

10-Dec-2012

The Pain of Delivery: A New Christmas Carol

Dear Brother _____,

The need to address your concerns required an immediate, and careful reply. As always, I did not at first think, when I sat to answer your letter, that your very short E-mail would require so many hours of writing, but I was wrong. The Lord desires that much be written to address your distress; thus, I give to you heaven's remedy. It is found in

Real Christmas Carols~~~~~. Your lamentations of anguish expressing the frustration that you have with the Lord, that which you consider cursing the Lord, should be included in this episode of feet washing of which, we as the disciples, are now engaged. Before commenting further, I must quote your letter:

“Is there an offering that I can make just in case during my bout of waiting for the promises of Ps 37 I have cursed the Lord, And if not do I now fall in class of the lesser tier of disciples or am I included at all. I will admit I have said some things on my lowest days lately that cause me to be concerned about all that I have denied myself over the past few years. I am wondering why I am jobless, homeless etc.” —

Your E-mail, Sunday, December 09, 2012 8:47 PM.

You wish to offer a sacrifice to reverse the blot that comes with your failure to have faith. Anciently, sacrifices were used for such a purpose; however, those sacrifices had applicable, symbolic lessons, and it is the symbolism—not the formal blood ritual—which is to bring harmony between man and God today. In other words, we are to live by the depth of the meaning of yesterday's sacrifices; such was their genuine purpose for institution. For example, the Atoning, He-Goat, *Sin Offering* represented the church's rejection of Jesus; meanwhile, The Bullock *Sin Offering* has a different meaning. It represents Jesus' rejection of His gentile church. These rituals have real meaning in the metaphor; and such was their purpose for institution. Your money cannot substitute for your faith; to the contrary, it is the faith that will win for you the money. Once achieved, then you can give a portion of it back to Father as an expression of your appreciation for your newly won peace. If you do not have the money, then such manifests, as indicated by your question, that you have not developed the faith. Put another way, you have not reached the level of ancient Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, men blessed by God with great wealth; they were blessed because of their faith. Abraham was so graced by the Lord that, while in the wilderness with his son and his servant—there without a bank to make a withdrawal—God gave to him his money, the ram caught in the thickets, and it became his sacrifice to preserve his house. But that gift only came after he exhibited the faith. You should understand that *Peace Offerings* are expressions of appreciation and are not pittance to remove the sins of the Lord's leaders. Job and Noah gave such as Burnt Offerings to secure the favor with the Lord for their children, a people of less training than they, those leaders, themselves. The disciples today have a duty to make a maximum effort to be included among the first tier of disciples, *disciples indeed*. This was, after all, the only calling of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. As it stands now, they are the ones who are promised complete and irreversible happiness when the man-child, the son of man, is born into the world. The promise, to the *disciples indeed*, reads as follows:

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that A MAN IS BORN INTO THE WORLD. And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.”—John 16: 20-22.

The Pain of Delivery: A New Christmas Carol

You have identified your sorrows; you have embraced the message; the only thing left is to continue to walk in the Lord; continue to realize that He will deliver you and give to you your eternal peace. This will win for you your victory and dash all of your anxieties.

This peace will occur when you know and believe the Mustard Seed Message for in so doing, you are promised to be established. How do I know that your problem stems from your unbelief? I am firm in this, my judgment, because you express perplexity by your pain; yet, you make no mention or expression of hope in the anticipated joy that is promised to come at the end of your suffering. The Lord points His disciples to the experience of a woman in travail. To be true to that analysis, we must discern her comfort: She is comforted only in the reward that is to come at the end of her travail. What is it that you must believe to receive your peace? You must believe, like the wise men who followed the star, that the man to be born into the world, AKA, the man child, represents the promise of ImMANuel described in *Isa seven*. He is your sign, your shining star in the east who is to, in a time of gross darkness and even trouble, point you to the day of his glorious emergence, his establishment of peace. The Christian world, ever thoughtless in their analysis, does not realize that Jesus did not bring that peace 2000 years ago for we know that his disciples were promised, even at the very end of His ministry, the exact and same sorrows which you describe. Such sorrows, just as prophesied, have remained with the faithful all the way from then up to a time just beyond this bleak moment in time. It is indeed fitting that this lesson is now re-articulated in the Christmas season, the season when, in the darkness of ignorance, Immanuel is celebrated and the wise men from the East who bowed at the feet of Jesus are venerated and remembered. Such is, in the wisdom of this ministry, repackaged as Bible, strong meat, and is served again to show the burgeoning mustard-seed Kingdom. We can now add to our Christmas Carols the theme of the rejoicing wise men today who celebrate the man to be born into the world. Will you reconsecrate yourself to be numbered among that choir, the wise men who followed the star?

