

One Right Answer

#0566

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—May 14, 1971

He'll tell us how He got to heaven, and it's the way every one of us can make certain:

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” Acts 4:12.

You know, dear friends, in some ways, the Devil has an advantage. Shall I tell you what it is? The advantage is with Him in the very nature of things—on the point I'm going to mention.

Suppose I put on the blackboard here a column of figures: 15, 37, 528, 32, and so on. And then I draw a line at the bottom, and I ask you to add up that column. You all get busy with your pencils and copy the figures, and pretty soon, you give me the answer. How many right answers can there be? How many?

[Audience] Just one.

Isn't that awfully narrow-minded? The idea that there could be only one right answer.

Now, listen carefully to my next question. How many wrong answers can there be? At least three or four? Or a hundred? A thousand? This is the advantage the Devil has. He knows there is only one right answer, and he has this advantage—he can set forth a wrong answer here, a wrong answer yonder, another one over there, and so on—dozens, scores, hundreds, thousands, of wrong answers. They are alike in this: they are all wrong.

How many right answers? Just one. Do you see the advantage the Devil has? And the person who expects to find the truth by the trial and error method has indeed much trial and much error ahead of him. Thank God for the revelation in His word of the one way:

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” Acts 4:12.

Do you want to be saved? There are not many ways. Oh, there are many ways suggested, many ways offered, many ways presented. There's a lot of advertising going on. The air is thick with propaganda. But all except one way is a wrong way.

Let's turn now to Matthew, the seventh chapter. We'll read it again:

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it"
Matthew 7:13–14.

The way to life is what? Narrow. The way to death is what? Broad, wide. It's another illustration of this same fact—that there's one right answer and many wrong answers. Do you know how narrow that way is, my friends? It's as narrow as one man. We have one example to follow. We're to follow in the way He opened up, the way of obedience to God's law.

And as Moses said:

"...turn not from it to the right hand or to the left..."
Joshua 1:7.

Go straight ahead, following the path. But that's what kind of a way? A narrow way. And those who follow it will be called narrow. But oh, my friends, thank God for the privilege of being in the narrow way with our Lord. What do you say?

Perhaps, I should point out another advantage that the enemy has. Did you ever hear of anybody catching smallpox? Did you ever hear of anybody catching influenza? Did you ever hear of anybody catching a cold? Oh, yes. Somebody says, "Of course, Brother Frazee, we hear about things like that all the time—at least some of these diseases."

Can you catch a disease from somebody else that has an infectious, contagious disease? Can you? Now, tell me another thing. Can you catch health from somebody? Can you? Well, come now, can you? Is there some germ of health that, if you sit around somebody that has it, you can catch it, too? Do you see the advantage the Devil has? Just as well face it, friends.

Watch it with apples. Did you ever sort over a barrel of apples or a box of apples or a bushel of apples? What were you looking for? What? An apple with what on it? A spot. And watch this. When you finally found one with a spot, did you say, "Well, I'll tell you, it's surrounded with so many good influences, if we leave it there, it'll get better?" What? Does it work that way? Does the sick apple catch health from the healthy apple? What will happen if you leave it there for a while? The well apple will catch disease from the sick apple. That's right.

Something to think about, isn't it, friends? Do you see some more reasons why the way to life is narrow?

Now, don't misunderstand me. We all have an influence. Bad people have an influence and good people have an influence, but I want to tell you something, friends. You can catch sin. It's infectious. It's contagious. But you can't catch righteousness:

“Neither is there salvation in any other...” Acts 4:12.

You can’t get it from your brother, your sister, your friend or neighbor.

“...there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” Acts 4:12.

You’ve got to come directly to God and get help, friends. There’s no other way. Oh, I’m so glad that He’s made Himself available to every one of us! What do you say?

Let me tell you another advantage the Devil has. If a man is a real follower of God, if he’s having an experience with his Savior, does he profess to be a follower of God, or can he have that experience without making any profession? What do you say? Does he profess it? Oh, yes. And thank God, he has an experience that goes with it.

But now, let me ask you another thing. Can the man have the profession without the experience? What do we call a person that has the profession without the experience? Hypocrites, that’s what the Bible calls them.

That word hypocrite is an interesting word. Comes from a Greek word that means to act on the stage, so in that sense, an actor is a hypocrite, and a hypocrite is an actor—a very good picture of the whole thing.

Somebody that isn’t George Washington at all gets up on the stage, dressed up like George Washington, and tries to talk like him, but is he? Oh, no, he’s a what? Well, he’s an actor or, in other words, a hypocrite.

