

16-Jan-2010

*“What is even more magnificent is that, for those ‘godly’ saints who have heeded David’s counsel by courageously removing the bridle and the bit from their mouths and have resultantly ceased to be ‘as the horse or the mule’, who have gained understanding, and who have overcome the feeble-minded, slow-witted, mouth-gaping and downward-lurching trudge to their eternal fate, they can now rescue themselves by opening the writings of EGW to see the miracle of new, Bible-based light. They can witness the heretofore ignored dimension of Adventist-health reform as promoted by her and see that she too taught of a different, life-extending practice, one other than vegetarianism. They can see a practice that is to preserve the disciples who are to finish the Gospel work.”*

*“Shocking, mind-jolting, and amazing —EGW conveys to us, the triumphant church, a new remedy for health. What is equally remarkable is that she ties this new health message to the Bible and unfolds to us that it is an end-time, new-light-projected remedy to cure sickness. This she did not do for vegetarianism. In fact, she says the whole chapter of Isaiah 58 is of highest importance, and the Bible validates that claim by saying, to those who comply, ‘Then shall thy light break forth as the morning...and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth...’ I ask, ‘can a people get any healthier?’ ”*

### **VEGETARIANISM: A FALLEN ADVENTIST FORTRESS**

Dear Brother Karife Barraza,

I read your 18-Jan-2010 E-mail and the attachment entitled, *Vegetarianism, a Test of Fellowship*. It was a well structured paper on the righteousness —not of Christ but of—vegetarianism. Perhaps you have come late to the discussion of this issue on the SDAD forum. This potentially being the case, I must inform you that all of the issues which you have presented in your paper making it a divine, dietary requirement have been resoundingly refuted by the MSA. This has been done in a miraculously respectful way: While dashing the divinity of vegetarian duty, the MSA, at the very same time, has elevated the divinely inspired ministries of the chief proponents of that law proving them, EGW & VTH, to still be regarded as prophets who were directed by God. My response now is to open up even more light on the topic and to publish that light to the field.

I know that to you, this must seem impossible based upon your years of doctrinal entrenchment, upon the research you have done, and upon the authorities that you have cited. How can any reject the vegetarian diet and still acknowledge the inspiration of EGW?—you ponder. This, one cannot naturally discern because the doctrine of Vegetarianism has now fermented and brings to so many Adventists great self-applause and satisfaction. It veils them with a soothing shroud of theological elitism; it has made them drunken with a false sense of divine approval and superiority. It is like the holidays of Christmas and Easter to the masses. So you see, the trap of tradition, though

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formidable, is not unique: Throughout history, all but the righteous in every generation refused to relinquish the pillars of doctrinal security which they arduously stretched themselves to reach yesterday. Now they must do that which is counterintuitive; They must step upon it to reach a higher rung of the ladder. Even though Jacob's ladder will bring them to the feet of Christ, they refuse to thereon advance because it requires that they tread underfoot yesterday's hard-fought ideas. To mix metaphors, they begin to feel secure behind the fortress of their religious scholarship and become blinded in self-confidences by yesterday's doctrinal armament which has given them great victory. This is not dissimilar to the demise of many historic, military superpowers. Consider as a metaphor the demise of ancient Babylon. Their egos were so swelled with their seemingly invincible military strength —after all did not the Hebrew God establish them?— that they resultantly became emboldened to blaspheme God. Just then they fell. Adventists likewise feel invincible; They likewise now blaspheme the Lord as they too seek to drink their wine (old corrupted doctrines) from the sacred vessels. This they do by placing in the Bible their own perverted and polluted (fermented) ideas of righteousness. In a nutshell, you have become intoxicated by doctrines foreign to the Bible; you have illegally garnered it by ignoring the sacred Scriptures and, in their stead, you have elevated EGW, a sacred vessel, out of context and above the Lord as likewise did the leaders of Babylon lift the vessels from the temple to facilitate their drunken debauchery. Just because the Lord appointed Nebuchadnezzar to preside over His church, did not give his sons the authority to exploit the Lord's graces by polluting the **"golden vessels... of the house of God"** (*Dan five*) filling them with their wine. To avoid any such crime by the church, EGW took great pains to resist such a perversion in the church. She demanded, as her most preeminent focus, that all must deploy the Bible as their source of all doctrine, all must keep the sacred vessels in the house of God. This was her self-professed mission. Her incessant theme can be summarized in the following quote:

**"But God will have a people upon the earth to maintain the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines and the basis of all reforms. The opinions of learned men, the deductions of science, the creeds or decisions of ecclesiastical councils, as numerous and discordant as are the churches which they represent, the voice of the majority —not one nor all of these should be regarded as evidence for or against ANY POINT of religious faith"** —EGW, *Great Controversy*, 595: 1, chpt 37; emphasis added.