Therefore, you must be told, in no uncertain terms, that any negative, verbal recrimination against the Lord and His promises expressed by you is a manifestation that you do not believe, and belief is the requisite for establishment. Resolutely then, instead of the Lord becoming the recipient of your anxieties, you should be reprimanding yourself for your failures in this regard, your failures to believe for it erodes our

Unity of Faith~~~~~. You and all must be reminded that heaven's protocol for salvation is very wise and ingenious, and we often become perturbed because we cannot search out God's ways to uncover His purposes. The Father, contrary to what many have instinctively believed all these past 2000 years, is no one's fool. He does not promote any to a post of victory until they have proven themselves worthy. To bring more clarity to this revelation, consider the outcome should one, after being elevated, turn away and lose their faith. If one were to so do, if they were to look with carnal eyes at life around them and then denounce their belief in Immanuel's doctrine, that *God is with us*—having seen all the promises and evidence contained in the Bible—If such a man were to reflect back upon all the joy that the people of the world seem to be having and then should he begin to desire for himself that same worldly joy prematurely and before Immanuel's day of victory, then would not such a one's failure be attributable to his refusal to erect his faith upon the Rock—the Lord's standard of wisdom? Such a man would have failed to comply with the *covenant of establishment* purveyed in *Ps 37*(cited in part below). It is the requisite to—regardless of hardship—trust the Lord. Such a man would also have failed to comply with the commission of *Isa seven*, also the *Testimony of Jesus* as expressed in John 8: 58, etc. Is this not the very reason for your faltering of faith?

Contrary to the implication of your query, the offense of such a failure to believe should not be dissolved by Christmas gifts, AKA, by sacrifice or a peace offering. Consider the following hypothesis to explain: If one would fail to believe the Bible evidence that *God is with us*, and, despite his lack of faith, be honored with membership into the family of God, the *disciples indeed*, without first prevailing over all of his prequalifying tests, then such an election would impeach Father's integrity. It would leave Him susceptible to the charge of bias and unwise or premature

The Mustard Seed Advent, 10-Dec-2012

honor and promotion. It would suggest that He was “played”, that He can be duped, that He is a fool. Was not this, Satan’s very accusation, insinuated against Him when he attacked Christ’s lofty promotion in the beginning of the *great controversy*? Harmony in this conclusion rings true because many Angels, fallen and unfallen, would know that Lucifer and his unholy angels were/are scheduled to be burned for their participation in the exact same rebellion. Beyond this aspect of the hypothetical explanation, think of the fact that, in such a scenario, many in the Kingdom, perhaps among the 1440,00, would, in the burgeoning Kingdom, next —after our premature, untested promotion— emerge to their divinely appointed station, but they would receive a post of honor that would be beneath that of the faithless *disciple indeed*. Many of them would have then garnered victory over their own crushing circumstances, many of which will have been even more grueling than those of our own; yet all the while, they will do so while having preserved their faith during the educational process. Resultantly, they would have legitimate grounds to challenge, perhaps at first in their hearts, the Father’s promotion of us over them, the exaltation of men of less faith. They could next argue that it pays greater dividends to violate David’s, *Ps 37* counsel and to not trust the Lord. Before venturing to the conclusion of this hypothesis, we must be reminded of the real reason for our promotion to the highest point on the earth. It is promised, indeed won for us, because, having gone through the grueling trials, we have, unlike all others beforehand or during our days of “sorrow”, added a different and heightening dimension to our spiritual resume’: We are “...*a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations*” —Joel 2: 2. This, we are regarded by heaven because we, against much opposition, against all the baying wolves of hell, became isolated and persecuted merely because of our belief in unpopular truth; subsequently, we are back to square one, belief is one’s prerequisite for establishment. In fact, the *Testimony of Jesus* affirms this very thing when it tells us, “*Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake*” —Matt 5: 11. Being the first to identify Christ and to show that He is a different Personality from Jesus, we are resultantly the first to be reviled for His sake. Remember, *Ps 37* expands upon this very assurance of “blessing” from Christ; it gives to us the details. It promises the true Davidian, those men who praise Christ instead of accuse Him, this very blessing. It is the blessing of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He said,

*“³Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.
⁴Delight thy self also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart...⁷Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass...⁹For evil doers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth...²²For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off”* —Ps 37: 3, 4, 7, 9, 22.

Now we can unequivocally discern the reason why we are tested. Lesser men cannot bear up under our sorrow. If they could, they would be seated in our stead; accordingly, God has reserved for you and I —not just the 144,000— the very path through life that we have taken. In fact, He formed us from the womb for this trial. Remember Isaiah’s prophecy depicting the cry of Jacob just before the 144,000 are to emerge: “*¹Listen O isles, unto me: and hearken, ye people, from far: The Lord hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name...⁴Then I said, I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain: yet surely my judgment is with the Lord, and my work with my God. ⁵And now, saith the Lord that formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob again to him, Though Israel be not gathered...”* —Isa 49: 1, 4, 5. If you pass communion, you become one with the *mustard seed* and this promise likewise applies to you. This multiple dimension to our path of journey, once our proverbial feet have been washed, will win for us the promise of eternal joy which “**no man taketh from you**”. Failure to integrate this into your mind is the underlining basis for your befuddlement, the thing which tempts you to become fretful and to cease from trusting in the Lord.

