

Behold the Lamb Ministries

Behold the Lamb Presents

Is NOW being aired on 3ABN's Proclaim Channel every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 1 p.m. CST!

- > Watch "Behold the Lamb Presents" every Monday at 12 noon and every Friday at 9 a.m., CST, on 3ABN, Dish channel: 9393!
- > View "Behold the Lamb Presents" on Dare to Dream every morning at 8 a.m. CST!
- > Listen to "Behold the Lamb Presents" on 3ABN Radio every Sunday at 10 a.m. and Thursday at 9 a.m. CST!

*"Behold,
I come quickly:
blessed is he that
keepeth the saying of
the prophecy of
this book."
Revelation
22:7*

Preparedness Is NOW, by Chris Shelton

Greetings from Southern Illinois! The winter of 2013/2014 is finally showing signs of coming to an end. For most of us in the continental United States, it has been one that we will not soon forget. It seemed that it was difficult for those in the weather business to even predict properly—every few days changes were being made because of what has now been termed, "the Polar Vortex." It's a new term for weather personnel to help explain the very unusual, extremely cold, and, many times, dangerous weather patterns of this past winter.

Our hearts go out to the families who have lost loved ones during these volatile winter storms. And we hope that they have been a teaching tool for the rest of us to prepare for upcoming troublous times. The brutal conditions remind us of just how vul-

nerable we are, and that we need to act and become as prepared as we possibly can to meet such conditions in the future. We have been told of the crisis to come for so very long in Scripture. Nature is proclaiming that this time is near, even at the door.

And, sadly, our nation is "asking" for the judgments of God to fall upon our land as, more and more, leaders of our country come out and proclaim sinful acts, that God has undeniably stated in His Word to be an abomination before Him, as righteous and good. It burdens our hearts as, one by one, the states of this great union are bowing down and passing laws giving marital and economic rights to persons who choose to live outside of God's design for marriage. Satan is leaving no stone unturned as he appears to

make "wrong" acts and beliefs "right" and "holy" in the sight of man. We are TRULY drunk with the wine of the enemy's fornication!

"The season of distress and anguish before us will require a **faith** that can endure weariness, delay, and hunger,—a faith that will **not** faint, though severely tried. The period of probation is granted to all to **prepare for that time.**" *The Great Controversy*, p. 621. Take time to pray. Seek the Lord while He may be found. Bind your little ones close to your heart and strive daily to teach them to trust in God's Holy Word and the only moral absolute. Exercise your faith in claiming God's promises as YOURS. And may WE all strive together to warn others to be ready for the impending crisis that will usher Christ's soon return! *Continued "Amendment" on page 5.*

United We Stand, by Pastor Kenny Shelton

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed." Romans 13:11.

A warning must be given to God's last day people. Why? Because we are forgetting the reason we are here. And subsequently, we put ourselves on dangerous ground as we ignore truths that especially pertain to our day.

Sadly, many have grown tired of the "pillars of our faith" (1 Timothy 3:15) that make us a distinct people, preferring the shadow over the substance (Colossians 2:17), the false over the truth (Isaiah 59:13, 14). In the book, *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel*

Workers, p. 409, the origin of such action is made very clear. "Many will stand in our pulpits with the torch of false prophecy in their hands, kindled from the hellish torch of Satan." PRAISE God for the "Spirit of Prophecy"—the *Testimonies* that God gave to help guide His people during the last days of this earth's history! (Revelation 19:10; 12:17)

Many have asked why the testimonies were given? First of all, they were given for those, "... who profess to make the word of God their study are found living in direct opposition to its plainest teachings. Then, to leave men and women without excuse, God gives plain and pointed testimonies, **bringing**

them back to the word that they have neglected to follow." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 663. (Hebrews 2:3)

The testimonies help us to understand with clarity the Scriptures. "God has seen fit in **this** manner to bring the minds of His people to His word, to give them a clearer understanding of it." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 245. The testimonies are not to take the place of the Bible. "Letter 12, 1890," reveals the proper position we must take in regard to the Bible and the Testimonies. "God's Word is the unerring standard. (John 6:63, Matthew 4:4) The *Testimonies* are not to take the place of the Word. Great care should

be exercised by all believers to advance these questions carefully, and always stop when you have said enough. Let all prove their positions from the Scriptures (1 Thessalonians 5:21), and substantiate every point they claim as truth from the revealed Word of God." (Amos 3:7) And, of course, we cannot leave this next thought out as found in *Evangelism*, p. 257, "Little heed is given to the Bible, and the Lord has given a **lesser light to lead men and women to the greater light.**" (John 8:12)

