

Lord says: "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord." Some-body is to come in the spirit and power of Elijah, and when he appears, men may interpret the Scriptures in the proper way. Let me tell you how to teach your message."—"Testimonies to Ministers,"

"Let Heaven Guide"

"... in the hour of greatest peril, the God of Elijah will raise up human instru-mentality to bear a message that will not be silenced."—"Prophets and Kings," p. 187.

"The work of John the Baptist, and man," March 21, 1905.

"The work of those who in the last days go forth in the spirit and power of Elijah to arouse the people from their apathy, are in many respects the same. His work is a type of the work that must be done in this age. Christ is to come the second time to judge the world in righteousness. The messengers of God who bear the last message of warning to be given to the world, are to prepare for Christ's second advent, as John prepared the way for His first advent."—"Southern Watchman," March 21, 1905.

41. GENERAL CONFERENCE SPECIAL

As no one can in either honesty or impunity stand aloof to the answer which you brethren will now give the most serious attention to this urgent considera- tion, letting nothing distract you from it, for you, as well as I, must realize that it means life and eternity to all of us.

"Has Elijah the prophet already come?" "Is the ancient prophet to appear in person himself?" "Is a group of people to do a work similar to that of the ancient Elijah?" Or what?

Since there is general agreement that Inspiration direct from the Throne of God is our only spiritual eyesight, then we should be able to see eye to eye if we let the Spirit of God have His way with us. Especially so, dear fellow believers, since the time is dead ripe to look into the situation, now that God's people every-where are aroused by the questions:

of the situation in which the church finds herself at this late hour, and the remedy which God would have His people apply so as to set them free from this "offshoot" annoyance, I am therefore making this second attempt to set before you the re-vealed facts so that no one, whether minister or layman, need longer walk blindly and in darkness.

4. GENERAL CONFERENCE SPECIAL

This is trim area

Please Note: You are looking at the first actual print page of this tract, as you will notice the top panels are upside down. After printing, this page will be folded twice and trimmed to an actual tract size page.

This is trim area

trim marks |

44. GENERAL CONFERENCE SPECIAL

shoot," or by pinning on them some other uncomplimentary label, for the longer you do this, Brethren, the more you will torment yourselves. I implore you to write to the Universal Publishing Association, for free literature on the message for the hour and study it thoroughly—get down to business in all candor and solemn seriousness. You will not then be troubled with offshoots any longer.

So, before you speak your mind, Brethren, please consider carefully what timely Truth will you have for yourselves and for the world after the Judgment for the Dead is over if you reject the revelation herein? And what will you have for anyone, including yourselves, when the "Judgment for the Living" begins—what but an empty lamp, unless you now get the extra oil in your vessels? Unless in other figures, the scroll unrolls and another Divinely-revealed truth, "meat in due season" (Matt. 24:45), be given you? And what would happen if you should copy the mistakes of the Jews, the Romans, and Protestants who have rejected the messages of God? God forbid it be the fearful fate of any to whom this appeal is addressed.

**1950
GENERAL CONFERENCE SPECIAL**



Elijah's Ascend Into Heaven, II Ki. 2:11-12.



"The great and dreadful day of the Lord." Mal. 4:5

To bring before you the seriousness

who are suffering from its torments. the healing ointment of Truth to those facts, so you may be able to administer you should fortify yourselves with the personally tormented by the Rod, still resolve in every mind, once for all, the questions as to who is who and what is This General Conference year should

out. the Sanhedrin, and thus gloriously win out, but rather to meet it as Christ met the Jews in their day, and thereby lose of us no longer to dodge the issue as did its growing gravity challenges each one face to face with it. Indeed, brethren, every true Seventh-day Adventist squarely grown to such proportions as to bring herd's Rod." In truth its tormentings have off-shoots, the most prominent and the most tormenting of which is "The Shep- among us by an ever-increasing family of These questions are being agitated

WHO IS THE ELIJAH OF TODAY?
IS HE TO RESTORE ALL THINGS?
WHAT TO DO WITH OFFSHOOTS?

tions:
This General Conference Special to Seventh-day Adventists resolves the ques-