This is just one of more than 80 references from EGW to show to you your debauchery and sin, your abomination of elevating, in Luciferian fashion, a lesser light above Christ, your pollution of the sacred vessels **"of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem"** —Dan 5: 3. Unbelievably, before his fall, Lucifer was the highest agent of heaven under Christ. Like Nebuchadnezzar and EGW, he had authority over the church. His fall came when he sought sympathy from other angels to elevate his counsel above that of the Lord—exactly the way that SDAs seek to do with their divinely-appointed prophets. The metaphor of ancient Babylon is also appropriate because such perversion of Bible primacy is the thesis which will cause *Babylon the Great* to re-emerge. She too drinks a polluted beverage from a golden cup. Instead of preaching the Word, she seeks to elevate among Christians, **"a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication"** —see Rev 17: 4. She may have received the cup from the temple of God, but the filthiness contained therein came from her fornication, her belief that you can substitute pure, Bible doctrines with the excretions of men. EGW did not do so, she demanded that all doctrines, all points of religious faith, be founded in the Bible. She sought to preserve the divine oracles by incessantly teaching that only God's oil can fill the golden vessels in the hands of the righteous. My website shows an extensive list of statements to underscore her commitment to this clarion call for Bible primacy; therefore, I will not cite to you many others in this letter.

Suffice it to say that the MSA elevates EGW and VTH as inspired prophets —but prophets under Christ. To its frustration, you insultingly jump into a discourse with this office after more than three years of discussion by sending to me your E-mail and doing so with the presumption that you are revealing some novel, heretofore unexamined, great light: You show quotes from EGW that support vegetarian righteousness. My question therefore is a simple one: If Christ intended for the church to abstain from (clean) flesh as a requisite for salvation then why did He not tell us? Is He not, as He

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Himself professes, the Master Communicator? After all, did He not say, **“I the Lord speak righteousness, I declare things that are right”** —Isa 45: 19. Did He forget to include vegetarianism into the Law? Did Christ issue to us His word while suffering from dementia and senility? Was Lucifer correct in his dark teaching that Christ needed a spokesman, a serpent, to qualify to all His teachings? Of course not! None can ever replace Christ; they can only affirm to us the power of His word. This was EGW’s commission:

**“Satan is constantly endeavoring to attract attention to man in the place of God. He leads the people to look to bishops, to pastors, to professors of theology, as their guide, instead of searching the Scriptures to learn their duty for themselves. Then by controlling the minds of these leaders, he can influence the multitudes according to his will”** —EGW, *Great Controversy*, 595: 2, Chpt 37

Think deeply for a minute and you will uncover your great delusion: Your E-mail letter quotes EGW, a genuinely inspired, heaven-sent prophet, thinking yourself to be doing a great work contributing to this discussion. But to the contrary, you are advancing the work of Satan. Like him, you refuse to recognize the greatness of Christ. Like him, you desire to convince the church that they can be saved by way of an alternate channel, a golden vessel filled with human excretions: Like him, you subtly whisper that Christ is not right; His word cannot be trusted. To validate this charge we must examine and analyze your actions: You cite EGW’s testimony found in *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 1, page 205.1, a reference well known to the MSA. It shows that in 1858, contrary to the assumptions of many, EGW advocated swine as an appropriate diet for human consumption. She said, and you quoted, **“... If God requires His people to abstain from swine's flesh, He will convict them on the matter.”** Then, you show to us that the Lord did this very thing about ten years later. It is amazing that you miss the deep lesson of that wonderful advance in Adventist theology for, (according to your very own quote of her work from CD, 392.3) she delivered a message, with a Bible (*Lev 11*) foundation, to condemn the consumption of pork or swine. Notice several key points manifested by this 10-year, doctrinal advance of the SDA church:

- As it advanced with the first, then the second, then the third-angel’s messages, our faith also advanced, in 1868, in diet, and it did so with a Bible foundation.
- EGW miraculously and successfully deployed her gift of inspiration to point all Adventists back to the Bible for their health.
- Therein, we saw from *Lev 11* and other texts the Lord’s easy-to-understand, plain, requirements for our diet.
- EGW, having been a former advocate of the dastardly habit of swine consumption, is shown to be a lesser light to Christ proving that we can predicate our faith upon Him but not upon her or any other lesser angel of light.
- All who ignored her 1858 counsel in favor of Bible righteousness by abstaining and refusing to consume swine did so with credits and not demerits from heaven. In a very short time, 1868, they were vindicated.
- EGW, like all human beings is required to climb Jacob’s ladder of truth showing that we cannot trust quotes from her as a foundation of our faith. On the other hand, to fail to heed her Bible-based counsel, her incessant demand that we not, as a foundation for our faith, use her writings to supplant the Bible, would cast us into great disfavor. Especially is this the case since she has been dead for more than 90 years.

As a teacher of righteousness since my youth, a period of more than 43 years, I often have heard people express their commitment to a non-biblical doctrine by issuing a caution that is similar to the following, “if EGW could hear what you teach, she would turn in her grave.” One long-time Davidian sent the following E-mail to exemplify this dark and crazed reply to Bible religion:

*“...Brother, you are so deceived by Satan that you are blind. Br. Houteff would throw you out of the Davidian movement should you tell him such things as you are teaching. I knew him and was at Mt Carmel and I know how strict he was with teaching the truth aright... Well, there are to be many false prophets as it was with Elijah and just so it will be today. Our Savior will take care of all of them like Elijah did.”* —Email from Kathryn Brunken, April 08, 2007, 9:41AM

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Notice how she channels the spirit of VTH and discerns his reactions; worse still, she gives counsel based upon that perceived reaction promising that he would cast me out of Davidia. Think brethren, please think —how insultingly idolatrous! It is as if the Lord has no control over the longevity of His prophets and it is as if He requires His disciples to visit the grave of the deceased and, in séance fashion, conjure in our minds their reaction to doctrine —how Satanic. Instead of this, EGW and VTH demand that we source the Bible for all doctrines. With a living Lord, there is no need to preoccupy ourselves with the conjured and imagined reactions of dead men. There could never be a blessing in such a spiritual exercise. The opposite reaction is what drives the Lord to manage His church: If we rely upon any man to teach us our doctrines, independent of the Bible, then the Lord, ever desirous to save His church, will remove such a person. EGW says as much,

**“Instead of looking to Brother & Sister White to help them out of darkness, they should be earnestly engaged in helping themselves... If the people lean upon Bro & Sr. White, and trust in them, God will humble them among you or remove them from you. You must look to God and trust in Him. lean upon Him, and He will not forsake you. He will not leave you to perish. PRECIOUS IS THE WORD OF GOD. “Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life.” These are the words of Christ. The words of inspiration, carefully and prayerfully studied and practically obeyed, will thoroughly furnish you unto all good works...”** — EGW, Testimonies for the Church, Vol 2, p121: 0; emphasis added.

In violation of this very definitive, Spirit-of-Prophecy (SOP) theme and instead of looking to the Bible for your light on diet and health, you —like a condemned, 1868-swine eater— advance the doctrine of vegetarianism using only EGW as your standard. Even more abominable than this, you advance it as a requisite for salvation while using absolutely no Bible references to substantiate your claim. You do not even seek to cloak yourself behind the standard and common, albeit refuted, SDA mantra of the ‘quails fed to Israel in the wilderness’ or the diet of the three Hebrew boys. Thus the question remains: If the diet of consuming clean meat —a practice observed by probably 99 percent of all human beings in earth’s history including today— disqualified a man from salvation, then why did not Christ inform us of this standard? Does He not, in your mind, know how to pass us in the judgment? Do deceased people like EGW and VTH have a formula to help us to escape the grave, a formula that did not work for them? Few people kill, not all commit adultery, many violate the Sabbath, some dishonor their parents; yet, each of these practices have been resoundingly condemned in the most articulate language —why not the practice of *clean flesh eating*?