Now, tell me, can a man come in the church and go through the motions of becoming accepted as a church member, can he be baptized and be voted into church fellowship, can he read the Bible, pray, come to church, pay tithe, and do all the rest, and still know nothing of the saving power of the gospel? Is that possible? Yes, yes.

And so, the scripture says:

“...they are not all Israel, which are of Israel” Romans 9:6.

In other words, you can’t tell just by looking at the church how many saints there are. Jesus knows. He’s got the record in heaven. But you and I with our vision—all we know is who profess, who profess.

But now, let’s turn to the other side. Are there sinners that profess to be sinners? Are there sinners that say, “Yes, I’m a sinner, and I know it.” Are there? Are there people that profess to be sinners, but they’re not sinners? No. Just think about it a while.

I ask again. Are there people that profess to be sinners but they're not sinners? What do you think? Could a man pretend to be a sinner and yet be a saint? Would he be a saint if he pretended to be a sinner? Why, no. First place, he wouldn't pretend to be, were he a saint, and the second place, he certainly wouldn't carry the name and make the profession of a sinner. Would he? No.

So, you see—watch this point—the Devil not only has *all* the people that march under his banner openly and above board, but besides that, he's got a big fifth column inside the church. There's another advantage the Devil has.

Well friends, I'm not worried about any of these advantages the Devil has, but I think it worthwhile to point them out tonight because those things that I've pointed out will help us in dealing with certain problems that we all come to.

We all come to problems where we wonder, "Why this and why that and why the other." And if we'll keep in mind these seeming advantages that Satan has, it'll help us to realize that our only hope is in being anchored personally in God; not looking to human beings, not depending upon any man or set of men, for concerning our Lord, it is written:

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" Acts 4:12.

I'd like to have you go now to the 14th chapter of Revelation. I love this book of Revelation. It's given to us to reveal to us our Lord and His plan of salvation. In this 14th chapter of Revelation, we see Him in the first verse standing on Mt. Zion and with Him the remnant, each one reflecting the image fully of the Lamb.

In verses 6–12, we have the threefold message which develops these people. Tonight, briefly, I would like to notice these three messages, noticing just one point in each of the three messages. And each one of these three points directly pointing to the one concerning whom it is written:

"Neither is there salvation in any other..." Acts 4:12.

Beginning with the sixth verse:

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and..."
Revelation 14:6–7.

What?

"...worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters" Revelation 14:7.

Worship Him that made, worship Him that made—this introduces the first reason, the primary reason, the basic reason, why our help is in God. He's our Creator. Only the Creator can impart life. Only the Creator can restore life. Only the Creator can maintain life, and life is what we need. And so, the good Shepherd says:

"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" John 10:10.

Oh, friend, I am so glad that when we meet our Lord in this wonderful message of the Bible, we find Him to be our Creator. You remember that text we were reading last Friday night, the words of the prophet Isaiah?

"Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath *created* these things..." Isaiah 40:26.

The starry host.

"...that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth" Isaiah 40:26.

My point is, this message of Revelation 14:6 and 7, presented here as the everlasting gospel, the eternal good news, points us to our Lord as the Creator; the One that made. And friends, when He made this world, He made it by His word:

"By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth" Psalm 33:6.

"For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast" Psalm 33:9.

And that same creative word can speak to our hearts and save us. He can make something out of nothing in our lives, as He *made* something out of nothing in the creation of this world:

"...worship him that *made* heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters" Revelation 14:7.

This language is similar to the Fourth Commandment. You remember that when our Lord gave those ten words on Sinai and wrote them on the tables of stone, He put right in the heart of the law that Sabbath commandment:

"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God..." Exodus 20:8–10.

And then why?

“For in six days the LORD *made* heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it” Exodus 20:11.

So the Sabbath is God’s memorial of creation, and remember, the creation—the fact that He has made everything and made us—is set forth as the reason we should worship Him. I think it’s a good reason. What do you say? And it’s the reason we may look to Him with confidence to save us.

If He made us, He can remake us. If He created us, He can sanctify us. Oh, I thank God for the saving power of the Creator! What do you say?

[audience]

“Neither is there salvation in any other...” Acts 4:12.

“For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the LORD made the heavens” Psalm 96:5.

And my friends, it matters not whether the god that men worship is some god of gold in Asia, or some god of greenbacks in the United State; whether it’s whittled out of wood in the jungles of Africa, or whether it’s some great building of marble or steel here in America; whatever it is that turns our attention from the One who *made* the heavens and the earth—that is an idol, and it is written:

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me” Exodus 20:3.

