

The Mustard Seed Advent

Labor for the Man Child

30-Apr-2008

Dear Brother,

I am glad that you find some joy in perusing my written material, as you have stated. You further said,

“At times I review your material, and wish that you might consider the possibility that the Lord wants to use you to reach so many more brethren in such a more powerful way, than having your own ministry.” —Your E-mail, Monday, April 28, 2008, 4:53 PM

Again, I thank you for your thoughtful suggestion; however, your above expression perfectly underscores that which Davidia misunderstands about the final call and the *Judgment of the Living* message. It would be the height of irresponsibility for me to put my pen down and fail to deliver to you a friendly, yet, instructional reply.

FIRST~~~~~The Lord does not now preoccupy His Mustard Seed Ministry with the burden to sound its message in “a more powerful way”. That day will come soon and at the right time. Instead, its size presents the perfect test for the saints; it brings to them the promised “shaking, testing time” described below by EGW, an event which could not occur if the MSA was big and powerful. Correspondingly, faithful men and women, though formerly “timid and hesitating” will reject “Tri-Unitarianism”, the *Mark of the Beast*, even now being urged upon them, and come to the forefront so as to gladly embrace the banner of Christ and His eternal seal.

“Those who have trusted to intellect, genius, or talent will not then stand at the head of rank and file. They did not keep pace with the light. Those who have proved themselves unfaithful will not then be entrusted with the flock. In the last solemn work few great MEN will be engaged. They are self-sufficient, independent of God, and He cannot use them. The Lord has faithful servants, who in the shaking, testing time will be disclosed to view.”

“The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The mark of the beast will be urged upon us. Those who have step by step yielded to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death (childhood!?). The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. In this time the gold will be separated from the dross in the church...”

“When trees without fruit (Carmel, Bashan!?)—Isa 33:9 are cut down as cumberers of the ground, when multitudes of false brethren are distinguished from the true, then the hidden ones will be revealed to view, and with hosannas range under the banner of Christ. Those who have been timid and self-distrustful will declare themselves openly for Christ and His truth (His Testimony).” —Testimony for the Church, Vol 5, 80-81***all parenthesis and emphasis supplied

To further underscore this point explaining the MSA’s peace pertaining to its current limited power and influence, its independent ministry, I refer you to the experience and the lesson from Christ when He came to comfort ancient Elijah. Elijah was distressed because he did not have large numbers; he was concerned because the men of intellect, “power”, genius, and talent subjected him to “derision, insult, and death”. In other words, they minimized him, made him small or childlike, merely because of his doctrine. To resolve his anxieties, the Bible shows that Elijah journeyed into the wilderness, then he began to commune with the “Spirit of Truth”; he was awakened by Him and fully fed by the hand of the Holy Ghost. In fact, Elijah was

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awakened twice to be fed. This seems to be a powerful example to show how the righteous are led today, first they are fed the truth by the Comforter for He was the One described in the text as “the Angel of the Lord”. In the wilderness, the church today was awakened to be fed by the Spirit resting upon VTH; afterwards, just like ancient Elijah, they went back to sleep only to be re-awakened a second time by the Comforter through this, the MSA ministry and message. Then, sated with the Comforter’s provisions, Ancient Elijah was revealed “the fullness of Christ”: like Moses yesterday and the MSC today, Christ —not the Comforter— “manifested Himself” to Elijah. Resultantly, the text says, **“And the angel of the Lord came again the second time, and touched him, and said, arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee. And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God...and behold, THE WORD OF THE LORD came to him, and *****HE*** said unto him, what doest thou here, Elijah”** —I Kings 19: 7-9. Horeb is also known as Sinai, the mount of God, the place where Christ spoke to His ancient Hebrew church in the way which many, like you, claim to prefer, “a more powerful way”. It was in those same mountains that Elijah was comforted: he was shown that the Lord’s approval is not now found in the jolting, ground-shaking, fire-blinding powers which naturally seize the attention of the unconverted: He was taught that Christ is neither in the whirlwind and the earthquake, nor the fire. Although these elements of hazards do often befall the wicked, the Lord’s people under Elijah’s ministry can expect Divine protection from their abusive onslaught. Instead of garnering their attention through such drama, Christ is now in the **“still small voice”** —see 1 Kings 19: 9-13— the Lord resides with His servant who seemingly stands alone to proclaim His word, the *Testimony of Jesus*.**

When He, Christ, originally spoke to ancient Israel at Sinai, He did so in accordance with your recommendation: He spoke in a more powerful way. Yet, history has shown that such a tactic did not win the hearts of His people; it merely frightened them to death. Thus, as Divine providence had pre-designed, Christ yielded to their request and made a covenant with them to speak less powerfully. For this reason, the prophet Malachi, points to our day, the day of judgment, and urged all to **“remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments”** —Mal 4:4. The law of Moses was not the 10 Commandments; they were the statutes and judgments. The Law of Moses which Christ commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel is the promise which Christ made to Moses for Israel. He, Christ, told Moses and no-one else the following:

“The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me (Moses) unto him ye shall hearken; according to all that thou desiredst of the Lord thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not. And the Lord said unto me (Moses & no-one else) They have well spoken that which they have spoken. I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee (Moses), and will put my words in his mouth: and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. And It shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.” —Deut18: 15-18

Christ declared the statutes directly to Israel; however, His promise to commune with Israel in the future and the manner in which this was to be done, was spoken only to Moses. It described a Prophet (Jesus) like unto Moses. Thus it is called “The Law of Moses for *****ALL***** Israel”. According to *Mal four* cited above, Christ desires for us today to remember His covenant of peaceful communion with Israel. It was fulfilled by Jesus’ ministry, His Testimony to Judah, and was promised to be re-articulated again today by the Mustard Seed —for Malachi clearly states that the Law of Moses was for all Israel, not just Judah. Therefore, it must be re-articulated again, just as Christ promised during the *Testimony of Jesus*, for the benefit of the scattered 10 tribes, those who were not present in Palestine 2000 years ago. Hence you have the Elijah/John message, the Mustard Seed, the “Still Small Voice”, today. It fulfills the Lord’s

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divine law of communication to His people given directly and only to Moses. It, the communion with His Church today by Christ, will be by His still small voice; Christ will be clandestinely contained within that man, that vehicle of communication—not a powerful blinding and earth-quaking voice. From that vantage point, He will grow a great nation but only from the faithful people in Laodicea, those who have a sensitive ear to let them hear. Was not this an alternate plan also communicated by Christ to Moses anciently? Pertaining to His church, He told Moses, **“And the Lord said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? And how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them. I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.”**—Numbers 14: 11, 12. This will yield the MSA’s “more powerful way” for which you yearn. We see from EGW’s above prophecy and many Scriptures that today, the Lord will do exactly this very thing: He will take a small band of faithful, “hot or cold” Laodiceans, those who embrace *the Law of Moses for all Israel* and who resultantly become antitypical Moses, and disinherit the rest. This is the reason why MSA adherents are at peace with this, its small and independent ministry.

SECOND~~~~~If the MSA did not orchestrate its very own ministry, then it would have to uncover and unite with someone else’s ministry, and it would then not be the Mustard Seed, the least of all seeds. It would be forced to do the impossible and find a movement that is even smaller than the way in which the MSA began more than a decade ago: it would need to seek a voice in the wilderness which does exactly that which the MSA does: increases Christ by manifesting the *Testimony of Jesus*. Yet, such a smaller ministry would then, of necessity, be smaller than the MSA, smaller than a singular man. Being as such, it would evoke your ire all the more. The Mustard Seed, having himself grown from both literal and spiritual childhood studying the Lord’s righteousness, he would then, as a man, need to venture against Christ’s counsel and seek—not a proverbial but—a literal a child to teach him for only such could be smaller than a man. And once such a ministry were discovered—assuming that your counsel is salient—then the MSA would need to convince that smaller servant of your wisdom and compel it to abandon his work and find a ministry that is more powerful. The end result would be that, instead of preparing the church for the *Judgment of the Living*, we would all fall back under the malaise of the “more powerful”, yet, sleepy-eyed, comatosed, vomit-inspiring, lukewarm angel of Laodicea. He indeed is seemingly more powerful; that is, he has more money, larger audiences, greater central organization, and a loftier Sabbath-morning perch. Yet, all these things does the Catholic Church have and in greater abundance. Consequently, your counsel, when carefully analyzed, compels all MSA advocates to fall back under the umbrella of the Papacy; it does so merely to satisfy a need to ‘reach more brethren in a more powerful way’. Such would be folly because the *Testimony of Jesus* commands that His eternal-ruling servant understands the lesson of Elijah and *John the Baptist* and does the opposite of your counsel: that he be a disciple who becomes converted from a man to a child, from an adult man seeking high acclaim and accreditation as a pontificator to one who—like as was Jesus—is “despised”, lowly “esteemed”, and rejected of men. By this command the MSA knows that Christ intends for us to continue in our ministry, to continue to willingly broadcast our unpopular light and risk even more isolation. The sealing, slaughter-preserving *Testimony of Jesus* unfolds the following support to this theme:

“At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, who is the greatest (most powerful!?) in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him and set him in the midst of them. And said, verily I say unto you, EXCEPT YE BE CONVERTED, and become as little children ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is the GREATEST in the kingdom of heaven”—Matt 18: 1-4.

