

Hiding Place from Every Wind 5 of 8

Pestilence-laden Wind of Heresy and Apostasy

#0334

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—April 1967

Let us turn to Isaiah 32:1–2. We were just singing:

O safe to the Rock that is higher than I,
My soul in its conflicts and sorrows would fly;
...Thou blest “Rock of Ages,” I’m hiding in Thee.

Now, this, as is true with many of our beautiful Gospel songs, is taken from the Scripture. And this text is the basis of it, Isaiah 32:1–2:

“Behold, a King shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment. And a Man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land” Isaiah 32:1–2.

Here’s a hiding place from every wind—Jesus, the Rock of Ages. Aren’t you thankful, friends?

After the atom bomb began its work, one man wrote a book called, *No Place to Hide*. But oh, thank God, there *is* a place to hide—in Jesus. *He’s* the refuge.

Now, this says:

“...A man shall be as an hiding place from the wind...”
Isaiah 32:2.

And Paul, in Ephesians 4, speaks of every wind blowing. We’ve been studying some of these winds. A week ago, we studied about the icy wind of formalism and the burning wind of fanaticism. Two weeks ago, we were studying about the terrible whirlwind of lawlessness and the coming hurricane of persecution. Tonight, I want to study with you another one of these winds. It is the pestilence-laden wind of heresy and apostasy.

You know, when a wind comes bringing some terrible contagion, it isn’t labeled. Some of you remember the terrible influenza epidemic of 1918. Twenty million people perished in that awful epidemic. And not only was it passed from one to another in the great cities, but even way up in the mountains, sheep herders came down with that

influenza when they hadn't been in touch with civilization for a long time. And people out on the high seas in ships came down with that influenza.

I have thought of that statement in *Great Controversy*, page 590:

"Satan is exercising his power... He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence" *Great Controversy*, page 590.

So Satan has the power of putting into the air that which causes thousands to perish by the pestilence. But the pestilence that I want to study with you tonight, my friends, is something worse than smallpox or leprosy or bubonic plague. It is the deadly pestilence of heresy and apostasy. All through the Bible, God has warned us against anything that leads away from the truth. The truth sanctifies (John 17:17), but error *never* saves. Error is *always* soul-destroying. And what some deadly pestilence is to the body, heresy and apostasy are to the soul.

Let us turn to Ephesians, the fourth chapter, where we have another text on the winds, and notice how the apostle warns us. He tells us in the eighth verse that when Jesus ascended on high, He gave gifts to men. We know those are the gifts of the Spirit. In the 11th verse, we see them named as apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. And then in the 12th verse, he tells us what they're for—to make the saints perfect and to help them in their work of ministry, to build them up. In the 13th verse, he tells us that we will need them:

"Till we all come in the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man..." Ephesians 4:13.

Now the 14th verse shows us the blessed results of being under such a ministry:

"That we from now on be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive" Ephesians 4:14.

Here, false teachings are likened to winds, winds of doctrine. 'Doctrine,' of course, means 'teaching.' The truth is *true* doctrine, but heresy and apostasy bring us *false* doctrine.

And remember this, friends, Satan originates nothing. His whole time is spent in perverting. He is not a creator, but he's something of an editor. He *changes* things. And so it is written in Romans 1 concerning the heathen that they "...changed the truth of God into a lie..." (Romans 1:25).

This is exactly what heresy and apostasy do. They change the truth of God into a lie. You take these disease germs that invade the human body. They prey upon the

various organs and tissues of the body, and Satan, through these various bacteria and viruses, seeks to pervert the physiological processes.

In much the same way, heresies and apostasies change the truth of God into a lie and seek to bring about a disordered working of our spiritual natures. But Paul tells us here that if we will enter into the program that he has outlined here and let these blessed gifts of the Spirit of God work in us, that we will indeed be immune to all these things. We will not be tossed about with every wind of doctrine:

“...By the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive” Ephesians 4:14.

In *Volume 5*, page 80, speaking of the time into which we are even now entering, the prophet says:

“The days are fast approaching when there will be great perplexity and confusion. Satan, clothed in angel robes, will deceive, if possible, the very elect. There will be gods many and lords many. Every wind of doctrine will be blowing”
Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, page 80.