God speaks to His people today through His testimonies. "In these days, He speaks to them by the testimonies of His Spirit. **There was never a time**



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United We Stand—by, Pastor Kenny Shelton, Cont.

when God instructed His people more earnestly than He instructs them now concerning His will and the course that He would have them pursue." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 661. (Acts 22:13, 14)

Do we, as God's last day, commandment-keeping people have an obligation to accept these *Testimonies*? "When the Spirit of God, by message of reproof (II Timothy 3:16), declares this to be his

dwell with them." (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 257) *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 682. (Hebrews 8:10)

Hopefully, you are realizing just how important the testimonies are for God's people up through the end of time. Let's read another quote addressing this, "As the end draws near and the work of giving the last warning to the world extends, it becomes more impor-

also direction to those who have a tendency to cast doubt or question the Spirit of God openly to others. Please understand that this will only result in leading others in the wrong direction, other than Heaven would have them go. "Instead of leading persons to become consecrated to God and to listen to the voice of the church, they teach them to be independent and not to mind the opinions and judgment of others."

Testimonies for the Church, vol. 5, p. 673. (Isaiah 1:18; Ecclesiastes 7:5)

Why is it that some people dislike the testimonies? *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 689, shares light upon this question, "They despise the counsel of God because it does not coincide with their views and plans, and favor their wrong traits of character. The work of the Spirit of God, which would bring them into the right position if they would accept it, has not come in a way to please them, and to flatter their self righteousness. (Psalm 36:2) The light which God has given is no light to them, and **they wander in darkness.**" Reading on in an-

other quote, please take this true statement to heart. Unfortunately, so many have experienced this and many of us bear witness of its truth, "One thing is certain: those Seventh-day Adventists who take their stand under Satan's banner will first give up their faith in the warnings and reproofs contained in the Testimonies of God's Spirit. The call to great consecration and holier service is being made, and will continue to be made." *Selected Messages*, Book 3, p.84. (II Peter 3:11)

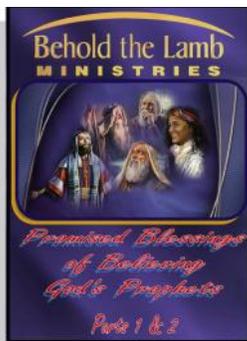
Sufficient evidences are given in the life, the work, and the teachings of Ellen G. White of which we are thankful. What a blessing to those who really want to

know the will of God. Therefore, how do we view this matter? After you read this next quote, I pray that we will all come to be in **ONE accord** (Philippians 2:2) as we thank God for this wonderful gift to us—as we must be **wide awake!** "Let the *Testimonies* be judged by their fruits (Matthew 7:16). What is the spirit of their teaching? What has been the result of their influence? 'All who desire to do so can acquaint themselves with the fruits of these visions. For seventeen years God has seen fit to let them survive and strengthen against the opposition of Satan's forces and the influence of human agencies that have aided Satan in his work.' [*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 330 (1862).]

"God is either teaching His church, reproofing their wrongs and strengthening their faith, or He is not. (Acts 5:38) God does nothing in partnership with Satan. My work ... bears the stamp of God or the stamp of the enemy. There is no halfway work in the matter. The *Testimonies* are of the Spirit of God, or of the devil." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 671, 672.

"... 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 Great Controversy*, p. 595. We must understand that the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy are in **perfect** harmony with the Bible, and that they lead us back to a deeper study and a fuller understanding of its contents! "I recommend to you, dear reader, the Word of God as the rule of your faith and practice. By that Word we are to be judged (Matthew 12:37). God has, in that Word, promised to give visions in the last days (Acts 2:17, 18), not for a new rule of faith, but for the comfort of His people, and to correct those who err from Bible truth." *Selected Messages*, Book 3, p.29.

