

Spirit of Prophecy 3 of 4

#0003

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—January 3, 1973

“The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass; and He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John: Who bare record of the Word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw” Revelation 1:1–2.

Now, as we look at this verse, I want you to notice the channel of light. Watch as we look at the chart and listen to what we just read.

“The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him” Revelation 1:1.

So this revelation proceeds from the Godhead, from the Father and the Son.

Now, how does it get down here to this world? The first verse says:

“He sent and signified it by His angel” Revelation 1:1.

As we noted this morning in the first chapter of Luke, this angel’s name is Gabriel. He’s the right-hand covering cherub next to the throne of God.

And what does Gabriel do with it? Well, it says:

“[Jesus] sent and signified it by His angel *unto* His servant John” Revelation 1:1.

And John was one of the prophets, which you will find in the twenty-second chapter. The angel says to John:

“I am your fellowservant, and of your brethren the prophets” Revelation 22:9.

So John was a prophet.

Very well. We have this chain or channel of light then—with Christ, through the angel Gabriel, and on down to the prophets.

Now, what does John do with it? The second verse says:

“[He] bare record of the Word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ” Revelation 1:2.

He was told to do this.

Notice the eleventh verse. Jesus is talking to him:

“What thou seest, *write* in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia” Revelation 1:11.

So, this is the purpose of this light that comes from Heaven. God’s purpose in giving it through the angel to the prophet is that it may be shed upon the *church*!

Question friends: If this is so, isn’t it a wonderful privilege to be a part of the church that is in the light? This is one of the great reasons why it’s important to *know* which is the true church and to be a part of it. The true church has communication from the sky; it’s in touch with Heaven. Jesus speaks from Heaven to His commandment-keeping church here on earth.

Now, in this book of Revelation that came through this channel of light to the church, Jesus promised that this same angel would come again in the remnant of time: Revelation 12:17.

In the book of Revelation, we have various symbols. The dragon stands for the Devil. Revelation 12:7–9 says so. The woman represents the church. God’s true church is represented by this pure, true woman of the twelfth chapter. Now in the seventeenth verse, we see the light of prophecy put upon the last church:

“And the dragon was wroth with the woman” Revelation 12:17,

(The Devil was angry with the church.)

“And went to make war with the remnant...”

The last.

“...of her seed” Revelation 12:17.

Now, will you read the rest of the verse with me?

“Which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” Revelation 12:17.

The remnant, the last of God’s church in this world, will keep *what*? The commandments—all ten of them. And they have something. What is it? The testimony of Jesus, which is the Spirit of Prophecy, as we noted last night and this morning in Revelation 19:10.

My point is, the same Jesus who spoke to John on the Isle of Patmos and sent His angel with this message for the prophet *then* to write out for the church, that same God has promised to send His angel in these latter days.

A number of years ago, when I was holding meetings in a distant state, there was an infidel that attended those meetings. After one evening meeting, he said to me, "Mr. Frazee, could I have an interview with you?"

I said, "Surely."

So we made an appointment, and the next afternoon this infidel, and I sat down together.

He spent about an hour telling me why he didn't believe the Bible, and what his doubts were and so forth. And when he got all through, I said to him, "Now friend, do you get any hope out of all those doubts?"

"No."

Well, I said, "Would you like to hear my hope?"

"Yes."

So I told him that I knew that God was going to make this world all over and that He was going to give me a home in it. And that I could live forever in a happy world without any pain, nor trouble or sorrow.

Now I said, "I realize that in order for a man to know that, he ought to have some evidence." I said, "Would you be interested in knowing the evidence I have?" and he said he would.

So I took him over to the second chapter of Daniel. We went down through the image—you know, the head of gold and so on down to the toes and how Daniel interpreted that dream and told Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon that there would be four kingdoms. And they came to pass in history: Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome. That Rome would be divided, and that those divisions would continue until the end of the world and the coming of Jesus. And then Christ would set up a new kingdom. And he was quite interested in that, and I showed him some other prophecies. And then he said, "Mr. Frazee, may I ask you another question?" And I said, "Yes."

He said, "Tell me. You say that back there, the angel came to these men that wrote the Bible, these prophets, and gave them visions?"

"Yes."

He said, "Why is it that angel never comes today: just way back then?"

Do you think that was a good question? Was that a fair question? Sure it was. I said to him, "Friend, have you ever asked any preacher that question before?"

"Oh yes," he said, "lots of them."

I said, "Did you ever get an answer?"

“No,” he said, “I didn’t.”

Then I said, “Well, you have met the movement that has the answer to that question. It’s not because of anything in me, but I’m connected with the movement that has the answer to that question.”

