



But in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. – Matthew 15:9

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When Jesus Returns

My apologies up front. This is a message to all of you who are Seventh-day Adventists or are familiar with and believe in the writings of Ellen G. White. I apologize because you most likely won't like this message.

Following is a passage taken from the book *The Great Controversy*. Accusations have been made that Mrs. White plagiarized large portions of this book then passed it off as her own writings. I have not verified the accuracy of these claims nor do I intend to. But I will say that people who are supporters of Mrs. White will tell you that in her day this was a common and acceptable practice therefore it was OK for her to do this. However, this reasoning needs to be rejected because it condones theft. It claims that not only was it acceptable for Ellen to steal then lie to cover it up, it also is a claim that God stole then covered it up because Ellen claimed to be working by a direct edict from God Himself.

That information is something that I'm not intending to write about. I only mentioned it to let you know what some of the issues are with using her writings as gospel truth. It isn't clear from where she garnered her information that she passed along as coming directly from God via an angel or vision or dream.

I was raised to believe that her writings were the truth and as Adventists we had an advantage over other church organizations because they didn't have her writings. The claim was even made that only Seventh-day Adventists would be allowed into heaven and those who were in other religious organizations would leave them and join the SDA church.

When I've mentioned this to people who are in the church they will deny that this is taught. But being in denial is not a safe place to be. You are welcome to

believe what you want. That is your God-given right. However, what you believe may not be healthy. You're allowed to believe that chewing on rocks won't harm your teeth. You may believe that, it's your right. But don't be surprised when you receive a large dental bill or even lose your teeth.

Years ago I worked in a physicians office. While there I met a toddler who came under the belief that it would be a good idea to stick a bean into his nose. At some point later his mother noticed a bad odor coming from the child and decided to bring him to the doctor. The doctor looked him over then performed a beanectomy. This belief brought temporary discomfort to the child but he survived the ordeal.

On the level of moral development and our knowledge of what God's character, creation, the universe, etc... is all about, we are nothing more than toddlers who are operating on a level where we are easily duped into believing that placing a bean into our nose is a grand idea. But we need to start growing up and to do that we need to open our eyes, clear our heads of all preconceived ideas and earlier teachings. Come to God with a blank slate (so to speak) and ask Him to teach us the truth.

With that said I'm going to share with you a passage directly from *The Great Controversy* which lists Ellen G. White as the author, a woman we have been taught never made a mistake.

Soon there appears in the east a small black cloud, about half the size of a man's hand. It is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour and which seems in the distance to be shrouded in darkness. The people of God know this to be the sign of the Son of man. In solemn silence they gaze upon it as it draws nearer the earth, becoming lighter and more glorious, until it is a great white cloud, its base a glory like consuming fire, and above it the rainbow of the covenant. Jesus rides forth as a mighty conqueror. Not now a "Man of Sorrows," to drink the bitter cup of shame and woe, He comes, victor in heaven and earth, to judge the living and the dead. "Faithful and True," "in righteousness He doth judge and make war." And "the armies which were in heaven" (Revelation 19:11, 14) follow Him. With anthems of celestial melody the holy angels, a vast, unnumbered throng, attend Him on His way. The firmament seems filled with radiant forms—"ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands." No human pen can portray the scene; no mortal mind is adequate to conceive its splendor. "His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of His praise. And His brightness was as the light."

Habakkuk 3:3, 4. As the living cloud comes still nearer, every eye beholds the Prince of life. No crown of thorns now mars that sacred head; but a diadem of glory rests on His holy brow. His countenance outshines the dazzling brightness of the noonday sun. "And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, King of kings, and Lord of lords." Revelation 19:16.

Before His presence "all faces are turned into paleness;" upon the rejecters of God's mercy falls the terror of eternal despair. "The heart melteth, and the knees smite together, ... and the faces of them all gather blackness." Jeremiah 30:6; Nahum 2:10. The righteous cry with trembling: "Who shall be able to stand?" The angels' song is hushed, and there is a period of awful silence. Then the voice of Jesus is heard, saying: "My grace is sufficient for you." The faces of the righteous are lighted up, and joy fills every heart. And the angels strike a note higher and sing again as they draw still nearer to the earth.