Throughout all Christian history, God's people were blessed to be given direction of Heaven through a prophet. These persons communicated exactly what God chose to reveal to His people. It is through prophecy that we are given insight into the end of this world's history and encouraged to get our hearts and lives ready to meet the coming tribulation and triumphant return of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We are most blessed to have this prophetic information as given us through the prophets of old. But what about today? Is this gift still in existence? How important is it in God's New Testament Church? And how may we know that the prophecy given is of God and not a false spirit? Order and enjoy this two-part series as these, and many other, questions are answered concerning this timely subject!!!

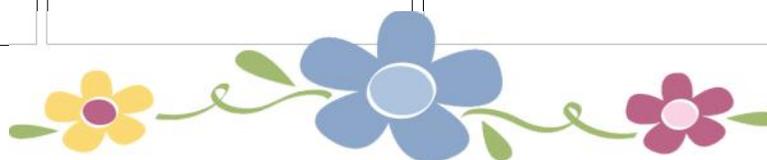


Sent for a donation of \$15.00, or more!

condition, he cannot see that the message is true. Is he therefore to reject the warning? No. God has given sufficient evidence, so that all who desire to do so may satisfy themselves as to the character of the *Testimonies*: and, having acknowledged them to be from God, **it is their duty to accept** reproof, even though they do not themselves see the sinfulness of their course. ... "Those who despise the warning will be left in blindness to become self-deceived; but those who heed it, and zealously go about the work of separating their sins from them (James 4:8) in order to have the needed graces, will be opening the door of their hearts that the dear Saviour may come in and

tant for those who accept present truth to have a clear understanding of the nature and influence of the *Testimonies*, which God in His providence has linked with the work of the third angel's message from its very rise." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 654. (Revelation 14:9, 10) We must remember, "... God intended that the testimonies should always have a setting in the framework of truth." *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 42.

I feel that I must inject a word of caution for those who tend to use many quotations from the testimonies on those persons new in the faith; this is





Monthly DVD/CD Mailing

Dear monthly DVD/CD recipients, As you know, due to the rising cost of EVERYTHING, we have begun asking for a love gift in return for your monthly DVD/CD mailing of \$8.00, or more, simply to help defray the cost of production, preparation, supplies, and mailing fees. However, we feel that these messages are life changing and in NO way want to with-

hold them from anyone who wishes to remain on the list, yet is simply unable to afford them at this time. If this is YOUR situation, please kindly call the ministry and let us know your situation so that your name will not be removed. We believe that the Lord will provide other means for you.

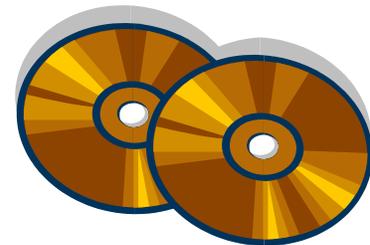
Also, there was some confusion from our dear support-

ers that faithfully give without designating that any of your donation was for your DVD/CD. Don't worry, as long as there has been some type of donation, your name will remain on this list.

And for all of our friends that had no idea that monthly DVDs/CDs were being sent out, we would love for you to sign up! Each month, two of Pastor Kenny Shelton's

church sermons are prepared and mailed directly to your home via one DVD or two CDs for a love gift, as stated, of just \$8.00, or more. We make this process very easy for anyone who would like to have an automatic deduction of their credit/debit card withdrawn each month. Simply call us and we will be glad to sign you up. The blessings flow

both ways. We know that these inspired messages will touch your heart as only the Holy Spirit can. In turn, your monthly donation helps to keep God's work through BTLM moving steadily forward! The blessings of Heaven come as we work for the salvation of souls!!



Equipment Failure

Can you imagine? Electronic sound equipment simply doesn't last forever. As some of you have read, we've been letting you know that we have equipment needs. And perhaps some of you have noticed popping and distorted sounds on our programs, including our BTLP programs produced for our television evangelism. In fact, the problems have stopped our recording several times. Therefore, to assist in discovering a resolution for these problems, we recently have been blessed with a local business owner who has been volunteering his time to help us figure out what our problems are. In fact, he has been loaning us a new sound board at no cost for several weeks! Unheard of we know—but with God, all things are possible.

Without boring you with technicalities, he confirmed what

we've been sharing with you that our old sound board and microphones simply are worn out, the wrong frequency, or not the quality we need for the important work we are doing.

