

Travails and Triumph of the 1888 Message.

Christ and His Righteousness

Observations regarding the past 15 years
since Primacy of the Gospel Committee

Brian Schwartz MD

SDA to be One Generation Movement

- We are on our Fifth generation
- Hard to pass on a prophetic movement to next generation
- We are much more hard-hearted than the Children of Israel

5 Generations

- Cannot go on much longer
- 2 streams of thought in Adventism have been developing and are coming to a climax.
- With Each Generation the Parallel streams are growing farther apart.

Natives Growing Restless

- How soon is soon?
- Losing urgency
- Sabbath treated lightly
- Hard to keep Youth
- Lose our doctrines
- Evangelical Adventism/Emerging SDA movement

Give Up Doctrine

The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on the sand, and storm and tempest would sweep away the structure. {1SM 204.2}

Are we coming to a Show Down?

1 Kings 17-18



1 Kings

- 17:1 As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word
- 18:17 And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel?
- 18:21 And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.



1 Kings

- 19:12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire:and after the fire a still small voice
- 19:14 And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts:because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away
- 19:19 Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him

Primacy of the Gospel

The Primacy of the Gospel Committee (ADCOM-S) was appointed on May 17, 1994.

Beginning with an initial meeting on May 24, 1995, the committee met 8 times, generally for 2½ days each, for an equivalent of 15 full days. It studied prepared papers and held extended discussions on a variety of subjects identified by the 1888 Message Study Committee as important to their understanding of righteousness by faith as presented in Minneapolis. The concluding session, held February 8, 2000, at Loma Linda University, spent the major portion of its time examining a summary report from the nearly five years of committee discussions. Although this report was reviewed by the entire committee during the final meeting and corrections were made, only the first section titled "Areas of Agreement" represents overall concurrence of the entire group. This full document should be understood as a report to the Administrative Committee by the General Conference, Andrews University, and Loma Linda University members of the committee.

<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/materials/independent-ministries-and-others/primacy-gospel-committee-report>

Primacy of the Gospel

Observations

The charges raised by the 1888 Study Committee against the leadership of the Church are very serious. If the Church is proclaiming a false gospel, it has no right to exist. A partial understanding of the gospel, as they claim the Church to have, is not a true understanding of the gospel. If they are the only ones who have a *clear and complete* understanding of the gospel, then everyone else is proclaiming a false gospel. They are implicitly accusing the Church, or at least the leaders of the Church, of apostasy. We have found such accusations to be groundless as evidenced in the official statements of beliefs of the Church.

Therefore, we firmly believe that the 1888 Study Committee should discontinue its claims that the true message of righteousness by faith was rejected by the leaders of the Church, that they never genuinely accepted it, and that they have intentionally kept it away from the Church and the world.

An Appeal

We do not question the sincerity of the leaders of the 1888 Study Committee, but we do question the wisdom of the current course of action. If the committee chooses to continue its work outside the organized Church, we appeal to it to adopt the pattern of what is described as a supportive ministry. Such groups seek places to work where, in harmony with and under guidance of Church leadership in that field, they carry out activities that are part of the planned program for that field. Almost always their efforts are designed to reach out to unbelievers, calling them to Christ and His righteousness, and enlisting them among His remnant people. Supportive ministries promote harmony in both doctrine and relationship with the Church. We desire this as the outcome of our prayer and study together.

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Response to Observations

- It is the Prophet of the Lord who first identified a resistance to a large degree.
- If the 1888 message did indeed bring with it the beginning showers of the Latter Rain and Loud Cry, the very fact that we are still here 127 years later raises the serious question as to why? Have we fully accepted the 1888 message? See Ron Duffield's book *The Return of the Latter Rain*.
- This is no longer disputed by most church leaders.

COL p 159

No man can of himself understand his errors. “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?” Jeremiah 17:9. [The lips may express a poverty of soul that the heart does not acknowledge. While speaking to God of poverty of spirit, the heart may be swelling with the conceit of its own superior humility and exalted righteousness.](#) In one way only can a true knowledge of self be obtained. We must behold Christ. It is ignorance of Him that makes men so uplifted in their own righteousness. When we contemplate His purity and excellence, we shall see our own weakness and poverty and defects as they really are. We shall see ourselves lost and hopeless, clad in garments of self-righteousness, like every other sinner. We shall see that if we are ever saved, it will not be through our own goodness, but through God’s infinite grace. {COL 159.1}