Much writing on this subject has been already done; therefore, I will not recycle the MSA’s clearly articulated arguments; instead, I will merely refer you to my website ([www.mustardseedadvent.com](http://www.mustardseedadvent.com)). Please see therein the following articles: *Wisdom is Justified of her Children*, 11-May-2007; *Vegetarianism and the Atonement*, 12-07-2007; *Vegetarianism: the Blood and Fat*, 11-14-2007; *Vegetarianism: Historical Context*, 10-14-2007; *Reverse Passage: Light on Vegetarianism*, 06-22-2009.

Many Adventists and Davidian Adventists seek to fortify their stance favoring vegetarianism by tritely citing the diet given to Adam and Eve right after creation. You allude to the same defeated analysis. This thesis is likewise refuted in the above E-mails by several simple lines of logic:

- **The diet of *Genesis one* was not given as an eternal statute but as a starting point as shown by the fact that Christ and His church ate flesh without condemnation.**
  - **Adam and Eve were created with an empty stomach and needed to have their first breakfast without the complexities of killing to eat.**
  - **They had no servants trained to slaughter and dress an animal for consumption. They didn’t even have “supermarkets”.**
  - **Abraham had such servants trained to kill and dress a clean beast such as a cow, and Christ dined with him on that very flesh showing that it was not considered by the creator to be a sin.**
1. **Since we believe in the righteousness of Christ, this point, used as an example of our behavior exceeds inferences garnered from *Gen one*, the example of the *three Hebrew boys*, and any other Bible example.**

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2. Christ promised to serve flesh in the Kingdom as shown below.
  3. Christ told Israel that the ability to discern between the clean and the unclean for the purpose of food is His holiness or, put another way, His righteousness —see Lev 11: 43-45.
- In the days, weeks, and even months after creation, any animal that Adam and Eve would have slaughtered to eat would have precluded the reproduction of that species and thrown it into extinction.
    1. This, the killing of an entire species of animal, would have spread evil in the earth for Christ, by their creation, pronounced them to be good. “*And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good*” —See Gen 1: 31.
    2. Evil is the opposite of good, but when herds developed, such evil would not have resulted as the animals would have replenished themselves.
    3. The flood can be cited to illustrate this point.

Furthermore, it can now be shown that teaching the discipline of vegetarianism as a requisite of salvation violates the advances made in the *Three-Angel's Message* —specifically the message of the third angel. Of this we can be certain because the victors of that gospel movement are described as patient saints who comply with the *Testimony of Jesus*. It says, “*And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice...Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus*” —Rev 14: 9, 12. The patient saints are rewarded with salvation; yet, no mention of EGW or VTH is made, only an obligation to the Commandments and the faith of Jesus. The impatient saints evidently fell off of the ever-advancing gospel ladder. They are the ones who fail to graduate in dietary righteousness as exemplified by the graduation of inspiration in diet from 1858 to 1868, from swine to clean meat. The faith of Jesus came with His testimony for we knew nothing of Him before He began to preach. Also, He plainly told His disciples that His words were far superior to the words of the prophets beforehand. He said,

“*All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and to whom the Son will reveal. And he turned him unto his disciples, and said privately, Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see: For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them*” —Luke 10: 22-24.

Only two prophets from the OT heard the Lord's testimony, Moses and Elijah. Only one patriarch, Enoch. All others did not live to receive the benefit of Jesus' testimony. They were proverbial golden or silver vessels in the house of God; however, they needed within the clarity of Christ's oil, His testimony for how else could they shine? Without this divine truth, Babylon will supply other unclean and intoxicating beverages as a substitute. Imbedded into this theme is the inescapable conclusion that, no matter how greatly inspired was the prophet, their work was not considered blessed; its meaning was not understood. For Christ promised a blessing only to those who hear and see what the disciples heard and saw, His word; thus, frustration was conveyed to those who could not/did not live to see and hear it. Such a blessing is obviously given to the exclusion of the very own words of inspiration uttered by those same prophets and kings who beforehand lived and ministered to God's people. So again we see the rank and limitations placed on prophets. This should ring a melodious chime in the ears of the righteous today as the MSA is trumpeting the very same theme: that its work exceeds the work of the prophets of the Christian age. In fact, this speaks directly to the message of the third angel as cited in *Rev 14*; He promised a blessing to the patient saints, those saints who are living and studying every advance of light. Such are likewise given a message which exceeds that of every other prophet taught before them, prophets upon whom the third angel and Christ did not pronounce the blessing. In fact, their blessing exceeds that of the original 12 because the Lord promised that “*...the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things... and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel*” —John 5: 20. He also said, “*Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word... And the glory which thou gavest me, I have given them; that they may be one,*

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**even as we are one**” —John 17: 20-22. They are given the blessing which Christ described to His disciples, the very same blessing. The only difference is that, instead of whispering this truth to them, instead of revealing the blessing privately, it is broadcasted and trumpeted in your ears with absolutely no regard to who hears.

