

END OF TIME SERIES

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18. THE ETERNITY BEYOND

This section is filled with “heaven quotes” from the Spirit of Prophecy. It is a project the present writer has wanted to do for many years.

The first part of this present section consists of some of the statements about heaven from the books, *Great Controversy* and *Early Writings*. It is given immediately below.

The second part is filled with quotations on this same topic (heaven and the new earth, plus the im-

END OF TIME SERIES

portance of striving to be there) from those and other published Spirit of Prophecy books. We will introduce the contents of that part when we come to it. Throughout this entire section, we will add no italics to the Spirit of Prophecy statements.

Here are some of the “heaven quotes” from *Early Writings* and *Great Controversy*:

1 - QUOTATIONS FROM EARLY WRITINGS AND GREAT CONTROVERSY

-1 - THE EARTH BECOMES THE HOME OF THE REDEEMED

“The time has come to which holy men have looked with longing since the flaming sword barred the first pair from Eden, the time for ‘the redemption of the purchased possession.’ Ephesians 1 :14. The earth originally given to man as his kingdom, betrayed by him into the hands of Satan, and so long held by the mighty foe, has been brought back by the great plan of redemption. All that was lost by sin has been restored. ‘Thus said the Lord, , that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited.’ Isaiah 45: 18. God’s original purpose in the creation of the earth is fulfilled as it is made the eternal abode of the redeemed, ‘The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever.’ Psalm 37:29.”-*Great Controversy*, 674:3.

“God’s entire universe was clean, and the great controversy was forever ended. Wherever we looked, every thing upon which the eye rested was beautiful and holy. And all the redeemed host, old and young, great and small, cast their glittering crowns at the feet of their Redeemer, and prostrated themselves in adoration before Him, and worshiped Him that liveth forever and ever, The beautiful new earth, with all its glory, was the eternal inheritance of the saints. The kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, was then given to the saints of the Most High, who were to possess it forever, even forever and *ever*,”-*Early Writings*, 295:1.

- 2 - IT WILL BE INDESCRIBABLY GLORIOUS

“ ‘Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.’ 1 Corinthians 2:9. Human language is inadequate to describe the reward of the righteous. It will be known only to those who behold it. No finite mind can comprehend the glory of the Paradise of God.”-*Great Controversy*, 675:0.

IT WILL BE A PEACEFUL HOME

“In the Bible the inheritance of the saved is called ‘a country.’ Hebrews 11:14-16. There the heavenly Shepherd leads His flock to fountains of living waters. The tree of life yields its fruit every month, and the leaves of the tree are for the service of the nations. There are everflowing streams, clear as crystal, and beside them waving trees cast their shadows upon the paths prepared for the ransomed of the Lord. There the wide-spreading plains swell into hills of beauty, and the mountains of God rear their lofty summits. On those peaceful plains, beside those living streams, God’s people, so long pilgrims and wanderers, shall find a home.

“ ‘My people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.’ “-*Great Controversy*, 675:1-2.

- 4 - THERE WILL BE NO MORE PAIN, SORROW, OR DEATH

“Pain cannot exist in the atmosphere of heaven. There will be no more tears, no funeral trains, no badges of mourning. ‘There shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying: . . . for the former things are passed away.’ ‘The inhabitant shall not say, I am sick.’ “-*Great Controversy*, 676:1.

- 5 - A VIEW OF THE NEW JERUSALEM

“With Jesus at our head we all descended from the city down to this earth, on a great and mighty mountain, which could not bear Jesus up, and it parted asunder, and there was a mighty plain. Then we looked up and saw the great city, with twelve foundations and twelve gates, three on each side, and an angel at each gate . We all cried out, ‘The city, the great city, it’s coming, it’s coming down from God out of heaven!’ And it came and settled on the place where we stood. Then we began to look at the glorious things outside of the city. There I saw most glorious houses, that had the appearance of silver, supported by four pillars set with pearls most glorious to behold. These were to be inhabited by the saints. In each was a golden shelf. I saw many of the saints go into the houses, take off their glittering crowns and lay them on the shelf, then go out into the field by the houses to do

END OF TIME SERIES

something with the earth; not as we have to do with the earth here—no, no. A glorious light shone all about their heads, and they were continually shouting and offering praises to God.

“I saw another field full of all kinds of flowers, and as I plucked them, I cried out, ‘They will never fade’” Next I saw a field of tall grass, most glorious to behold; it was living green and had a reflection of silver and gold as it waved proudly to the glory of King Jesus. Then we entered a field full of all kinds of beasts—the lion, the lamb, the leopard, and the wolf, all together in perfect union. We passed through the midst of them, and they followed on peaceably after.

“Then we entered a wood, not like the dark woods we have here—no, no; but light, and all over glorious; the branches of the trees moved to and fro, and we all cried out, ‘We will dwell safely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods.’” -*Early Writings*, 17:9-18:1.

“There is the New Jerusalem, the metropolis of the glorified new earth, ‘a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God.’ ‘Her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.’ ‘The nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it.’ Saith the Lord: ‘I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in My people.’ ‘The tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God.’ Isaiah 62:3; Revelation 21:11,24; Isaiah 65:19; Revelation 21:3.

“In the City of God ‘there shall be no night.’ None will need or desire repose. There will be no weariness in doing the will of God and offering praise to His name. We shall ever feel the freshness of the morning and shall ever be far from its close. ‘And they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light.’ Revelation 22:5. The light of the sun will be superseded by a radiance which is not partially dazzling, yet which immeasurably surpasses the brightness of our noontide. The glory of God and the Lamb floods the Holy City with unfading light. The redeemed walk in the sunless glory of perpetual day.” -*Great Controversy*, 676:2-9.

- 6 - THE REDEEMED WILL COME INTO HIS PRESENCE

“The people of God are privileged to hold open communion with the Father and the Son. ‘Now we see through a glass, darkly.’ 1 Corinthians 13:12. We behold the image of God reflected, as in a mirror, in the works of nature and in His dealings with men; but then we shall see Him face to face, without a dimming veil between. We shall stand in His presence and behold the glory of His *countenance*.” -*Great Controversy*, 676:4-677:0.

- 7 - RESTORED TO THE TREE OF LIFE THE REDEEMED WILL GROW UP

“Restored to the tree of life in the long-lost Eden, the redeemed will ‘grow up’ (Malachi 4:2) to the full stature of a race in its primeval glory. The last lingering traces of the curse of sin will be removed, and Christ’s faithful ones will appear in ‘the beauty of the Lord our God,’ in mind and soul and body reflecting the perfect image of their Lord. Oh, wonderful redemption! long talked of, long hoped for, contemplated with eager anticipation, but never fully understood.” -*Great Controversy*, 645:0.

- 8 - THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF GOD AND HIS WORKS WILL FOREVER INCREASE

“There the redeemed shall know, even as also they are known. The loves and sympathies which God Himself has planted in the soul shall there find truest and sweetest exercise. The pure communion with holy beings, the harmonious social life with the blessed angels and with the faithful ones of all ages who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb, the sacred ties that bind together ‘the whole family in heaven and earth’ (Ephesians 3: 15)—these help to constitute the happiness of the redeemed.

“There, immortal minds will contemplate with never-failing delight the wonders of creative power, the mysteries of redeeming love. There will be no cruel, deceiving foe to tempt to forgetfulness of God. Every faculty will be developed, every capacity increased. The acquirement of knowledge will not weary the mind or exhaust the energies. There the grandest enterprises may be carried forward, the loftiest aspirations reached, the highest ambitions realized; and still there will arise new heights to surmount, new wonders to admire, new truths to comprehend, fresh objects to call forth the powers of mind and soul and *body*.” -*Great Controversy*, 677:1-2.

- 9 - THE REDEEMED WILL TRAVEL THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSE

“All the treasures of the universe will be open to the study of God’s redeemed. Unfettered by mortality, they wing their tireless flight to worlds afar—worlds that thrilled with sorrow at the spectacle of human woe and

END OF TIME SERIES

rang with songs of gladness at the tidings of a ransomed soul. With unutterable delight the children of earth enter into the joy and the wisdom of unfallen beings. They share the treasures of knowledge and understanding gained through ages upon ages in contemplation of God's handiwork." *Great Controversy*, 677:3.

- 10 - THEIR PRIMARY STUDY WILL BE THE CHARACTER, LOVE, AND SACRIFICE OF GOD

"With undimmed vision they gaze upon the glory of creation—suns and stars and systems, all in their appointed order circling the throne of Deity. Upon all things, from the least to the greatest, the Creator's name is written, and in all are the riches of His power displayed." *Great Controversy*, 677:3-678:0.

THE LONGER THEY LIVE THE MORE THEY WILL KNOW, LOVE, AND PRAISE HIM

"And the years of eternity, as they roll, will bring richer and still more glorious revelations of God and of Christ. As knowledge is progressive, so will love, reverence, and happiness increase. The more men learn of God, the greater will be their admiration of his character. As Jesus opens before them the riches of redemption and the amazing achievements in the great controversy with Satan, the hearts of the ransomed thrill with more fervent devotion, and with more rapturous joy they sweep the harps of gold; and ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of voices unite to swell the mighty chorus of praise."—*Great Controversy*, 678:1.

- 12 - EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING, EVERYWHERE, WILL FOREVER DECLARE THAT GOD IS LOVE

"'And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.' Revelation 5:13.

"The great controversy ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love."—*Great Controversy*, 678:2-3.

2 - QUOTATIONS FROM THE OTHER PUBLISHED BOOKS

This is the second portion of "heaven quotes" from the Spirit of Prophecy. The first part, which you have just read, consisted of statements about heaven from the books, *Great Controversy* and *Early Writings*. The second part, below, is filled with quotations on this same topic (heaven, the new earth, plus the Importance of striving to be there) from the other published Spirit of Prophecy books.

Here are the sources and arrangement of this second part:

Omitting *Early Writings* and *Great Controversy*, the back pages of sixteen Spirit of Prophecy books contain originally-written or compiled collections of statements on heaven. Those sixteen collections are here brought together for the first time. As you might expect, there were many duplicate statements. Most of them have been removed. The result is a treasure chest of nearly every Spirit of Prophecy statement about heaven and the new earth. Also included below is every Bible quotation in those sixteen book sections. Once again, duplicate Bible quotations were discarded.

After careful consideration, it was decided to leave the quoted sections from the sixteen books intact. This makes for a more colorful and varied presentation of material. Some of the statements speak about preparing for heaven, and others describe what it will be like to be there. The paragraph headings and subheads, which were in the books the quotations were taken from, have also been included. However, in each of the sixteen collections of compiled material, we have included the original source reference for each separate quotation. In this way, you can always know when a quotation begins and ends. (An example of this would be the quotations on heaven taken from *7 Bible Commentary*. An introductory subhead explains that they were all taken from certain pages in that book. But original references are then given at the end of each quotation, so you can identify them as separate quotations.)

Throughout this final section of statements about your eternal home, none of the quoted material from the Spirit of Prophecy is placed in italics. There was no need to do so, for the events of time will then have been

END OF TIME SERIES

swallowed up by the peace and bliss of eternity.

But some of the paragraphs, consisting totally of Bible quotations, *are In Italics*. This was done to highlight the fact that those are Bible quotations added by E.G. White Estate compilers at the top of Morning Watch book pages. (In some instances, the only thing included from a given Morning Watch page was the Bible quotation; everything else on that page had been omitted since it duplicated what had been quoted elsewhere in this section.) Divided into two major headings (non-compiled books and compiled books), here are these sixteen sections:

Non-compiled books:

- 1 - Education, 303:1-309:3
- 2 - Acts of the Apostles, 601:1-602:3
- 3 - Steps to Christ, 125:1-126:2
- 4 - Christ's Object Lessons, 421:1-2

Compiled books:

- 5 - Child Guidance, 560:1-569:2
- 6 - Adventist Home, 533:1-550:2
- 7 - Christian Service, 266:1-275:1
- 8 - Counsels on Stewardship, 348:1-350:2
- 9 - Publishing Ministry, 402:1-404:1
- 10 - Gospel Workers, 512:1-517:4; 519:2
- 11 - 7 Bible Commentary, 988:1-990:6
- 12 - My Life Today, 347:1-369:4
- 13 - Faith I Live By, 359:1-371:5
- 14 - Reflecting Christ, 378:1-8
- 15 - Amazing Grace, 360:1-367:4
- 16 - Maranatha, 316:1-334:4; 349:1-373:4

How important it is that each one of us remain close to our Father to the end! Because of the wonderful grace of Jesus Christ, as God's faithful, obedient child, it is your privilege to read about your future. Here it is:

- 1 - Education *303:1-309:3*

“They shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads.” Revelation 22:4.

“There, when the veil that darkens our vision shall be removed, and our eyes shall behold that world of beauty of which we now catch glimpses through the microscope; when we look on the glories of the heavens, now scanned afar through the telescope; when, the blight of sin removed, the whole earth shall appear ‘in the beauty of the Lord our God,’ what a field will be open to our study! There the student of science may read the records of creation, and discern no reminders of the law of evil. He may listen to the music of nature's voices, and detect no note of wailing or undertone of sorrow. In all created things he may trace one handwriting—in the vast universe behold ‘God's name writ large,’ and not in earth or sea or sky one sign of ill remaining.” -*Education, 303:4.*

“They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, said the Lord.” Isaiah 65:25.

“There man will be restored to his lost kingship, and the lower order of beings will again recognize his sway; the fierce will become gentle, and the timid trustful.

“There will be open to the student, history of infinite scope and of wealth inexpressible. Here, from the vantage ground of God's word, the student is afforded a view of the vast field of history and may gain some knowledge of the principles that govern the course of human events. But his vision is still clouded, and his knowledge incomplete. Not until he stands in the light of eternity will he see all things clearly.

END OF TIME SERIES

“The veil that interposes between the visible and the invisible world will be drawn aside, and wonderful things will be revealed.

“Not until the providences of God are seen in the light of eternity shall we understand what we owe to the care and interposition of His angels. Celestial beings have taken an active part in the affairs of men. They have appeared in garments that shone as the lightning; they have come as men, in the garb of wayfarers. They have accepted the hospitalities of human homes; they have acted as guides to benighted travelers.”

“Though the rulers of this world know it not, yet often in their councils angels have been spokesmen. Human eyes have looked upon them. Human ears have listened to their appeals. In the council hall, the court of justice, heavenly messengers have pleaded the cause of the persecuted and oppressed. They have defeated purposes and arrested evils that would have brought wrong and suffering to God’s children. To the students in the heavenly school, all this will be unfolded.

“Every redeemed one will understand the ministry of angels in his own life. The angel who was his guardian from his earliest moment; the angel who watched his steps, and covered his head in the day of peril; the angel who was with him in the valley of the shadow of death, who marked his resting place, who was the first to greet him in the resurrection morning—what will it be to hold converse with him, and to learn the history of divine interposition in the individual life. of heavenly co-operation in every work for humanity!

“All the perplexities of life’s experience will then be made plain. Where to us have appeared only confusion and disappointment, broken purposes and thwarted plans, will be seen a grand, overruling, victorious purpose, a divine harmony.

“There all who have wrought with unselfish spirit will behold the fruit of their labors. The outworking of every right principle and noble deed will be seen. Something of this we see here. But how little of the result of the world’s noblest work is in this life manifest to the doer! How many toil unselfishly and unweariedly for those who pass beyond their reach and knowledge! Parents and teachers lie down in their last sleep, their lifework seeming to have been wrought in vain; they know not that their faithfulness has unsealed springs of blessing that can never cease to flow; only by faith they see t he children they have trained become a benediction and an inspiration to their fellow men, and the influence repeat itself a thousandfold. Many a worker sends out into the world messages of strength and hope and courage, words that carry blessing to hearts in every land; but of the results he, toiling in loneliness and obscurity, knows little. So gifts are bestowed, burdens are borne, labor is done. Men sow the seed from which, above their graves, others reap blessed harvests. They plant trees, that others may eat the fruit. They are content here to know that they have set in motion agencies for good. In the hereafter, the action and reaction of all these will be seen.

“Of every gift that God has bestowed, leading men to unselfish effort, a record is kept in heaven. To trace this in its wide-spreading lines, to look upon those who by our efforts have been uplifted and ennobled, to behold in their history the outworking of true principles—this will be one of t he studies and reward s of the heavenly school.

“There will be music there, and song, such music and song as, save in the visions of God, no mortal ear has heard or mind conceived.

“ ‘As well the singers as the players on instruments shall be there.’ Psalm 87:7.

“ ‘They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing for the majesty of the Lord.’ Isaiah 24:14.

“ ‘For the Lord shall c omfort Zion: He will comfort all her waste places; and He will m ake her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.’ Isaiah 51:3 . .

“ ‘The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister.’ Matthew 20:28. Christ’s work below is His work above, and our reward for working with Him in this world will be the greater power and wider privilege of working with Him in the world to come.

“ ‘Ye are My witnesses, said the Lord, that I am God.’ Isaiah 43:12.

“This also we shall be in eternity.

“For what was the great controversy permitted to continue throughout the ages? Why was it that Satan’s

END OF TIME SERIES

existence was not cut short at the outset of his rebellion? It was that the universe might be convinced of God's justice in His dealing with evil; that sin might receive eternal condemnation. In the plan of redemption there are heights and depths that eternity itself can never exhaust, marvels into which the angels desire to look. The redeemed only, of all created beings, have in their own experience known the actual conflict with sin; they have wrought with Christ, and, as even the angels could not do, have entered into the fellowship of His sufferings. Will they have no testimony as to the science of redemption –nothing that will be of worth to unfallen beings?

“ ‘In His temple doth everyone speak of His glory’ (Psalm 29:9), and the song which the ransomed ones will sing—the song of their experience—will declare the glory of God: ‘Great and marvelous are Thy works, O Lord God, the Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. Who shall not fear, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy.’ Revelation 15:3, 4.

