

BEWARE! WE WERE WARNED THAT THESE WILL KEEP COMING!

False Dreams and Visions

A BRIEF GUIDE TO IDENTIFYING THEM

How thankful we can be for the Inspired Writings—the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy! Without them, we would not know how to deal with the immense variety of difficult situations confronting us. The vast number of satanic deceptions in these last days would overwhelm us. Yet, if we will keep studying in God's Word, we will be safe, not only now but in the days ahead.

The greater of this two-tract set consists of very important Spirit of Prophecy statements. It is significant that never once did she say there would be another prophet in these last days; and whenever someone with dreams or visions arose, she always said that he (or she) was not genuine. Notice that these false dreams and visions consist either of foolishness and/or direct contradictions to God's Word.

EXCERPTS FROM PROPHET OF THE END

The following excerpts are from chapter 4 (*Applying the Tests*," pp. 32-45) of my book, *Prophet of the End*. You would do well to read the entire chapter!

"Here are several Bible verses which provide tests of a true prophet. They make interesting reading: Matthew 7:20; Isaiah 8:20; 1 John 4:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21; Deuteronomy 13:1-4; Hosea 12:10, 13; Hebrews 1:1-2; 2 Kings 22:14-20; Daniel 2:27-28; Deuteronomy 29:29; Amos 3:7; Numbers 12:6; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 Peter 1:10-11; Daniel 7:1; Revelation 1:1, 11; 12:17; 19:10; 1 Corinthians 14:4; Joel 2:28-30; 2 Chronicles 20:20.

"Three tests will settle the issue in each and every case: (1) The physical condition of the prophet when in vision. Six physical signs are listed below. (2) The personal life of the prophet. That person is dedicated to Jesus and lives in obedience and harmony with Biblical principles. (3) The messages given by the prophet are in full agreement with Biblical standards, promises, doctrines, and laws.

"Carefully read Daniel 10:8-19. Here you will find six physical signs: (1) The prophet loses his strength and falls to the ground in a deep sleep. (2) Despite the sleep, he hears a voice speaking to him. (3) In the vision, and at times in physical action, the prophet arises to his hands and knees and then to his feet when the being touches him. (4) At first he is dumb; but, when his lips are touched, he is enabled to speak. (5) Through-

out the vision he is without breath of any kind. His breathing totally ceases. (6) Strength is given him during the vision.

"Add to this the sign given in Numbers 24:4. (7) During the vision his eyes are open.

"It is of interest that a consistent number of Ellen's visions took place in public. In this way the Biblical tests could easily be applied. And they were. When God calls a prophet, He sees to it that opportunity is afforded for people to test that prophet and know whether he is of God. One who claims to receive visions of God and to be a true prophet will, for example, have visions from time to time in public; so that others can see that for ten minutes to three hours or more he is without any breath and gives no sign of breathing. And yet, although unconscious to all around him, the one receiving the vision can move easily about the room (if he stands up and walks); and he has a superhuman strength far beyond the capacity of anyone else, to overpower.

"In vision, a prophet has no breath (Daniel 10:17), can speak (Daniel 10:16), keeps his eyes open (Numbers 24:16), and is unconscious of his surroundings (2 Corinthians 12:2, 4).

"A true prophet will always speak in harmony with the Bible—Isaiah 8:20, Deuteronomy 13:1-4. They will exalt Christ and not self—2 Corinthians 10:5, Jeremiah 1:4-9; reprove men of sin—Ezekiel 3:17-19; and emphasize the necessity of having Jesus in the heart—1 John 4:1-3. Their lives will be above reproach—Matthew 7:15-20. Their predictions will come to pass—Deuteronomy 18:21-22, Jeremiah 28:9. They will confess that Jesus is come in the flesh—1 John 4:2-8. They will have visions and dreams—Numbers 12:6. They will be known by their fruits—Matthew 7:15-20.

