

Love Reality and Last-day Deceptions

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Love Reality is a movement that started in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the last five years; it is interesting and tempting to many youths. It seems to have begun in Hawaii and was started by Tyler Morrison and Jonathan Leonardo.

The mission of this group of believers is to help people be “free from sin” and find the “truth.”

Jesus did not teach that once one is sick and made well, he is always “cured.” Every day we wake up as sinners. Every day we must deny and crucify self. The passions and desires being crucified in Galatians 5:24 are not a one-time event. We need to continue to be cured only as we continue to crucify self.

I have spent some time watching their indoctrination videos on their websites, to determine what they believe. I would not encourage others to do so. They believe freedom from sin is received by faith, when someone puts their hope in Jesus and receives the Spirit at baptism. Once this is accomplished, their record is clean. This sounds biblical; however, through plucking verses from their context and ignoring plain statements and using wild reasoning, they redefine each word. Sin is defined as lust. Hope in Jesus Christ is defined as something given to them when they sin, which could not be further from the truth.

“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life....

“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be

destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.”—Romans 6:1-4, 6.

After baptism, they receive the Spirit, and there is no longer a need to confess their sins. Receiving the Spirit is defined as accepting that they are no longer sinners and are incorruptible.

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”—1 John 1:8.

Thus they believe they are free from the prison of sin, which is comparing themselves to the law of God.

“But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty [the Ten Commandments], and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.”—James 1:25.

“Take the Ten Commandments...and see if you are in harmony with their requirements.... Those who are looking into the perfect law of liberty, and seeking a fitness for Heaven, will realize their need of divine help and will often be found before God in prayer.—*Signs of the Times, February 10, 1888.*

One must maintain the Faith, which is not being double-minded, They define double-mindedness as measuring themselves by the law, feeling guilty for previous sins, or shockingly asking themselves if what they are doing is right. They also believe the record of sins is written in their hearts. They teach that the sanctuary was designed to remind Israel that they were under sin through continual sacrifices; it had nothing to do with outlining the plan of salvation. I stopped watching at this point, but their remaining studies were all building on these foundational principles. This is basically spiritualism, which encourages people to “follow their heart.” It is an alternate way of saying, “Do what thou wilt; follow your truth.” The purpose of this article is to correct the misconceptions and false answers

provided by Love Reality leaders, which have led to a harmful distortion of truth. We will lay the real foundation by God's grace:

What is sin?

"'Sin is the transgression of the law' [1 John 3:4]. This is the only definition of sin. Without the law there can be no transgression.

"'By the law is the knowledge of sin' [Romans 3:20]. The standard of righteousness is exceeding broad, prohibiting every evil thing."—*7 Bible Commentary, 951.*

The Bible does not teach that sinful desires are sin, "but every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed" (James 1:14). Sinful desires are temptations; when we consent to allow them to remain in our minds, we are being drawn away from God. Eve had not sinned when she left her husband's side; she did not sin by speaking to the serpent. Each of these steps drew her away until she at last took that bite. Sin has clear steps; a desire is dwelt upon and strengthened until we have been sufficiently drawn away from God and commit sin.

"When you yielded to temptation, you must have ceased to look unto Jesus, the author and finisher of your faith."—*This day with God, 89.*

What is Hope?

Hope is not gained through sinning; it is gained through an experience in resisting sin.

"And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope."—Romans 5:3-4.

In our temptations, we are to patiently exercise self-control; thus, continual resistance to sin gives us patience. The fruit of patience is an experience. We test the promises of God and discover His faithfulness and His love; and, if we fail, we can experience His mercy and justice as we confess our sins and are forgiven. We walk in the Spirit when we deny the lusts of the flesh. Years of defeats become years of victories as we learn from our mistakes. Remember this: If you have made mistakes, you can gain victory over them; it's not a lost cause. You can learn from your mistakes and obtain victories:

"Stand like Daniel, that faithful statesman, a man whom no temptation could corrupt.... Remember this. If you have made mistakes, you certainly gain a victory if you see these mistakes and regard them as beacons [lighthouses or other signals for guidance] of warning. Thus you turn defeat into victory, disappointing the enemy and honoring your Redeemer."—*Christ's Object Lessons, 332.2.*

Our experience in victory fills our hearts with hope for the future; we see the splendor gleaming from the domes afar and the glory streaming through the gates ajar. (Domes: archaic, meaning mansions. But, in modern usage, it simply refers to rounded roof structures and does not necessarily imply the grandeur or size of mansions.) We know we will soon enter our heavenly home, never more to roam; and we hasten with the hope of eternity, lightening our hearts. We take our hope and experience with us to heaven; along with faith and love, they are the only things that stand in the judgment.