“Then, in the results of His work, Christ will behold its recompense. In that great multitude which no man could number, presented ‘faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy’ (Jude 24), He whose blood has redeemed and whose life has taught us, ‘shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied.’ Isaiah 53: 11” (*Education, 303:3-309:3*).

2-Acts of the Apostles 601:1-602:3

“If the church will put on the robe of Christ's righteousness, withdrawing from all allegiance with the world, there is before her the dawn of a bright and glorious day. God's promise to her will stand fast forever. He will make her an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations. Truth, passing by those who despise and reject it, will triumph. Although at times apparently retarded, its progress has never been checked. When the message of God meets with opposition, He gives it additional force, that it may exert greater influence. Endowed with divine energy, it will cut its way through the strongest barriers and triumph over every obstacle.

“What sustained the Son of God during His life of toil and sacrifice? He saw the results of the travail of His soul and was satisfied. Looking into eternity, He beheld the happiness of those who through His humiliation had received pardon and everlasting life. His ear caught the shout of the redeemed. He heard the ransomed ones singing the song of Moses and the Lamb.

“We may have a vision of the future, the blessedness of heaven. In the Bible are revealed visions of the future glory, scenes pictured by the hand of God, and these are dear to His church. By faith we may stand on the threshold of the eternal city, and hear the gracious welcome given to those who in this life co-operate with Christ, regarding it as an honor to suffer for His sake. As the words are spoken, ‘Come, ye blessed of My Father,’ they cast their crowns at the feet of the Redeemer, exclaiming, ‘Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing. . . Honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.’ Matthew 25:34; Revelation 5:12, 13.

“ ‘These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple: and He that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.’ ‘And there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.’ Revelation 7:14-17; 21 :4.” (*Acts of the Apostles, 601:1-602:3*).

3-Steps to Christ 125:1-126:2

“But even here Christians may have the joy of communion with Christ; they may have the light of His love, the perpetual comfort of His presence. Every step in life may bring us closer to Jesus, may give us a deeper experience of His love, and may bring us one step nearer to the blessed home of peace. Then let us not cast away our confidence, but have firm assurance, firmer than ever before. ‘Hitherto hath the Lord helped us,’ and He will help us to the end. 1 Samuel 7:12. Let us look to the monumental pillars, reminders of what the Lord has done to comfort us and to save us from the hand of the destroyer. Let us keep fresh in our memory all the tender mercies that God has shown us, –the tears He has wiped away, the pains He has soothed, the anxieties removed, the fears dispelled, the wants supplied, the blessings bestowed, –thus strengthening ourselves for all that is before us through the remainder of our pilgrimage.

“We cannot but look forward to new perplexities in the coming conflict, but we may look on what is past

END OF TIME SERIES

as well as on what is to come, and say, 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.' 'As thy days, so shall thy strength be.' Deuteronomy 33:25. The trial will not exceed the strength that shall be given us to bear it. Then let us take up our work just where we find it, believing that whatever may come, strength proportionate to the trial will be given.

"In view of the glorious inheritance that may be his, 'what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?' Matthew 16:26. He may be poor, yet he possesses in himself a wealth and dignity that the world could never bestow. The soul redeemed and cleansed from sin, with all its noble powers dedicated to the service of God, is of surpassing worth; and there is joy in heaven in the presence of God and the holy angels over one soul redeemed, a joy that is expressed in songs of holy triumph" (*Steps to Christ*, 125: 1-126:2).

4- *Christ's Object Lessons* 421:1-2

"With uplifted heads, with the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness shining upon them, with rejoicing that their redemption draweth nigh, they go forth to meet the Bridegroom, saying, 'Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us.' Isaiah 25:9.

" 'And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia; for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him; for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready.' Revelation 19:6-7" -(*Christ's Object Lessons*, 421:1-2).

5 - *Child Guidance* 560:1-569:2

A Graphic Scene of the Judgment Day.- "I had a dream once in which I saw a large company gathered together; and suddenly the heavens gathered blackness, the thunder rolled, the lightning flashed, and a voice louder than the heaviest peals of thunder sounded through the heavens and the earth, saying, 'It is done.' Part of the company, with pallid faces, sprang forward with a wail of agony, crying out, 'Oh, I am not ready.' The question was asked, 'Why are you not ready? Why have you not improved the opportunities I graciously gave you?' I awoke with the crying ringing in my ears. 'I am not ready; I am unsaved -Lost! Lost! Eternally lost!'

"In view of the solemn responsibilities that rest upon us, let us contemplate the future, that we may understand what we must do in order to meet it. In that day shall we be confronted with neglect and contempt of God and His mercy, with rejection of His truth and love? In the solemn assembly of the last day, in the hearing of the universe, will be read the reason of the condemnation of the sinner. For the first time parents will learn what has been the secret life of their children. Children will see how many wrongs they have committed against their parents. There will be a general revealing of the secrets and motives of the heart, for that which is hid will be made manifest. Those who have made sport of solemn things connected with the judgment will be sobered as they face its terrible reality.

"Those who have despised the Word of God will then face the Author of the inspired oracles. We cannot afford to live with no reference to the day of judgment; for though long delayed, it is now near, even at the door, and hasteth greatly. The trumpet of the Archangel will soon startle the living and wake the dead. At that day the wicked will be separated from the just, as the shepherd divides the goats from the sheep." -*Youth's Instructor*, July 21, 1892 (*Child Guidance*, 560, 1-8).

When God Asks, "Where Are the Children?" -"Parents who have neglected their God-given responsibilities must meet that neglect in the judgment. The Lord will then inquire, 'Where are the children that I gave you to train for Me? Why are they not at My right hand?' Many parents will then see that unwise love blinded their eyes to their children's faults and left those children to develop deformed characters unfit for heaven. Others will see that they did not give their children time and attention, love and tenderness; their own neglect of duty made the children what they are." - 4 *Testimonies*, 424:1 (*Child Guidance*, 561:1).

"Parents, if you lose your opportunity, God pity you; for in the day of judgment God will say, 'What have you done with My flock, My beautiful flock?' . . .

"Suppose you should get to heaven and none of your children be there. How could you say to God, 'Here am I, Lord, and the children which Thou hast given me'? Heaven marks the neglect of parents. It is recorded in the books of heaven." -*Manuscript 62, 1901* (*Child Guidance*, 561:2-8).

Families Will Pass in Review Before God.-"When parents and children meet at the final reckoning, what a scene will be presented! Thousands of children who have been slaves to appetite and debasing vice, whose lives

END OF TIME SERIES

are moral wrecks, will stand face to face with the parents who made them what they are. Who but the parents must bear this fearful responsibility? Did the Lord make these youth corrupt? Oh, no! He made them in His image, a little lower than the angels. Who, then, has done the fearful work of forming the life character? Who changed their characters so that they do not bear the impress of God and must be forever separated from His presence as too impure to have any place with the pure angels in a holy heaven? Were the sins of the parents transmitted to the children in perverted appetites and passions? And was the work completed by the pleasure-loving mother in neglecting to properly train them according to the pattern given her? All these mothers will pass in review before God just as surely as they exist.” - 8 *Testimonies*, 568:2-569:0 (*Child Guidance*, 561:4-562:0).

In Heaven Is a Pictorial Record.--”Let parents and children remember that day by day they are each forming a character, and that the features of this character are imprinted upon the books of heaven. God is taking pictures of His people, just as surely as an artist takes pictures of men and women, transferring the features of the face to the polished plate. What kind of picture do you wish to produce? Parents, answer the question! What kind of picture will the great Master Artist make of you in the records of heaven? . . . We must decide this now. Hereafter, when death shall come, there will be no time to straighten the crooked places in the character.

“To us individually this should be a most important matter. Every day our likeness is being taken for time and for eternity. Let each one say, ‘I am having my likeness taken today.’ Ask yourself daily, hourly, ‘How will my words sound to the heavenly angels? Are they as apples of gold in pictures of silver, or are they like a blasting hail, wounding and bruising?’ . . .

“Not only our words and actions, but our thoughts, make up the picture of what we are. Then let every soul be good and do good. Let the picture made of you be one of which you will not be ashamed. Every feeling we cherish makes its impress upon the countenance. God help us to make our record in our families what we would wish it to be in the heavenly *record*.”-*Letter 78, 1901* (*Child Guidance*, 562:1-569:1).

“If mothers neglect to properly educate their children, their neglect is reflected back upon them again, making their burdens and perplexities harder than they would have been if they had devoted time and patient care in training their children to obedience and submission. It will pay in the end for mothers to make the formation of the characters of their children their first and highest consideration, that the thorns may not take root and yield an abundant harvest.”-*Signs, August 5, 1875* (*Child Guidance*, 563:3).

Children Will Condemn Unfaithful Parents.- “The curse of God will surely rest upon unfaithful parents. Not only are they planting thorns which will wound them here, but they must meet their own unfaithfulness when the judgment shall sit. Many children will rise up in judgment and condemn their parents for not restraining them and charge upon them their destruction. The false sympathy and blind love of parents cause them to excuse the faults of their children and pass them by without correction, and their children are lost in consequence, and the blood of their souls will rest upon the unfaithful parents.”-1 *Testimonies*, 219:1 (*Child Guidance*, 563:4-564:0).

Children Will Pay Tribute to Faithful Parents. “When the judgment shall sit, and the books shall be opened; when the ‘well done’ of the great Judge is pronounced, and the crown of immortal glory is placed upon the brow of the victor, many will raise their crowns in sight of the assembled universe and, pointing to their mother, say, ‘She made me all am through the grace of God. Her instruction, her prayers, have been blessed to my eternal salvation.’ “-*Messages to Young People, 330:1* (*Child Guidance*, 564:1).

Parents May Bring Children With Them to Promised Land.- “God has permitted light from His throne to shine all along the path of life. A pillar of cloud by day, a pillar of fire by night, is moving before us as before ancient Israel. It is the privilege of Christian parents today, as it was the privilege of God’s people of old, to bring their children with them to the Promised Land.”-*Signs, November 24, 1881* (*Child Guidance*, 565:1).

“You want a household for God; you want your family for God. You want to take them up to the gates of the city and say, ‘Here am I, Lord, and the children that Thou hast given me.’ They may be men and women that have grown to manhood and womanhood, but they are your children all the same; and your educating, and your watchfulness over them have been blessed of God, till they stand as overcomers. Now you can say, ‘Here am I, Lord, and the children.’”-*Manuscript 49, 1894*, (*Child Guidance*, 565:2).

Broken Family Chains Will Be Relinked.-”Jesus is coming, coming with clouds and great glory. A multitude of shining angels will attend Him. He will come to honor those who have loved Him and kept His commandments, and to take them to Himself. He has not forgotten them or His promise. There will be a relinking of the family chain.”-*Review, November 22, 1906* (*Child Guidance*, 565:3).

END OF TIME SERIES

Comfort for a Bereaved Mother.- “You inquire in regard to your little one being saved. Christ’s words are your answer: ‘Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God.’ Remember the prophecy, ‘Thus saith the Lord: A voice was heard In Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted. . Thus said the Lord: Refrain thy voice from weeping and thine eyes from tears; for thy work shall be rewarded, said the Lord; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy. And there is hope in thine end, said the Lord, that thy children shall come again to thine own border.’

“This promise is yours. You may be comforted and trust in the Lord. The Lord has often instructed me that many little ones are to be laid away before the time of trouble. We shall see our children again. We shall meet them and know them in the heavenly courts. Put your trust in the Lord, and be not afraid.” -*Letter 196, 1899 (Child Guidance, 564:3-565:1).*

The Day Long Hoped For. -”From the day when the first pair turned their sorrowing steps from Eden, the children of faith have waited the coming of the Promised One to break the destroyer’s power and bring them again to the lost Paradise.” -*Great Controversy, 299:1 (Child Guidance, 566:4-567:0).*

“Heaven will be cheap enough if we obtain it through suffering. . As I saw what we must be in order to inherit glory, and then saw how much Jesus had suffered to obtain for us so rich an inheritance, I prayed that we might be baptized into Christ’s sufferings, that we might not shrink at trials, but bear them with patience and joy, knowing what Jesus had suffered that we through His poverty and sufferings might be made *rich*,”- *Early Writings, 67:1-2 (Child Guidance, 567:1).*

“Heaven is Worth Everything! -”Heaven is worth everything to us. We must not run any risk in this matter. We must take no venture here. We must know that our steps are ordered by the Lord. May God help us in the great work of overcoming. He has crowns for those that overcome. He has white robes for the righteous. He has an eternal world of glory for those who seek for glory, honor, and Immortality. Everyone who enters the City of God will enter it as a conqueror. He will not enter it as a condemned criminal, but as a son of God. And the welcome given to everyone who enters there will be, ‘Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’ Matthew 25:34.” *Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene, 149 (Child Guidance, 567:2).*

Partakers of Christ’s Joy.- “We see a retinue of angels on either side of the gate; and as we pass in, Jesus speaks, ‘Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom that is prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’ Here He tells you to be a partaker of His joy, and what is that? It is the joy of seeing of the travail of your soul, fathers. It is the joy of seeing that your efforts, mothers, are rewarded. Here are your children; the crown of life is upon their heads, and the angels of God immortalize the names of the mothers whose efforts have won their children to Jesus Christ.” -*Manuscript 12, 1895 (Child Guidance, 567:3-568:0).*

“These visions of future glory, scenes pictured by the hand of God, should be dear to His children. .

“We need to keep ever before us this vision of things unseen. It is thus that we shall be able to set a right value on the things of eternity and the things of time. It is this that will give us power to influence others for the higher life.” -*Ministry of Healing, 506:1; 508:2 (Child Guidance, 568:3-4).*

Will God Say, “Well Done”? -”When you stand –before the great white throne, then your work will appear as it is. The books are opened, the record of every life made known. Many in that vast company are unprepared for the revelations made. Upon the ears of some the words will fall with startling distinctness, ‘Weighed in the balance, and found wanting.’ To many parents the Judge will say in that day, ‘You had My Word, plainly setting forth your duty. Why have you not obeyed its teachings? Knew ye not that it was the voice of God? Did I not bid you search the Scriptures, that you might not go astray? You have not only ruined your own souls, but by your pretensions to godliness you have misled many others. You have no part with Me. Depart; depart.’

“Another class stand pale and trembling, trusting in Christ, and yet oppressed with a sense of their own unworthiness. They hear with tears of joy and gratitude the Master’s commendation. The days of incessant toil, of burden bearing, and of fear and anguish are forgotten as that voice, sweeter than the music of angel harps, pronounces the words, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant, enter ye into the joy of your Lord.’ There stand the host of the redeemed, the palm branch of victory in their hand, the crown upon their head. These are the ones who by faithful, earnest labor have obtained a fitness for heaven. The lifework performed on earth is acknowledged in the heavenly courts as a work well done.

END OF TIME SERIES

“With joy unutterable, parents see the crown, the robe, the harp, given to their children. The days of hope and fear are ended. The seed sown with tears and prayers may have seemed to be sown in vain, but their harvest is reaped with joy at last. Their children have been redeemed. Fathers, mothers, shall the voices of your children swell the song of gladness in that day?” -*Signs, July 1, 1886 (Child Guidance, 568:4-569:2).*

6- *Adventist Home 533:1-550:2*

A Rich Reward Awaits Faithful Parents.-”If parents give their children the proper education, they themselves will be made happy by seeing the fruit of their careful training in the Christlike character of their children. They are doing God the highest service by presenting to the world well ordered, well-disciplined, families, who not only fear the Lord, but honor and glorify Him by their influence upon other families; and they will receive their reward.” *Review, November 17, 1896 (Adventist Home, 533:1).*

“Believing parents, you have a responsible work before you to guide the footsteps of your children, even in their religious experience. When they truly love God, they will bless and reverence you for the care which you have manifested for them, and for your faithfulness in restraining their desires and subduing their wills.”- 1 *Testimonies, 403:0 (Adventist Home, 533:2).*

“There is a reward when the seed of truth is early sown in the heart and carefully tended.”- *Counsels to Teachers, 144:0 (Adventist Home, 533:3).*

“Parents should labor with reference to the future harvest. While they sow in tears, amid many discouragements, it should be with earnest prayer. They may see the promise of but a late and scanty harvest, yet that should not prevent the sowing. They should sow beside all waters, embracing every opportunity both to improve themselves and to benefit their children. Such seed sowing will not be in vain. At the harvest time many faithful parents will return with joy, bringing their sheaves with them.” *Review, October 30, 1908 (Adventist Home, 533:4).*

“Give your children intellectual culture and moral training. Fortify their young minds with firm, pure principles. While you have opportunity, lay the foundation for a noble manhood and womanhood. Your labor will be rewarded a *thousandfold.*”-*Counsels to Teachers, 131:1 (Adventist Home, 534:1).*

Parents Will Be Revered by Children Fitted for Heaven.- “In the word of God we find a beautiful description of a happy home and the woman who presides over it: ‘Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her,’ What greater commendation can be desired by the mistress of a home than that which is here expressed?” -*Health Reformer, December 1877 (Adventist Home, 534:2).*

“If she [the true wife and mother] looks to God for her strength and comfort, and in His wisdom and fear seeks to do her daily duty, she will bind her husband to her heart and see her children coming to maturity honorable men and women, having moral stamina to follow the example of their mother.” -*Signs, November 29, 1877 (Adventist Home, 534:3).*

“The great stimulus to the toiling, burdened mother should be that every child who is trained aright, and who has the inward adorning, the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, will have a fitness for heaven and will shine in the courts of the Lord.” -3 *Testimonies, 566:2 (Adventist Home, 534:4).*

The Joys of Heaven to Be g in In the Home.- “Heaven and earth are no wide r apart today than when shepherds listened to the angels’ song. Humanity is still as much the object of heaven’s solicitude as when common men of common occupations met angels at noonday and talked with the heavenly messengers in the vineyards and the fields. To us in the common walks of life heaven may be very near. Angels from the courts above will attend the steps of those who come and go at God’s command,” *Desire of Ages, 48:4.*

“The service rendered in sincerity of heart has great recompense. ‘Thy Father which seeth in secret Himself shall reward thee openly.’ By the life we live through the grace of Christ, the character is formed. The original loveliness begins to be restored to the soul. The attributes of the character of Christ are imparted, and the image of the Divine begins to shine forth. The faces of men and women who walk and work with God express the peace of heaven. They are surrounded with the atmosphere of heaven. For these souls the kingdom of God has begun. They have Christ’s joy, the joy of being a blessing to humanity. They have the honor of being accepted for the Master’s use; they are trusted to do His work in His name.” -*Desire of Ages, 312:2 (Adventist Home, 535:2).*

All to Be Fitted for the Society of Heaven.- “God desires that heaven’s plan shall be carried out, and

END OF TIME SERIES

heaven's divine order and harmony prevail, in every family, in every church, in every institution. Did this love leaven society; we should see the outworking of noble principles in Christian refinement and courtesy and in Christian charity toward the purchase of the blood of Christ. Spiritual transformation would be seen in all our families, in our institutions, in our churches. When this transformation takes place, these agencies will become instrumentalities by which God will impart heaven's light to the world and thus, through divine discipline and training, fit men and women for the society of heaven." -8 *Testimonies*, 140:0 (*Adventist Home*, 535:3).