"D.T. Bourdeau settled the matter in his own mind in a very direct and definite way. The following incident took place at Buck's Bridge, New York, in 1857 while Ellen was in vision:

"June 28, 1857, I saw Sister Ellen G. White in vision for the first time. I was an unbeliever in the visions; but one circumstance among others that I might mention convinced me that her visions were of God. To satisfy my mind as to whether she breathed or not [while in vision], I first put my

hand on her chest sufficiently long to know that there was no more heavings of the lungs than there would have been had she been a corpse. I then took my hand and placed it over her mouth, pinching her nostrils between my thumb and forefinger, so that it was impossible for her to exhale or inhale air, even if she had desired to do so. I held her thus with my hand about ten minutes, long enough for her to suffocate under ordinary circumstances; she was not in the least affected by this ordeal. Since witnessing this wonderful phenomenon, I have not once been inclined to doubt the divine origin of her visions.’ ”—*Statement by D.T. Bourdeau, Battle Creek, Michigan, dated February 4, 1891.*

BIBLE COUNSEL

“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this Word, [it is] because [there is] no light in them.”—*Isaiah 8:20.*

“Thy Word [is] a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”—*Psalms 119:105.*

“And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.”—*John 3:19-20.*

“Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God.”—*Matthew 22:29.*

“If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great [is] that darkness!”—*Matthew 6:23.*

“Thy testimonies [are] wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them. The entrance of Thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.”—*Psalms 119:129-130.*

“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.”—*2 Peter 1:19.*

“Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven.

“Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name have cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity.

“Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of Mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock.”—*Matthew 7:20-24.*

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY COUNSEL

“Satan will work in a most subtle manner to **introduce human inventions clothed with angel garments.**

But the light from the Word is shining amid the moral darkness; and **the Bible will never be superseded by miraculous manifestations.** The truth must be studied, it must be searched for as hidden treasure. **Wonderful illuminations will not be given aside from the Word,** or to take the place of it. Cling to the Word, receive the ingrafted Word, which will make men wise unto salvation. This is the meaning of the words of Christ in regard to eating His flesh and drinking His blood. And He says, ‘This is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent’ (John 17:3).

“We shall encounter false claims; false prophets will arise; there will be false dreams and false visions; but preach the Word, be not drawn away from the voice of God in His Word. **Let nothing divert the mind. The wonderful, the marvelous, will be represented and presented.** Through **satanic delusions,** wonderful miracles, the claims of human agents will be urged. Beware of all this.

“Christ has given warning, so that none need accept falsehood for truth. The only channel through which the Spirit operates is that of the truth. . . Our faith and hope are founded, not in feeling, but in God.”—*Letter 12, 1894; 2 Selected Messages, 48-49.*

“Many years of painful experience in connection with the work of God have made me acquainted with all kinds of false movements. Many times I have been sent to different places with the message, ‘I have a work for you to do in that place; I will be with you.’ When the occasion came, the Lord gave me a message for **those who were having false dreams and visions,** and in the strength of Christ I bore my testimony at the Lord’s bidding. The most terrible denunciations were hurled against me, which they said were from the Lord, because I was opposing His work. They said that terrible calamities would come upon me, just as your Anna has prophesied; but I passed along perfectly conscious of the guardianship of heavenly angels.

“During the past forty-five years, I have had to meet **persons claiming to have from God messages of reproof to others.** This phase of religious fanaticism has sprung up again and again since 1844. **Satan has worked in many ways to establish error.** Some things spoken in these visions came to pass; but many things—in regard to the time of Christ’s coming, the end of probation, and the events to take place—proved utterly false, as your prophesyings and Anna’s have done. Yet **they would try to excuse the blunders by twisting the statements about, and giving them another meaning, and go on in the same way, deceiving and being deceived.**

“When I was first wrought upon by the Spirit of the Lord, I was shown that I would be brought in contact with those who claimed to see visions, but that the Lord would not permit me to be deceived. **My work was to unveil this falsehood, and to rebuke it** in the name of

the Lord. **As the end drew near, I was to see more of these manifestations.**”—2 *Selected Messages*, 75-76.

