughters, on servants and handmaidens; in every hill country, every lowland, every 891 valley, humble workmen for the Lord are to be raised up. The divine sacred influence 892 of the Holy Spirit working in our world is to be as signs and wonders, because God's 893 people are a peculiar people, an holy nation, shining amid moral darkness as living 894

stones in the Lord's building. (SW December 5, 1899 Par. 2) 895

The descent of the Holy Spirit upon the church is looked forward to, as in the future; but it is the privilege of the church to have it now. Seek for it, pray for it, believe for it. We must have it, and Heaven is waiting to bestow it.—Letter 15, 1892, pp. 8-10.

(To Elder S.N. Haskell, June 25, 1892.) – {5MR 335.1} 899

900 901

902

903

904

905 906

907

908

909

910

911

896

897

898

Satan Cannot Stop Revival

There is nothing that Satan fears so much as that the people of God shall clear the way by removing every hindrance, so that the Lord can pour out His Spirit upon a languishing church and an impenitent congregation. If Satan had his way, there would never be another awakening, great or small, to the end of time. But we are not ignorant of his devices. It is possible to resist his power. When the way is prepared for the Spirit of God, the blessing will come. Satan can no more hinder a shower of blessing from descending upon God's people than he can close the windows of heaven that rain cannot come upon the earth. Wicked men and devils cannot hinder the work of God, or shut out His presence from the assemblies of His people, if they will, with subdued, contrite hearts, confess and put away their sins, and in faith claim His promises. – {1SM 124.2}

912 913 914

Why Then Is Revival Lacking

The only reason for our lack of power with God is to be found in ourselves. If the inner 915 life of many who profess the truth were presented before them, they would not claim to 916 be Christians. {Pr 263.3} 917

918 919 920 921 922	There is no lack of power on His part, but there is a lack of faith and of humility on the part of His people. Many of us would not know how to use that power if we were to receive it. Let us learn of the great Teacher, what it means to walk in humility, as Christ walked in humilityMs. 49, 1908. (MR 900.19) {1SAT 396.3}
922	What Is God's Solution?
924 925 926 927	Matt. 11:28 "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."
928	We Must Not Make False Yokes
929 930 931 932 933	Does He not tell us the truth when He says, "My yoke is easy"? If we manufacture yokes for ourselves, as many are doing, we shall find them extremely galling; but if we take the yoke that Christ has prepared for us, and become meek and lowly in heart, self will be hid with Christ in God. This is the correct position for us to occupy. – {2SAT 275.1}
934 935 936 937 938	We often think we are having a hard time in bearing burdens, and it is too often the case, because God has not made any provision for us to carry these burdens ; but when we bear His yoke and carry His burdens, we can testify that the yoke of Christ is easy and His burdens are light, because He has made provision for these. {5BC 1091.2}
939 940 941 942 943	Jesus invites you to lay down the yoke you have been bearing, which has been galling your neck the load of self-love, covetousness, pride, passion, jealousy, and evil surmising. Yet how closely do men clasp these curses, and how loath are they to give them up. {4T 240.3}
944	We Must Take God's Yoke
945 946 947 948 949 950	This yoke, [which] you are afraid [to] put upon your neck because you fear it will gall, Jesus says is easy. The burden you dare not touch—it is light . All that is required on your part is to resolutely lay hold upon it, and you will find it a support rather than a grievous burden . That cross which seems to you so inconvenient an instrument to lift, which seems too heavy to be raised, when you cheerfully lay hold upon it and lift it, it will lift you and be a support and strength to you - {UL 376.4}
952	What is God's Yoke?
953	The Yoke of Obedience
954	The Yoke of Service
955	Worn in Meekness and Lowliness
956	
957	Yoke of Obedience
958 959	The yoke and the cross are symbols representing the same thing ,—the giving up of the will to God. – {5BC 1090.8}
960	John 6:38 " not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me."
961 962	Rom. 12:1,2 " present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service"
963	What is "My yoke"? It is perfect submission to God. {1SAT 152.3}