Therefore, Pastor Kenny has asked that we announce our need to you once again. And, bless his heart, as he shared this need with some devoted supporters, \$2,100.00 has been raised to assist thus far!!

We praise the Lord for wonderful start. And just so you know, we are simply trying to get equipment that will carry us through a few more years at the best cost. What we are looking at is not "high end" vocal equipment but we are praying that it will do what needs to be done for the money we have and that we are praying to raise.

As stated, we have \$2,100.00 but are estimating our immediate

need to be about \$4,000.00. So if you have a heart for evangelism, won't you consider helping us meet this goal as quickly as possible? And never worry, if more than \$4,000.00 should come in, we need a teleprompter, switcher, new head sets, better editing equipment, and to finish paying off BTLM's cameras, just to name a few additional needs.

We thank you and love you all for your help and support.

Thank you for believing in this soul-winning work. With so much left to do, to preach, teach, and share we have not time for worn out equipment!!!

CATCH THE SOUL WINNING



PARTNER UP WITH BTLM TODAY!!!

Praise God for partners like YOU!



Prayer Requests

—Please pray for Kara, Jamie, Melanie, Kristi B. & family, George family, Terry's friend, Anthony, Danny, Anita, Becky, Jim, Edna, Patsy, John, Rebecca, Jim P., Jim B., Jamie, Jim's granddaughter, Bob, Sharon, Carson, Arenda, Tasha, Chance, John, Teagan, Ann Marie, Dale, Joyce, Greg, Kathy, Bobbie, Lydia, Victor, David, Donna A.'s brother, Audrey, Missy, Ashley, Jeremy, Chris, John, Kelly, Brandon, Hannah, Peyton, Max, Jake, Katie, Clinton, Shawn, Tanaya, Sheila, Jacob, Fjarli family, Davidson's, Marlene, Ben, Gary, Bea, Diana, Ginger and her friend, Katie

—Dorothy & John, from Canada, requests prayer for cancer and surgery.

—Leisa, from North Carolina, requests prayer for Curtis, who is doing Bible studies. Debbie, for special needs. Seretha, with child discipline. Debra's health as she cares for her father who is suffering from cancer. Pray also for Richard, Betty, Frances, and John.

—Janette, from California, asks that we pray for her son Fred who has not been feeling well. Janette has also lost her daughter.

—Margaret, from Canada, requests pray for her church members.

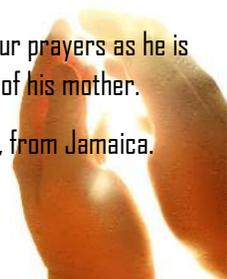
—BTLM and ministry needs.

—Nenonen baby, Levi Henrik.

—Linda, asks that we pray for her and her family.

—Michael, from IL, needs your prayers as he is grieving for the recent loss of his mother.

—Please pray for Catherine, from Jamaica.



Our Blessings? YOU!

We are always so very blessed and humbled when we hear from you. We would love to share some of these blessings in the closing of this newsletter. We hope that the short messages shared have stirred your heart to strive for a closer walk with our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and to spend much more time studying His gift to us, the Spirit of Prophecy. Daily we see prophecy being fulfilled, yet so very many of our precious loved ones are outside of the "ark" of safety. Friends, only the sure Word of God will set us free from the rapid tides of delusions and errors overtaking the minds of the vast majority. One of Pastor Kenny's catch phrases that we imitate often here at BTLM is, "Pray, kids, pray." And this we must do without ceasing.

Today is the day of salvation; pray for God's Spirit to remold and remake your heart and the hearts of those whom you come in contact with!

Rose sent this email, "I was much encouraged when I came across your message on the subject mentioned above (Spiritual Formation). So wonderful to hear the truth on this deception fearlessly exposed. Some of us in the church desperately need to know that we have pastors who not only know the truth about deceit, but have the courage to speak it, being guided by the Holy Spirit.

"Thank you from the east coast of Canada, and from my heart. May God's grace continue to be with you."