“We shall have scores of just such developments, and **if our leading brethren shall catch up things of this character and endorse them as they have done in this case, we shall have one of the most sweeping tidal waves of fanaticism that has been seen in our experience.** There will be the wildest performances. Satan has already begun his work. **To give ready credence to these things, and make loose, unguarded statements endorsing them without sufficient evidence of their genuine character, is one of Satan’s devices.** The Lord Jesus has certainly given cautions sufficient in regard to this matter, so that none need be deceived.”—2 *Selected Messages*, 92.

“**Satan can skillfully play the game of life with many souls, and he acts in a most underhanded, deceptive manner** to spoil the faith of the people of God and to discourage them . . . He works today as he worked in heaven, to divide the people of God in the very last stage of this earth’s history. He seeks to create dissension, and to arouse contention and discussion, and to remove if possible the old landmarks of truth committed to God’s people. He tries to make it appear as if the Lord contradicts Himself.

“It is when Satan appears as an angel of light that he takes souls in his snare, deceiving them. **Men who pretend to have been taught of God, will adopt fallacious theories, and in their teaching will so adorn these fallacies as to bring in satanic delusions.** Thus Satan will be introduced as an angel of light and will have opportunity to present his pleasing fables.

“**These false prophets will have to be met. They will make an effort to deceive many, by leading them to accept false theories.** Many scriptures will be misapplied in such a way that deceptive theories will apparently be based upon the words that God has spoken. **Precious truth will be appropriated to substantiate and establish error.** These false prophets, who claim to be taught of God, will take beautiful scriptures that have been given to adorn the truth, and will use them as a robe of righteousness to cover false and dangerous theories. **And even some of those who, in times past, the Lord has honored, will depart so far from the truth as to advocate misleading theories** regarding many phases of truth, including the sanctuary question.”—*Manuscript 11, 1906: Evangelism*, 359-360.

“**Various things will appear claiming to be revelations from God, but which flow from the**

imagination of a conceited and deceived mind. We had to meet these things in our early experience. There were youth and children as well as those of mature age who **claimed to be led and taught of God, having a special message to declare.** They were springing up on every side, **having the truth on some points, and error upon other points.** For years the message from God came to me, ‘Believe them not, for they lead into false paths. God hath not sent them.’ ”—*Letter 4, 1893; 2 Selected Messages*, 90.

“I would say to our dear brethren **who have been so eager to accept everything that came in the form of visions and dreams,** Beware that you be not ensnared. Read the warnings that have been given by the world’s Redeemer to His disciples to be given again by them to the world. **The Word of God is solid rock, and we may plant our feet securely upon it.** Every soul must needs be tested, every faith and doctrine must needs be tried by the law and the testimony. Take heed that no man deceive you. The warnings of Christ on this matter are needed at this time; for **delusions and deceptions will come in among us, and will multiply as we near the end.**

“**Of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples** after them. Therefore watch, and remember.’ Bear in mind that trials of this character are to come upon us, **not only from without, but from within our own ranks.** Our individual safety is in entire consecration to God.”—*MS 27, 1894; 7 Bible Commentary*, 952.

“The Lord is at hand. We cannot afford to work in such a way as those have done who have given the productions of Anna Phillips to our churches without clear and certain evidence that God is speaking to His people through her. **For our ministers to rush a thing before the people as bearing the divine credentials, unless they know for a surety that it is of God, will do a work that God has told them not to do.** Many things intended to deceive will come, bearing some of the marks of truth. Just as soon as these shall be set forth as the great power of God, Satan is all ready to weave in that which he has prepared to lead souls from the truth for this time.”—2 *Selected Messages*, 92.

“**Christ foretold that the going forth of deceivers would be accompanied with more danger to His disciples than would persecution.**”—*Evangelism*, 359.

“Anna Phillips is being injured. She is led on, encouraged in a work which will not bear the test of God.