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cannot use them. The Lord has faithful men will be engaged. They are self-sufficient, independent of God, and He . . . In the last solemn work few great

the church: as one views these next weighty words to still should this solemnity be laid to heart walk on to doom. And the more earnestly time, lest we blindly (without Inspiration) ask God to lead us into His Truth for this and indifferently, but in which we must we can no longer treat this matter lightly life's most serious hour, a time in which as never before, that we have come to on this subject, you can see, Brethren, From the light now streaming forth

gence but also to God Himself! an insult, not only to one's own intelligence but God's authority as well! What office but God's place and to direct His prophet, coveting not only the prophetic them to take His place and to direct His steady the ark, although God had appointed know better than to tempt themselves to say the least, those who are within should view and Herald," March 22 1887. To church itself than from the world."—"Re- and success are far greater from the from without. The hindrances to strength of believers. Thus plain it is indeed that "we have more to fear from within than This is the greatest danger of all—even

pp. 475, 476. (Quoted from "The Review and Herald," Feb. 18, 1890.)

42. GENERAL CONFERENCE SPECIAL

GENERAL CONFERENCE SPECIAL 43.

servants, who in the shaking, testing time will be disclosed to view."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, p. 80.

". . . The messages from Heaven are of a character to arouse opposition. The faithful witnesses for Christ and the truth will reprove sin. Their words will be like a hammer to break the flinty heart; like a fire to consume the dross. There is constant need of earnest, decided messages of warning. God will have men who are true to duty. At the right time he sends his faithful messengers to do a work similar to that of Elijah."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, p. 254.

"Only those who have withstood and overcome temptation in the strength of the Mighty One will be permitted to act a part in proclaiming it [Third Angel's Message] when it shall have swelled into the Loud Cry."—"Review and Herald," Nov. 19, 1908.

Brethren, what these pages here bring to you, to leave in your hearts for your most earnest, prayerful consideration, is not a theory, not someone's idle tale, but is of Inspiration Itself. It can only therefore be Truth. Consequently your giving heed to it should make you exceedingly happy. If there is however any doubt, then I ask you please to produce your cause. Show us what else must these prophecies and parables mean. Do not brush them off by saying, "Ah . . . off-

And since the Enemy cannot get around the Truth, he does all he can to blacken character and to pick flaws in personalities. The prophet's message nevertheless cannot be judged by the behaviour of its professors, for even the Apostles miscon-

message he brings is the only thing to go by. preached the Gospel of the Kingdom. The time, not even in the day Christ Himself never signified a right cause at any can numbers of adherents, for such have as evidence that God is in it. Neither prospering or disintegrating, can be taken is doing or not doing, or whether it is even the appearance of what his message the Elijah may or may not be. No, not priest or prelate can decide for you who the Divine credentials of Truth, and that no Do not, though, forget that the mes-

has come, or whether he is yet to come. Spirit can determine whether the Elijah the closet of prayer and with the aid of the After hearing the evidences, you alone in Do not henceforth leave in the hands of others your investigation of the subject.

blind-folded into perdition. turn. Any others will lead their victims Truth and authority to whom one may for there will be no other voice of timely safety will be in the teaching of Elijah, never before. Nevertheless, one's only p. 475), and this will enrage the Devil as

The founders of the Denomination are here seen unquestionably to discredit the appearance. Moreover, these passages idea of the ancient prophet's personal re-

"We say, then, that we believe that the third angel's message is now completing the fulfillment of Malachi 4:5, 6. Hence, let none be beguiled with the fancy that Elijah is yet personally to appear, but give heed to the work already going on before their eyes."—"Review and Herald," February 23, 1864. (Italics ours.)

"Do you say the prophecy must be fulfilled by one person? We answer, Not necessarily; for the cause of John was shown us that it is not the individual but the spirit and power that fulfills the prophecy; and why may not this spirit and power accompany a body of men as well as a single individual, especially if the magnitude and importance of the work demand such an increased agency?"—"Review and Herald," February 23, 1864.

the prophecy must relate more especially to the second advent, which is the crowning event of the ushering in of the great and dreadful day of the Lord."—"Review and Herald," February 23, 1864.

the subject, the more obvious becomes the truth that the Third Angel's Message in its final phase is the Judgment for the Living, the harvest. Plainly, then, the work of Elijah is to give light on the Judgment for the Living. Hence—

"... Those who are to prepare the way for the second coming of Christ, are represented by faithful Elijah, as John came in the spirit of Elijah to prepare the way for Christ's first advent. . . ."—"Testimonies," Vol. 3, p. 62.