Here we have it: Christ is not looking for someone more powerful than the MSC. Neither is He searching for one that is smaller than the MSC, a literal child; instead, He commanded us to seek a disciple, a full grown man, who is to become converted into a child. He points us to the advent

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described in Isa 66: 7, the birth of the “man child”. This child, as evidenced by your very own counsel, is to come when no one is longing, working, anticipating or looking for him. It says, **“Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.”** You, as do many Davidians —again as evidenced by your letter— neither feel the need nor do you have the labor pains of travail to cause you to welcome the MSA, the “man child”. Yet, he is here, and instead of celebrating his birth, his smallness, you long for him to be more powerful, to be “the man” meaning someone exalted or highly-acclaimed. You apparently seek the people whom EGW condemned and disqualified to engage in the final work. Remember, she said, **“In the last solemn work few great MEN will be engaged. They are self-sufficient, independent of God, and He cannot use them.”** She further stated, in the same reference, the following: **“God will work a work in our day that but few anticipate. He will RAISE UP and exalt among us those who are taught rather by the unction of His Spirit (like Elijah) than by the outward training of scientific institutions.”** —EGW, *Testimony for the Church*, V5, p 82. Emphasis and parenthesis added. Consequently, the wise will not look for “the man” or “the child” but for “the man child”. All the saints must understand that the MSA’s purpose is not to rule corruption nor to manage Satan’s kingdom; therefore, he is not popularly celebrated in the world nor in the church. To the contrary, he, the Mustard Seed, like Christ before him, is to become the greatest amongst the “Disciples indeed”. Why is he called “the man child”? —for reasons which none others in history, even your contemporary heroes in the gospel, have manifested or fathomed:

- **HE IS A MAN** because he has reached full spiritual maturity by putting away childish things (1 Cor 13: 8-12) and by heeding Paul’s counsel and abandoning the “milk”, the principle doctrines of Christ and moving onward unto perfection —Heb 5:11 to 6”1.
- **HE IS A CHILD** or a babe because, *like John the Baptist*, he willingly accepts social condemnation in order to elevate Christ. By teaching Bible-based, yet hated and controversial doctrines, he decreases himself from a male disciple to a proverbial child and correspondingly increases Christ.

In so doing, he wins the Job of Prime Minister in the burgeoning kingdom. Clearly then, this Prime Minister, the Lord’s leader in the Kingdom, is not a literal child; instead, he is a man who is to become spiritually converted into one. And since that man is called the greatest, it would be the height of folly for him to seek to enhance his ministry by uniting with the enemies of Christ, men who despise His, Christ’s testimony. To do so would be to violate his commission and to decrease Christ. Rather than so doing, the call is extended for you and other righteous voices, the disciples, to bend their ears low and humbly embrace the still small voice in the very same way in which they embraced the ministry of Christ yesterday. Compliance with this counsel is their very salvation, their key to passing in the *Judgment of the Living*. The Lord said as much when He gave the following commandment:

“...But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many”
—Matt 20:26-28

Notice this above commandment of God! He directly gave to Christ this command (see John 12:49, 14: 24, 8:28, 17:8) and Christ, according to *the Law of Moses for all Israel*, instructed Jesus to articulate it so that humanity, in *the Judgment of the Living*, might be saved. It neatly reiterates the counsel of EGW and VTH which implore the church to take great care in the manner in which they respond to Elijah ---not seeking to tell him how to teach his message. Rather than so doing, all should prayerfully sit at his feet to receive his light; they should **“Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace”** —Na 1: 15. They should let him be their minister and should do so, even if his work now appears to be insignificant.

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THIRD~~~~~Since the MSA's delegated commission is to be a minister, indeed a prime minister, then you and all others should not become offended and consider its demeanor to be one that is proud, arrogant, or high minded, offenses which displease the Lord. You should not do so when the MSA chooses to counsel other honorable disciples pertaining to the way in which they minister and does not readily or correspondingly seek their advice about how it should minister or serve. This demeanor may seem anti-social; it may violate today's protocols of politeness; however, it is in strict compliance to the Lord's above commandment, the mandate which allow the Mustard Seed, the disciple converted from a man to a child, to be their minister "**even as the son of man came not to be ministered unto but to minister...**" Please bear in mind that these commandments are not an allusion to the ten thundered to Israel from Sinai but to those soft mandates given to the church during Jesus' 3 ½ year ministry, the time when Christ clandestinely abode upon Jesus. Remember, He said,

"If ye love me, keep my commandments...He that hath my commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him...he that loveth me not keepeth not my SAYINGS; and THE WORD WHICH YE HEAR, is not mine, but the Father's which sent me. These things have I spoken unto you, being YET PRESENT WITH YOU" —John 14: 15, 21, 25-26.

Consequently, if you and the people whom you influence desire a message which resonates with more life-saving power, then simply heed the Lord's counsel, embrace His testimony and then unite your full effort to the Lord's work by supporting His Mustard Seed. This is the only way in which the MSA will become the greatest of all herbs. This will be the day of real and true unity: the day when you begin to labor for the man child.

Sincerely,

Derek.