

The Mustard Seed Advent, 20-Jan-2012

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Martin Luther King's Honor & the Coral Snake

Dear D_____,

You sent an E-mail attachment which your mother read for me. Being constrained to my duty to distribute the Lord's fountain and having experience with the political views that have bedazzled you, I cannot devote any time to the literature of secular politicians, sociologists, and economists. They are men who are very skilled in skewing facts into fiction and have no commitment to my enormously-greater burden, the world's salvation. Yet, out of deference to you as my son, I asked your mother to give me an overview of the work that you desire to cite to me.

That same work appears to dove tail some of the dinner-table discussions that we have had of recent vintage and gives to me the opportunity to fix, as doctrine, my reply to you. Both your perspective and that of your brother are quite troubling to your mother and me, and we yearn for you to follow your extensive, home training and vest your faith and your fear—not in the difficulties which today make the hearts of secular men to falter in distress, but—in God. Make this, not your studied-political opinions, the focus of your consecration. To this, many others in the group can likewise benefit requiring me to follow the Lord's well-defined duty to broadcast my light from the house top. We also urge that you begin to heed your divinely appointed duty by assuming the leadership role of your birth stature and corral all of your siblings together into this fold and to encourage them to stand by the faith that has won for you the success that you now enjoy and that you show greater effort to respect your elders. Success in this venture will win my applause for your stature as a sage torchbearer, a thing which your political perspectives can never accomplish. This is true because the Lord, as affirmed again by our latest study, has appointed me to be His politician in chief. Do not wait for your promised, future brother, Mahershalahashbaz to be the only one to receive this charge. You too can be a similar champion if you so choose.

It is appropriate that we have this discourse in the time when the nation honors the birthday of Martin Luther King (MLK). The civil rights movement, under his and other liberation-minded advocates for freedom and justice, has given Afro-Americans a seat of near equality at the political table. This they have done against much sacrifice and in the face of much strident opposition. Indeed, like any American Revolutionary champion of the 18th century whom your political heroes claim to honor, their blood was also shed for freedom. In fact, their work has accomplished even another marvel: It has exposed the true nature of the opposing voices of freedom. Through MLK's peaceful protest, the world was shown their nakedness and has rendered them to be caustic enemies of humanity; thus, rather than reform their politics, they seek to hide their deeply-held desire for the continued oppression of Jerusalem, the sons of America's former slaves. This veneer, this titillating and deceptive coloration, has caused the naïve and unsuspecting to trust the motives and embrace the rhetoric of such falsely-named conservatives. In fact, it is more than a veneer: It is a guise which affords to them a superficial attraction so as to conceal the fangs and the poison of their bite, the true reality of their doctrine. Many such vociferous social commentators hide the impulses of their hearts under the cloak of Constitutional fidelity, free-market capitalism, fiscal restraint, and the glories of hard work. This they do even though their ideological predecessors whom they laud have never extended such freedom and benefit to Jerusalem. Why should they have done so? The US Constitution, the document which they greatly extol, relegated Jerusalem to be inhuman or 3/5th human. This clause of that original document has never been reversed; no such amendment has been passed all these 200 years showing why they truly extol the virtues of it with such passion. The embrace of such ideology meets the true definition of "false gods"—voices who are false in their allure. Why would any youthful and optimistic observer, such as you, fall into the suffocating grip of their coil by discounting the long history of civil-rights advances and experience? Such a countervailing stance and posture emerging from the pit of Jerusalem's humiliation, is disrespectful

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to their elders and detrimental to their own advancement. Why, because it forces them, in order to learn, to relive yesterday's struggles. And, should they choose such a path, what benefit would that ultimately provide, if their next generation of children repeats their same sin of disrespect? In viewing the current US, Republican, presidential, primary campaign, the same which has evoked much open debate and conversation and which has heightened your desire to participate in the same debate, we have observed one conservative candidate whom both sides of the political spectrum considers to be laughably bizarre and eccentric. Though I have no current comment on his political perspective, Vinnette and I were both touched by the loyalty of his very-own son, a recently-elected, US senator. He, amidst much opposition, openly and brazenly took a stand by the side of his much disparaged "father". Oh how I wish that our youth —without undergoing the same years of prodigality that he beforehand endured— could display the same respect. Such is mandated by the Lord when He said, honor —not your political perspective or your zeal for political gravitas, but— your mother and father. My hope is that you may do as that conservative son so did, and without the wayward pains that taught him, manifest his eventual wisdom: that you follow the path of a wise son, and champion the work of your parents. Again, why wait for Bazzi to begin this epoch of honor and championship? To encourage you in this endeavor, you must remember, not every superficially attractive creature can be cuddled as the inexperienced rashly may yearn to do. Sometimes, it takes a man of wisdom and experience to show to the unsuspecting the real hazard.

