

inspiration of the following passages:

Evangelism, page 185: *“Lift up Jesus, you that teach the people. Lift Him high in sermons, in song, in prayer. Let your powers be directed to pointing souls confused, bewildered, lost, to the Lamb of God Let the science of salvation be the burden of every sermon, the theme of every song”.*

Steps To Christ, page 67: *“He lived a sinless life. He died for us, and now He offers to take our sins and give us His righteousness. If you give yourself to Him, and accept Him as your Saviour, then sinful as your life may have been, for His sake you are accounted righteous. Christ’s character stands in the place of your character, and you are accepted before God just as if you had not sinned.”*

The perils of the last days are upon the world and the church, but soon the ‘harbour’ will be reached. Before we arrive, treacherous waters must be crossed, but we can thank God for sending a reliable pilot, the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy to guide the ship safely home.

To the remnant church, God has promised the Spirit of Prophecy. It has been given to help God’s people in the last days, to mould a character like Jesus. It has been given to prepare us for the eternal kingdom.

Just a final word of admonition: 1 Thess.5:19-21 “Do not treat prophecies with contempt” 2 Chronicles 20:20 “Have faith in the LORD your God and you will be upheld, have faith in His prophets and you will be successful.”

To believe the writings of Ellen G. White is not to believe a woman – it is to believe God Himself. She was inspired, as were the Bible prophets. To reject what she has written is to reject the counsel of God Himself, even as the Jews rejected the prophets’ warnings many years ago. In love, God has given us the Spirit of Prophecy, to save us from the deceptions of the world. Friend, if you wish to prosper spiritually, “Have faith in God and His prophets.”

Do you believe the gift of prophecy has been given by God to the enth-

Text—NIV Version. AUC Resources PO Box 116 Mitcham, Victoria 3132 Australia.

Life’s VITAL ANSWERS

Modern Day Prophets.



Before sin entered the world, God spoke to Adam on a face-to-face basis, but after this, God made His will known through the gift of prophecy. Through prophets the Bible was written that all might know God’s will for humanity. God revealed Himself to the prophets in a supernatural way, then commanded them to reveal His will to the people.

2 Peter 1:21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

The Bible is no invention of humanity. It comes direct from God, written by the prophets under inspiration.

Numbers 12:6 . . . he said, “Listen to my words: “When a prophet of the LORD is among you, _____, I speak to him in dreams.

Here is revealed the way God contacted the prophets – visions and dreams.

Ephesians 4:11-13 It was he who gave some to be apostles, _____, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

The Christian church has been given the gifts of the Spirit in order that it might progress. Through these gifts God seeks to mould the character of His people that they might grow spiritually. Notice one of these gifts is the gift of prophecy. By this verse we expect to see it in the Christian church.



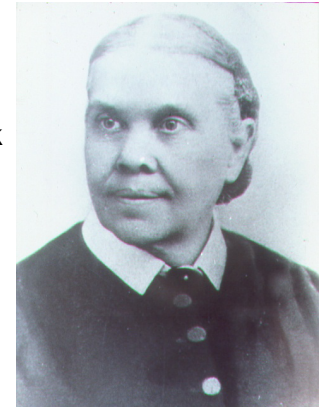
Prophets called people to repentance and gave them messages from God.

Ezekiel 3:17 Son of man, I have _____ for the house of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me.

What was the purpose of a prophet? Here Ezekiel is said to be a watchman. He gave God’s people appropriate warnings of their spiritual dangers to keep them on the straight and narrow path. He was always watching for danger signals to save the people of God from disaster.

through reading her works. Her constant aim was to exalt the Scriptures. She said, “I take the Bible as it is, as the inspired Word. Let not a mind or a hand be engaged in criticising the Bible, cling to it as it reads. I commend you to this book.” Selected Messages, Vol.1 pages 17, 18. Concerning her writings she said “The Lord has given them a lesser light (her writings) to lead men and women to the greater light” (the Bible). Her writings are like a powerful telescope. It does not put new stars into the sky, but reveals clearly what is already there. Her writings are to give a clearer understanding of the Bible.

As a result of an accident she attended school for only three grades. Strangely enough, she has written volumes on the principles of education. One of her best-known works is a book called Education.



Ellen White in later life

Leading educators have upheld this book as one of the best in its field. The government minister for education in Yugoslavia in the late 1930’s, Dr Paja Radosavlyevish, was a highly educated man. He studied in Europe and U.S.A. to prepare a work on the art of Pedagogy (the science of teaching). Upon returning home he published a book, and his name was clearly displayed as the author. However, the book was discovered to be a word for word translation of the book Education by Ellen G. White. Remember, she had only three years of schooling. She could not have produced such authoritative works unless she received divine enlightenment.

Approximately 40% of her writings pertain to healthy living. Her understanding of nutrition and health was far ahead of her time. Medical science has discovered many things in the field of health, which were written by Mrs. White over 100 years ago. For example, in Ministry of Healing, page 327 she said, “Tobacco is a slow, insidious, but most malignant poison”. Today we know tobacco contains thousands of poisons, including nicotine, one of the most deadly poisons known.

Her writings excel on the subject of Christ and His saving grace. Christ said, “By their fruits you will know them”. Notice the beauty and

tors examined her and tested her while she was in vision. Two sceptics at one time held her nose and mouth for ten minutes, but her colour, blood pressure and heartbeat remained normal.