Reward at the last Great Day. - "In your work for your children take hold of the mighty power of God. Commit your children to the Lord in prayer. Work earnestly and untiringly for them. God will hear your prayers and will draw them to Himself. Then, at the last great day, you can bring them to God, saying, 'Here am I, and the children whom Thou hast given me.'" -*Manuscript 14, 1903* (*Adventist Home*, 536:1).

"When Samuel shall receive the crown of glory, he will wave it in honor before the throne and gladly acknowledge that the faithful lessons of his mother, through the merits of Christ, have crowned him with immortal glory." *Good Health, March, 1880* (*Adventist Home*, 536:2).

"The work of wise parents will never be appreciated by the world, but when the judgment shall sit and the books shall be opened, their work will appear as God views it and will be rewarded before men and angels. It will be seen that one child who has been brought up in a faithful way has been a light in the world, it cost tears and anxiety and sleepless nights to oversee the character building of this child, but the work was done wisely, and the parents hear the 'Well done' of the Master." -*Signs, July 13, 1888* (*Adventist Home*, 536:3).

Title to Admission to the King's Palace.- "Let the youth and the little children be taught to choose for themselves that royal robe woven in heaven's loom, the 'fine linen, clean and white' which all the holy ones of earth will wear. This robe, Christ's own spotless character, is freely offered to every human being. But all who receive it will receive and wear it here." -*Education*, 249.

"Let the children be taught that as they open their minds to pure, loving thoughts and do loving and helpful deeds, they are clothing themselves with His beautiful garment of character. This apparel will make them beautiful and beloved here and will hereafter be their title of admission to the palace of the King. His promise is: 'They shall walk with Me in white: for they are worthy.'" -*Education*, 249:2-4 (*Adventist Home*, 536:4-537:1).

Eden to Be Restored. -"The Garden of Eden remained upon the earth long after man had become an outcast from its pleasant paths. The fallen race were long permitted to gaze upon the home of innocence, their entrance barred only by the watching angels. At the cherubim guarded gate of Paradise the divine glory was revealed. Hither came Adam and his sons to worship God. Here they renewed their vows of obedience to that law the transgression of which had banished them from Eden. When the tide of iniquity overspread the world, and the wickedness of men determined their destruction by a flood of waters, the hand that had planted Eden withdrew it from the earth. But in the final restitution, when there shall be 'a new heaven and a new earth,' it is to be restored more gloriously adorned than at the beginning.

"Then they that have kept God's commandments shall breathe in immortal vigor beneath the tree of life; and through unending ages the inhabitants of sinless worlds shall behold, in that garden of delight, a sample of the perfect work of God's creation, untouched by the curse of sin—a sample of what the whole earth would have become had man but fulfilled the Creator's glorious plan." *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 62, 2-3.

"The great plan of redemption results in fully bringing back the world into God's favor. All that was lost by sin is restored. Not only man but the earth is redeemed, to be the eternal abode of the obedient. For six thousand years Satan has struggled to maintain possession of the earth. Now God's original purpose in its creation is accomplished. 'The saints of the Most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.'" -*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 342 (*Adventist Home*, 539:1-540:0).

The Redemption of the Purchased possession. "God's original purpose in the creation of the earth is fulfilled as it is made the eternal abode of the redeemed. 'The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever.' The time has come to which holy men have looked with longing since the flaming sword barred the first pair from Eden—the time for 'the redemption of the purchased possession.' The earth originally given to man as his kingdom, betrayed by him into the hands of Satan, and so long held by the mighty foe, has been brought back by the great plan of redemption," -*Signs, December 29, 1909* (*Adventist Home*, 540:1).

"All that was lost by the first Adam will be restored by the second. The prophet says, 'O Tower of the

END OF TIME SERIES

flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto Thee shall it come, even the first dominion.' And Paul points forward to the 'redemption of the purchased possession.'

"God created the earth to be the abode of holy, happy beings. That purpose will be fulfilled when, renewed by the power of God and freed from sin and sorrow, it shall become the eternal home of the redeemed." - *Review, October 22, 1908 (Adventist Home, 540, 2-3).*

Privileges of the Redeemed. - "Heaven is a good place. I long to be there and behold my lovely Jesus, who gave His life for me, and be changed into His glorious image. Oh, for language to express the glory of the bright world to come! I thirst for the living streams that make glad the city of our God." - *Early Writings, 39:2.*

Adam Restored to His Eden Home. - "There are homes for the pilgrims of earth. There are robes for the righteous, with crowns of glory and palms of victory. All that has perplexed us in the providences of God will in the world to come be made plain. The things hard to be understood will then find explanation. The mysteries of grace will unfold before us. Where our finite minds discovered only confusion and broken promises, we shall see the most perfect and beautiful harmony. We shall know that infinite love ordered the experiences that seemed most trying. As we realize the tender care of Him who makes all things work together for our good, we shall rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

"We are homeward bound. He who loved us so much as to die for us hath builded for us a city. The New Jerusalem is our place of rest. There will be no sadness in the City of God. No wail of sorrow, no dirge of crushed hopes and buried affections, will evermore be heard. Soon the garments of heaviness will be changed for the wedding garment. Soon we shall witness the coronation of our King. Those whose lives have been hidden with Christ, those who on this earth have fought the good fight of faith, will shine forth with the Redeemer's glory in the kingdom of God." - *9 Testimonies, 286:2; 287:1 (Adventist Home, 542:2-543:0).*

"From that scene of heavenly joy [the ascension of Christ] there comes back to us on earth the echo of Christ's own wonderful words, 'I ascend unto My Father, and your Father; and to My God, and your God.' The family of heaven and the family of earth are one. For us our Lord ascended, and for us He lives. 'Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.' " - *Desire of Ages, 835:2 (Adventist Home, 543:1; 544:3).*

Though Delayed, the Promise Is Sure. - "Long have we waited for our Saviour's return. But none the less sure is the promise. Soon we shall be in our promised home. There Jesus will lead us beside the living stream flowing from the throne of God and will explain to us the dark providences through which on this earth He brought us in order to perfect our characters. There we shall behold with undimmed vision the beauties of Eden restored. Casting at the feet of the Redeemer the crowns that He has placed on our heads and touching our golden harps, we shall fill all heaven with praise to Him that sitteth on the throne." - *8 Testimonies, 254:3 (Adventist Home, 544:4-545:0).*

"Let all that is beautiful in our earthly home remind us of the crystal river and green fields, the waving trees and the living fountains, the shining city and the white-robed singers, of our heavenly home - that world of beauty which no artist can picture, no mortal tongue describe. 'Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.'" - *Review, July 11, 1882 (Adventist Home, 545:1).*

Graduate Work in the Hereafter. - "Do you think we shall not learn anything there? We have not the slightest idea of what will then be opened before us. With Christ we shall walk beside the living waters. He will unfold to us the beauty and glory of nature. He will reveal what He is to us and what we are to Him. Truth we cannot know now because of finite limitations, we shall know hereafter." - *Counsels to Teachers, 162:2 (Adventist Home, 547:2).*

"The Christian family is to be a training school from which children are to graduate to a higher school in the mansions of God." - *Review, March 30, 1897 (Adventist Home, 547:3).*

"Heaven is a school; its field of study, the universe; its teacher, the Infinite One. A branch of this school was established in Eden; and, the plan of redemption accomplished, education will again be taken up in the Eden school. .

"Between the school established in Eden at the beginning and the school of the hereafter there lies the

END OF TIME SERIES

whole compass of this world's history –the history of human transgression and suffering, of divine sacrifice, and of victory over death and sin. . Restored to His presence, man will again, as at the beginning, be taught of God: 'My people shall know My name: . . they shall know in that day that I am He that doth speak: behold, it is I.'

"There, when the veil that darkens our vision shall be removed and our eyes shall behold that world of beauty of which we now catch glimpses through the microscope; when we look on the glories of the heavens, now scanned afar through the telescope; when, the blight of sin removed, the whole earth shall appear 'in the beauty of the Lord our God,' what a field will be open to our study!" *Education, 301:1, 6; 302:0,3; 303:4. (Adventist Home, 547:4- 548:0).*

On the Verge of Fulfillment. - "We are living in a most solemn period of this earth's history, there is never time to sin; it is always perilous to continue in transgression, but in a special sense is this true at the present time. We are now upon the very borders of the eternal world and stand in a more solemn relation to time and to eternity than ever before. Now let every person search his own heart and plead for the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness to expel all spiritual darkness and cleanse from defilement" -*Testimonies to Ministers, 147:1-2.*

"To us who are standing on the very verge of their fulfillment, of what deep moment, what living interest, are these delineations of the things to come –events for which, since our first parents turned their steps from Eden, God's children have watched and waited, longed and prayed!

"Fellow pilgrim, we are still amid the shadows and turmoil of earthly activities, but soon our Saviour is to appear to bring deliverance and rest. Let us by faith behold the blessed hereafter, as pictured by the hand of God," *Prophets and Kings, 731:3-732:0 (Adventist Home, 549:3-550:1).*

7 -*Christian Service 266:1-275:1*

Priceless

"It is not a vain thing to serve God. There is a priceless reward for those who devote their life to His service," -*4 Testimonies, 107:9 (Christian Service, 266:1).*

"Every sacrifice that is made in His ministry will be recompensed according to 'the exceeding riches of His grace.' " -*The Desire of Ages, 249:1 (Christian Service, 266:2).*

"Our reward for working with Christ in this world is the greater power and wider privilege of working with Him in the world to come." -*Christ's Object Lessons, 361:4 (Christian Service, 266:3).*

Basis of Valuation

"The value of service to God is measured by the spirit in which it is rendered, rather than by the length of time spent in labor." -*9 Testimonies, 74:2 (Christian Service, 266:4).*

"Their success in advancement in the divine life depends upon the improvement of the talents lent them. Their future reward will be proportioned to the integrity and earnestness with which they serve the Master." *Review, March 1, 1887 (Christian Service, 266:5).*

"The Lord has a great work to be done, and He will bequeath the most in the future life to those who do the most faithful, willing service in the present life." -*Christ's Object Lessons, 330:1 (Christian Service, 266:6).*

"Those who came into the vineyard at the eleventh hour were thankful for an opportunity to work. Their hearts were full of gratitude to the one who had accepted them; and when at the close of the day the householder paid them for a full day's work, they were greatly surprised. They knew they had not earned such wages. And the kindness expressed in the countenance of their employer filled them with joy. They never forgot the goodness of the householder, or the generous compensation they had received.

"Thus it is with the sinner, who, knowing his unworthiness, has entered the Master's vineyard at the eleventh hour. His time of service seems so short, he feels that he is undeserving of reward; but he is filled with joy that God has accepted him at all. He works with a humble, trusting spirit, thankful for the privilege of being a coworker with Christ. This spirit God delights to honor." -*Christ's Object Lessons, 397:3-398:0 (Christian Service, 266:7-267:1).*

Sure Reward

END OF TIME SERIES

“He who has appointed ‘to every man his work,’ according to his ability, will never let the faithful performance of duty go unrewarded. Every act of loyalty and faith will be crowned with special tokens of God’s favor and approbation. To every worker is given the promise, ‘He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.’ “-5 *Testimonies*, 395:4 (*Christian Service*, 267:2).

“However short our service or humble our work, if in simple faith we follow Christ, we shall not be disappointed of the reward. That which even the greatest and wisest cannot earn, the weakest and most humble may receive. Heaven’s golden gate opens not to the self-exalted. It is not lifted up to the proud in spirit. But the everlasting portals will open wide to the trembling touch of a little child. Blessed will be the recompense of grace to those who have wrought for God in the simplicity of faith and love.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 404:2 (*Christian Service*, 267:3).

“The brows of those who do this work will wear the crown of sacrifice. But they will receive their reward.”-6 *Testimonies*, 348:3 (*Christian Service*, 267:4).

“Every act, every deed of justice and mercy and benevolence, makes music in heaven, The Father from His throne beholds and numbers the performer of them with His most precious treasures. ‘And they shall be Mine, said the Lord of hosts, when I make up My jewels.’ Every merciful act to the needy or the suffering is as though done to Jesus. Whoever succors the poor, or sympathizes with the afflicted and oppressed, and befriends the orphan, brings himself into a more close relationship to Jesus,” *Review*, August 16, 1881 (*Christian Service*, 268:1).

“Christ regards all acts of mercy, benevolence, and thoughtful consideration for the unfortunate, the blind, the lame, the sick, the widow, and the orphan, as done to Himself; and these works are preserved in the heavenly records, and will be rewarded.” -3 *Testimonies*, 512:1-513:0 (*Christian Service*, 268:2).

A Just Reward

“The Lord is good. He is merciful and tender-hearted. He is acquainted with every one of His children. He knows just what each one of us is doing. He knows just how much credit to give to each one. Will you not lay down your credit list and your condemnation list, and leave God to do His own work? You will be given the crown of glory if you will attend to the work that God has given you.” -*Southern Watchman*, May 14, 1903 (*Christian Service*, 268:3),

“The Lord desires us to rest in Him without a question as to our measure of reward. When Christ abides in the soul, the thought of reward is not uppermost. This is not the motive that actuates our service.” -*Christ’s Object Lessons*, 398:1 (*Christian Service*, 268:4).

“From garrets, from hovels, from dungeons, from scaffolds, from mountains and deserts, from the caves of the earth and the caverns of the sea, Christ will gather His children to Himself. On earth they have been destitute, afflicted, and tormented. Millions have gone down to the grave loaded with infamy because they refused to yield to the deceptive claims of Satan. By human tribunals the children of God have been adjudged the vilest criminals. But the day is near when ‘God is judge Himself.’ Then the decisions of earth shall be reversed. ‘The rebuke of His people shall He take away.’ White robes will be given to everyone of them. And ‘they shall call them the holy people, the redeemed of the Lord.’ “ -*Christ’s Object Lessons*, 179:3-180:0 (*Christian Service*, 268:5-269:0).

Future Reward

Eternal Life.”-“By earnest, thoughtful efforts to help where help is needed, the true Christian shows his love for God and for his fellow beings. He may lose his life in service; but when Christ comes to gather His jewels to Himself, he will find it again.” -9 *Testimonies*, 56:3 (*Christian Service*, 271:5).

A Gracious Welcome Home.- “If the record shows that this has been their life, that their characters have been marked with tenderness, self-denial, and benevolence, they will receive the blessed assurance and benediction from Christ, ‘Well done.’ ‘Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’ “-3 *Testimonies*, 525:1 (*Christian Service*, 272:1).

Joy. -“It is the reward of Christ’s workers to enter into His joy. That joy, to which Christ Himself looks forward with eager desire, is presented in His request to His Father, ‘I will that they also, whom Thou hast given

END OF TIME SERIES

Me, be with Me where I am.’ “-6 *Testimonies*, 309:2 (*Christian Service*, 272:3).

“In our life here, earthly, sin-restricted, though it is, the greatest joy and the highest education are in service. And in the future state, untrammelled by the limitations of sinful humanity, it is in service that our greatest joy and our highest education will be found, –witnessing, and ever as we witness learning anew ‘the riches of the glory of this

mystery,’ ‘which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.’ “*Education*, 309:1 (*Christian Service*, 272:4-273:0).

“They share in the sufferings of Christ, and they will share also in the glory that shall be revealed. One with Him in His work, drinking with Him the cup of sorrow, they are partakers also of His joy.” -*Mount of Blessing*, 13:0 (*Christian Service*, 273:1).

Fruitage of Seed-Sowing.- “Every impulse of the Holy Spirit leading men to goodness and to God, is noted in the books of heaven, and in the day of God every one who has given himself as an instrument for the Holy Spirit’s working will be permitted to behold what his life has wrought.” -6 *Testimonies*, 310:1 (*Christian Service*, 273:2).

“When the redeemed stand before God, precious souls will respond to their names who are there because of the faithful, patient efforts put forth in their behalf, the entreaties and earnest persuasions to flee to the Stronghold. Thus those who in this world have been laborers together with God will receive their reward.” -8 *Testimonies*, 98:3 (*Christian Service*, 273:3).

“What rejoicing there will be as these redeemed ones meet and greet those who have had a burden in their behalf! And those who have lived, not to please themselves, but to be a blessing to the unfortunate who have so few blessings, –how their hearts will thrill with satisfaction! They will realize the promise, ‘Thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.’ “-*Gospel Workers*, 519:1 (*Christian Service*, 273:4).