One of the greatest idols that people have is some other human being that they depend upon instead of God. It’s a wonderful thing to have a companion—a husband or a wife that’s a help. It’s a wonderful thing to have a father or a mother, a brother or a sister, a son, a daughter, a friend, a neighbor, that you have fellowship with. All those are wonderful things, but my dear friends, any one or all of them can be idols if they come between us and our Creator.

Isn’t it a shame to take some lovely gift God made and gave us and let that come between us and Him? Wouldn’t you feel disappointed if you should go to the trouble and effort to make a lovely birthday present and give it to some close friend of yours, and they’d take it and grab it and run with it and never see you again for a week—not even stop to say thank you—be so absorbed in that present? It’s possible. It has been done.

The message of the angel is:

“...worship *him* that *made* heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters” Revelation 14:7.

Worship Him that made all things. Oh, let us tonight thank God that our anchor is in *Him*! What do you say?

[Audience] Amen.

And listen. If we get hold of this, then if human beings disappoint us, we won't be lost. If our anchor is with *Him* within the veil, then whatever happens to vessels around us won't cause our anchor to drag. We're safe because we're anchored in *Him*. Our hope is in the One that made heaven and earth.

Well now, back to Revelation 14. We're going to look at what the second angel says. Just pick one point from it:

"And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication" Revelation 14:8.

Babylon is represented here as a great city, and in the 17th chapter of this same book, Babylon is set forth as a woman:

"...that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth"
Revelation 17:18.

She's set forth in the 17th chapter as a harlot, an impure woman, promiscuous in her associations. This is suggested here in the word of the wine of her fornication. She's unchaste, untrue, to a lawful husband.

Now, let's turn to the 54th chapter of Isaiah, and let's see why God is so indignant about this. Isaiah 54, verse 5:

"For thy Maker is..." Isaiah 54:5.

What?

"...thine husband..." Isaiah 54:5.

We've seen in the message of the first angel our God set forth as the Creator, the one that made us. In the second message there in Revelation 14, it is suggested that He is not only our Maker but our what, in the words of this text? The husband.

And the reason that Babylon is fallen and that those who love God must separate from her is that Babylon has chosen to break the marriage vow; to break the marriage tie; to turn from her lawful husband, and commit fornication with the kings of the earth.

In plain language, this is a picture of a church, any church, which turns from leaning on God and leans on worldly popularity, human legislation, government help, whatever the means by which we lean on the state and lean on popular opinion instead of leaning on God. This is what is wrong with Babylon, and God calls his people out of all that confusion, all that unlawful association.

But my point is, friends, the reason is this—He wants our love, *all* of it. As a good husband wants *all* the love of his wife. That love must not be shared with

others. That love between husband and wife must be between just those two, for it is written:

“...they *two* shall be one flesh” Ephesians 5:31.

And:

“...What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder” Matthew 19:6.

Babylon, in departing from love and loyalty to God and allying with this world, has committed spiritual adultery, spiritual fornication. And again, my friends, I come back to this fact—that what a church can do, an individual can do. Just as we noticed in the message of the first angel, Worship *Him*, let no human being come between you and God.

So here, in the second angel, the suggestion is clear—cut loose from everything that would mar your love and loyalty to God. Know what it is to be linked in holy wedlock with the One that made you. What did we read here in Isaiah 54:5?

“For thy Maker is thine husband; the LORD of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called” Isaiah 54:5.

Back to Revelation 14. Now, the third message. And the third message has some most interesting things in verses 9, 10 and 11, which we’ll not have time to notice tonight, but the focus of the third message and the focus of all three messages is found in the 12th verse:

“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus”
Revelation 14:12.

Here again, we are brought face to face with loyalty. Here again, we are separated from the world, which is trampling on God’s commandments and linked in union with the One who made us and who is our husband.

Those who accept this message are set forth here and are called what? Saints. Now, they may not call themselves saints, but God calls them that. And they keep the commandments of God and the what? And the faith of Jesus. They believe our opening text:

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” Acts 4:12.

Oh, my friends, do you think that a man can keep the commandments of God without that faith? It is utterly impossible, but may I ask you another question? Do you think a man can keep the commandments of God *with* that faith? Well, if he can’t, then this verse is false, it’s misleading. This says:

“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus”
Revelation 14:12.

The Devil says, “No, it can’t be done.” God says, “Yes, it can.” Which do you believe? Do you believe it can be done? Well, if you do, you have the faith of Jesus.