Edee, from New Jersey, wrote, "Dear Pastor Shelton, As a Seventy-day Adventist, I am always thrilled to learn of a ministry that stand strong against the popular tide to preach God's true message. It is my privilege to send these tithes to further the work God has called us to do on His behalf for the benefit of our brethren and to their enlightenment. May God continue to richly bless your ministry and may through it, many hearts be turned to Him and find salvation and life eternal. Your co-laborer in Christ"

Dustin emailed, "I really appreciate you standing up for the real gospel of total victory over sin. This is the Three Angels Messages undiluted. ... The message has become diluted to the point that we bear little resemblance to the biblical picture of God's Remnant Church."

John and Jeane sent a card saying, "Thank

you so much for your ministry. We are 70 years old. I had a Catholic father, a Baptist mother and was baptized and married in a Pentecostal church. My husband came from an Adventist family. We are both Seventh-day Adventists now and enjoy your program so much. My husband and I have read the Bible many times, so we have a hard time finding pastors that preach the complete truth from the Bible. ... Thank you, and God bless your ministry."

Thank you, Gray family, for this letter, "The enclosed check is for your ministry. We recently had a satellite dish installed [we had been without one for 6 years] and found your program on 3ABN. We appreciate your ministry and cutting delivery of truth. Yes it does hurt, but praise the Lord, may it do its needed work."

Bobby and Nita wrote, "Stay strong in the Lord as we see these bad times are near. May His will be done as His truth goes out. We love you and thank the Lord for you. We see you on 3ABN."

Mearle exclaimed by phone, "Blessings to your household. I love Sister Chris; give her a hug from me. These messages are just what we need in the pulpit—they are so refreshing! Now is the time for such preaching!"

Behold the Lamb
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 Enlightening the world with the gospel of Christ!



Originally, this article was simply an overview to remind us of where we are as a country and world in this great controversy between good and evil. Events are happening so rapidly that it overwhelms the mind as one contemplates the culmination of this world's history and the prophetic future that we are spiraling into. The disappearance of the Malaysia flight 370 seems an impossible scenario with our modern-day of technology; and the absolute horror in Washington of a mudslide so swift and devastating that a whole neighborhood of homes and people were buried in moments. At the last count as I'm writing this continuation, 16 people have been found dead with 175 others unaccounted for and possibly buried under 40 feet of mud and debris. And these two heart-wrenching disasters barely scratch the surface of the increase of frequency in disasters by land, sea, and air. *"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the seas and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:25-28.*

A recent video has begun to circulate the web. It is a message from "The Order of the Ark Community," an interdenominational community of Christians organized to **see the visible** unity of Christians all over the world, and it is entitled, "The Miracle of Unity Has Begun," by Bishop Tony Palmer and Pope Francis. Bishop Palmer states that, "There is something historic happening among us. And we need to be aware ..." Indeed there is something historic happening! Prophecy is being fulfilled. **And Bishop Tony Palmer and Pope Francis are being used to usher in the final culmination of the "image to the beast."** Bishop Palmer claims, and believes that he proves, that the reasons for Protestantism against the Catholic Church no longer exist and that several denominations have put this in writing. In one point, he claims not to be a Catholic, yet, he also states that we are all Catholic's, part of the universal body, as long as we have been "born again," and that we should take back what belongs to us (implying that we are all one with the Catholic Church). In fact, as he goes through his oral dissertation of church history, he chooses his terminology very carefully. Rather than stating that new churches have been formed over the centuries, he carefully states that new **denominations** were formed; clearly, giving the impression that there has always been, and always will be, only one church and that being the Catholic Church. He says that he has been/is coming to various denominations in the "Spirit of Elijah," and that the spirit of Elijah is a spirit of reconciliation to return hearts to each other and that **this is very important.**

Bishop Palmer says that, "I've come to understand that, **diversity is divine; it is division that is diabolic.**" Oh friends, did not Christ point out that the Bible is like unto a two-edged sword? It cuts, separates, and **divides!** Bishop Palmer is teaching that all churches are one with the Catholic Church through the Spirit, or "glory," of God. He is involved in spiritualism that has been cloaked under the garb of Christianity. He, along with his "spiritual guide," Pope Francis, are calling us to unite stating that **it is, "The glory that glues us together, not the doctrines."** The Bible has been on the chopping block for many years now. In the minds of many, it is of non effect. This statement places the final nail in the coffin of the minds of potentially millions that they no longer need concern themselves with Bible **doctrine!**