COL p 69

It is the privilege of every Christian not only to look for but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, (2 Peter 3:12, margin). Were all who profess His name bearing fruit to His glory, how quickly the whole world would be sown with the seed of the gospel. Quickly the last great harvest would be ripened, and Christ would come to gather the precious grain. {COL 69.2

Hastening or Hindering

Those who think of the result of hastening or hindering the gospel think of it in relation to themselves and to the world. Few think of its relation to God. Few give thought to the suffering that sin has caused our Creator. All heaven suffered in Christ's agony; but that suffering did not begin or end with His manifestation in humanity. The cross is a revelation to our dull senses of the pain that, from its very inception, sin has brought to the heart of God. Every departure from the right, every deed of cruelty, every failure of humanity to reach His ideal, brings grief to Him. When there came upon Israel the calamities that were the sure result of separation from God,—subjugation by their enemies, cruelty, and death,—it is said that “His soul was grieved for the misery of Israel.” “In all their affliction He was afflicted: ... and He bare them, and carried them all the days of old.” Judges 10:16; Isaiah 63:9

Laodicean Message

- Revelation 3
 - Does this not apply to the Final Church in world history?
 - Is this message past tense and no longer applies?
 - Does it imply that Church has no right to exist? or is not the very call to Repent hopeful?

Needed Confession, Repentance and Conversion.

Leaving the first love represents a spiritual fall. Many have fallen thus. In every church in our land, there is needed confession, repentance, and reconversion.

The disappointment of Christ is beyond description. Unless those who have fallen repent speedily, the deceptions of the last days will overtake them. Some, though they do not realize it, are preparing to be overtaken. Temptation comes suddenly, and the light is quenched. Henceforth light is to them darkness, and darkness light. God calls for repentance without delay. So long have many trifled with salvation that their spiritual eyesight is dimmed, and they cannot discern between light and darkness. Christ is humiliated in His people. The first love is gone; the faith is weak, there is need of a thorough transformation. {18MR 192.1}

The medical missionary work should be a part of the work of every church in our land.—Testimonies for the Church 6:289

Repentance will Deepen

So will it be with all who behold Christ. The nearer we come to Jesus, and the more clearly we discern the purity of His character, the more clearly shall we see the exceeding sinfulness of sin, and the less shall we feel like exalting ourselves. There will be a continual reaching out of the soul after God, a continual, earnest, heartbreaking confession of sin and humbling of the heart before Him. At every advance step in our Christian experience our repentance will deepen. We shall know that our sufficiency is in Christ alone and shall make the apostle's confession our own: "I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing." "God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." Romans 7:18; Galatians 6:14. {AA 561.2}

Repentance

- The Key to “Laying Glory of man in the Dust”
- Not a vote, An experience
- A deepening experience as we appreciate Christ
- A Corporate experience?
- We should Embrace message of Repentance.

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Almost always their efforts are designed to reach out to unbelievers, calling them to Christ and His righteousness, and enlisting them among His remnant people.

Supportive ministries promote harmony in both doctrine and relationship with the Church. We desire this as the outcome of our prayer and study together.

Response to Appeal 1

- Members (Members of the 1888MSC Board and Advisory Board) have always submitted to the authority of Church leadership.
- Members are loyal SDA members involved in their local churches.
- Members believe that the SDA church is God's last-day, remnant church.
- Members identify themselves as part of the problem and are not calling out the leadership as apostate. Rather we all are Laodicean in need of counsel of the True Witness.
- We are engaged in the ministry and outreach of the Global church.

Response to Appeal 2

- A few of the relationships MSC or Members involved with
 - Board members or Partners with
 - ASI since 1990s
 - It is Written/La Voz
 - Light Bearers
 - Shea Foundation
 - Eden Valley Institute/Weimar
 - Fourth Angel/Gospel Net
 - AMEN/Life and Health Network

Response to Appeal 3

- Involved with Evangelism
 - It is Written
 - Weimar Global Health
 - Share Him
 - Global outreach
 - General Conference

Response to Appeal 4

- 1888 MSC has been involved with evangelism or revival meetings in many areas all around the Globe
- Zambia, Brazil, Russia, Philippines, Guam, Indonesia, Canada, South Africa, France, Ireland...
- Recently the 1888MSC employed a full time Evangelist.

died August 27 2015



Response to Appeal 5

- When the Primacy report came out, and the new GC President stated “we have heard you and there is nothing more to consider,” we ceased trying to dialogue with GC leadership of that administration.
- Nevertheless, we are still here waiting for the latter rain and we cannot ignore our history, or our calling as a people.
- We can not shake the conviction that there must be a recovery of the message that calls us to receive the message of Righteousness by Faith and with it a call to Repentance.