Do we friends? Did I tell him the truth? Has that angel who came in Bible times, come down here in this remnant of time to God's commandment-keeping church? Oh yes. That's the wonderful story. That's what we were talking about last night and again this morning. That's what these experiences we've just been hearing are about. And friends, there are dozens and scores and *hundreds* of *wonderful* evidences that God has indeed sent His angel in these latter days. And that the same angel that appeared to the prophets of old, has come today.

I'd like to have you turn to Daniel the 10th chapter. I want to show you something interesting about these visions of the Bible prophets and how they were manifested in the life and work of Ellen G. White, the messenger to the remnant. The one that God used in these latter days to receive His messages and write them out to the church.

Daniel 10:17. Here Daniel is talking with this same angel, Gabriel. If you want his name, you will find it in Daniel the 8th chapter and the 16th verse and Daniel the 9th chapter and the 21st verse. The angel's name, Gabriel, is mentioned here as the angel who talked with the prophet, Daniel, in vision. I want you to watch and notice Daniel's condition in vision. Daniel 10:17, he is talking to Gabriel:

“For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me”
Daniel 10:17.

Do you think you could talk without breath? You couldn't even live very long without breath. Doctor, about how long can a man ordinarily live without breathing? Think of it! Permanent brain damage after six minutes.

But here is a man not only alive but he's talking, and how much breath is there in him? No breath.

How can it be done? That's what Daniel said, “How could it be done?” It's a miracle. My dear friends, God can do anything He wants to with the human body. He's the Creator. He can keep us alive with breath; He can keep us alive without breath. And in vision, God sometimes takes away the breath of the prophet that it may be manifest that the voice that is speaking is guided by the Spirit of God.

Now, this is what happened with the condition of Ellen White over and over and over again. Dozens and scores of times, Sister White, was in vision when she was examined, sometimes by medical doctors. Some of them were not even religious people, but from a scientific standpoint, they examined her. I have signed affidavits for a number of those examinations. My point is that for many years, that marvelous manifestation—that miracle—was taking place in this movement. Why?

So that the early believers in this message, the men and women who started this advent movement, might have unmistakable evidence that there was something miraculous.

In one of Sister White's early visions, she was in a room where there were a number of people. It was in a sitting room in a home. A number of people were gathered there. And in vision, (remember, without any breath in her body) she went over to a bureau and picked up a large family Bible.

I have seen this Bible many times; I have held it in my hands. It weighs eighteen pounds. If you go to the White Office [Estate] in Washington now, you can see this very Bible—an 18-pound family Bible.

She picked this up and held it out on her left hand; her arm extended like this. Then she went from one to another in the room and turning the pages of the Bible to various texts, pointed to the text with her right hand, and quoted the text without ever looking to where she was pointing. And continued from one to another in the room quoting various texts. And this continued between 20 minutes and half an hour and all the while without breath in her body. I have seen strong men hold this Bible. The longest I ever saw a man hold it in that position was two minutes. She held it for twenty minutes and without breath in her body.

This and many experiences similar helped to convince the pioneers of this message that something more than ordinary was happening. Would you think so if you saw something like that? Oh yes!

But friends, when we present this evidence, remember this is not the strongest evidence that this is the work of the Holy Spirit. This simply proves that there is something extraordinary, something beyond the human, something miraculous. But the real test that this is the work of the Spirit of God is this fact: It agrees with the law of God and the Bible. Because it is written in Isaiah 8:20:

“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them” Isaiah 8:20.

So no matter how many miracles there were in the life and work of Ellen White, if her visions did not lead to the Bible and agree with the law of God, I would have to reject it all as the work of a false prophet. And there have been false prophets, my dear friends; plenty of them. I could name some of them this afternoon, but that's not my subject. I thank God that every one of these counterfeits, every one of these false prophets, is evidence that somewhere around in these latter days, God has a true church with a true prophet.

Tell me. Did any of you ever find a counterfeit three-dollar bill? Why not? There are no genuines. Every counterfeit dollar bill, every counterfeit five dollar, ten dollar, twenty dollar bill, is evidence that somewhere there's a what? A genuine. And so every false prophet, every man or woman that claims to have had a vision and speak for God, every one of those counterfeits is evidence that somewhere God

has a true, a genuine one. One that has indeed had a vision from God and speaks by authority from the King of kings.

Now, if you would turn please to Ephesians the fourth chapter, I want to show you a most interesting verse, which will help to present some of the rest of the details on this thought. Ephesians the fourth chapter; speaking of the ascension of Christ:

“Wherefore He saith, When He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive” Ephesians 4:8.

And did what?

“And gave gifts unto men” Ephesians 4:8.

You see, when Jesus went there to Heaven, he went there for us, for His church, for His people. That’s why He went. He said that “It is expedient for you that I go away.” And so when He left His disciples, He said, “I’m going to Heaven, and I’m going to receive of the Father the promised Holy Spirit and send Him to you.”