"The coral snake is likely the most gaudy of North American venomous snakes. This snake has a multitude of natural mimics which try to pose as the dangerous coral. The beauty of this snake represents a true danger as small children may readily pick it up to show parents, thus providing ample opportunity for a bite from this otherwise rather docile reptile" —Concise communications & TNE, Inc wf.net/~snake/coral.htm - 17k.

EGW expressed the danger of your unwise political opinions that you have picked up to show us, your parents. She expresses the deadly and venomous nature of those views and urged all in the church, as the price of conversion, to immediately therefrom relinquish themselves. Those Republicans who, with euphemistic subtlety, front themselves as social and economic conservatives do so to conceal their historic, proslavery views. Many still resent the freedom won for the sons of America's former slaves, and seek to re-entrap them under their former yoke. Realizing that such a sinister ploy is not popular, they disguise themselves behind the cloak of political color, giving to them the same beauty as the coral snake. EGW said the following:

^{358:1} There are a few in the ranks of Sabbathkeepers who sympathize with the slaveholder. When they embraced the truth, they did not leave behind them all the errors they should have left. They need a more thorough draft from the cleansing fountain of truth (only now available). Some have brought along with them their old political prejudices, which are not in harmony with the principles of the truth...Christ died for the whole human family, whether white or black. God has made man a free moral agent, whether white or black...The colored race are God's property. Their Maker alone is their master, and those who have dared chain down the body and the soul of the slave, to keep him in degradation like the brutes, will have their retribution. The wrath of God has slumbered, but it will awake and be poured out without mixture of mercy."

"Some have been so indiscreet as to talk out their pro-slavery principles--principles which are not heaven-born, but proceed from the dominion of Satan. These restless spirits talk and act in a manner to bring a reproach upon the ^(359:0) cause of God. I will here give a copy of a letter written to Brother A, of Oswego County, New York: "

"I was shown some things in regard to you. I saw that you were deceived in regard to yourself. You have given occasion for the enemies of our faith to blaspheme, and to reproach Sabbathkeepers. By your indiscreet course, you have closed the ears of some who would have listened to the truth. I saw that we should be as wise as serpents and as harmless as doves. You have manifested neither the wisdom of the serpent nor the harmlessness of the dove."

"...I saw that you, Brother A, have permitted your political principles to destroy your judgment and your love for the truth. They are eating out true godliness from your heart. You have never looked upon slavery in the right light, and your views of this matter have thrown you on the side of the Rebellion, which was stirred up by Satan and his host. Your views of slavery cannot harmonize with the sacred, important truths for this time. You must yield your views or the truth. Both cannot be cherished in the same heart, for they are at war with each other."

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"Satan has been stirring you up. He would not let you rest until you should express your sentiments upon the side of the powers of darkness, thus strengthening the hands of the wicked, whom God has cursed. You have cast your influence on the wrong side, with those whose course of life is to sow thorns and plant misery for others. I saw you casting your influence with a degraded company, a Godforsaken company; and angels of God fled from you in disgust. I saw that you were utterly deceived. Had you followed the light ^(360:0) which God has given you, had you heeded the instructions of your brethren, had you listened to their advice, you would have saved yourself and saved the precious cause of truth from reproach. But notwithstanding all the light given, you have given publicity to your sentiments. Unless you undo what you have done, it will be the duty of God's people to publicly withdraw their sympathy and fellowship from you, in order to save the impression which must go out in regard to us as a people. We must let it be known that we have no such ones in our fellowship, that we will not walk with them in church capacity..."—EGW, *Testimony for the Church*, Vol 1, p. 358-360. Parenthesis added

You mother and I, at great sacrifice of time and finances, feverishly toiled to educate you and prepare you for the Lord's Kingdom and the universities of the world. This we did not do to see you side with their disrespect for the Lord's fountain. Better had it been that we gave to you less ability, and inherited to you less intellect, than to see you as a tool to be deployed by the enemies of humanity's salvation and Jerusalem's day of victory. I cannot allocate for myself time or opportunity to indulge you any longer in your views, especially since you are becoming inclined, along with your brother, to ignore and disrespect the wisdom which the Lord has vested in this house. What would prompt you to presume that I would relish the uninspired theories of corrupt men who pinch pennies when it comes to charity, yet, have absolutely no restraint to flush trillions of dollars down the waste-line of their war policies? When they next advance doctrines of fiscal frugality, ask yourself why they had no such love for pecuniary prudence when they advocated the expensive wars which have devastated this nation's coffers? This, the so-called conservatives have done, not just in the last 10 years, but throughout their history. Pensive thoughtfulness on this question will reveal to you their pretense and compel you to ignore the superficial beauty of their veneer as you recognize the hazard that comes when they open their mouths and unsheathe their fangs.

