

THE GATHERING OF THE JEWELS

By John Thiel

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1 Gods Treasure

[mp3 The Gathering of the Jewels Conference](#)

Scripture Reading – Exodus 19:5 Now therefore if you will obey my voice indeed and keep my covenant, then you shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people for all the earth is mine.

This is indeed a special time and something we've been looking forward to for a long time on the subject of the hour. The gathering of God's jewels. This is our program, our holy convocation. The theme of our holy convocation – 'The Gathering of the Jewels' that we are coming close to the heart of God. We are coming to a place of quiet rest. May God help us to appreciate this sacred time now and enter into that place of quiet rest with Him. A place of comfort, sweet a place of full release and the subject of this moment is God's treasure.

Our Scripture reading is clearly conveyed in Exodus 19:5 where God is speaking that those people that obey His voice, that keep His covenant are a peculiar treasure unto Him. A peculiar treasure unto the Lord. This is what we want to meditate about as an introduction to the whole subject of 'The Gathering of God's Jewels.'

Psalm 135:4 The lord hath chosen Jacob unto himself and Israel for his peculiar treasure.

These two scriptures form their groundswell or the genetics if we if we would have it for the theme of the whole conference. As you take these words from the Lord, this is God speaking to us in this Scripture. God is saying that Israel, we who are modern Israel and not only as a whole as a body, but each one of us individually, children you too and this is our theme song of our camp, isn't it? Little children are His jewels as well as everybody else but what makes us His jewels?

Exodus 19:5 – if we obey Him, if we keep His covenant, then we are His peculiar treasure.

As I meditated on this subject, my mind was deeply exercised on the fact that God regards human beings, you and me, if we will have it as His treasure, we are His treasure in a marriage. Just to help us understand every one of us has been married at one stage. We remember how precious the one that we took as our wife or our husband was to us. We called them our treasure didn't we? Precious. Why? Because they were the very most important person in our life. We enjoyed them, we had fellowship with them. We had everything in in a loving precious relationship.

You've heard, maybe children you've heard your mother calling you her treasure? Maybe because there is something special about the people that we regard as our treasure and all the way through this conference, we are considering this special ingredient in God and in each other something special, something that shines, something that's beautiful and as we go through this conference, as I mentioned, it's the theme of the conference, the gathering of these jewels. God regards certain people as His jewels and He wants to gather them together. All the way through as we go, we will notice there, that not only are we to be the treasure, but also how we are being gathered. The experience of being gathered is part of this conference.

Malachi; the actual terminology of the gathering of His jewels.

Malachi 3:17 And they shall be mine...

Who will be Gods?

Malachi 3:17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

Every word, every thought, in these words are so important for us to appreciate that God says, you are mine in the day when I make up my jewels.

Zechariah 9:16 And the LORD their God shall save them in that day as the flock of his people: for they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon his land.

Have you seen a crown of a monarch? What's inside? What's all part that crown? Precious stones, precious gems. God regards His children like those precious gems in a crown. This is beautifully reiterated in Isaiah. Mark as we are reading here because it is so essential that we are diligent in reading God's word because God's word is the expression of His thoughts to us and the beautiful appreciations that these words are to arouse inside of us.

We are reading in the Bible God's thoughts, the thoughts of the majesty of the universe. It is so important that we really let it really come to our appreciation what God is saying.

Isaiah 62:1 For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. 2 And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name. 3 Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God.

To have a crown, a royal diadem, is something that a king really appreciates. He is the king, He has a crown and who are they? We are studying the metaphors or the metaphorical application of God's people as a crown, as a gem, as a jewel, as a pearl. This is what we are letting God communicate with us and so as we proceed through the scriptures and through the Spirit of Prophecy statements, let us be diligent to appreciate and take it in as to what God is saying. This terminology, a crown, a diadem in His hand.

What we're reading so far in our introduction is the announcements of who God's people are.

We have read an account of a noble prince who carried the picture of his father always near his heart and on important occasions when there was danger of forgetting him, he would take out the likeness and view it and say, "Let me do nothing unbecoming so excellent a father." As Christians, God has claims upon us that we should never, never lose sight of for a moment; OHC 22.4

Did you catch that? What we are studying here at this conference, is something that we should never, it is so important, that we should never let it be lost sight of for a moment.

...and as we are His children by adoption, how careful should we be that we retain His image and do nothing that will belittle or degrade our holy calling, for we rank among the royal family. God has made us as vessels unto honor, prepared unto every good work. "This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise." Isaiah 43:21. God's people are called a crown, a diadem. Satan would eagerly seize the Lord's treasure, but God has secured it so that Satan cannot obtain it. "Thou shalt be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God." Isaiah 62:3. We are secure, perfectly secure from the enemy's subtlety while we have unwavering trust in God." 31 OHC 22.4

We need to hang upon every word that we are reading here as our own individually and then corporately together as a people. As we have read these things that as announcements, to say this is what God regards us as His royal diadem, His jewels that He wants to gather into this royal diadem, it puzzles us that human beings and I'm sure that there are people that have gone – 'maybe. I don't know if you have ever gone through that thought; how can God regard me as a jewel? Have you ever had that doubt? Me a sinner, a jewel, how can that be? Follow very carefully so that no matter what you feel about yourself, even if you feel that you've sinned and you've really marred the picture of God's ideal in yourself that as a sinner who is repentant and I'm going to take this right through, this as a sinner who feels his unworthiness. A sinner who is repentant before God. God regards him as a jewel.

Follow carefully. The question is, who me? What am I? What is man? We want to know that this belongs to me individually and us as a company:

Psalms 8:4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Simple little question which is posed because who? Sinners like me. What is man? We can read verse 3 for context.

Psalms 8:3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast ordained, what is man that thou art mindful of him and the son of man that thou visitest him?

Can you see what's packed in this scripture? God came in Jesus Christ to visit us. What is man that that God would regard him as His jewels? Job is a good example of somebody who was going through the dregs of human depravity as was being heaped upon him through his boils, through his ugly experience. Look how he speaks. Job could hardly comprehend that God would regard him as a jewel. Notice his comprehension of himself:

Job 7:13 When I say, My bed shall comfort me, my couch shall ease my complaint; 14 Then thou scarest me with dreams, and terrifiest me through visions: 15 So that my soul chooseth strangling, and death rather than my life. 16 I loathe it; I would not live alway: let me alone; for my days are vanity. 17 What is man, that thou shouldst magnify him? and that thou shouldst set thine heart upon him? 18 And that thou shouldst visit him every morning, and try him every moment?

We've been through that experience.

What is man that you should magnify that? You should regard him as a jewel, a royal diadem. What is man that thou should set thine heart upon him. God why would you set your heart upon me? Let it sink in.

Job 7:19 How long wilt thou not depart from me, nor let me alone till I swallow down my spittle.

What's he saying? Have you ever said that? Leave me alone God, why would you regard me so special? I don't believe it. I doubt it. That's what he is saying in different words. Have you ever said it? Have you ever felt that way? Why should you consider me? I have sinned.

Job 7:20 I have sinned; what shall I do unto thee, O thou preserver of men? why hast thou set me as a mark against thee, so that I am a burden to myself?

What does the margin say? Or observer of men.

Job 7:21 And why dost thou not pardon my transgression, and take away mine iniquity? for now shall I sleep in the dust; and thou shalt seek me in the morning, but I shall not be.

That's how I felt. What is man? What am I that you would regard me? He puts himself down. Haven't you done that? I've heard certain of you do that. He was putting himself down and yet God is saying, you are my jewel. What you are saying about yourself means that you are my jewel. The person who feels so depraved and talks to God like that is His jewel because he's conscious of his unworthy state instead of being careless about his state. The question is, what is there in me a sinner? What is there in us as human beings that makes God pay attention to us? It is because of what is man's potential. Originally there is something. If you see a jewel, there is something beautiful in the jewel. What is the human race? That is why God regards him so earnestly, why God has spent so much time and effort and self-sacrifice for us as human beings.

Why?

Genesis 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them

Who are we as human beings? We are the image of God. We've been created in the image of God originally. We as this human race on this planet is superior to any other creation.

All heaven took a deep and joyful interest in the creation of the world and of man. Human beings were a new and distinct order. SD 7.2

What were human beings? A new and distinct order. Nobody else was created like man.

In the Image of God

They were made “in the image of God,” and it was the Creator’s design that they should populate the earth. They were to live in close communion with heaven, receiving power from the Source of all power. Upheld by God, they were to live sinless lives. 1 SD 7.2

A completely distinct separate order of creation of intelligent creation. Can you think about these children and as you think about this, it captivates you, it makes you go; oh who me? God made us in His image. No other creation in the universe was equal to that distinct.

God created man a superior being; he alone is formed in the image of God, and is capable of partaking of the divine nature, of cooperating with his Creator and executing His plans.3 SD 7.4

Did you catch that? The human race alone was created by God in His own image and is capable of partaking of the divine nature which none of the others had because God created man for one purpose. To deal with sin for the rest of eternity and to deal with that He was going to connect himself in Jesus Christ to us and therefore by redeeming us from sin, we would be right there as part of the Godhead. Many people can’t stand me saying that but that’s the way God created us because He knew what was going to happen and He knew that we would one day become part of Himself.

That’s why the answer to the question; what is man, that thou art mindful of him?

The life of Christ is to be revealed in humanity. Man was the crowning act of the creation of God, made in the image of God, and designed to be a counterpart of God; but Satan has labored to obliterate the image of God in man, and to imprint upon him his own image. LHU 48.2

A counterpart of God. Are you getting the answer? What is man that thou art mindful of him?

Man is very dear to God, because he was formed in His own image. This fact should impress us... LHU 48.2

Are we picking up the enormity of the subject that we are pursuing here so God is considering us so specially? Because He created us in His own image in the first place but as we just read, Satan has managed to be marred by sin yet although we have been marred by sin read Christ Object Lessons page 96. Every time you discover how wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked you really are listen to this:

None are so vile, none have fallen so low, as to be beyond the working of this power. In all who will submit themselves to the Holy Spirit a new principle of life is to be implanted; the lost image of God is to be restored in humanity. COL 96.1

You know it’s so easy just to read this isn’t it. I want us to realise this is to be real in our lives and everything that is following this opening meditation is to be carefully and diligently considered. That the lost image of God is to be restored in humanity that nobody is so vile or has so fallen so low that he is beyond the working of God to restore His image in us again. Even though you feel unworthy, be encouraged no matter how unworthy you are, give yourself over to those words if you will obey me and accept my covenant. You will be my precious treasure.

Here is the motive generated from God to do what we should be doing because I am in the image of God and He wants to restore me. I haven’t fallen so low that He can’t. Even when we see human beings in the rough, sometimes you see each other in the rough. No matter how rough we see about each other, follow carefully in the next quote:

The company of believers may be few in number, but they have been taken by the cleaver of truth as rough stones from the quarry of the world ... to be fitted up by test and trial for a place in God’s heavenly temple, and they are very precious in the sight of the Lord.... Even in the rough they are precious in the sight of God. The ax and the hammer and the chisel of trial and test are in the hands of One who is skillful, and are used not to destroy, not to bring to nothingness, but to work out the perfections of every soul.... OHC 167.4

The cleaver is one of those things that cuts apart the bone from the flesh, the flesh from the bone. It’s a cleaver. In the butcher they’ve got these square knives, that’s a cleaver.

You feel you're pretty rough, really unworthy. Even in the rough He sees something precious in there just like a person who's got a trained eye as he goes out fossicking among the rocks, He says ah, even though this is a rough looking rock, he knows there's a precious gem inside. Even in the rough they are precious in the sight of God.

Chiselling and Grinding

This is a powerful introduction to the whole subject that we are pursuing. Perfect introduction. The Lord looks upon us and He is gathering His jewels. He's making His jewels. He's creating them. We're going right through the detail of that first. He's creating them by breaking off the rough bits and chiselling, grinding and bringing forth the cluster of the gem inside. Then He gathers them all and He has been doing that with each individual. Notice all of God's people corruptions. All their corruptions are there in front of Him, but He regards everything in front of Him as His jewels and His treasure.

I often pondered about this, and it makes it so abundantly clear here that in the records of God, His treasures which we are recorded, all our rough behaviour, all our sinfulness as well, remember He's speaking here to Israel who are His treasure and He knows their their wrongs, their sins, their imperfections. He knows them and all they're up there among His treasure.

Deuteronomy 32:32 For their vine is of the vine of Sodom, and of the fields of Gomorrah: their grapes are grapes of gall, their clusters are bitter: 33 Their wine is the poison of dragons, and the cruel venom of asps. 34 Is not this laid up in store with me, and sealed up among my treasures?

There it is; *sealed among my treasures*. All the corruptions of the roughness that is surrounding the gem inside ,it's all there and it's recorded among His treasures because in heaven He's got his treasures, his angels and so on. Of those special creatures that He created, to picture everything that's happening here on earth, to video stream it, it's all there. Where this language of it's all among his treasures is expressed by the Spirit of Prophecy.

These and similar passages revealed to Josiah God's love for His people and His abhorrence of sin. PK 396.2

His abhorrence's and she quotes the scripture that I just read in Deuteronomy. It's all there among my treasures. My treasures, His love for the sinner yet His abhorrence for sin. You're among his treasure. You are still His treasure because His image is there hidden underneath the rough. It is only those who persist in rebellion and resist His love for them that He turns against. Those who are repentant, contrite and broken-hearted, are His treasure. They see themselves like Job sees himself. They see themselves as a hopeless case. What is man that you even consider me. Oh yes, I've been made in your image and I'm all sinful.

Satan has marred my experience with you, you still regard me as your treasure. Wow, doesn't that bring you to your knees? Doesn't that cause you to feel sorry for your sins? Here is the motive generated that God is changing me if I will let Him. Those who are repentant, who are contrite and broken-hearted, how does He regard them? Where are they? if you are not a sinner you wouldn't be broken-hearted would you? You wouldn't be full of contrition would you? It's because I'm a sinner that I'm contrite and notice what He says:

Psalms 57:14 And shall say, Cast ye up, cast ye up, prepare the way, take up the stumblingblock out of the way of my people. 15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name [is] Holy; I dwell in the high and holy [place], with him also [that is] of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones. 16 For I will not contend for ever, neither will I be always wroth: for the spirit should fail before me, and the souls [which] I have made. 17 For the iniquity of his covetousness was I wroth, and smote him: I hid me, and was wroth, and he went on frowardly in the way of his heart.

God is not unconscious of our sinfulness. He is not angry or smiting us. He does all the different things that need to be done.

Psalm 57:18 I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him and to his mourners. 19 I create the fruit of the lips; Peace, peace to [him that is] far off, and to [him that is] near, saith the LORD; and I will heal him.

Healing

Who is He going to heal? You and me who are sinners. Oh yes, I'm going to have to go through the painful experience of feeling His wrath. The painful experience of my mistakes. I'm going to feel it badly. But does that make me any less a jewel? No, because I am contrite and broken in heart. Therefore the Lord regards me as His jewel. He lives in a high and holy place with people like that. He looks to the people who are broken-hearted, who are reading His Word and discovering through his word who they really are

Isaiah 66:2 For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

Who will He look to? Do you tremble at God's Word? What causes you to tremble at God's word? Because as you read God's Word, how do you feel? Do you get rebuked frequently? Does God make you feel so small because He tells you how wrong you are? You might feel that small but He's declaring, I'm going to heal you. You're my precious gem. I'm going to gather you. This has to be taken into consideration. If we don't take this into consideration, we lose ourselves. The poor and contrite spirit that trembleth at my Word, to him will I look. That's the special jewel

This is God speaking. I'm not saying it myself but as I know the experience of the study of God's Word that is relevant for me, I wish that every one of us could pick up what I'm picking up inside of myself. Are you picking it up? This is going to subdue each one of us into holiness.

Psalms 34:14 Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. 15 The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.

Notice now that who are the righteous? It's not the people that are perfect; it's the people that are contrite.

Psalm 34:16 The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth. 17 The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. 18 The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

These are the people He's looking to. If you were not a person who had sinned badly, would you be contrite? It's common sense. As you read, the righteous are people who cry to the Lord because of their sins. They are His gems.

Psalm 34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all. 20 He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken. 21 Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate. 22 The LORD redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

The Lord redeemeth, what does that mean? You've got to be brought back from sin. The wicked are people who are not repentant. The wicked are people who don't let the Lord speak to them in regard to their condition but the righteous are those who are shown by him of their sinfulness. Can you see what the scripture is saying? His people, His treasure, are the humble contrite ones and they are there with Him in heavenly places. He sits in a high and holy place with Him also that is of a humble contrite spirit.

Ephesians 2:1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; 2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

The aftermath of all that is what we are suffering under

Ephesians 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ,

Here is the picture of Christ and we want to look at the pearl of great price which is Jesus. We are quickened together with Christ.

Ephesians 2:6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: 7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Who are the righteous that are going to be sitting with Him in heavenly places? Those who are being gathered, those who are being purified, those who have been picked up in the rough and He is breaking apart. He is breaking apart all the rough bits and they sit together with Jesus in heavenly places. What is it that makes them so precious? What did we read in verse 6? Why are they precious, because they are sitting in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. In Christ Jesus, what does that mean? Jesus took you and I, a sinner into Himself as our High Priest in heaven.

Right now, He is pleading our cases. He still feels the sins that He carried to heaven with Him. Remember the High Priest took the sins and sprinkled them. That's what's happening. We've got to actually drink this in. So precious is Jesus, so precious is Jesus to the Father. He is the only begotten, the treasured Son. The only begotten. This is why even though He is God, He is called the only begotten Son because an only begotten Son, is the treasure of the Father that was Jesus. How precious is Jesus to the Father; His treasured Son and our attachment to Him in the Atonement makes us as precious as His Son. Jesus came and attached Himself to us. He made Himself of no reputation.

Philippians 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

Here is the combined treasure. The Father treasures His son and we are in His son lifted up to heavenly places.

Ephesians 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, 19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: 22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

It's so important that you read the Scripture and take it in. Don't just hear me, this is speaking to you. As you read the Bible, every Word is loaded. It's pregnant with the precious reality of God and if we keep on hanging our head and can't be lifted above our darkness, we are not believing what we are reading. Ponder, embrace and own what I'm reading now and what we've read before.

John 10:17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.

Why does the Father love Him? Why is Jesus so precious to Him? Because He laid down His life and all that is involved in that Atonement in Christ Jesus. Why does Jesus say – *'therefore does my Father love me?'*

Jesus said, "Therefore doth My Father love Me, because I lay down My life, that I might take it again." John 10:17. That is, "My Father has so loved you that He even loves Me more for giving My life to redeem you. In becoming your Substitute and Surety, by surrendering My life, by taking your liabilities, your transgressions, I am endeared to My Father; for by My sacrifice, God can be just, and yet the Justifier of him who believeth in Jesus." SC 14.1

That's why my Father loves me.

None but the Son of God could accomplish our redemption; for only He who was in the bosom of the Father could declare Him. Only He who knew the height and depth of the love of God could make it manifest. Nothing less than the infinite sacrifice made by Christ in behalf of fallen man could express the Father's love to lost humanity. SC 14.2

"God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son. SC 14.3

What a meditation, what a precious thing to take on. Ponder it, embrace it and make it your own make it your own. This is what will save us so we at this holy convocation are to receive the understanding of the words that are interlocked with the introductory message of Malachi.

Malachi 3:17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him

I will make up my jewels. What is involved with this? What is all part of this? This is the detail we're going into.

Malachi 3: 18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

We are living in the days. Those who are sinful people take hold of the beautiful message that I've just shared and here brought together. We are gathered together by His Word and by His Holy Spirit and as they are gathered together, they will be discerned. Are you prepared to receive the blessing of this camp? We've just begun to understand what it means to be the jewels that God is making up and gathering. We are going into every study and if we are very diligent and very earnest in this matter, we will be prepared to receive the outpouring of the latter rain and to identify our experience with those that are being made up as His jewels. We see it spelled out for us. I marvel at God's Word. This is not just a man's idea, this is portrayed in the reading of His Word.

May God help us to let nothing interfere with our concentration of these important messages at this time. Meet in due season.

2 The Formation of the Pearls

[mp3 The Gathering of the Jewels Conference](#)

It's the formation of God's pearls, the theme of our conference has arisen from the scripture in Malachi 3:17. When I make up my jewels, the term make up my jewels contains two thoughts:

1. Making His jewels, forming them
2. Gathering them into His casket

The first segment (this conference) of making His jewels is contained in the first three sessions of this conference that will be devoted to the formation of those gems. The two middle sessions are to spend time to actually behold them. To behold these gems and last of all the last four is in reference to gathering of these jewels.

In consideration of the forming of the jewels, a casket of jewels includes many different varieties of jewels and in general apply to pearls, gold, diamonds and other gemstones the casket of jewels and the crown has many different varieties of jewels. God's people constitute just such an array of different individual precious items. Each one of us is a different kind of jewel and each one in its formation is distinct in process. Every jewel in the formation of that jewel goes through different processes depending on what kind of a jewel it is.

We will look at the formation of pearls and what the pearls go through. Let us consider the day to which God is referring to in that day when He makes up His jewels, the time period that is referred to.

Malachi 3:17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

Isaiah 13:9 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. **10** For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. **11** And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. **12** I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.

He will make a man more precious than the golden wedge of Ophir. Ophir was a place that Solomon obtained his gold from which had the purest kind of gold that was obtained at that time. The word 'Ophir' is more precious than the golden wedge of 'Ophir' is being used here. It's the most precious gold that could be found at that time.

The period of time in which God is making up His jewels, is a period which commenced, especially after the sun was darkened and the moon was blood. During this period of time, the formation of the very last jewels of earth's history will take place. In different words, of the hundred and forty-four thousand, these precious jewels, it is that what is referred to in Malachi 3:17 to 18 when He makes up His jewels. God is making up His jewels during that period of time and in Daniel 12 you can see them shining there when it comes to the close of probation and the very experience of the final time of God's wrath.

Daniel 12:9 Go thy way Daniel for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end and there in the time of the end. **10** In that time many shall be purified and made white and tried but the wicked shall do wickedly and none of the wicked shall understand but the wise shall understand.

There is a period of purification that only the wise will understand and that's what we are studying so that we will be the wise who will understand while many people don't know what's going on. This is the time of purification.

Daniel 12:3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness and of the firmament and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever.

The stars are often associated with gems shining at the night. Here are God's people that when the work of purification has been completed, they shall shine like precious jewels. That's the day in which the Lord is making up His jewels. What does it take to make up a pearl? What actually is the experience of a formation of a pearl? It is a metaphorical

experience of a pearl being created for God's people to be able to understand what they're going to be going through. For the Lord to develop a pearl, we want to have a clear understanding of this development of a pearl.

"Pearls are formed when an irritant like a grain of sand, a fragment of shell, or a parasite gets inside a mollusk's shell, causing the mollusk to secrete layers of a substance called "nacre" (mother-of-pearl) to coat the irritant and protect itself, eventually creating a pearl."

"This is a clam kind of a shell. As a defence mechanism, the mollusc secretes a fluid, thousands of very thin concentric layers of nacre, a secretion of calcium, of calcium carbonate, arginine, and conchialin. These are the secretions that the shell secretes, the muscle secretes, until a lustrous pearl is formed. It takes a period of time with this secretion that is layer upon layer upon layer around that irritant." <https://rawpearls.com.au>

God's people who are living in the last days of the time of God making up and forming His jewels, if they will be pearls, they are subjected to many irritants. Do you like being irritated? The flesh doesn't, the mother of pearl doesn't like it either. That's why it puts these layers of liquid around it to make it more comfortable for itself so it doesn't irritate so much anymore. But it keeps on doing it because it gets bigger and bigger.

Ministry of Healing page 497 gives us the living experience of us forming into a pearl for those of us who are getting irritated in the last days.

So long as we are in the world, we shall meet with adverse influences. There will be provocations to test the temper; and it is by meeting these in a right spirit that the Christian graces are developed. If Christ dwells in us, we shall be patient, kind, and forbearing, cheerful amid frets and irritations. Day by day and year by year we shall conquer self, and grow into a noble heroism. This is our allotted task; but it cannot be accomplished without help from Jesus, resolute decision, unwavering purpose, continual watchfulness, and unceasing prayer. Each one has a personal battle to fight. Not even God can make our characters noble or our lives useful, unless we become co-workers with Him. Those who decline the struggle lose the strength and joy of victory. MH 487.2

These are irritants. Provocations to test the temper. Oh, do I feel that? Irritations, threats. If Christ is in us this will happen. Ever get annoyed with each other children? One of you accepts the other one and annoys him, irritates them. Do you know what that's talking about? It doesn't just happen to children. It happens to adults too. As we meet these in the right spirit, the graces of Christianity are developed. It is during these times that these things are released upon us. I know it so well. I go through that all the time. As I'm going through it and that something is irritating me, I have to keep on remembering what I'm sharing with you now.

We are to form righteous characters in the likeness of Christ. How is that depicted in the Spirit of Prophecy? What is the pearl? How is the pearl depicted?

The righteousness of Christ, as a pure, white pearl, has no defect, no stain. No work of man can improve the great and precious gift of God. It is without a flaw. COL 115.1

That's the pearl. What was that? The righteousness of Christ. Is that pure pearl? How did Jesus form that pearl? How was that character formed? Because Jesus' righteousness is the pearl. How was that pearl formed?

How the Righteousness of Christ Was Formed

Hebrews 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

It's interesting that it starts with the words in verse 7, "In the days of His flesh...". How was the pearl formed in the literal mollusc? "In the flesh of the pearl."

Hebrews 5:7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. For the pearl to be developed in the mollusc, was the flesh of the pearl suffering. That's why it was exuding this liquid, because it was uncomfortable, it was suffering.

Hebrews 5:9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

The righteousness of Christ as a pure white pearl has no defect. How was it developed? By the sufferings of Jesus in his flesh. How specific is that metaphor, that symbol? There is suffering for Jesus to develop His righteousness. It has no defect and no stain. It is formed in suffering. Where in His flesh? This is what I thrill as I study God's word, that the Bible speaks and spells it out for us.