And so when Jesus went to Heaven:

“He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers” Ephesians 4:11.

Here we are. Here we have these gifts of the Spirit.

Now, if you'll just hold your finger in that text because I want to come back to it. I wish you would turn back just a few pages to 1 Corinthians 12:28. I want to see where these gifts of the Spirit were put. They’re not poured out indiscriminately over the world. There’s a special place where these gifts of the Spirit are found.

“And God hath set some in the church” 1 Corinthians 12:28.

Where? Where does he say? In the church.

“And God hath set some in the church: first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers” 1 Corinthians 12:28.

Including the pastors and evangelists.

“After that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues” 1 Corinthians 12:28.

God has set all these gifts where? In the church. As a jeweler takes a precious stone and sets it in a ring, so Jesus has set these gifts in the church. If you’re looking for them, then where will you go? You’ll go to the church.

Now I want to ask you something? Do you think God is putting true prophets in false churches? Is that the way God would work? Why, no. A true prophet in a

false church would only lead people into the wrong place, wouldn't it? He puts the true gift of prophecy in the true church. So, if you want to find the true prophet, you will find that true prophet in the true church. And so it is written:

"The remnant of her seed keep the commandments of God, and have" Revelation 12:17.

What?

"The testimony of Jesus Christ" Revelation 12:17.

Now back to Ephesians. These gifts are put *where*? In the church. Now we are ready for the 12th verse that tells us what they are for. Will you look at the 12th verse and tell me what these gifts—apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers—are for? For what?

"For the perfecting of the saints" Ephesians 4:12.

Do you want to be made perfect? Well, here are the gifts to get you ready.

"For the work of the ministry" Ephesians 4:12.

To fit us up to help others.

"For the edifying of the body of Christ" Ephesians 4:12.

Edify means to build up, and this is what these gifts are for. Notice the thirteenth verse: They bring unity. This work continues until the people in the church are brought to a perfect man:

"The measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ"
Ephesians 4:13.

Now friends, through the years of this movement, this gift—the gift of prophecy—has built up the church. This is why we have, in the Seventh-day Adventist church, the wonderful deposit and phases of the work such as Christian education, the colporteur work, publishing work, sanitariums and hospitals with their medical ministry. And *all* the other phases of the work. Many of these were started directly under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

How do we happen to have papers and books that are sent out, literally by the *millions* of pages every year? Because back there, in New England in 1848, Jesus gave Sister White a vision. And when there were less than a hundred Sabbath-keeping Adventists in the world, the prophet was told to tell Elder White, "Begin to print a little paper. Send it out. It'll be small at first, but from this small beginning, it was shown to me to be like streams of light that went clear around the world." And so Elder White, in a few months, came out with a little paper called *Present Truth*.

He carried those papers to the post office in a carpetbag. With tears and prayer, they watered the seed that was sown. And from that beginning, friends, the

publishing work has grown until every year tens of millions of dollars worth of literature is sown like seed *all around* this world.

Why today, that little paper that was started back there, soon came to be called *The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*. Every week you and I get that paper and how we love to read it. It's been going now over a hundred and twenty years. Think of how it started. Because God sent His angel from Heaven and said to the prophet, "Tell the church to begin to print the message." That's why we have it.

And in these books, the volumes of the *Testimonies*, we have hundreds of pages devoted to telling how to carry on our publishing houses, how to circulate our literature—the work of colporteur.

I'd like to ask you this afternoon: how many people are there here that, either are now or have in the past, spent some time in the literature ministry as colporteurs? May I see your hands? Just look at that. How did that *happen*, friends? Because God sent His angel from Heaven with visions saying that that work ought to be and telling how to do it.

Again, here is our educational work. How does it happen that Seventh-day Adventists have their own system of education: the elementary schools, high schools, college, graduate schools, our own medical college? How did that happen? It didn't just happen, friends. God sent His angel Gabriel from Heaven, and over a hundred years ago gave instructions to this people that we should have our own schools; told us what subjects should be taught; told us to make the Bible the foundation of all education. And through the years, *wonderful* providences have attended.

I was telling you last night something about our health work; how God sent His angel and gave visions to Sister White on this subject. I thought you might be interested for a few minutes, in hearing the story of the establishment of our medical school. This is where the educational work, and health and medical work *blend* in that institution out on the Pacific coast. This is where Doctor McKinney took his training. This is where, as a young man, I trained as a medical evangelist. Fifty years ago this fall, I went to Loma Linda.

But how did Loma Linda happen to be there? Well, let me tell you very briefly that story. For years, beginning with 1866, we had a sanitarium at Battle Creek. But worldly influences came into that place. By the turn of the century, Battle Creek no longer furnished the conditions necessary to train medical missionaries.

