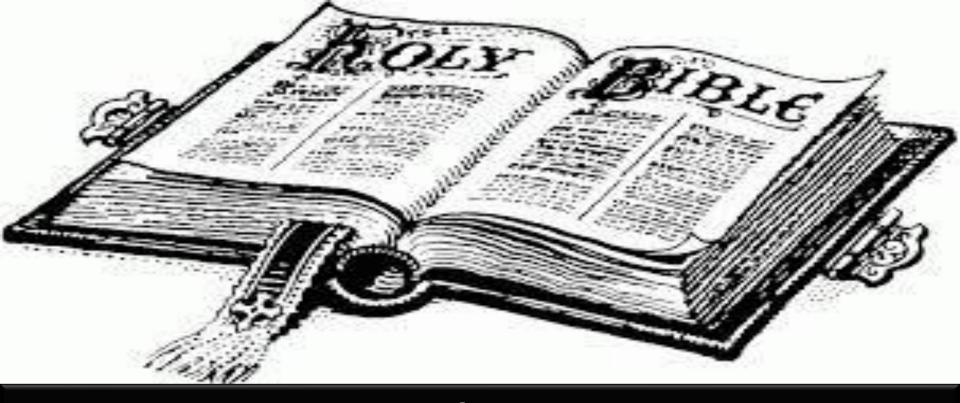
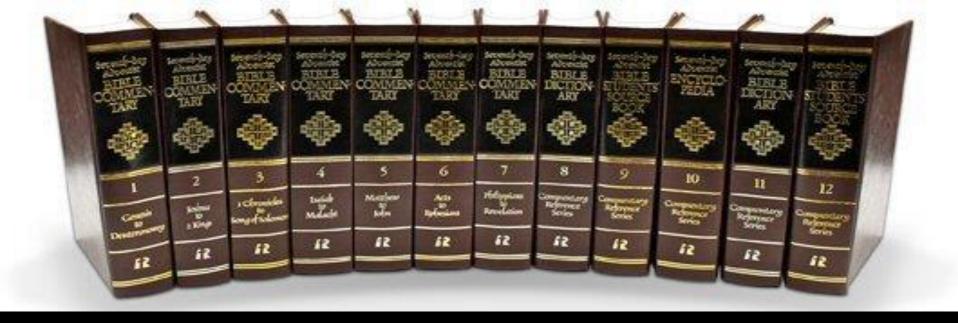


Claiming the Power of the Holy Spirit (Day Three)

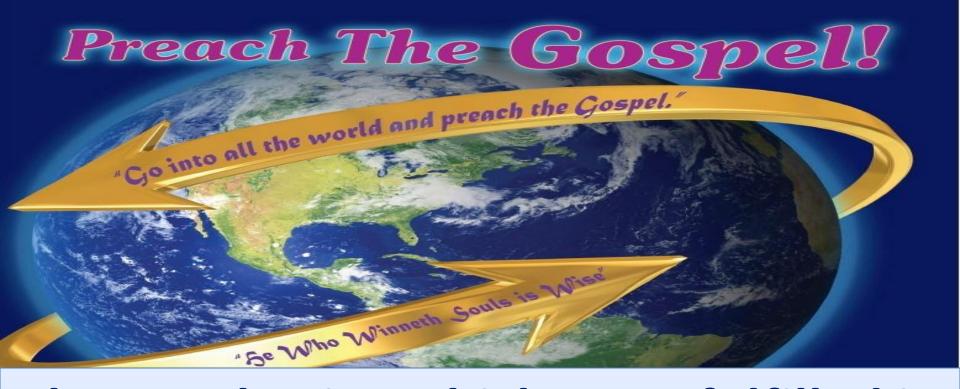


Joel 2:23

Rejoice in the Lord your God: for He hath given you the former rain moderately, and He will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain...



In its figurative application to the Christian Church the early rain represents the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, whereas the latter rain represents the final outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which produces "the ripening of the harvest." {4BC-945}



The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel are again to be fulfilled in the latter rain at its close. {GC 611.3}



The figures of the early and latter rain <u>have reference to individual Christian experience</u>.

{4BC-945}



As the dew and the rain are given first to cause the seed to germinate, and then to ripen the harvest, so the Holy Spirit is given to carry forward, from one stage to another, the process of spiritual growth.



The ripening of the grain represents the completion of the work of God's grace in the soul.



We are to be wholly transformed into the likeness of Christ. {TM 506.1}



The latter rain, ripening earth's harvest, represents the spiritual grace that prepares the church for the coming of the Son of man.



Unless the early showers have done their work, the latter rain can bring no seed to perfection. {TM 506.2}



They expect that the lack will be supplied by the latter rain. When the richest abundance of grace shall be bestowed, they intend to open their hearts to receive



They are making a terrible mistake.