We can be certain that the blessing conveyed upon the 12 is exceeded by that bestowed unto us by virtue of the very simple fact that the third angel defines the blessing as the gift to those whom, at the end of the *Three Angel's Messages*, keep the Commandments and have the *Faith of Jesus*. At the risk of redundancy, that faith of Jesus is vested in His testimony. Just as the disciples could not counter the Lord's testimony by citing to Him the words of yesterday's, OT prophets, people whose words could not even bless themselves to the same degree, just so cannot any counter the Lord's testimony made "plain" (see John 16: 25) by the MSA with the work of yesterday's prophets, Wm Miller, EGW, and VTH. Therefore, we must accept, by faith, Jesus' expressed formula for health reform over that of EGW for it delivers the blessing. What blessing could there be other than the gift of life without perishing, without death? To give to us our health reform, He said, **"Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying he shall never see death"** —John 8: 51. With this, we have our proof that neither EGW nor VTH, not even the ancient disciples, have received the blessing; they have all suffered and died. The only ones to receive it are the *disciples indeed*, those who continue in His word, those who embrace the faith —not of Abraham, Jacob, David, Isaiah, Jeremiah, or even Moses, etc, but— those who do not lose their patience with heaven by frustratingly casting away the gospel because it outshines the light from yesterday's prophets which they learned to love. Consequently, His sayings, not vegetarianism, is the faith that He taught in proverb (Again see John 16: 25) while He was yet with the disciples, and it gives for us a formula for perfect health. Think deeply for a moment; gain understanding; **"Be ye not as the horse or as the mule, which have no understanding; whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle..."** —Ps 32: 9 — everlasting life for fallen humanity exemplifies the health for which all Adventists yearn. Lest you think that it could come with eternal sickness which would erode the quality of the benefits and blessings, you should know that Jesus' faith reveals even more truth to address that concern. He said, that when you heed His full testimony, the teachings which He promised to make plain in the last day, your health will not deteriorate risking for you a paltry and substandard eternal existence; He said that you will not perish. **"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"** —John 3: 16. You need this faith instead of seeking the puny, overestimated claims of good health which vegetarianism promised to provide. Instead of violating the third-angel's message, you should acquire "the faith of Jesus".

Even greater evidence of your failure to heed the third angel is proven in Jesus' promise to serve flesh in the Kingdom. Speaking of the prodigal's return, He describe the joy of the triumphant saints by showing to us their celebration and saying, **"And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the...fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry. For this my son was dead, and is alive again..."** —Luke 15: 21-24. Do you have this faith which Jesus taught? Or, are you frustrated and filled with impatience because heaven requires of you that which you refuse to surrender, continued advancement in truth? While pondering, look at what else Jesus handed to us so as to become His faithful disciples: He said, **"Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the passover must be KILLED... and he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God"** —Luke 22: 7, 15, 16. Just as Christ commanded of Israel this observance when he inspired Moses to install this "ordinance" by the following record: **"Then Moses called for all the elders... Draw out and...kill the passover... And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons forever"** —Exod 12: 21, 24— just so did Jesus reaffirm that custom. Jesus/Christ and Moses are in full harmony: The Passover will be a Kingdom ordinance to last forever. Why not garner for yourself the same belief, the same

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faith, the faith of the patient saints, the “faith of Jesus”? Why not receive His gift of flesh consumption in the Kingdom?

What is even more magnificent is that, for those “godly” saints who have heeded David’s counsel by courageously removing the bridle and the bit from their mouths and have resultantly ceased to be “**as the horse or the mule**”, who have gained understanding, and who have overcome the feeble-minded, slow-witted, mouth-gaping and downward-lurching trudge to their eternal fate, they can now rescue themselves by opening the writings of EGW to see the miracle of new, Bible-based light. They can witness the heretofore ignored dimension of Adventist-health reform as promoted by her and see that she too taught of a different, life-extending practice, one other than vegetarianism. They can see a divine practice that is to preserve the disciples who are to finish the Gospel work. In reading your paper, you acknowledge the reason for the institution of vegetarianism; you claim that it was to promote good health. Consider the following EGW counsel on that issue, health reform:

**“You who are suffering with poor health, there is a remedy for you. If thou clothe the naked and bring the poor that are cast out to thy house and deal thy bread to the hungry, *then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily.* Doing good is an excellent remedy for disease. Those who engage in the work are invited to call upon God, and He has pledged Himself to answer them. Their soul shall be satisfied in drought, and they shall be like a watered garden, whose waters fail not”**—EGW, *Adventist Home*, p 447.