“In heaven we shall see the youth whom we helped, those whom we invited to our homes, whom we led from temptation. We shall see their faces reflecting the radiance of the glory of God.” -6 *Testimonies*, 348:3 (*Christian Service*, 273:5).

“To be a coworker with Christ and the heavenly angels in the great plan of salvation! What work can bear any comparison with this! From every soul saved, there comes to God a revenue of glory, to be reflected upon the one saved, and also upon the one instrumental in his salvation.” -2 *Testimonies*, 232:1 (*Christian Service*, 273:6).

“The redeemed will meet and recognize those whose attention they have directed to the uplifted Saviour. What blessed converse they will have with these souls! ‘I was a sinner,’ it will be said, ‘without God and without hope in the world; and you came to me, and drew my attention to the precious Saviour as my only hope. And I believed in Him. I repented of my sins, and was made to sit together with His saints in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.’ Others will say: ‘I was a heathen in heathen lands. You left your friends and comfortable home, and came to teach me how to find Jesus, and believe in Him as the only true God. I demolished my idols, and worshiped God, and now I see Him face to face. I am saved, eternally saved, ever to behold Him whom I love. I then saw Him only with the eye of faith, but now I see Him as He is. I can now express my gratitude for His redeeming mercy to Him who loved me, and washed me from my sins in His own blood.’ -*Gospel Workers*, 518:2 (*Christian Service*, 274:1).

“Others will express their gratitude to those who fed the hungry and clothed the naked. ‘When despair bound my soul in unbelief, the Lord sent you to me,’ they say, ‘to speak words of hope and comfort. You brought me food for my physical necessities, and you opened to me the Word of God, awakening me to my spiritual needs. You treated me as a brother. You sympathized with me in my sorrows, and restored my bruised and wounded soul, so that I could grasp the hand of Christ that was reached out to save me. In my ignorance you taught me patiently that I had a Father in heaven who cared for me. You read to me the precious promises of God’s Word. You inspired in me faith that He would save me. My heart was softened, subdued, broken, as I contemplated the sacrifice which Christ had made for me. I became hungry for the bread of life, and the truth was precious to my soul. I am here, saved, eternally saved, ever to live in His presence, and to praise Him who gave His life for me.’ “-*Gospel Workers*, 518:3-519:0 (*Christian Service*, 274:02).

END OF TIME SERIES

Patiently Wait for the Reward

“If the time seems long to wait for our Deliverer to come; if, bowed by affliction and worn with toil, we feel impatient for our commission to close, and to receive an honorable release from the warfare, let us remember—and let the remembrance check every murmur—that God leaves us on earth to encounter storms and conflicts, to perfect Christian character, to become better acquainted with God our Father and Christ our Elder Brother, and to do work for the Master in winning many souls to Christ, that with glad heart we may hear the words, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.’” *Review, October 25, 1881 (Christian Service, 274:3-275:0).*

“Be patient, Christian soldier. Yet a little while, and He that shall come, will come. The night of weary waiting, and watching, and mourning is nearly over. The reward will soon be given; the eternal day will dawn. There is no time to sleep now, —no time to indulge in useless regrets. He who ventures to slumber now will miss precious opportunities of doing good. We are granted the blessed privilege of gathering sheaves in the great harvest; and every soul saved will be an additional star in the crown of Jesus, our adorable Redeemer. Who is eager to lay off the armor, when by pushing the battle a little longer, he will achieve new victories and gather new trophies for eternity?” *Review, October 25, 1881 (Christian Service, 275:1).*

8-Counsels on Stewardship 348:1-350:2

“There is reward for the wholehearted, unselfish workers who enter this field, and also for those who contribute willingly for their support. Those engaged in active service in the field, and those who give of their means to sustain these workers, will share the reward of the faithful.

“Every wise steward of the means entrusted to him, will enter into the joy of his Lord. What is this joy? —‘Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.’ There will be a blessed commendation, a holy benediction, on the faithful winners of souls. They will join the rejoicing ones in heaven, who shout the harvest home.

“How great will be the joy when the redeemed of the Lord shall all meet, —gathered into the mansions prepared for them! O, what rejoicing for all who have been impartial, unselfish laborers together with God in carrying forward His work in the earth! What satisfaction will every reaper have, when the clear, musical voice of Jesus shall be heard, saying, ‘Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’ ‘Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.’

“The Redeemer is glorified because He has not died in vain. With glad, rejoicing hearts, those who have been colaborers with God see of the travail of their soul for perishing, dying sinners, and are satisfied. The anxious hours they have spent, the perplexing circumstances they have had to meet, the sorrow of heart because some refused to see and receive the things which make for their peace, are forgotten. The self-denial they have practiced in order to support the work, is remembered no more. As they look upon the souls they sought to win to Jesus, and see them saved, eternally saved—monuments of God’s mercy and of a Redeemer’s love—there ring through the arches of heaven shouts of praise and thanksgiving.” *Review, October 10, 1907 (Christian Service, 348:1-349:0).*

Realization Greater Than Expectation.- “Christ accepted humanity, and lived on this earth a pure, sanctified life. For this reason He has received the appointment of judge. He who occupies the position of judge is God manifest in the flesh. What a joy it will be to recognize in Him our Teacher and Redeemer, bearing still the marks of the crucifixion, from which shine beams of glory, giving additional value to the crowns which the redeemed receive from His hands, the very hands outstretched in blessing over His disciples as He ascended. The very voice which said, ‘Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world,’ bids His ransomed ones welcome to His presence.

“The very One who gave His precious life for them, who by His grace moved their hearts to repentance, who awakened them to their need of repentance, receives them now into His joy. Oh, how they love Him! The realization of their hope is infinitely greater than their expectation. Their joy is complete, and they take their glittering crowns and cast them at their Redeemer’s feet.” *Review, June 18, 1901 (Counsels on Stewardship, 349:1-2).*

Only a Little While Now.- “It will only be a little while before Jesus will come to save His children and to give them the finishing touch of immortality. ‘This corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal

END OF TIME SERIES

shall have put on immortality.' The graves will be opened, and the dead will come forth victorious, crying, 'O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?' Our loved ones who sleep in Jesus will come forth clothed with immortality.

"And as the redeemed shall ascend to heaven, the gates of the city of God will swing back, and those who have kept the truth will enter in. A voice, richer than any music that ever fell on mortal ear, will be heard saying, 'Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.' Then the righteous will receive their reward. Their lives will run parallel with the life of Jehovah. They will cast their crowns at the Redeemer's feet, touch the golden harps, and fill all heaven with rich music." -*Signs, April 15, 1889 (Counsels on Stewardship 350:1-2)*.

Gratitude of the Redeemed.- "All praise, honor, and glory will be given to God and to the Lamb for our redemption; but it will not detract from the glory of God to express gratitude to the instrumentality He has employed in the salvation of souls ready to perish." -6 *Testimonies, 311:0 (Publishing Ministry, 402:7)*.

"*Thou shall delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.*" 'Isaiah 58: 14.'" -6 *Testimonies, 312:2 (publishing Ministry, 404:1)*.

10-Gospel Workers 512:1-519:2

The Reward of Service.-"When thou makest a dinner or a supper," said Christ, 'call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbors; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompense be made thee. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: and thou shall be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shall be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.' [1 Luke 14: 12-14).

"In these words Christ draws a contrast between the self-seeking practices of the world, and the unselfish ministry of which He has given an example in His own life. For such ministry He offers no reward of worldly gain or recognition. 'Thou shall be recompensed,' He says, 'at the resurrection of the just.' Then the results of every life will be made manifest, and every one will reap that which he has sown." -*Gospel Workers, 512:1-2*.

"All who consecrate body, soul, and spirit to God's service will be constantly receiving a new endowment of physical, mental, and spiritual power. The inexhaustible supplies of heaven are at their command. Christ gives them the breath of His own spirit, the life of His own life. The Holy Spirit puts forth His highest energies to work in heart and mind.

"Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily.' Thou shall 'call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shall cry, and He shall say, Here I am.' 'Thy light' shall 'rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: and the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.' [Isaiah 58:8-11).

"Many are God's promises to those who minister to His afflicted ones. He says: 'Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. The Lord will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and Thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies. The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: Thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.' 'Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shall thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shall be fed.' [Psalm 41 :1-3; 37:3). 'Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.' 'There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.' 'He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will He pay him again.' 'The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.' [Proverbs 3:9, 10; 11:24; 19:17; 11:25].

"While much of the fruit of their labor is not apparent in this life, God's workers have His sure promise of ultimate success. As the world's Redeemer, Christ was constantly confronted with apparent failure. He seemed to do little of the work which He longed to do in uplifting and saving. Satanic agencies were constantly working to obstruct His way. But He would not be discouraged. Ever before Him He saw the result of His mission. He knew that truth would finally triumph in the contest with evil, and to His disciples He said: 'These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.' [John 16:33]. The life of Christ's disciples is to be like His, a series of uninterrupted

END OF TIME SERIES

victories –not seen to be such here, but recognized as such in the great hereafter.

“Those who labor for the good of others are working in union with the heavenly angels. They have their constant companionship, their unceasing ministry. Angels of light and power are ever near to protect, to comfort, to heal, to instruct, to inspire. The highest education, the truest culture, the most exalted service possible to human beings in this world, are theirs.

“Often our merciful Father encourages His children and strengthens their faith by permitting them here to see evidence of the power of His grace upon the hearts and lives of those for whom they labor. ‘My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, said the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall My word be that goeth forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir-tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle-tree: and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.’ (Isaiah 55:8-13).

“In the transformation of character, the casting out of evil passions, the development of the sweet graces of God’s Holy Spirit, we see the fulfillment of the promise, ‘Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and in stead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree.’ We behold life’s desert ‘rejoice, and blossom as the rose.’ (Isaiah 35:1].

“Christ delights to take apparently hopeless material, those whom Satan has debased and through whom he has worked, and make them the subjects of His grace. He rejoices to deliver them from suffering, and from the wrath that is to fall upon the disobedient. He makes His children His agents in the accomplishment of this work, and in its success, even in this life, they find a precious *reward*.”-*Gospel Workers*, 513:2-516:02.

“The angels were waiting to welcome Jesus, as He ascended after His resurrection. The heavenly host longed to greet again their loved Commander, returned to them from the prison house of death. Eagerly they pressed about Him as He entered the gates of heaven. But He waved them back. His heart was with the lonely, sorrowing band of disciples whom He had left upon Olivet. It is still with His struggling children on earth, who have the battle with the destroyer yet to wage. ‘Father,’ He says, ‘I will that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am.’

“Christ’s redeemed ones are His jewels, His precious and peculiar treasure. ‘They shall be as the stones of a crown,’ - ‘the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,’ (Zechariah 9:16; Ephesians 1:18]. In them ‘He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied.’ (Isaiah 53:11].

“And will not His workers rejoice when they, to o, behold the fruit of their labors? The apostle Paul, writing to the Thessalonian converts, says: ‘What is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? for ye are our glory and joy,’ (1 Thessalonians 2:19, 20]. And he exhorts the Philippian brethren to be ‘blameless and harmless,’ to ‘shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life; th at I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither labored in vain.’ “(Philippians 2:15-16]. *Gospel Workers*, 517:1-517:3.

“Wonderful will be the revealing as the lines of holy influence, with their precious results, are brought to view. What will be the gratitude of souls that will meet us in the heavenly courts, as they understand the sympathetic, loving interest which has been taken in their salvation! All praise, honor, and glory will be given to God and to the Lamb for our redemption; but it will not detract from the glory of God to express gratitude to the instrumentality He has employed in the salvation of souls ready to perish,”-*Gospel Workers*, 518:1.

11-*Bible Commentary Volume 7*, 988:1-990:6

1 (Isaiah 33:21). No Engulfing Ocean.- “The sea divides friends. It is a barrier between us and those whom we love. Our associations are broken up by the broad, fathomless ocean. In the new earth there will be no more sea, and there shall pass there ‘no galley with oars.’ In the past many who have loved and served God have been bound by chains to their seats in galleys, compelled to serve the purpose of cruel, hardhearted men. The Lord has looked upon their suffering in sympathy and compassion. Thank God, in the earth made new there will be no

END OF TIME SERIES

fierce torrents, no engulfing ocean, no restless, murmuring waves,” -*Manuscript 33, 1911 (7 Bible Commentary, 988)*.

1-4, (Isaiah 30:26). God’s Family United at Last.

“Now, the church is militant, now we are confronted with a world in midnight darkness, almost wholly given over to idolatry. But the day is coming in which the battle will have been fought, the victory won. The will of God is to be done on earth, as it is done in heaven. Then the nations will own no other law than the law of heaven. All will be a happy, united family, clothed with the garments of praise and thanksgiving—the robe of Christ’s righteousness.

“All nature in its surpassing loveliness will offer to God a constant tribute of praise and adoration. The world will be bathed in the light of heaven. The years will move on in gladness. The light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be sevenfold greater than it is now. Over the scene the morning stars will sing together, and the sons of God will shout for joy, while Christ and God will unite in proclaiming, ‘There shall be no more sin, neither shall there be any more death.’ “ *Review, December 17, 1908 (7 Bible Commentary, 988)*.

4 (see EGW on 1 Corinthians 15:51-55). The Christian’s Summer.- “This earth is the place of preparation for heaven. The time spent here is the Christian’s winter. Here the chilly winds of affliction blow upon us, and the waves of trouble roll against us. But in the near future, when Christ comes, sorrow and sighing will be forever ended. Then will be the Christian’s summer. All trials will be over, and there will be no more sickness or death.

1, 2 (chapter 7:17; see EGW on Luke 23:40-43).

Higher Education In the Future Life.- “Christ, the heavenly Teacher, will lead His people to the tree of life that grows on either side of the river of life, and He will explain to them the truths they could not in this life understand. In that future life His people will gain the higher education in its completeness. Those who enter the city of God will have the golden crowns placed upon their heads. That will be a joyful scene that none of us can afford to miss. We shall cast our crowns at the feet of Jesus, and again and again we will give Him the glory and praise His holy name. Angels will unite in the songs of triumph. Touching their golden harps, they will fill a ll heaven with rich music and songs to the Lamb.” *Manuscript 1,1909 (7 Bible Commentary, 988)*.

2 (chapter 2:7; Genesis 2:9; see EGW on Genesis 3:22-24; John 5:39). Life-giving Power In Tree of Life.- “The tree of life is a representation of the preserving care of Christ for His children. As Adam and Eve ate of this tree, they acknowledged their dependence upon God. The tree of life possessed the power to perpetuate life, and as long as they ate of it, they could not die. The lives of the antediluvians were protracted because of the life-giving power of this tree, which was transmitted to them from Adam and Eve.” -*Review, January 26, 1897 (7 Bible Commentary, 988)*.

(John 1 :4). Life-giving Fruit Ours Through Christ. “The fruit of the tree of life in the Garden of Eden possessed supernatural virtue. To eat of it was to live forever. Its fruit was the antidote of death. Its leaves were for the sustaining of life and immortality. But through man’s disobedience, death entered the world. Adam ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, the fruit of which he had been forbidden to touch. His transgression opened the floodgates of woe upon our race.

“Of Christ it is written , ‘In him was life; and the life was the light of men.’ He is the fountain of life. Obedience to Him is the life-giving power that gladdens the soul.

“Christ declares: ‘I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.’ [John 6:57, 63; Revelation 2:7, last part, quoted]”-*Signs, March 91, 1909 (7 Bible Commentary, 988-789)*.

(Psalm 19:10; John 6:54-57.) Tree of Life Planted for Us.-”The sons of men have had a practical knowledge of evil, but Christ came to the world to show them that He had planted for them the tree of life, the leaves of which were for the healing of the nations.” -*Manuscript 67,1898 (7 Bible Commentary, 989)*.

“The leaves of the tree of life are proffered you. They are sweeter than honey and the honeycomb. Take them, eat them, digest them, and your faintheartedness will pass away.”-*Manuscript 71,1898 (7 Bible Commentary, 989)*.

END OF TIME SERIES

“Christ. . was the tree of life to all who would pluck and eat.”-*Manuscript 95*, 1898 (*7 Bible Commentary*, 989).

Bible, the Tree of Life to Us.-“Let all bear in mind that the tree of life bears twelve manner of fruits. This represents the spiritual work of our earthly missions. The Word of God is to us the tree of life. Every portion of the Scripture has its use. In every part of the Word is some lesson to be learned. Then learn how to study your Bibles. This book is not a heap of odds and ends. It is an educator. Your own thoughts must be called into exercise before you can be really benefited by Bible study. Spiritual sinew and muscle must be brought to bear upon the Word. The Holy Spirit will bring to remembrance the words of Christ. He will enlighten the mind, and guide the research.”-*Letter 3*, 1898 (*7 Bible Commentary*, 989).

Christ, the Tree of Life.-“Christ is the source of our life, the source of immortality. He is the tree of life, and to all who come to Him He gives spiritual life.”-*Review*, January 26, 1897 (*7 Bible Commentary*, 989).

3, 4. A Definition of Heaven.-“Christ is the truth of all that we find in the Father. The definition of heaven is the presence of Christ.

10-12 (chapters 4:3; 10:1; see EGW on chapter 10:7; 2 Peter 3:9). Christ’s Intercession Soon to Cease. “The One who has stood as our intercessor; who hears all penitential prayers and confessions; who is represented with a rainbow, the symbol of grace and love, encircling His head, is soon to cease His work in the heavenly sanctuary. Grace and mercy will then descend from the throne, and justice will take their place. He for whom His people have looked will assume His right—the office of Supreme Judge.”-*Review*, January 1, 1889 (*7 Bible Commentary*, 989).

Probation Ends When Least Expected.-“When probation ends, it will come suddenly, unexpectedly—at a time when we are least expecting it. But we can have a clean record in heaven today, and know that God accepts us; and finally, if faithful, we shall be gathered into the kingdom of heaven.”-*Manuscript 95*, 1906 (*7 Bible Commentary*, 989).