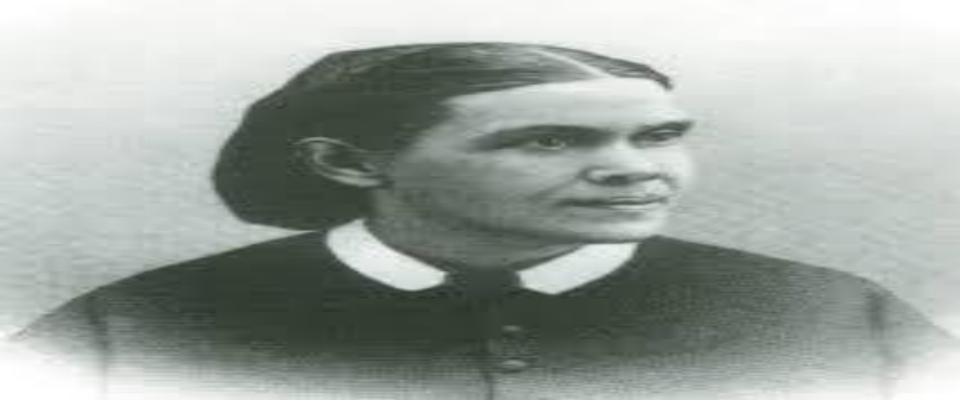
The heart must be emptied of every defilement and cleansed for the indwelling of the Spirit.



The same work, only in greater degree, must be done now.

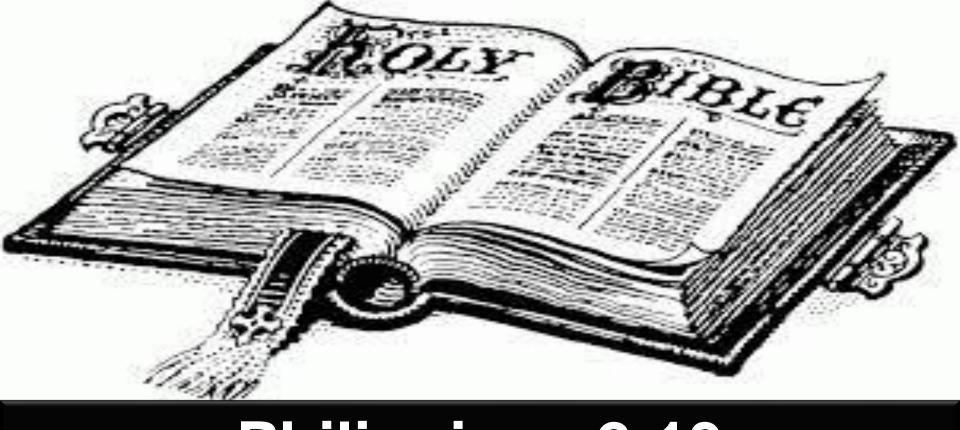


Only those who are living up to the light they have will receive greater light.

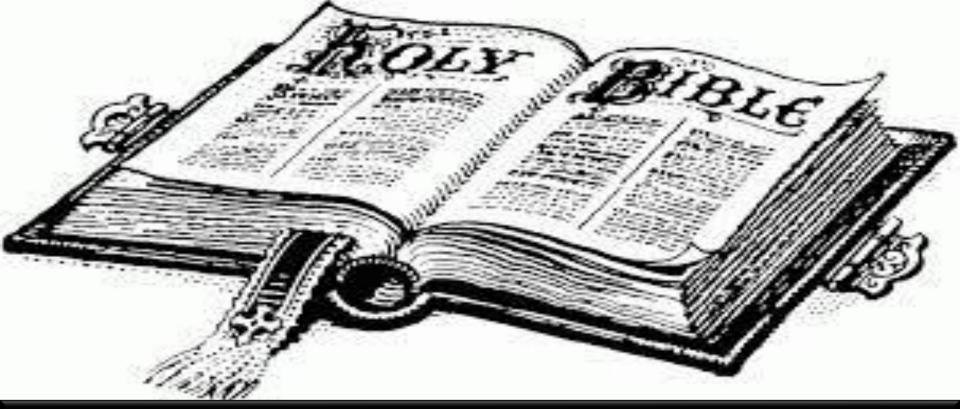


It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it.