God's remnant are becoming aware of this video. It was brought to my attention this past week in March, 2014, that Pastor Doug Batchelor has posted a video examining the video featuring Bishop Palmer and Pope Francis. I've yet to watch it all, but I have no doubt that Pastor Doug is exposing the errors in this movement and showing how prophecy is being fulfilled. (You may view Pastor Doug's response at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsf2q-8ez08&sns=em>.) We also received an email that 3ABN will be addressing this issue soon as well. **Preparedness is NOW.** We MUST educate ourselves in the TRUTH so that we will not be deceived. Christ knew just how powerful the deceptions of the enemy are. That's why He prayed that His people would not be deceived! But we must, *"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of TRUTH." II Timothy 2:15.*

Please read carefully the following as you compare these quotes written so long ago with the above—it is astonishing, and sobering, as we see how God told us that all this would happen and **what is to follow:**

*"Through the two great errors, the immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness, **Satan will bring the people under his deceptions.** While the former lays the foundation of **spiritualism**, the latter creates a **bond of sympathy with Rome.** The*



Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of Spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience.” *The Great Controversy*, 588.

“The substitution of the laws of men for the law of God, the exaltation, **by merely human authority**, of Sunday in place of the Bible Sabbath, **is the last act in the drama.** **When this substitution becomes universal**, God will reveal Himself. He will arise in His majesty to shake terribly the earth. He will come out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the world for their iniquity, and the earth shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 7, p. 141.

“When our nation shall so abjure the principles of its government as to enact a Sunday law, **Protestantism will in this act join hands with popery**; it will be nothing else than **giving life to the tyranny** which has long been eagerly watching its opportunity to spring again into active despotism.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 712.

By the decree of enforcing the institution of the Papacy in violation of the law of God, our nation will disconnect herself fully from righteousness. When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and Republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan, and that the end is near.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 451.

The saints must get a thorough understanding of present truth, which they will be obliged to maintain from the Scriptures. They must understand the **state of the dead**, for the **spirits of devils will yet appear to them, professing to be beloved friends and relatives, who will declare to them that the Sabbath has been changed, also other unscriptural doctrines.” *Early Writings*, p. 87 (1854). **The stage has been set for this. “Heaven Is Real,” is now coming out in movie form. Millions more will be deceived in preparation for these final acts! “The apostles, as personated by these lying spirits, are made to contradict what they wrote at the dictation of the Holy Spirit when on earth. They deny the divine origin of the Bible.”** *The Great Controversy*, p. 557 (1911).**

“Persons will arise pretending to be Christ Himself, and claiming the title and worship which belong to the world’s Redeemer. They will perform wonderful miracles of healing, and will profess to have revelations from heaven contradicting the testimony of the Scriptures. ...

“But the people of God will not be misled. The teachings of this false christ are not in accordance with the Scriptures. His blessing is pronounced upon the worshipers of the beast and his image, the very class upon whom the Bible declares that God’s unmingled wrath shall be poured out.” *The Great Controversy*, pp. 624, 625 (1911).

“When they were scattered by persecution, they went forth filled with missionary zeal. They realized the responsibility of their mission. They knew that they held in their hands the bread of life for a famishing world; and they were constrained by the love of Christ to break this bread to all who were in need.” *The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 106.

“God means that testing truth shall be brought to the front, and become a subject of examination and discussion, even if it is through the contempt placed upon it. The minds of the people must be agitated. Every controversy, every reproach, every slander, will be God’s means of provoking inquiry, and awakening minds that otherwise would slumber.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 453.

“The apostle Paul declares that ‘all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.’ Why is it, then, that persecution seems in a great degree to slumber? The only reason is, that the church has conformed to the world’s standard, and therefore awakens no opposition. **The religion which is current in our day is not of the pure and holy character that marked the Christian faith in the days of Christ and His apostles.** It is only because of the spirit of compromise with sin, because the great truths of the Word of God are so indifferently regarded, because there is so little vital godliness in the church, that Christianity is apparently so popular with the world. **Let there be a revival of faith and power of the early church, and the spirit of persecution will be revived, and the fires of persecution will be rekindled.**” *The Great Controversy*, p. 48.