No Second Probation.-“There is not a second probation for anyone. Now is probationary time, before the angel shall fold her golden wings, the angel of mercy, and shall step down from the throne, and mercy, mercy is gone forever.” *Manuscript*, 1894 (*7 Bible Commentary*, 989).

(John 9:4) Time of Probation’s Close Not Revealed.-“God has not revealed to us the time when this message will close, or when probation will have an end. Those things that are revealed we shall accept for ourselves and for our children; but let us not seek to know that which has been kept secret in the councils of the Almighty.

“Letters have come to me asking me if I have any special light as to the time when probation will close; and I answer that I have only this message to bear, that it is now time to work while the day lasts, for the night cometh in which no man can work. Now, just now, it is time for us to be watching, working, and waiting.

“The Word of the Lord reveals the fact that the end of all things is at hand, and its testimony is most decided that it is necessary for every soul to have the truth planted in the heart so that it will control the life and sanctify the character. The Spirit of the Lord is working to take the truth of the Inspired Word and stamp it upon the soul so that the professed followers of Christ will have a holy, sacred joy that they will be able to impart to others. The opportune time for us to work is now, just now, while the day lasts. But there is no command for anyone to search the Scriptures in order to ascertain, if possible, when probation will close. God has no such message for any mortal lips. He would have no mortal tongue declare that which He has hidden in His secret councils.”-*Review*, October 9, 1894 (*7 Bible Commentary*, 989-990).

13-17 (chapter 1:8). The Alpha and Omega of Scripture.-[Revelation 22:13-17, quoted.] “Here we have the Alpha of Genesis and the Omega of Revelation. The blessing is promised to all those who keep the commandments of God, and who cooperate with Him in the proclamation of the third angel’s message.”-*Review*, *Herald*, June 8, 1897 (*7 Bible Commentary*, 990).

14 (chapter 20:12, 13; see EGW on Genesis 3:22-24; Romans 3:31; 2 Corinthians 3:7-11). City of God for Commandment Keepers.-“None who have had the light of truth will enter the city of God as commandment breakers. His law lies at the foundation of His government in earth and in heaven. If they have knowingly trampled upon and despised His law on the earth, they will not be taken to heaven to do the same work there; there is

END OF TIME SERIES

no change of character when Christ comes. The character building is to go on during the hours of probation. Day by day their actions are registered in the books of heaven, and they will, in the great day of God, be rewarded as their works have been. It will then be seen who receives the blessing. ‘Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.’ *Review, August 25, 1885 (7 Bible Commentary, 990).*

12-My Life Today 347:1-369:4

Christ Presents Me With a Crown and Harp

“ ‘Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.’ 2 Timothy 4:8.”

“Oh, what joy unspeakable, to see Him whom we loved—to see Him in His glory who so loved us that He gave Himself for us—to behold those hands once pierced for our redemption stretched out to us in blessing and welcome!”—*Signs, November 2, 1882 (My Life Today, 847:2-8).*

“Those who . . . place themselves in God’s hands. . . will see the King in His beauty. They will behold His matchless charms, and touching their golden harps, they will fill all heaven with rich music and with songs to the Lamb.”—*Review, June 15, 1905 (My Life Today, 347:4).*

Given a White Robe of Righteousness

“The conflict is over. All tribulation and strife are at an end. Songs of victory fill all heaven as the redeemed stand around the throne of God. All take up the joyful strain, ‘Worthy, worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and lives again, a triumphant conqueror.’—*Review, November 26, 60 1903 (My Life Today, 348:4).*

Victory Over Death

“We have a living, risen Saviour. He burst the fetters of the tomb after He had lain there three days, and in triumph He proclaimed over the rent sepulcher of Joseph, ‘I am the resurrection, and the life.’ And He is coming. Are we getting ready for Him? Are we ready so that if we shall fall asleep, we can do so with hope in Jesus Christ?”

“The Life-giver is soon to come. . . to break the fetters of the tomb. He is to bring forth the captives. . . The last thoughts they had were of the grave and the tomb, but now they proclaim, ‘O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?’ The pangs of death were the last things they felt. . . When they awake the pain is all gone. ‘O grave, where is thy victory?’ Here they stand, and the finishing touch of immortality is put upon them, and they go up to meet their Lord in the air. The gates of the city of God swing back upon their hinges, . . . and the ransomed of God walk in through the cherubims and seraphims. Christ bids them welcome and puts upon them His *benediction.*—*Manuscript 18, 1894 (My Life Today, 349:23).*

“There, there is no burial train, no mourning, no death, no parting, no broken hearts; and Jesus is there, peace is there. . . In His presence is fullness of joy, at His right hand there are pleasures fore vermore!”—*Signs, February 8, 1892 (My Life Today 349:4).*

No More Sin

“ ‘And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: and they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.’ Revelation 22:3, 4.”

“Then we shall enjoy with Him all the glories of the world to come throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity. . . There is nothing in the kingdom of God to disturb or annoy. This is the life that is promised to the overcomer—a life of happiness and peace, a life of love and beauty. . . There is no sin, no distracting care, nothing to mar the peace of the inhabitant.”—*Signs, November 10, 1887 (My Life Today, 350:3-4).*

As Heirs, We Inherit the Kingdom

“Before the ransomed throng is the holy city. Jesus opens wide the pearly gates, and the nations that have kept the truth enter in. There they behold the Paradise of God, the home of Adam in his innocence.

“Now is fulfilled the Saviour’s prayer for His disciples, ‘I will that they also, whom Thou hast given Me,

END OF TIME SERIES

be with Me where I am.’ ‘Faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,’ Christ presents to the Father the purchase of His blood, declaring, ‘Here am I, and the children whom Thou hast given Me.’ ‘Those that Thou gavest Me I have kept.’ Oh, the wonders of redeeming love! the rapture of that hour when the infinite Father, looking upon the ransomed, shall behold His image, sin’s discord banished, its blight removed, the human once more in harmony with the *divine!*”-*Great Controversy*, 646:1- 2 (*My Life Today*, 351:2-3).

Families Will Be Reunited

“ ‘Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the Lord; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy. And there is hope in thine end, saith the Lord, that thy children shall come again to their own border.’ Jeremiah 31: 16, 17.”

“Christ is coming with clouds and with great glory. . He will come to raise the dead, and to change the living saints from glory to glory. . There will be a relinking of the family chain. “ -*Desire of Ages*, 632:3 (*My Life Today*, 352:2).

“Oh, wonderful redemption I long talked of, long hoped for, contemplated with eager anticipation.

“With joy unutterable parents see the crown, the robe, the harp, given to their children. The days of hope and fear are ended. . Their children have been redeemed. *Signs*, July 1, 1886 (*My Life Today*, 352:5).

“There we shall see on every hand the beautiful trees of Paradise, in the midst of them the tree of life. There we shall behold with undimmed vision the beauties of Eden restored. There we shall cast at the feet of our Redeemer the crowns that He has placed on our heads, and touching our golden harps, we shall offer praise and thanksgiving to Him that sitteth on the throne. . May you all be among those who shall enter through the gates of pearl into the city of our God. May you, as unbroken families, dwell forever in that haven of rest. To this end may God help you now to strive for the crown of life.-Review, *September 3, 1903*.

We Shall Recognize Each Other

“ ‘Now I know in part; but then I shall know even as also I am known.’ 1 Corinthians 13:12.”

“In the mansions above we shall meet to part no more. We shall know each other in our heavenly home.” -*Signs*, June 20, 1911.

A Beautiful Country

“‘And truly if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.’ Hebrews 11:15, 16.”

“The grass will be a living green, and will never wither. There will be roses and lilies and all kinds of flowers there. They will never blight or fade or lose their beauty and fragrance.

“The lion, we should much dread and fear here, will then lie down with the lamb, and everything in the New Earth will be peace and harmony. The trees of the New Earth will be straight and lofty, without deformity.” *Youth’s Instructor*, October, 1852 (*My Life Today*, 354:1, 4-5).

“In the New Earth there are no chilling winds, no disagreeable changes. The atmosphere is ever right and healthful.” -*Diary*, March 24, 1859 (*My Life Today*, 354:6).

Eat of the Tree of Life

“‘In the midst of the street of it, and on neither side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.’ Revelation 22:2.”

“Out of the throne came a pure river of water, and on either side of the river was the tree of life. . The fruit was glorious; it looked like gold mixed with silver.” -*Early Writings*, 17 (*My Life Today*, 355:1-2).

“The redeemed saints, who have loved God and kept His commandments here, will enter in through the gates of the city, and have right to the tree of life. They will eat freely of it as our first parents did before their fall. The leaves of that immortal widespread tree will be for the healing of the nations. All their woes will then be gone. Sickness, sorrow, and death they will never again feel, for the leaves of the tree of life have healed them.

END OF TIME SERIES

Jesus will then see of the travail of His soul and be satisfied, when the redeemed, who have been subject to sorrow, toil, and afflictions, who have groaned beneath the curse, are gathered up around that tree of life to eat of its immortal fruit that our first parents forfeited all right to by breaking God's commands. There will be no danger of their ever losing right to the tree of life again, for he that tempted our first parents to sin will be destroyed by the second death." *Youth's Instructor, October 1852 (My Life Today, 355:4).*

"Upon the tree of life was most beautiful fruit, of which the saints could partake freely. . . The most exalted language fails to describe the glory of heaven or the matchless depths of a Saviour's love." -*Early Writings, 289 (My Life Today, 355:5).*

At the Marriage Supper

"In both the Old and New Testament the marriage relation is employed to represent the tender and sacred union that exists between Christ and His people. To the mind of Jesus the gladness of the wedding festivities pointed forward to the rejoicing of that day when He shall bring home His bride to the Father's house, and the redeemed with the Redeemer shall sit down to the marriage supper of the Lamb. He says, 'As the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee.' 'Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; . . . but thou shalt be called My Delight [margin]; . . . for the Lord delighteth in thee.' 'He will rejoice over thee with joy; He will rest in His love, He will joy over thee with singing.' When the vision of heavenly things was granted to John the apostle, he wrote: 'I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready.'

"Jesus saw in every soul one to whom must be given the call to His kingdom."-*Desire of Ages, 151:1-2 (My Life Today, 356:2-3).*

"Having received the kingdom, He will come in His glory, as King of kings and Lord of lords, for the redemption of His people, who are to 'sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob' at His table in His kingdom, to partake of the marriage supper of the Lamb." -*Great Controversy, 427:0 (My Life Today, 356:4).*

The Glories of Our Heavenly Home

"'And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones.' Revelation 21: 18-19. "

"The glorious city of God has twelve gates, set with pearls most glorious. It also has twelve foundations of various colors. The streets of the city are of pure gold. In this city is the throne of God, and a pure, beautiful river proceeding out of it, as clear as crystal. Its sparkling purity and beauty make glad the city of God. The saints will drink freely of the healing waters of the river of life.

"All faces will reflect the image of their Redeemer. There will then be no anxious, troubled countenances, but all will be bright, and smiling in spotless purity. The angels will be there, also the resurrected saints with the martyrs, and the best of all, and what will cause us the most joy, our lovely Saviour, who suffered and died that we might enjoy that happiness and freedom, will be there. His glorious face will shine brighter than the sun, and light up the beautiful city and reflect glory all around.

"Children will be there. They will never be engaged in strife or discord. Their love will be fervent and holy. They will also have a crown of gold upon their heads and a harp in their hands. And their little countenances, that we here see so often troubled and perplexed, will beam with holy joy, expressive of their perfect freedom and happiness.

"The saints will have crowns of glory upon their heads and harps of gold in their hands. They will play upon the golden harp and sing redeeming love, and make melody unto God. Their former trials and suffering in this world will be forgotten and lost amid the glories of the New Earth. And they will ever have the approving smiles of Jesus upon them, and their happiness will be complete. . . The future abode of the saints will be all glorious." - *Youth's Instructor, October, 1852 (My Life Today, 357:1-5).*

Labor for Pleasure and Enjoyment

"There certainly is and ever will be employment in heaven. The whole family of the redeemed will not live in a state of dreamy idleness. There remaineth a rest to the people of God. In heaven activity will not be

END OF TIME SERIES

wearing and burdensome; it will be rest. The whole family of the redeemed will find their delight in serving Him whose they are by creation and by redemption.” -*Letter 11, 1899 (My Life Today, 358:6).*

“To the weary and heavy laden, to those who have fought the good fight of faith, it will be a glorious rest; for the youth and vigor of immortality will be theirs, and against sin and Satan they will no longer have to contend.” -*Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene, 99 (My Life Today, 358:7).*

Harmonious Social Life

“*The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea. I have a goodly heritage.*’ Psalm 16:6.”

“Heaven is full of joy. It resounds with the praise of Him who made so wonderful a sacrifice for the redemption of the human race. Should not the church on earth be full of praise? Should not Christians publish throughout the world the joy of serving Christ? Those who in heaven join with the angelic choir in their anthem of praise must learn on earth the song of heaven, the keynote of which is thanksgiving,” -*7 Testimonies, 244:2 (My Life Today, 359:4).*

“Everything in heaven is noble and elevated. All seek the interest and happiness of others. No one devotes himself to looking out and caring for self. It is the chief joy of all holy beings to witness the joy and happiness of those around them,” -*2 Testimonies, 239:0 (My Life Today, 359:5).*

“If you have trials here, and feel lonesome, look away from this dark world to the bright glories of heaven. Set your affections upon heavenly joys, and then you will not feel so deeply the trials and disappointments of this life, for you will feel that you have a home in glory, a crown, a harp, and a lovely Saviour there. Strive for that blest inheritance which God has promised to those that love Him and keep His commandments.” -*Youth’s Instructor, October, 1852 (My Life Today, 359:6).*

Study God’s Wisdom Throughout Eternity

“*The God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: the eyes of your understanding being enlightened.*’ Ephesians 1:17-18,”

“The science of redemption is the science of all sciences, the science that is the study of the angels and of all the intelligences of the unfallen worlds, the science that engages the attention of our Lord and Saviour, the science that enters into the purpose brooded in the mind of the Infinite-’kept in silence through times eternal,’ the science that will be the study of God’s redeemed throughout the endless ages. This is the highest study in which it is possible for man to engage. As no other study can, it will quicken the mind and uplift the soul.

“The subject is inexhaustible. The study of the incarnation of Christ, His atoning sacrifice, and mediatorial work will employ the mind of the diligent student as long as time shall last; and looking to heaven with its unnumbered years, he will exclaim, ‘Great is the mystery of godliness.’

“In eternity we shall learn that which, had we received the enlightenment that it was possible to obtain here, would have opened our understanding. The themes of redemption will employ the hearts and minds and tongues of the redeemed through the everlasting ages. They will understand the truths which Christ longed to open to His disciples, but which they did not have faith to grasp. Forever and forever new views of the perfection and glory of Christ will appear. Through endless ages the faithful Householder will bring forth from His treasures things new and old.” -*Signs, April 18, 1906. (My Life Today, 360:1-2, 4-5).*

“Since God is infinite, and in Him are all the treasures of wisdom, we may to all eternity be ever searching, ever learning, yet never exhaust the riches of His wisdom, His goodness, or His power.” -*Signs, April 25, 1906.*

Christ Will Teach the Redeemed

“*And they shall be all taught of God.*’ “John 6:45.

“In the school of Christ students never graduate. Among the pupils are both the old and the young. Those who give heed to the instructions of the Divine Teacher constantly advance in wisdom, refinement, and nobility of soul, and thus they are prepared to enter that higher school, where advancement will continue throughout eternity. Over in this home of the blest, to bear in soul, body, and spirit, not the dark traces of sin and the curse, but the perfect likeness of our Creator, and through ceaseless ages to advance in wisdom, in knowledge and holiness, ever

END OF TIME SERIES

exploring new fields of thought, ever finding new wonders and new glories, ever increasing in capacity to know and to enjoy and to love, and knowing that there is still beyond us joy and love and wisdom infinite such is the object to which the Christian hope is pointing.” -*Good Health, August, 1882 (My Life Today, 361:1-2)*.

“In the world to come Christ will lead the redeemed beside the river of life and will teach the wonderful lessons of truth. He will unfold to them the mysteries of nature. They will see that a master hand holds the world in position. They will behold the skill displayed by the great Artist in coloring the flowers of the field, and will learn of the purposes of the merciful Father, who dispenses every ray of light, and with the holy angels the redeemed will acknowledge in songs of grateful praise God’s supreme love to an unthankful world. Then it will be understood that ‘God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’” -*Review, January 3, 1907 (My Life Today, 361:4)*.

“He [Christ] will impart rich stores of knowledge. He will unravel mysteries in the providences of God which in this life we are unable to understand.” -*Letter 242, 1908 (My Life Today, 361:5)*.

“We must get an education here that will enable us to live with God through the eternal ages. The education we begin here will be perfected in heaven. We will only just enter a higher grade.” -*Manuscript 16, 1895 (My Life Today, 361:6)*.

Travel to Worlds Afar

“‘These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits unto God and to the Lamb.’ Revelation 14:4.” -*My Life Today, 362:1*.

“Then was the melody of heaven heard by mortal ears, and the heavenly choir swept back to heaven as they closed their ever memorable anthem. The light faded away. . . ; but there remained in the hearts of the shepherds the brightest picture mortal man had ever looked upon, and the blessed promise and assurance of the advent to our world of the Saviour of men, which filled their hearts with joy and gladness, mingled with faith and wondrous love to God.” -*Review, December 9, 1884 (My Life Today, 363:4)*.

“O that today the human family could recognize that song! The declaration then made, the note then struck, will swell to the close of time and resound to the ends of the earth. When the Sun of Righteousness shall arise, with healing in His wings, that song will be re-echoed by the voice of a great multitude, as the voice of many waters, saying, ‘Alleluia, for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.’” -*1 Selected Messages, 250:2 (My Life Today, 363:5)*.