Very obviously the Laodiceans cannot possibly prepare the way for Christ's second advent without the message of the Judgment for the Living, the last, and besides they themselves, declares the Lord, are on the verge of being spued out. Necessarily, then, the Laodiceans themselves are if possible to be awakened by the prophet Elijah, lest while dreaming of being rich without his message, they perish in their sin, and thus abide not in the Judgment.

Here is Sister White's own prophecy of the work during the great and dreadful day, which, when she wrote, was yet future:

"The closing words of Malachi are a prophecy regarding the work that should be done preparatory to the first and the second advent of Christ."—"Southern Watch-

questions give rise, demands that we cease fooling ourselves or letting others make fools of us. If the questions cannot be answered in positive Truth, far better, then, that they be left on the shelf until the scroll unfolds further, than that they be answered by men's idle tales, which only confuse and confound.

Now we may ask, Has the scroll unrolled far enough to clear up all these questions? Is the Spirit of God pleading for us to stop, look, and listen, or are we still to wait? For the Divine answer let us open our eyes wide to the light of "the more sure Word of prophecy" Itself, now shining more and more on our pathway:

"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: and he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." Mal. 4:5, 6.

In the light which this prophecy sheds on the subject, no one can possibly escape the conclusion that a prophet—a person—is to be sent "before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord," and that thus only can there be a group of people in connection with Elijah's message. The Scriptures make definite and sure the promise, the time, and the work, also the

This will be the Devil's deal while the day of God is approaching, and while Elijah is making the announcement of it as the scroll unrolls and while the prophecies concerning the day of God are being unsealed. His work and his interpretation of the prophecies for the great day will identify him as the promised Elijah, the prophet ("Testimonies to Ministers,"

the prophet ("Testimonies to Ministers," will identify him as the promised Elijah. Elijah. something other than the message of Truth and thus distract and dishearten believers and draw their attention to that can be done will be done to distort the message. Everything will be at their peak. Every thing will be blowing, false revivals and reforming of a spark of life. Every wind of doctrine though the entire fanfare is devoid even "gift of miracles," and all the rest, all Ghost, "gift of healing," "gift of tongues," and generals are to the top of their many with his wares while his captains ing in counsel of truth is already beginning aboard his golden bandwagon. Its glittering tunes to lure Truth seekers to climb put all his forces to work, piping pleasure. Moreover, the old Devil has already

Christ, offshoot, or what not. false prophet, perhaps even as the anti- It is therefore only to be expected that the predicted Elijah will be denounced as a

Pearly Gates.

"The third angel's message" in its former phase, the Judgment for the Dead, was unfolded to the Denomination by one person, the founder of the Denomination, and that one directed other co-laborers. So must it be with respect to the message in its latter phase, the Judgment for the Living. Moreover, since the first part of the third angel's message, the Judgment for the Dead, neither comprises the last

"The time of the Judgment is a most solemn period, when the Lord gathers His own from among the tares."—"Testimonies to Ministers," p. 234.

Again:

In this quotation we are plainly told that the third angel's message in its final phase is the "harvest"—the Judgment for the Living.

"I then saw the third angel. Said my accompanying angel, 'Fearful is his work. Awful is his mission. He is the angel that is to select the wheat from the tares, and seal, or bind, the wheat for the heavenly garner. These things should engross the whole mind, the whole attention.'"—"Early Writings," p. 118.

These quotations are further elucidated by "Early Writings;":

and power of Elijah.

way to our security in the great and dreadful day, "lest," as says the Lord, "I come and smite the earth with a curse." Mal. 4: 6.

No one can afford to commit the absurdity of either treating lightly or of kindling sparks of his own on the subject. We should remember, moreover, that it is not possible that God should leave a one of us in darkness if we want to know the Truth, and if we are mindful of what God would have us to do. ("The Great Controversy," p. 560). To the end that this may be the happy experience of all of us, we should pray that the Spirit Who leads into all Truth would direct this effort.