What does it mean to walk in the Spirit?

Let us first note that those who walk in the Spirit do not follow their lusts:

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh."—Galatians 5:16.

Our desires stem from two sources: the Spirit and the flesh. The Bible uses several examples to help us understand this. To walk in the Spirit is to obey the desires of the Spirit; and, likewise, to walk in the flesh is to obey the desires of the flesh. We know that no man can serve two masters. Because of what Jesus did on the cross, "the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (See Romans 8:3-5.) This is a clear indication that those who walk after the Spirit fulfill the royal law. They love the Lord their God with all their hearts, souls, and strength; and they love their neighbors as themselves by obeying the Ten Commandments. "For all Thy commandments are righteousness" (Psalm 119:172). Those who walk in the Spirit do not sin:

"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ

the righteous.”—1 John 2:1.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”—1 John 1:9.

Walking in the Spirit is clearly not becoming sinless and incorruptible; it is simply obeying the prompting of the Holy Spirit. We will always have desires from both sources as long as we have our corrupt earthly bodies. This is why we are to sit as judges of our desires, using the Bible as our standard:

“For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.”—1 Corinthians 11:31.

“The first thing to be learned by all who would become workers together with God is the lesson of self-distrust; then they are prepared to have imparted to them the character of Christ. This is not to be gained through education in the most scientific schools. It is the fruit of wisdom that is obtained from the divine Teacher alone.”—*Desire of Ages*, p. 249 or 250. (It’s entirely possible for the same quote to appear in different editions of a book, with the quote appearing on different page numbers due to changes made in the text or formatting between editions, even if the book title remains the same).

What is the prison of sin?

The prison of sin is also known as the law of sin in the Bible. This law is fairly simple:

“Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.”—John 8:34.

“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”—Romans 6:16.

If we yield to sinful, fleshly desires, we become slaves to them:

“His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.”—Proverbs 5:22.

This means that, even if we desire to cease from sin, we now have a supernatural master, who like Pharaoh, does not desire to let us go. Of ourselves we cannot overcome, we need a Saviour:

“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”—John 8:36.

When the will is exercised to make a decision to follow fleshly lusts, it becomes corrupted. This corruption appears in the

form of propensities, which are tendencies to evil. We can inherit the tendencies of our parents and cultivate our own tendencies. Simply put, we return to what we know.

To conclude this section, the prison of sin is simply addiction to sin. A person with the propensity for angry outbursts may hate what they do or may enjoy it; but, as slaves to sin, they must do it unless given strength to resist by Christ through the power of His Spirit. The proverb of the dog returning to its vomit accurately describes the prison of sin. The sinner throws a sin out of their lives because it is making them unhappy or they are bored with it; and then, after some time, it appears attractive to them again, and they return to it.

“Those who put their trust in Christ are not to be enslaved by any hereditary or cultivated habit or tendency. Instead of being held in bondage to the lower nature, they are to rule every appetite and passion. God has not left us to battle with evil in our own finite strength. Whatever may be our inherited or cultivated tendencies to wrong, we can overcome through the power that He is ready to impart.”—*Counsels on Health*, 440.

How am I free from sin?

Freedom from sin is a gift from God to those who love Him. We are told:

“Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.”—Romans 6:12.

God gives us the tools to overcome, but the responsibility is ours. He has promised:

“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”—1 Corinthians 10:13.

Anyone who has been a slave to sin and recognized their slavery will love and appreciate God for giving them such an incredible promise:

“Righteousness within is testified to by righteousness without. He who is righteous within is not hard-hearted and unsympathetic, but day by day he grows into the image of Christ, going on from strength to strength. He who is being sanctified by the truth will be self-controlled, and will follow in the foot-

steps of Christ until grace is lost in glory. The righteousness by which we are justified is imputed; the righteousness by which we are sanctified is imparted. The first is our title to heaven, the second is our fitness for heaven.”—*The Review and Herald, June 4, 1895.*

Freedom from sin is found when we cease from it. This is accomplished when we accept the imparted righteousness of Christ. Through watchfulness and prayer, we receive self-control, which is a fruit of the Spirit used to simply say no to our temptations. We must have a distrust of self before we can receive victory over sin.