1 Peter 4:1 For as much then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh. Where did he suffer? In the flesh. 2 Arm yourself likewise with the same mind, for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin.

The Righteousness of Christ is developed overcoming all sin. Pure and perfect character, the pearl, His pearl of righteousness. We can see that exact scenario, the picture of a pearl being formed by the flesh of the molluscs suffering the continual irritation. As a consequence there comes this beautiful white glittering pearl suffering in the flesh. Let's explore that analogy, suffering in the flesh.

Suffering in the Flesh

In our own experience, before Jesus was introduced to my soul, before Jesus really becomes livingly clear to me, what is written about our flesh? Among whom? Among the wicked.

Ephesians 2:3 3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

According to this, without any irritant in the flesh, how do we function? We do just what the flesh wants, nothing to irritate it. Without Jesus in our life, we do the things that our flesh wants to do. The flesh is happy and comfortable doing what it wants. That's how we start. When Jesus is introduced into our life, something begins to happen inside of me.

1 Corinthians 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; 28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: 29 That no flesh should glory in his presence.

What is this Scripture saying to us? The flesh, the ways of the world are pleasing to the fallen state of man. He is happy enjoying the things of the flesh. And God has chosen to interfere with our flesh. He has chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the fleshly wise. And God has chosen the weak things of the world with what God has put there. In fact, if Christ comes into you, if the Holy Spirit takes of Jesus and shows it to you, how does the flesh feel? How does the flesh feel with Christ in you? With the Holy Spirit working in you. How does the flesh feel?

Galatians 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

How does the flesh respond with Christ being taken by the Holy Spirit and brought to us? What is it? The flesh is irritated. The human natural mind is irritated. This is quite different to the way that many times Christians portray Jesus. Jesus is not an irritant. He is a beautiful comfort to us as human beings, only to those who have been irritated by sin and who don't like their flesh. Because the world gets irritated. It gets very annoyed by experience. When you are working for God in the world of sin, people get irritated by the pure truth that you convey of Jesus. They don't really like the Jesus that is the Jesus that God sent. They follow a Jesus of their own imagination. Something that soothes and comforts the flesh doesn't irritate it. The Bible tells you outright that the flesh does not like the real input of the Holy Spirit. It's an irritation to the flesh. Are you getting the picture? Is it forming now? A pearl is formed in the flesh of a mollusc by suffering. And it's the suffering of Christ in the flesh, just as He suffered in the flesh.

Let's see from the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy whether this is true, that Jesus was an irritant to those that were in the flesh.

Jesus was misunderstood by His brothers because He was not like them. His standard was not their standard. In looking to men they had turned away from God, and they had not His power in their lives. The forms of

religion which they observed could not transform the character. They paid “tithes of mint and anise and cummin,” but omitted “the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith.” Matthew 23:23. The example of Jesus was to them a continual irritation. He hated but one thing in the world, and that was sin. He could not witness a wrong act without pain which it was impossible to disguise. Between the formalists, whose sanctity of appearance concealed the love of sin, and a character in which zeal for God’s glory was always paramount, the contrast was unmistakable. Because the life of Jesus condemned evil, He was opposed, both at home and abroad. His unselfishness and integrity were commented on with a sneer. His forbearance and kindness were termed cowardice. DA 88.1

Tell me, listen carefully children. Think carefully about this. If Jesus was a brother to you, would this be true about you? Jesus brothers, Jesus was misunderstood by His brothers. His standard was not their standard. In looking to men they had turned away from God and they had not His power in their lives. The forms of religion which they observed could not transform the character. They pay tithes of mint etc. The example of Jesus was to them, follow carefully, this is a direct irritation statement. The example of Jesus was to them a constant irritation. He hated but one thing in the world and that was sin. He could not witness a wrong act without pain which it was impossible to disguise between the formalists whose sanctity of Jesus.

He was opposed both at home and abroad. His unselfishness and integrity were commented on with a sneer. His forbearance and kindness were termed cowardice – “He’s a coward.” That’s the way the flesh responds to Jesus. It’s an irritant and I read it didn’t I? This is not my fabrication. It is inspiration that tells us this.

The prejudice of the Pharisees lay deeper than their questions would indicate; it had its root in the perversity of their hearts. Every word and act of Jesus aroused antagonism in them; for the spirit which they cherished could find in Him no answering chord. DA 387.3

An Irritant

That’s the true Jesus. If He lived amongst us today in your home, in my home, and I am not converted, He would become an irritant. Indeed, as we look at it in reference to Judas:

The kingdom of God comes not with outward show. The gospel of the grace of God, with its spirit of self-abnegation, can never be in harmony with the spirit of the world. The two principles are antagonistic. “The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.” 1 Corinthians 2:14. DA 509.1

When Jesus’ suggestions come in and say, “No, you shouldn’t be doing that. Now children,” you can understand this. You just want to do something that you’re not allowed to do and you get told, “No, you can’t do that.” What comes up inside of you? “Yeah, yeah,” you get annoyed. Does that happen? That’s the flesh. It irritates the flesh. When God comes along and says, “Here is your duty,” the flesh goes, “no” I don’t want that. Do you experience that? The flesh becomes irritated. The natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God.

Let’s examine this irritation so that we can identify the irritation that happens with my natural man that is therefore going to develop a pearl if I’m going to focus my mind on Jesus by choice. Judas was continually irritated by what Jesus stood for and he didn’t respond to the development of that pearl.

So far as Judas himself was concerned, Christ’s work of love had been without avail. But not so as regards his fellow disciples. To them it was a lesson of lifelong influence. Ever would its example of tenderness and long-suffering mold their intercourse with the tempted and the erring. And it had other lessons. At the ordination of the Twelve the disciples had greatly desired that Judas should become one of their number, and they had counted his accession an event of much promise to the apostolic band. He had come more into contact with the world than they, he was a man of good address, of discernment and executive ability, and, having a high estimate of his own qualifications, he had led the disciples to hold him in the same regard. But the methods he desired to introduce into Christ’s work were based upon worldly principles and were controlled by worldly policy. They looked to the securing of worldly recognition and honor—to the obtaining of the kingdom of this world. The working out of these desires in the life of Judas, helped the disciples to understand the antagonism between the principle of self-aggrandizement and Christ’s principle of humility and self-sacrifice—the principle of the spiritual kingdom. In the fate of Judas they saw the end to which self-serving tends. Ed 93.2

But for those, the disciples, who also were affected by the natural man, they saw why their frustrations had to happen so that they could develop the pearl inside of them. There is one example. A person who is following the natural man in self-serving. To serve yourself is to make yourself feel comfortable. You've got to feel comfortable. Nothing should annoy you. Nothing should irritate you. You get rid of all your irritants, including Jesus, and then you'll be happy. That's the natural man. So, whenever you come face to face with irritants, remember a pearl is meant to be developing.

The voice and passions must be crucified. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." The will, the appetites and passions, will clamour for indulgence, but God has implanted within you desires for high and holy purposes, and it is not necessary that these should be debased. This is only so when we refuse to submit to the control of reason and conscience. We are to restrain our passions and deny self. 19MR 327.1

You see it's spelled out for us here? That my will, my appetites and passions will clamour for indulgence. The flesh will clamour. It will go contrary to what is expected of me in my will, in my appetites and in my passions. How does that actually reveal itself? You want to eat something that really tastes nice, but you know it's unhealthy. Now that you know it's unhealthy, but you really want it, your flesh is saying, "I want that, I want that." Well, to not give it, the flesh is going to be disappointed. The flesh is going to say, "But I want it!" And the Spirit says, "No, you will not." So, there is an irritation, something that creates a reaction inside of me.

The very beginning of the evil was a neglect of watchfulness and secret prayer, then came a neglect of other religious duties, and thus the way was opened for all the sins that followed. Every Christian will be assailed by the allurements of the world, the clamors of the carnal nature, and the direct temptations of Satan. 5T 102.1

These are the things in our nature that cause irritation.

No one is safe. No matter what our experience has been, no matter how high our station, we need to watch and pray continually. We must be daily controlled by the Spirit of God or we are controlled by Satan. 5T 102.1

If we are controlled by Satan and we are going to follow the natural flesh, the flesh will not be irritated. The flesh will be happy. So, we have a very clear indication again here of the actual experience that is part of a development of the pure white character of the

pearl of Jesus with the irritant of Christ in the flesh, his brothers were irritated by Christ's purity and righteousness. With the irritant of Christ in the flesh, what is the benefit that is derived now in the plain statements of God's Word?

1 Peter 4:1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

The Pearl is Developed

He who suffers in the flesh, what will cease from sin? In other words, the pure righteousness of Christ will be formed. Jesus himself was made perfect. The pearl of great price was developed in Jesus because of the suffering. This is the benefit that is derived from the frustrations, the threats and the irritations that the flesh has to suffer. The pearl is developed.

Hebrews 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

What was that? Jesus learned by the things that we learned that beautiful display of an obedient child, of an obedient man, to display to us how is a person made perfect? He became the author of the formation of the pearl. Jesus, the pearl of great price, became like that because He was suffering. People don't like to hear such a message. I never forget I was doing some missionary work in Adelaide and I shared the story of the sufferings that are necessary. Just about every message I was sharing in the Bible study with these people that were gathered there, it was to do with the sufferings of Jesus. If we're going to develop the righteous character and the person that invited me to give these Bible studies, he said, "Do you have to keep on sharing subjects of suffering, suffering, suffering." That's why he expressed, repeating into existence through suffering.

As we meet, remember what we read there, that He became the author of salvation. He became the author of the development of the pearl. As we meet the same sufferings in the flesh that Jesus endured, and we endure unto the end the pearl will develop just like it does in the literal development layer after layer of Christ's righteousness covers our flesh, our sin, covers it. Layer after layer and develops the pearl.

In order to understand the value which God places upon man, we need to comprehend the plan of redemption, the costly sacrifice which our Saviour made to save the human race from eternal ruin. Jesus died to regain possession of the one pearl of great price... LHU 48.3

We need to comprehend it, we need to appreciate it, understand it. The plan of redemption. Did you pick that up? Jesus died to regain possession of the pearl of great price. The pearl of great price now is contained in Jesus' righteousness for us.

The life of God's children is a life of self-denial, of self-sacrifice, a life of humility. Those who are not partakers of His sufferings cannot hope to share in His glory.... We are to be judged according to the manner in which we use the knowledge of the truth which has been presented to us. LHU 48.3

Jesus developed for us the possession of one great pearl of great price and the life of God's children is a life of self - denial to let that become theirs as Jesus came to develop that.

The Lord gave His only begotten Son to ransom us from sin. We are His workmanship, we are His representatives in the world and He expects that we shall reveal the true value of man by a purity of life and the earnest efforts put forth to recover the pearl of great price. LHU 48.4

Ernest efforts put forth to recover the pearl of great price.

Our character is to be modeled after the divine similitude and to be reformed by that faith that works by love and purifies the soul. The grace of God will beautify and ennoble and sanctify the character. The servant of the Lord who works intelligently will be successful. Our Saviour said "Greater works than these shall be done, shall he do because I go unto my Father." LHU 48.3

Did you notice something very important here? I can't emphasise this strongly enough. God wants us to exercise our intelligence. Isn't that what I read? I appreciated the prayer to help this servant so the servants that here can receive it. The servant of the Lord is to have an intelligent understanding of the development of the character. It's the intelligent knowledge that when I'm going through my irritants of the flesh, I'm learning to bear those irritants until there is no more reaction against what God is doing and wanting us to do. Oh do I know this experience and why I'm sharing this with you is because I am in this battle. I'm praying that we will all understand that when something is irritating me, and I'm not showing a perfect reaction to that, the Lord is still at work to try and get me to get the perfect reaction to it.

It happens to me all the time. As the repeated activity of this happening to me, keeps on softening and subduing my reactions. Instead of blowing up, I'm becoming more and more calm over the period of time until finally a pearl will come forth. That's what the Lord is doing with us all. We are to have this intelligent understanding. Such a precious statement. We are to work intelligently and as we do that, we will be successful. Daniel 12:3 is what we read. The wise will understand. The wise will understand what's happening to them. The wise will shine as the stars in the firmament.

Let us take courage when irritations come to our carnal nature, if we will apply what at that time? It is called the balm of Gilead, that is Jesus. It is a chemical reaction. It is a chemistry of laying upon the irritation, the balm of Jesus. The gentleness that Jesus responded to when His flesh was irritated, when He was suffering, we follow His example closely. And as we do so, we will come forth as pearls to shine in God's kingdom. I hope and pray that this formation of the pearl will help us.

Our next study will be formation of the jewel. How that happens in the rough first of all but in the meantime, let us take this living experience intelligently.

3 The Formation of Jewels

[mp3 The Gathering of Gods Jewels Conference](#)

We have covered our first two meditations that God regards us His people as His treasure. All through history, His church Israel, even if they were very sinful, they were His treasure and we saw how His treasure is formed as we looked at the development of a pearl.

Now we want to look at the formation or the development of the crystal carbon centred jewels because among God's jewels. The pearls, precious stones, rubies, diamonds, opals, jasper, you name it, they are all part of God's casket of jewels with all their different qualities and manifestations. All these different gemstones are not formed in exactly the same way. We saw it already, pearls developed completely differently to the precious crystals.

In God's treasure we recognise individuals with totally different experiences unique to themselves. Every precious stone has an experience of a different development. What is the experience that forms a precious stone in God's casket? What is the experience?

Diamonds

We will use the formation of a diamond. Most crystal formations that are jewels are formed under heat and pressure but diamonds are under more extreme than any of the others and the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy speak of diamonds in God's treasure.

Diamonds are constituted of carbon. Carbon makes up coal as well but coal has been treated differently to the carbon that makes up a diamond. Diamonds form deep down in the earth, estimated at about 150 kilometres down. They are therefore under extreme pressure. The estimation is 725,000 pounds per square inch and the temperature is 1,500 degrees celsius for this carbon element to develop into a diamond. Then by volcanic activity, they are pressed upwards to the surface in what is called kimberlite pipes.

There is the pressure that it comes from underneath, presses up the volcanic magna into pipes called kimberlite pipes and so you can imagine the kind of experience that this carbon makes under such pressure so deep down in the earth with such high temperature. Extremely, extremely severe. Can it be that God's treasure, His people, undergo such a metaphorical formation? Let us examine God's Word as to the formation of these jewels, these diamonds for God.

Job 30:26 When I looked for good, then evil came unto me: and when I waited for light, there came darkness. 27 My bowels boiled, and rested not: the days of affliction prevented me. 28 I went mourning without the sun: I stood up, and I cried in the congregation. 29 I am a brother to dragons, and a companion to owls. 30 My skin is black upon me, and my bones are burned with heat. 31 My harp also is turned to mourning, and my organ into the voice of them that weep.

Job is describing the intensity that he was being put under. Did you notice there he talked about heat? He talked about the dreadful pressure that he was going through.

Job 23:10 But he knoweth the way that I take, when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

Gold is also formed in some form of terrible pressure so the trial that God's people go through are indeed a trial that develops the jewel.

Isaiah 4:33 And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem: 4 When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning.

That's an interesting language. Those that are left in Zion. Those that are left in God's church have gone through judgment and burning. So yes, there is an experience that is metaphorically described in the formation of diamonds and jewels.

Psalms 88:6 Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit in darkness, in the deeps.

What did we just read? What did we just learn about the diamond? Deep down in the deep pits of the earth. *'Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit in darkness and in the deeps.'*

Psalm 88:7 Thy wrath lieth hard upon me, and thou hast afflicted me with all thy waves.

This is the experience of the formation of precious jewels. What a beautiful intonation that comes in here now that although the Lord takes God's His people through the formation of extreme pressure in the pit, much burning yet He says:

Isaiah 54:1 O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colours, and lay thy foundations with sapphires. 12 And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones.

Isn't that profound? Isn't the Bible descriptive? As you look at the formation of stones, pearls, it's all through suffering and God says – alright, although you are afflicted, although you are tossed and suffering, you will come forth sparkling.

Isaiah 54:17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

For them to develop that righteousness, for them to develop that precious pearl, as we saw already, the pearl has gone through formation in the sufferings of the flesh. Here the sufferings of people under pressure, and the heat is, as I said, the Word of God in the consideration of the formation of His jewels is so descriptive and so realistic that when we go and we look back at the harshness of our experiences, we don't need overwhelmed. We're not comforted as we read. You're going through these experiences. There's no comfort in them, but you're going to come forth colourful. Beautiful.

Psalm 34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.

He doesn't just deliver us out of the horrible experience, He uses the whole the horrible experience, He uses the pressure, He uses the heat to form beautiful sparkling characters. As the Word of God and under inspiration puts forth that we are brought from the quarry of the world, come souls, candidates for God's treasure chest, for God's diadem, for God's crown.

They come from traumatic backgrounds of heat and pressure and as they come and are gathered and brought by the Lord for purification, they appear according to the pressure that they've come out of. They appear rough. They appear uncourteous. But as we know, we use the term, they might be rough diamonds. This is what we need to understand, the gem in the rough. In the Lord's work, in missionary work, in my whole experience I've had to bear this in mind.

Never to be put off by the rough exterior of the ones that are paying attention to the handout that is being given through this ministry. They have come from traumatic backgrounds, and that's why they behave the way they do, but there's something very precious inside.

Some with whom you are brought in contact may be rough and uncourteous, but do not, because of this, be less courteous yourself. He who wishes to preserve his own self-respect must be careful not to wound needlessly the self-respect of others. This rule should be sacredly observed towards the dullest, the most blundering. What sort of a rule should we follow to the blundering to the to the dullest kind of people, the rule of honouring them with self-respect. This rule should be sacredly observed. What God intends, what God intends to do with these apparently unpromising ones, you do not know. He has in the past accepted persons no more promising or attractive to do a great work for him. His spirit, Moving upon the heart has roused every faculty to vigorous action. GW 122.3

A Rough Diamond

Are you picking up what is being stated here? The person is a rough diamond. The good aspects in that person, covered by a rough, blundering external, God is able to do something with them. He intends to do with these

apparently unpromising ones something of this nature. *'He has in the past accepted persons where His spirit moving upon the heart has roused every faculty to vigorous action.'*

Reflect back on your own experience. There have been good traits inside of us that have been roused by God into vigorous action. Before they were dormant, they were lying under a rough exterior, but God has aroused those vigorous faculties.

The Lord saw in these rough, unhewn stones precious material, which would stand the test of storm and heat and pressure. God does not see as man sees. He does not judge from appearances, but searches the heart and judges righteously. GW 122.3

Did you pick something up? If people who have been under extreme pressure, under extreme heat, and are brought from the quarry of the world, that hardened carbon that has And put through such pressure is going to be able to stand the storms and the heat and pressure that God's people have to go through at the end. They've got it, they've been hardened already. That's what this is saying, can you see it? Here's the true digger for precious stones. He recognises the gemstone underneath the rough surface.

If we will walk humbly with God, if we will work in the spirit of Christ, none of us will carry heavy burdens. We shall lay them upon the great Burden Bearer. Then we may expect triumphs in the presence of God, in the communion of His love. From the beginning to the end every camp meeting may be a love feast, because God's presence is with His people. 6T 63.2

But even in the rough they are precious in the sight of God by the fact that heat and pressure has made them what they are in the rough, how will they stand after God has refined them? No pressure can break them because they've already been strengthened through the pressure. Therefore, a diamond is indestructible. They will be just as indestructible as God's true children.

Let people receive the light as presented in the Word of God, in truth, and there will be a steadfastness of purpose that will enable them to stand erect in moral independence amid difficulties and danger. A character is formed, barricaded by truth—a character that will abide the day of trial and test before us, however dark may be the pressure, however severe the tribulation that the day of God's preparation may bring forth. The principle of righteousness works outward from within and makes itself felt. CT 241.5

The people that are brought out from the quarry or from the deep, from the depths of the earth, they have a quality about them, although they are rough on the outside. And that quality, as they are carefully hewn, we are going to go into that detail about the polishing and the cutting experience. When they have come through that, they will be precious stones because they were already prepared for that cutting and polishing by being so hardened in the quarry of the earth.

Let's reflect back into our own life. Oh, how many times I've heard different ones telling me their sad experiences before they came to the message that we had. You got a rough background? Have you been treated in a harsh way? Can you reflect back into your own experience? You were hewn from rough treatment, yes? Have you come through? That's why you're here. The Lord has taken us from the severe experiences of our past and we often say oh those treatments that we have received have left a terrible mark on me. Don't look at it that way. You have been hardened to bear the hardness of the future. Look at it that way. You've come through so far now. Have you got an assurance that you're going to get right through to the end? If you've already gone through hard times in the past, while you weren't even illuminated by God, you have been strengthened by the pressure and the heat. Experiences of extreme pressure. Severe heat. Have you been hardened? Like a diamond? Then accept that as a virtue. Don't decry your past. Don't say, "Oh, if only I would have had a better beginning." No. If it's been extreme, if it's been under pressure, and in these last days, everybody just about can look back to extreme, hard, hot pressure, because we're living in the very last days. Accept it as a virtue. Alright, you might be rough on the outside, but you're something special. There is an internal gem that has been developed in the heat. It just needs to be finally polished and cut.

Ministers have been presented to me, with their course of action and their character before they were converted. 9MR 61.2

Did you like that? To be part of God's church, to be a gem, we may have gone through such things that have made us hard, incorrigible, unbending, stubborn. Don't decry this as though it was a dream. It is needed in order to fill

important positions of trust in the cause of God. The incorrigible stubborn nature that put in its correct setting is needed to meet the pressures and the heat.

There must be a transformation of character. The leaven must work in the human heart, until every action is in conformity to the will of God, and they are sanctified; then they become the most valuable. It is this very kind of individuals that God can use in the different branches of His work. 9MR 61.2

If things have developed inside of you that makes you stubborn, that makes you incorrigible, that makes you very firm and decided in your own direction, when the Lord works upon you to polish you, to develop your character, to bring forth the colours, then the strength of this gemstone is of such a nature that God can use.

The individuals that God can use in different branches of the work because they won't crumble under the pressure. Is it sinking in? As we become transformed by God's love, you have an internal fortitude that will not crumble under the future heat and pressure. An internal fortitude. That's what is meant with the hardness of the diamond.

God does not accept men because of their capabilities, but because they seek His face, desiring His help. God sees not as man sees. He judges not from appearances. He searches the heart, and judges righteously. "To this man will I look," He declares, "even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word." He accepts and communes with His lowly, unpretentious followers; for in them He sees the most precious material, which will stand the test of storm and tempest, heat and pressure. HP 68.4

He sees it because that's what they came from. A diamond in the rough and a diamond after refinement is just as strong. Is that right? The roughness that has produced the diamond is a roughness or a firmness that is needed when the diamond is beautiful. This leads us to the subject that is to follow.

The next studies we will have a look at:

- Jesus as the pearl
- Cutting and polishing experience

While God regards jewels in the rough as precious, He wants to make them even more precious.

Christ says to man, You are mine. I have bought you. You are now only a rough stone; but if you will place yourself in My hands, I will polish you, and the luster with which you shall shine will bring honor to My name. No man shall pluck you out of My hand. I will make you My peculiar treasure. On My coronation day, you will be a jewel in My crown of rejoicing. HP 267.3

The Divine Worker spends little time on worthless material. Only the precious jewels does He polish after the similitude of a palace, cutting away all rough edges. This process is severe and trying; it hurts human pride. Christ cuts deep into the experience that man in his self-sufficiency has regarded as complete and takes away self-uplifting from the character. He cuts away the surplus surface, and putting the stone to the polishing wheel, presses it close, that all roughness may be worn away. Then, holding the jewel up to the light, the Master sees in it a reflection of Himself, and He pronounces it worthy of a place in His casket. Blessed be the experience, however severe, that gives new value to the stone.20 HP 267.4

New value, it's already a valuable stone, just not in refinement, that's all. A stone that is quarried from the world has already gone through its severe experiences. When the severe experience of cutting and polishing takes place, as I just read, they can bear that. Can you bear it?

The idea that we are picking up from this conference is that if I've come from the quarry of the world and I've already managed to keep on going, I haven't gone along and committed suicide, I haven't gone along under pressure to just throw the bundle in, I've stayed under the pressure to where I am now with the illumination of God. Whatever He's going to do to me, I can bear that. Yes? He's got to polish me some more. He's got to get me so perfectly so that as he cuts and he polishes those facets in the diamond, I can bear that. Yes you can because you've come through to this point in time. will finally gather together.

4 Jesus the Pearl

[mp3 The Gathering of the Jewels Conference](#)

Proverbs 23:23 Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

May the Lord impress us simply with the importance of doing this, buying it, buying the truth, and buying understanding and instruction and wisdom. Indeed, Jesus is my pearl. He is my precious. This became so meaningful to me because I used to call my wife my precious. Now that she's gone, Jesus said all the good you saw in her was me. Now that she's gone, *'I'm still here'*, He's my pearl. He is my precious. I love Him but what is involved many times, we become affectionately involved with someone but we don't realise what is involved. That's why so many marriages fall apart. They don't realise what's involved. That's why many Christians fall apart because they don't know what's involved.

We like the thought of what we have studied over the last three studies. We have occupied our minds with the worth of humanity because God regards humanity as His treasure, as His jewels and those are wonderful thoughts. I get a wonderful sense of worth that God actually regards me as His treasure. But during this hour of worship, I want our full attention upon the one central jewel through whom we become jewels or through whom we are polished and produced into something delightful. The pearl of great price being Jesus Christ. This is delivered by Him:

Matthew 13:45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: 46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

This parable, this story, metaphorical story, is what the kingdom of heaven is about, that the merchant man goes and looks for precious pearls and he finds one that is the best that he has ever seen and he spends his whole fortune in buying that one pearl. That's what the kingdom of heaven is about. And we are focusing here on that one pearl that is described by the Spirit of Prophecy?

The blessings of redeeming love, our Saviour compared to a precious pearl. COL 115.1

Our Saviour compared the redeeming love as a precious pearl. Hence his lesson by the parable of the merchant man seeking goodly pearls, who when he had found one pearl of great price went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Christ himself is the pearl of great price. In Him is gathered all the glory of the Father, the fullness of the Godhead. COL 115.1

Oh, to let that sink in. He is God Himself in human form. That's why He is so precious. He is in God's image. He is the fullness of the Godhead and He is there among the human race.