“Anna Garmire was thus injured. **Her father and mother made her believe that her childish dreams were revelations from God.** Her father talked to the child as one chosen of God; **all her**

fancies and dreams were written down as Anna's visions. She had figures and symbols presented to her, and had reproofs for her mother and for her father. After a scathing reproof, there followed the most flattering representations of the wonderful things the Lord would do for them. These things I was pointed to as spurious, a deception. **They descended to the most minute and trifling matters, commingled common, cheap things with important subjects.** The imagination was largely developed, there was a **mingling of the sacred and the common. The truth of God was belittled,** and yet some received these pretended revelations, and carried out their teaching. A little party was formed who were apparently inspired by them, and **the visions were declared to be more spiritual than the visions of Sister White.**—*Letter 4, 1893; 2 Selected Messages, 89.*

“Christ says of that time, ‘If it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.’ And again the question is asked, ‘When the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?’ **Those who use their pen and voice to give such praise to human beings need to have clearer discernment.** How much better would it be if this confidence and faith would be exercised toward those who are striving with pen and voice to do the will of God as obedient children, keeping His commandments, not to praise or glorify the individual, but to obey the Word of God, to love as brethren, to uproot every fiber of the root of bitterness that they are allowing to spring up . . .

“I know how the Lord regards all such productions from those who suppose they are working righteousness, **who seem to be neither on one side nor on the other.** The message that is given to me for them is: You are in darkness, you know not what you praise. **God cannot vindicate a work that has not His stamp upon it,** for it is leading others in a way that does not bear the signature of heaven.”—*Counsels to Writers and Editors, 98-99.*

“I have received from God the warning which I now send to you. Anna Phillips **should not have been given the encouragement she has had;** it has been a great injury to her—fastened her in a deception. I am sorry that any of our brethren and sisters are ready to take up with **these supposed revelations, and imagine they see in them the divine credentials. These things are not of the right character to accomplish the work essential for this time. Childish figures and illustrations are employed in describing sacred, heavenly things,**

and there is a mingling of the sublime and the ridiculous. While the work has an appearance of great sanctity, it is calculated to ensnare and mislead souls.”—*Letter 4, 1893; 2 Selected Messages, 89.*

“Oh, is not the inheritance rich enough? Did it not cost a dear price, the agony and blood of the Son of God? **I call upon you in the name of the Lord to awake. Break away from the awful deception which Satan has thrown over you.** Lay hold on everlasting life. Resist the devil. **Evil angels are around you, whispering in your ears, visiting you with lying dreams, and you listen to them and are pleased.** Oh, for the sake of Christ, for your own soul's sake, **tear away from this dreadful influence** before you grieve God's Spirit entirely from you.”—*1 Testimonies, 433.*

“We must not trust the claims of men. **They may, as Christ represents, profess to work miracles in healing the sick.** Is this marvelous, when just behind them stands the great deceiver, the miracle worker who will yet bring down fire from heaven in the sight of men?

“**Nor can we trust impressions.** The voice or spirit that says to a man, **You are under no obligation to obey the law of God; you are holy and sinless,** while he is trampling on the divine law, is not the voice of Jesus; for He declares: ‘I have kept My Father's commandments’ (John 15:10). And John testifies: ‘He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him’ (1 John 2:4).”—*2 Selected Messages, 49.*

“**Letters have come to me from different ones, relating visions that they said God had given them; but the Lord Jesus tells me, ‘Believe them not; I have not sent them.’** Some write to me, saying that God has revealed to them that Sister White is in error, that she is influenced by the leaders to believe some things that are not true, and to reject some things that are true. But the word comes again, ‘Heed them not; I have not spoken by them, nor given them any word or message. **They have spun lying words, from the suggestions of Satan.**’

“**Some have come to me claiming to be Christ, and have apparently worked miracles.** They have said that the Lord led me in many things, but the Sabbath was not a test question; that the law of God was not binding upon men; all we had

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**PART TWO
OF TWO**

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to do was to accept Christ, and they themselves were Christ. I have had experience with all these pretentious claims, and I have no faith in them. **‘To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them’** (Isa. 8:20).