“God intended the history of David’s fall to serve as a warning that even those whom He has greatly blessed and favored are not to feel secure and neglect watchfulness and prayer. And thus it has proved to those who in humility have sought to learn the lesson that God designed to teach. From generation to generation thousands have thus been led to realize their own danger from the tempter’s power. The fall of David, one so greatly honored by the Lord, has awakened in them distrust of self. They have felt that God alone could keep them by His power through faith. Knowing that in Him was their strength and safety, they have feared to take the first step on Satan’s ground.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets, 724.*

In conclusion of this section, freedom from sin is imparted to us when we, in self-distrust, submit to God and engage in watchfulness and prayer for self-control. If we do this, we will not be drawn away from God by our fleshly lusts and enticed. The first thought upon a mind thus exercised is, “How can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?”

Deceptions to come

As Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives, His disciples asked Him what the end of the world would be like. The first thing Jesus warned against was deception. Love Reality has elements we are specifically warned against in Scripture, but we are now going to take a look at the broad scope of deceptions.

If we want to avoid last-day deceptions, we first need to know the biblical definition of deception. Jesus Himself defined deception

in these words: “Ye do err [in the Greek: deceived], not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God” (Matthew 22:29). Some know the Scriptures, but doubt the power of God; others believe in God’s power but do not know Scripture; and some know neither. This is the most complete definition of deception in the Bible. We will now turn our attention to every specific warning against deception in the Bible:

“For many shall come in My name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.”—Matthew 24:5.

Jesus warns us that many people will impersonate Christ, including Satan himself (2 Corinthians 11:14). He also tells us there will be false prophets showing signs and performing miracles. These verses have not reached fulfillment yet. Many have been claiming to be Christ, and many have been claiming to be prophets; but none have shown *great* miracles. When they do perform miracles, people will point to them as proof of divine favor, using examples like Luke 5:17-26. Miracles were performed to substantiate the words of Jesus, but this was not the basis of Christ’s claim to divinity. On the walk to Emmaus, Jesus showed no signs or miracles to prove He was the Messiah; but He directed His disciples’ attention to “a more sure word of prophecy” (2 Peter 1:19). The miracles performed by Jesus were a sign from His Father; they were not signs that Jesus Himself provided. The reason for this is based on the principle of the Sanhedrin, an ancient Jewish court that required a minimum of two or three witnesses to convict a person of a crime (Deuteronomy 17:6; 19:15; Matthew 18:16; 2 Corinthians 13:1). There was to be at least two witnesses of something in order for it to be established as truth. Jesus said, “I am come in My Father’s name, and ye receive Me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive” (John 5:43). False Christs come in their own names. They say, “I am the Christ”; and, to prove it, they perform miracles. These miracles will be signs from their father, the devil.

We can know the false from the true in a few ways. The strongest evidence is by their words:

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

Jesus Himself will not contradict the Bible. He is not divided against Himself; and true prophets will be in accordance with the truth as it is in Jesus. Regarding false Christs: If the heavens have not departed as a scroll and every eye has not seen him at the same time, he isn't the Christ the Bible testifies of. The Second Coming is no secret appearance. We are told to not even go and see people claiming to be Christ; this includes looking in the “secret chambers” of the Internet. Regarding prophets:

“The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the Lord hath truly sent him.”—Jeremiah 28:9.

We must beware; prophets can apostatize. Baalam is an excellent example of this. Deuteronomy 13:1-4 warns us that, even if a sign comes to pass, it is not proof of the heavenly inspiration. God will test His people, to see if their hearts are devoted to Him. We are still to compare every word they speak by the standard of Isaiah 8:20.

*Our next deception is found
in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11:*

“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate [men who act like women, unmanly], nor abusers of themselves with mankind [homosexual, child sexual molestation], nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers [accusers/backbiters], nor extortioners [an individual who secures money, favors, etc., by intimidation, violence, or blackmail], shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.”—1 Corinthians 6:9-11.

Another last-day deception, one you may have heard about, is that unrighteous people will inherit the kingdom of God. Let no man deceive you; only repentant sinners will be saved. Christians everywhere, from every denomination, have fallen for this particular deception. We cannot keep our cherished sins and find that “His grace is sufficient for me” (2 Corinthians 12:9). We must pick up our crosses (denying ourselves the things we want in order to obey Christ); we must offer ourselves as living sacrifices. Those who offer excuses will find themselves excused from heaven. All sin is exceedingly sinful. We are told:

“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?”—2 Corinthians 13:5.