Now is the day for all to comply with EGW's mandate to abandon, as sources of wisdom, all of our Bible-competitive, SDA literature, demanding instead that we uplift the Bible. It is to be our guiding light. Yet, having failed these past 100 years in this regard, the Lord's *mustard seed* was given to us as our fountain of compensation and grace. This being the case, then such wisdom to abandon our own writings and replace them with this fountain would pertain, by a hundred fold, to the teachings of the unconsecrated men of the world. She said the following:

"...^{163:0}**If students thus educated are ever fitted to work for souls, they will have to unlearn much that they have learned. They will find the unlearning a difficult work; for objectionable ideas have taken root in their minds like weeds in a garden, and as a result some will never be able to distinguish between right and wrong. The good and the evil have been mingled in their education. The faces of men have been uplifted for them to behold, and the theories of men have been exalted; so that as they attempt to teach others, the little truth which they are able to repeat is interwoven with the opinions and sayings and doings of men...**"

"**You have the word of the living God, and for the asking you may HAVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT to make that word a power to those who believe and obey. The Holy Spirit's work is to guide into all truth. When you depend on the word of the living God with heart and mind and soul, the channel of communication will be unobstructed. Deep, earnest study of the word under the guidance of the Holy Spirit will give you FRESH MANNA, and the same Spirit will make its use effectual. The exertion made by the youth to discipline the mind for high and holy aspirations will be rewarded. Those who make persevering efforts in this direction, putting the mind to ¹⁶⁴the task of COMPREHENDING GOD'S WORD, are prepared to be laborers together with God.'**"

"**Why have you not extolled the word of God above EVERY HUMAN PRODUCTION? Is it not enough to keep close to the Author of all truth? Are you not satisfied to draw water fresh from the streams of Lebanon? God has living fountains from which to refresh the thirsty soul, and stores of precious food with which to strengthen the spirituality. Learn of Him, and He will enable you to give to those who ask a reason of the hope that is within you. Have you thought**

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that a better knowledge of what the Lord has said would have a deleterious effect upon teachers and students?"

^{165:1}...“Why will you fill your shelves with books that divert the mind from Christ? Why do you spend money for that which is not bread? Christ calls you: “Learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart.” You need to eat of the Bread of life which came down from heaven. You need to be more diligent students of the Holy Scriptures and to drink from the living Fountain. Draw, draw from Christ in earnest prayer. Obtain a daily experience in eating the flesh and drinking the blood of the Son of God (the MSC, first to emphasis Christ’s teachings, His flesh and blood). Human authors can never supply your great need for this time; but by beholding Christ, the Author and Finisher of your faith, you will be changed into His likeness. ’”

“Placing the Bible in their hands, he continued: “You have little knowledge of this book. You know not the Scriptures nor the **POWER OF GOD**, nor do you understand the deep importance of the message to be borne to a perishing world. The time past has shown that both teachers and students know very little in regard to the awful truths which are living issues for this time. **SHOULD THE THIRD ANGEL'S MESSAGE BE PROCLAIMED IN ALL LINES TO MANY WHO STAND AS EDUCATORS, IT WOULD NOT BE UNDERSTOOD BY THEM.** Had you the knowledge which comes from God, your whole being would proclaim the truth of the living God to a world dead in trespasses and sins. But books and papers that contain little of present truth are exalted, and ¹⁶⁶men are becoming too wise to follow a “thus saith the Lord” ’ ” —EGW, *Testimony for the Church*, Vol 6, p. 165. Emphasis & parenthesis added

