

TRANSFORMED BY THE TRUTH: A BIBLE STUDY

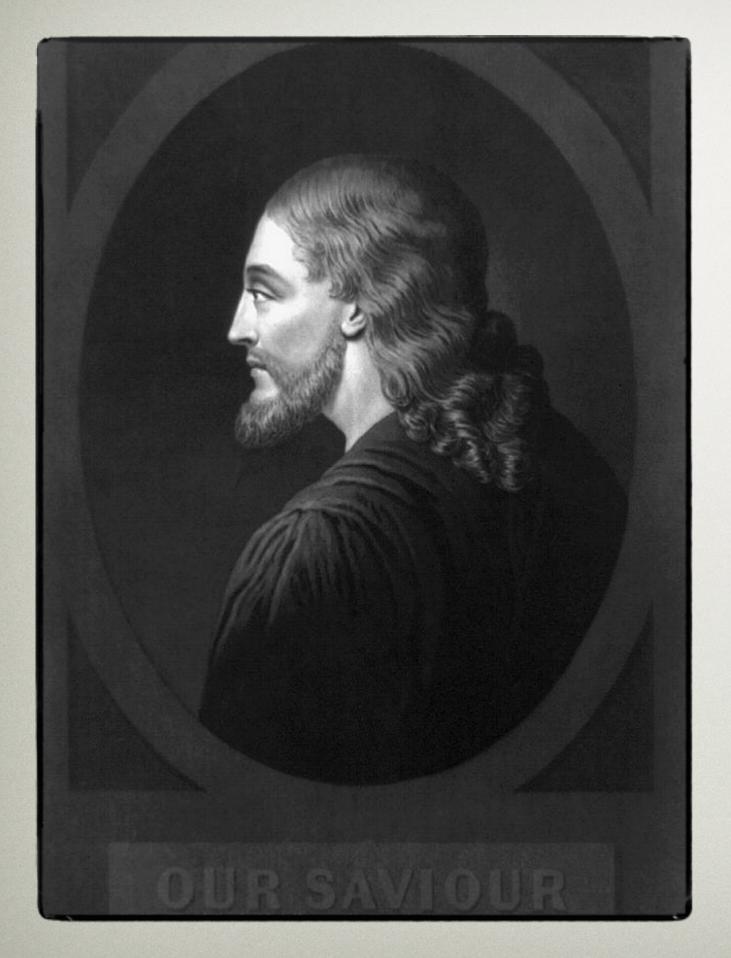
"AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE." (JOHN 8:32)











JESUS IS MY SAVIOR!

EGW Comment: "Yes, yes, it looks as I've seen our Saviour in visions - it's more nearly a likeness than anything I have ever seen."

ACCIDENTS HAPPEN??

- "Before I formed you in your mother's womb I chose you. Before you were born I set you apart."
- (Jeremiah 1:5a)



JESUS HATH HAD COMPASSION ON ME

- "Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and <u>tell</u> them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee. (Mark 5:19)
- "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." (John 12:32) {DA 626}

WHAT IS THE CHARACTER OF JESUS?

 "And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation." (Exodus 34:6,7)

WHAT IS MY CHARACTER? WHAT IS MY CONDITION?

 "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:" (Revelation 3:15-17)

WHAT HATH JESUS DONE FOR ME?

• "Therefore if any man <u>be in Christ</u>, he is <u>a new</u> <u>creature</u>: old things are passed away; behold, <u>all things are become new</u>." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

MY CONFESSION

 I confess today that in the past I have not surrendered everything in my life to Jesus. I am ashamed that I have grown up in a wonderful SDA family with many spiritual and intellectual advantages but I have not allowed Jesus to be the complete Lord of my life. I have allowed worldly distractions to become idols in my life when Jesus should have been the focus of all my thoughts, words, and actions. --> 1 Timothy 1:15

I SURRENDER ALL TO JESUS

- "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that <u>forsaketh not all that he hath</u>, <u>he cannot be my disciple</u>." (Luke 14:33)
- "We are not God's children unless we are such entirely." {SC 44.1}

PERSONAL OBSERVATION

• In my 40 years of life I have never witnessed present truth more sharply focused than I believe it now is. As I study and teach world history I perceive that there has NEVER been a time when God's truth (John 14:6) has been so CLEARLY revealed and accessible to EVERYONE. Jesus wants all to know and understand the difference between truth and error. God is revealing great light to all who seek to follow Him.