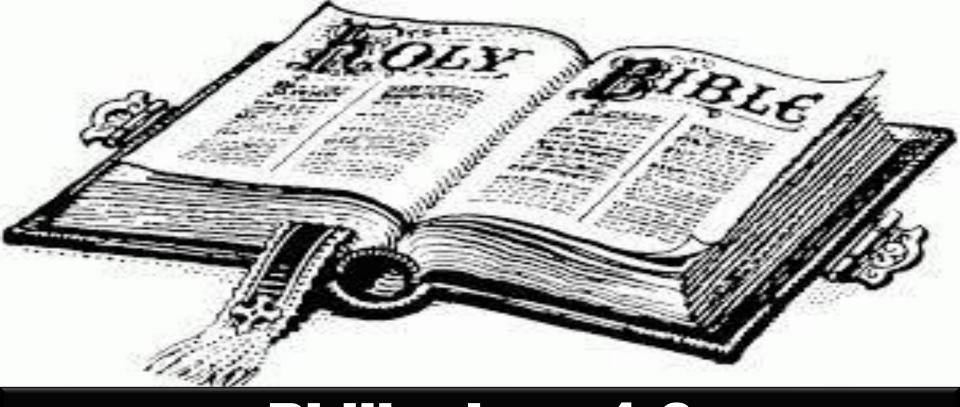
{TM 507.1}



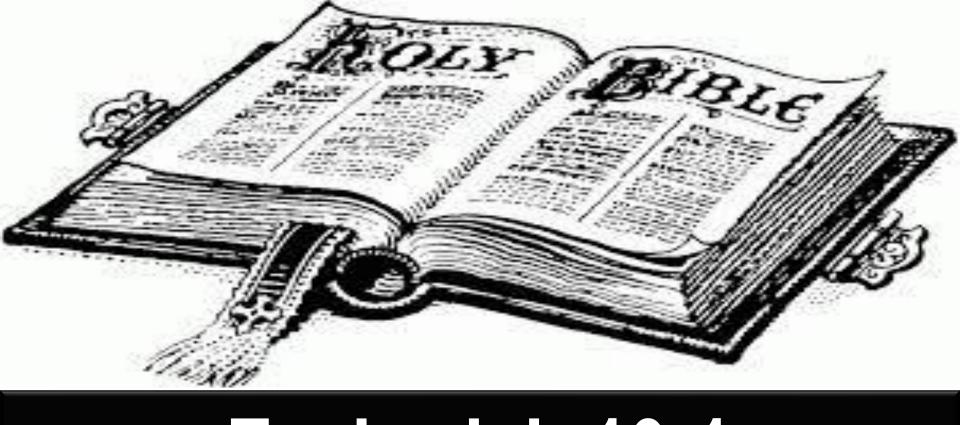
Philippians 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.



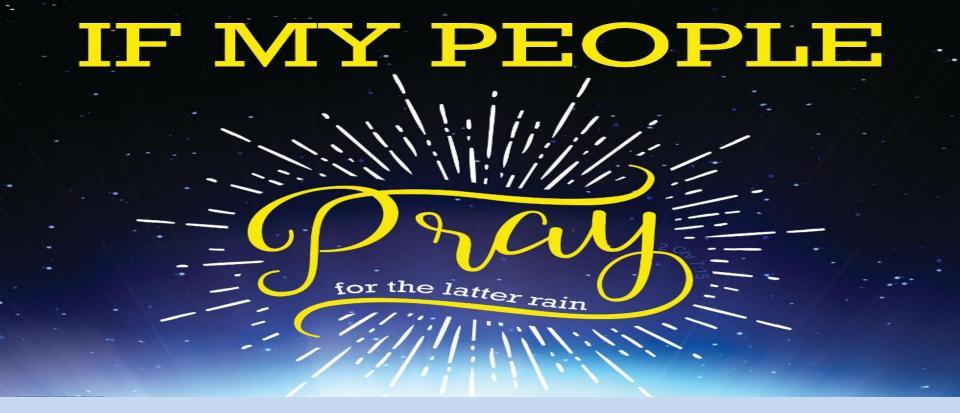
Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith...



Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:



Zechariah 10:1 Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain...



We should improve every opportunity of placing ourselves in the channel of blessing.



Matthew 18:20
For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.



The convocations of the church, 1)as in camp meetings, 2)the assemblies of the home church, 3)and all occasions where there is personal labor for souls, are God's appointed opportunities for giving the early and the latter rain.

{TM 508.1}



It is not an immutable law that all who attend general gatherings or local meetings shall receive large supplies from Heaven.



Let us, with contrite hearts, pray most earnestly that now, in the time of the latter rain, the showers of grace may fall upon us.

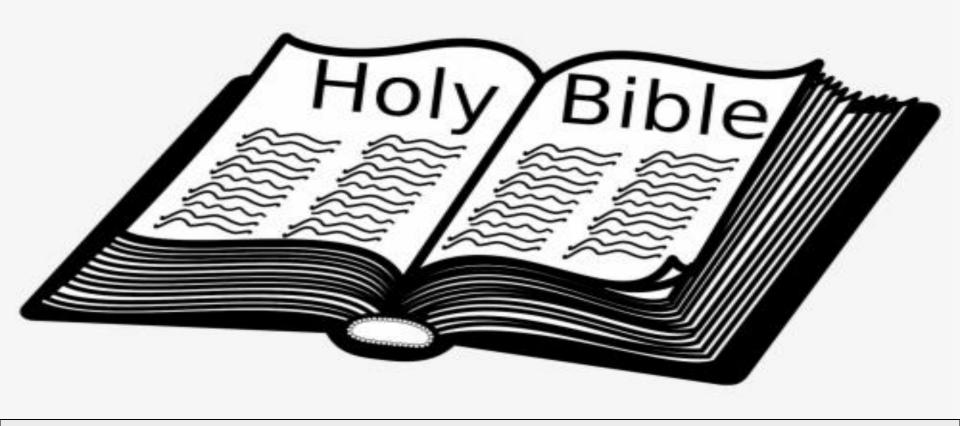


As we seek God for the Holy
Spirit, it will work in us
meekness, humbleness of mind,
a conscious dependence upon
God for the perfecting latter rain.