- "When you give up your own will, your own wisdom, and learn of Christ, you will
- 965 find admittance into the kingdom of God. He requires entire, unreserved surrender.
- Give up your life for Him to order, mold, and fashion. Take upon your neck His yoke.
- 967 **Submit to be led and taught by Him.** Learn that unless you become as a little child,
- 968 you can never enter the kingdom of heaven. {1SM 110.2}
- Holiness is not rapture: it is an entire surrender of the will to God; it is living by
- every word that proceeds from the mouth of God; it is doing the will of our heavenly
- 971 Father; it is **trusting God in trial, in darkness as well as in the light**; it is walking by
- 972 faith and not by sight; it is relying on God with unquestioning confidence, and
- 973 resting in His love. {AA 51.2}

- 975 Yoke of Service
- 976 The yoke is an instrument of service. Cattle are yoked for labor, and the yoke is
- 977 essential that they may labor effectually. By this illustration Christ teaches us that
- we are called to service as long as life shall last. We are to take upon us His yoke,
- 979 that we may be co-laborers with Him. {ST June 29, 1904 Par. 3}
- 980 The yoke that binds to service is the law of God. The great law of love revealed in
- 981 Eden, proclaimed upon Sinai, and in the new covenant written in the heart, is that
- which binds the human worker to the will of God. ...
- 983 If you will seek the Lord and be converted every day; if you will of your own spiritual
- 984 choice be free and joyous in God; if with gladsome consent of heart to His gracious
- 985 call, you come wearing the yoke of Christ,--the yoke of obedience and service,--all
- 986 your murmurings will be stilled, all your difficulties will be removed, all the
- 987 perplexing problems that now confront you will be solved.--Thoughts From the Mount
- 988 of Blessing, p. 101. (1896)
- Whatever business engagements men may yoke up with, if Christians, they must wear
- 990 the yoke of duty to Christ. This is their allegiance. They are to consider themselves
- 991 bound by superior obligations. The Master, Jesus Christ, has placed His yoke upon
- the neck of every disciple. The life service is pledged to Him in accepting His yoke.
 Anything that will mar or hinder his perfect service to God is to be broken off,
- whatever its nature or character may be. . . . {HP 201.4}

- Worn in Meekness and Lowliness
- 997 Ps. 25:9 "The meek will he guide ... the meek will he teach his way."
- 998 Ps. 37:11 "... the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves..."
- 999 Ps. 149:4 "He will beautify the meek with salvation."
- 1000 Micah 6:8 "... to walk humbly with your God?"
- 1001 Matt. 5:5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."
- We are to take his yoke of submission, restraint, and obedience, in meekness and
- 1003 **lowliness of heart.** Those who yoke up with Christ will find rest and peace. {GH,
- 1004 December 1, 1899 par. 6}
- Meekness is a precious, Christian attribute. The meekness and lowliness of Christ are
- only learned by wearing Christ's yoke. . . . That yoke signifies entire submission.
- 1007 {HP 236.2}
- 1008 Those who educate themselves to pick flaws in the characters of others, reveal a
- deformity that makes families unhappy, that turns souls from the truth to choose fables.
- Your leaven of distrust, your want of confidence, your power of accusing, closes
- against you the door of admittance. Within this door nothing can enter that could

- 1012 possibly mar the happiness of the dwellers by marring their perfect trust in one
- another....
- 1014 In our separation from God, in our pride and darkness, we are constantly seeking to
- elevate ourselves, and we forget that **lowliness of mind is power.** Our Saviour's power
- was not in a strong array of sharp words that would pierce through the very soul; it
- 1017 was His gentleness and His plain, unassuming manners that made Him a
- 1018 conqueror of hearts. Pride and self-importance, when compared with lowliness and
- 1019 humility, are indeed weakness. {3T 477.1}
- The meekness and lowliness of Christ is the Christian's power. It is indeed more
- precious than all things which genius can create or wealth can buy. {CH 403.1}
- Jesus expects that his gentleness and condescension will be reproduced in those
- whom he blesses. Jesus came to our world, and chose the lowliest life, took the
- humblest position, leaving us an example that we should follow in his steps. The
- Majesty of heaven was meek and lowly in heart, and he expects all his followers to
- catch his spirit of meekness and lowliness.... {ST August 22, 1895 Par. 1}
- In the world the Christian will be slighted and dishonored, and will consent to be
- least of all and servant of all. He will submit to be injured, to be despitefully used
- and persecuted, but wearing the yoke of Christ he will find rest unto his soul, and the
- yoke will not be galling. {ST August 22, 1895 Par. 5}
- Meekness is a precious grace, willing to suffer silently, willing to endure trials.
- Meekness is patient and labors to be happy under all circumstances. Meekness is
- always thankful and makes its own songs of happiness, making melody in the heart to
- 1034 God. Meekness will suffer disappointment and wrong, and will not retaliate.
- 1035 Meekness is not to be silent and sulky. A morose temper is the opposite of
- meekness; for this only wounds and gives pain to others, and takes no pleasure to
- 1037 itself. {3T 335.1}