He is the brightness of the Father's glory and the express image of His person. The glory of the attributes of God is expressed in His character. Every page of the Holy Scriptures shines with His light. The righteousness of Christ, as a pure, white pearl, has no defect, no stain. COL 115.1

Are you picking something up now as we are proceeding? Every page of the Scripture has to do with the light of the Godhead in Jesus Christ. That's what we were just reading. The righteousness of Christ.

No work of man can improve the great and precious gift of God. It is without a flaw. In Christ are 'hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.' Colossians 2:3. He is 'made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.' COL 115.1

Every word is weighty here. That's all part of the Pearl.

1 Corinthians 1:30. All that can satisfy the needs and longings of the human soul, for this world and for the world to come, is found in Christ. COL 115.1

Everything. Oh, how meaningful that is to me.

Our Redeemer is the pearl so precious that in comparison all things else may be accounted loss. COL 115.1

As we let this sink in, we want to ask ourselves, am I in this picture? Am I the merchant man that is prepared to sell everything; to purchase this great pearl? Obviously, all our meditations regarding jewellery pertaining to human beings is indeed a study into metaphorical detail. We're looking at a pearl, at the jewellery and we admire the pearl and it's a metaphorical representation of what we should do with the privilege that God has given us in giving to us the pearl of great price, Jesus Christ.

What is a metaphorical application? Or what metaphorical application does a pearl have in reference to Jesus? We've already been reading that a little or not only to Jesus but to human beings for that matter because we've described how human beings are also pearls, the worth that has been given us. A pearl is something that sparkles and shines, if you ever look very closely at a pearl, it sparkles and shines with subtle colours and swirls of white, pure white pearl with subtle shimmering's of colours, very subtle.

It's an interesting experience to look at such a beautiful pearl, as was described in our reading there. No flaw, absolutely smooth and white with these subtle colours swirling in it and as you look at such a thing now, we're look where we're trying to get the metaphorical experience here. As you look at such a beautiful pearl, you go through a sense you go through an experience of especially if it's yours or if it's going to be yours that you're going to sell everything for. I'm wealthy if I've got that. Is that right? You go into an experience of deep inside. This is mine. What a beautiful wealth I have got here. A sense of wellbeing of wealth. This is why I said in the beginning, we must know what it means to have this pearl.

Let us gather together that which our own experience has revealed to us of the preciousness of Christ, and present it to others as a precious gem that sparkles and shines. The Review and Herald, March 19, 1895. Ev 186.3

She's talking to the ministers here and this is when you have as a minister, discovered this pearl, you want others to discover it and how are you going to help them to discover it?

Thus will the sinner be attracted to Him who is represented as the Chief among ten thousand and the One altogether lovely. The cross of Calvary is a pledge to us of everlasting life. Faith in Christ means everything to the sincere believer. The merits of Jesus blot out transgressions, and clothe us with the robe of righteousness woven in the loom of heaven. The crown of life is presented before us as the honor to be given at the end of the conflict. These precious truths are to be set forth in living characters.—The Review and Herald, March 19, 1895. Ev 186.3

Because a pearl is represented as a metaphorical thing for Jesus, we are to, and I admire in my ministry, in trying so hard to lay out before us the precious, sparkling, shining aspects of Jesus, as it says, that it is to be revealed of the preciousness of Christ as a precious gem that sparkles and shines. How? By the precious truths that are to be set forth in living characters. That's the hardest task; to be able to communicate these things so that the people hear them and don't just hear them as cliches but that they can see by the presentation that there is something here that sparkles and shines and that keeps children occupied instead of looking at each other, looking to Jesus and concentrating in the divine service upon him. This is what as we concentrate on the experiences that Jesus is trying to communicate to us, it's something that's got to sparkle and shine. It's to do with truth. The pearl is something that sparkles and shines with those subtle colours.

We have been reading this now and as we've been talking about it, it's something to do with experience. Indeed, the experience of looking at a pearl that becomes mine, something very precious. I know you children, you like to fuss around for rocks, don't you? When you've found a precious rock, you go, 'Oh, isn't that nice?' That's what we've got to do with Jesus, to so look and marvel at the beautiful sparkling colours, metaphorically speaking, symbolically. It's to do with an experience when we study the Bible. Jesus is to be an experience to be communicated and presented.

Salvation is a free gift, and yet it is to be bought and sold. In the market of which divine mercy has the management, the precious pearl is represented as being bought without money and without price. In this market all may obtain the goods of heaven. The treasury of the jewels of truth is open to all. 'Behold, I have set before thee an open door,' the Lord declares, 'and no man can shut it.' No sword guards the way through this door. Voices from within and at the door say, Come. The Saviour's voice earnestly and lovingly invites us: 'I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich.' Revelation 3:8, 18. COL 116.3

Gold

Gold tried in the fire. How did the pearl form? Through irritation in the flesh and it developed, or the purification of gold tried in the fire or the pressure in the fire of a diamond that is created under this terrible experience and there comes this beautiful product. It is an experience and it has to do with an experience of truth, not just an earthly pearl. It's truth that is the pearl as we have been touching so far, Jesus is the jewel of truth. Of course. Isn't that what He said?

John 14:6 I am the way, the truth and the life.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God

As we're talking about this jewel, this pearl, it's to do with the truth that is part and parcel of that person, Jesus Christ, the Word. That's what we were reading there. Every page of the Bible is resplendent with this great valuable pearl. As we research the Word in the Bible for truth, you could only experience exactly what I experience. I'm preparing Sabbath School lessons, I'm preparing divine services, but not doing it for the sake of preaching to you, but of course I have to share it with you, the point is, I am making an experience with the mind of the universe. This is our privilege and I'm blown away. I'm overwhelmed with the enormity of the beauty of the glory of Jesus, of the mind of God; truth.

Christ was the originator of all the ancient gems of truth. Through the work of the enemy these truths had been displaced. They had been disconnected from their true position and placed in the framework of error. Christ's work was to readjust and establish the precious gems in the framework of truth. The principles of truth that had been given by Himself to bless the world had, through Satan's agency, been buried and had apparently become extinct. Christ rescued them from the rubbish of error, gave them a new, vital force, and commanded them to shine as precious jewels and stand fast forever. Christ Himself could use any of these old truths without borrowing the smallest particle, for He had originated them all.... CTr 225.4

Gems of truth every little truth is a gem that you'd make an experience with. The reason why in modern times in which we are living today, the Bible doesn't have an attraction to people, it's just a book. But I tell you something, it's much more than just a book. Because Satan has displaced these gems of truth that are in the book. With all the errors twisting and turning around us today, the Bible is just another one of those, right? That's what we're hearing. Well, that's what Satan's work is.

The Framework of Truth

Jesus, the pearl of great price, is the truth that is found in researching the scriptures and letting Him drag them out of the rubbish of all the thoughts and humanity confusions that Satan has generated.

Christ is the truth. COL 110.1

Just as He said – *'I am the way, the truth and the life.'*

Christ is the truth. His words are truth and they have a deeper significance than appears on the surface. COL 110.1

You've got to look close at the gem. It doesn't always show you on the surface. Even as we saw the colours of the diamond, I had to look a bit closer because I didn't see it first of all and then. ah there it is, because it doesn't always come straight out at you. You actually have to look deeper into the gemstone there. All the sayings of Christ have a value beyond their unpretending appearance.

Minds that are quickened by the Holy Spirit will discern the value of these sayings. They will discern the precious gems of truth, though these may be buried treasures.—Christ's Object Lessons, 107, 108, 110. HB 41.6

Buried under a heap of rubbish of worldly theories and philosophies, it's sad what Satan has done, but as we were reading all this, connect the dots, connect each little point. If the truth is to be found in the Word and it is to do with our experience of the preciousness of Christ that sparkles and shines, namely gems, pearls, what do we pick up here? It has to do with life. Whatever has to do with your life, that is what you and I value, don't we? I want to have a

purpose and a reason for living. I want to have a life that is meaningful. Isn't that the problem in the world? People are coming to the realisation of what's the meaning of anything here. Well, look at the experience of this truth – it sparkles and shines. It has to do with your experience that sparkles, that is going to sparkle as a result. It is life. We clearly perceive that the rendition of a life in Jesus Christ is what this pearl is. Life. Isn't that also what Jesus says? *'I am the way, the truth and I am the life.'* The reading of God's truth, the contemplation of the truth as it is correctly set by Jesus Christ as gems that He has originated, He then comes to earth and He says, *'I am the life.'*

Children, think about it, Jesus was the life of a little child to be obedient and to concentrate on what He wants to say to us, you see, Jesus was that. Just imagine Him sitting here as a little boy. You would have looked at Him and thought, why is He concentrating so closely on the divine service? He's only a child. People have said to me – children can't understand what you're teaching. Yes, they can. You can understand the beauty of a pearl, can't you? You love collecting gemstones. This is all concentrating and looking carefully at what the Bible is. In John 8 this is Jesus speaking and He is saying something beautiful here that we want to get our minds around to comprehend by looking carefully at it.

John 8:31 Jesus said to those Jews which believed on him.

What does he say?

John 8:31 If you continue in my word, then are you my disciples indeed, and what will you know? And you shall know the truth...

Is that all?

John 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Have you ever been bound down and thought, *'I wish I could get out of this hole, out of this particular experience. I'm not happy here. I'm bound. I can't help myself. I keep on doing the wrong thing. I'm in trouble.'* And then the truth comes to you and you go, *'Oh, I'm free.'* And then you discover another thing that you're bound to and you study again and, *'Oh, I'm free again'* and there is a joy.' That's what Jesus is all about. He says, *'If you continue in my word, you will know the truth and the truth will make you free.'*

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

Free indeed, not just an imaginary freedom. People build castles and live in those castles and you know, they're just castles of imagination, not reality, but this is reality. This is truth. This is an experience that is worth building your life upon. It's worth selling everything. As Jesus said, what happens in the soul who takes the truth? *The truth shall set you free*, because as you study the truth, you will make an experience. And what is the experience – John 17:23. Remember the experience of looking at a literal pearl? You make an experience. Wow, this is beautiful. Now we're looking at it in reality,

John 17:22 And the glory which thou gavest me, I have given them.

The glory which thou gavest me. Isn't it a glorious thing to look at? A beautiful pearl?

John 17:23 That they may be one, even as we are one, I in them and thou in me, That they may be made perfect in one.

Jesus is uttering something here that is available to us through Him the pearl of great price if you follow the truth, if you follow the Word, you will discover something inside of you, Christ in you. In Colossians 1 this is a great mystery, and you can't experience the mystery until you follow the word closely. It takes a little while to discover, this gem inside of you, Christ in you. The apostle Paul knows it by experience and I testify I know it too.

1 Colossians 1:25 Wherefore I am made a minister according to the dispensation of God, which is given to me for you to fulfil the words of God, even the mystery which has been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to His saints.

Did you pick something up here – a mystery? Oh wow, did I have that experience when I was ministering in the Reform. I was upholding this beautiful mystery of Christ in the atonement and what did they say? You know, when I showed that Jesus was in our sinful flesh and all that beautiful detail, they said, *‘John, Jesus did not have sin in the flesh. You are dealing with a mystery. It’s a mystery. The nature of Christ is a mystery. Therefore, don’t preach it.’* That’s what I was told. But what does the Apostle Paul say? What’s it saying? *‘I am a minister of that gospel, even the mystery which has been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest.’*

What does manifest mean? It’s shown. It’s open. It’s not a mystery anymore. To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is? What is the mystery? Christ in you the hope of glory. That’s the mystery. And that’s what Jesus said, *‘I in them and thou in me.’* This is the experience that is available to us.

1 Corinthians 4:6 For God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge.

Treasure where? In this body, earthly body, that the excellency of the power may be of God and not of us. God can shine into our dark body and He can illuminate our heart. As you study the truth as it is in Jesus, as you study the detail of the gem, the detail of that sparkling shining pearl, you will discover things that have to do with your inward self. The very things that people are struggling with in the world today. They need to have this truth that will illuminate them on the inside, and they will discover life, the real life. I tell you brethren and sisters, friends, you want to have this. If you’ve just got it in your head and you haven’t got it in your heart, Jesus isn’t there yet. But when He’s inside, wow. Just as Jesus, the Word is the pearl or the treasure, He Himself is the pearl and the treasure, it is the believer who takes this.

2 Corinthians 3:2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men: 3 Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

What’s the apostle talking about? The truth that the Apostle is preaching, the truth that is coming to us through Jesus Christ, that truth is written, it’s experienced inside of you and we become a letter, an epistle the way I live, the way I find joy, the way of my attitude in life, it’s all that which Jesus has put in there and it shines out. People read you. Have you ever heard people say, I mean we’ve had it in our testimony times, that people say you must be a Christian because it’s written all over you. There is something that shines out of the face, out of the eyes in every one of His children.

If you are Christ’s follower, He sends in you a letter to the family, the village, the street, where you live. Jesus, dwelling in you, desires to speak to the hearts of those who are not acquainted with Him. SC 115.1

Are you acquainted with Him through the truth? Has he become part of you? This is where the children of God, His believers, the believers in Him, they actually communicate through their disposition, through their life, through their attitude. It says in every one of His children He sends a letter.

Perhaps they do not read the Bible, or do not hear the voice that speaks to them in its pages; they do not see the love of God through His works. But if you are a true representative of Jesus, it may be that through you they will be led to understand something of His goodness and be won to love and serve Him. SC 115.1

It must be the experience of the child of God. It must be inside of them for others to hear and to see. They will ask questions and then they’ll go, *‘wow, this is something I’ve never known about God.’* We are to be gems for Jesus. What is the truth? What is this truth that sparkles and shines that made Jesus such a pearl so precious to our experience? Recall what I have often read. We are now just spending a little bit longer to actually explore what it is that sparkles and shines to my inward soul.

The only way in which we can gain a more perfect apprehension of truth... DA 494.4

these words are well chosen, apprehension to apprehend something. You’ve got the truth now and you can receive it inside of yourself. Is doing what?

...is by keeping the heart tender and subdued by the Spirit of Christ. The soul must be cleansed from vanity and pride, and vacated of all that has held it in possession, and Christ must be enthroned within. Human science is too limited to comprehend the atonement. DA 494.4

Too limited.

The plan of redemption is so far-reaching that philosophy cannot explain it. It will ever remain a mystery that the most profound reasoning cannot fathom. The science of salvation cannot be explained; but it can be known by experience. DA 494.4

Here's the experience again. Now what's the experience by which it can be known? This gem. What is it?

Only he who sees his own sinfulness can discern the preciousness of the Saviour. DA 494.4

Did you catch that? If you want to see the pearl that sparkles and shines, you've got to know what a wretch you are. You've got to know how sinful you are, how unworthy you feel. You've got to know that. And then as you look at it at this truth, you will make an experience and that sparkles and shines. Let's go on and exploring that. I'm not going to go into a long Bible text reading but the points that I'm making here are Bible texts that you can read. When your true sinful condition vividly comes up before you, how do we know our true sinful condition? The law tells you what a wretch you are, the Ten Commandments.

Do you examine yourself in the Ten Commandments? You see it? I'm a dreadful person and as you continue to realise if you're trying have your children You know what that's like. You're trying to do what the Ten Commandments and you fail. You know that experience? How do you feel? You feel rotten, don't you? Am I ever going to change? I keep on doing the same thing again and again. I know I shouldn't be doing it, but I do it. You know that experience? Now you're pretty close to discovering the pearl. Let's follow it carefully. 'I am so prone to fall.' What's the statement? '*He reveals to us the things that we would have done if we had opportunity.*' You got that? I'm not doing it, but if the right circumstances come about, I'll do it. That was the hardest thing for me to discover. You think, '*man what sort of a wretch am I*'. The sense that comes to me of my condemnation, the power of passion that arises within me when something...

Colossians 2:3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge

Hidden in him What's that? Wisdom, knowledge. As you read the Bible, you are to discover what is hidden in Him. What is hidden in Him in reference to my sin? What is hidden in Him? What do you read in the Bible? What do you see relevant to your hopeless condition as you look at Jesus? What do you see? That He was in all points tempted like we. Did you believe that? You know, some people don't believe that. In how many points? In all points. You know, I'm quoting Scripture. He was in all points in Hebrews tempted like as we. In how many points from within and from without? I got that from the church. No, He was not tempted from within. Oh yes, He was. He was tempted within himself just like you are. He was in all points tempted like as we are.

What else? He was made to be sin for us. That we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. I'm seeing myself with my sinful condition. He was made to be sin that I am despairing about. He was made to be that the experience that I am making. Jesus made what? How was this expressed in the Bible? He is crying my cry. What do you feel when you are overwhelmed with a hopeless condition? How do you feel about how close is God to you? '*My God, why have you forsaken me?*' Who said that? '*My God, my God! Why has thou forsaken me?*' Why did He say that? Because my sins caused Him to say that. They were in Him. He is shedding tears. What tears? You know that beautiful statement, '*I too have wept,*' Christ's object lessons. The tears that you are pouring out, '*I know I too have wept.*' He is saying my words! Who knows His own sinfulness can appreciate these things. Only he who knows His sinfulness can see the precious pearl and say, '*What? This is mine? That God of the universe has joined himself with me to such a degree?*' And there He is, all who have sinned must die, He is with me, and I am in Him dying my death.

It didn't stop there, did it? He rose again to a newness of life. Here is plaintiff cry. He is trying to get this across to us just like the preacher is trying to get it across to us right now. But so many times I've preached these things, and it just does not sink in. He is saying in these words. He is saying, Is it nothing to you? Are you just passing by and not ignoring what this is all about?

Lamentations 1:12 Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the LORD hath afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger. 13 From above hath he sent fire into my bones, and it prevaileth against them: he hath spread a net for my feet, he hath turned me back: he hath made me desolate and faint all the day. 14 The yoke of my transgressions is bound by his hand: they are wreathed, and come up upon my neck: he hath made my strength to fall, the Lord hath delivered me into their hands, from whom I am not able to rise up.

I in Him, die with Him and He rises again. What does it mean? What does it mean?

Colossians 2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

This is not my fabrication. What does it mean when I die with Him because He dies with me, with my sins? What happens next? Those words together with Him, I was in Him with my sinfulness and Jesus experienced me. I died with Him but I'm in Him and He is risen. Who comes up with Him? The one who knows His sinfulness. That's what Jesus says; *'If you follow me in my word, you will be set free.'*

We will overcome our sins when we occupy ourselves with this gem, with this pearl that sparkles and shines in experience, your experience and Christ's experience. The beautiful gem, what a story. What colourful meditations there are in this to stand up and become together with Him, rising to glory and sitting in heavenly places with Him. Does not this sparkle and shine? Is not this something to sell everything for? To give up everything for that? The pearl of great price. Let us embrace this and with Him become the treasure of God, His own son. That's what sparkles and shines.

It has to be your experience, and I hope and pray that under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, this is my greatest prayer that you can pick it up in your experience. I love you all. I want you to find what I have found in Jesus, the reason why I'm weeping is because there's so many people I've loved and I've laboured for that they missed the point. They didn't continue to follow Jesus together with me. Oh yes, I'm a sinner. They can pick out my sins and they walk away because they're not looking to Jesus, but they're looking to me. But I represented Jesus as the wonderful Saviour for me. I still stand here today, I haven't given up no matter what my past has been. I tell you I've suffered under my past, but Jesus hasn't given up on me and neither will He give up on any one of us if we don't walk away. We keep on looking at that pearl, keep on staying there until He is in me and I'm in Him.

May God bless us in the contemplation of the detail of us being His jewels and what He is doing to finally imprint us into His or transfer us into His crown, into His diadem, for eternity to be with Him.

5 Cutting and Polishing

[Mp3 The Gathering of the Jewels Conference](#)

You will recall that when we were studying the subject of the formation of His jewels, I concluded with the quote from In Heavenly Places:

Their luster depends on the polishing they receive. They may choose to be polished or to remain unpolished. HP 267.3

Did you notice a choice? They may choose to be polished or to remain unpolished.

But everyone who is pronounced worthy of a place in the Lord's temple must submit to the polishing process. Without the polishing that the Lord gives, they can reflect no more light than a common pebble. Christ says to man, You are mine. HP 267.3

You are now only a rough stone. *'But if you will place yourself in my hands, I will polish you.'* Did you notice? *'If you will place yourself in my hands.'* Can you see a choice? It's your choice. But you will either remain a pebble if you don't choose, or you will be a jewel and you will have a place with Him.

I will polish you, and the luster with which you shall shine will bring honor to My name. No man shall pluck you out of My hand. I will make you My peculiar treasure. On My coronation day, you will be a jewel in My crown of rejoicing. HP 267.3

Doesn't this speak yearning in our hearts that we want to fulfill this for Jesus?

The Divine Worker spends little time on worthless material. Only the precious jewels does He polish after the similitude of a palace, cutting away all rough edges. This process is severe and trying; it hurts human pride. Christ cuts deep into the experience that man in his self-sufficiency has regarded as complete and takes away self-uplifting from the character. He cuts away the surplus surface, and putting the stone to the polishing wheel, presses it close, that all roughness may be worn away. Then, holding the jewel up to the light, the Master sees in it a reflection of Himself, and He pronounces it worthy of a place in His casket. Blessed be the experience, however severe, that gives new value to the stone. HP 267.4

This is the introduction to our study. It is a process that is severe and trying. It hurts human pride. It hurts human ego. We are egocentric people, and it hurts the ego. I lose my place; I have to find it again. What a rich mental exercise this statement has given to us. Out of the quarry of the world, rough stones, but He says they are of value to Him, even in the rough they are of value to Him. He mines precious ore from the quarry of the world. He has to take that stone into His workshop.

We are now in God's workshop. Many of us are rough stones from the quarry. But as the truth of God is brought to bear upon us, every imperfection is removed and we are prepared to shine as lively stones in the heavenly temple, where we shall be brought into association, not only with the holy angels, but with the King of heaven Himself. 7 CG 73.1

Wow! As shining precious stones after He has done His work in the workshop.

If we are in the workshop of God, He will beautify us and polish us, and we will be fitted for the heavenly mansions. CT 65

With those introductory statements, let us spend our time to be enlightened as to what this experience actually is. A practical experience associated with this cutting and polishing process. We already highlighted the fact that there are many varieties of jewels. To bring the jewels of God's casket, into a complete lustre, each different kind of jewel receives different treatment. A diamond, we already knew, is cut into facets and then the grindstone is placed to them to polish those facets up. This also is to some degree done with the other crystal gemstones. But then you have other gemstones which have precious colours for such a thing as jasper, opal, those kind of stones, how are they polished? Do you know how they are polished?

God picks us up, but He leaves our choice to us whether we will permit Him to do this work because He sees that we are precious. We have seen that He regards us as having worth. He regards us as having worth but that worth has to be illustrated if we can use that word. It has to be brought out because that rough stone, you can't see much of the value in it. He knows there's value in it if it gets polished and cut against the brush, the grindstone.

They are put into a tumbler with harsh grit to tumble them until they become all smooth and then finer grit to make them really shine. Tumbled together with polishing grit. The pearls we know have been created already to bring out this beautiful lustre in the mollusc under the irritation of the flesh and finally, gold and silver. How is that purified in the furnace? Melted until all of the surface is heated it up and taken and the dross comes more to the surface and the more dross comes, the more it is scooped off until finally the person who is purifying it can see himself reflected in that molten mass. As we see here every different gemstone or jewel or gold is treated in slightly different ways.

We are seldom, in all respects, placed in the same condition twice. Abraham, Moses, Elijah, Daniel, and many others, were all sorely tried, but not in the same way. Every one has his individual tests and trials in the drama of life, but the very same trial seldom comes twice. Each has his own experience, peculiar in its character and circumstances, to accomplish a certain work. God has a work, a purpose, in the life of each and all of us. Every act, however small, has its place in our life experience. We must have the continual light and experience that come from God. We all need them, and God is more than willing we should have them, if we will take them.
4BC 1182.3

Here's the choice again. What I read is to show exactly what we have sometimes expressed, and I've heard certain of the brethren express – we all come from different angles of experience. We are all different in our way and we are not going to be treated in the workshop exactly the same way. That's what Sister White described here, Abraham, Moses, Elijah, Daniel and many others were sorely tried but not in the same way because each gem is treated in a different way to bring it into that polished beautiful condition. That is a very important thing to remember that as we are all different and coming from different circumstances, our trials and our experiences will differ. Let's start as we try to understand the experiences that we will go through in different ways if we are gold or silver that needs to be purified.

Gold or Silver

This is what happens to the gold and silver. This is another ingredient here of the different remnant people in the last days.

Zechariah 13:9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

So what will he do? He will take a third part through the fire, refining them as silver and gold is refined. How? In the furnace of the fire. There are several other scriptures.

Malachi 3:2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: 3 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.

It's a challenging statement. As we were reading already in the introduction, it is a unpleasant experience, because here it says, *'but who may abide the day of his coming? And who shall stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fuller's soap, and he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he shall purify the sons of Levi' in a furnace.*

Much to think about here of the experience of this, and that's what we're trying to explore, what that really means. That is what that furnace of fire is actually depicting:

1 Peter 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

Our faith is to be the gold that is to be tried by fire, so that our righteousness by faith will come to its beautiful glamour at the end.

Isaiah 13:12 I will make a man more precious than fine gold, even a man than the golden wedge of oath.

In this scripture is portrayed a refining, purifying process, to be carried on in the hearts of men by the Lord of hosts. The process is most trying to the soul, but it is only by this means that the dross can be removed. 4BC 1181.6

Any dross that I have has to be removed by the fiery furnace if I am gold. To purify it, it is the only means that the dross can be removed. You know that you've got dross. We say oh but I'm not worthy, we say that. I am not as what I'd like to be. Well, you'd like to be? You'd like to be pure? Well, then submit to this trying process. For this is the only means by which those things that you don't think you're worthy of can be removed.