However, I would remind you, Brethren, that no prophet of God has ever been welcomed by the church. On the contrary, each in his time was rejected, abused, and most of them were martyred by the ones to whom they were sent—the very ones who were supposed to be serving God! Indeed, the Lord Himself paid the same price. For this very reason we must remember that when the last prophet comes he will have the greatest opposition to meet, for Satan well knows that if he loses now, he loses forever. What makes Elijah's work especially hard is that Christendom has long been drilled in the idea that no prophet is to come, that there is no necessity for one, that it has enough revealed Truth to carry it inside the

message nor ends the Judgment, but instead covers only the first phase of it, then the last part of the third angel's message, the Judgment for the Living, is necessarily the last message and the final phase of the Judgment. In fact, the Three Angels' Messages are applicable to the Judgment for the Dead only indirectly, for the Judgment for the Living is the all-important event; that is, the angel is not sent particularly to explain what the Judgment does to the dead, but what it is to do to the living.

The Judgment for the Dead, furthermore, is not the message of "the great and dreadful day." It does not even touch on the prophecies of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And since the one by whom the message on the Judgment for the Dead was unfolded has already been dead these many years, and since nothing, not to mention "all things," has as yet been restored, and, too, since that one never claimed to be the Elijah, nor to unfold the prophecies of the Judgment for the Living, no one, therefore, can honestly and innocently say Elijah has already come and gone. In view of these facts, it would be stupidity of the lowest form, if not blasphemy, for any one to lay such charges to her, or to imagine that her prophetic office fulfilled anything more than a preparatory part of the mission of Elijah.

So we see that the more we consider

"A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they

"Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand; a day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.

And now let us behold the event through the eyes of Joel's prophecy. Had we no other vision of the day but his, it alone would suffice to give us a clear picture of the greatness and dreadfulness of the day. Says he:

All may for a need be in uncertainty. All may for a surety know both "the day" and the Elijah as he proclaims it, because to our surprise he will point out that every Bible prophet describes the day and also tells what the Lord would have us do while it is approaching and subsequently while we are going through it. All will see that no one but Elijah can proclaim the day.

Again, if anyone should possibly entertain the idea that this promise of a prophet means a multitude of preachers, then as surely as your soul lives, that one is fooling himself as badly as those misled followers of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram thinking that those three prophetic office seekers and self-promoters were also prophets as was Moses. Those three imposters, be it not forgotten, even claimed that the whole multitude were holy (Num. 16:1-3)! But were they? And as surely as the earth swallowed them then, just so surely will all such in these days, too, be swallowed by the earth when it opens its mouth and takes away the flood (Rev. 12:16).

What a blasphemous theft—should one endeavor to steal away the truth about the prophet's office, to pass on a lie instead, to say that Elijah is not an individual but a group of people, in the face of the fact that the types, and the prophecy as well, besides Heaven's law and order, disallow such a thing. Thus to go contrary to Holy Writ is an outright effort to do away forever with the promised prophet of God, as Pharaoh endeavored to do away with Moses by drowning the male Hebrew children, and likewise as Herod tried to do away with Christ by slaying the little children of his day! What wickedness indeed! Think this through, too, Brethren.

voice of God to His people. And since "The Shepherd's Rod," the publications which contain the message of "the great and dreadful day of the Lord," is the only Rod that has ever spoken, then it is the "Rod" publications which the Lord demands all to hear. Some may call the publications "offshoot," others may call them "rubbish" ("Counsels on Sabbath School Work," p. 29), but the Lord titles them the "Rod," and His counsel is that we hear Its voice. In truth, since the Rod is a symbol of authority, correction, and deliverance, then what other title could more fittingly signify that It is to deliver the penitent and do away with the impenitent? It was the Shepherd's Rod that freed ancient Israel, and the Lord has chosen "The Shepherd's Rod" to deliver modern Israel. It was a Rod that led the first Exodus, and it is now seen that a Rod is making ready to lead the second Exodus (Isa. 11:11; Mic. 7:14, 15; Ezek. 20:36, 37).