If we pray for the blessing in faith, we shall receive it as God has promised.

{TM 508.2}



Numbers 23:19

God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? Or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good? 28



Seek for it, pray for it, believe for it. We must have it, and Heaven is waiting to bestow it. {The Review and Herald, March 19, 1895}

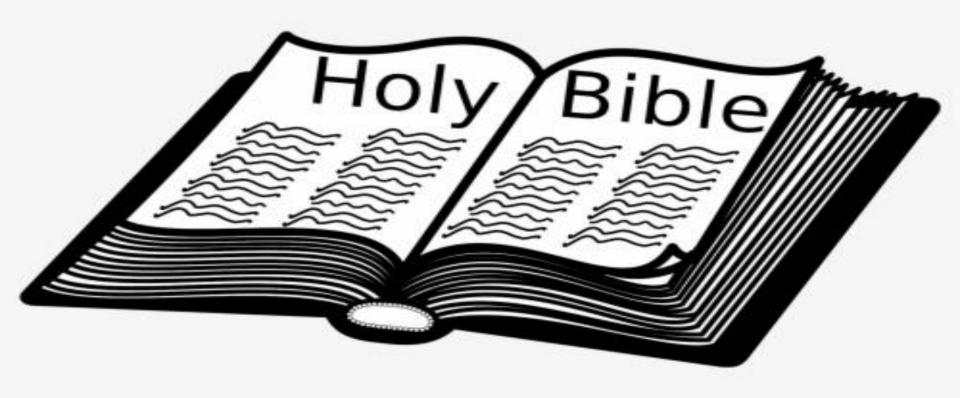
THE LATTER RAIN ...now is the hour

The outpouring of the Spirit in the days of the apostles was the former rain, and glorious was the result. But the latter rain will be more abundant. {The Signs of the Times, February 17, 1914}



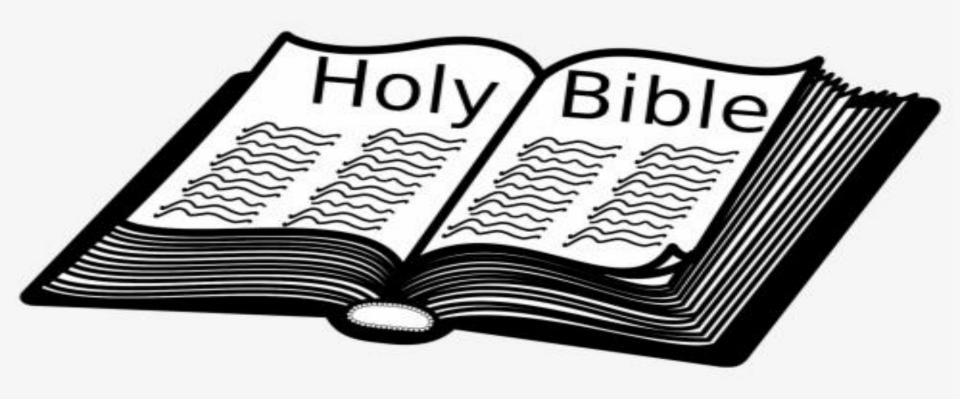
When we have entire, wholehearted consecration to the service of Christ, God will recognize the fact by an outpouring of His Spirit without measure; but this will not be while the largest portion of the church are not laborers together with God.

{The Review and Herald, July 21, 1896} 31



Luke 10:2

Therefore said Jesus unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into His harvest.



Roman 13:11 And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep...

The WORD of God Will Never Fail !

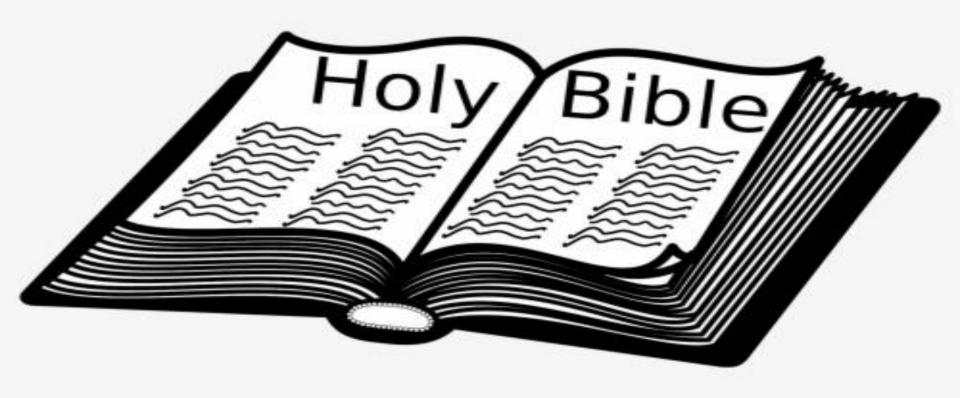
The fact that time has continued longer than was expected does not mean that the word of God has failed. There is a work to be done and there are conditions to be met before Christ can come. {6BC-629}



The long night of gloom is trying, but the morning is deferred in mercy, because if the **Master should** come, so many would be found unready.