Worship Together

“‘For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, said the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, said the Lord.’ Isaiah 66:22-23.”

“In the beginning the Father and the Son had rested upon the Sabbath after their work of creation. When ‘the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them,’ the Creator and all heavenly beings rejoiced in contemplation of the glorious scene. ‘The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy.’

“When there shall be a ‘restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began,’ the creation Sabbath, the day on which Jesus lay at rest in Joseph’s tomb, will still be a day of rest and rejoicing. Heaven and earth will unite in praise, as ‘from one Sabbath to another’ the nations of the saved shall bow in joyful worship to God and the Lamb.” -*Desire of Ages, 769-770*.

“So long as the heavens and the earth endure, the Sabbath will continue as a sign of the Creator’s power. And when Eden shall bloom on earth again, God’s holy rest day will be honored by all beneath the sun.” -*Desire of Ages, 283:2 (My Life Today, 364:2-3, 6)*.

Privilege of Open Communion With God

“‘I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.’” -*Revelation 21:22*.

“We may address Him by the endearing name, ‘Our Father,’ which is a sign of our affection for Him and a pledge of His tender regard and relationship to us. And the Son of God, be holding the heirs of grace, ‘is not as-

END OF TIME SERIES

hamed to call them brethren.’ They have even a more sacred relationship to God than have the angels who have never fallen.

“All the paternal love which has come down from generation to generation through the channel of human hearts, all the springs of tenderness which have opened in the souls of men, are but as a tiny rill to the boundless ocean when compared with the infinite, exhaustless love of *God*.”-*Review, October 22, 1908 (My Life Today, 365:2-3)*.

“Heaven is a ceaseless approaching to God through Christ. The longer we are in the heaven of bliss, the more and still more of glory will be opened to us; and the more we know of God, the more intense will be our *happiness*.”-*Desire of Ages, 331:8 (My Life Today, 365:5)*.

“And what is the happiness of heaven but to see God? What greater joy could come to the sinner saved by the grace of Christ than to look upon the face of God and know Him as Father?” -8 *Testimonies, 268:0 (My Life Today, 365, 6)*.

“How much comfort it gives to behold Him here by the eye of faith, that we may by beholding be made like Him, but what will it be to behold Him as He is, without one dimming veil between?” -*Bible Echo, January 15, 1892 (My Life Today, 365:7)*.

The Veil Will Be Drawn Aside

“ *Now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face.* ’ 1 Corinthians 13: 12.”

Why the Great Controversy Was Permitted

“ *And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: to the Intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God.* ’ “ Ephesians 3:9, 10.

The Eternal Weight of Glory

“ *For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.* ’ 2 Corinthians 4:17.”

“I was pointed to the glory of heaven, to the treasure laid up for the faithful. Everything was lovely and glorious. The angels would sing a lovely song, then they would cease singing and take their crowns from their heads and cast them glittering at the feet of the lovely Jesus, and with melodious voices cry, ‘Glory, Alleluia! I joined with them in their songs of praise and honor to the Lamb, and every time I opened my mouth to praise Him, I felt an unutterable sense of the glory that surrounded me. It was a far more, an exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Said the angel, ‘The little remnant who love God and keep His commandments and are faithful to the end will enjoy this glory and ever be in the presence of Jesus and sing with the holy angels.’ ”-*Early Writings, 66:1 (Faith I Live By, 359:1-2)*.

“The work of salvation is not child’s play, to be taken hold of at will and let alone at pleasure. It is the steady purpose, the untiring effort, that will gain the victory at last. It is he who endureth to the end that shall be saved. It is they who patiently continue in well-doing that shall have eternal life and the immortal reward.”-2 *Testimonies, 101:1-102:0 (Faith I Live By, 359:5)*.

Living the Life of Eden

“The prophet of Patmos thus describes the location of the school of the hereafter:

“‘I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away . . . And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.’ Revelation 21:1, 2.”-*Education, 301:3-4*..

“The giving of the tree of life in Eden was conditional, and it was finally withdrawn. But the gifts of the future life are absolute and *eternal*.”-*Education, 302:1 (Faith I Live By, 345:3-5)*.

Bright Beams of Glory

“‘*And his brightness was as the light; he had bright beams out of his side: and there was the hiding of his power.*’ Habakkuk 3:4, margin.”

END OF TIME SERIES

“Satan, by means of his success in turning man aside from the path of obedience, became ‘the god of this world.’ 2 Corinthians 4:4. The dominion that once was Adam’s, passed to the usurper. But the Son of God proposed to come to this earth to pay the penalty of sin, and thus not only redeem man, but recover the dominion forfeited . . . The apostle Paul has referred to it [the restoration of the lost dominion] as ‘the redemption of the purchased possession.’ Ephesians 1:14.”-*Prophets and Kings*, 682:1 (*Faith I Live By*, 361:1-2).

“Not only man but the earth had by sin come under the power of the wicked one, and was to be restored by the plan of *redemption*.”-*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 67:1 (*Faith I Live By*, 961:9).

No More Death-Ever!

“In the home of the redeemed there will be no tears, no funeral trains, no badges of mourning. ‘The inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity.’ Isaiah 33:24. One rich tide of happiness will flow and deepen as eternity rolls on.”-9 *Testimonies*, 286:3

“It will not be long till we shall see Him in whom our hopes of eternal life are centered. And in His presence, all the trials and sufferings of this life will be as nothingness . . . Look up, look up, and let your faith continually increase. Let this faith guide you along the narrow path that leads through the gates of the city of God into the great beyond, the wide, unbounded future of glory that is for the redeemed.” -9 *Testimonies*, 287:2-288:0 (*Faith I Live By*, 362:2, 5).

The Metropolis of the World

“ ‘And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.’ Revelation 21 :23.”

“The streets of the city are paved with pure gold, and . . . the gates of the city are of gold set with pearls. The riches obtained here may be consumed. . . There no thief shall approach; no moth or rust shall corrupt. . . You will have an imperishable treasure which you can be in no danger of losing.” -*Signs*, January 31, 1878 (*Faith I Live By*, 363:6).

“Let us determine that if it costs everything we will have heaven and become partakers of the divine nature.” *Signs*, January 27, 1888 (*Faith I Live By*, 363:6).

Two Worlds Compared

“The glory of the eternal world has been opened before me. I want to tell you that heaven is worth winning. It should be the aim of your life to fit yourself for association with the redeemed, with holy angels, and with Jesus, the world’s Redeemer. If we could have but one view of the celestial city, we would never wish to dwell on earth again. There are beautiful landscapes on earth, and I enjoy all these prospects of loveliness in nature. I associate them with the Creator. But I know that if I love God, and keep His commandments, there is a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory reserved in heaven for me.” *Signs*, April 8, 1889 (*Faith I Live By*, 364:2).

“Let your imagination picture the home of the saved, and remember that it will be more glorious than your brightest imagination can portray. In the varied gifts of God in nature we see but the faintest gleaming of His glory.” *Steps to Christ*, 86:2-87:0 (*Faith I Live By*, 364:4).

The Blessedness of Heaven

“ ‘He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.’ Revelation 21:7.”

“No man stumbles into heaven. No man goes there blindfold. If he will take time to consider, every man may know whether he is in the strait and narrow path, or in the broad road that leads to death and hell.” -*Bible Echo*, July 31, 1899 (*Faith I Live By*, 361:1-2).

“If we do not receive the religion of Christ by feeding upon the Word of God, we shall not be entitled to an entrance into the city of God. Having lived on earthly food, having educated our tastes to love worldly things, we would not be fitted for the heavenly courts; we could not appreciate the pure, heavenly current that circulates in heaven. The voices of the angels and the music of their harps would not satisfy us. The science of heaven would be as an enigma to our minds. We need to hunger and thirst for the righteousness of Christ; we need to be

END OF TIME SERIES

molded and fashioned by the transforming influence of His grace, that we may be fitted for the society of heavenly angels.”-Review, *May 4, 1897.*

“Then the nations will own no other law than the law of heaven. All will be a happy, united family, clothed with the garments of praise and thanksgiving. . Over the scene the morning stars will sing together, and the sons of God will shout for joy, while God and Christ will unite in proclaiming, ‘There shall be no more sin, neither shall there be any more death.’ “-8 *Testimonies*, 42:1 (*Faith I Live By*, 365:5).

“We want to get in the habit of talking of heaven, beautiful heaven. Talk of that life which will continue as long as God shall live, and then you will forget your little trials and difficulties. Let the mind be attracted to God,” *Historical Sketches of SDA Missions*, 148 (*Faith I Live By*, 365:6).

Speculations About the Future Life

“‘For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven.’ Mark 12:25.”

“There are men today who express their belief that there will be marriages and births in the new earth, but those who believe the Scriptures cannot accept such doctrines. The doctrine that children will be born in the new earth is not a part of the ‘sure word of prophecy.’ The words of Christ are too plain to be misunderstood. They should forever settle the question of marriages and births in the new earth. Neither those who shall be raised from the dead, nor those who shall be translated without seeing death, will marry or be given in marriage. They will be as the angels of God, members of the royal family.

The Eternity Beyond

“I would say to those who hold views contrary to this plain declaration of Christ: Upon such matters silence is eloquence. It is presumption to indulge in suppositions and theories regarding matters that God has not made known to us in His Word. We need not enter into speculation regarding our future state.

“ ‘Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season.’ 2 Timothy 4:2.”

“Do not bring to the foundation wood, and hay, and stubble –your own surmisings and speculations, which can benefit no one.

“Christ withheld no truths essential to our salvation. Those things that are revealed are for us and our children, but we are not to allow our imagination to frame doctrines concerning things not revealed.” -*Medical Ministry*, 99:4-100:3 (*Faith I Live By*, 366:1-5).

Heaven Begins on Earth

“ ‘Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.’ - Matthew 11:28.”

“Heaven is to begin on this earth.”-*Testimonies*, Volume 7, 131:4. (*Faith I Live By*, 367:1-2).

“When the Lord’s people are filled with meekness and tenderness, they will realize that His banner over them is love, and His fruit will be sweet to their taste. They will make a heaven below in which to prepare for heaven above.”-7 *Testimonies*, 131:4 (*Faith I Live By*, 367:5).

“As we walk with Jesus in this life, we may be filled with His love, satisfied with His presence. All that human nature can bear, we may receive here. But what is this compared with the hereafter? There ‘are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. . For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters.’ Revelation 7:15-17.”-*Desire of Ages*, 331:3-332:0 (*Faith I Live By*, 367:6).

The Race for Eternal Life

“ ‘Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.’ Hebrews 12:1.”

“ ‘If thy hand offend thee’ the Saviour said, ‘cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having thy two hands to go into hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched. Where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thy foot offend thee, it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having thy two feet

END OF TIME SERIES

to be cast into hell,' Mark 9:43-45, R. V. If to save the body from death, the foot or the hand should be cut off, or even the eye plucked out, how much more earnest should the Christian be to put away sin, which brings death to the soul!

"The competitors in the ancient games, after they had submitted to self-denial and rigid discipline, were *not* even then sure of the victory.

"Such is not the case in the Christian warfare. Not one who complies with the conditions will be disappointed at the end of the race. Not one who is earnest and persevering will fail of success. The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong. The weakest saint, as well as the strongest, may wear the crown of immortal glory. All may win who, through the power of divine grace, bring their lives into conformity to the will of Christ." - *Acts of the Apostles*, 312:1-2; 313:2 (*Faith I Live By*, 369:3-5).

Reward for Soul Winners

"*'And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.'* Daniel 12:3."

"Glorious will be the reward bestowed when the faithful workers gather about the throne of God and of the Lamb. . They have been partakers with Christ in His sufferings, they have been workers together with Him in the plan of redemption, and they are partakers with Him in the joy of seeing souls saved in the kingdom of God, there to praise God through all eternity." -9 *Testimonies*, 285:1 (*Faith I Live By*, 370:3)..

"A Christian once said that when he reached heaven he expected to meet with three causes of wonder. He would wonder to find some that he did not expect to see there. He would wonder not to see some that he expected to meet, and, lastly, he would wonder most to find so unworthy a sinner as himself in the Paradise of God. Many who have stood in high places as Christians upon earth will not be found with the happy throng that shall surround the throne. Those who have had knowledge and talent, and yet have delighted in controversy and unholy strife, will not have a place with the redeemed. . They desired to do some great work, that they might be admired and flattered by men, but their names were not written in the Lamb's book of life. 'I know you not,' are the sad words that Christ addresses to such. But those whose lives were made beautiful by little acts of kindness, by tender words of affection and sympathy, whose hearts recoiled from strife and contention, who never did any great work in order to be lauded of men, these are found recorded in the Lamb's book of life. Though the world counted them as insignificant, they are approved of God before the assembled universe." -*Signs, February 24, 1890 (Faith I Live By, 370:3).*

The Knowledge of God Covers the Earth

13-Reflecting Christ 378:1-8

"*'For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.'* Isaiah 11:9."

"*'He who loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of the lips the king shall be his friend.'* Proverbs 22:11,"

"Into the City of God there will enter nothing that defiles. All who are to be dwellers there will here have become pure in heart. In one who is learning of Jesus, there will be manifest a growing distaste for careless manners, unseemly language, and coarse thought. When Christ abides in the heart, there will be purity and refinement of thought and manner.

"But the words of Jesus, 'Blessed are the pure in heart,' have a deeper meaning—not merely pure in the sense in which the world understands purity, free from that which is sensual, pure from lust, but true in the hidden purposes and motives of the soul, free from pride and selfseeking, humble, unselfish, childlike." -*Mount of Blessing, 24:3-25:1.*

"To hearts that have become purified through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, all is changed. These can know God. Moses was hid in the cleft of the rock when the glory of the Lord was revealed to him; and it is when we are hid in Christ that we behold the love of God.

"By faith we behold Him here and now. In our daily experience we discern His goodness and compassion in the manifestation of His providence. . The pure in heart see God in a new and endearing relation, as their Redeemer; and while they discern the purity and loveliness of His character, they long to reflect His image.

END OF TIME SERIES

They see Him as a Father longing to embrace a repenting son, and their hearts are filled with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

“The pure in heart discern the Creator in the works of His mighty hand, in the things of beauty that comprise the universe. In His Written Word they read in clearer lines the revelation of His mercy, His goodness, and His grace.

“The beauty and preciousness of truth, which are undiscerned by the worldly-wise, are constantly unfolding to those who have a trusting, childlike desire to know and to do the will of God. We discern the truth by becoming, ourselves, partakers of the divine nature.

“The pure in heart live as in the visible presence of God during the time He apportions them in this world. And they will also see Him face to face in the future, immortal state, as did Adam when he walked and talked with God in *Eden*.”-*Mount of Blessing*, 26:2-27:1 (*Reflecting Christ*, 378:1-8).

14- *Amazing Grace* 358:1-367:4

“‘To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.’ Revelation 2:7.”

“There will be employment in Heaven. The redeemed state is not one of idle repose.” -*Bible Commentary, Volume 3*, 1164.

“‘Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore.’ Psalm 16:11.”

“During His ministry Jesus lived to a great degree an outdoor life. . . Much of His teaching was given in the open *air*.”-*Ministry of Healing*, 52:2 (*Amazing Grace*, 363:2).

“The Bible presents to our view the unsearchable riches and immortal treasures of heaven. Man’s strongest impulse urges him to seek his own happiness, and the Bible recognizes this desire and shows us that all heaven will unite with man in his efforts to gain true happiness. It reveals the condition upon which the peace of Christ is given to men. It describes a home of everlasting happiness and sunshine, where no tears nor want shall ever be known.”-*My Life Today*, 160:2 (*Amazing Grace*, 363:4).

“‘Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.’ Matthew 18:10.

“With the Word of God in his hands, every human being . . . may have such companionship as he shall choose . . . He may dwell in this world in the atmosphere of heaven, . . . drawing nearer and nearer the threshold of the eternal world, until the portals shall open, and he shall enter there. He will find himself no stranger. The voices that will greet him are the voices of the holy ones, who, unseen, were on earth his companions-voices that here he learned to distinguish and to love. He who through the Word of God has lived in fellowship with heaven will find himself at home in heaven’s companionship.” *Education*, 127:1 (*Amazing Grace*, 364:1-2, 4).

“‘And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children.’ Isaiah 54: 13.”

“Between the school established in Eden at the beginning and the school of the hereafter there lies the whole compass of this world’s history –the history of human transgression and suffering, of divine sacrifice, and of victory over death and sin. Not all the conditions of the first school of Eden will be found in the school of the future life. No tree of knowledge of good and evil will afford opportunity for temptation. No tempter is there, no possibility of wrong. Every character has withstood the testing of evil, and none are longer susceptible to its power.” *Education*, 301:6-302:0.

“Those who have made the most of their privileges to reach the highest attainments here, will take these valuable acquisitions with them into the future life. They have sought and obtained that which is imperishable. The capability to appreciate the glories that ‘eye hath not seen, nor ear heard,’ will be proportionate to the attainments reached in the cultivation of the faculties in this life.” *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 49:1 (*Amazing Grace*, 365:2-3, 5).

“‘My people shall know my name: . . . they shall know In that day that I am he that doth speak: behold, it

END OF TIME SERIES

is I.' Isaiah 52:6.”

“Every right principle, every truth learned in an earthly school, will advance us just that much in the heavenly school.”- *Counsels to Teachers, 208:3-209:0 (Amazing Grace, 366:1, 7).*

“ ‘For we know In part, and we prophecy In part. But when that which Is perfect Is come, then that which is In part shall be done away.’ 1 Corinthians 13:9, 10.”