“In one place, four in one family professed to have communications from the Lord, reproving wrong, and **they predicted things that actually did take place**. This inspired confidence in them. **But the things that did not take place were kept in the dark**, or were treated as something mysterious, which would be understood later. Whence did these receive their inspiration?—From satanic agencies, which are many. The Lord laid it upon me to meet these things, and bear a decided testimony against them . . .

‘I have seen several fall in vision; but when I rebuked the spirit which controlled them, they immediately came out of vision, and were in great distress of mind.

‘Such experiences as these came to be very common. Several in one family were under this species of deception . . . Messages would be given for different members of the church, telling some poor trembling soul, ‘You are proud’; another, ‘You are unbelieving; you will be lost.’ The Lord gave me light in this instance to speak words of comfort and encouragement. **I bore my testimony to those deceived ones, whether they would hear or reject it. Their visions were Satan’s work. The things revealed were often common, earthly matters**, such as, who should get breakfast the next morning, who should prepare the dinner, who should wash the dishes. **Mingled with these frivolous things were sacred truths, which they had found in the Bible and testimonies**. Satan’s hand was in all this, to disgust people, and cause them to spurn everything in the nature of visions. Thus the false and the true would be rejected together. And even those who were engaged in the deception, when they should become weary of it, would be inclined to doubt all visions.

“After a very solemn meeting with these deceived ones, **confessions were made that they threw themselves into attitudes resembling Sister White, as nearly as they could. It was all a farce, a deception**. Yet many things they told came to pass as they predicted.

“I was asked how this could be if the visions were all false. I told them that **it was Satan’s purpose to mingle truth with error, that through these deceptive exercises he might make of none ef-**

fect the genuine work of God. From that time all their many visions ceased. **What has become of those who had the visions, and those who encouraged them? Several now living are skeptics**, have no belief in the gifts of the church, no faith in the truth, no religion at all. **Such, I have been shown, is the sure result of spurious visions**.

“The manifestations of your daughter are a similar deception. And **your encouraging these things in her will prove her ruin, and the ruin of others, unless something breaks the deception. You called these false visions and meaningless dreams the wonderful light of God, but it is like the chaff to the wheat**.”—2 *Selected Messages*, 76-78.

‘Every conceivable message is coming to counterfeit the work of God, and always bearing the inscription of truth upon its banner . . .

“It is no light matter to substitute for God’s revealed will, **opinions and assertions, dreams, symbols, and figures from human, finite beings**. Our actions, words, spirit, and influence are watched and criticized. Those whom God has chosen to be His ministers are to settle solidly into His Word, and let the Word of God be their authority . . .

“At this time above all others, **hasty judgment, opinions formed carelessly, without sufficient evidence, may lead to most disastrous results**. When we trace from cause to effect, we shall find that harm has thus been done which in some cases can never be remedied. Oh, what wisdom and fine spiritual perceptions are needed in giving food to the flock of God, that it be pure provender, thoroughly winnowed. The natural hereditary traits of the character need a firm curb, else earnest zeal, good purposes, will run into evil, and **the excess of feeling will produce such impressions upon human hearts that they will be carried away by impulse and will allow impressions to become their guide**.

“A curb must be kept upon the spiritual impulse, that **no injudicious words shall be spoken, no overwrought ideas expressed, that shall cause impulsive persons to lose their bearings**. There are some whose feelings are quickly stirred by strong assertions, and **their imagination magnifies the statement to large dimensions; it all appears real to them, and they become fanatical**. The spiritual experience is fevered, diseased. When persons yield their will in perfect submission to the will of God, and the spirit is humble and teachable, the Lord will correct them by His Holy Spirit, and lead them into safe paths.”—*Letter 66*,

1894; 2 Selected Messages, 92-93.

“The wisdom taught by Satan is opposed to the truth, unless, to serve his purpose, he apparently clothes himself with the light which enshrouds angels. To a certain class of minds **he will come sanctioning a part of what Christ’s followers believe to be truth**, while he warns them to reject the other part as dangerous and fatal error.