Do you remember when Moses led the child of Israel from Egypt to Canaan, and they came up to the border the first time? God was ready to take them right in, but they thought, “Well, we’d better investigate—see whether it can be done or not.” And they appointed a committee, and 10 out of the 12 found, as the result of their investigation, that it what? It couldn’t be done.

“...they could not enter in because of...” Hebrews 3:19.

What?

“...unbelief” Hebrews 3:19.

And the interesting thing is, friends, when they decided that, God said, “It’s the truth. You can’t go in.” It wasn’t true. Unbelief cuts the connection with the heavenly powerhouse, and just as if somebody would cut the right wires outside this building, every light here would go out. Not half of them, not three-quarters, but the whole number of lights in this building would be cut out if the connection with these great generators over here at Chickamauga Lake were cut. Do you see what I mean, friends? Unbelief cuts our connection. Faith makes that connection.

And so, in the words of our text:

“Here... are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus” Revelation 14:12.

How many of that committee said, “We can’t do it”? Ten out of the 12, and they couldn’t, and they didn’t. But there were two that said, “Thank God, by His grace, through faith in His promise, it can be done, and we can do it.” What were their names? Caleb and Joshua. Did they do it? Those very men? That’s right.

The time came when with the whole camp of Israel, they marched in, and Joshua led the group. Caleb was one of the lesser ones as far as position is concerned, but both of those men had the great privilege of demonstrating the faith that they had expressed nearly 40 years before.

Friends, do you believe that what we have read from God’s book tonight is true? Do you believe it? Do you? Do you believe that God is our Creator? Do you believe He can make a world out of nothing by speaking? Do you believe that that’s reason to worship Him? Do you believe that God not only made you but loves you as a true husband loves his wife? Do you believe that? Do you believe that God is interested in *you*, as though you were the only one in this world? Have you that fellowship with Him?

Oh, I love that statement in *Steps to Christ*, page 100:

“The relations between God and each soul are as distinct and full as though there were not another soul upon the earth...” *Steps to Christ*, page 100.

If you are willing, you are linked in a fellowship with God that nobody else shares. But oh, what a pity to break that fellowship by looking out to the world or to some human being instead of God! Let's not do it. What do you say?

Now, we had a wonderful witness session last Friday night. And I'm going to ask that nobody who spoke last Friday night speak tonight. But somebody that didn't get to speak last week, either because you weren't here or because others took the time, just come right up. If you'd like to say a word, and I'm suggesting that anybody who speaks tonight speak short and to the point so that others can take part

You who would like to bear your witness for the One who made you, who loves you, who has given His life to redeem you, you who would like to express your faith, just come right up right now.

[Testimony meeting as follows:]

[Woman from the audience] I just want to praise God tonight for the wonderful victory that He gave me this week, and I want you all to know that the longer I walk with Him, the sweeter the way grows, and I know that soon I'll see Him face to face.

[Elder Frazee] Thank the Lord.

Is this Betty? Well, I talked to you on the phone, but I hadn't met you. We're glad you're here. Glad for your witness. Betty Gatchess? Yes.

[Betty Gatchess] Well, I just know that I'm a student and I need Jesus Christ, and I'm just really thankful that He's there and that He will take me at any time.

[Elder Frazee] Right now. Right now. Glad to hear from you.

[Woman from the audience] Well, the only thing that I have to say is that there is a passage in one of Ellen G. White's books that means a great deal to me, and it has especially today and yesterday. It's in *That I May Know Him*:

“Think of Him and be charmed away from yourself, and from every disagreeable thing...” *That I May Know Him*, page 136.

And if anything could be very disagreeable, it's the job that I have. But the Lord has given me the victory over it, and then today, the things just started going wrong, and I thought about that verse again, and I thought, “God really does love us.”

[Elder Frazee] Would you repeat it once more. I want to hear it again.

[Woman from the audience]

“Think of Him and be charmed away from yourself, and from every disagreeable thing...” *That I May Know Him*, page 136.

[Elder Frazee] Thank you. Thank you. All right, Cliff.

[A child from the congregation] I’m thankful that I love God—I love Jesus—and I want to obey Him.

[Elder Frazee] He loves you, too. You’ve got a word, too, Cliff?

[Brother Cliff] Yes. I think Katie could have told something, if she’d thought of it, that she’s thankful for today, too. We’re thankful for a God of love and of nature. We’ve had a little experience today, thanks to Sister Roberts. She brought us a couple baby birds today, and we’ve been watching the mama come and feed them.