God's unwillingness to have His people perish, has been the reason of so long delay. {Testimonies for the Church Volume 2 pg.194}



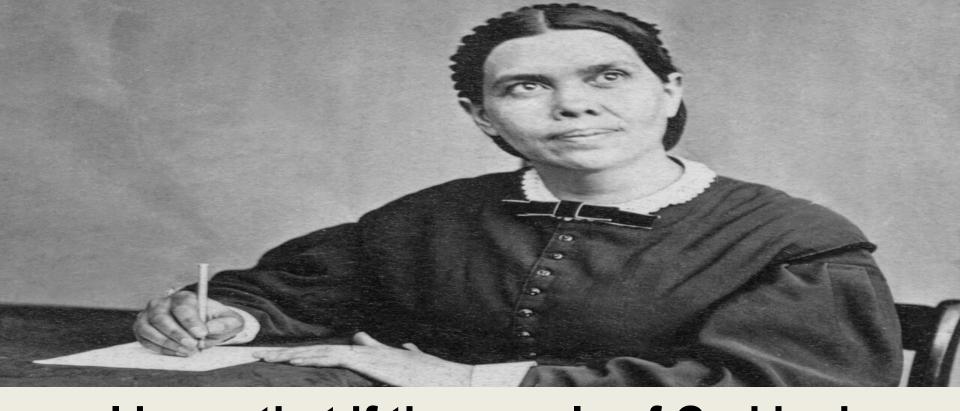
2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 37



Had the purpose of God been carried out by
His people in giving to the world the message
of mercy, Christ would, ere this, have come to
the earth, and the saints would have received
their welcome into the city of God.

{Testimonies for the Church Volume 6 pg. 450}



I know that if the people of God had preserved a living connection with Him, if they had obeyed His Word, they would today be in the heavenly Canaan. {The General Conference Bulletin, March 30, 1903}



While men have slept, Satan has stolen a march upon us. **Testimonies for the Church** Volume 9 pg. 29}



It is the <u>unbelief</u>, <u>the worldliness</u>, <u>the lack of consecration</u>, <u>and strife among the Lord's professed people that have kept us in this world of sin and sorrow so many years</u>. {Manuscript 4, 1883}



Let us come out of this formality and deadness.

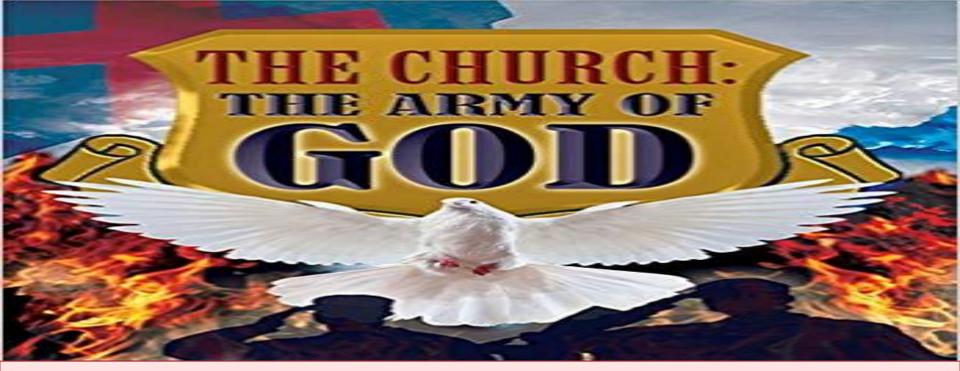
{The Review and Herald, June 4, 1889}

A NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

New Life>

≪Old Life

God can breathe new life into every soul that sincerely desires to serve Him, and can touch the lips with a live coal from off the altar, and cause them to become eloquent with His praise.



The stammering tongue will be unloosed, and the timid will be made strong to bear courageous testimony to the truth.



May the Lord help His people to cleanse the soul temple from every defilement, and to maintain such a close connection with Him that they may be partakers of the latter rain when it shall be poured out (The Review and Herald, July 20, 1886).