“Satan is a master workman. His infernal wisdom he employs with good success. He is ready and able to teach those who reject the counsel of God against their own souls. The bait which he has found will avail in bringing souls into his net, that he may fasten his hellish grasp upon them, **he will clothe with every possible good and make as attractive as possible**. All who are thus ensnared will learn at a dreadful expense the folly of selling heaven and immortality for **a deception that is fatal in its consequences**. Our adversary, the devil, is not void of wisdom or strength. He goeth about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. He will work ‘with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because **they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.**’ Because they rejected the truth, ‘**God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie**: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.’ We have a powerful, deceptive foe with whom to contend, and our only safety is in Him who is to come, who will consume this archdeceiver with the spirit of His mouth, and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

“I commend this to you in the fear of God, and implore you to arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you life.”—2 Testimonies, 172-173.

“Spurious doctrines, spurious piety, spurious faith, much that is fair in appearance, abound all around us. Teachers will come clothed as angels of light; and if possible, they will deceive the very elect . . . They need to be rooted and grounded in the truth, that they may impart to others the light they receive.”—*Youth’s Instructor*, April 22, 1897; *Evangelism*, 364.

“**To the end of time, men will arise to create confusion and rebellion** among the people who profess to obey the law of God. But as surely as divine judgment was visited upon the false prophets in Jeremiah’s day, so surely will the evil workers of today receive their full measure of retribution, for the Lord has not changed. **Those who prophesy lies, encourage men to look upon sin as a light thing**. When the terrible results of their evil deeds are made manifest, **they seek, if possible,**

to make the one who has faithfully warned them responsible for their difficulties, even as the Jews charged Jeremiah with their evil fortunes.

“**Those who pursue a course of rebellion against the Lord can always find false prophets who will justify them in their acts, and flatter them to their destruction. Lying words often make many friends**, as is illustrated in the case of these false teachers among the Israelites. **These so-called prophets, in their pretended zeal for God, found many more believers and followers than the true prophet** who delivered the simple message of the Lord.”—4 Bible Commentary, 1158. (Also see *Prophets and Kings*, 442).

“A question has been brought to me concerning the attitude that we should take toward the work of a sister in Germany, **who claims to have visions**.

“The word given me by the Lord during the past night is that God does not direct His people to look to this sister for counsel. If we should encourage this sister in the work she thinks she is called to do and in the messages she bears, much confusion would be caused . . . **Teach the people to seek God individually for guidance, to study the Scriptures, and to counsel together, humbly, prayerfully, and with living faith**. But do not encourage this sister to think that the Lord has given her messages for the people. The light given me regarding this case is that **should this sister be encouraged to think that she has been given messages for others, the result would be disastrous**, and the sister would be in danger of losing her own soul.”—*Manuscript 64*, 1905; 2 Selected Messages, 97-98.

“It is always difficult to hold fast the beginning of our confidence firm unto the end, and **the difficulty increases when there are hidden influences constantly at work to bring in another spirit, a counterworking element, on Satan’s side** of the question.

“**In the absence of the persecution there have drifted into our ranks men who appear sound** and their Christianity unquestionable, but who, if persecution should arise, would go out from us. In the crisis they would see force in specious reasons that have had an influence on their minds. **Satan has prepared various snares to meet varied minds**.

“**When the law of God is made void, the church will be sifted by fiery trials, and a larger proportion than we now anticipate will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils**. Instead of being strengthened when brought into strait places, many prove that they are not living branches of the true Vine, they bear no fruit, and the husbandman taketh them away.”—*Letter 3*,

1890; *Evangelism*, 360-361.

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"In these days of delusion, every one who is established in the truth will have to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. **Every variety of error will be brought out in the mysterious working of Satan**, which would, if it were possible, deceive the very elect, and turn them from the truth. **There will be human wisdom to meet—the wisdom of learned men**, who, as were the Pharisees, are teachers of the law of God, but do not obey the law themselves. **There will be human ignorance and folly to meet in disconnected theories** arrayed in new and fantastic dress—**theories that it will be all the more difficult to meet because there is no reason in them**.