"OLD THINGS THAT HAVE PASSED AWAY"

- Distractions/Idols --> Rom. 12:2; Phil. 4:8
 (Time management, Artificial entertainment)
- "The <u>first work</u> of those who would reform is to <u>purify</u> the <u>imagination</u>." {2 MCP 595.3} God cannot place His seal upon our foreheads when our minds are filled with unholy thoughts and imaginations. --> 2 Cor. 10:5
- Improper Diet --> 1 Cor. 10:31
- "If he [Satan] can control the appetite, he can control the whole man." {Te 276.2}
- Doubts/Uncertainty! --> Isa. 26:3; Phil. 4:7



DO WE AS CHRISTIANS NEED ANY DIVERSIONS?

- --Amusement is defined as a "pleasurable diversion" or "entertainment".
- --Average American watches over 4 hours of TV a day or 2 months of non-stop TV watching per year.

HOW IS CHARACTER FORMED?

 "Even your thoughts must be brought into subjection to the will of God and your feelings under the control of reason and religion. Your imagination was not given you to be allowed to run riot and have its own way without any effort at restraint or discipline. If the thoughts are wrong the feelings will be wrong, and the thoughts and feelings combined make up the moral character." {5T 310.1}

HOW OUR MINDS FUNCTION

- "It is a law both of the intellectual and the spiritual nature that by beholding we become changed. The mind gradually adapts itself to the subjects upon which it is allowed to dwell." {GC 555.1}
- "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." (2 Corinthians 3:18)

THE ENTIRE WORLD VS. JESUS

• "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ," (Philippians 3:7,8)

"BEHOLD, ALL THINGS ARE BECOME NEW!"

- Spiritual Devotions --> Jeremiah 29:13
- Personal Bible Study/Memorization --> 2 Tim. 2:15
- Family Devotions (prayer 3 x day) --> Deut. 6:6-9
- Desire for Evangelism (Bible Studies, Youth, Great Controversy Project, AWR, GYC, etc.) --> John 4:34
- Study Spirit of Prophecy! --> Rev. 12:17
- Watch/Listen to Sermons, Testimonies --> Rom.
 10:17

"NEW" RESOURCES

- www.audioverse.org (over 1,000 sermons, seminar presentations!) Wes Peppers, Norman McNulty, Randy Skeete, Dwayne Lemon, David Shin, Alistair Huong
- www.secretsunsealed.org (Stephen Bohr)
- www.amazingdiscoveries.org (Walter Veith)
- <u>www.littlelightstudios.tv</u> (Hollywood, Disney and the entertainment industry)
- www.shepcall.com (Christian Berdahl, music)

JESUS WILL GIVE US A NEW HEART [MIND]

• "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them." (Ezekiel 36:26,27)

"A CHANGED LIFE"

• "When Jesus speaks of the new heart, He means the mind, the life, the whole being. To have a change of heart is to withdraw the affections from the world, and fasten them upon Christ. To have a new heart is to have a new mind, new purposes, new motives. What is the sign of a new heart?— A changed life." {MYP 72.1}

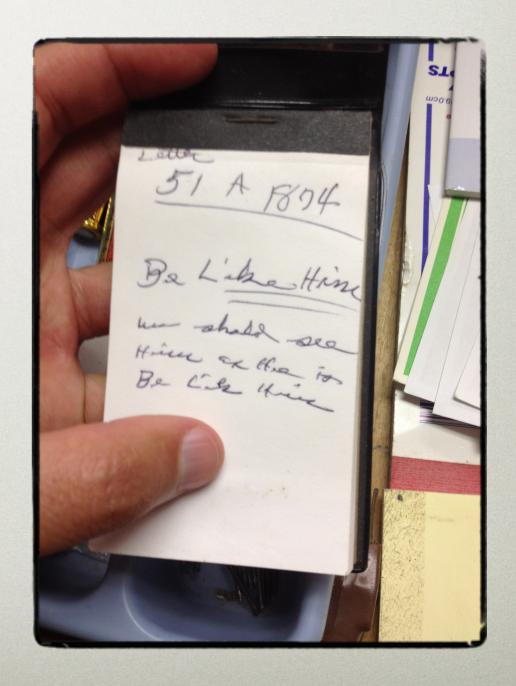
SPIRITUAL URGENCY!!

- "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." --> Jer. 8:20
- "(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.) --> 2 Cor. 6:2

"BE LIKE JESUS"



1 John 3:2



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS' MISSION

 "In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the Word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention." {9T 19}

WHAT TIME IS IT??

- "But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer." (1 Peter 4:7)

"IF I HAD A THOUSAND LIVES..."

- "If I had a thousand lives, <u>I would devote</u> them all to the service of the Lord." {RH March 25, 1880, par. 13}
- I am tired of the frustration and disappointment in surrendering only some to Jesus. (really none) From this day forward I will to surrender ALL to Jesus!



Closing Hymn: #309
 "I Surrender All"