The process is most trying to the soul, but it is only by this means that the dross can be removed. Of necessity we must endure trials; for through these we are brought close to our heavenly Father, in obedience to His will, that we may render to Him an offering in righteousness.... – {4BC 1181.6}

You can see that we need to understand this, that when we are in God's workshop, which I'm going to be reading in a moment, where that really is, where the furnace is doing its work, where the other cutting and polishing are taking place, it's in a certain place in his workshop, as we go through those experiences, we need what we are studying here to be able to accept it, instead of running away.

As a refiner and purifier of silver, He is beholding His children, watching the process of purification, until He shall discern His image reflected in us. Although we often feel affliction's flame kindling about us, and at times fear that we shall be utterly consumed, yet the loving-kindness of God is just as great toward us at these times as when we are free in spirit and triumphing in Him. The furnace is to purify and refine, but not to consume and destroy. God in His providence would try us, to purify us as the sons of Levi, that we may offer to Him an offering in righteousness (The Southern Watchman, February 7, 1905). 4BC 1182.1

Oh how important this is to know, that as you are going through your purifying process, which is hard, a trial, He is watching the process. That's when we are up in the mountains with Christ as we were singing, or down in the valley among the beautiful flowers. We are enjoying it, but then when we have to go down into the valley where there is darkness and suffering and trial, the loving kindness of God is just as great there to us as when we were in that higher position.

That's the experience of the trials of life that we go through if we are gold in the heat and the furnace in his workshop. When it comes to rubies, opals, jasper, I already mentioned these ones are tumbling, rubbing with grit in between. Rubbing shoulder to shoulder with grit in between. Rubbing against one another. The stones are tumbling and rubbing against each other with grit in between. Where does this take place in the tumbler, in his workshop?

Instead of exposing and publishing one another's faults. SD 100.4

This is the important thing now that I'm nearly missed out on as we are being burned and, in the fire, and purified as gold.

Instead of exposing and publishing one's faults to others, you will put forth the most patient efforts to heal and bind up. A harsh, spirited man is unrefined force. He is not spiritual. He has not a heart of flesh, but a heart as unimpressible as a stone. His only help is to fall on the rock and be broken. The Lord will place all such in the crucible and try them in fire as gold is tried. SD 100.4

A harsh, spirited, unrefined person. Have you ever felt that somebody in your experience, harsh, unrefined, not very nice to you? When you meet that, that particular person, will go through experiences that will break him and then in the fiery furnace to be melted down. When He, God can see his own image reflected in them, He will remove them. The religion of Christ is to take possession of the whole being and give force and power to all our faculties, renovating, cleansing and refining. It manifests itself without parade and high-sounding words, but it is shown in an upright and unselfish life. I always like to read things that are taken from the metaphor to the reality. Rough, coarse, natured people must be broken and must be melted down. That's what this is all about in the furnace of purification. We go now to the rubies, the opals, and the jasper, etc. the tumbling and the rubbing. Where does the furnace and the tumbling and rumbling take place? What is the workshop?

Some people seem to think that upon entering the church they will have their expectations fulfilled, and meet only with those who are pure and perfect. They are zealous in their faith, and when they see faults in church members, they say, “We left the world in order to have no association with evil characters, but the evil is here also;” and they ask, as did the servants in the parable, “From whence then hath it tares?” But we need not be thus disappointed, for the Lord has not warranted us in coming to the conclusion that the church is perfect; and all our zeal will not be successful in making the church militant as pure as the church triumphant. The Lord forbids us to proceed in any violent way against those whom we think erring, and we are not to deal out excommunications and denunciations to those who are faulty. TM 47.1

What is his workshop? His church, which has people in it that are not pure, that are not perfect, but they are stones that are being rubbed against each other. We are not to take the idea that in the church everything is going to be just so sweet. This is important that we do not, as it says, start dealing out excommunications and denunciations because somebody in the church is rough. Somebody in the church is speaking horribly and treating others that I love in a negative way. This is to be expected in the purification exercise.

Although there are evils existing in the church and will be unto the end of the world, the church in these last days is to be the light of the world that is polluted and demoralized by sin. TM 49.1

If there is imperfections and sin and faults in the church, how can they be a light to the world. Well, it's the purification process and the light the people in the world can see these people are staying together even though they are having these rubbing experiences. You see it's all so different the paradigm shift as we keep on saying isn't that?

The church enfeebled and defective, needing to be reproved, warned and counselled is the only object upon earth upon which Christ bestows his supreme regard. TM 49.1

Here is the worth again. He loves his people even though they are faulty.

The world in a workshop in which through the co-operation of human and divine agencies, Jesus is making experiments by His grace and divine mercy upon human hearts. Angels are amazed as they behold the transformation of character brought about in those who yield themselves to God and they express their joy in songs of rapturous praise to God and to the Lamb. They see those, they see those who are by nature the children of wrath by nature, converted and becoming laborers together with Christ in drawing souls to God. They see those who were in darkness becoming lights to shine amid the moral dark night of this wicked and perverse generation. They see them becoming prepared by Christlike experience to suffer with their Lord and afterwards to be partakers with Him in His glory in heaven and above. that workshop of God's purification is the church. TM 49.1

It's to do with people in it that are imperfect, rubbing up against each other. Are you getting it? Next time you see somebody treating you or anybody else in the church, even the poor children are being buffeted a little bit, this is part of the polishing process. We must help our children too to understand that. That when they are being buffeted, take it quietly, you're learning something. We are not to ask the people who are being rough – *'can you be a bit kinder please?'*

Polishing Process

It's a polishing process. It's grit, it's unpleasant but it's there to polish us to take it all in as part of our training in Christ. Let's explore some more of this experience, the actual experience as we are rubbing shoulders in the church in the workshop of God.

Psalm 55:12 For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: 13 But it was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. 14 We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company.

Here is a scripture that tells us that we will suffer at the hand of people who are not perfect. People that we have precious harmony with. All of a sudden something goes wrong. It says here, I couldn't even avoid it if it was an enemy. I could have hid myself but I'm right in the church and I'm suffering with these people who are mistreating me. Oh dear. It's polishing.

If you go toward heaven, the world will rub hard against you, rub hard. You're a precious stone. You're going to be rubbed hard. Show God honour. In the unpleasant experience of being rubbed up against the circumstances that surround us, both in the church and in the world, it rubs hard against us. It is in those circumstances that we are to be careful in every word and every action to show God honour. That's why I say when one day we have to be in the courts, in the courts God's people in Babylon have to see the beautiful refined gems so that they will come out and be part of that. It's the way we behave and we're learning through the rubbing heart of the world against us both in the world. Now is our time of peril, our only safety is in walking in the footsteps of Christ and wearing His yoke now that's.

Now is our time of peril. Our only safety is in walking in the footsteps of Christ, and wearing His yoke. UL 177.3

What were we singing in the hymn? We were singing, I will follow, follow on.

Troublous times are before us. In many instances, friends will become alienated. Without cause, men will become our enemies. The motives of the people of God will be misinterpreted, not only by the world, but by their own brethren. The Lord's servants will be put in hard places. A mountain will be made out of a molehill to justify men in pursuing a selfish, unrighteous course. UL 177.3

Haven't we experienced it? A molehill will be made into a mountain. Not only in the world, but in the church. And have we run away from it, or have we stayed under it, being polished? I'm glad some of us have come back. Others have stayed there, and the polishing continued. This is what happens in the church. Very important material to bear in mind all the way through. That this is what we will experience, and we must not regard it as something that shouldn't be happening.

Christians are Christ's jewels. They are to shine brightly for Him, shedding forth the light of His loveliness. Their luster depends on the polishing they receive. They may choose to be polished or to remain unpolished. HP 267.3

'You are mine. You are going through this, you are part of my church and you must be prepared for this kind of experience'. The rubbing in the church against each other, how was that expressed that even brethren will say and do things to us that are hurting self. Oh yes, just self, that's all, because Jesus Himself had a different attitude to that because He conquered self. That was in regards to the precious pebbles that are being polished. Now we come to the gemstones, rather the crystal gems, the diamonds, the emeralds, the topaz, these crystals. How are they processed? How do they become processed? Remember we read in the beginning that everyone has a different experience according to their own particular process? Whether they have been produced in the quarry of the world as diamonds or whether they have been formed into those precious stones that get polished by rubbing, whatever it is, how do these diamonds and crystals become processed?

All need much of the blessing of God, and here is the place to be tried. We are in God's workshop. The cleaver of truth takes men and women out of the world, and they have to be refined and fitted for the Master. We must let the truth take possession of our hearts and then the work can be accomplished for us. 3MR 110.4

The process takes place as the truth takes possession of our hearts and the work can begin to be accomplished for us. What is the work as He takes us by the cleaver of truth from the world into His workshop?

The company of believers may be few in number, but they have been taken by the cleaver of truth as rough stones from the quarry of the world ... to be fitted up by test and trial for a place in God's heavenly temple, and they are very precious in the sight of the Lord.... Even in the rough they are precious in the sight of God. The ax and the hammer and the chisel of trial and test are in the hands of One who is skillful, and are used not to destroy, not to bring to nothingness, but to work out the perfections of every soul.... OHC 167.4

The axe and the hammer and the chisel – it's in the hands of the one who is doing the work, in the hands of one who is skilful. A skilful facet cutter of a diamond. What we sometimes have to experience, the brunt of a hammer, of a chisel, the cutting, deep.

We are God's workmanship. The value of the human agent depends wholly upon the polishing he receives. When the rough stones are prepared for the building, they must be taken into the shop, and hewed and

squared. The process is often sharp as the stone is pressed down upon the wheel, but the rough coarseness is being removed, and the lustre begins to appear. The Lord spends not His time upon worthless material; only His jewels are polished after the similitude of a palace. Every soul must not only submit to this work of the divine hand, but must put to the tax every spiritual sinew and muscle, that the character may become more pure, the words more helpful, the actions such as God can approve (Letter 27, 1896). 3BC 1154.1

We have these faulty characters in the church that rub up against us, but these faulty characters these rough aspects, these characters that needs to be purified words, instead of words being rough and dictatorial against each other, have you experienced it? You've been rough sometimes. You've hurt somebody. The Lord is at work to change that in His workshop.

The divine Worker spends little time on worthless material. Only the precious jewels does He polish after the similitude of a palace, cutting away the rough edges. The process is severe and trying; Christ cuts away the surplus surface, and putting the stone to the polishing wheel, presses it close, that all roughness may be worn off. 3BC 1154.2

The divine worker spends little time on worthless material. There it is that's been repeated again. It is worthwhile material that He is working on. Blessed is the experience, is that correct? Is that a blessed experience? Have you enjoyed that experience?

Blessed be the experience, however severe, that gives new value to the stone, causing it to shine with living brightness (Letter 69, 1903). 3BC 1154.3

That's what it's about. No matter how much suffering you're going through in the church, it's there to polish us and it's a blessed experience, however severe. Why are we reading? Why am I spending this time to do this here? Because so many people have been shown that this is to happen and they walk away. They want a church where none of this happens. But if we are God's true church, that is what happens because God is working there where in all reality is this cutting, what is it? In other sort of expressions that we can really identify.

The mighty cleaver of truth has taken you out of the quarry of the world. SD 319.3

You were rough stones with jagged edges. What were you doing with your jagged edges? Bruising and marring whoever you came in contact with?

By the mighty cleaver of truth God has brought His people, as rough stones, from the quarry of the world. These stones must be squared and polished. The rough edges must be removed. This is a painful process; but it is a necessary one. Without it, we could not be prepared for a place in God's temple. By trial, by warnings, by admonitions, God seeks to prepare us to fulfill His purpose. If we cooperate with Him, our characters will be fashioned "after the similitude of a palace." It is the specified work of the Comforter to transform us. At times it is hard for us to submit to the purifying, refining process. But this we must do if we would be saved at last (Letter 139, 1903). 3BC 1154.4

There is a work to be done to move off the rough edges. If you appreciated the value of the work that is to be done in the workshop of God, you would welcome the blows of the axe and the hammer. This is what makes people as much as I've tried to help each individual.

...your high opinion of yourself will be cut away by the ax and the hammer, and the roughness of your character will be smoothed off; and when self and carnal propensities are worked away, then the stone will assume proper proportions for the heavenly building, and then the polishing, refining, subduing, burnishing processes will begin, and you will be molded after the model of Christ's character. His own image is to be reflected in the polished character of His human agent, and the stone is to be fitted for the heavenly building.... SD 319.3

This is the experience. As I said in the beginning, we must pay close attention that we do not become unnecessarily discouraged over these kinds of experiences. Trials are the avenues by which this polishing takes place.

The trials of life are God's workmen to remove the impurities and roughness from our character. MB 10.3

Oh, how I experience this. Every day I have a trial with something or another that shows me, John, you've still got that German nature that is so impatient with things. If it isn't perfect, you get impatient. The Lord wants me to become patient, and so He puts me over the ground again and again and again and again until I have become soft and gentle.

The trials of life are God's workmen, to remove the impurities and roughness from our character. Their hewing, squaring, and chiseling, their burnishing and polishing, is a painful process; it is hard to be pressed down to the grinding wheel. But the stone is brought forth prepared to fill its place in the heavenly temple. Upon no useless material does the Master bestow such careful, thorough work. Only His precious stones are polished after the similitude of a palace. MB 10.3

Feelings are stirred and we want to give vent to them, then our faith is tried. Now did you get that? This is the experience that adverse circumstances stir our natural feelings and that happens in the church too, doesn't it? Something is happening in the church and it stirs me and I'm watching and I've got to try and do something to stop it from happening. That is the very thing that as my feelings are stirred. I want to vent to them and that's when our faith is tried that then we are to manifest not our natural reaction to the irritation that's happening there. We are to manifest meekness and gentleness of Christ. Before I burst out according to my reaction to those circumstances, I must stop and realise, oh I could say this much nicer, I could do this in a much more gentle manner, in meekness and gentleness of Christ.

Not by one word are we to give expression to the feelings of the natural heart. HP 270.2

Not by one word. Somebody is doing something in the church. Somebody is irritating me, and I've got to try and correct it and outbursts a natural feeling. No, I've got to learn not to do that. This is part of the trial.

"If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body" (James 3:2)—the whole man. HP 270.2

That's what you've got to do, bridle yourself. The whole man, what we want is to be under the control of Jesus. When some unpleasant circumstance is taking place in front of me, Lord, under your control, please show me the way, under the control of Jesus.

What we want is to be under the control of Jesus. We do not want our own way. I have heard some plead as an excuse for their wrong course, "You know that it is my temperament, it is my disposition, transmitted to me from my parents." Yes; and they have cultivated it and educated themselves in it and thus excused all their wrongdoing. Instead of yielding to temptation, they should lay hold upon the arm of Infinite Power, saying, "I will come to God just as I am, and plead with Christ to give me the victory. I shall be more than conqueror through Him that loved me." HP 270.2

If you examine carefully, it is usually somebody is crossing your way of doing it. It says we do not want our own way.

These are the living experiences. Whether we are gold or whether we are silver, or precious stones or crystals or pearls, all is designed for God's casket of jewels. We've just gone into detail. And being an evening hour, it's been a bit tedious, hasn't it? But that's part of the purifying process. To be able to sit there and listen to all this, How many times I've had to do it and when I've done it afterwards thoughts would come to me and I'm so glad I listened carefully no matter how tedious it was. We are all designed for God's casket of jewels More than even a casket as gemstones in His crown of rejoicing.

Isaiah 62:2 And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name. 3 Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God.

Much better than just a casket of gems. It will be in His crown of glory. The question is, are you willing? Are we willing to go through all this that I have gone in detail of? If I will be willing, I will become a shining gem in the crown of God's glory. May God confirm it inside of us is my prayer.

6 Gems for Jesus

[mp3 The Gathering of the Jewels Conference](#)

I invite you to cast your memory back to the Divine Service on Sabbath in which we looked at Jesus, the pearl. As we looked at that pearl, what was it that made it a pearl to us? What was it that made it something that we can admire and own as part of us? Wasn't it because we are overwhelmed with our unworthiness, we are overwhelmed with the guilt of our life, with our discouraging moments and we saw how Jesus shared that experience so completely and how we died with Him because we, we absorbed, He was uniting with us in our terrible experience and as He died with our sins, we died with Him. Because we were in Him, with our experience in him, we were raised up together with Christ. That is such a pearl, such a precious appreciation.

The precious experience of Jesus in his atonement with us, so beautifully and succinctly expressed. That is a very succinct summary of that whole experience, and many people read these Scriptures and they just they just passes them by as a cliché, but this is what we want to, as we contemplated these truths in detail, it tells you the whole story in one pencil stroke.

2nd Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Did you see this beautiful summary? Can you see it? He was made to be sin. That was an experience. We meditated on that. The experience of Jesus suffering with the sin that He was made on because He took of us. He was made to be sin and what was that experience? He who knew no sin, who was pure and perfect, had to suffer. Can you imagine the experience that He went through? He was pure, holy and to experience. You and my sins, sins are living activities that are recorded in our memories. You know what it's like when your sins come out in front of you. It's just like a new experience again. It's repeated. Jesus met that experience who knew no sin. That He might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

You and I are in Him with our sins and the transaction of the death and the suffering and the death to the resurrection to be made the righteousness of God in Him. This is what this beautiful text is saying to us. the righteousness of God in Him. He is the pearl that makes our life meaningful. We are in Him and He is in us. We went into that detail. Is not this such a precious pearl?

The blessings of redeeming love our Saviour compared to a precious pearl. He illustrated His lesson by the parable of the merchantman seeking goodly pearls "who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it." Christ Himself is the pearl of great price. In Him is gathered all the glory of the Father, the fullness of the Godhead. He is the brightness of the Father's glory and the express image of His person. The glory of the attributes of God is expressed in His character. Every page of the Holy Scriptures shines with His light. The righteousness of Christ, as a pure, white pearl, has no defect, no stain. No work of man can improve the great and precious gift of God. It is without a flaw. In Christ are "hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." Colossians 2:3. He is "made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption." 1 Corinthians 1:30. All that can satisfy the needs and longings of the human soul, for this world and for the world to come, is found in Christ. Our Redeemer is the pearl so precious that in comparison all things else may be accounted loss. COL 115.1

What did the Apostle Paul call it? Dung. I want us to continue to ponder this during this hour. That's what we, you know, we spent quite a lot of time and I was very, very passionate about this in the Divine Service, you will remember. This is something that should just be enlarged in our mind time and time again, so that the immense dimensions of the beauty, the colourfulness of the detail of Jesus and every page of the Bible, whether it be prophecy, whether it be the law, whether it be the sanctuary, anything at all in the Bible is resplendent with the pearl of great Christ.

We need to grasp this otherwise we end up with poetic fancy. We end up with head knowledge philosophy of our own. It must be that the appreciation and the enlargements and the detailed gazing upon the experiences that Jesus went through, that I go through, that we can harmonise and associate ourselves with.

The righteousness is to become, the righteousness of Christ, the pearl, is to become part of the believer because Christ became part of the believer and the believer became part of Christ in His death and in his resurrection and all believers who take hold of Christ thereby become what? Pearls or gems because they are in direct atonement with that pearl.

The Sufferings of Christ

The experience of the sufferings of Christ, the experience by which Jesus was made perfect is to become ours and as we become part of Christ, we contemplate this privilege of ours to be gems for Jesus. That's what He came here for, that we can become like Him and become gems for Him. So let's contemplate the following Scripture by which Jesus applies his preciousness to the believer. Directly after His resurrection He wanted to bring this point home as we read it there as He communicated it to Mary at the graveside, directly after His resurrection. What preciousness did Jesus consider for the believer there? John 20 11-17. Here was Mary, together with the apostles. They were all disappointed with what happened. They had no understanding what was happening here. There was Mary at the graveside.

Mary stood without at the sepulchre, weeping. And as she wept, she stooped down and looked into the sepulchre. see as two angels in white sitting, the one at the head and the other at the feet where the body of Jesus had lain. Now Mary and the disciples were going through a terrible discouraging circumstance. They had lost their master. We go through exactly the same thing, time and time again. That which Jesus wants us to enjoy, we can't, because we weep over something or another. Because we don't get the point. They didn't get the point. And here she is, and Jesus, in His wonderful appreciation of this.

John 20:13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou?

Can you see what the angels are trying to say? We know all about this. Why are you weeping? Don't you know? Isn't that what the Lord is trying to communicate when maybe the angels are trying to communicate with us when we get into those dark moments. Why are you weeping? Oh, yes, He came so close to me and said, Why are you sad? And when I first received those words after the death of my wife, I thought, Well, of course I'm sad. Why are you sad? Why are you weeping, woman? Why weepest thou?

John 20:13 She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.

All occupied with the negative.

John 20:14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

What a thought. Can you see Jesus and not recognise Him? Because Jesus is different to what you expected Him to be. The disciples on the road to Emmaus were walking beside Jesus. Jesus was walking beside them and they didn't know it was Him. Because their eyes were be clouded with their earthly attitudes and mindset. And they had lost him. They couldn't believe that he was alive. He was dead. If you meditate on this, you can see, don't think for one moment that we would have been any different. We would be exactly the same.

Jacob is an example. When the Lord touched him, he thought it was an enemy. How many times we go through experiences in which we are in a negative and we can't get out of the negative and we can't even see Jesus trying to help us. These angels were there trying to help her. She sees Jesus standing but does not know it's Him.

John 20:15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. 16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. 17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

These are weighty, weighty expressions to ponder upon what they actually are suggesting to us, because we believe in Jesus, that God of the universe is our Father if we really take hold of Him. He is our Father. *'I go there but don't touch Me yet because I've got to go there.'* Now this is an interesting point because as I said, we are contemplating here the scripture by which Jesus applies His preciousness to the believer. You saw some of the preciousness in His attitude towards the weeping believer and to those who were so desperately appointed because they misunderstood all about

Jesus. What was Jesus doing when He ascended to the Father? What? He said, “*Don’t touch me yet. I’ve got to go to my Father first.*” What was He doing going to his Father?

Hebrews 9:11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; 12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Jesus went in to the holy place to His Father when He left this earth and then came back again. And then the language of this scripture, He went there by His blood. He entered in once into the holy place. We can read this statement to apply to what He did in the sanctuary as our priest afterwards, but here He went in once directly to the Father for one most important purpose.

Jesus refused to receive the homage of His people until He knew that His sacrifice had been accepted by the Father, and until He had received the assurance from God Himself that His atonement for the sins of His people had been full and ample, that through His blood they might gain eternal life. Jesus immediately ascended to heaven and presented Himself before the throne of God, showing the marks of shame and cruelty upon His brow, His hands and feet. But he refused to receive the coronet of glory, and the royal robe, and He also refused the adoration of the angels as He had refused the homage of Mary, until the Father signified that His offering was accepted. 5BC 1150.3

He also had a request to prefer concerning His chosen ones upon earth. He wished to have the relation clearly defined that His redeemed should hereafter sustain to heaven, and to His Father. His church must be justified and accepted before He could accept heavenly honor. He declared it to be His will that where He was, there His church should be; if He was to have glory, His people must share it with Him. 5BC 1150.4

This is what Jesus went to the Father for. To secure in His heart and mind, the approval of the Father for Himself and for His people. He didn’t want to be glorified by the angels, He didn’t want to be admired by anybody, He just wanted to go to the Father and get this straight. Contemplate the Scripture by which Jesus applies His preciousness to the believer.

Here is the believer who looks at this goes “you love me so much that you want to secure, make sure that your sacrifice has been that you want to make sure that God is going to say yes ,you can”. It says to Jesus, “Yes, you can have these people that you died for in heaven with you.” He wanted to go and make sure of that. This is how affectionately He was bound to us. He was suffering the terrible sins of us and now that He has died and risen again, He wants to secure the effect of His work, to secure it in His own mind from the Father. *He wished to have the relation clearly defined.* Isn’t that interesting? Clearly defined.

In the most explicit manner Christ pleaded for his church, identifying his interest with theirs, and advocating, with a love and constancy stronger than death, their rights and titles gained through him. 3SP 202.2

Contemplate this, what a person is Jesus?

God’s answer to this appeal goes forth in the proclamation: 3SP 203.1

God is answering Him now.

“Let all the angels of God worship him.” Every angelic commander obeys the royal mandate, and Worthy, worthy is the Lamb that was slain; and that lives again a triumphant conqueror! echoes and re-echoes through all Heaven. The innumerable company of angels prostrate themselves before the Redeemer. The request of Christ is granted; the church is justified through him. God. 3SP 203.1

Can you see the atonement here? It’s just pulsating through the holy experience this beautiful gem.

Here the Father ratifies the contract with his Son, that he will be reconciled to repentant and obedient men, and take them into divine favor through the merits of Christ. Christ guarantees that he will make a man “more precious than fine gold, even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.” 3SP 203.1

Can you see what this is? Jesus is, they are going through an inauguration exercise here in heaven. We don't often realise this, that heaven engages in ceremony. Heaven engages in ceremony. This was all planned beforehand. It was all already in God's mind. But now that it has happened, Jesus Himself and the Father go through ceremonial confirmation something that they knew already, something that they knew already.

But now in the reality of the event, it is celebrated. This is the mentality of it. Jesus is appealing to the Father and the Father comes back to Him and says, "Yes." He commands all the angels to cry out, "Worthy worthy is the Lamb." And Jesus gets the confirmation.

All power in Heaven and on earth is now given to the Prince of life. 3SP 203.1

He now from here onwards is going to engage in the work for His church. He just wanted to make sure that the Father is happy with what He's done in giving Himself. Now He says, I want to work for them. I want the guarantee that I am able to make these people I've died for more precious than fine gold, even a man than the golden wedge of over. This is the whole theme here of the jewels of God. He is saying to the Father, "I want to get the right to do this now. I want to get the right from you that now I'm going to be their high priest." That's what he is, it's being said here.

All power in Heaven and on earth is now given to the Prince of life; yet he does not for a moment forget his poor disciples in a sinful world, but prepares to return to them, that he may impart to them his power and glory. Thus did the Redeemer of mankind, by the sacrifice of himself, connect earth with Heaven, and finite man with the infinite God. 3SP 203.1

You can read it just like that, or you contemplate, and you discover what is actually here, involved. This is what Jesus was doing when he said to Mary, "I can't, you know, don't even honour me yet. I've got to go and get this straight with my Father." He solicited the approval of the Father to receive the pearl, the treasure, that He had gone to buy here on earth by sacrificing everything to secure the treasure.