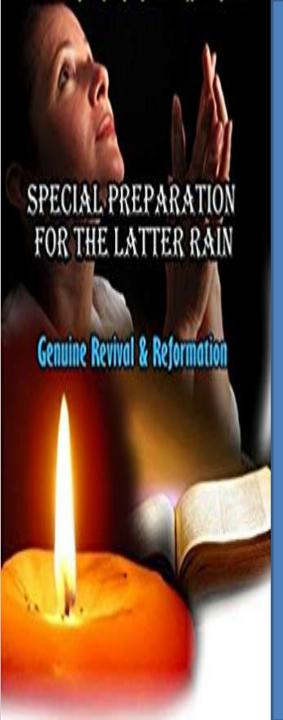


It is our work today to yield our souls to Christ, that we may be fitted for the time of refreshing from the presence of the Lordfitted for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. {The Review and Herald, March 22, 1892}

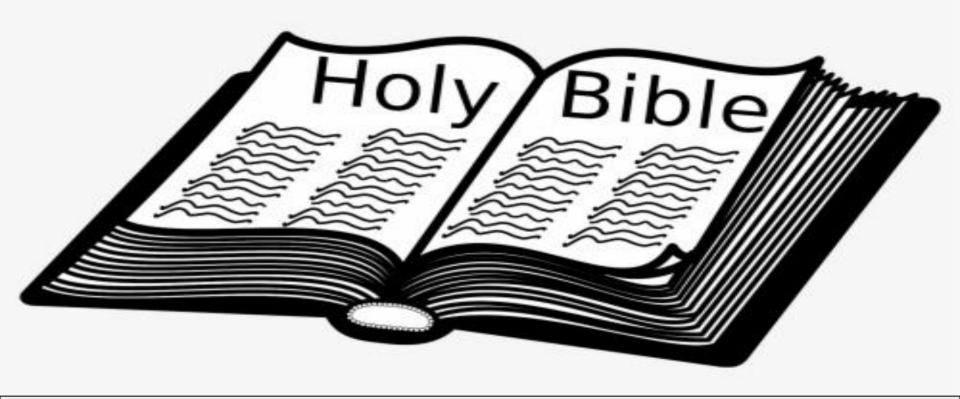


They think they are all right when they are all wrong.

{1T 466.1}



Ministers and people must make greater advancement in the work of reform. They should commence without delay to correct their wrong habits of 1) eating, 2) drinking, 3) dressing, and 4)working. {1T 466.2}



Revelation 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.



Will the churches heed the Laodicean message? Will they repent, or will they, notwithstanding that the most solemn message of truth—the third angel's message—is being proclaimed to the world, go on in sin?



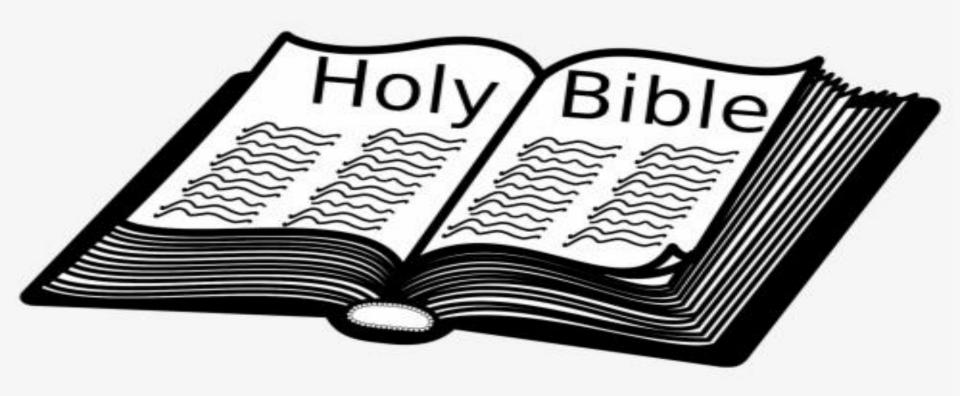
If the church of God becomes lukewarm, it does not stand in favor with God any more than do the churches that are represented as having fallen and become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and the cage of every unclean and hateful bird.



Those who have had opportunities to hear and receive the truth and who have united with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, calling themselves the commandment-keeping people of God, and yet possess no more vitality and consecration to God than do the nominal churches, will receive of the plagues of God just as verily as the churches who oppose the law of God.



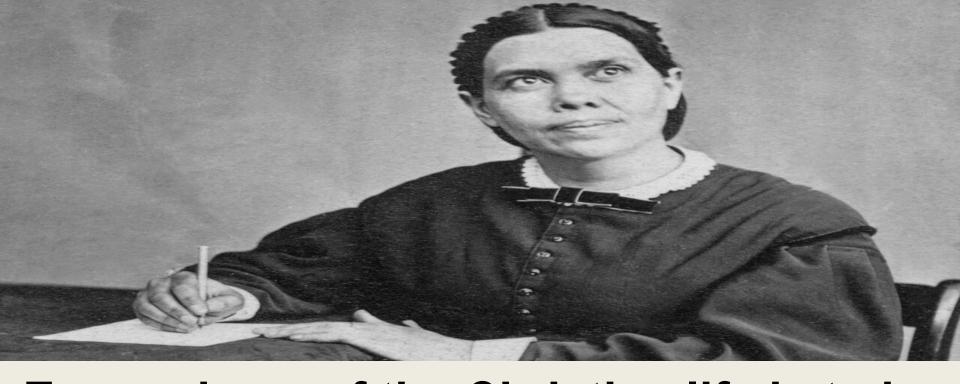
The message to the Laodicean Church is applicable to our condition. How plainly is pictured the position of those who think they have all the truth, who take pride in their knowledge of the Word of God, while its sanctifying power has not been felt in their ives. {The Review and Herald, July 23, 1889}