According to EGW, a remedy for poor health, one completely ignored by Adventists, stipulates charity to the afflicted as the solution. She lauds it as “an excellent remedy for disease” and does so with Bible validation. She says more:

**“What saith the Lord in the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah? The whole chapter is of the highest importance. *Is not this the fast that I have chosen?* God asks, *to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily’* ...This is our work. The light that we have upon the third angel’s message is the true light. The mark of the beast is exactly what it has been proclaimed to be. Not all in regard to this matter is yet understood, and will not be understood until the unrolling of the scroll; but a most solemn work is to be accomplished in our world. The Lord’s command to His servants is, *‘Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.’* Isaiah 58:1. A message that will arouse the churches is to be proclaimed. Every effort is to be made to give the light, not only to our people, but to the world”** —EGW, *Counsels on Health*, p 520, 521.

Shocking, mind-jolting, and amazing —EGW conveys to us, the triumphant church, a new remedy for health. What is equally remarkable is that she ties this new health message to the Bible and unfolds to us that it is an end-time, new-light-projected remedy to cure sickness. This she did not do for vegetarianism. In fact she says the whole chapter of Isaiah 58 is of highest importance, and the Bible validates that claim by saying, to those who comply, **“*Then shall thy light break forth as the morning... and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth...*”** I ask, “Can a people get any healthier?” The marvel grows even more intense: This health message is contained in one of the favorite books that the vegetarians like to cite; yet, they have completely missed the message. In *Counsels on Health*, she compels us to redirect our efforts to the afflicted; she ties this mission to the third angel proving that it is part of the blessing promised to the disciples by Christ which, in final analysis, is endowed to the patient saints. Also, she does something even more jaw dropping and astounding, again, a thing that validates the work of this office: She confesses that the church did not understand all in regard to this matter; they did not because it is to be only understood in the time of the unrolling of the scroll. A future message was promised to arouse the church on this issue. So if the founding fathers were to indeed hear this message of the MSA, they probably would express great outrage; they would do so merely because in their day this scroll had not been unrolled to this depth! The arousing message is here: it brings the new light that was

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promised. It shows the afflicted which now deserve our charity are none other than the sons of America's former slaves. All Adventists, regardless of ethnicity or race, are to make this assignment their burning passion. America has sought for centuries to eternally put them under, but today heaven desires to reverse the curse. Indeed, *"charity suffereth long and is kind; charity envieth not..."* —1Cor 13: 4. This is the fast, the fast of charity for the downtrodden sons of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that the Lord has now ordained, the fast to restore your health.

*"In fellowship with God, with Christ, and with holy angels, they are surrounded with a heavenly atmosphere, an atmosphere that brings health to the body, vigor to the intellect, and joy to the soul."*

*"All who consecrate body, soul, and spirit to God's service will be constantly receiving a new endowment of physical, mental, and spiritual power. The inexhaustible supplies of heaven are at their command. Christ gives them the breath of His own spirit, the life of His own life. The Holy Spirit puts forth His highest energies to work in heart and mind."*

*"Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily. Thou shalt 'call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and He shall say, Here I am.' 'Thy light' shall 'rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: and the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.'"*

*"Many are God's promises to those who minister to His AFFLICTED ONES. He says: 'Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. The Lord will preserve him, and KEEP HIM ALIVE; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and Thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies. The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: Thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.' 'Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.' [PS. 41:1-3; 37:3.] 'Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.' 'There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.' 'He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will He pay him again.' 'The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.' [PROV. 3:9, 10; 11:24; 19:17; 11:25.]"* —EGW, *Gospel Workers*, p. 513, 514; brackets belong.