God's Yoke is Easy

- 1040 It was the spirit of uncomplaining submission in which our Saviour did His duty
- that made His yoke easy and His burden light. He conformed to the law of obedience
- and service, and the same principle that made Him so useful everywhere, He
- requires His followers to obey. In this way every man must be educated before he can
- love God supremely and his neighbor as himself. {ST, June 16, 1898 par. 9}
- When you find your work hard, when you complain of difficulties and trials, when
- 1046 you say that you have no strength to withstand temptation, that you cannot
- overcome impatience, and that the Christian life is uphill work, be sure that you
- are not bearing the yoke of Christ; you are bearing the yoke of another master. {CG
- 1049 267.3

- How Do We Wear Christ's Yoke
- Take hold of the arm of God, and say, "I am nothing, and Thou art everything.
- Thou hast said, 'Without me ye can do nothing.' Now, Lord, I must have Thee
- abiding in me, that I may abide in Thee." Then advance step by step, by living faith
- abiding in Jesus Christ. This is wearing His yoke, the yoke of obedience (MS 85,
- 1056 1901). {5BC 1092.1}
- 1057 Lowliness of heart, that meekness which is the fruit of abiding in Christ, is the
- true secret of blessing. ... It was through the desire for self-exaltation that sin entered
- into the world, and our first parents lost the dominion over this fair earth, their
- 1060 kingdom. It is through self-abnegation that Christ redeems that which was lost.

And He says we are to overcome as He did. Through humility and self-surrender we may become heirs with Him, when the "meek shall inherit the earth." [49] – {SD 303.5}

1064

1066

1067

1068

10691070

1071

10721073

1074

10751076

1077

10781079

1080

1081

1082

10831084

Blessings of Obeying

The blessings connected with Christ's invitation can be realized and enjoyed by those only who wear Christ's yoke. Accepting this invitation, you withdraw your sympathy, your affections, from the world, and place them where you can enjoy the blessing of close fellowship and communion with God. By coming to Christ, you bind up your interests with his. – {RH October 23, 1900 Par. 10}

"In earnest, determined exercise as faithful soldiers, obeying the orders of the Captain of our salvation, there is genuine enjoyment such as can be obtained in no other employment. The peace of Christ will be in the heart of the faithful soldier. There is rest for the soul in wearing Christ's yoke, in lifting Christ's burdens. It seems a contradiction to say that there is no rest for the soul except that which is found in continuous and devoted service. But this is true. Happiness comes in willing, obedient service, where all the powers of our being are moving in happy, healthy, harmonious action in obeying our Captain's orders. The more responsible the task assigned to Christ's soldiers, the more the soul exults in the Saviour's love and approval. The soul realizes a freedom in the performance of the weightiest and most taxing duties." Youth Instructor, December 22, 1886

Oh, what wonderful blessings and opportunities God has in store for those who wear Christ's yoke! Trouble comes to us because we manufacture yokes for ourselves, refusing to wear the yoke of Christ. {PUR, January 15, 1903 par. 3}

1085 1086

V. Turn and Pray

1087 Deut. 4:29,30 "You will find Him..."

1088 2Chron. 6:37,38 "Repent and Pray...."

1089 2Chron. 7:11-14 "if My People... pray...."