Now that we have heard what the Scriptures say on the subject, let us next hear what the founders of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination had to say in their day:

"But was the prophecy wholly fulfilled in John the Baptist? We answer, No; for it is more intimately connected with the great day of the Lord than was the mission of John. His work had exclusive reference to the first advent; but

ducted themselves before the ascension of Christ. The multitude, too, that followed Moses was anything but exemplary; in fact, in many instances they were disgraceful. And the "holy men of God" who wrote the Scriptures were faulty men. Even Moses himself was not faultless. Regardless, though, he was still Moses, and his was the only message and movement for the day.

Likewise, irrespective of considerations of personnel faults, frailties, and failings, Elijah's message and movement will be the only God-sent ones, the only ones to fear, to love, to stand by, to live or to die for. No, there will be no other shield when heaven opens and the storm breaks in all its dread fury upon the world, to unavoidably pour down its lethal lightning from the skies.

Finally, for what other purpose could any right thinking minds suppose the Lord would send His prophet if not for them to give ear to him, that they might thereby survive the great and dreadful day of the Lord? For what else, indeed, could the Lord have made a record of prophecy and promise of His last-day prophet? Ponder this, Brethren; think it through.

Then, too, no one should forget that when anyone joins the Adventist church, he does so (if he is in his right mind) without the approval of his former ministers. Neither does he join the church because of a

it be. Assuredly, Brethren, not a one we are intelligently determined not to let shaken out? is the greatest question before us. It cannot, though, be either of us if Shall it be you, shall it be me, to be

The day of the Lord, we are told in these verses is a day of refining, of purifying, of sifting. Moreover, the question, "Who may abide the day of His coming?" points out with sharp emphasis that some will not stand, that they will fall out during the shaking ("Early Writings," p. 270) and not abide the process of refining ("Testimonies," Vol. 5, p. 80; Id., Vol. 8, p. 250).

"Behold, I will send My messenger [Elijah the Prophet, chapter 4, verse 5], and he shall prepare the way before Me: and the Lord, Whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple. . . . But who may abide when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' sops: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness." Mal. 3:1-3.

Without this self is, is all-important. Without this knowledge, who could possibly discern Elijah when he should come? That this knowledge not escape us, Inspiration is at pains again to locate the day through Malachi's prophecy.

large membership or well-behaved people, but because he knows he has heard the Truth as revealed by the Spirit of Prophecy Itself. Since it was in pursuing this wise course that any of us ever came to accept the prophet and the message, so must it still be if we are to know and to receive Elijah. Therefore, "As never before, we should pray not only that laborers maybe sent forth into the great harvest-field, but that we may have a clear conception of truth, so that when the messengers of truth shall come, we may accept the message and respect the messenger."—"Testimonies," Vol. 6, p. 420. No other course dare anyone take in this matter. The crown of life demands our most vigilant guarding of it, because a foul enemy seeks to wrest it from our grasp.

I am confident that you brethren are convinced of the solid truth of what we have considered thus far. And now in proceeding further, I am sure, too, it will be agreed that if our spiritual vision is clear to discern the time in which Elijah is to appear, then we shall have less trouble discovering the true answers to the rest of our questions

Important as it is, however, to keep in mind that the time in which to expect Elijah is "before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord," yet just this knowledge alone is insufficient. To know when and what the great and dreadful day it-

"Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy

taking his message to the church: to say concerning the prophet's means of care. Here is what Inspiration Itself has yards or waste baskets throughout Laodicea. Here is what Inspiration Itself has their way into all hands, laps, pockets, tons, but will make sure that they find not care what is done with his publications, as the leaves of autumn. He will his message by the postage stamp every-use of the printing press and will scatter the prophet Nahum he will greatly make have faithful helpers, but according to he is one person. Of a surety, he is to dreadful day of the Lord") make sure that warn the Laodiceans of "the great and the (he who is to awaken the church and to Scriptures concerning antitypical Elijah should be no doubt in your minds that the Since He means just what He says, there Since God is not experimenting, and

Sadly, those who would believe a lie, and thus play the fool, will do so; nothing will stop them. It is to be devoutly hoped, though, brethren, that you are followers of God and of His Spirit in Truth; that you are not followers of men, or of self, for the gravity of the issue challenges all to the most honest thought and courageous decision. We should now, therefore, the more earnestly proceed with these conclusions:

solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off." Nah. 1:15.