Yes, He came to purchase the pearl, He gave up everything to purchase the pearl us.

In man, defiled and ruined by sin, He saw the possibilities of redemption. Hearts that have been the battleground of the conflict with Satan, and that have been rescued by the power of love, are more precious to the Redeemer than are those who have never fallen. COL 118.2

What? Are you drinking it in? Those who have fallen and Have taken hold of Jesus in His atonement with them and them with Him, Those people are more precious to Him than all those that have never fallen. This is something that we really have to pick up in our minds as we look at each other, how precious we all are, because Jesus looks at us how precious we are. We look for that faith in Him in each other and even through all the crust of the roughness of where we have come from. If we have our hearts focused on our loving Lord, there is something precious in each one of us. What I want you to pick up from this is what I live by. When I see a human being that gives me the slightest hint that He is interested in my Jesus, I go for that soul. I get into a lot of trouble for doing that, because people don't see as God sees many times, and as I see it through Him, they put all sorts of other constructions upon my interest in human beings. But here it is, as I contemplate this, as you contemplate it, we look at each other and we look for the response to Jesus in the heart of each other and we go this is my brother I love him, I love her because Jesus loved us for the same reason.

God looked upon humanity, not as vile and worthless; He looked upon it in Christ, saw it as it might become through redeeming love. He collected all the riches of the universe, and laid them down in order to buy the pearl. And Jesus, having found it, resets it in His own diadem. "For they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon His land." Zechariah 9:16. "They shall be Mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels." Malachi 3:17. COL 118.2

This is the theme of our conference. Isn't that from God's approval? From His approval. From that time onwards Jesus would labour as a High Priest for the gems He came to reset in His diadem. That's what He commenced by going to heaven to start with, to commence the approval of the Father that now He can be the high priest that can do this work of resetting them in His diadem, of purifying them, of chiselling them, of tumbling them in the tumble of trial, until finally they can be pure. Because the Father is looking at the human race now with the future in mind, because it hasn't happened completely. It hasn't happened completely just because Jesus died once. The work goes on. This is what we have been studying so far in our Sabbath school lesson. Can you see how the Sabbath school lesson fits

directly into this? What Jesus did as our high priest and God's way in the sanctuary for our salvation is all part of this scene. As we look at the sanctuary, and as we look at the priest, we didn't go into this detail which I am now going to identify in the Sabbath school lesson. Because the priest, the high priest, had what on his chest? Very significant reality here as to the gems that Jesus is making up.

Exodus 39:8 And he made the breastplate of cunning work, like the work of the ephod; of gold, blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen. 9 It was foursquare; they made the breastplate double: a span was the length thereof, and a span the breadth thereof, being doubled. 10 And they set in it four rows of stones: the first row was a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this was the first row. 11 And the second row, an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond. 12 And the third row, a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst. 13 And the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper: they were inclosed in ouches of gold in their inclosings. 14 And the stones were according to the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names, like the engravings of a signet, every one with his name, according to the twelve tribes. 15 And they made upon the breastplate chains at the ends, of wreathen work of pure gold.

You've got all those precious jewels there those precious stones.

Exodus 28:30 And thou shalt put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim; and they shall be upon Aaron's heart, when he goeth in before the LORD: and Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel upon his heart before the LORD continually.

Are you picking up where were these precious stones upon His heart? And the Urim and the Thummim were up on His shoulders. There is so much in that symbolism that we must ponder about.

Over the ephod was the breastplate, the most sacred of the priestly vestments. This was of the same material as the ephod. PP 351.1

The Lord's direction was, "Aaron shall bear the names of the children of Israel in the breastplate of judgment upon his heart, when he goeth in unto the holy place, for a memorial before the Lord continually." Exodus 28:29. So Christ, the great High Priest, pleading His blood before the Father in the sinner's behalf, bears upon His heart the name of every repentant, believing soul. Says the psalmist, "I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me." Psalm 40:17. PP 351.1

Have you got it? Jesus carries you, carries me upon His heart. Never forget that. He carries us the repentant soul upon His heart for the Father in those emblems of jewels and this is what we are being prepared to be those jewels polished and He's carrying these jewels upon His heart and upon His shoulders.

Whether they know it or not, all are weary and heavy-laden. All are weighed down with burdens that only Christ can remove. DA 328.5

That's an interesting statement. Many times, I wake out of a particular state of mind and I discover all of a sudden, "Ugh, I am weary." But I was so charged up that I didn't even know I was weary. Yes? All are weighed down with the burdens that only Christ can remove.

The heaviest burden that we bear is the burden of sin. If we were left to bear this burden, it would crush us. DA 328.5

Where do we carry our burdens? In our heart, don't we?

But the Sinless One has taken our place. "The Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all." Isaiah 53:6. He has borne the burden of our guilt. He will take the load from our weary shoulders. DA 328.5

Where does he put it? On His shoulders.

He will give us rest. The burden of care and sorrow also He will bear. He invites us to cast all our care upon Him; for He carries us upon His heart. DA 328.5

That's what the symbol of the breastplate was about. Can you see with what interest Jesus and the Father are carrying this activity? We go along and say, "I can't, it's too much, I'm not going to make it." Can you imagine what that does to Him? I don't ever want to hear anybody else from us here say I can't make it. Don't ever verbalise that ever again. Remember that if you do feel that way, you've got to remember Jesus. He is carrying your burden. He is carrying all that you think you can't handle. He is carrying that. He can handle it. You believe in Him, trust Him. It really makes God sad when we go about mourning over our situation and think we can't make it. It makes Him sad. I'm here to help you. Is it nothing to you what I have done? What involved in Jesus' anxiety for us. Does the Father accept my sacrifice as we've just looked into it? When His work as a High Priest is finally finished, where did we read? Are those gems to be set? They are on His chest at the moment. Where are they going to be set when He's finished. To etch it into our understanding and mind, not to forget oh, that we don't forget these meditations that we are having here, because God wants to lift us on and upwards through the darkness.

Isaiah 28:5 In that day shall the LORD of hosts be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty, unto the residue of his people,

The residue, the remnant of the woman's seed, the residue. This is in that day when His work is nearly over and finished in that day there will be a crown of glory, a diadem of beauty.

Isaiah 62:3 Thou shall also be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God.

This crown is resplendent with gems. I've looked at some crowns that have got jewels all over them and this is exactly what this is saying. Finally, there is a very important verse. This is what Jesus is doing to finally have that crown with the gems in His crown, no longer upon His chest. No longer carrying the burdens because He's purified these gems, He's got them ready now to put in His crown.

Zechariah 9:16 And the LORD their God shall save them in that day as the flock of his people: for they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon his land.

They shall be as stones, as precious gemstones in His crown. In that day when He gathers them together, when His work as a priest is over. This is the theme of our conference, the gathering of the jewels in that day. The present closing work of our Redeemer, what is He doing at this present time in these last hours of earth history?

What is Jesus Doing? This is something we can identify with as we look at prophecy which we are going to be doing hereafter. The story of what he is doing now, gathering his jewels. I love this. When I first came across this text, I was nursing a man while I was doing my nursing and he was from the brethren but a really lovely brother in Christ. He was a beautiful person and he said,

Malachi 3:16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written

I said, "Well, where's that?" And he said, "Malachi 3 verse 16 and then these people shall be mine."

Malachi 3: for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. 17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. 18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

These words apply to our time. Jesus is making up His jewels and we will go carefully through year by year through the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy to identify the development of this. God, Jesus gathering His jewels at the closing part of His ministry as a high priest. And as He is doing it, the true gems will be discerned from those that are not the gems. Between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not. And we saw very clearly how important it is to understand that these are the people who will fear the Lord and speak often one to another who don't speak about anything else that is mundane, but speak of this high calling. This amazing experience of atonement with Jesus, and the experience of the gems being chiselled and burnished and polished and tossed about. This will be their theme of experience. As we continue through this convocation for the next four sessions, we will be viewing the experience of this in literal historic effect. Jesus at this time is intensively interceding our cases. He is intensively securing us if we will entirely, trustingly respond to what we have considered up to this point in time.

God's people are called a crown, a diadem. Satan would eagerly seize the Lord's treasure, but God has secured it so that Satan cannot obtain it. Letter 8, 1873. CTr 90.7

Isn't that precious? We are in the time now that He is gathering His jewels and putting them into His crown and Satan is at work to try and rob Him of that treasure but God has secured it so that Satan cannot obtain it.

We are secure, perfectly secure, from the enemy's subtlety while we have unwavering trust in God.—Letter 8, 1873. CTr 90.7

Forget about yourself. Don't trust yourself of course not. You know how untrustworthy you are. How easily you swing this way and that. Unwavering trust in the one who said you are my treasure. I have shown you long enough now haven't I? He says what I have done for you, I have shown you long enough that I am bearing you as my as your High Priest upon my heart. Respond to me and I will secure you from Satan's sophistries and what is everything in nature around us waiting for? As we look at the world and nature and all its sad manifestations today, what is nature waiting for?

Romans 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. 18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. 20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, 21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. 23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

What is nature waiting for? Nature is waiting for the gems, for the jewels to be manifest. They are waiting for us to respond to the final burnishing and setting into the crown of God's glory. Let's keep them no longer waiting. Let's keep nature no longer waiting. We have a message here this holy convocation that calls for decision -making, not to stand on the outskirts of the fold, not to think that I'm not worthy therefore I can't come and be part of the fold of Jesus? No. Give it up. Jump in to God's direct engagement with His church, in the direct engagement of Jesus who pleaded for His church, that they would be accepted to the Father and the Father said yes of course because of your shedding of your blood. Because of Jesus the pearl of great price, let us no longer delay. Let's move forward. Let's work together as a people and not lose sight of this story that we have been considering to this point in time and that we will understand from the rest of our studies now how the Lord is going to do it, that we can cooperate with Him from 1844 till the very end of the close of probation.

This is my prayer that we will respond to the marvellous messages that the Lord is sharing with us here.

Amen.

7 End Time Gathering of the Jewels

[mp3 The Gathering of the Jewels Conference](#)

We have come to a section of our conference now in which we are concentrating on the not the formation of the jewels, not the polishing and cutting of them, but now as the Lord is finished with His gems with some of His gems, He is using them to gather other gems. This is especially relevant to the time in which we are living and this is the title of our topic, End Time Gathering of God's Jewels and we have been exercised by the words of Jesus.

Matthew 13:45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: 46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

The kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man that has found the pearl of great price and he sells all that he has to purchase that one pearl. We have seen that Jesus is the pearl and humanity is the pearl. Jesus is the pearl that the believer sells all to purchase Jesus in his life. He gives up everything as dross. Jesus gave up everything, Jesus gave up everything to purchase His gems, His pearl.

He left the worlds unfallen, the society of holy angels in the universe of heaven, for He could not be satisfied while humanity was alienated from Him. The heavenly Merchantman lays aside His royal robe and crown. Though the Prince and Commander of all heaven, He takes upon Him the garb of humanity, and comes to a world that is marred and seared with the curse, to seek for the one lost pearl, to seek for man fallen through disobedience.... TMK 84.3

Buried in the Rubbish

He finds His pearl buried in rubbish. Selfishness encrusts the human heart, and it is bound by the tyranny of Satan. But He lifts the soul out of its darkness, to show forth the praises of Him who had called us out of darkness into His marvellous light. We are brought into covenant relationship with God and receive pardon and find peace, Jesus finds the pearl of lost humanity and resets it in His diadem.

We've been contemplating this activity and especially in reference to this amazing story that Jesus sold everything. What was that? *He left the world's unfallen, the society of holy angels in the universe of heaven. For He could not be satisfied while humanity was alienated from Him.* What a meditation. What an attitude that we need to absorb in our mind that He gave up all the good to come to this rubbish place where the pearl has been covered by rubbish. What a story. He was not satisfied while humanity was alienated from Him.

He would inspire the most sinful, the most debased, with hope. He says, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37). When a soul finds the Saviour, the Saviour rejoices as a merchantman that has found his goodly pearl. By His grace He will work upon the soul until it will be like a jewel polished for the heavenly kingdom. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." 25 TMK 84.5

This is a topic that we have spent on in detail and we must never forget, especially the impressions that were made in our minds of what Jesus paid to purchase this pearl - the human race, and you and me as individuals. We beheld that these gemstones that He found buried in rubbish, these pearls and other jewels were formed. We saw how they were performed. We saw that this is a principle that has worked all through history and as you examine the backdrop here with Jesus in the middle, you see the history of the past from the time, especially this particular backdrop, from the time of the apostles, where the gemstones were found and were polished and all the way through the history, through the dark ages. It's all there on that backdrop and we now are considering in this hour the last end, because we are living to the in the last end of this gathering of the jewels. The process that has been all through history is the same from the past to the present. Hebrews 11 deals with the gemstones of the past all through history, where faith has been purified in the lives of these people. We come there at the end. It had gone through the experience of Abel, through Enoch, through Noah, through Abraham, right through all the history:

Hebrews 11:39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: 40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Our study all the way through is that the gems are being made perfect but they are not to be made perfect without us who live now. That is what Jesus said:

John 10:16 Other sheep I have in other folds...

What must they do with them?

John 10:16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

Relating that to the subject that we have been studying here, there's one workshop where in the workshop God is perfecting His people. Jesus is saying that He has His fold or His church or His workshop and He says there are others that are not yet part of that, them He must bring to hear His voice and to be brought in for Him to perfect them.

As you read and meditate on that, does this not denote gathering? He is going to gather His jewels that He hasn't got yet and bring them together into His workshop to develop them so fully that ultimately they will all be together in His crown. All through history, the formation and the gathering of His jewels has taken place but now we are looking at the time of the end. How does Scripture describe the activity of Jesus in gathering His jewels in the time of the end?

Isaiah 11:11 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

Here it is; all over the place. There are people that He is going to gather.

Isaiah 11:12 And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

The gathering of His jewels from all parts of the earth, those that are not of Israel and those that have been dispersed of Judah, the outcasts of Israel and the dispersed of Judah as we read in verse 12 there. In the religious world, especially in the last days, the pastors and the churches have caused havoc to His sheep and to His gems.

Jeremiah 23:1 Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD. 2 Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD. 3 And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. 4 And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD. 5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. 6 In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

The Pearl

That's the pearl, the righteousness of Christ. You see here that the scattering of God's people are now addressed that He is going to draw them together. He's going to gather them together in this particular rendition. That was precisely what is also written in Micah 4. A beautiful description here of this gathering. In that day; He's talking in the context in that the latter days, dominion, the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem the daughter. Does that ring a bell? In Revelation 12:17 the remnant of the woman's seed. There it is for the last days there is going to be the gathering of the remnant and the formation of the remnant of the woman's seed. This is all part of the picture.

Micah 4:6 In that day, saith the LORD, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted; 7 And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever. 8 And thou, O tower

of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

The prophecies of Revelation with the three angels' messages and their culmination in the last section of their messages is Revelation 18:1 to 4 where the actual gathering of the jewels is expressed as a call.

Revelation 18

This is this other angel who comes after the third angel.

Revelation 18 1 And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. 2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen,

See what it says there from the other texts? They've all fallen, they've scattered my sheep, etc. Here is this angel saying that's all fallen, listen to what I'm preaching to you j- Babylon the Great is fallen.

Revelation 18:2 and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. 3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

He is presenting His message. It is concluded with another voice from heaven saying:

Revelation 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

Can you see the beautiful meaning of these words from everything else we've studied? My jewels, my people. You're scattered out there. Come out of her, my jewels. I want to gather you together so that you be not partakers of the sins of those that have scattered you and that you receive not of her plagues. This is the last gathering of His jewels in the last days. I love the way it's written in the Old Testament directly in relation to this scripture as we focus on the gathering of the end time gathering of those jewels:

Zechariah 2:6 Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the LORD: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the LORD. 7 Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon. 8 For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

Now we've got something precious here. What is the part of your body that you protect very fastidiously? When some little speck comes and hits your eye, oh you protect it very carefully. The preciousness of God's eye, the preciousness of God's jewels is equated here. I'm calling you to come out, my gems, whoever touches you, you are like the apple of my eye.

I was only a very young boy when I first heard that sermon in one of the Seventh Day Adventist camps. The whole sermon was, "you are the apple of His eye." and it really touched me. Never forget it and it's always got a sparkle for me this particular mind exercise of God saying you are so precious to me. Like you protect you the apple of your eye, come out I want to gather you from all the different places of the planet to come together as my people, my gems. Those precious words in verses one to three here it is the gathering of the jewels, the cry, the call.

Zephaniah 2:1 Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; 2 Before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD'S anger come upon you.

Let the Lord polish you, let the Lord cut you, let the Lord do all these things because I want to gather you and it's interesting while these people were all out scattered in the different churches, aspects and places of the world in Babylon, they were going through their gem experiences of being formed into gems and being polished as much as they could out there. Now they come into the full workshop of God. He is gathering them together and He is wanting them to go through the final processes to be able to set them in His crown. So, who are they? The apple of His eye, His precious, the dearest on earth to Him.

Isaiah 43:4 Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life. 5 Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; 6 I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; 7 Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

The formation of His jewels have been taking place as we read it here, and now He is saying, "Come on, I'm gathering you now, my generation I have made you. I have created you for my glory. I have created you to put you into the crown of my glory. I have made him. I have made you." That's what Malachi 3:16 to 18 is all about. It is those people that who are thinking of Him, who are occupied with Him, who are His precious jewels, the apple of His eye, it is those that come together and talk together and He says "I'm going to gather you my precious jewels in this day, in the last days". Gathered to a place where?

An Ensign

Zechariah 9 16 ...for they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon his land.

He is gathering them together in the last days to make them part of His crown. We're talking about the last days to reset them in His diadem.

He finds His pearl buried in rubbish. Selfishness encrusts the human heart, and it is bound by the tyranny of Satan. But He lifts the soul out of its darkness. TMK 84.4

Out of Babylon, out from all the parts of the earth.

He is gathering them out of the darkness into His marvellous light. We are brought into covenant relationship with God and receive pardon and find peace. Jesus finds the pearl of lost humanity and resets it in His own diadem. TMK84.4

This process of not recreating the gems, but the process of resetting them in His crown, that is also a process in these last days under the three angels' messages, under the call of the Revelation 18 angel. This is what it's talking about. According to our whole backdrop here, we are coming to that period of time at the very end in which His people are being gathered together in the time of the judgment. We consider carefully that these jewels and how they are made manifest in the last days.

Daniel 12:3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

These people that are gathered to be gems in His crown, in His diadem. They will shine. They're brilliant. That's where He's taking them to. Remember who has given them wisdom? Jesus He is the one that gives them wisdom.

Daniel 12:3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

Twinkle, twinkle little star, yes? Those twinkling stars in the darkness. Precious gems. That's what a diamond is. It sparkles a little bit like a star. They shine. But what does it mean that they will be as the brightness of the firmament and that turn many to righteousness? What is meant by "they shine"? How does Jesus refer to this? They shine how? He is talking to those who are His gems.

Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Shine

Now comes the how to shine.

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

How do you shine? You see many people don't like the idea of works. But the works of obedience to God is the avenue through which these gems shine. Let your light shine. That comes another factor into it because God is doing something to make you a gem to shine for Him. Let Him come right back to what we had studied. Let Him purge you, let Him chop you, let Him cut you to the depth to bring out the lustre of His light. Let that happen and it means by your good works. Let Him create the good works in you as you cooperate with Him. That's what Jesus said so beautifully as we've quoted in His words:

John 17:21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

That the world may know. How will the world may know? I in you and the Father in me and as we are together with one another and Jesus is in you and Christ and you are in Christ and the Father is in you, the Holy Spirit is in you. That is how the world by the unity of these jewels will see that God is who He is. As they are made perfect, they are brought into such unity, and they will shine by the perfection of their characters in doing God's will. So plain. If we will respond and let God work like this in us and become the jewels, what will God do with those who are already His jewels? They will shine and that the world will know. What will God do?

The truth should be presented with divine tact, gentleness, and tenderness. It should come from a heart that has been softened and made sympathetic. We need to have close communion with God, lest self rise up, as it did in Jehu, and we pour forth a torrent of words that are unbecoming, that are not as dew, or as the still showers that revive the withering plants. Let our words be gentle as we seek to win souls. God will be wisdom to him who seeks for wisdom from a divine source.... CW 72.2

Jesus is that, isn't He?

We are to seek opportunities on every hand. We are to watch unto prayer, and be ready always to give an answer to every one who asks a reason for the hope that is in us. Lest we shall impress unfavorably one soul for whom Christ has died, we should keep our hearts uplifted to God, so that when the opportunity presents itself, we may have the right word to speak at the right time. If you thus undertake to work for God, the Spirit of God will be your helper. The Holy Spirit will apply the truth spoken in love for the soul. The truth will have quickening power when spoken under the influence of the grace of Christ.—The Review and Herald, October 7, 1902. PM 307.1

The Jewels

These are the jewels that have so become at one with Jesus and have been cleaned polished so that they are no longer rough, they are no longer reactive to what other people are doing. When they have to say something, they will be able to exercise gentleness, kindness, courtesy, meekness. They are jewels that shine because they have been purified to be like that. They will be used by God to gather in the others that can only recognise truth through the avenue of these kinds of jewels. What kind of manner the people in the last days have to be to attract the jewels that are scattered around. Here is the manner of the gathering.

All the luster possessed by those who have gained the richest experience is but the reflection of the light of the Sun of righteousness. He who lives nearest to Jesus shines the brightest. And let us thank God that the Master has His hidden ones, who are not recognized by the world, but whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. The luster of the tiniest gem in God's casket will glorify Him. There are many ... who during this life do not seem to be particularly honored. But the Lord sees those who serve Him [Malachi 3:17 quoted] (Letter 94, 1903). 4BC 1184.3

God has jewels in all the churches, and it is not for us to make sweeping denunciation of the professed religious world, but in humility and love, present to all the truth as it is in Jesus. Let men see piety and devotion, let them behold Christlikeness of character, and they will be drawn to the truth. He who loves God supremely and his

neighbor as himself, will be a light in the world. Those who have a knowledge of the truth are to communicate the same. They are to lift up Jesus, the world's Redeemer; they are to hold forth the Word of life (The Review and Herald, January 17, 1893). 4BC 1184.4

Drawn to the truth; that's how the jewels gather the other jewels. Those who have a knowledge of the truth are to communicate the same. They are to lift up Jesus the world's redeemer. They are to hold forth the Word of life and you've seen how? No denunciation, sweeping denunciations. Nothing negative at all. Only the uplifting of the pure Jesus in the manner of a beautiful gem who has been prepared for that job. You and I in God's remnant church, we have to remember what we studied. Rough diamonds are out there. As you meet the rough diamonds, if you are not a pure diamond, if you are still rough yourself, how will you talk and how will you communicate? Just the same as they do. But no, we are to touch the gem that is inside, not the crust. You don't refer to anything negative about anybody. You look for the gem that is inside and you touch the gem and bring it out. It is powerfully revealed in what is meant with doing. If we are God's church, if we are the people of God, how will we be used of God to gather the gems from that are scattered amongst all the others?

Let everyone bear in mind that we are in no case to invite persecution. We are not to use harsh and cutting words. Keep them out of every article written, drop them out of every address given. CW 64.1

They're rebuking so that people won't be standing in front of you or you will be meeting and they'll go; *"I don't like this person, you're cutting me."* No Let the word do the cutting. Show the Word and if the Word is and you're doing it with all love and kindness, they'll be more prepared to receive it. It says it so beautifully:

Let all be guarded in their words, lest they place those not of our faith in deadly opposition against us, and give Satan an opportunity to use the unadvised words to hedge up our way. CW 64.1

There is to be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation. Our work is to study to weed out of all our discourses everything that savors of retaliation and defiance and making a drive against churches and individuals, because this is not Christ's way and method.—Testimonies for the Church 9:239-244 (1909). CW 64.2

You mustn't even smell of it. Exercise yourself in the church this way. If somebody is doing something wrong, how do you respond to that? We have to learn it in the church so that when we see the wrongs around us, we don't go, "Look at what you're doing," in our mind. It will come out in our language somewhere. The moment that you see something wrong in another, don't even look at the wrong, look at the person, at the gem inside and consider drawing the gem out. This is only possible through your appreciation of Jesus. We must be aware that we don't make a defiance, a retaliation, and make a drive against churches and individuals because this is not Christ's way and method. They're in the wrong and we might feel I can give them a bit of a serve. No, that's not Christ's way. That's not the way of the pearl.

There is need of a much closer study of the word of God; CW 65.1

The light which I have to give to our people is, Let no condemnatory speeches be printed in our papers. Manuscript 46, 1900. CW 65.2

Practice it in the church first. If somebody is doing something wrong, don't get into the subject of condemning them for what they've done. Why didn't you do that? Why didn't you do this? You've done this and that's why you're doing this. None of that. None of that. This is not God's way. No condemnatory speeches.

Every article you write may be all truth, but one drop of gall in it will be poison to the reader. One reader will discard all your good and acceptable words because of that drop of poison. Another will feed on the poison, for he loves such harsh words.—Letter 91, 1899. CW 65.3

God's jewels can only be used to draw the other jewels who are still rough on the outside.

The ideas expressed in your articles savor so strongly of antagonism that you will do harm, more than you can possibly conceive. Remember that if by the injudicious use of your pen you close the door to even one soul, that soul will confront you in the judgment. Letter 17, 1900. CW 66.2

Whoa! That soul will confront you in the judgment.

O, how much has been said that has turned souls to bitterness and gall against the truth. Words that should have been a savor of life unto life have been made a savor of death unto death by the spirit which accompanied them.—Letter 17, 1900. CW 66.2

We cannot help the Christless by finding fault with them. We have not been given the work of reproof or giving personal thrusts in our periodicals. This attitude is misleading, We are to be “not easily provoked.” Manuscript 46, 1898. CW 66.3

We are to be not easily provoked. That's a good test now. Are you easily provoked? We are not easily provoked.