The old standard bearers **knew what it was to wrestle with God in prayer, and to**enjoy the outpouring of His Spirit. But these are passing off from the stage of action;
and who are coming up to fill their places? How is it with the rising generation? Are
they converted to God? Are we awake to the work that is going on in the heavenly
sanctuary, or are we waiting for some compelling power to come upon the church
before we shall arouse? Are we hoping to see the whole church revived? That time will
never come. – {1SM 122.1}

God wants to be inquired of by his people, before he pours out his Holy Spirit upon the church. How earnestly should every member pray and labor, and labor and pray for the deep movings of Spirit of God! – {RH June 26, 1888 Par. 8}

There should be **more prayer and weeping, and more confession of sin to God and to one another.** Let the indifference be broken up, let the complaining and faultfinding cease, and the time heretofore worse than wasted in this manner be spent in prayers of living faith for the refreshing from the presence of the Lord. Let us arouse as one man, and unitedly call upon God to send down his grace upon the souls of his people, and to revive his work in the midst of the years. – {GW92 224.4}

Prayer is both a duty and a privilege. We must have help which God alone can give, and that help will not come unasked. If we are too self-righteous to feel our need of help from God, we shall not have his help when we need it most. If we are too independent and self-sufficient to throw ourselves daily by earnest prayer upon

- the merits of a crucified and risen Saviour, we shall be left subject to Satan's
- 1111 **temptations**. {RH July 24, 1883 Par. 19}
- 1112 I asked the angel why there was not more power in Israel. Said he, "Ye let go of
- the promises of God too quick. Press your petitions to the throne, and hold on by
- faith. Believe ye receive the things ye ask for, and ye shall have them." I was then
- pointed to Elijah. He was subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly.
- His faith endured the trial. Seven times he prayed before the Lord, and at last the cloud
- 1117 was seen. {19MR 130.1}
- 1118 I have been shown angels of God all ready to impart grace and power to those who
- feel their need of divine strength. But these heavenly messengers will not bestow
- blessings unless solicited. They have waited for the cry from souls hungering and
- thirsting for the blessing of God; often have they waited in vain. There were, indeed,
- casual prayers, but not the earnest supplication from humble, contrite hearts.
- Meeting after meeting has closed with but little manifestation of the Spirit and power
- of God. The people seemed to be satisfied to reach no higher; they seemed to
- expect no revival of the work of God; but with grief and disappointment angels
- turned from the scene of confusion where tents were being removed, and the people
- preparing to return to their homes without the blessing which Heaven was more than
- 1128 willing to give them. {RH July 24, 1883 Par. 21}

What Will Be The Outcome

- 1131 Christ's love in the heart, revealing through the life its wondrous power—this is
- the greatest miracle that can be performed before a fallen, quarreling world. Let
- us try to work this miracle, not in our own power, but in the name of the Lord Jesus
- 1134 Christ, whose we are and whom we serve. Let us put on Christ, and the miracle-
- working power of His grace will be so plainly revealed in the transformation of
- character that the world will be convinced that God has sent His Son into the
- world to make men as angels in character and life. {OFC 273.2}
- 1138 God rebukes His people for their sins, that He may humble them, and lead them
- to seek His face. As they reform, and His love revives in their hearts, His loving
- answers will come to their requests. He will strengthen them in reformatory action,
- lifting up for them a standard against the enemy. His rich blessing will rest upon them,
- and in bright rays they will reflect the light of heaven. Then a multitude not of their
- faith, seeing that God is with His people, will unite with them in serving the
- 1144 **Redeemer**. {RH, February 25, 1902 par. 16}

- 1146 This Study Guide was prepared by Dan Augsburger of Path2Prayer Ministries. This
- booklet reflects hundreds of hours of research in preparation of a book that will hopefully be published in the future. You are welcome to make limited personal copies
- 1149 for personal and small group studies, if you copy the entire booklet without
- modification! Commercial use is prohibited. Support for our ministry through prayer
- or in some other way would be most appreciated. You can find more resources on this
- 1152 subject and our ministry at discipleheart.com. We can also be reached at
- 1153 <u>path2prayer@gmail.com</u>. Our telephone number is 1(269) 471-5415. You can also
- 1154 subscribe to our ministry newsletter. Our mailing address is Dan & RoseMarie
- 1155 Augsburger, PO Box 244, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. We also have an active facebook
- 1156 page. 1/11/2014 (slight modifications 9-2-2017)