But if you were to be promoted without both the sorrow and the belief, then God’s establishment of you into His family and as His son would not pass the proverbial litmus test. Such illegitimacy

The Pain of Delivery: A New Christmas Carol

would preclude the other saints from offering full and complete praise and thanksgiving; it would lead them to harbor doubt in their heart, and it would eternally seal them away from Father for Father demands truthfulness in worship. The only preclusion to prevent such an outcome would be for Father to hide from the universe the secret that you are a non-believer. Such a desire has been, at some time, harbored within all who will lodge within the House of Jacob. This was their desire in a time before their victory, before they overcame. We all hoped that Father would save us by hiding our identities. We did not want to become His Christmas-caroling stars of the night. But then He changed our name; we put down our orientation of *righteousness by deception*, and instead we became overcomers. We have, with this communion service, learned that hiding our sins leaves us with filthy feet causing us to be agents who can only pollute or “track dirt” into the house of God. Furthermore, it stultifies our love; it precludes our unity, our oneness, our communion; it violates the very prayer with which Father instructed Christ to say when He was scheduled to finish His testimony. In sum, Father wants full victory over Lucifer and his tactics, that of pretentious praise and thanks. This is His protocol for salvation and restoration.

It may be that more suffering is scheduled for you and for all of us, and if so, then we must all realize that such is the only formula for our inclusion into the ranks of the redeemed. As you reflect on this, remember your soon-coming day of joy. To do so, think of another Christmas theme from the Bible; think of

A Woman in Travail~~~~~. To make full use of the opening scriptural metaphor of our promise as disciples, that pertaining to our sorrows as cited in *John 16*, your suffering must be compared to the travail of a woman. I have seen Vinnette suffer through four such periods of childbirth in our marriage. None were easy. When so doing, she did not curse God; she did not even reproach me; instead, she, while holding my hand, cried out for His deliverance. My cross was that I had to stand by her and helplessly watch her, the love of my life, struggle in great severity while going through her travail. God is with us, He too is coaching us through our suffering, and He does so with the greatest of compassion. This I believe because it is a requisite to become established. One of Vinnette’s labor experiences was for more than 30 hours. During that time, she had no other option, no other resolution; death or deliverance were her only choices. She had no peace and no relief—making the Lord’s proverb of discipleship to have special meaning. I will not reiterate my struggles in this letter. But I will say that some of the brethren with whom you are familiar and are connected to by this work can give you similar traumatic stories over which they have either already travailed or are in the process of becoming victorious. But I will recommend one thing to help you in your time of trouble: Now is the excellent time to remember the troubles that you have, in your history, left others to bear. Try to imagine how they felt when you deposited upon them great distress, sadness, and sorrow. Consider how they may have been led to cry out to Father for relief while you held the keys to the resolution of their pain. I know of no such specific examples in your life, but, I am sure that they exist for such ungracious inconsideration is part of the path of all the disciples. Is this not the very reason why we now must undergo this period of the *Ordinance of Humiliation*, the removal of our socks and shoes? When we meet again, be prepared to expose those issues, and be prepared to offer to the offended your heart-felt expressions of sorrow. Make this your Peace Offering.

In your letter, you allude to an option that will allow for you to choose to forgo first-tier discipleship so as to become a member of the second-tier. Sorry to say, this test is not a multiple-choice exam. Therefore, I will share with you my thoughts on discipleship as I deliver to you and all who read this letter

The Closing~~~~~. The *mustard seed* is not now taking applications for membership into the Kingdom for saints who cannot ascend into the upper room. First things must come first requiring my entire focus upon the work at hand. I do, in study and in teaching, make distinctions between first and second-tier disciples. Such is merely a part of Immanuel’s light; it is his butter and honey. Multi-tier membership has been revealed to give us hope in the salvation for our loved ones who lurk on the fringes; it is honey for us, but it was never billed as an option, a

The Mustard Seed Advent, 10-Dec-2012

backdrop, for people to disqualify themselves from their calling so as to accept another post. I have no basis to assert that Father has given such options. But I can say with great certainty that, instead of looking to blame the Lord, realize that without the *mustard seed*, without His righteousness, you would still be in the same boat; your troubles would be the same, if not greater —whatever tier that the Lord would avail to you. Thus, I urge you to focus on the *Testimony of Jesus* and the standards revealed therein to determine your standing with God.

I must further caution you, do not become confused in Bible analogies to determine the standard of life. Examples of Job were given in prior audio studies to add credence to the message, not to add alternatives to salvation. My allusion to Job making sacrifices for his children was given as a lesson to show a greater point: The lesson was that Job's wealth was vested in his herds and flocks and he gave it to the Lord as a *Peace offering* —not for his cursing expressions of Christ, but for those potential offenses committed by his children. Thus, we should learn to give of our means, our money, in the same spirit for it is our wealth just as were Job's farm animals representative of his wealth. Nonetheless, if you curse the Lord, then it manifests that you do not believe. This is the matter of your greatest concern. Sure, you think that the Lord has let you down, but you have likewise let others in your life down for reasons —not of honor, but— dishonor. Again, if you can conjure the strength that they used to secure their peace during those crises, then you should forbear in the Lord requiring of you the same patience.

Sincerely,

Derek