Think of it, friends! We’re going to have to meet *every possible approach* of Satanic error. Now, this might sound frightening, but as I shall show you tonight, there’s nothing for us to be frightened about provided that we hide in Jesus, the Rock of Ages, provided that we let *Him* build up our spiritual bloodstream with an immunity. We need the antibodies in our bloodstream that can deal with all these invading organisms of error.

Back to our statement:

“Every wind of doctrine will be blowing. Those who have rendered supreme homage to ‘science falsely so called’ will not be the leaders then. Those who have trusted to intellect, genius, or talent will not then stand at the head of rank and file. They did not keep pace with the light” *Ibid*.

You notice here the Lord’s messenger calls our attention to the influence of “science falsely so-called.” Those who become infected with this virus will not be able to go through the shaking time ahead. They will be blown out by the winds of the adversary. Every wind of doctrine will be blowing.

Let’s turn to Colossians, the second chapter, and we’ll notice Paul’s warning on this point:

“Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ” Colossians 2:8.

What does ‘beware’ mean? If you were trying to get somebody on the highway to beware as they approached a crossing, what color of light would you put up? There, in the very beginning of the Christian church, dangers were pointed out by the Spirit of God, the dangers that come through listening to philosophy.

Now with that, let’s turn over to 1 Timothy, the sixth chapter, and notice another warning of the apostle. 1 Timothy 6:20–21:

“O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee...” 1 Timothy 6:20 21.

Oh, that the grace of God may keep us from science falsely so called.

Now, why does the apostle say "science falsely so called"? The word "science" comes from a word meaning "I know." Science is supposed to be knowledge. But why does he say "science falsely so called?" They don't know. That's it, son. You know, people can *believe* a lie, but nobody can *know* a lie. You can only know the truth. And when people *think* they know something and it isn't so, that's science falsely so called.

When people go out here and dig up some dinosaur out of these mountains and tell us how many hundreds of millions of years old, it is, that's what? Science falsely so called. Sometimes I wish that were the only exhibition of science falsely so called. There's a lot of it that's far more insidious, more subtle than that.

At the turn of the century in this denomination, the greatest scientific mind among us was that of Dr. John Harvey Kellogg. He was the leader in the medical missionary work, the superintendent of the great Battle Creek Sanitarium, which at this time, around 1900, was the leading medical institution in North America. And I'm not speaking just of Seventh-day Adventists; I'm speaking of the influence that Dr. Kellogg and his work exerted in the world at large. Members of royal families of Europe came clear across the Atlantic to be under the care of Dr. Kellogg. Some of the leading families, the wealthy families of America, regularly came to Battle Creek; such people as the Vanderbilts, the Asters, and others.

Yes, Battle Creek was a great, shining light. And much of it was because Dr. Kellogg, for many years, for *decades*, gave earnest attention to the instruction of the Spirit of Prophecy. In fact, at one of our General Conference sessions, he explained to the people who were in attendance at that General Conference, why it was that the Battle Creek Sanitarium was so well known and favorably known. He said, “Through the Spirit of Prophecy, God has given us much instruction on health, on physiology, on

disease and its causes, and prevention and cure.” And he said, “I have tried to study these things, and as the result, many times when things come out in the medical journals from scientific research, we, here at Battle Creek, are already way ahead of that, and the scientific people come here amazed at what is happening.” He gave the glory to God. That’s what he *should* have done.

But as time went on, dear friends, in the 1890s and the early 1900s, there came a change. Delving deep into the mysteries of the workings of the human mind and combining with his study of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy some other things that were not inspired, he, at last, came forth with a philosophy which was represented in a book he published called the *Living Temple*.

The prophet of God said it had pantheism in it. He denied it. The prophet of God said that it would sweep away our belief in the personality of God. He denied this. He said he believed in the personality of God.

But through the gift of prophecy, we were warned that his philosophy, a mixture of worldly science, so-called, and inspired information, that this mixture was like the eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. And so there came a real crisis in the denomination.