Revelation 3:17

Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

54



Every phase of the Christian life is to be a representation of the life of Christ. If it is not, we shall hear the terrible words,

"I know you not"

{The Review and Herald, October 17, 1899}

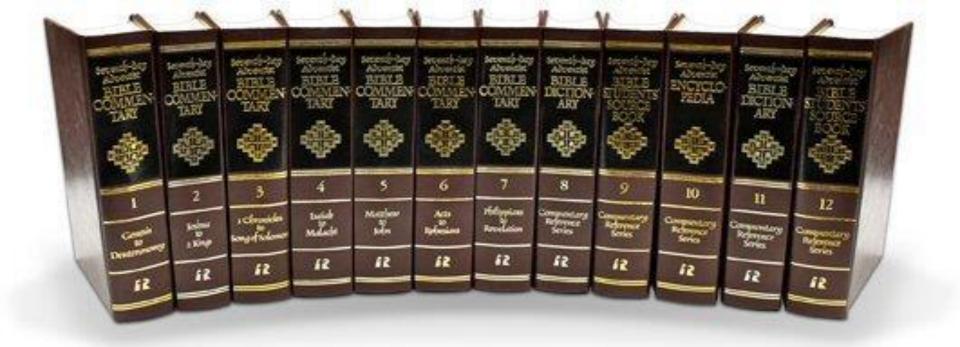
DON'T BE A HALFHEARTED CHRISTIAN

He is neither a good worldling nor a good

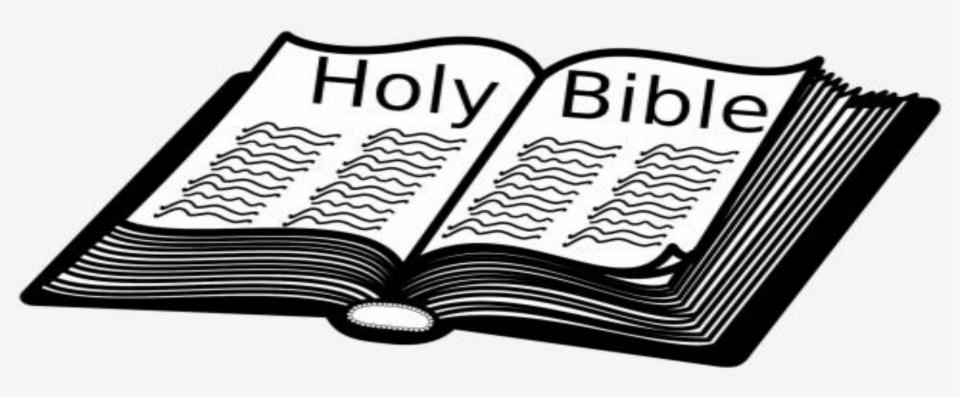
Christian. Satan uses him to do a work

that no one else can do.