“By faith we should look to the hereafter and grasp the pledge of God of a growth of intellect, the human faculties uniting with the divine, and every power of the soul being brought into direct contact with the Source of light. We may rejoice that all that has perplexed us in the providences of God will then be made plain; things hard to be understood will find an *explanation*.”-*Testimonies, Volume 5, 706:1 (Amazing Grace, 367:1-2).*

15A-Maranatha 316:1-334:5

“‘Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and Is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.’ Hebrews 12:2.”

“ ‘These things have I spoken unto you, , said Christ, ‘that my joy might remain In you, and that your joy might be full. ‘ John 15:11.”

“Ever before Him, Christ saw the result of His mission. His earthly life, so full of toil and self-sacrifice, was cheered by the thought that He would not have all this travail for nought. By giving His life for the life of men, He would restore in humanity the image of God. He would lift us up from the dust, reshape the character after the pattern of His own character, and make it beautiful with His own glory.

“Christ saw of the travail of His soul and was satisfied. He viewed the expanse of eternity and saw the happiness of those who through His humiliation should receive pardon and everlasting life. He was wounded for their transgressions, bruised for their iniquities. The chastisement of their peace was upon Him , and with His stripes they were healed. He heard the shout of the redeemed. He heard the ransomed ones singing the song of Moses and the Lamb. Although the baptism of blood must first be received, although the sins of the world were to weigh upon His innocent soul, although the shadow of an unspeakable woe was upon Him; yet for the joy that was set before Him He chose to endure the cross and despised the shame.

“This joy all His followers are to share. However great and glorious hereafter, our reward is not all to be reserved for the time of final deliverance. Even here we are by faith to enter into the Saviour’s joy,”-*Ministry of Healing, 504:1-3.*

“‘The King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. ‘ Matthew 25:40,”

“There is a heaven before us, and among its inhabitants there will be no strife.

“We shall greet the holy family of the redeemed, and hear the words of Christ, ‘Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’ We shall touch our golden harps, and heaven will ring with rich music. We shall cast our glittering crowns at His feet, and give glory to Him who has overcome in our behalf.”-*Review, August 8, 1907 (Maranatha, 317:1, 5, 6).*

“The love of God is without measure, without comparison, it is infinite. . When we contemplate the dignity and glory of Christ we see how great was that love that prompted the sacrifice made upon the cross of Calvary for the redemption of a lost world. This theme will fill the saints with wonder and amazement through eternal ages, and why should we not meditate upon it here in this world?

“O the mystery of godliness –God manifest in the flesh! This mystery increases as we try to comprehend it. It is incomprehensible, and yet human beings will allow worldly, earthly things to intercept the faint view it is possible for mortals to have of Jesus and His matchless love . . How can we be enthusiastic over earthly, common things and not be stirred with this picture –the cross of Calvary, the love that is revealed in the death of God’s dear Son . . ?

“All this humiliation and anguish were endured to bring back the wanderers, guilty and thankless, to the Father’s house. O the home of the blest –I cannot afford to lose it! I shall, if saved in the kingdom of God, be constantly discerning new depths in the plan of salvation. All the redeemed saints will see and appreciate as never

END OF TIME SERIES

before the love of the Father and the Son, and songs of praise will burst forth from immortal tongues. He loved us, He gave His life for us. With glorified bodies, with enlarged capacities, with hearts made pure, with lips undefiled, we shall sing the riches of redeeming love. There will be no suffering ones in heaven, no skeptics whom we must labor to convince of the reality of eternal things, no prejudices to uproot, but all will be susceptible to that love which passeth knowledge. Rest, thank God, there is a rest for the people of God, where Jesus will lead the redeemed into green pastures, by the streams of living waters which make glad the city of our God: Then the prayer of Jesus to His Father will be answered: 'I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am.' "*-That I May Know Him, 371:2-4 (Maranatha 318:2-4).*

"Then the redeemed will be welcomed to the home that Jesus is preparing for them." *-Steps to Christ, 126:1 (Maranatha, 319:4).*

"*'The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.'* 1 Samuel 16:7."

"Often we regard as hopeless subjects the very ones whom Christ is drawing to Himself. Many will be in heaven who their neighbors supposed would never enter there, Man judges from appearance, but God judges the heart," *-Christ's Object Lessons, 71:1-72:0 (Maranatha., 320:2).*

"Some among the redeemed will have laid hold of Christ in the last hours of life, and in heaven instruction will be given to these, who, when they died, did not understand perfectly the plan of *salvation*." *-Bible Commentary, Volume 5, 1124 (Maranatha., 320:2).*

"To Jesus in His agony on the cross there came one gleam of comfort. It was the prayer of the penitent thief. . . In Jesus, bruised, mocked, and hanging upon the cross, he sees the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world. Hope is mingled with anguish in his voice as the helpless, dying soul casts himself upon a dying Saviour. 'Lord, remember me,' he cries, 'when thou comest into thy kingdom.'"

"Quickly the answer came. . . Verily I say unto thee today, Thou shall be with Me in paradise." *-Desire of Ages, 749:3-750:1-2 (Maranatha, 320:4).*

"Such faith may be represented by the eleventh hour laborers who receive as much reward as do those who have labored for many hours, The thief asked in faith, in penitence, in contrition, He asked in earnestness, as if he fully realized that Jesus could save him if He would." *Bible Commentary, Volume 5, 1125 (Maranatha, 320:5).*

"Those whom Christ commends in the judgment may have known little of theology, but they have cherished His principles. . . Among the heathen are those who worship God ignorantly, those to whom the light is never brought by human instrumentality, yet they will not perish. Though ignorant of the written law of God, they have heard His voice speaking to them in nature, and have done the things that the law required. Their works are evidence that the Holy Spirit has touched their hearts, and they are recognized as the children of God.

"How surprised and gladdened will be the lowly among the nations, and among the heathen, to hear from the lips of the Saviour, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me'! How glad will be the heart of Infinite Love as His followers look up with surprise and joy at His words of approval" *-Desire of Ages, 638:2-3 (Maranatha, 320:6-7).*

"*'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.'* Isaiah 55:9."

"Our plans are not always God's plans. . .

"In His loving care and interest for us, often He who understands us better than we understand ourselves refuses to permit us selfishly to seek the gratification of our own ambition. . . Often our plans fail that God's plans for us may succeed." *-Ministry of Healing, 479:9 (Maranatha, 921 :2).*

"In the future life the mysteries that here have annoyed and disappointed us will be made plain. We shall see that our seemingly unanswered prayers and disappointed hopes have been among our greatest blessings." *-Ministry of Healing, 479-474 (Maranatha, 321:1-4).*

"We are not now sufficiently advanced in spiritual attainments to comprehend the mysteries of God. But when we shall compose the family of heaven, these mysteries will be unfolded before us." *-That I May Know Him,*

END OF TIME SERIES

365:4.

“Then much will be revealed in explanation of matters upon which God now keeps silence because we have not gathered up and appreciated that which has been made known of the eternal mysteries. The ways of Providence will be made clear; the mysteries of grace through Christ will be unfolded. That which the mind cannot now grasp, which is hard to be understood, will be explained. We shall see order in that which has seemed unexplainable; wisdom in everything withheld; goodness and gracious mercy in everything imparted. Truth will be unfolded to the mind, free from obscurity, in a single line, and its brightness will be enduring. The heart will be made to sing for joy. Controversies will be forever ended, and all difficulties will be *solved*.”-*That I May Know Him*, 365:5 (*Maranatha*, 321:5).

“ ‘Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. ‘ Colossians 3:2.”

“When God’s people take their eyes off the things of this world and place them on heaven and heavenly things they will be a peculiar people, because they will see the mercy and goodness and compassion that God has shown to the children of men. His love will call forth a response from them, and their lives will show to those around them that the Spirit of God is controlling them, that they are setting their affections on things above, not on the things of the earth.

“In thinking of heaven, we may put our imagination to the utmost stretch and think the loftiest thoughts that we are capable of thinking, and our minds will grow weary in the effort to comprehend the breadth and depth and height of the subject. It is impossible for our minds to take in the great themes of eternity. It is impossible for us even to make an effort to understand these things without the effort affecting our whole character for good and having an uplifting influence on our minds. As we think of how Christ came to our world to die for fallen man, we understand something of the price that was paid for our redemption, and we realize that there is no true goodness or greatness apart from God.

“Only by the light shining from the cross of Calvary can we know to what depths of sin and degradation the human race has fallen through sin. Only by the length of the chain let down from heaven to draw us up can we know the depths to which we had sunk. And it is only by keeping the unseen realities in view that we can understand anything of the wonderful theme of redemption.”-*In Heavenly Places*, 368:1-4 (*Maranatha*, 322:2-4).

“We are almost home; we shall soon hear the voice of the Saviour richer than any music, saying, Your warfare is accomplished. Enter into the joy of thy Lord. Blessed, blessed benediction; I want to hear it from His immortal lips. I want to praise Him; I want to honor Him that sitteth on the throne. I want my voice to echo and re-echo through the courts of heaven. Will you be there? . . . God help us, and fill us with all fullness and power, and then we can taste of the joys of the world to come. “-*In Heavenly Places*, 368:4 (*Maranatha*, 322:5).

“ ‘If any man’s work abide. . . , he shall receive a reward.’ 1 Corinthians 3:14.”

“Those who truly love God will desire so to improve the talents that He has given them, that they may be a blessing to others. And by and by the gates of heaven will be thrown wide open to admit them, and from the lips of the King of Glory the benediction will fall upon their ear like richest music, ‘Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world’ (Matthew 25:34). Thus the redeemed will be welcomed to the mansions that Jesus is preparing for them. There their companions will not be the vile of earth, but those who through divine aid have formed perfect characters. Every sinful tendency, every imperfection, has been removed by the blood of Christ; and the excellence and brightness of His glory, far exceeding the brightness of the sun in its meridian splendor, is imparted to them. And the moral beauty, the perfection of His character, shines through them in worth far exceeding this outward splendor. They are without fault before the great white throne, sharing the dignity and privileges of the angels.” *Maranatha*, 324:2.

“Obedience to all the commandments of God was the condition of eating of the tree of life. Adam fell by disobedience.

“Obedience through Jesus Christ gives to man perfection of character and a right to that tree of life. The conditions of again partaking of the fruit of the tree are plainly stated in the testimony of Jesus Christ to John: ‘Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.’ “-*Bible Commentary, Volume 1, 1086* (*Maranatha*, 325:5-6).

“In the rainbow above the throne is an everlasting testimony that ‘God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’

END OF TIME SERIES

“As the bow in the cloud is formed by the union of the sunlight and the shower, so the rainbow encircling the throne represents the combined power of mercy and justice. It is not justice alone that is to be maintained; for this would eclipse the glory of the rainbow of promise above the throne; men could see only the penalty of the law. Were there no justice, no penalty, there would be no stability to the government of God. It is the mingling of judgment and mercy that makes salvation complete.

“Mercy invites us to enter through the gates into the city of God, and justice is satisfied to accord to every obedient soul full privileges as a member of the royal family, a child of the heavenly King. If we were defective in character, we could not pass the gates that mercy has opened to the obedient; for justice stands at the entrance, and demands holiness in all who would see God.

“Were justice extinct, and were it possible for divine mercy to open the gates to the whole race, irrespective of character, there would be a worse condition of disaffection and rebellion in heaven than before Satan was expelled. The peace, happiness, and harmony of heaven would be broken. The change from earth to heaven will not change men’s character; the happiness of the redeemed in heaven results from the character formed in this life after the image of Christ. The saints in heaven will first have been saints on earth.

“The salvation that Christ made such a sacrifice to gain for man is that which is alone of value; for it is that which saves from sin. . Thus the law of God is not weakened by the gospel, but the power of sin is broken, and the scepter of mercy is extended to the penitent sinner. . God will never forget His people in their struggle against evil, let Jesus be our *theme*.”-*Review, December 19, 1892 (Maranatha, 326:2-6)*.

“Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty: they shall behold the land that is very far off.” Isaiah 99:17.”

“If we desire to see the King in His beauty we must here behave worthily. We must outgrow our childishness. When provocation comes let us be silent. There are times when silence is eloquence. We are to reveal the patience and kindness and forbearance that will make us worthy of being called sons and daughters of God. We are to trust Him, and believe on Him, and rely upon Him. We are to follow in Christ’s steps. ‘If any man will come after me,’ He says, ‘let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me’ (Luke 9:23). It may be a heavy cross to keep silent when you ought to. It may be a painful discipline, but let me assure you that silence does much more to overcome evil than a storm of angry words.

“Here in this world we are to learn what we must be in order to have a place in the heavenly courts. We are to learn the lessons that Christ desires to teach us, that we may be prepared to be taken to the higher school in the courts above, where the Saviour will lead us beside the river of life, explaining to us many things that here we could not comprehend. . There we shall see the glory of God as we have never seen it here. We get but a glimpse of the glory now, because we do not follow on to know the lord.” -*In Heavenly Places, 365:2-3 (Maranatha, 327:1-3)*.

“Long have we waited, but our hope is not to grow dim. If we can but see the King in His beauty we shall be forever blessed.” -*8 Testimonies, 253:1 (Maranatha, 327:5)*.

“I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father’s name written in their foreheads. ‘ Revelation 14:1.”

“That triumphant throng, with songs of victory and with crowns and harps, have trodden in the fiery furnace of earthly affliction when it was heated and intensely hot. From destitution, from hunger and torture, they come, from deep self-denial and bitter disappointments, look upon them now as conquerors, no longer poor, no longer in sorrow, in affliction and hated of all men for Christ’s sake. Behold their heavenly garments, white and shining, richer than any kingly robe, look by faith upon their jeweled crowns; never did such a diadem deck the brow of any earthly monarch.

“Listen to their voices as they sing loud hosannas and as they wave the palm branches of victory. Rich music fills heaven as their voices sing forth these words: ‘Worthy, worthy is the lamb that was slain and rose again forevermore. Salvation unto our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the lamb.’ And the angelic host, angels and archangels, covering cherub and glorious seraph, echo back the refrain of that joyous, triumphant song saying, ‘Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever.’ (Revelation 7:12).

“Oh, in that day it will be discovered that the righteous were the wise ones, while the sinful and disobedient were fools. . Shame and everlasting contempt is their portion. Those who have been collaborators for

END OF TIME SERIES

Christ will then be near the throne of God, girt with purity and the garments of eternal righteousness.” -*In Heavenly Places*, 371 :3-5 (*Maranatha*, 329:1-5).

“When I think of those words of Daniel, I find myself waking up in the night and repeating them over and over: ‘And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.’ look at the sun and the stars marshaled in the heavens, and known by their names. The Lord says, They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever.” -*In Heavenly Places*, 364:2 (*Maranatha*, 330:2).

“In order to determine how important are the interests involved in the conversion of the soul from error to truth, we must appreciate the value of immortality; we must realize how terrible are the pains of the second death; we must comprehend the honor and glory awaiting the ransomed, and understand what it is to live in the presence of Him who died that He might elevate and ennoble man, and give to the overcomer a royal diadem.

“The worth of a soul cannot be fully estimated by finite minds. How gratefully will the ransomed and glorified ones remember those who were instrumental in their salvation! No one will then regret his self-denying efforts and persevering labors, his patience, forbearance, and earnest heart yearnings for souls that might have been lost had he neglected his duty or become weary in well-doing.

“Now these white-robed ones are gathered into the fold of the Great Shepherd. The faithful worker and the soul saved through his labor are greeted by the Lamb in the midst of the throne, and are led to the tree of life and to the fountain of living waters. With what joy does the servant of Christ behold these redeemed ones, who are made to share the glory of the Redeemer! How much more precious is heaven to those who have been faithful in the work of saving souls!”-5 *Testimonies*, 620:2-621:1 (*Maranatha*, 330:3-5).

“What is done through the cooperation of men with God is a work that shall never perish, but endure through the eternal ages. “-*Fundamentals of Education*, 199:2 (*Maranatha*, 330:6).

“John, while in vision, saw a company clothed in white robes. . They were seen in the temple of God. This will be the result for all who will lay hold of the merits of Christ and wash their robes in His blood. Every provision has been made so that we can sit with Christ upon His throne, but the condition is that we be in harmony with the law of God.

“We cannot afford to lose heaven. We ought to have our conversation on heavenly things. There, there is no death nor pain. Why are we so reluctant to talk of these things? Why do we dwell upon earthly things? The apostle exhorts us to have our conversation in heaven. ‘For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ’ (Philippians 3:20). Christ will soon return to gather those who are prepared, and take them to this glorious place. . So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.’ (Hebrews 9:28).

“Do we love to think of this event or do we want to put it off? . . The more we talk of Jesus, the more we shall reflect His divine image. By beholding we become transformed. We need to bring Christ into our religious experience. When you assemble together, let the Conversation be on Christ and His salvation. . The more we talk of Jesus the more of His matchless charms we shall behold.

“Those who take no pleasure in thinking and talking of God in this life, will not enjoy the life that is to come, where God is ever present, dwelling among His people. But those who love to think of God will be in their element, breathing in the atmosphere of heaven. Those who on earth love the thought of heaven will be happy in its holy associations and pleasures.’ -*In Heavenly Places*, 370:2, 4-5 (*Maranatha*, 331:2-5).

“ ‘Since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.’ Isaiah 64:4.”

“Many have longed to penetrate into the glories of the future world and to have the secrets of eternal mysteries disclosed to them, but they knock in vain. That which is revealed is for us and for our children. . The Great Revealer hath opened to our intelligence many things that are essential in order that we may understand the heavenly attractions and have respect to the recompense of the reward.