"There will be false dreams and false visions, which have some truth, but lead away from the original faith. The Lord has given men a rule by which to detect them: 'To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them' (Isa. 8:20). If they belittle the law of God, if they pay no heed to His will as revealed in the testimonies of His Spirit, they are deceivers. They are controlled by impulse and impressions, which they believe to be from the Holy Spirit, and consider more reliable than the Inspired Word. **They claim that every thought and feeling is an impression of the Spirit; and when they are reasoned with out of the Scriptures, they declare that they have something more reliable**. But while they think that they are led by the Spirit of God, they are in reality following an imagination wrought upon by Satan."—*Bible Echo*, September 1886; 2 *Selected Messages*, 98-99.

"Read the cautions so abundantly given in the Word of God in regard to false prophets that will come in with their heresies, and if possible will deceive the very elect. **With these warnings, why is it that the church does not distinguish the false from the genuine?** Those who have in any way been thus misled need to humble themselves before God, and sincerely repent, because they have so easily been led astray. They have not distinguished the voice of the True Shepherd from that of a stranger. Let all such review this chapter of their experience.

"For more than half a century God has been giving His people light through the testimonies of His Spirit. After all this time is it left for a few men and their wives to undeceive the whole church of believers, declaring Mrs. White a fraud and a deceiver? 'By their fruits ye shall know them' (Matt. 7:20).

"Those who can ignore all the evidences which God has given them, and change that blessing into a curse, should tremble for the safety of their own souls. **Their candlestick will be removed out of**

its place unless they repent. The Lord has been insulted. The standard of truth, of the first, second, and third angels' messages has been left to trail in the dust. **If the watchmen are left to mislead the people in this fashion, God will hold some souls responsible** for a lack of keen discernment to discover what kind of provender was being given to His flock.

"Apostasies have occurred and the Lord has permitted matters of this nature to develop in the past in order to show **how easily His people will be misled when they depend upon the words of men instead of searching the Scriptures for themselves**, as did the noble Bereans, to see if these things are so. And the Lord has permitted things of this kind to occur that warnings may be given that such things will take place."—2 *Selected Messages*, 393-394.

"Satan is constantly seeking to lead men into error. He is the god of all dissension, and he has no lack of isms to bring forward to delude. New sects are constantly arising to lead from the truth; and **instead of being fed with the bread of life, the people are served with a dish of fables**. The Scriptures are wrested and, taken from their true connection, are quoted to give falsehood the appearance of truth. **The garments of truth are stolen to hide the features of heresy**.

"Paul planted the pure truths of the gospel in Galatia . . . For a time Paul lost his hold on the minds of those who had been deceived; but **relying on the Word and power of God, and refusing the interpretations of the apostate teachers, he was able to lead the converts to see that they had been deceived**, and thus defeat the purposes of Satan. The new converts came back to the faith, prepared to take their position intelligently for the truth (Manuscript 43, 1907)."—*Evangelism*, 358.

"Those who follow their own mind and walk in their own way will form crooked characters. **Vain doctrines and subtle sentiments will be introduced with plausible presentations**, to deceive, if possible, the very elect. **Are church members building upon the Rock? The storm is coming**, the storm that will try every man's faith, of what sort it is. Believers must now be firmly rooted in Christ, or else they will be led astray by some phase of error. **Let your faith be substantiated by the Word of God**. Grasp firmly the living testimony of truth. Have faith in Christ as a personal Saviour. He has been and ever will be our Rock of Ages. The testimony of the Spirit of God is true. Change not your faith for any phase of doctrine, however pleasing it may appear, that will seduce the soul.

"The fallacies of Satan are now being multiplied, and those who swerve from the path of

truth will lose their bearings. Having nothing to which to anchor, they will drift from one delusion to another, blown about by the winds of strange doctrines. **Satan has come down with great power.** Many will be deceived by his miracles . . .