I want to read a statement or two here from the Spirit of Prophecy concerning this. Page 197 of the book, *Selected Messages*, Book 1:

“Be not deceived; many will depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. We have now before us the alpha of this danger. The omega will be of a most startling nature” *Selected Messages*, Book 1, page 197.

Now, she is speaking of the book *Living Temple* and the theories of Dr. Kellogg. This is made plain on page 200:

“In the book *Living Temple* there is presented the alpha of deadly heresies. The omega will follow” *Ibid.*, page 200.

You remember that alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet. That’s where we get the word alphabet—alpha, beta... A, B...—from the Greek. Omega is the *last* letter of the Greek alphabet. And so she is saying here that in the book *Living Temple* we have the A of this alphabet of heresies, but the omega will follow:

“We have now before us the alpha of this danger. The omega will be of a most startling nature” *Ibid.*, page 197.

So it didn’t all end, my dear friends, 60 years ago. It did not end with the separation of the Battle Creek Sanitarium from this denomination. It didn’t end with the

death of Dr. Kellogg, years later. No. The truth of the matter is that this mixture of science and religion is one of the most effective ways that the enemy has found to work.

I turn now to Volume 1, and here is a testimony that was written way back before Dr. Kellogg ever began his work. You'll find this on page 290 of *Volume 1*:

"[Satan] therefore transforms himself into an angel of light and works upon the mind to allure from the only safe and right path. The sciences of phrenology, psychology, and mesmerism are the channel through which he comes more directly to this generation and works with that power which is to characterize his efforts near the close of probation"
Testimonies for the Church, Volume 1, pages 290.

Then the Lord's messenger directs our attention to 2 Thessalonians 2:8–12. Will you turn to that, please? Now, most people when they read 2 Thessalonians 2:8–12, they are thinking of the working of *spiritualism*, and that's correct. This is talking about the working of spiritualism. As spiritualism unites the Papacy and the so-called Protestant churches into one grand movement down here near the end of time, these mighty miracles will be worked that are spoken of here. You notice in the ninth verse it says that Satan will work with what?

"...All power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness..." 2 Thessalonians 2:9–10.

But now, watch! Here the prophet of God, the messenger to the remnant, applies this text *also* to a form of spiritualism which is usually not labeled spiritualism at all. She's talking here about the sciences that have to do with the mind: psychology and mesmerism. (Mesmerism is another name for hypnotism.)

"Satan has come unperceived through these sciences and has poisoned the minds of thousands..." *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 1, page 290.*

What's my subject tonight? The pestilence-laden winds of heresy and apostasy. Oh, these winds are full of poison, my friends!

"[Satan] is well pleased to have the knowledge of these sciences widespread. It is a plan which he himself has laid... Said the angel: 'Mark its influence. The controversy between Christ and Satan is not yet ended.' This entering in of Satan through the sciences is well devised by his satanic majesty, and in the minds of thousands will eventually destroy true faith in Christ's being the Messiah, the Son of God" *Ibid.*

Now, do not misunderstand me, friends. There is such a thing as true psychology. The word 'psychology' refers to a study of the laws of the mind. And of course, every part of God's creation has laws by which it works. There are laws that govern the working of the stomach, the liver, the lungs. So there are laws that govern the working of the brain. And the study of the laws by which the mind works, provided it's confined to *truth*, can be a blessing.

But notice that *this* says that Satan has used and is using these sciences, and in the time when Volume 1 was written, the prophet pointed forward to the future as the greatest time of Satan's working through these sciences that have to deal with the working of the human mind. This should put us on our guard. This should cause us to listen to the warning of Paul:

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy..."
Colossians 2:8.

It should lead us to listen carefully to what he told Timothy:

"O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust,
avoiding...oppositions of science falsely so called"
1 Timothy 6:20.

Now, I cannot tonight go into this subject at any length. I can only call your attention to it. And please note that over 60 years ago, it was this kind of thing that led out from this glorious third angel's message one of the brightest lights that ever shone in this denomination: Dr. John Harvey Kellogg.