“The unfoldings of Jesus in reference to heavenly things are of a character that only the spiritual mind can appreciate. The imagination may summon its utmost powers in order to picture the glories of heaven, but ‘eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for

END OF TIME SERIES

them that love him' (1 Corinthians 2:9). The heavenly intelligences are all around us . . . Angels of light create a heavenly atmosphere about the soul, lifting us toward the unseen and eternal. We cannot behold their forms with our natural sight; only by the spiritual vision can we discern heavenly things. Our human powers would be extinguished by the inexpressible glory of the angels of light. The spiritual ear alone can distinguish the harmony of heavenly voices. It is not Christ's plan to excite the emotions by brilliant descriptions. . He has with sufficient distinctness presented Himself, the way, the truth, and the life, as the only means whereby salvation is to be obtained. No more than this is really required.

"He might bring the human soul to the threshold of heaven, and through the open door show us its inner glory flooding the heavenly sanctuary and shining out through its portals; but we must behold it by faith, not with the natural eyes. He does not forget that we are His human agents, to work the works of God in a world all seared and marred with the curse. It is in this world, that is clothed with moral darkness like the pall of death, where darkness covers the earth and gross darkness the people, that we are to walk in the light of heaven." -*In Heavenly Places*, 366:1-2, 4 (*Maranatha*, 332:1-4).

" 'We look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.' 2 Corinthians 4:18."

" 'Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.' Revelation 22: 14."

"Do we expect to get to heaven at last and join the heavenly choir? Just as we go into the grave we will come up, as far as the character is concerned. . Now is the time for washing and ironing.

"John saw the throne of God and around that throne a company, and he inquired, Who are these? The answer came, 'These are they which . . . have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb' (Revelation 7:14). Christ leads them to the fountains of living waters, and there is the tree of life and there is the precious Saviour. Here is presented to us a life that measures with the life of God. There is no pain, sorrow, sickness, or death there. All is peace and harmony and love.

"Now is the time to receive grace and strength and power to combine with our human efforts that we can form characters for everlasting life. When we do this we will find that the angels of God will minister unto us, and we shall be heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. And when the last trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be called from their prison house and changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, the crowns of immortal glory shall be placed upon the heads of the overcomers. The pearly gates will swing back for the nations that have kept the truth and they will enter in. The conflict is ended."

" 'Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world' (Matt. 25:34). Do we want this benediction? I do, and I believe you do. May God help you that you may fight the battles of this life and gain a victory day by day and at last be among the number that shall cast their crowns at Jesus' feet and touch the golden harps and fill all heaven with sweetest music. I want you to love my Jesus. . Do not reject my Saviour, for He has paid an infinite price for you. I see in Jesus matchless charms, and I want you to see these charms." - *In Heavenly Places*, 369:2-3, 5 (*Maranatha*, 334:1-5).

16B-Marannatha 349:1-373:4

"Can any earthly promotion confer honor equal to this to be sons of God, children of the heavenly King, members of the royal family? . . . The nobility of earth are but men; they die, and return to dust; and there is no lasting satisfaction in their praise and honor. But the honor that comes from God is lasting. To be heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, is to be entitled to unsearchable riches treasures of such value that in comparison with them the gold and silver, the gems and precious stones of earth, sink into insignificance." -*Review*, June 10, 1884.

"To have fellowship with the Father and His Son Jesus Christ is to be ennobled and elevated, and made a partaker of joys unspeakable and full of glory. Food, clothing, station, and wealth may have their value; but to have a connection with God and to be a partaker of His divine nature is of priceless value. Our lives should be hid with Christ in God; and although it 'doth not yet appear what we shall be,' 'when Christ, who is our life, shall appear,' 'we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.' The princely dignity of the Christian character will shine forth as the sun, and the beams of light from the face of Christ will be reflected upon those who have purified themselves even as He is pure. The privilege of becoming sons of God is cheaply purchased, even at the sacrifice of everything we possess, be it life itself." -*4 Testimonies*, 357:2 (*Marannatha*, 349:2-3).

END OF TIME SERIES

“To the dwellers in Eden was committed the care of the garden, ‘to dress it and to keep it.’ Their occupation was not wearisome, but pleasant and invigorating. God appointed labor as a blessing to man, to occupy his mind, to strengthen his body, and to develop his faculties. In mental and physical activity Adam found one of the highest pleasures of his holy existence.

“Those who regard work as a curse, attended though it be with weariness and pain, are cherishing an error. The rich often look down with contempt upon the working classes, but this is wholly at variance with God’s purpose in creating man. What are the possessions of even the most wealthy in comparison with the heritage given to the lordly Adam? Yet Adam was not to be idle. Our Creator, who understands what is for man’s happiness, appointed Adam his work. The true joy of life is found only by the working men and women.” -*Patriarchs and Prophets, 50:1 (Maranatha, 350:3-4)*.

“God designs that all shall be workers. The toiling beast of burden answers the purpose of its creation better than does the indolent man. God is a constant worker. The angels are workers; they are ministers of God to the children of men. Those who look forward to a heaven of inactivity will be disappointed, for the economy of heaven provides no place for the gratification of indolence. But to the weary and heavy-laden rest is promised. It is the faithful servant who will be welcomed from his labors to the joy of his Lord.” -*Counsels to Teachers, 280:1 (Maranatha, 350:6)*.

“The saints will have crowns of glory upon their heads, and harps of gold in their hands. They will play upon the golden harp, and sing redeeming love, and make melody unto God. Their former trials and suffering in this world will be forgotten and lost amid the glories of the New Earth.” -*Youth’s Instructor, October, 1852*.

“Human language is inadequate to describe the reward of the righteous. It will be known only to those who behold it.” -*Story of Redemption, 430:2-431:0 (Maranatha, 355:7)*.

“‘Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the Inheritance of the saints in light.’ Colossians 1: 12.”

“The ransom has been paid, and it is possible for all to come to God, and through a life of obedience to attain unto everlasting life. Then how sad it is that men turn from the immortal inheritance, and live for the gratification of pride, for selfishness and display, and . . . lose the blessing which they might have both in this life and in the life to come. They might enter into the palaces of heaven, and associate on terms of freedom and equality with Christ and heavenly angels, and with the princes of God; and yet, incredible as it may seem, they turn from heavenly attractions.

“The Creator of all worlds proposes to love those who believe in His only-begotten Son as their personal Saviour, even as He loves His Son. Even here and now His gracious favor is bestowed upon us to this marvelous extent. He has given to men the gift of the Light and Majesty of heaven, and with Him He has bestowed all the treasures of heaven. Much as He has promised us for the life to come, He also bestows princely gifts upon us in this life, and as subjects of His grace, He would have us enjoy everything that will ennoble, expand, and elevate our characters. It is His design to fit us for the heavenly courts above.

“But Satan is contending for the souls of men. . . He would not have them catch a glimpse of the future honor, the eternal glories, laid up for those who shall be inhabitants of heaven, or have a taste of the experience that gives a foretaste of the happiness of heaven.

“‘Those who accept Christ as their Saviour have the promise of the life that now is, and that which is to come. . . The lowliest disciple of Christ may become an inhabitant of heaven, an heir of God to an inheritance incorruptible, and that fadeth not away. O that every one might make choice of the heavenly gift, become an heir of God to that inheritance whose title is secure from any destroyer, world without end! O, choose not the world, but choose the better inheritance! Press, urge your way toward the mark for the prize of your high calling in Christ Jesus.’” -*Fundamentals of Education, 234:1-235:0 (Maranatha 357:1-5)*.

“‘I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his Image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.’” Revelation 15:2.

“‘Whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord.’ Ephesians 6:8.”

“The poor widow who cast her two mites into the Lord’s treasury little knew what she was doing. Her

END OF TIME SERIES

example of self-sacrifice has acted and reacted upon thousands of hearts in every land and in every age. It has brought to the treasury of God gifts from the high and the low, the rich and the poor. It has helped to sustain missions, to establish hospitals, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, and preach the gospel to the poor. Multitudes have been blessed through her unselfish deed. And the outworking of all these lines of influence she, in the day of God, will be permitted to see. So with Mary's precious gift to the Saviour. How many have been inspired to loving service by the memory of that broken alabaster box! And how she will rejoice as she beholds all this!" -6 *Testimonies*, 310:2 (*Maranatha*, 359:1, 3).

"Verily I say unto you,' Christ declared, 'Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her: looking Into the future, the Saviour spoke with certainty concerning His gospel. It was to be preached throughout the world. And as far as the gospel extended, Mary's gift would shed its fragrance, and hearts would be blessed through her unstudied act. Kingdoms would rise and fall; the names of monarchs and conquerors would be forgotten; but this woman's deed would be immortalized upon the pages of sacred history. Until time should be no more, that broken alabaster box would tell the story of the abundant love of God for a fallen race.'" *Desire of Ages*, 563:1 (*Maranatha*, 359:4).

"We cannot suppose that when the final triumph shall come, and we have the mansions prepared for us, idleness will be our portion –that we shall rest in a blissful, do-nothing state."-Review, *May 17, 1898* (*Maranatha*, 360:2).

"I have been shown the order, the perfect order, of heaven, and have been enraptured as I listened to the perfect music there. After coming out of vision, the singing here has sounded very harsh and discordant. I have seen companies of angels, who stood in a hollow square, everyone having a harp of gold. At the end of the harp was an instrument to turn to set the harp or change the tunes. Their fingers did not sweep over the strings carelessly, but they touched different strings to produce different sounds. There is one angel who always leads, who first touches the harp and strikes the note, then all join in the rich, perfect music of heaven. It cannot be described. It is melody, heavenly, divine, while from every countenance beams the image of Jesus, shining with glory unspeakable."- 1 *Testimonies*, 146:2 (*Maranatha*, 361:4).

"What a song that will be when the ransomed of the Lord meet. . ! All heaven is filled with rich music, and with songs of praise to the Lamb. Saved, everlastingly saved, in the kingdom of glory! To have a life that measures with the life of God –that is the reward." -*Bible Commentary*, Volume 7, 982:2.

"Our lifework here Is a preparation for the life eternal. The education begun here will not be completed In this life; it will be going forward through all eternity -ever progressing, never completed." -*Ministry of Healing*, 466:2 (*Maranatha*, 363:3).

"That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.' *Ephesians 2:7*."

"Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. . Which things the angels desire to look into.' 1 Peter 1:10-12."

"Through all eternity the ransomed host will be His chief glory."-*Spirit of Prophecy*, Volume 3, 261 (*Maranatha*, 366:5).

"O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches. ' Psalm 104:24. "

"The knowledge of God's works and ways we can only begin to obtain in this world; the study will be continued throughout eternity. God has provided for man subjects of thought which will bring into activity every faculty of the mind. We may read the character of the Creator in the heavens above and the earth beneath, filling the heart with gratitude and thanksgiving. Every nerve and sense will respond to the expressions of God's love in His marvelous works."-4 *Testimonies*, 581:2 (*Maranatha*, 367:1-2).

"Thus said the Lord. . I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded.' *Isaiah 45:11,12*."

"God has worlds upon worlds that are obedient to His law. These worlds are conducted with reference to

END OF TIME SERIES

the glory of the Creator. As the inhabitants of these worlds see the great price that has been paid to ransom man, they are filled with amazement.” -*Review, September 25, 1900 (Maranatha, 368:3)*.

“Then I was taken to a world which had seven moons. There I saw good old Enoch, who had been translated . . . I asked him if this was the place he was taken to from the earth. He said, ‘It is not; the city is my home, and I have come to visit this place.’ He moved about the place as if perfectly at home.

“I begged of my attending angel to let me remain in that place. I could not bear the thought of coming back to this dark world again. Then the angel said, ‘You must go back, and if you are faithful, you, with the 144,000, shall have the privilege of visiting all the worlds and viewing the handiwork of God.’ “ -*Early Writings, 40:0 (Maranatha, 368:6-7)*.

“The Lord has made every provision for our happiness in the future life. But He has made no revelations regarding these plans, and we are not to speculate concerning them. Neither are we to measure the conditions of the future life by the conditions of this life.” *Medical Ministry, 100:4 (Maranatha, 369:7)*.

“ ‘The kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High.’ *Daniel 7:27.*”

“The government of the kingdom of Christ is like no earthly government. It is a representation of the characters of those who compose the kingdom. . His court is one where holy love presides and whose offices and appointments are graced by the exercise of charity. He charges His servants to bring pity and loving-kindness, His own attributes, into all their office work.

“ ‘The power of Christ alone can work the transformation in heart and mind that all must experience who would partake with Him of the new life in the kingdom of God. . In order to serve Him aright, we must be born of the divine Spirit. This will purify the heart and renew the mind and give us a new capacity for knowing and loving God. It will give us willing obedience to all His requirements. This is true worship.’ -*In Heavenly Places, 372:1-3 (Maranatha, 370:2-3)*.

“Thine eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet habitation, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down; not one of the stakes thereof shall ever be removed, neither shall any of the cords thereof be broken. But there the glorious Lord will be unto us a place of broad rivers and streams. . For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; he will save us . . . And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity.’ (Isaiah 33:20-24).” -*In Heavenly Places, 372:2-4, (Maranatha, 370:4)*.

“ ‘The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.’ ‘The Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.’ ‘In that day shall the Lord of hosts be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty, unto the residue of his people.’ -*Prophets and Kings, 733:1 (Maranatha, 371:4)*.

“Through Christ’s redeeming work the government of God stands justified. The Omnipotent One is made known as the God of love. Satan’s charges are refuted, and his character unveiled. Rebellion can never again arise. Sin can never again enter the universe. Through eternal ages all are secure from apostasy. By love’s self-sacrifice, the inhabitants of earth and heaven are bound to their Creator in bonds of indissoluble union.

“In the place where sin abounded, God’s grace much more abounds. The earth itself, the very field that Satan claims as his, is to be not only ransomed but exalted. Our little world, under the curse of sin the one dark blot in His glorious creation, will be honored above all other worlds in the universe of God. Here, where the Son of God tabernacled in humanity; where the King of glory lived and suffered and died-here, when He shall make all things new, the tabernacle of God shall be with men, ‘and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.’ And through endless ages as the redeemed walk in the light of the Lord, they will praise Him for His unspeakable *Gift-Immanuel, ‘God with us.’* “ -*Desire of Ages, 26:2-3 (Maranatha, 372:4-5)*.

LOOKING FORWARD TO HEAVEN

“What a source of joy to the disciples to know that they had such a Friend in heaven to plead in their behalf!

Through the visible ascension of Christ all their views and contemplation of heaven are changed. Their

END OF TIME SERIES

minds had formerly dwelt upon it as a region of unlimited space, tenanted by spirits without substance. Now heaven was connected with the thought of Jesus, whom they had loved and revered above all others, with whom they had conversed and journeyed, whom they had handled, even in His resurrected body. .

“Heaven could no longer appear to them as an indefinite, incomprehensible space, filled with intangible spirits. They now looked upon it as their future home, where mansions were being prepared for them by their loving Redeemer.”-*6 Bible Commentary, 1054, 1:3-4.*

“A fear of making the future inheritance seem too material has led many to spiritualize away the very truths which lead us to look upon it as our home.” -*Great Controversy, 674:4-675.*

“Jesus comes to present the advantages and beautiful imagery of the heavenly, that the attractions of heaven shall become familiar to the thoughts, and memory’s hall be hung with pictures of celestial and eternal loveliness.”-*Our High Calling, 286:1.*

“The great Teacher gives man a view of the future world. He brings it, with its attractive possessions, within the range of his vision. . If He can fasten the mind upon the future life and its blessedness, in comparison with the temporal concerns of this world, the striking contrast is deeply impressed upon the mind, absorbing the heart and soul and the whole being.” -*Our High Calling, 286:3 (see also pp. 250, 319).*

“Motives stronger, and agencies more powerful, could never be brought into operation; the exceeding rewards for right-doing and the enjoyment of heaven, the society of the angels, the communion and love of God and His Son, the elevation and extension of all our powers throughout eternal ages,-are these not mighty incentives and encouragements to urge us to give the heart’s loving service to our Creator and Redeemer?” -*Steps to Christ 21:3.*

“Language is altogether too feeble to attempt a description of heaven. As the scene rises before me, I am lost in amazement. Carried away with the surpassing splendor and excellent glory, I lay down the pen, and exclaim, ‘Oh, what level what wondrous level’ The most exalted language fails to describe the glory of heaven or the matchless depths of a Saviour’s love.” -*Early Writings, 289:2.*

“If we could have but one view of the celestial city, we would never wish to dwell on earth again. There are beautiful landscapes on earth, and I enjoy all these prospects of loveliness in nature. I associate them with the Creator. But I know that if I love God, and keep His commandments, there is a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory reserved in Heaven for me. Beautiful as are the scenes of earth, they can bear no comparison to the glories of the eternal world.” -*Signs of the Times, April 8, 1889.*

“Human language is inadequate to describe the reward of the righteous. It will be known only to those who behold it. No finite mind can comprehend the glory of the Paradise of God.” -*Great Controversy, 675:0.*

LAST DAYS APPENDIX

The following material was gleaned from our book of unpublished manuscripts, entitled *The Last Days*, and is some of the best material from that volume on topics given in this section.

HEAVEN

Description of Heavenly Things. - “I saw the exceeding loveliness and glory of Jesus. His countenance was brighter than the sun at noonday. His robe was whiter than the whitest white. How can I . . . describe to you the glories of heaven and the lovely angels singing and playing upon their harps of ten strings? . . .” -*Letter 9, 1851, pp. 1-2. (To Sister Harriet, “August 11, 1851).*

God Requires Perfect Obedience to His Law. - “As Christ denied self and sacrificed at every step, so must we, if we would sit with Him upon His throne. And then what do we get? –everlasting life, an eternal weight of glory. The streets are all pure gold, like transparent glass; and there is the tree of life, whose leaves are for the healing of the nations. Everything is lovely. There is no sickness, no sorrow, no pain, no death there but our life there will measure with the life of God.” -*Manuscript 11, 1886, pp. 3, 9-11. (“Christ’s Controversy with the Devil, “July 25, 1886).*

No Color line in Heaven. - “In heaven there will be no color line, for all will be as white as Christ