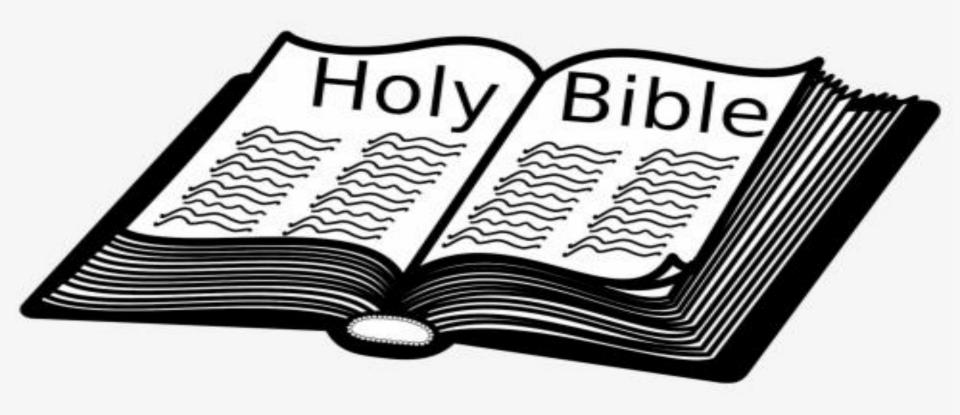
{Letter 44, 1903}



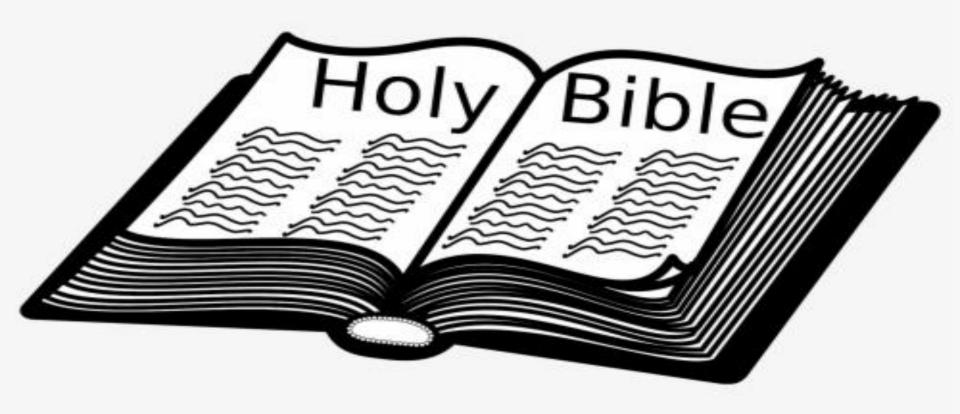
The condition of many of those who claim to be the children of God is exactly represented by the message to the Laodicean **Church.** {7BC 963.9}



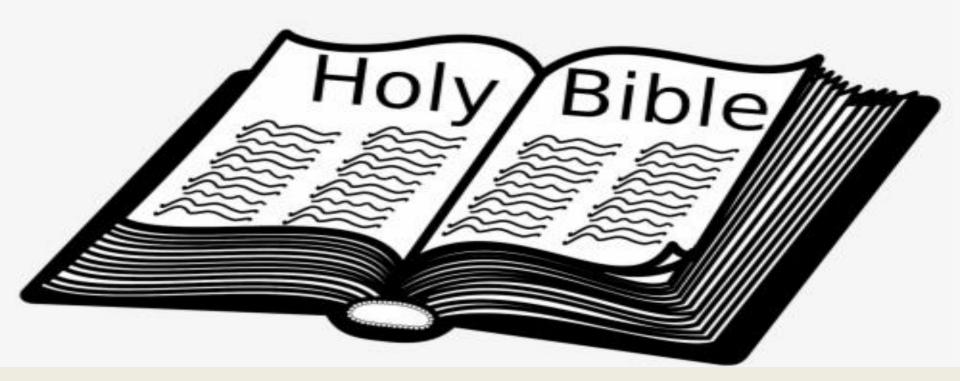
Psalms 51:2-4, 10-11 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my 58



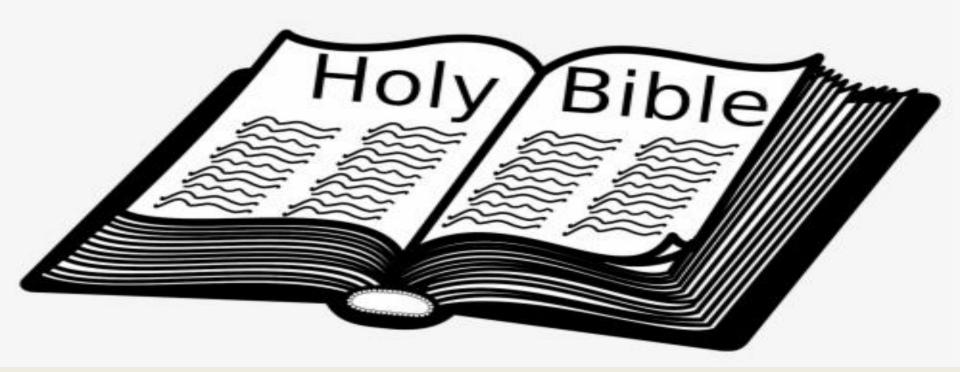
For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.



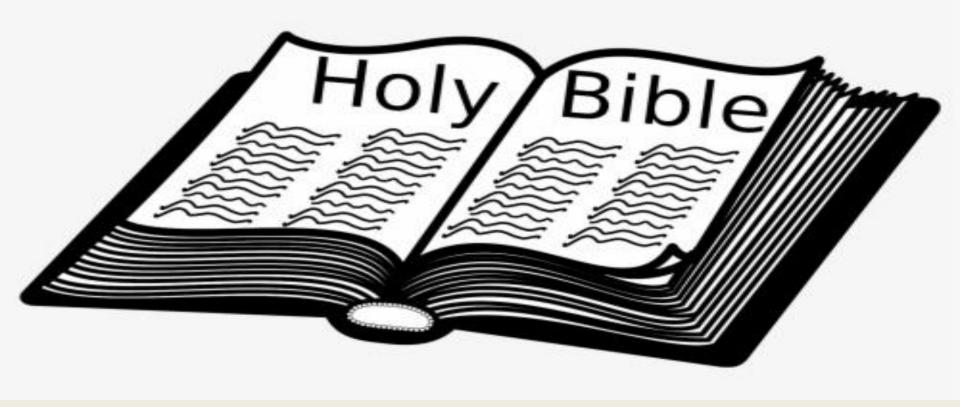
Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight...



Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.



Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from



1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.



There is hope for our churches if they will heed the message given to the Laodiceans. **{Manuscript 139, 1903}**