The example of manna from heaven, the world’s first liberal, food stamp program —how apropos as an answer to the political distress of conservatives who have won your favor— shows to you the Lord’s opposite orientation. He gave charity and liberal grace to those who were liberated from slavery. They did not earn His grace; it was not a balance-budget transaction; instead, the Lord did it without any concern for His deficit spending. More of this needs to be said; however, before so doing, first you must be reminded of Zerubbabel’s promised victory. It was the focus of our most recent, Friday, bi-weekly study. The light from the Holy Spirit, the same power which EGW promised would make the Bible “effectual”, the theme reflected from the Bible to answer the very issues of your perplexity, shows the simple resolution to your concern. It promises that, when Zerubbabel emerges, then I, the Lord’s authenticated and validated, Holy-Spirit-inspired light, His *mustard seed*, will be seated so as to rule in power in my own government. Do you not believe this? How then have you become pre-occupied with the cares of the current political strife so that you audaciously forward their views to me for consideration? If you do not believe this promised, Bible-validated power play, then what have I to do with you? What other evidence or logic can I convey to you above my light, the Bible? Yesterday, faithless men complained because, to them, the Bible was “pie in the sky”, this is not the case with my work as your very home experience proves that your “pie” and your sustenance, all these years, has been taken from the sky and directly supplied to you. You have first-hand knowledge of the power of my ministry to solve today’s problems. You have lived and witnessed its miracles. Can the proponents of your political thought match those claims? Israel, through “deficit spending”, also received their bread for free. It came to them directly from heaven and without any fee. And like today, the devils, false gods, likewise disparaged that grace for them. The same demons control the men who oppose aid to the needy with their abstract theories of economics. They do so by decrying the government’s generous provisions for welfare and “food stamps”. Yesterday, they successfully ended welfare under the guise that men ought to pull their own load. This they did with the thinking that they would balance the budget; however, instead, they squandered all of their welfare-pilfered savings garnered from the bread taken from the poor so as to prosecute needless and prolonged wars. From this, their penny-pinching austerity, they won for themselves, in the heartland of conservative America, many devastating storms yielding floods, tornadoes, fires —consider the recent, historic Joplin tornado as a case in point. This was the fulfillment of the curses which EGW prophesied would befall the men of such “degraded” philosophies. Resultantly, the tables were turned and “conservative” America became the beggars in need of public assistance: They were poisoned by their own venomous bite. For this, we can all ask, what was the blessing which accompanied their disdain for public welfare? Does not such prove that God is in control of this country’s budget? He is not enamored with its path of transgression; however, His zeal is not to protect the coffers of the wealthy and uncharitable. Until Zerubbabel emerges with his “rod” in hand, my duty and your duty is to wait

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until the Lord makes his enemies his, Zerubbabel's, footstool. Thus, I do not fret over this country's deficit spending; instead, I must peaceably sit at the Lord's right hand as He proceeds to do His work. When He does, then, as we have been shown by the Bible—remember, it was the book which EGW recommended—that He will begin to elevate the *mustard seed* by His commensurate efforts to elevate the humble, many of whom, are even now subsisting on food stamps. I find it easier to have faith in these promises, analysis, and prognostications than to continue to be gripped with the fear which today's godless econo-political advocates promote. After all, if it were not for the light from the Bible, England would not have risen to power allowing her surrogate, America, to lead the world forward to the economic and political freedoms that we now enjoy. I plan to continue to advance up Jacob's ladder leaving all others who refuse *Righteousness by Faith* behind. This I do because I believe that if you can have faith in the prognostications and theories of men, who have no solid record of victory to allure my trust, why not have faith in the God who has made America great? Did not her founding fathers do the same?

One final thought on food stamps: If Father watches the sparrows and takes cognizance of their fall, then He likewise must see the fall of His more favored Human subjects, beings "worth more than many sparrows", when they are reduced to receiving welfare and food stamps. This being the case, then President Obama's assistance in aiding such humans must win for himself much of Father's grace and favor for, in final analysis, such is evidence that he is aiding Father in His work. Such assistance, regardless of the cost, could only yield blessings for America. Is this not the same desire expressed by all politicians? Do not they all make the same appeal, "God bless America?" This being the case, is not such a slogan indeed a prayer or an appeal for God to preclude the people of this country from reducing her citizens to beggars on the streets, to fallen sparrows? If increased deficit spending feeds the hungry, clothes the poor, visits grace upon the imprisoned—the greater-than-the-many-sparrow, creatures of God—yet, it devalues the dollars of the wealthy enemies of God on the globe who have lodged their fate in that very value, wealthy men in China, in Britain, in the Oil-rich nations, etc., then why would any God-fearing servant of His, especially one trained in the promise of the *mustard seed*, despair? Even our dollar tells them as much: it says "in God we trust." They, being, in many cases, open enemies of God, should not be protected from their financial fall. Perhaps then, maybe they will learn the lesson which I try to teach you: Like the sparrow, rest your fate in God. Those republican candidates who disagree with this, in final analysis, do not consider the poor with the same love that Father has for them; they do not love their neighbors as they love themselves.

The sum of the matter is simple: It is *Justification by Nullification*, the path of divestiture of all of one's wealth to receive the pearl of great price. Abandon all ideas of yesterday that you cherish, for they are your perceived, spiritual wealth, and exchange them for the Lord's *mustard seed*, His growing, Kingdom movement.

Sincerely,

Dad