The world will pass away with all those who are conformed to it. We must keep our garments spotless if we want no part in the destruction of the world.

*False love is another deception
that is present in our world today:*

“Be not deceived: evil communications [in the Greek: companionship] corrupt [change from good to bad in morals, manners, or actions] good manners. Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.”—1 Corinthians 15:33-34.

God has not called us to “love the sinner to Christ” by partaking in their sins or leaving them unwarned.

“He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.”—Proverbs 13:20.

It is a deception to think that companionship with the wicked will result in their salvation.

“For what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?”—2 Corinthians 6:14.

We are to call others to a better life with love. Despite the popular sentiment, it is loving to warn a brother if the spirit of love is in us. Avoiding evil companionship is no excuse to become hermits; we should mingle with people and seek their good, both eternally and temporarily. We must be wary of who we laugh and eat with; for, by beholding, we become changed. Many people, by not carefully watching their words and actions, have been led astray by ungodly companionship, especially the young and impressionable. We need the leadership, tact, love, and discretion of Jesus like never before. It is dangerous to find yourself under the peer pressure of companions; the finger of scorn is a worthy foe. Those who fall prey to sins in the presence of “friends” are weakened; it is much harder to rebuke when we are guilty of the same sins. We want to be free to warn the world without hypocrisy. Escape friendships that are destroying your hope of heaven.

“If thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.”—Matthew 18:9.

“Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My sake, and the gospel’s, but he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.”—Mark 10:29-30.

*This next deception is
the same Adam fell prey to:*

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.”—Galatians 6:7-8.

The following quotes outline the deception of Adam;

“Satan, who is the father of lies, deceived Adam in a similar way, telling him that he need not obey God, that he would not die if he transgressed the law.”—*Evangelism*, 598.1.

“He [Adam] listened to Eve’s recital of the words of the serpent, and his constancy and integrity began to waver. Doubts arose in his

mind in regard to whether God did mean just as He said. He rashly ate the tempting fruit.”—*Confrontation*, 86.

“Adam reproached his companion for her folly in leaving his side and permitting herself to be deceived by the serpent; but they both flattered themselves that He who had given them so many evidences of His love, would pardon this one transgression, or that they would not be subjected to so dire a punishment as they had feared.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 57.2.

Adam had believed that God would pardon his transgression and that he would not receive the full penalty because of the great love God had demonstrated to them. We should beware; for God spared not the angels who sinned. He did not spare the antediluvians, nor Sodom and Gomorrah. He has shown that He will not abide with wickedness; and yet so many people think they can sin without consequences! This is a mammoth deception.

“He who has no power to resist temptation is not a man. He is wanting in the attributes which entitle him to manhood. Every young man who yields to temptation debases himself. Every sin, every unrighteous action, every transgression of the law of God, tells with a thousandfold more force upon the actor than the sufferer. Every time one of the glorious faculties with which God has enriched man is abused or misused, that faculty loses forever a portion of its vigor and will never be as it was before the abuse it suffered. Every abuse inflicted upon our moral nature in this life is felt not only for time, but for eternity. Though God may forgive the sinner, yet eternity will not make up that voluntary loss sustained in this life.”—*Letters and Manuscripts, Volume 3 (1877), Letter 41, paragraph 19.*

God may forgive us, but we still reap what we have sown. Our faculties are corrupted and less useful, persisting into eternity.

“For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”—Romans 8:6.

We want to be spiritually minded; this simply means God’s law is obeyed from the heart: “For we know that the law is spiritual” (Romans 7:14). To those who are spiritually minded, the warning about deception becomes a promise; fear not, brothers and sisters, you will reap what you have sown.

“Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”—Galatians 6:9.

“For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed [showed] toward His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”—Hebrews 6:10.

Yet another deception is the belief that good things are not from God:

“Do not err, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”—James 1:16-17.

God rewards hard work, but the blessings come from Him. We do not receive good because of ourselves, but because of God’s great mercy. Experts can still fail to achieve their goals despite knowledge and effort; this demonstrates that success is a gift of God. In context, this section of Scripture is highlighting temptation:

“Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth He any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”—James 1:13-15.

Satan will seek to deceive us into thinking that temptation comes from God. Temptation comes from Satan and the carnal nature with its lusts. God gives us good things: patience to endure, faith to overcome, self-control to resist, and the hope of an eternal reward. God is able to bring good from our temptations; He uses them to prepare us for heaven.