Thus you have it from the Lord, through His prophet Nahum, that the one who announces that the time has come for the wicked to be cut off from among God's people, and that the Judgment for the Living (which, as we have already seen, is "the great and dreadful day of the Lord") is about to take place, is to make the announcement of these events by his publications. Further concerning this timely truth, this "meat in due season," Isaiah declares that it will be dispensed to all without their having to pay for it—"without money and without price." He urges them, moreover, to stop wasting their money in purchasing "that which is not bread" (Isa. 55:1, 2)—that which is not inspired of God.

What is the Lord's counsel concerning the Voice of Elijah's publications? and what is the title of them?—

The answer comes through Micah the prophet:

"The Lord's voice crieth unto the city, and the man of wisdom shall see thy name: hear ye the Rod, and Who hath appointed It." Mic. 6:9.

Here is a Rod which speaks; and its voice, the scripture points out, is the

“And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarsish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and

“For, behold, the Lord will come with fire, and with His chariots like a whirlwind, to render His anger with fury, and His rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by His sword will the Lord plead with all flesh: and the slain of the Lord shall be many.

Isayah declares:

“And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof. And to the others He said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house.” Ezek. 9:4-6.

Ezekiel declares:

which takes place in the house of God, it is set forth in both the prophecy of Ezekiel and that of Isayah.

“Yea, and what have ye to do with Me, O Tyre, and Zidon, and all the coasts of Palestine? will ye render Me a recompense?”

“For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for My people and for My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted My land. And they have cast lots for My people; and have given a boy for an harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink.

“And it shall come to pass, that whoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.”

“And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come.

My spirit, and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out

Elijah who is to come before the great and dreadful day of the Lord, but that he, the last prophet to the church of his day, simply came in the spirit and power of Elijah, to prepare the way for the Lord’s first advent. So it is that the Elijah of the great and dreadful day of the Lord, the last prophet to the church of this day, comes in the same spirit and power, to prepare the way for the Lord’s second advent.

(2) That as John was the Elijah of his day, yet not Elijah the Tishbite himself, then the promise of the prophet Elijah is not necessarily to be fulfilled in person by the ancient prophet himself.

(3) That as the Elijah of Christ’s first advent was one person, and also as the Elijah of Mt. Carmel of old was one person, not a multitude of priests, then by parity of reasoning the Elijah of today must also be one person, not a multitude of ministers.

The promise, itself, moreover, is for only one, not for more, and, with but one exception, we know not of any other time when God employed even two prophets (let alone many) at one time, to convey one message to one people. He invariably called one, and that one himself, under the direction of the Spirit, employed others to help him take the message to the people. Thus only were any others ever identified with a called one.

run. Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array.

“Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks:

“Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining:

“And the Lord shall utter His voice before His army: for His camp is very great: for He is strong that executeth His Word: for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it? Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to Me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: and rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord

In doing all this, he sets in motion

holy mountain, in the church. in Zion, and to sound an alarm in God's the Scriptures say, to blow the trumpet only mysteries to all. Thus he is, as the great and dreadful day of the Lord—prophesies of the Scriptures pertaining to prophets Elijah is, therefore, the only one to be said again that being the last of the judgments. To re-emphasize the fact, let it then, and how we may survive His judgment, and how we may survive His judgment, which are still mysteries to Christendom, and even to our own Denominationalism, to reiterate, it is for this very reason that the prophet is sent. He is to unroll the scroll, to explain what the day of the Lord is like, what the Lord will do to them that dwell in the land." Zeph. 1:12-18.

This surely confirms the conclusion that since Elijah is to herald the great day, he can therefore be the only one who will rightly interpret the prophecies of the day, which are still mysteries to Christendom, and even to our own Denominationalism, to reiterate, it is for this very reason that the prophet is sent. He is to unroll the scroll, to explain what the day of the Lord is like, what the Lord will do to them that dwell in the land." Zeph. 1:12-18.

Joel's two chapters give us a most compact and vivid view of "the great and dreadful day of the Lord." From these alone we can clearly see what it is like. And as Elijah comes just before that day begins, he must necessarily be the one who is to interpret these prophecies of the day, and who consequently announces that the day is at hand.