Her writings were never intended to be an addition to Scripture. Rather they were meant to point the reader to the Scriptures, with the purpose of leading one to a higher and holier life. She has never been regarded as infallible – she was human – but her messages of truth uplifted the Bible and Jesus Christ. It is true that there are false prophets. Jesus warned His followers to beware. Matthew 7:15-20. He said the test of a true prophet was by his fruits. The fruits of Mrs. White's life reveal her as a genuine Christian. Her life was above reproach.

She did not make many predictions of the future, but history now testifies to the accuracy of their fulfilment.

Signs of the Times 1890:

“The tempest is coming, and we must get ready for its fury, by having repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord will arise to shake terribly the earth. We shall see troubles on all sides. Thousands of ships will be hurled into the depths of the sea. Navies will go down, and human life will be sacrificed by the millions.O let us seek God while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.”

In 1904 she wrote, *“Soon great trouble will arise among the nations ... trouble that will not cease until Jesus comes.”*



The White Family

Soon after she wrote, World War 1 broke out, and the world saw these things happen. Travel was slow in her day, but her predictions of disaster on the lines of travel certainly came true.

On reading her books one is led into a deeper love for Christ, and a better understanding of the Bible. Many have come back to God

2 Chronicles 36:15,16 The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent word to them through his messengers again and again, because he had pity on his people and on his dwelling place. But they mocked God's messengers, despised his words and _____ until the wrath of the LORD was aroused against his people and there was no remedy.

Not only was a prophet a watchman, he was also a messenger; faithfully delivering the message God had given him. Unfortunately the message was not always heeded.

The purpose of the prophet was to guide and direct God's people, and to call them to repentance. It is interesting that not all prophets made future predictions, yet this is what many feel is the distinguishing mark of a prophet. Samuel, Ezra and John the Baptist made no predictions of the future. Not all prophets wrote portions of the Bible either; for instance, Elijah and Elisha. The chief work of a prophet was to speak on God's behalf; to be His mouth-piece.



Anna the Prophetess was present at Jesus' birth.

Acts 11:27 During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch.

Prophets are by no means limited to the Old Testament. Here we see them spoken of in the New Testament.

Luke 2:34,36 Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against. There was also _____, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage...

Here are two prophets living at the time of Christ's birth: Simeon and Anna. Some are amazed to think that a woman should fit into the prophetic work, but prophetesses are not uncommon in the Bible. There

was Miriam, who prophesied by the Red Sea. There was Huldah in Josiah's time and Deborah, who went into battle with Barak.

Acts 21:9,10 He had _____. After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea.

Philip, the evangelist, had four daughters with the prophetic gift. God makes no difference between male and female when He bestows His gifts on humanity.

Revelation 12:17 Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring—those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

This amazing gift is also to be found in God's remnant (or last) church. God's people are described in the last days as those who keep His commandments, and have the testimony of Jesus. What is the 'testimony of Jesus'?

Revelation 19:10 For the _____.

The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. The Bible is clear that the gift of prophecy can be expected in our day. Seventh-day Adventists believe they represent God's remnant church, and in the person of Mrs. E.G. White, God manifested the gift of prophecy. Many ridicule any prophetic claim, but what is the Bible's admonition?

1 Thessalonians 5:19-21 Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. _____. Hold on to the good.

Here is advice that we should not scorn a prophetic claim, but rather, put it to the test to see if it is genuine. "Test Everything." Does Ellen G. White measure up to the test? Let us examine the following evidence.

When the Advent movement arose around 1840, God sought a man to be His spokesman. He first chose William Foy but he failed, then the gift was given to a talented young man by the name of Hazen

Foss. He refused to relate the vision given to him, and was told by the angel that the gift of prophecy would be given to the weakest of the weak. The next person to receive the gift was a humble, godly woman, named Ellen Gould Harmon. She was brought up in a Methodist home and was converted at a Bible camp meeting at the age of 12. Unlike her predecessor who was offered the prophetic gift, she was poorly educated. She had only three years of primary schooling. She received her first vision at the age of 17, at a prayer meeting where over 60 people were in attendance. She lived for 87 years, during which time she received over 2,000 visions and prophetic dreams.



Ellen White

She married a young minister, James White, and four boys were born into their home. She was a widow for 34 years, spending her time caring for the poor, the needy, and orphans. She also travelled and conducted public meetings where audiences up to 15,000 to 20,000 were held spellbound. She was a prolific writer. Her books, if placed flat on one another, would reach the height of a man.

As Mrs. White felt the presence of the Lord coming upon her, she would say, glory, three times. She would then go into vision, and her physical strength would leave her. She would then be strengthened supernaturally. It was impossible for any person to move her arms from whatever position she placed them. On one occasion she held a family Bible, weighing 18 lbs, with outstretched arm at shoulder level for half an hour. Mr America, who tried the same feat several years ago, managed to hold it for only 4 minutes. These physical phenomena were also experienced by Bible prophets. See Numbers 24:3,4 and Daniel 10:8,17,18.

Mrs. White's eyes were open in vision, but she was not conscious of her surroundings. Her look showed no appearance of a vacant stare; instead she appeared to be watching something.

At the commencement of her visions she would slowly exhale until all breath was gone. She did not breath again until the vision was over, and some visions lasted over two hours. On various occasions doc-