“We shall have temptations as long as we are in this world. But instead of injuring us, they will only be turned to our advantage, if resisted. The bounds are placed where Satan cannot pass. He may prepare the furnace that consumes the dross; but instead of injuring, it can only bring forth the gold of character purer than before the trial.”—*Review, May 17, 1887.*

Those who endure temptations will receive the good gift—a crown of life. Do not be deceived.

“God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.”—1 John 1:5.

The next deception is unique because it is a self-deception:

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”—1 John 1:8.

We are, and always will be, sinners. This does not mean that we have to continue in sin. Each of us has forfeited our life, since the wages of a single sin is death. [Forfeited: lost or given up something on account of an offense, error, or failure to fulfill an agreement] Ceasing from sin doesn’t make us righteous, and obedience doesn’t forgive us; it is Christ who makes us righteous, and it is Christ who forgives us.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”—1 John 1:9.

We all have sins that are being blotted out; and we will have our cardinal natures until we receive our new bodies. Let us not deceive ourselves.

The last deception we will discuss is found in first John:

“Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.”—1 John 3:7-10.

“But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.”—James 2:9.

We are plainly told, in many ways, the importance of the Ten Commandments:

“He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”—1 John 2:4.

Let no man lead you astray by professing Christ in word but denying Him in action. There are those who will stumble and fall when tried and tested. These are different from those who sin for the pleasure of it. Certainly, Christ makes a distinction. One is growing and learning from their mistakes.

8 They are learning lessons of self-distrust. The others are destroying their own souls, selling their birthright for a proverbial bowl of soup. Those who are weeping should be comforted and those who are boasting should be warned; but this should always be done in a spirit of love and humility, being watchful lest we fall after the same manner.

We see that the apostle highlights brotherly love. Brotherly love is so important that it has a place in the ladder of Christian faith found in 2 Peter 1:4-8. Jesus said the world would know if we were His disciples based upon whether or not we have such a love:

“By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another.”—John 13:35.

“Love of self, pride and self-sufficiency lie at the foundation of the greatest trials and discords [disagreement and argument between people] that have ever existed in the religious world. Again and again the angel has said to me, ‘Press together, press together, be of one mind, of one judgment.’ Christ is the Leader, and you are brethren; follow Him. Walk in the light as He is in the light. Those who walk in the footsteps of Christ shall not walk in darkness, but those who draw apart in unsanctified independence cannot have God’s presence and blessing in the work.”—*Christian Leadership, 11.4; Testimonies to Southern Africa, Chapter 3—Counsel to Missionaries in Africa, pp. 25.2.*

“No word is to be spoken to discourage any, for this grieves the heart of Christ and greatly pleases the adversary. All need to be baptized with the Holy Spirit; all should refrain from censuring and disparaging remarks and draw near to Christ, that they may appreciate the heavy responsibilities which the co-workers with Him are carrying. ‘Press together; press together,’ are the words of our divine Instructor. Unity is strength; disunion is weakness and defeat.”—*Counsels on Health, 518.*

“Press together, press together, how much? to lay down thy life for one another.”—*Letters and Manuscripts, Volume 1 (1844-1868), Manuscript 5 (1849), paragraph 12.*

All these warnings are in the Bible because of the prevalence of these deceptions. False Christs and false prophets have come and will continue to come until Jesus returns. Since the time of the early church, a love of pleasure has paved the way for pastors to

preach that unrighteous people will inherit the earth. Evil companionship still slowly corrupts minds. Forgiven sinners suffer consequences for their sins. Every good thing has always been a gift from God. He is not the author of temptation; neither does He tempt us. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. And lastly, God’s children do not teach or practice disobedience. And they love one another more than their own lives.

My brothers and sisters, Satan has only become more subtle. We must test everything with the Word of God; let the Word encourage us to seek God with all our hearts. Heresies are the ideal condition for spiritual growth. When wisdom is needed, God is waiting to grant it. Those who put their trust in Him, with the humble simplicity of a child, will be granted great spiritual wisdom to discern truth from error. These will not need to depend upon another to distinguish what is right and what is wrong.

“It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.”—Psalm 118:8.

They will know the doctrine, whether it be of man or of God..

“My Father, which gave them Me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of My Father’s hand.”—John 10:29.

Have you made Christ your strength, wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption? Then do not worry yourself out of His hand. He is able to keep you from falling.

For a finished work,



Jonathan Taylor

Wisdom is justified of all her children. -Luke 7:35