Zion." Joel 2, 3.

"The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call. For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations that dwell in the land." Zeph. 1:12-18.

Our subject brings us back to Joel's prophecy:

These verses are so transparent as to need no comments.

"And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the Lord: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung. Neither shall silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the Lord's wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of His jealousy: for He shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land." Zeph. 1:12-18.

trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. of clouds and thick darkness, a day of the day of darkness and gloominess, a day of waste and desolation, a day of waste and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers.

ness is great.

"Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter His Voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord will be the hope of His people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

"So shall ye know that I am the Lord your God dwelling in Zion, My holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the Lord, and shall water the valley of Shittim. Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence against the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land.

"But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation. For I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed: for the Lord dwelleth in

tions, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for My people and for My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted My land." Joel 2:31, 32; 3:1, 2.

From these verses it is to be seen at a glance that the separation (Judgment) takes place not only in the house of God but in the whole world as well. The Lord very emphatically says, "I will also gather all nations, . . . and will plead with them there for My people. . . ." Verse 2.

The same event, the separation in the church, is also forecast in The Revelation:

"And the serpent [the Devil] cast out of his mouth water as a flood [unconverted multitude] after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth [did away with the hypocrites, doubters, and men-followers]. And the dragon was wroth with the woman [the church], and went to make war with the remnant [with those that escaped] of her seed [those that are truly her children] which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Rev. 12:15-17.

Thus both Scripture and logic make

Since the promised Elijah is to be the last prophet to the church today, as John the Baptist was the last prophet to the church in his day, and since the last work on earth is the Judgment for the Living, the truth stands forth like the light

“ . . . Let us act as Christians, true as steel to God and His holy work; quick to discern the devices of Satan in his hidden, deceptive workings through the children of disobedience.”—“Testimonies to Ministers,” p. 276.

What is more, should God send another than Elijah, that is, someone with a message other than of the great and dreadful day of the Lord, he will not claim to be the Elijah, but bear another message than the Elijah, but bear another message than the Elijah, but for the devil, is Laodiceanism that such are not working for the God of

of day that Elijah’s message is the message of the Judgment for the Living, the last, which in the very nature of the gospel is of far more importance and consequence than any other message ever borne to a people.

The question naturally arises now as to what is the nature of the Judgment for the Living. Since all of us Seventh-day Adventists are acquainted with the work of the Judgment for the Dead, we should have no difficulty determining the nature of the Judgment for the Living. We know that the former is to separate, in the books above, the names of the backsliders and sinners from the names of the penitent and the enduring who are among the dead. It removes only their names, because their bodies are non-existent. We know, too, that it is to determine whom Heaven is to bring forth from their graves in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:6), and whom to leave till the post-millennial resurrection (Rev. 20:5). Accordingly, then, for what else could the Judgment for the Living be but to “cast out” bodily the still living sinners from among the penitent, as is figuratively shown in the parable of the net—the separation of the bad fish from the good.

The same event is again brought to view in the parable of the separation of the wheat from the tares (Matt. 13:30), also in the parables of the wedding gar-

Since the Scriptures clearly picture Elijah and his work, and also what the day is to be like, none who will humbly inquire about him and his work need to guess or to be in the dark concerning either his identity or his mission, for it is his God-given duty to publish the timely truths as revealed to him out of the prophecies. And so all who are willing and obedient, will have no trouble recognizing him and his message (John 7:17). They will know that anyone

“And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be My people, and I will be your God.” Ezek. 36:22-28.

“A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do them.

“For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the Lord, saith the Lord God, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for My people and for My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted My land.” Joel 3:1, 2.

Joel lays even greater emphasis on the dreadfulness of the day, than Malachi does, for he says:

“ . . . the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?” Joel 2:11.

The prophet’s greatest emphasis, you see, is on the dreadfulness of the day rather than on the greatness of it. Again he warns:

“Alas for the day! for the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.” Joel 1:15.

Still again, this time through the prophet Ezekiel, Inspiration declares it in these words:

“Therefore say unto the house of Israel [the church], Thus saith the Lord God; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for Mine holy name’s sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went. And I will sanctify My great name which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the