The King of kings descends upon the cloud, wrapped in flaming fire. The heavens are rolled together as a scroll, the earth trembles before Him, and every mountain and island is moved out of its place. "Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about Him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that He may judge His people." Psalm 50:3, 4. – *The Great Controversy*, p. 640-641, Ellen G. White

Here is another passage I found when looking for the above. It has the same problem. Do you see what I'm seeing?

It is called the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. His coming surpasses in glory all that the eye has ever seen. Far exceeding anything the imagination has conceived will be His personal revelation in the clouds of heaven. Then there will be a perfect contrast to the humility which attended His first advent. Then He came as the Son of the infinite God, but His glory was concealed by the garb of humanity. Then He came without any worldly distinction of royalty, without any visible manifestation of glory; but at His second appearing He comes with His own glory and the glory of the Father and attended by the angelic host of heaven. In the place of that crown of thorns which marred His brow, He wears a crown within a crown. No longer is He clad with the garments of humility,

with the old kingly robe placed upon Him by His mockers. No: He comes clad in a robe whiter than the whitest white. Upon His vesture and thigh a name is inscribed, "King of kings, and Lord of lords." – *In Heavenly Places*, p. 358, by Ellen White

Right off the bat I see two reasons we should reject the above passages. First one is that this viewpoint is a purely human fabrication. Yes, I said fabrication. It's something that someone dreamed up. But perhaps it isn't from human origin at all but rather from some "other" source that isn't from a heavenly realm. We don't actually know for a fact where this information came from.

What you see described is something that would be for the redeemed, more than fantastic. The pomp and glory will far outweigh anything we humans can even begin to imagine. Our imaginations are stretched to the limit and we experience a desire to witness these events.

But will it really happen like this? I no longer believe it will. Why? Because this is an "in your face" act which isn't an act of love. It's an act of retaliation. It's outside the realms of God's Character. God's redeemed would survive this display but to the wicked it's nothing more than "neener neener neener."

The second reason that I'm believing this should be rejected is that it's fortune telling which is a form of witchcraft. God tells us to stay away from that. But the Adventists have been taught that Ellen received her messages from God and she never made a mistake, therefore this isn't fortune telling, it's God revealing what will happen.

But God isn't going to and didn't reveal to us a picture of Himself committing an act of retaliation which is not within the boundaries of His Character. We need to reject this and any other comments Ellen purportedly made about any future events. Yes, you may see things happening as she predicted but bear in mind that satan is fully capable of having told that something would happen in a given way then work behind the scenes to ensure that the foretold event would take place. (For more information on that read the blurb "Message to a Man Named Peter.")

Don't forget my earlier comment that we were taught that only Adventists have the truth and only Adventists will be allowed into heaven because they have Ellen. I struggle for a word to describe that and the nicest thing I can come up with is "arrogance." We're expected to believe the writings of a woman who purportedly stole then lied to cover it up, and practiced the art of fortune-telling. And if we don't believe in her writings then god will zap us. Seriously? God will

zap us because we don't believe a lie? That's hooey! Perhaps those who are teaching this concept should consider having their own beanectomy.

Again I must apologize. This has been a harsh message and I don't know how to soften it. Perhaps I shouldn't have written it while under the influence of a migraine. We need to stop believing that a spade is a heart but rather wake up and start calling a spade a spade. Let's start living in reality.

And my apologies for being so long in posting something here. This has been a difficult year and the problems haven't stopped yet. For a while now I've been struggling with depression that is debilitating and I cannot take medication for it. I must find ways to deal with it on my own. And that has caused me to neglect writing and posting things here.

It's a Tuesday out there. May your day be filled with Sonshine and experience the warmth of His love.

Hannah

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