Response to Appeal 6

- Because of our understanding of history, the members of the 1888MSC cannot shake the conviction that there have been at least 2 streams of competing thought in Adventism.
- We see a paradigm that explains why we exist as a people, why we are still here, why we still struggle, and the need for Revival, Repentance and Reformation.
- As such we continue to seek ways to dialogue with church leaders and thought leaders in respectful and supportive ways, regarding the implications of the principles of the 1888 message and the implications of its resistance over the past 127 years.

God's Secret weapon to Combat the Emerging Church movement in Adventism and the world.

- There will be 2 streams of thought that become prominent in the final crisis.
- The Omega of apostasy will sweep millions out of the Church and even whole churches.
- There will arise a message: “It is the darkness of misapprehension of God that is enshrouding the world. Men are losing their knowledge of His character. It has been misunderstood and misinterpreted. At this time a message from God is to be proclaimed, a message illuminating in its influence and saving in its power. His character is to be made known. Into the darkness of the world is to be shed the light of His glory, the light of His goodness, mercy, and truth.” {COL 415.3}

Role of 1888MSC

- Do we still have a work?
- What Role?
- Does it go beyond what other supporting ministries are called to do?
- Is there a prophetic work to do?

Here we Stand

- We see a battle within the church for its very soul and mission. We see laity languishing and growing weary waiting for Christ to return, not understanding why there has been a delay. We see our history repeating the history of Israel. We see us repeating our own history generation after generation. We can trace the causes to their roots. We believe this Message, the 1888 Message will immunize our church against the Final Deception and prepare us to meet the call and challenges of the end times.

Elijah

- Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: And He shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse. Malachi 4:5-6

What is Prophet Called to Do?

- Voice of God
- Predict the Future
- Reveal Visions
- Call God's people back to their mission
- Direct God's people back to His word
- Call to Repentance

1888 MSC

- 1 Kings 17:1 We have stood up before God's people and claimed:
 - There will not be Latter Rain for all these years without recovering the message of 1888.
 - Call to Repentance
- We cannot escape our prophetic role.
- Likewise as SDA church in last days we will demonstrate the true worship of the true God and will call the World to Repentance.
- God is now preparing the SDA Church for an end-time work to do.

Does Revelation 3 Still Apply?

- Is there a looming showdown?
- Principle of Bio Ethics.
 - Those in power are the least likely to see need for change

The ideal of supportive Ministry

- Is all that needs to be done is to give the message to the world? Is there also a reform work?
- Is there not a call to Repent?
 - Self sufficiency
 - Crucifixion of Christ
 - Resistance of His messages
 - Divorce of Gospel and Medical work
 - Failure to unite Races
- If some see need of Revival and Reformation, must they be silent?

The last Church has a Prophetic Message

- Rev 12
 - Point the world to Everlasting Gospel
 - Call them out of Babylon
 - Call to Repentance
 - Prepare people to meet their Creator.
- Is the SDA Church unified on their Mission?

Christ and His Righteousness

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Appeal to Us

Christ's Method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, "Follow Me."—[The Ministry of Healing, 143.](#)[{ChS 119.3}](#)

We should do as Christ did. Wherever He was, in the synagogue, by the wayside, in the boat thrust out a little from the land, at the Pharisee's feast or the table of the publican, He spoke to men of the things pertaining to the higher life. The things of nature, the events of daily life, were bound up by Him with the words of truth. The hearts of His hearers were drawn to Him; for He had healed their sick, had comforted their sorrowing ones, and had taken their children in His arms and blessed them. When He opened His lips to speak, their attention was riveted upon Him, and every word was to some soul a savor of life unto life.[{ChS 119.4}](#)

So it should be with us. Wherever we are, we should watch for opportunities of speaking to others of the Saviour. If we follow Christ's example in doing good, hearts will open to us as they did to Him. Not abruptly, but with tact born of divine love, we can tell them of Him who is the "chiefest among ten thousand," and the One "altogether lovely." This is the very highest work in which we can employ the talent of speech. It was given to us that we might present Christ as the sin-pardoning Saviour.—[Christ's Object Lessons, 338, 339.](#)