We are to remember that by our spiritual attitude we are to show that we are feeding on Christ, the bread of life. By our words, our tempers, and our works, we may testify to those with whom we come in contact, that the Spirit of Christ dwells in us.—Manuscript 46, 1898. CW 66.3

Can you see why we are in the church where God is polishing and doing His work so that we can then be the faithful jewels that attract the other jewels? Really let this flourish in our minds. This is what we are meeting that in the time when the faithful people are going to be drawn out of Babylon.

Many laws will be enacted for the government of nations, calculated to oppress; and old laws that have practically become of none effect, will be resurrected. We need to move forward in our work understandingly and in faith, under the wise generalship of Jesus Christ. A great work is to be done for the Master in proclaiming the last message of mercy to our world, and we are dependent upon authorities and powers to find passage from one end of the world to another, and as long as we are dependent upon the powers that be, we must not divorce ourselves from them, for this is a worldwide message. TDG 250.4

Now you're picking something interesting up. Right? What's happening at the moment with this COVID -19? Because the Catholic Church is the beast, they've got to really let them have it. No Sister White says no don't do that that way. We are to treat every person with the respect of the careful touch of there may be one of them is a gem and you will be pushing them out away from this opportunity.

We are to go forward quietly, and when our way is apparently blocked in one direction we are to make no condemnation of the powers that be, for in thus doing we are teaching other powers how to work to hedge up our way. We are not to stir up opposing elements or provoke retaliation or revenge. The climax will come soon enough. It is already stealing on as a thief in the night. And we can speak Bible truth which will not set opposing influences at work.—Manuscript 90, August 29, 1893, “Our Attitude Toward the ‘Powers That Be.’” TDG 250.5

If I become irritated with people around me, I'm going to become irritated with the authorities that are going to pressurise me and the Lord really taught that to me. I don't like to be irritated by anybody. I've got God's grace. He has brought me to the point where I can love everybody and learn not to be irritated but one thing that still irritates me is things going wrong with my natural world. I'm pulling a hose and it gets caught and I get irritated and I let go in some expression of frustration and the Lord comes and says John, if you do that under that frustration, you're going to do it to some human being one day. Oh thank you Lord, thank you for polishing me some more and then it happens now He's polishing me so much on this property. He is letting so many things go wrong to take me over the ground again until I learn from Him to just let it be because He has shown me that when there is a slightest irritation inside of me, I'm going to spark it towards others in my voice and that's where the Lord wants us to change our inward reactions to the frustrating circumstances that are levelled at us.

It is already stealing on as a thief in the night and we can speak Bible truth which will not set opposing influences at work. This is the work of the gathering of the jewels. God wants to gather His pearls. Let Him use those who are His pearls already, demonstrating the lustre of the pearl of great price. That's our work. For the last three sessions of our camp here, we will be examining the gathering of His gems through whom the last gathering from the other folds will be affected. Our study from here onwards now is to actually go into the experience of how God is gathering the gems into His fold whom He will then use to gather the last ones out. Let the Word of God do it for us. How has that happened since Sister White's time? Our next study will be the gathering of God's jewels from 1844 to 1888 and then it follows from 1888 to 1914 and then it follows from 1914 to the end. We will see precisely the application of what we have studied all beforehand.

May God give us grace and understanding and careful attention to the things that we are reading and studying in His Word. Amen.

8 The Gathering from 1848 to 1888

[Mp3 The Gathering of the Jewels Conference](#)

In the course of our studies, we have now reached the mind exercise of the gathering of the jewels that have been made up by the true gospel activity.

2 Corinthians 4:6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

Apostle Paul wrote that in his day. Through the gospel of Jesus Christ, the treasure is delivered into the hearts of all who open their hearts to the gospel. We have the treasure of Jesus Christ, the pearl of great price in earthen vessels. Never forget that. You will always be struggling with your earthen vessel but your heart, your mind is illuminated so that in our darkened earthen vessel in our darkened experiences, the light is shining. God can bring light out of darkness, and He has shined into our dark hearts, the precious treasure of Jesus the pearl. As we studied, we know what this now means. The question was, how did God deliver this treasure to humanity? How?

Psalm 105:7 He is the LORD our God: his judgments are in all the earth.8 He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations. 9 Which covenant he made with Abraham, and his oath unto Isaac;

I want us to spend a little quick moment in reference to this covenant by which He has placed the treasure in our hearts.

Jeremiah 31:31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: 32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: 33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

That covenant that we just read about in Psalm 105, He will remember that He delivered to a thousand generations. What is that covenant? It is the covenant of installing into our hearts His law, the law that was written by His finger on tables of stone which ushered in the covenant that He made with Israel and in the wilderness that covenant was no longer valuable because they broke that covenant although He was a husband unto them. The covenant that He makes with the house of Israel, that is the one in Psalm 105. It is the one where He says I will put my law in their inward parts writing it in their hearts. Notice this is connected, this covenant is actually connected according to Ezekiel 36 with the gathering of His people, of His jewels.

Ezekiel 36:24 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. 25 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. 26 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. 27 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. 28 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.

We want to realise what He is saying. What land was Abraham looking for? What city was he looking for? The land and the city which is the builder and the maker of whom was God. He was looking for that heavenly land and that's the land to which the Lord wants to bring us according to verse 28. But to get us there, He has to put His law according to the covenant into their inward parts. He was to enlighten our hearts and take away the stony heart and place in it the heart of flesh and cause us to walk in His statutes and keep His judgments. Read Hebrews 8 that we might understand what this covenant of writing the law in our hearts actually embraces.

Hebrews 8:1 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum. We have such a high priest who is set on the right hand of the throne of the majesty and in the heavens. We have such a high priest.

Hebrews 8:6 But now this high priest, hath he obtained a more excellent ministry by how much also he is a mediator of a "better covenant" which was established upon better promises.

What He is actually doing here looking at that better covenant, better promises. He's talking about what is written in Jeremiah 31:33 where it says *not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers but in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel.*

What we read in Jeremiah; He's just referring to Jeremiah.

Hebrews 8:13 In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

What Apostle Paul is saying here in Hebrews is that that covenant in which the law is placed into the heart is everything to do with the work of Jesus Christ as our High Priest. Taking of the gospel and bringing it into our hearts. The everlasting covenant, the everlasting gospel. This is what we're talking about because it is not one that vanishes away. What did we read there? It is not that which decays and waxes old. That would cause it to vanish away. No, this is a covenant that will not vanish away. It is none other than the gospel of Jesus Christ by which Jesus comes into our hearts. Through Jesus the law is written in our hearts. The blood of Jesus, the blood of the gospel, is to do directly with this everlasting covenant that does not vanish away, that through this, that He makes you perfect in every good work, to do His will, working in you

Hebrews 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Can you see how that text harmonises with Ezekiel? I will cause you to walk in my statutes. I will cause you to keep my law. How? *Through the blood of the everlasting covenant, which is none other than the fact that Jesus died and rose again and makes us perfect in every good work.*

1833

All through the history of the gospel church, this activity has been going on to develop this treasure in the hearts of the believers of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Throughout that history, we come to 1833 and know what is presented to the Christian Church in 1833.

Revelation 14:6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, 7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

Can you see how this all dovetails together? All nations and tongues and people, He's going to gather together the jewels from them all. We read that in the previous study. This is an angel that now proclaims the very avenue by which the treasure is to be received in the heart. From that time in earth's history when William Miller began to preach this message, the Christian churches were being drawn to the call of being the jewels that should come together. The call is exactly what we have been studying in the last study.

Revelation 14:8 And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

They have been spread; they have been scattered by Babylon. The angels are preaching.

Revelation 14:9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, 12 Here is the patience of the saints. Here are they that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

In consequence of these angels of the preaching of the everlasting gospel in the times from 1833 onwards, the nations were being alerted to what God was going to do to draw together His gems. His gems are here in verse 12, His jewels,

the patience of the saints, they that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. There are the jewels, in consequence of those three angels messages which are given in the last days.

God has called His church in this day, as He called ancient Israel, to stand as a light in the earth. By the mighty cleaver of truth, the messages of the first, second, and third angels. 5T 455.2

That happened from 1833 through to 1848 when those three angels' messages were doing their work and were designed to bring the message to the jewels in the churches, to separate them from the churches and from the world. Did you remember when I was reading here cleaver? What did we read about the cleaver? What did He do in our past studies? He is taking the ore of those precious gems from the world, by the cleaver. This is all in direct tune with everything we've studied so far, that as we come to 1833 onwards, the Lord is doing this work of bringing the people out of the churches into His workshop to finish the purification of the jewels. Then He could say, "Here is the patience of the saints. Here are they that keep the commands of God and the faith of Jesus. Follow very carefully now with me that the gathering experience from that time onwards, 1833 to 1848, from that time onwards, this is now the burden of this hour of consideration.

1848

The three angels of Revelation 14 are represented as flying in the midst of heaven, symbolizing the work of those who proclaim the first, second, and third angels' messages. All are linked together. The evidences of the abiding, everliving truth of these grand messages, that mean so much to the church, that have awakened such intense opposition from the religious world, are not extinct. Satan is constantly seeking to cast a shadow about these messages, so that the people of God shall not clearly discern their import, their time and place; 6T 17.4

But although Satan is so at work:

...but they live and are to exert their power upon our religious experience while time shall last. 6T 17.4

The gathering of the jewels for the last days.

The influence of these messages has been deepening and widening, setting in motion the springs of action in thousands of hearts, bringing into existence institutions of learning, publishing houses, and health institutions. All these are instrumentalities of God to co-operate in the grand work represented by the first, second, and third angels, the work of warning the inhabitants of the world that Christ is coming the second time with power and great glory. 6T 18.1

A message that is calling together the jewels because Jesus Christ is coming. You can see what we're talking about here is really coming vividly before our mind's eye. It is that there in 1844 after the disappointment or before the disappointment and then straight after. I want you to follow very carefully with me through each statement because each statement is taking us through to 1888 as He is gathering His jewels. Right there at that time in 1844 Sister White writes:

A spirit of solemn and earnest prayer was everywhere felt by the saints. A holy solemnity was resting upon them. Angels were watching with the deepest interest the effect of the message, and were elevating those who received it, and drawing them from EW 239.1

His image was reflected in them. Were they the jewels? Jesus could see Himself reflected in this little company that came through the disappointment and were now in that handful of people, were now illuminated so powerfully with all those three angels' messages and there they were. Jesus could see himself reflected in His jewels.

Jesus looked upon them with pleasure, for His image was reflected in them. They had made a full sacrifice, an entire consecration, and expected to be changed to immortality. EW 239.1

This was the gathering of those jewels back there in 1844. Although these people were accepted and Jesus could look upon them with pleasure because He could see Himself reflected in them.

The subject of the sanctuary was the key which unlocked the mystery of the disappointment of 1844. It opened to view a complete system of truth, connected and harmonious, showing that God's hand had directed the great

Advent movement, and revealing present duty as it brought to light the position and work of his people. GC88 423.1

His gems, His people were brought to light but although He could see Himself perfectly reflected in them.

But the people were not yet ready to meet their Lord. There was still a work of preparation to be accomplished for them. Light was to be given, directing their minds to the temple of God in Heaven; and as they should by faith follow their High Priest in his ministration there, new duties would be revealed. Another message of warning and instruction was to be given to the church. GC88 424.3

Although they were such beautiful gems for Jesus, they still were not quite ready for Jesus to come because through the messages of the three angels, they were discovering new duties that they hadn't known of before. Here we are as we carefully travel along the path from 1844 through to 1888, following very carefully the words of the Spirit of Prophecy. These were these people. They were gems. They had come out of all the churches and have come through the disappointment.

1852

Many who profess to be looking for the speedy coming of Christ are becoming conformed to this world. EW 107.2

How long did that take? From 1844 to 1852.

...and seek more earnestly the applause of those around them than the approbation of God. They are cold and formal, like the nominal churches from which they but a short time since separated. The words addressed to the Laodicean church describe their present condition perfectly. EW 107.2

1852, how quickly this happens.

(See Revelation 3:14-20.) They are "neither cold nor hot," but "lukewarm." And unless they heed the counsel of the "faithful and true Witness," and zealously repent and obtain "gold tried in the fire," "white raiment," and "eye-salve," He will spew them out of His mouth. EW 107.2

Revelation 3:14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write;

This was relevant to the people in 1852.

Revelation 3:14 These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; 15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. 20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. 21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

The message of Laodicea, what was that addressed to the Laodicean church that described their present condition in 1852?

1856

Another four years on. Sister White comes because of the hardness of their hearts.

But God has given the message time to do its work. The heart must be purified from sins which have so long shut out Jesus. This fearful message will do its work. When it was first presented, it led to close examination of heart. 1T 186.1

That was when it was first presented, it was in 1852 and everybody got a shock. "What? We allow you to see it?" "I thought we were getting ready for Jesus to come."

Sins were confessed, and the people of God were stirred everywhere. Nearly all believed that this message would end in the loud cry of the third angel. But as they failed to see the powerful work accomplished in a short time, many lost the effect of the message. 1T 186.1

Doesn't this say something to us today? We can be stirred today, and we can have the loss of the effect of that stirring tomorrow.

I saw that this message would not accomplish its work in a few short months. God will prove His people. 1T 186.1

The gems have to be dealt with. Jesus bears patiently with them and does not spew them out of His mouth in a moment. If the message had been of short duration as many of us supposed, there would have been no time for them to develop character. That's part of this whole scenario of the jewels being thoroughly prepared in the workshop, to give them time to have this character development.

Lest His people should be deceived in regard to themselves, He gives them time for the excitement to wear off, and then proves them to see if they will obey the counsel of the True Witness. 1T 186.2

Isn't that interesting? You get excited about something and God says, "I'm going to let the excitement wear off first of all and now we see whether you are going to be just as faithful as with the excitement." Very interesting experience for God's people there.

That was for 1856. That was a direct -- Sister White says, "when you read my writings, remember time and place." That's why we're reading it, day by day, that those things were written not for us today, not for the Seventh Day Adventist Church today, but for it was written directly in reference to their condition back there in 1852/56.

1873

What the situation is now?

Very many feel impatient and jealous because they are frequently disturbed with warnings and reproofs which keep their sins before them. Says the True Witness: "I know thy works." 3T 256.3

Those who are reproved by the Spirit of God should not rise up against the humble instrument. It is God, and not an erring mortal, who has spoken to save them from ruin. Those who despise the warning will be left in blindness to become self-deceived. 3T 257.1

How serious is this?

But those who heed it, and zealously go about the work of separating their sins from them in order to have the needed graces, will be opening the door of their hearts that the dear Saviour may come in and dwell with them. This class you will ever find in perfect harmony with the testimony of the Spirit of God. 3T 257.1

She's simply writing that the Lord has given her these visions and these messages, the testimonies, and the people are saying, "I don't want to hear about that." That was in 1873. We are following the history very carefully.

1876

The Laodicean message applies to the people of God who profess to believe and truth. The greater part are lukewarm professors. 4T 87

How many? The greater part.

...having a name but no zeal. God signified that He wanted men at the great heart of the work to correct the state of things existing there and to stand like faithful sentinels at their post of duty. He has given them light at every point, to instruct, encourage, and confirm them, as the case required. But notwithstanding all this, those who should be faithful and true, fervent in Christian zeal, of gracious temper, 4T 87.1

That's what the gems were to do.

...knowing and loving Jesus earnestly, are found aiding the enemy to weaken and discourage those whom God is using to build up the work. The term "lukewarm" is applicable to this class. They profess to love the truth, yet are deficient in Christian fervor and devotion. They dare not give up wholly and run the risk of the unbeliever, yet they are unwilling to die to self and follow out closely the principles of their faith. 4T 87.1

That was the condition back there in 1876. Sister White keeps on writing to the church and it comes to 1882.

1882

The church will be weighed in the balances of the sanctuary. If her moral character and spiritual state do not correspond with the benefits and blessings God has conferred upon her, she will be found wanting. The light has been shining clear and definite upon her pathway, and the light of 1882 calls her to an account 5T 83.2

There's the date she's actually naming, 1882. There was a message that comes to them from the testimony of the Spirit of Prophecy.

If her talents are unimproved, if her fruit is not perfect before God, if her light has become darkness, she is indeed found wanting. 5T 83.2

People read this for our church today, for the Seventh Day Adventist Church today. There's other things written about that. We will come to that later on. But it was there in 1882 the deplorable condition of the church. Here comes the question now, in such a condition that the church was finding itself by 1882, where is the treasure? Where are the gems? Where are they? Sister White writes it here. Where's the treasure?

The pure and the base metal are now mingled that only the discerning eye of the infinite God with certainty distinguishes between them. But the moral magnet of holiness and truth will attract together the pure metal while it will repel the base and the counterfeit. 5T 101.2

The great day of the to whom God has entrusted the sacred, solemn, testing truth for this time are sleeping at their post. 5T 101.3

See how danger it is to sleep?

They say by their actions: We have the truth; we are "rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing;" while the True Witness declares: Thou "knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked." 5T 101.3

The pure and the base are mingled together in the church.

The church has received warning after warning. ...and the Spirit's voice is scarcely heard. 5T 103.3

These statements were over a period of about 1882 through to 1888. Now we are seeing that Sister White is becoming very, very concerned, and the Holy Spirit, causing her to write, is increasing in its intensity.

I am filled with sadness when I think of our condition as a people. 5T 217.1

She's not talking about Seventh Day Adventists today. She's talking about them then.

The Lord has not closed heaven to us, but our own course of continual backsliding has separated us from God. Pride, covetousness, and love of the world have lived in the heart without fear of banishment or condemnation. Grievous and presumptuous sins have dwelt among us. And yet the general opinion is that the church is flourishing and that peace and spiritual prosperity are in all her borders. 5T 217.1

But the Spirit of God says it isn't. That's what people think they've got. Then she says this in continuation:

The church has turned back from following Christ her Leader and is steadily retreating toward Egypt. 5T 217.2

The church in her day in the 1880's. The church is steadily retreating to Egypt. By the time they get to 1888, not only are they retreating to Egypt:

Spiritual death has come upon the people that should be manifesting life and zeal, purity and consecration, by the most earnest devotion to the cause of truth. The facts concerning the real condition of the professed people of God, speak more loudly than their profession, and make it evident that some power has cut the cable that anchored them to the Eternal Rock, and that they are drifting away to sea, without chart or compass. RH July 24, 1888, par. 1

Don't leave the ship, they say. That was the condition that the church organisation of the Seventh Day Adventists was in. *Some power had cut the cable of the ship that was anchored to the eternal rock and it was drifting away to sea.* Drifting away to sea without what? Chart or compass? What's going to happen to the ship? There is no chart to tell them where the treacherous rocks are. They will run aground. That was in 1888.

Notice now how that affected, because this was the church that was supposed to be proclaiming the Three Angels' Messages. How did this condition affect their proclamation of the Three Angels' Messages?

The third angel's message is to be given with power. We are in danger of giving the third angel's message in so indefinite a manner that it does not impress the people. 6T 60.1

People are telling me today in the Seventh day of Adventist Church that we don't hear what we are hearing from you. Here's the reason. Way back, just after 1888, it was written in Testimony Volume 6.

We are in danger of giving the Third Angels message in so indefinite a manner that it does not impress the people. So many other interests are brought in that the very message which should be proclaimed with power becomes tame and voiceless. 6T 60.1

The church was preaching sermons that were tame and voiceless.

It is a solemn and terrible truth that many who have been zealous in proclaiming the third Angels message are now becoming listless and indifferent. The line of demarcation between worldlings and many professed Christians is almost indistinguishable. 8T 118

That was back there in Sister White's time.

Many who once were earnest Adventists are conforming to the world, to its practices, its customs, its selfishness. Instead of leading to the world to render obedience to God's law, the church is uniting more and more closely with the world in transgression. Daily the church is being converted to the world. 8T 118

How many times I've heard Seventh Day Adventists of my time saying using these statements for the church in our time, is not what she was writing to. She was writing to them back there in her time.

How many professing Christians are slaves of mammon! Their indulgence of appetite, their extravagant expenditure of money for selfish gratification, greatly dishonors God. 8T 118.4

Now that's the case with a great number in the leadership and in the church.

And through lack of zeal for the promulgation of the third angel's message, many others, while not apparently living in transgression, are nevertheless as verily lending their influence on the side of Satan as are those who openly sin against God. 8T 119.1

What does that say? Those that are still trying to be loyal are yet although they are *not living in transgression, they are lending their influence of the sight of Satan as those who openly sin against God.*

Multitudes are perishing; but how few are burdened for these souls! There is a stupor, a paralysis, upon many of the people of God, which prevents them from understanding the duty of the hour. 8T 119.1

All the way through I have been reading testimonies of the condition as God sees it written through Sister White's writings. What was the message to Laodicea because they are lukewarm?

Revelation 3:16 So then, because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth.

Where was that relevant? In around 1888. What does that mean that I will spew you out? What does she say it means for the church on her time?

To those who are indifferent at this time Christ's warning is: "6T 408.2

I'm going to spew you out of my mouth. The figure, what does the figure of spewing out mean?

The figure of spewing out of His mouth means that He cannot offer up your prayers or your expressions of love to God. 6T 408.2

So what do I still do? Can't you see today People are expressing love to God, they're expressing prayers to God, but when Christ spews them out, they may be doing that, but He cannot offer them to God. What a serious state. Besides that, they are teaching the doctrines of the church.

He cannot endorse your teaching of His word or your spiritual work in anywise. He cannot present your religious exercises with the request that grace be given you. 6T 408.2

That's what is meant with spewing out. He cannot present your religious exercises with the request that grace be given you. There's the warning.

"Because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of My mouth." Revelation 3:16. 6T 408.2

There was the condition of the church and what is God going to do with that?

Then I saw another mighty angel commissioned to descend to the earth to unite his voice with the third angel and give power and force to his message. Great power and glory were imparted to the angel and as he descended the earth was lightened with his glory. The light which attended this angel penetrated everywhere as he cried mightily with a strong voice. Babylon the Great has fallen, has fallen, has become the habitation of devils and the hold of every spirit and the cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

Then I saw another mighty angel commissioned to descend to the earth, to unite his voice with the third angel, and give power and force to his message. Great power and glory were imparted to the angel, and as he descended, the earth was lightened with his glory. The light which attended this angel penetrated everywhere, as he cried mightily, with a strong voice, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird." EW 277.1

The work remember, he is now joining with this power. Why? What did we read before? The church was becoming listless and indifferent. There needed to be a power boost.

The work of this angel comes in at the right time to join in the last great work of the third angel's message as it swells to a loud cry. EW 277.1

The condition of the church was so bad that another angel had to come to give it a power boost back in 1888.

AT Jones quotes from Sister White. It's a book that he wrote taking up a reproach. In that book he quotes Sister White saying:

In 1888 in the general conference held at Minneapolis, Minnesota, the angel of Revelation 18 came down to do his work. Taking up a Reproach AT Jones

This angel that was to give power and impetus to the message because the church had become slack, he came in there in 1888. In 1892 in Review and Heroic Sister White writes this:

“The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin pardoning Redeemer. This is the beginning of the light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth.”-The Review and Herald, November 22, 1892. COR 56.2

What was that? Sister White is saying that the 1888 message was the beginning of the Revelation 18 angel and the time of test is right upon the church. Now think what Sister White is writing here. Back there in 1888, the time of test was upon the church for the church to wake up and to be used of God to give this message of the Revelation 18 angel that swells into the loud cry of the third angel.

The Lord in His great mercy. TM 91

Can you see why it's in His great mercy? Because the church had become so slack.

The Lord in His great mercy sent a most precious message to His people through Elders Waggoner and Jones. [See Appendix.] This message was to bring more prominently before the world the uplifted Saviour. TM 91.2

To bring prominently to the world the pearl of great price.

It presented justification through faith in the Surety; it invited the people to receive the righteousness of Christ, which is made manifest in obedience to all the commandments of God. Many had lost sight of Jesus. They needed to have their eyes directed to His divine person, His merits, and His changeless love for the human family. All power is given into His hands, that He may dispense rich gifts unto men, imparting the priceless gift of His own righteousness to the helpless human agent. This is the message that God commanded to be given to the world. It is the third angel's message, which is to be proclaimed with a loud voice, and attended with the outpouring of His Spirit in a large measure. TM 91.2 TM 91.2

In the development of His pure gems, the gems had become marred. The work wasn't being done anymore and there we come to 1888 and there God sends the message of the Revelation 18 angel, the righteousness of Christ at the hand of Waggoner and Jones. That comes, as I said, has taken us to 1888. Now we want to move on from there, from 1888 to 1914 which will be our next study.

Have you picked up the developments that take us to 1888? Have you picked up how the Lord is stepping in to bring the pearl of great price before the people at that time and to let the jewels, the pure metal come to the surface and be manifest to the world around them as a loud cry? Why are we still here today? Because we will study now from 1888 and the way that message was received by the organisation, by the leaders of the organisation and where it led to in 1914. This will be our next study.

9 The Gathering from 1888 to 1915

[mp3 The Gathering of the Jewels Conference](#)

We have appreciated words of inspiration to the people who were the jewels that had gathered together through the message of the three angels – the first angel’s message proclaiming the everlasting gospel, which is the everlasting covenant that was to inscribe God’s law in our hearts.

As the early believers in the advent message came through their point of disappointment and proceeded from there under the guidance of the Lord, we also discovered that the human factor comes in and plays havoc with what God is doing. The human factor gets excited for a while and when the excitement wears of they become slack. This is what we have seen.

By the time we came to 1888, that precious message that was given was given to awaken the people to the pearl of great price and to try and gather them all together and to be the message that should go out and gather the jewels, would’ve been the design of the Holy Spirit if they would have accepted that wonderful work that God was giving to them through Waggoner and Jones. The angel of Revelation 18 was identified in the giving of that message in the General Conference held in Minneapolis Minnesota. The angel of Revelation 18 came down to do his work.

The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin pardoning Redeemer. [7BC 984.6]

To the church came the pearl of great price the sin pardoning Redeemer. The righteousness of Christ which is the Pearl.

This is the beginning of the light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth. [7BC 984.6]

1888

That was the Revelation 18 angel. There is a clear identification point of the beginning of that Angel’s message back there in 1888. It was through the message of EJ Waggoner and AT Jones, that this message was brought prominently to the church so that it then would be the avenue by which the jewels that are out there would be drawn together.