“I entreat everyone to be clear and firm regarding the certain truths that we have heard and received and advocated. **The statements of God’s Word are plain. Plant your feet firmly on the platform of eternal truth.** Reject every phase of error, even though it be covered with a semblance of reality.”—*Review, August 31, 1905; Evangelism, 361-362.*

“Rebellion and apostasy are in the very air we breathe. We shall be affected by them unless we by faith hang our helpless souls upon Christ. If men are so easily misled now, how will they stand when Satan shall personate Christ, and work miracles? Who will be unmoved by his misrepresentations then—professing to be Christ when it is only Satan assuming the person of Christ, and apparently working the works of Christ? **What will hold God’s people from giving their allegiance to false christ?** ‘Go not after them’ (Luke 17:23) . . .

“The doctrines must be plainly understood. The men accepted to preach the truth must be anchored; then their vessel will hold against storm and tempest, because the anchor holds them firmly. **The deceptions will increase, and we are to call rebellion by its right name.** We are to stand with the whole armor on. In this conflict we do not meet men only, but principalities and powers. We wrestle not against flesh and blood. Let Ephesians 6:10-18 be read carefully and impressively in our churches.”—*2 Selected Messages, 394-395.*

“The light given me has been very forcible that many would go out from us, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. The Lord desires that every soul who claims to believe the truth shall have an intelligent knowledge of what is truth. **False prophets will arise and will deceive many. Everything is to be shaken that can be shaken.** Then does it not become everyone to understand the reasons for our faith? **In place of having so many sermons, there should be a more close searching of the Word of God,** opening the Scriptures text by text, and searching for the strong evidences that sustain the fundamental doctrines that have brought us where we now are, upon the platform of eternal truth.

“My soul is made very sad to see how quickly some who have had light and truth will accept the deceptions of Satan, and be charmed with a

spurious holiness. When men turn away from the landmarks the Lord has established that we may understand our position as marked out in prophecy, they are going they know not whither.”—*Undated Manuscript 148; Evangelism; 363-364.*

“There is no safety, much less benefit, for our people in attending these popular holiness [celebration-type] meetings; let us rather search the Scriptures with much carefulness and earnest prayer, that we may understand the ground of our faith. Then we shall not be tempted to mingle with those who, while making high claims, are in opposition to the law of God.

“We must not have a sensational religion, which has no root in truth. Solid instruction must be given to the people upon the reasons of our faith. They must be educated to a far greater extent than they have been in the doctrines of the Bible, and especially in the practical lessons that Jesus gave to His disciples. **The believers must be impressed with their great need of Bible knowledge. There must be painstaking effort to fasten in the minds of all, the solid arguments of the truth; for everyone will be tested,** and those who are rooted and grounded in the work of God will be unmoved by the heresies that will arise on all sides; but if any neglect to obtain the necessary preparation, they will be swept away by errors that have the appearance of truth.”—*Evangelism, 364-365.*

“It is our individual duty to walk humbly with God. **We are not to seek any strange, new message.** We are not to think that the chosen ones of God who are trying to walk in the light, compose Babylon. **The fallen denominational churches are Babylon.** Babylon has been fostering poisonous doctrines, the wine of error. **This wine of error is made up of false doctrines,** such as the natural immortality of the soul, the eternal torment of the wicked, the denial of the pre-existence of Christ prior to His birth in Bethlehem, and advocating and exalting the first day of the week above God’s holy, sanctified day. These and kindred errors are presented to the world by the various churches . . .

“Fallen angels upon earth form confederations with evil men. In this age antichrist will appear as the true Christ, and then the law of God will be fully made void in the nations of our world. Rebellion against God’s holy law will be fully ripe. **But the true leader of all this rebellion is Satan, clothed as an angel of light.** Men will be deceived and will exalt him to the place of God, and deify him.”—*Review, September 12, 1893; Evangelism, 365-366.*

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