There was another man who was very prominent in what we call the 1888 movement. His name was Waggoner. Have you ever heard of Elder E. J. Waggoner? How many have heard of him? Yes. He was associated with Elder A. T. Jones. He also became involved in philosophies that led him into heresies. If you'd like to read a personal testimony written to Elder Waggoner, you'll find it in the book *Medical Ministry*, pages 100 and 101.

And friends, I speak of this to cause us to be alarmed. We have a dangerous foe that we're dealing with. This man, Elder Waggoner, who had been such a bright, shining light in 1888 and through the early and middle 1890s (he, along with Elder Jones, gave the message of righteousness by faith), but as he delved into philosophies and scientific theories, he came up with some *amazing* interpretations of Scripture. You'll find some of them pointed out here by the prophet of God. Among others, he was teaching in 1903 that there would be marriages and births in Heaven, in the earth made new. The prophet of God laid bare the whole problem. He had become enamored of another woman other than his wife, and he was looking forward to the time in the earth made new when he could marry this one on whom his affections were set and raise up a family by her.

You'd think that such a thing was *impossible* to a minister of God that had been used so mightily, wouldn't you, friends? It shows that when we open our minds and hearts to these pestilence-laden winds of heresies, there's no limit to what Satan can do. Read what the prophet of God said to this man in *Medical Ministry*, pages 100 and 101.

Now, all this, as I say, is a prelude, because what happened back then with Kellogg and Jones and Waggoner, three *great* men in this denomination (if we may speak of men as great—I mean, they were used of God in a mighty way), when we see how they were led off in these various ways over 60 years ago, we remember that this was called the *what* of apostasy? The alpha. And the omega will be of a most startling character. Then I read you from Volume 1 that these *sciences* Satan is going to use in a special way just before the close of probation.

Oh, my friends, that God may help us to be alive and alert, and not be put to sleep by these germs that would give us sleeping sickness. What do you say?

Now I want to give you a very interesting statement concerning this very matter in the book *Evangelism*, page 623. This was written in 1904, right at the height of this battle. Here's the Lord's messenger writing:

"I am instructed to say to you that it is not best to dwell upon the spiritualistic sentiments, the strange, misleading theories, which have for years been coming in among us.

"It is not best to preach on the subject of Pantheism or to read quotations from authors who write on this subject, and the specious, deceptive errors, that lead to it. The statements made in *Testimonies*, volume 8, are sufficient to warn our people to avoid these errors" *Evangelism*, page 623.

Listen to the next sentence:

"These statements will do more to enlighten minds than all the explanations or theories that our ministers and teachers may put forth concerning these matters" *Ibid*.

My dear friends, it's possible to be so involved in the investigation of disease that we become diseased with the thing we're investigating. This is exactly what happened with a number of them back then.

Elder A. T. Jones went to Sister White at St. Helena when he was the president of the California conference. He said, "I want to go to Battle Creek and help Dr. Kellogg." The prophet of God said, "Don't go. Instead of helping *him*, you will be involved in that net, in that deception." And that's exactly what happened, my friends. We have little idea of how deceptive the theories of the great mastermind of Satan can be.

Now there're *two* things that are necessary, dear friends, to keep from getting sick when there are disease germs around. One is to keep away from them as much as we can. Is that right? The other is to build up immunity. Both are important. And so in this matter of dealing with these pestilence-laden winds of heresy and apostasy from whatever quarter they blow, two things are important: one is keep away from them as much as possible; the second is build up an immunity.

Let's turn to Matthew, the fourth chapter, and I want you to see how, dear friends, we can get the help we need to build up this immunity. You remember in Matthew 4, we have the record of the temptation of Christ. Satan brought to bear upon our Lord *all* the wisdom of his mastermind. But I want you to notice how Jesus dealt with it.

What were the first three words of Jesus' answer to the first temptation? "It is written." What were the first three words of His answer to the second temptation? "It is written." What were the first three words of His answer to the last one? "It is written." (First, He told him "get thee hence, Satan, for it is written...") My point is that in His answer every time, we find those three words: "it is written." What was He talking about, "It is written?" It is written where? In the Scriptures.