The big question is; how did the church that was organised to be the instrument by which that message should go out receive that message?

The great object of the advent of the Holy Spirit is distinctly specified by Christ. “When He is come,” He said, “He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.” This light has been kept before our people for years. The power of the Holy Spirit has been largely manifested at Battle Creek (that was the headquarters of Seventh Days Organisation) the great heart of the world, to be communicated to those in the highways and hedges, that the mass of human beings under Satan’s sway of sin and death might be reformed and renovated by the Spirit’s power. [TM401.4]

Everything we’ve studied in regard to what God wanted to do, to gather the people into his workshop and to reform and renovate those who would respond by the spirit’s power; this was all provided there to the church in 1888. What does it say?

But when light has come to those at the center of the work, they have not known how to treat it. The testimonies God has given His people are in harmony with His word. [TM 401.4]

This was the sad announcement by the inspiration here. It gives you the true account of what actually happened. This is not an assessment of human-mindedness. This is what Jesus illuminated:

Men who are entrusted with weighty responsibilities, but who have no living connection with God, have been and are doing despite to His Holy Spirit. They are indulging the very same spirit as did Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, and as did the Jews in the days of Christ. Warnings have come from God again and again for these men, but they have cast them aside and ventured on in the same course. [TM 78.2]

This is written in Testimonies to Ministers describing what was happening in 1888 by these men in leadership.

Read the words of Christ in Matthew 23:23: “Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!... “Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city.” This prophecy was literally fulfilled by the Jews in their treatment of Christ and of the messengers whom God sent to them. Will men in these last days follow the example of those whom Christ condemned? [TM 79.1]

Notice he’s just equated the pharisee’s reaction to Christ with the possibility of what the church leaders might do there in 1888 after and after 1888. “I send you prophets and persecuting from city to city and the treatment of Jesus.

These terrible predictions they have not as yet carried out to the full... [TM 79.2]

The warning was that they were on the verge of doing this by rejecting the 1888 message; she says it hasn’t happened yet to the full.

...but if God spares their lives, and they nourish the same spirit that marked their course of action both before and after the Minneapolis meeting, they will fill up to the full the deeds of those whom Christ condemned when He was upon the earth. [TM 79.2]

Mark and remember this statement because this is the test for God’s faithful people; time and time again as the Jews rejected Christ. In every successive generation, the same thing has happened. The danger is that even in today’s circumstances, the same thing can happen.

The perils of the last days are upon us. [TM 79.3]

This was after 1888, she was writing this and it was heading up towards 1914. We know what happened in 1914. The perils of the last days in the First World War came to threaten.

Satan takes the control of every mind that is not decidedly under the control of the Spirit of God. [TM 79.3]

We are pondering here as to what the servants of God in the church, in the leadership, must concentrate on to be under the control of the spirit of God and if they do not, Satan takes control.

Some have been cultivating hatred against the men whom God has commissioned to bear a special message to the world. They began this satanic work at Minneapolis. Afterwards, when they saw and felt the demonstration of the Holy Spirit testifying that the message was of God...[TM 79.3]

They could see it. This message was of God. What did they do?

...they hated it the more, because it was a testimony against them. They would not humble their hearts to repent, to give God the glory, and vindicate the right. They went on in their own spirit, filled with envy, jealousy, and evil surmisings, as did the Jews. They opened their hearts to the enemy of God and man. Yet these men have been holding positions of trust, and have been molding the work after their own similitude, as far as they possibly could... [TM 79.3]

Here is the dilemma that faced the organisation.

What actually was the problem that they resisted in the presentation that Waggoner and Jones gave?

An unwillingness to yield up preconceived opinions, and to accept this truth,.. [1SM 234.6]

What was the truth they didn’t want? They were shown that the moral law, the school master leads us to Christ. They didn’t believe? They believed very strongly that it was the ceremonial law that leads them to Christ. As Waggoner and Jones were preaching, they said it was the moral law that leads us to Christ. That was a big bone of contention. Plus also the very presentation that they gave in righteousness by faith and in enlarging the pearl of great price the way they did.

...This lay at the foundation of a large share of the opposition manifested at Minneapolis against the Lord's message through Brethren [E.J.] Waggoner and [A.T.] Jones. [1SM 234.6]

It was the Lord's message that Sister White was shown came through Waggoner and Jones.

By exciting that opposition Satan succeeded in shutting away from our people, in a great measure, the special power of the Holy Spirit that God longed to impart to them. [1SM 234.6]

The very special power of the Holy Spirit that God longed to impart to them, was inseparably connected with the message that Waggoner and Jones were preaching. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit has to do with the messages that were coming. This is what Deuteronomy 32 is all about.

My doctrine shall fall as the rain as the former and latter rain as it says in Deuteronomy and Joel. The Holy Spirit is saying it is my doctrine and the doctrine of the Holy Spirit taking of Jesus and showing it to us as the pearl that sparkles was opposed. Therefore the power of the Holy Spirit was being in a great measure shut away.

The very thing that the church was meant to be able to receive and impart to others was being shut away.

The enemy prevented them from obtaining that efficiency which might have been theirs in carrying the truth to the world, as the apostles proclaimed it after the day of Pentecost. The light that is to lighten the whole earth with its glory was resisted, and by the action of our own brethren has been in a great degree kept away from the world. [1SM 234.6]

There was the opportunity for the gems of the world around to be drawn in and called together by the power of the Holy Spirit. Those who were meant to be the jewels that were to be used of God to call the other jewels together, this was hindered because these leaders of the church while they were still preaching and teaching and doing all that Adventists were doing, they were preventing this amazing power of the Holy Spirit.

...the loud cry of the third angel has already begun [7BC 984.6]

Are you still hearing people today say the loud cry is in the future? It started back there in 1888. It has already begun.

...in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin-pardoning Redeemer. This is the beginning of the light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth. [7BC 984.6]

It was the beginning of the Revelation 18 angel in the presentation of Christ our righteousness by Waggoner and Jones. The work of this angel comes in at the right time to join in the last great work of the third angel's message as it swells to a loud cry.

People say it hasn't begun. The Spirit of Prophecy says it has begun but has been muffled so that it could only be held and understood by a few and had therefore to swell bit by bit, get stronger and stronger, slowly swell into a loud cry. The loud cry has already begun in 1888. Those who received the 1888 message were then able to continue to do the work faithfully as this message swells and swells and swells through the history from that time onwards. Sister White said in 1896 these are all important dates to see the progression of the council that was given in reference to this.

The work will grow deeper and become more earnest to the very close of time. [2SM 114.1]

It was muffled by the leadership however, it started it swells and it grows deeper and becomes more earnest to the very close of time. It doesn't look like it to our human observation. The Lord is seeing it and he is saying that's what is happening ever since that time. As I look back through the history I see it. It has continued.

...the latter rain. It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it. [TM 507.1]

That's exactly what has happened. Those who do receive it are going forward just like the individuals in the times past such as Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and others of that nature.

The work will grow deeper and become more earnest to the very close of time. And all who are laborers together with God will contend most earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. They will not be turned from the present message, which is already lightening the earth with its glory. [2SM 114.1]

The Revelation 18 was already lightning the earth with its glory but because people have got these wrong concepts of what it means for the glory to cover the whole earth, they couldn't recognise it. But the Lord was saying through these words, it was already lightening the earth with its glory in 1896.

The Scholars in the Seventh-day Adventist Church wrote the book called *The Story of the Church* and in page 246, it says 1888 marked the beginning of a great reform because those who were receiving that message were moving on with it.

If you know the history, Sister White backed up Waggoner and Jones and wherever Waggoner and Jones were preaching, she was there to support them. Those who received those messages would run with it, but because that was rejected by the organised leadership, it was done in this sort of slow swelling process. Those who had rejected it, notice carefully God had not in any way rejected his church – that organisation yet – not at all.

We read that there was still hope for the rejectors.

...if God spares their lives, and they nourish the same spirit that marked their course of action both before and after the Minneapolis meeting, they will fill up to the full the deeds of those whom Christ condemned when He was upon the earth. [TM 79.2]

They hadn't yet filled to the full. They hadn't already begun. As the message swells, how they react to that swelling message will decide their destiny.

1902

We come to the year 1902 and the Spirit of God brings them another call for all who had been rejecting this message. This call is what was compiled by A G Daniels in a book that he wrote, "Christ Our righteousness," where he handled the whole subject. This statement is Sister Whites quote that he quoted on page 121 and it was given in 1902.

"God calls for a spiritual revival and a spiritual reformation. Unless this takes place, those who are lukewarm will continue to grow more abhorrent to the Lord until He will refuse to acknowledge them as His children. [COR 121.3]

God hadn't done that yet, but if they do not respond to the core of spiritual revival and spiritual reformation then they will continue to grow more abhorrent until God rejects them.

What is meant with revival and reformation? What is meant with that?

"A revival and a reformation must take place under the ministration of the Holy Spirit. [COR 121.4]

If the Holy Spirit, the latter rain takes place, the giving of the Holy Spirit, it creates revival and reformation. What is it?

...Revival signifies a renewal of spiritual life, a quickening of the powers of mind and heart, a resurrection from spiritual death. [COR 121.4]

That's revival and the church needed it. It was being called for.

Reformation signifies a reorganization, a change in ideas and theories, habits and practices. [COR 121.4]

That was needed in the church.

That was in 1902 when she wrote that. The Lord was giving the church another call. You've rejected the 1888 message and if you keep on rejecting it now, please don't reject it. You need a revival. You need the outpouring of the Holy Spirit by the ministration of the Holy Spirit, there should be a renewal of spiritual life. It needs the church

needed a renewal of spiritual life and a quickening of the powers of the mind, a reformation to reorganise, a change of ideas, theories, habits, and practices was this 1902 call responded to.

1903

In 1901 there was a problem in the church. It was this problem of leadership government and control and they reorganised and it looked so good that they organised according to what Sister White said should happen. However in 1903 and 1904, things were not changing really. Although it looked like it, we were discussing this before that Sister White was encouraged. Because of the way that the brethren were doing and speaking, it looked so encouraging to her.

After I received word in regard to the excellent meeting of confession and unity that had been held in Battle Creek I was writing in my diary and was about to record the thankfulness I felt because a change had come, when my hand was arrested, and there came to me the words: "Write it not. No change for the better has taken place. [8T 231.2]

She enlarges it to her mind. Not only has there no change for the better taken place to all appearances, it sounded so good, this is how deceptive it can be to human minds. They think, "Oh, wasn't that a wonderful meeting? Wasn't this beautiful? How does God see it?"

Teachings that are turning souls from the truth are being presented as of great worth. Doctrines are being taught that lead into bypaths and forbidden paths; doctrines that lead men to act in harmony with their own inclinations and to work out their unsanctified purposes; doctrines that, if received, would destroy the dignity and power of God's people, obscuring the light that would otherwise come to them through God's appointed agencies." [8T 231.2]

In 1903 it looked so sweet but God knew better. It wasn't just that maybe some of these men were responding to the call of Sister White's writings. It looked so good but they fell back from what they were thinking they were doing good and God knew it.

In 1902 the condition of the church had come to such a state that although it looked good to the human eye to even Sister White's eye, she was going to write at last a change had come and the Holy Spirit said no, no, no, don't you write that.

Forecast

I want to continue to show what is forecast in Sister White's writings in reference to the development in the church from that opposition, which culminated in 1903 where God had to tell her no change has come for the better. What will happen in the church? What will happen in reference to the gathering of the jewel?

"Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh" (Matthew 24:44) This is our message, the very message that the three angels flying in the midst of heaven are proclaiming. The work to be done now is that of sounding this last message of mercy to a fallen world. A new life is coming from heaven and taking possession of all God's people. But divisions will come in the church. Two parties will be developed. The wheat and tares grow up together for the harvest. [2SM 113.3]

The work will grow deeper and become more earnest to the very close of time. And all who are laborers together with God will contend most earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. They will not be turned from the present message, which is already lightening the earth with its glory. [2SM 114.1]

Here you are getting the picture under inspiration. What is it saying? Because of the 1888 message which was the beginning of the Revelation 18 angel, which was the beginning of the loud cry, that was rejected by the leadership, what would happen? Two parties will be developed.

You can see exactly how God sees it not the way that people are telling us. God is revealing that due to the rejection of the 1888 message in the Seventh-day Adventist people, two parties would develop. The one party will contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. They would not be turned from the present message that came in 1888, which is already lightening the earth with its glory.

This is an indication from 1893 onwards. Because of these two parties, Sister White is now identifying the numbers of one party versus the other and also tells you outright how these people were to meet this crisis.

It is a solemn statement that I make to the church, that not one in twenty whose names are registered upon the church books are prepared to close their earthly history, and would be as verily without God and without hope in the world as the common sinner. They are professedly serving God, but they are more earnestly serving mammon. This half-and-half work is a constant denying of Christ, rather than a confessing of Christ. So many have brought into the church their own unsubdued spirit, unrefined; their spiritual taste is perverted by their own immoral, debasing corruptions, symbolizing the world in spirit, in heart, in purpose, confirming themselves in lustful practices, and are full of deception through and through in their professed Christian life. Living as sinners, claiming to be Christians! Those who claim to be Christians and will confess Christ should come out from among them and touch not the unclean thing, and be separate...[ChS 41.1]

What's this? In 1893 not one in twenty. At that time there were about forty thousand members but not one in twenty. I looked at it briefly and I came to a conclusion of about a thousand who would be of that party that would be in harmony with the message in 1800 and 1903.

Those who claim to be Christians and will confess Christ should come out from among them and touch not the unclean thing, and be separate...[ChS 41.1]

Within the church she is already saying, let the two parties begin to separate, even though they're still in part of the organization, but within the organisation – a separation.

Thank God, all will not be rocked to sleep in the cradle of carnal security. There will be faithful ones who will discern the signs of the times. While a large number professing present truth will deny their faith by their works, there will be some who will endure unto the end. [5T 10.1]

The two parties? Separation by one party, sleeping in the cradle of carnal security while the other ones, the faithful ones, discerning the signs of the times, but a large number will deny their faith by their works. There will be some who will endure until the end. This was happening according to God's vision in the church of the Seventh-day Adventist Church from 1893-1904. We see the developments of these two parties in the church.

I was shown the people of God, and saw them mightily shaken. Some, with strong faith and agonizing cries...[1T 179.3]

Isn't that something the faithful people were agonising over what was going on in the church back there?

Some, with strong faith and agonizing cries were pleading with God. Their countenances were pale, and marked with deep anxiety, expressive of their internal struggle. [1T 179.3]

Some, I saw, did not participate in this work of agonizing and pleading. They seemed indifferent and careless. They were not resisting the darkness around them, and it shut them in like a thick cloud. The angels of God left these, and I saw them hastening to the assistance of those who were struggling with all their energies to resist the evil angels, and trying to help themselves by calling upon God with perseverance. But the angels left those who made no effort to help themselves, and I lost sight of them. [1T 180.2]

That was a forecast of what was happening in the church. By the time we get to 1888 – 1993, the two companies are developing. As the development comes to its climax, we see this sad story of the conflict of the unfaithful and the faithful.

A Well-Known Statement

I saw a company who stood well guarded and firm, giving no countenance to those who would unsettle the established faith of the body. [EW 258.3]

She'd referred to the first, second and third angels' messages.

Said my accompanying angel, “Woe to him who shall move a block or stir a pin of these messages. The true understanding of these messages is of vital importance. The destiny of souls hangs upon the manner in which they are received.” [EW 258.3]

Here is the company that will go through to the end.

I have been shown that many who profess to have a knowledge of present truth know not what they believe. They do not understand the evidences of their faith. They have no just appreciation of the work for the present time. When the time of trial shall come, there are men now preaching to others who will find, upon examining the positions they hold, that there are many things for which they can give no satisfactory reason. Until thus tested they knew not their great ignorance...Certain it is that there has been among us a departure from the living God and a turning to men, putting human in place of divine wisdom. [5T 707.2]

This was written over the period through 1888. Here she is saying she is revealing God’s view of the wheat and tares. God’s view of that which is dross and that which are the jewels or which is pure gold. The two companies in the church. Then she says this is shaking because there are the faithful and the unfaithful. She has another manifestation of a metaphoric split:

The shaking of God blows away multitudes like dry leaves. Prosperity multiplies a mass of professors. Adversity purges them out of the church. As a class, their spirits are not steadfast with God. They go out from us because they are not of us; for when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, many are offended. [4T 89.2]

We are coming to the conclusion to actually realise that the conflict within the Seventh-day Adventist Church that was coming up to 1914 through those terrible times after 1888.

As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel’s message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren. [GC 608.2]

Two parties will be developed and it gets more and more intense as we get closer and closer to the crisis. As they get closer and closer to the crisis, a large number/multitudes, get blown out like dry leaves. When people read that they think that means they leave the church. They think they leave the church organization. This is why this is because people regard the church as the organisation, instead of the faithful people.

Soon God’s people will be tested by fiery trials, and the great proportion of those who now appear to be genuine and true will prove to be base metal. Instead of being strengthened and confirmed by opposition, threats, and abuse, they will cowardly take the side of the opposers. [5T 136.1]

To stand and defense the truth and righteousness when the majority fore us to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few, this will be our test. Now she’s not writing this for us today. She’s writing it to the history of the church in her time. And she is preparing under God’s inspiration at people that are coming to the crisis. That is, that is arriving very soon as trials sticking around us. [5T 136.2]

As trials thicken around us, both separation and unity will be seen in our ranks. [6T 400.3]

People read this and say, “Oh, that’s in the future.” No, it was in the future of her time because she said through the 1888 message, two companies were developed.

...Those who have had great light and precious privileges, but have not improved them, will, under one pretext or another, go out from us. Not having received the love of the truth, they will be taken in the delusions of the enemy; they will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, and will depart from the faith. [6T 400.3]

Before the separation takes place, what will happen?

Many will stand in our pulpits with the torch of false prophecy in their hands, kindled from the hellish torch of Satan. If doubts and unbelief are cherished, the faithful ministers will be removed from the people who think they know so much. [TM 409.3]

Who's going to leave? Faithful ministers will leave. They will be separated from the majority How will it come?

God will arouse His people; if other means fail, heresies will come in among them, which will sift them, separating the chaff from the wheat. [5T 707.3]

People say, "Oh, you have to stay in the church until the harvest." Sister White is foreshadowing the chaff and the weeds being separated in her time.

The doctrines are being taught that lead into bypass and forbidden paths. Remember that statement? No change for the better had come in 1903. Therefore by 1908, Sister White was giving a statement to some people, to her secretary and to other ministers and they were at the railroad station. This statement was found in by son Willie White:

"Sister White told us, as we three stood there on the railroad depot platform, that a terrible storm of persecution was coming, just like a windstorm, that blew down every standing object. There was not a Seventh-day Adventist to be seen. They, like the disciples forsook Christ and fled. All who had sought positions were never seen any more.

"After the storm there was a calm. Then the Adventists arose like a great flock of sheep, but were without shepherds. They all united in earnest prayer for help and wisdom, and the Lord answered by helping them choose leaders among them, who had never sought positions before. They prayed earnestly for the aid of the Holy Spirit which was poured out upon them making fully ready for service. They then went forth `fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners' to give the message to all the world."

What does that quote from?

Song of Solomon 6, My dove, my undefiled is but one.

That's where that comes from. It's fascinating that we actually see in Sister White's declaration that the song of Solomon's Statement of *My dove, my undefiled is but one*. They come forth from this terrible windstorm and are left outside of the leadership of the Seventh-day Adventist church.

That's the way it's written. That's the way she's speaking here. They will come forth

...fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners' to give the message to all the world.
[COL fly leaf]

These are the faithful ones that will give the message to the world.

"I was astonished, and asked if that applied to Loma Linda, as we were looking that way. Sister White replied to my question by stating that it applied to the entire denominational world. It so stunned me, that I did not ask any more questions."

This leaves you without any question as to how God is illuminating Sister White to show us what happened up to the point of 1914.

According to this statement, the Seventh-day Adventist Church was identified by Sister White as being blown by the windstorm that the leaders of the church were all gone out of view as God's two people. The only ones that came after the windstorm were without leaders, they were without the ministers and they were praying to God, "help us now to organise ourselves."

We will look at this in continuation and how God continues in consequence of the terrible windstorm. We will read from her warning of the coming of the windstorm.

1913

In 1913 at the general conference she gave a warning. We will read it and the warning that she gave harmonises with what she said here at the railroad depot platform, that there would be such a storm that would disintegrate the faithful.

As we read already, the faithful ministers would be withdrawn. The faithful people will be withdrawn while the others in the great mass, the great majority will continue outside of God's realm as a denomination so we are left without any confusion as to what happened after 1914.

May God indeed help us to look at these statements from Sister White in their simplicity because God is trying to help his people to know how to find their way through these last movements that took place ever since the first world war. God be with us.

10 The Final Gathering

[mp3 The Gathering of the Jewels Conference](#)

Scripture Reading: Amos 5:1 Hear ye this word which I take up against you, even a lamentation, O house of Israel. 2 The virgin of Israel is fallen; she shall no more rise: she is forsaken upon her land; there is none to raise her up. 3 For thus saith the Lord GOD; The city that went out by a thousand shall leave an hundred, and that which went forth by an hundred shall leave ten, to the house of Israel.

Our scripture reading this is very, very relevant to the study that we are having. More so than any other scripture reading I've ever had. Because here it says there is a lamentation in the house of Israel. *The very virgin of Israel is fallen, she shall no more rise, she is forsaken upon her land and there is none that can raise her up.* No matter how much people will think; *'oh you know there's still hope.'*

Here, as we come to the word of God illuminating our mind for this subject now in these last days of the advent people, there is a terrible story here. A lamentation that the condition of the professed Seventh-Day Adventist people is not meeting up with their real calling and there is a discovery as we go through these studies and through this study as the Lord is gathering His last remnant together. There is a repetition of the Israel that is fallen repeated from the time of the Jews to the time of the protestant churches to the time of the Seventh-Day Adventist church to the time of the reform movement. A time of sad lamentation that these organisations have fallen and nobody can lift them up. All that's left is that those that – *'went out by a thousand shall leave an hundred and that which went forth by a hundred, shall leave ten to the house of Israel. Therefore seek ye me saith the Lord so that you may live.'*

Very significant words here and so I take your mind back to what we covered in the last study. We came to the experience of the sad rejection of the message of the Revelation 18 angel, the rejection of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that was available to the Seventh-Day Adventist church in 1888 and the Lord giving them time to come to repentance over the matter. As we came along, we saw as we were studying that because in the forecast, the Spirit of Prophecy was forecasting that in the Seventh-Day Adventist church in her time, there would be the development of two parties. One of these parties are in the minority that are faithfully accepting the message and proclaiming it, but the other party, the great majority in the leadership is continuing to reject and reject. In this study, we come to a statement that Sister White made to the Seventh-Day Adventist general conference in 1913. Pay close attention to what she is saying. This is taken from the General Conference presentation in session.

Men of clear understanding are needed now. TM 514.3

We've got to take this statement precisely where it's meant. She is writing this message to the general conference in session in 1913 and she is saying wake up, you need to have clear understanding.

God calls upon those who are willing to be controlled by the Holy Spirit to lead out in a work of thorough reformation. TM 514.3

If you recall what we had been reading, revival and reformation was called for and here she is giving it to the general conference in session with all the delegates from all around the world. She is saying this to them under inspiration.

I see a crisis before us, and the Lord calls for His laborers to come into line. Every soul should now stand in a position of deeper, truer consecration to God than during the years that have passed.... TM 514.3

You know what happened in the years that had passed, they had rejected the 1888 message and they were still not repenting and when she thought that the wonderful change had come, her hand was stopped and she couldn't write. She said, the message came to her; *'don't write it. Because no change for the better has taken place'*. So this is a very final call to the Seventh-day Adventist organisation.

I have been deeply impressed by scenes that have recently passed before me in the night season. There seemed to be a great movement—a work of revival—going forward in many places. Our people were moving into line, responding to God's call. My brethren, the Lord is speaking to us. Shall we not heed His voice? Shall we not trim our lamps, and act like men who look for their Lord to come? The time is one that calls for light bearing, for action. TM 515.1

She said, 'I see a crisis before us' and then 'I saw that in the night season, that there was a great movement'. She was discovering what was taking place. This is interesting research right now because when she read that message, she wasn't there personally, she sent it in writing and that was to be read in the general conference session. What was the crisis in 1913 that she was referring to?

1913

What was the crisis? 1914. What happened in 1914? World War One. A serious crisis. How serious is that? How easy it is for us to diminish the past? It was a serious crisis before the Seventh-day Adventist church.

We want to have a look at what happened in the First World War in reference to the things we've been reading about two parties and one was a very small number and the other one. They were faithful and the other one was a great number that was not faithful in the Seventh-Day Adventist organisation. A declaration was made in 1865 by the Seventh Day Adventists as they were organising. Here is the resolution in 1865. A declaration of the Seventh Day Adventist church sent from the general conference.

Resolved. That we recognize civil government as ordained of God, that order, justice, and quiet may be maintained in the land; and that the people of God may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty. {2BIO 116.1}

In accordance with this fact we acknowledge the justice of rendering tribute, custom, honor, and reverence to the civil power, as enjoined in the New Testament. While we thus cheerfully render to Caesar the things which the Scriptures show to be his, we are compelled to decline all participation in acts of war and bloodshed as being inconsistent with the duties enjoined upon us by our divine Master toward our enemies and toward all mankind. SDA's in Time of War page 24.

Did you notice what this said? It said that 'We are compelled to decline.' What? 'All participation in acts of war and bloodshed.' How much participation? In all participation. What does that mean? Medics cook, bottle washers, whatever it is we cannot participate in the war machine. Is that right? That's clearly a resolution carefully worded by the original Seventh-Day Adventists.

I was shown that God's people... In the army... cannot obey the truth and at the same time obey the requirements of their officers. There would be a continual violation of conscience. Worldly men are governed by worldly principles. They can appreciate – no other. 1T 361.

As you take to heart what is written here, is there any slightest acceptance of any participation in the army at all? That's the way it reads; doesn't it? This is not my opinion. This is the word of God, and this is the declaration of the first Seventh day Adventists in their first organisation.