And while Sister White was still over in Australia in the 90s [1890s], she was shown in the visions of the night, sanitariums running in southern California. And when she came back from Australia in the early 1900s, she began to get different ones to look for property in and around Los Angeles and San Diego, where sanitariums might be started.

One of these was secured near San Diego, another near Los Angeles. And people thought, "Well, this is it. That's plenty to look after."

But the prophet said, "No, we must have another one."

And God showed her all this in vision before she saw it with her natural eye. She told a man that she had instructed to look for property, out about sixty miles east of Los Angeles. She said, "There is a place between Riverside and Redlands, and it is closer to Redlands. And you can find it if you want to."

That was Loma Linda. As you know, Doctor, it's about five miles from Redlands and about eight or nine miles to Riverside. And before she'd ever looked upon it with her eyes, she described what God had shown her in vision. When Elder Burton discovered this property, it had been built to attract people there as guests. But they had not been able to make a success of it either as a hotel or as a sanitarium.

And there it stood. It was offered for a hundred and twenty thousand dollars, which in those days was a lot of money. But even then, it was less than what was in it. Surrounded by orange groves with the beautiful San Bernardino mountains in the distance; indeed, it lived up to its name—hill beautiful.

But our people didn't have the money to do anything like that. Paradise Valley near San Diego and Glendale were still in debt. And the thought of undertaking something like that just seemed impossible.

But finally, as Sister White urged Elder Burton to go ahead, he secured a little money and made the down payment on that property, which by then had been offered to him for forty thousand dollars—just one-third of the original offer. Sister White had told him that if he would go ahead in faith and get that, that money would come from unexpected sources.

When the time drew near for the first payment of five thousand dollars, the committee by this time was meeting there on the grounds of Loma Linda, and there was no money in hand to pay that five thousand, which was *due* that day. And there were some sorrowful looking men there and some that were a bit, perhaps even doubtful and complaining. But Elder Burton said, "Never mind, the mail hasn't come yet today."

Presently, the postman came in. And Elder Burton opened a letter from New Jersey. And there was a letter from a woman in New Jersey with a check in it for five thousand dollars. God had burdened that woman to do that, and it came right on time: fulfilling the statement of the prophet that money would come from unexpected sources.

When Elder Burton went down to the bank to pay it, happy, of course, that the payment had been met on time; as he turned away to leave the bank, something said to him, "Look here, you almost missed it. What are you going to do next time?" For still, there were over thirty thousand dollars to pay, and nobody knew where any of it was going to come from. "You almost missed it this time. What will you do next time?" And back to his heart came the response of faith, "The money will come from unexpected sources." And that's where it came from.

Sister White finally arrived on the grounds. She saw with her natural eyes the same trees that she had seen in a vision. Many times I've walked under those trees—those pepper trees, Doctor, and eucalyptus trees. And as she looked out over the campus, she said, "Loma Linda is to be *more* than a sanitarium. It's to be

an educational center. A school is to be established here for the training of *gospel medical missionary evangelists*.”

And so it came to be, my friends. And to that Hill Beautiful have come students, literally from all over the world, and from that hill have gone forth students, literally to all over the world. And now in every continent, graduates of that school—men and women trained in the healing art and in soul-winning—are carrying the *blended* ministry for the body and the soul.

Why do we as a people put that emphasis on health education? Why are we interested as a *church* in dealing with disease and with the prevention of disease? The answer is very simple, friends. Because over a hundred years ago, God sent His angel down here with that revelation from Heaven.

And listen, not all of us can go to Loma Linda, but all of us can have the light that guides in the training of our medical missionaries in the book *Ministry of Healing*; in the book *Medical Ministry*; in the book *Counsels on Diet and Foods*—oh, this wonderful book! Dr. Clive McKay, professor of nutrition at Cornell University for many years—not an Adventist—he read this book through. And read it again and again: and has used it in lectures in various churches and pointed out what a tremendous thing it is that here is a book, much of it written over a hundred years ago by a woman untrained in the schools of the world, and yet from a nutrition standpoint, the latest discoveries of science only serve to confirm what was written here decades and decades ago.

I say, friends, we're rich. What do you say? Oh, how rich we are! When *Jesus* ascended up on high, He gave gifts unto men. And through these gifts, you and I are privileged to have this light from Heaven.

I'll tell you this, friends: The whole purpose of it, as we have studied this morning, is to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. Oh, how thankful I am this afternoon to be a part of the church that has communication from the sky. To be with those people who are being led, as Israel was led from Egypt to Canaan, by the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night.

“If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin” 1 John 1:7.

And now, Father, we thank Thee that Jesus has led us and is leading us all the way. We thank Thee for the abundance of light and help Thou has provided in this wonderful gift. We just want to say thank you. And Lord, may everyone here today know the joy of walking in the light Thou hast given us, for Jesus' sake, amen.

God bless you.

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