Now, Jesus was the Son of God. He met Satan as we are to meet him. And notice, He didn't argue with him, not once. He did not—oh, please get this!—he did not get into a discussion of finespun theological or scientific theories. He did not begin to reason that what Satan said could not be or that perhaps it was some other way. He simply quoted the Word of God.

Can you do better than that? Can you? Oh friends, that we may understand the simplicity of faith! What was our opening text?

"...A Man shall be as an hiding place from the wind..."
Isaiah 32:2.

Can we hide in safety from all these pestilence-laden winds? Can we be kept safe from the influence of heresy and apostasy? Yes, friends, if we'll hide in Christ. Christ is the *living* Word. In the Scriptures, we have the *written* Word. In the Word, as written in the Bible and as lived in the life of Jesus, here we find our security, my friends. The better acquainted we are with the Word, the more immune we will be to all the pestilence-laden winds of heresy.

Oh, I'm so glad, friends, that we don't have to spend our time in a lot of investigation of all these heresies and scientific theories that lead away from the truth. I hope that this is made plain tonight.

Notice this statement in *Selected Messages*, Book 1, and page 200, speaking of the apostasy of Kellogg:

“I am instructed to speak plainly. ‘Meet it,’ is the word spoken to me. ‘Meet it firmly, and without delay.’ But it is not to be met by our taking our working forces from the field to investigate doctrines and points of difference. We have no such investigation to make. In the book *Living Temple* there is presented the alpha of deadly heresies. The omega will follow...” *Selected Messages*, Book 1, page 200.

So you see, the answer is not *delving into* all the twistings and turnings of the serpent. Not a bit of it.

Sometimes people come to me concerning certain movements and messages, and they say, “Brother Frazee, I wish you would please explain this thing to me, and show me what’s wrong with it.”

And I thank God, my dear friends, that the simple answer to that is this: if, as has been pointed out in what we’ve studied from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, we will learn the *truth*, we need not spend our time with all these meanderings of heresies.

Several years ago, the federal government conducted a training school for bank cashiers. They were having trouble with counterfeit money being passed. And they called together a large number of bank tellers to be instructed so that they would be able to instantly detect counterfeit money. For six weeks the federal government trainers put those men through a course which was designed to make them able to detect these counterfeits.

Do you know how many pieces of counterfeit money they looked at during the six weeks? Not one.

Some people would say, “How in the world could you train men to detect counterfeit money and never look at it?” Ah friends, they spent every day of those six weeks studying what? The genuine. Studying the genuine. They knew that if a man *really* understood the minutiae of the genuine bills—the \$1 bills, the \$5 bills, \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100 and so on—if a man *really* knew every detail of those, his eye would pick up any deviation.

Oh friends, let us fill our minds with the third angel’s message, with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. What do you say? Then, whether the winds blow from the scientific quarter or the theological quarter, whether they have to do with breaking down faith in the sanctuary, or in the Spirit of Prophecy, or in the doctrine of creation, of which the Sabbath is a memorial, or whatever the heresy or the theory that leads away may be, *Jesus* is the hiding place—Jesus as a personal Savior, Jesus in His Word. Let us fill our minds with the Word. What do you say?

Shortly before his death, dear old Elder Luther Warren, one of our strong evangelists of a generation ago, wrote to me. And in his quivering hand, for he was

nearing the end of his journey, he wrote me these words: “Boil your folks in the third angel’s message.”

What did he mean? Ah, *saturate*. Fill the mind, fill the soul with these glorious truths which God has given the remnant.

May I ask you, friends, how much time are you devoting to the study of the Bible and the study of the inspired writings of the Spirit of Prophecy? Are you taking time every day to be ‘boiled’ in these principles? Are you building up in your spiritual bloodstream the antibodies which will make you immune to the heresies and apostasies? Are you feeding on the living Word? Ah, God grant it!

How many of you would like to send Jesus the word tonight that we want to hide in Him, and instead of investigating these heresies and scientific theories that lead away from simple faith and the Word of God, we want to hide in *Him*? How many of us would like to send Him that word tonight? May God add His blessing.

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