Can this health message get any more beautiful? EGW expands her Bible basis from *Isa 58* to include the books of Psalms and Proverbs. In doing so, she trumpets the theme of the *mustard seed*, the theme of everlasting life for the text promises to keep alive all who embrace this health message. No mention is made pertaining to vegetarianism. We are promised that when we devote our work to the afflicted, we become enshrouded *"with a heavenly atmosphere"*. This is the perfect remedy for the literal as well as the theological air pollution which threatens to sicken us. Instead of lung cancer, or tuberculosis, or black lung disease, the opposite occurs and our entire health becomes restored. And there is more: The next point should give all pause; it is almost irreverent to repeat, but the Bible says it; EGW recycled the claim, and now the MSA must include it in its message. She quotes the Bible to say that, by giving to the poor, we make Christ indebted to us, and He will repay. Also, we are shown the benefits to liberalism regarding the afflicted: The Lord blesses the "liberal soul". Since the context shows that this liberalism defines the spirit of those who seek to help the afflicted, then the Bible meaning is in almost perfect harmony with our current political application of that term. When Welfare programs, Section Eight housing, unemployment extensions, Affirmative-Action programs are installed then we, being souls committed to liberalism to Jerusalem, must not only support such generous gifts to the afflicted, but we must also consider the proponents of these gifts to be heaven's agents, men to whom Christ is indebted. Amazing indeed, the Bible even defines for us the appropriate political position, liberalism, which the end-time disciples will claim pertaining to their generosity to the sons of America's former slaves. She says even more:

*"Some plead their poor health—they would love to do if they had strength. Such have so long shut themselves up to themselves, and thought so much of their own poor feelings, and talked so much of their sufferings, trials, and afflictions, that it is their present truth. They can think of no one but self, however much others may be in need of sympathy and assistance. You who are suffering with poor health, there is a remedy for you (What remedy? vegetarianism, of course not!). 'If thou clothe the naked, and bring the poor that are cast out to thy house, and deal thy bread to the hungry, 'then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth*

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*speedily.* Doing good is an excellent remedy for disease. Those who engage in the work are invited to call upon God, and He has pledged Himself to answer them. Their soul shall be satisfied in drought, and they shall be like a watered garden, whose waters fail not” —EGW, *Testimony for the Church*, Vol 2, p 29.1; parenthesis added.

Perhaps EGW meant to say that which is missing from her writings, that charity combined with vegetarianism is the requisite for good health. Some, out of desperation, may advance this claim only to be immediately silenced by the following quote:

“... I have been shown that those who refuse these opportunities for doing good will hear from Jesus: ‘As ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to Me. Please read Isaiah 58.’”

“*Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?... Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily...*”

“This is the special work now before us. ALL OUR PRAYING AND ABSTINENCE FROM FOOD WILL AVAIL NOTHING unless we resolutely lay hold of this work. Sacred obligations are resting upon us. Our duty is plainly stated. The Lord has spoken to us by His prophet.” —EGW, *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol 2, p, 33, 34.

Consider other statements from EGW which show a different remedy for health, a remedy completely devoid of vegetarianism:

- “The fifty-eight chapter of Isaiah is a prescription for maladies of the body and of the soul. If we desire health and the true joy of life we must put into practice the rules given in this scripture. Of the service acceptable to Him, and its blessings, the Lord says:...” —EGW, *Ministry of Healing*, 259
- “If those who are suffering from ill-health would forget self in their interest for others; if they would fulfill the Lord's command to minister to those more needy than themselves, they would realize the truthfulness of the prophetic promise, "Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily." —EGW, *Ministry of Healing*, 258
- “The pleasure of doing good to others imparts a glow to the feelings which flashes through the nerves, quickens the circulation of the blood, and induces mental and physical health.” —EGW, *My Life Today*, p. 246.

Today, Adventists boast of their health and longevity; however, if they do indeed have such a blessing, it is not due to their vegetarianism but to their compliance with EGW-echoed compliance with Scripture, *Isa 58*. And now, just as promised, the full blast of light is blazing upon us. The *mustard seed* makes our duty and election sure. Sadly, the nominal brethren have dismissed themselves from its ministry requiring all in Davidia to take hold of this blessing extended to the patient saints. All of Davidia have been given their duty. Those who suggest that the MSA and the Bible conflict with the work of EGW have now been exposed as deceivers. Their strain under the vegetarian burden is completely useless, not even for restored health, and all should cease their pretension that with it, they have the Lord's approval. Vegetarianism is a fallen Adventist fortress.

Sincerely,

Derek West.