When the first world war broke out, with these words we have just been clearly identifying, compare the decision of the Seventh-day Adventist church in reference to war in 1914. This is a circular by G Dale the European division secretary Hamburg August 2 1914:

To our dear brethren and sisters...

What a beautiful address; to our dear brother and sisters.

Greetings with Psalm 23. In this earnest and terrible time into which Europe has fallen, we desire to request the following of you:

- 1. As followers of Christ through the power of God, we should in these days be true, obedient and subject to the services of our land.*
- 2. We should do our military duties joyfully whilst we are in service or being called to serve so that the officers in charge will find us valiant and true soldiers who are ready to die for their homes. For our army and for our fatherland, our destiny is in God's hand. Should we lose our life, wisdom, conflict, let us remember that our life is hid with Christ in God. G Dale the European division secretary Hamburg August 2 1914:*

Is this an oxymoron from what they declared in the beginning? This is the exact opposite. Isn't it what has happened to the Seventh Day Adventist church in 1914? The very thing that Sister White was saying; *no change for the better has taken place. Doctrines are being taught that lead into bypaths, forbidden paths.*

Here is a doctrine they are teaching and it sounds so holy and it's so corrupt. That was a public declaration to their people but now we come to the public declaration to the world. This is coming from a German newspaper Dresden Neveste Nchrichtent:

“At the beginning of the war our organisation divided into two parts. Whilst 98 percent of our members stepped out, after searching the Bible, on the ground that it was our conscientious duty to defend the ‘Fatherland’ with weapons, and that also on the Sabbath; and this decided position from the united leaders was at once forwarded to the war department; 2 percent however, did not submit themselves to this decision of the leaders, and therefore had to be disfellowshipped because of their anti-Christian conduct.” German Newspaper ‘Dresden Neveste Nachrichtent – April 12th 1918 page 3.

That was a public declaration by the leadership of the Seventh Day Adventist church in Europe. This was a declaration they made all across Europe. It's interesting that you know how these writers of the newspaper, these agents of news how they respond and examine. They sometimes examine more closely than even a judge in a law court. There was an answer to this by another German newspaper:

“Since the beginning of the war there has been a division among the Adventist people. During the duration of the war the majority wanted to see the fundamental teachings set aside, by force if necessary. The others asked that the sanctification of Saturday (Sabbath) be allowed them, even in these times of stress. The opposing faction finally brought about the disfellowshippment from the organisation of the followers of the original principals of their faith.” Public Observation – German Paper – Koelnich Zeitung September 21, 1915.

This person examined carefully the history of the Seventh Day Adventist church and he laid it out exactly as it was. What else do we need in reference to the Seventh Day Adventist church in harmony with what we were reading in Amos where it said that; *The virgin of Israel is fallen, she shall no more rise, she has forsaken upon her land.'*

Beforehand Sister White was giving the warnings. The warnings they had, their declaration of faith in front of them but they refused as she had foreshadowed that this would happen. That there would be a split in the church and the split in the church came into full harmony with what she had stated.

You remember what she had stated in the railroad depot platform statement.

“Sister White told us as we three stood there on the railroad depot platform, that a terrible storm of persecution was coming like a windstorm that blew down every standing object. There was not a Seventh-day Adventist to be seen. They, like the disciples, forsook Christ and fled. All who sought positions were never seen anymore. After the storm there was a calm, then the Adventists arose like a flock of sheep, but were without shepherds. They all united in earnest prayer for help and wisdom, and the Lord answered by helping them to choose leaders from among them who had never sought positions before.” {Railroad depot statement, Signed by Will Ross, Elman Johnson & Sarah McEntefer}

She lost sight of the great majority and only a little number was left without leaders. Remember that statement. This what happened in Europe. What about the general conference in America? How would they face this terrible travesty of the original principles of their faith? If you want to check this out, you can read the whole thing if you can get this book called Protokoll.

These are the minutes of the Seventh day Adventist leaders. A G Daniels and other leaders of the general conference committee came across in 1920 to meet up with the leadership of the Seventh Day Adventist church in Europe and the disfellowshipped company. It was after the war that this fellowship, company was on its own there and they were pleading for help and the general conference came across and to cut a long story short, as you go through the actual minutes and I'm reading from, and A G Daniels is speaking. He was the general conference president now. Sister White was saying when A G Daniels and all these men were giving the appearance, as though you know they were complying, and she was about to write that a change had come. A G Daniels was president when she wrote that and here's A G Daniels now in regards to this serious travesty. He says:

We believe that you...

He's talking to the disfellowshipped company:

We believe that you are completely in error concerning your position on this question of the war issue. We believe in the fourth commandment, just the same as we always believed it but we are not able to accept the interpretation you put upon it. What would you have said concerning Moses a few days after he received the law of God upon Sinai if He would have told you to go and kill the king of Bashan and all the men women and children. Would you have accused him as a murderer? A G Daniels – Protokoll

Can you see the rationale here? How twisted the mind can get? *But God commanded him to transgress the sixth commandment. You see that many things are found in the interpretation of the commandments, and we must have freedom to read and to understand them and not to be bound to the interpretation of any small organisation.*

Fallen

How far has she fallen? Can she get up again? How great is that darkness? Having seen the travesty in Europe in 1914 with the general conference accommodating this travesty uniting with the people in Europe with the leadership in Europe, therefore they are all on the same false platform. They are now teaching doctrines that deviate from the original beliefs on the war issue on the commandments of God. How serious is the travesty of this serious event? The travesty upon the truth covered thou shalt not kill, thou shalt remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy and it opened up a whole concept of interpretation to of the Ten Commandments.

Where do you have to interpret the Ten Commandments? Pray, tell can you see how far she has fallen? When these people took their stand as a leadership in the general conference against those who've been disfellowshipped by the European conference, they now are rejected because they stand faithful and true to the pearl of great price.

As the light and life of men was rejected by the ecclesiastical authorities in the days of Christ, so it has been rejected in every succeeding generation. Again and again the history of Christ's withdrawal from Judea has been repeated. When the Reformers preached the word of God, they had no thought of separating themselves from the established church; but the religious leaders would not tolerate the light, and those that bore it were forced to seek another class, who were longing for the truth. In our day few of the professed followers of the Reformers are actuated by their spirit. Few are listening for the voice of God, and ready to accept truth in whatever guise it may be presented. Often those who follow in the steps of the Reformers are forced to turn away from the churches they love, in order to declare the plain teaching of the word of God. And many times those who are seeking for light are by the same teaching obliged to leave the church of their fathers, that they may render obedience. DA 232.2

Tell me, does that statement now belong to the Seventh Day Adventist church as well? She was talking about the Jewish church and the other churches but now the same thing has happened in the Seventh Day Adventist system. How clearly was this railroad depot platform statement in focus?

.Sister White said to them there a terrible storm of persecution was coming just like a windstorm that blew down every standing object. There was not a Seventh Day Adventist to be seen. They like the disciples forsook Christ and fled. All who sought positions were never seen anymore. After the storm, there was a calm then the Adventists arose like a flock of sheep but were without shepherds. They all united in earnest prayer for help and wisdom and the Lord answered by helping them to choose leaders among them who had never sought positions before. They prayed earnestly for the aid of the Holy Spirit which was poured out upon them making them fully ready for service. They then went forth, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners to give the message to all the world.

That's what happened and we can see how clearly that is depicted in the history. Did Sister White see this company that would stand faithful? Did she see it in her visions before?

I saw a company who stood well guarded and firm, giving no countenance to those who would unsettle the established faith of the body. God looked upon them with approbation. EW 258.3

Who were the ones that were giving no countenance to that which was established in the Seventh Day Adventist church? It was the two percent obviously. Does God describe the formation of two bodies in the Bible? Is this a reality all through history that a church that was once united, is split into two and one company is the faithful one and the other one is not? And then these two companies become corrupt too and all that's left is a little remnant? Is this clearly true? In Isaiah chapter 8, you see precisely a chronicled experience that depicts what we are looking at.

Isaiah 8:12 Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid.

They're confederating together, they're uniting together. They say; *'we are the ones, you are wrong.'*

Isaiah 8:13 Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. 14 And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel,

Remember our study on how the pearl, Jesus Christ would be an irritation to the flesh? He's a stumbling stone, a rock of offense.

Isaiah 8:13 ...for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. 15 And many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken. 16 Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples.

A Stumbling Block

Jesus, the true Jesus, the people who had the law written in their hearts who had Jesus in their hearts with the old covenant, with the everlasting covenant, these people end up to be that where the law is sealed among them. Whereas the others, did you notice verse 14?

Isaiah 8:14 And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel.

At that time there was only one house of Israel and the development of another one. Confederating together outside of the pure truth is a stumbling stone. They were stumbling at the rock Christ Jesus. Seal the law among my disciples.

Here are plainly represented two distinct parties, formed from a company that was once united. The members of one of these parties are in resistance to the will of God. They have taken themselves from the side of the loyal and true, and are now resisting the warnings of the Spirit of God. Review and Herald July 18 1907.7

How vividly are we discovering inspiration describing the demise of the SDA church? The organisation, not the true Seventh Day Adventists but of the denomination; the leadership in the majority.

Review and Herald July 16 1895; is a declaration that reveals what the Spirit of Prophecy is saying about the Seventh Day Adventist church with its candlestick in place and what happens because of her unfaithfulness?

The end of all things is at hand. God is moving upon every mind that is open to receive the impressions of his Holy Spirit. He is sending out messengers that they may give the warning in every locality. God is testing the devotion of his churches and their willingness to render obedience to the Spirit's guidance. Knowledge is to be increased. The messengers of Heaven are to be seen running to and fro, seeking in every possible way to warn the people of the coming judgments, and presenting the glad tidings of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. The standard of righteousness is to be exalted. The Spirit of God is moving upon men's hearts, and those who respond to its influence will become lights in the world. Everywhere they are seen going forth to communicate to others the light they have received as they did after the descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. And as they let their light shine, they receive more and more of the Spirit's power. The earth is lighted with the glory of God. RH July 16, 1895, Art. A, par. 10

Isn't that all harmonising with the with the beauty of what we were seeing there? That the Revelation 18 angel is lightening the earth with His glory. What does she say about the church when that happens?

But O, sad picture! those who do not submit to the influence of the Holy Spirit soon lose the blessings received when they acknowledged the truth as from Heaven. They fall into a cold, spiritless formality; they lose their

interest in perishing souls: they have “left their first love.” And Christ says unto them, “Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.” He will take his Holy Spirit from the church, and give it to others who will appreciate it. RH July 16, 1895, Art. A, par. 11

There is no greater evidence that those who have received great light do not appreciate that light, than is given by their refusal to let their light shine upon those who are in darkness, and devoting their time and energies in celebrating forms and ceremonies. RH July 16, 1895, Art. A, par. 12

I will spew you out. Remember what that meant? He cannot offer your prayers up to God. Oh, you will still be praying, He cannot offer your services to God. The forms and the ceremonies and the prayers continue and it's so impressive. The leadership was speaking so sacredly about God and talking to their brothers and sisters; Jesus couldn't offer that to the to the Lord, to the Father so they celebrate forms and ceremonies.

Thoughts of the inner work, the necessary purity of heart, are not entertained.—The Review and Herald, July 16, 1895. PH048 47.4

The absence of harmony with God becomes apparent. The light grows dim, it goes out, that candlestick has been removed.

There is much exercising of man-made authority by those to whom God has not given his wisdom because they did not feel the need of the wisdom from above. RH July 16, 1895, Art. A, par. 12

We cannot get around these statements that tell us blatantly what Amos said – ‘*The virgin of Israel has fallen*’. Sr White said a sad picture. This is what happened. It happened in the First World War. After the company who were disfellowshipped, they arose without leaders and decided to organise themselves because they made the effort to actually spend time to talk with the general conference. The general conference president, incidentally in 1920 the general conference had a session and one of the delegates from the disfellowshipped group came to the general conference session or two of them. They wanted to be able to enter there and represent his company. A G Daniels a stood at the door and said sorry, you're not coming in. That is also recorded.

How does inspiration continue to unfold the events in prophetic forecast? Remember what we were singing? Watchmen on the walls of Zion, can you tell us how is this all going to unfold?

We see the SDA denomination described by Laodicea. The church or the woman of 1844 to 1914. Now this is the woman, the church – observe the prophecy in the Bible. Revelation 12:17 because by the time we come to the to the church of Laodicea, which is the woman, it is very important to understand that the seven churches is the church in seven periods of time. We come to the period of Laodicea which where Jesus is speaking to the Laodicean leadership. The angel of the church and He speaks to them and then He says; *I'm going to spew you out of my mouth*. Who comes as a consequence of that?

Revelation 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman,

He was wroth with the Seventh Adventist church. The woman, the Laodicean church and went to make war with whom? With the remnant of her seed which keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. Who does he make war with? The seed? No, the remnant of her seed. This is a very important delineation and prophecy describes this event and the prophetic picture of where is this going to end up at the very end. The woman, she had a seed. A seed is the offspring of the woman correct? Then there's a remnant of her seed. The remnant not of the woman but the remnant of her seed. Turn to Revelation 3 and actually see the description of the woman, the seed and the remnant of her seed.

Revelation 3:16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

He's speaking to the Laodicean, to the woman. He still wants her to recover and as we saw that, He gave her time since 1888 but then there was no change for the better. Therefore, He has to spew her out:

Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

The Any Man

Who does He address? What are you seeing here? Who does He talk to? Open the door any man. What were Sister White's words? She lost sight of the organisation, and the company arose without leaders. They were not the angel, they were without leaders, without the angel and now they have to organise themselves and choose leaders among them who had never sought position before. The any man can you see it? The any man. This was the seed, the seed from the Seventh-Day Adventist church; Laodicea the seed but then how does the statement continue?

Revelation 3:21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. 22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Who is He speaking to now? The overcomer. You may open your heart to Jesus and He comes and dwells in with you and He wants to lead you to become perfect. He wants to lead you to make you the perfect gem, the perfect jewel, but if you don't overcome, what happens?

Here comes the very interesting detail. We have the

1. SDA church
2. Her seed who came forth from her – the SDA reform movement who organised themselves after they were disfellowshipped. They were faithful Seventh-Day Adventists that became a movement and organised itself.
3. Then came the overcomer the little remnant.

In Desire of Ages page 232, the Jews rejected Christ. As the Jews rejected Christ, He would be rejected in every succeeding generation.

The Lord Jesus will always have a chosen people to serve Him. When the Jewish people rejected Christ, the Prince of life, He took from them the kingdom of God and gave it unto the Gentiles. God will continue to work on this principle with every branch of His work. When a church proves unfaithful to the word of the Lord, whatever their position may be, however high and sacred their calling, the Lord can no longer work with them. Others are then chosen to bear important responsibilities. UL 131.3

Don't lose this understanding. There are a people who are His chosen people. He will always have them. That's what we saw so far haven't we? Those who were now chosen who were faithful Seventh Day Adventists in the First World War:

But, if these in turn do not purify their lives from every wrong action, if they do not establish pure and holy principles in all their borders, then the Lord will grievously afflict and humble them and, unless they repent, will remove them from their place and make them a reproach.... UL 131.3

In other words, they're still in the workshop of God. They still have to develop. The Jews still have to develop some more. Unless they repent, He will remove them from their place and make them a reproach. The Seventh-Day Adventist Reform Movement was established on right principles. The faithful ones went out and were disfellowshipped but as we move on, is there such a thing as that they in turn if they do not continue to perfect their situation, they will also be rejected?

Examine the present state of the Seventh-Day Adventist Reform Movement and its teachings according to prophecy. According to the words of the Spirit of Prophecy, no matter how well they started off, just like the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, if the Reform that started off so well, does not clean itself up but gets worse and worse again, then what we understand... I used to be in that church organisation and I was ministering in that church organisation and I came to a point where I couldn't any longer because I was upholding the original 1888 message. While they were very stringent in reference to the law, the faith of Jesus was truly missing and the nature of Christ was rejected as it was given in 1888. That was the great central truth around which all other truths cluster.

Let us read from the Great Controversy and discover precisely the repetitious behaviour of the church that casts out its faithful ones and then those faithful ones can become corrupted again. The next ones can become corrupted again. Sister White is showing the original apostasy of the early Christian church after the Jews had cast them out.

What was the origin of the great apostasy? How did the church first depart from the simplicity of the gospel? By conforming to the practices of paganism, to facilitate the acceptance of Christianity by the heathen. The apostle Paul declared, even in his day, “The mystery of iniquity doth already work.” 2 Thessalonians 2:7. During the lives of the apostles the church remained comparatively pure. But “toward the latter end of the second century most of the churches assumed a new form; the first simplicity disappeared, and insensibly, as the old disciples retired to their graves, their children, along with new converts, ... came forward and new-modeled the cause.”—Robert Robinson, Ecclesiastical Researches, ch. 6, par. 17, p. 51. page 278. GC 384.5

That’s how the apostasy continues on.

Has not the same process been repeated in nearly every church calling itself Protestant? As the founders, those who possessed the true spirit of reform, pass away, their descendants come forward and “new-model the cause.” While blindly clinging to the creed of their fathers and refusing to accept any truth in advance of what they saw, the children of the reformers depart widely from their example of humility, self-denial, and renunciation of the world. Thus “the first simplicity disappears.” A worldly flood, flowing into the church, carries “with it its customs, practices, and idols.” GC 385.1

The Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement

Those of you who haven’t had experience in the SDA Reform as I have, that’s exactly what happened because when I joined the SDA Reform. The beautiful story of the original people being separated from the Seventh Day Adventist church and these faithful souls, I read their writings. I was thrilled, I’m now part of God’s church but unfortunately those people weren’t living anymore. Their children even now, their children have died and now that it’s their grandchildren that are ruling the roost and the cause of original Reform understanding was remodelled. This is the reality. We read of that demise remember in Isaiah.

Both Houses of Israel

Isaiah 5:14 And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

What does it say? He was a stumbling block to whom? Remember, to both the houses of Israel. In the time when the Seventh-Day Adventist church became corrupt in the First World War, that was the woman and then her seed. Now you have just the same scenario as the Hebrews, the Israelites. Israel was split up into two companies. The Israel of the ten tribes and Judah; the two tribes (Benjamin and Judah).

What happens according to Isaiah? Jesus is a stumbling block to both the houses of Israel. A stumbling block to the Seventh-Day Adventist church and the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement. I found that to be absolutely true. The true Jesus was a stumbling block to them as I was mentioning there. I couldn’t minister anymore because I was a constant thorn in their flesh.

We are coming to the conclusion that this holy convocation as the hymn says – Watchmen on the walls of Zion, can you tell us how is it going on from here as we head into the final days? How does God’s Holy Spirit reveal the last manifestation and direction of His jewels? Follow very carefully now the final process of gathering. The final process of gathering. Who in the church will God select?

God is not “worshipped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything” [Acts 17:25]. No magnificence of outward display can please God when the heart is serving idols and the hands are polluted with iniquity. The Holy Spirit will unite with those in the church who, with contrition of heart, will walk humbly with God. To all who look to Him and walk in the footsteps of Christ, He gives sanctification, comfort, and victory over the world. MR14 102.3

Overcomers

Overcomers are these people and how does the Bible reveal them?

Isaiah 62 2 For all those [things] hath mine hand made, and all those [things] have been, saith the LORD: but to this [man] will I look, [even] to [him that is] poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

Isaiah 62:5 Hear the word of the LORD, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the LORD be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed.

That's just what happened in the First World War. The Lord was to be glorified in their stand for being faithful to the armed services. *'Let the Lord be glorified.'* You people have to get out of here. *'Let the Lord be glorified, but he shall appear to your joy and thy shall be ashamed.'*

How do they become manifested so that the gentiles can see them? How will that be manifested? You saw it already how they were manifested in the papers in Europe. They recognised who they were; the faithful ones that stood on the original. As we go to the very end, how will they be manifested? Let's come to Hebrews 12. After all this splintering and separation that takes place to the very remnant of the woman's seed:

Hebrews 12:25 See that ye refuse not him that speaketh For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: 26 Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised saying Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. 27 And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken as of things that are made that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

The Revelation 18 Angel

Here we come to Revelation 18:4 because the angel of Revelation 18 was the 1888 message. It was rejected by the very church that was meant to be that voice and so the story goes on. This is another direct connection. Here is the Revelation 18 angel that took place in 1888 and was swelling to a loud cry and the history of the church is going through all that. The seed comes apart but the shaking continues and what's left; that which cannot be shaken which is the remnant, the remnant of the seed which is that which cannot be shaken. That which is left and that is so interesting. That which is left; loyal, faithful and true.

Sr White said I saw a company who would not move and for me this is so essential that I realised that if I was going to be anything for God's service, if I was going to be a jewel for Him, I must remain no matter what. To stand firm to the original truths in every respect, the whole platform of truth. Nothing missing. I must remain true to that and that is what we are called for. How are these people manifested? That was the question wasn't it?

The same masterful mind that plotted against the faithful in ages past. 5T 450.2

My brethren, I feel great sorrow of heart. I shall not appear before you again in our general gatherings unless I am impressed by the Spirit of God that I should. The last General Conference that I attended gave you all the evidence that you will ever have in any meeting that shall be convened. If that meeting did not convince you that God is working by His Spirit through His humble servant, it is because the candlestick has been removed out of its place. I thought that after the last General Conference there would be a change of heart, but during that meeting the work was not done that ought to have been done that God might come in, nor has this work been done since that time. God is knocking at the door of the heart; but as yet the door has not opened to let Him enter and take full possession of the soul-temple. 18MR 195.6

As the movement for Sunday enforcement becomes more bold and decided, the law will be invoked against commandment keepers. Mar 186.2

Who are they? That which was left, was not referring to the Seventh-Day Adventist church and it's not referring to the organisation of the Reform. It is those who are left. The law will be invoked against them.

The law will be invoked against commandment keepers. They will be threatened with fines and imprisonment. MAR 186.2

Just like they were in the First World War.

...and some will be offered positions. Mar 186.2

They will be threatened with fines, imprisonment just like they were in the First World War.

They will be threatened with fines and imprisonment, and some will be offered positions of influence, and other rewards and advantages, as inducements to renounce their faith. But their steadfast answer is: “Show us from the word of God our error.” ... Those who are arraigned before the courts make a strong vindication of the truth, and some who hear them are led to take their stand to keep all the commandments of God. Thus light will be brought before thousands who otherwise would know nothing of these truths. Mar 186.2

Did you pick that up? This is essential that you get it clear in our mind that the final little company will end up in the courts and the loud cry of these people, the loud cry will be through those courts because thousands will hear and take their side through the courts. That’s the way it’s written. How did it all happen? How does it all happen in its conclusion? This is now the experience of this final little company as it ends up in the courts giving the loud cry. Here is the picture.

My attention was then turned to the company I had seen, who were mightily shaken. 1T 181.3

See how all this fits in? *‘Only that which cannot be shaken will remain.’*

I was shown those whom I had before seen weeping and praying with agony of spirit. The company of guardian angels around them had been doubled, and they were clothed with an armor from their head to their feet. They moved in exact order, firmly, like a company of soldiers. Their countenances expressed the severe conflict which they had endured, the agonizing struggle they had passed through. Yet their features, marked with severe internal anguish, now shone with the light and glory of heaven. They had obtained the victory, and it called forth from them the deepest gratitude, and holy, sacred joy. 1T 181.3

The numbers of this company had lessened. 1T 182.1

I heard those clothed with the armor speak forth the truth in great power. It had effect. An angel answered: “It is the latter rain, the refreshing from the presence of the Lord, the loud cry of the third angel.” 1T 182.2

Can you see the point of the loud cry that started in Sister White’s time? That was the gathering from 1888 through to the very end and at the very end there is one final loud cry. It was swelling to a loud cry and here it is at the very end in the hand of this little company that could not be shaken.

Those who have been members of the same family are separated. A mark is placed upon the righteous. “They shall be Mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.” Those who have been obedient to God’s commandments will unite with the company of the saints in light; they shall enter in through the gates into the city, and have right to the tree of life. The one shall be taken. His name shall stand in the book of life, while those with whom he associated shall have the mark of eternal separation from God. TM 234.2

Remember Song of Solomon 6 8-10. My dove, my undefiled is but one, terrible as an army with banners. There she is at the end of that. She is dressed, glowing in the sun and the moon under her feet.

Amos 5:1 Hear ye this word which I take up against you, even a lamentation, O house of Israel. 2 The virgin of Israel is fallen; she shall no more rise: she is forsaken upon her land; there is none to raise her up. 3 For thus saith the Lord GOD; The city that went out by a thousand shall leave an hundred, and that which went forth by an hundred shall leave ten, to the house of Israel. 4 For thus saith the LORD unto the house of Israel, Seek ye me, and ye shall live: 5 But seek not Bethel, nor enter into Gilgal, and pass not to Beersheba: for Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, and Bethel shall come to nought.

What is this saying? The little company that God is speaking to says, don’t go anywhere else. Don’t go to the fallen churches. Don’t go to fallen Israel. Don’t go to them. Don’t go because they’re all going to go down and if you go there you’ll get sucked into their vortex. I know it to be true. How clear is the word of God to us? How precious, how meaningful that I know where I can stand in these last days. The watchman on the house of Zion has revealed to us what we were singing.

1 Watchmen, on the walls of Zion,

What O tell us, of the night?

Is the daystar now arising?

Will the morn soon greet our sight?

O'er your vision Shine there now

some rays of light?

O'er your vision Shine there now

some rays of light?

2 Tell, O tell us, are the landmarks

On our voyage all passed by?

Are we nearing now the haven?

Can we e'en the land descry?

Do we truly See the heavenly kingdom nigh?

Do we truly See the heavenly kingdom nigh?

3 Light is beaming, day is coming!

Let us sound aloud the cry;

We behold the daystar rising

Pure and bright in yonder sky!

Saints, be joyful; Your redemption draweth nigh;

Saints, be joyful; Your redemption draweth nigh.

4 We have found the chart and compass,

And are sure the land is near;

Onward, onward we are hasting,

Soon the haven will appear;

Let your voices Sound aloud your holy cheer;

Let your voices Sound aloud your holy cheer.