They’re a couple little mockingbirds, and they’re looking like they’re just getting ready to fly. And the mother pushed them out or somehow or other they got lost, and now they are up in a bird feeder, which I put a house over them. And the mother bird is coming out and feeding them, and we’re getting a rare privilege at home, and the Lord is wonderful in giving us things of nature like this, and perhaps someone can tell me a lesson that we can learn from that.

[Elder Frazee] Did you know what I was thinking about? I was thinking about Moses getting fed by his own mother.

[Laughter from Frazee and congregation]

[Brother Cliff] That’s right. That’s a good thought. Thank you.

[Elder Frazee] All right. Good, Duane.

[Brother Duane] I don’t usually get up and speak, but I had much to praise the Lord for this week especially, because the Lord saved my life when I had an accident this week, and I’d like to praise His name for this. Thank you.

[Elder Frazee] Yes, my brother.

“The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them” Psalm 34:7.

All right, Brother Fields. I know you’ve got a good word.

[Brother Fields] Yes, always. You know that last weekend I had ideas of going down to Uchee Pines. But you know, the Lord had a different idea than that, and Friday afternoon, instead of going anywhere else, I went home and went to bed, and I didn’t going to out of that bed until about Sunday.

But you know, we have a wonderful Lord. If He didn't allow us to come down with some kind of malady, we'd never appreciate health as much as we do, and I'm very thankful that He has given me strength to go on with the usual duties and location that we have this week, and I praise Him above all in the world or anything to come.

[Elder Frazee] Good. All right, brother.

[A man from the audience] No other name under heaven. Once I was a sinner, lost in sin, without hope in the world. This wonderful Father we have, when I didn't want to know Him, reached down and tapped me on the shoulder, and He's been watching over me ever since because I gave my heart to Him. Does He watch over the sparrow? Does He watch over the children? But does He watch over we old gray-haired thing?

[Giggles from the audience]

Well, let me tell you how He watches over us.

The other day, Brother Nangle and I were talking, and he told me Ben was going to leave. And he says, "We don't have anybody to send over in his place." And we needed somebody badly.

So that night, I said to my wife, "I can see where I'd better get down early in the mornings now and begin to make some carrot juice because Ben won't be there, and of course, I have to be there to close up at night, too."

And so, we were closed Wednesday, and somebody knocked on the door of the store. I happened to go over there to take care of a few things, and I looked up and I saw somebody I knew, so I opened the door, and there was a young man there. I knew this young man when he was a little fellow about that big. He and I used to kneel down beside the bed and pray together. Hadn't seen him in a long time.

But we got talking, and finally, he says, I'll tell you why I came over here. He says, "Right now, I don't have a thing to do, and it's too wet to do any gardening, and I thought maybe you had something I could help you to do. I just can't be idle. I need to have something to do."

So God watches over we old men, too, doesn't He?

[Giggles from the audience]

I thank our Father. He's a wonderful Father. Don't be afraid to trust Him, because He loves you.

[Elder Frazee] Brother, I'm so glad you told us that story because that illustrates what we're studying tonight. The place to get help is where? Talking to

God. He has how many ways of supplying our need? A thousand. That is, of which we know nothing. Thank you so much for sharing.

[Man from the audience] And He always supplies our need.

[Elder Frazee] Why, sure, one way or another.

All right, Brother Stearns. Glad to hear from you.

[Brother Stearns] Thank you. The Lord has led me in so many different ways that I've told you about or mentioned. But one in particular, it seems like the last few weeks—for 18 months, I've been trying to change my eating habits, and I've been eating over at Foods for Life every day that I can get over there and buying the groceries over there.

And I have so many bad habits about eating: eating too much, wrong things and especially at night. And I almost hesitate to even mention it, but for the last two weeks, for the first time in 18 months, it seems that maybe I've gotten the communication right, but I have lost 10 pounds, and I feel like the trend is that I'm going to be able to continue this.

I know this is a very small thing, but the problem I have with it is that I try to take the credit, and a lot of times, after praying about it for so long, now I'm all of a sudden proud that I've lost 10 pounds. So, I think I have another lesson to learn in this and maybe that's the reason it's taking so long.

But it is God leading. It's not, I don't think, the fact that I'm improving and my appetite is so important. It's a fact, I believe that I'll be able to do more for God after I get appetite under control and go on to other things. And I hope I can, like I said, do it and stop talking about it and thinking about it so much, and go on to other things, but it's been a real blessing for me in the last two weeks.

[Elder Frazee] Thank you, Brother Stearns. Would you mind waiting just a minute? Brother Risch, would you mind coming up here again, just for a minute. Brother Risch, you used to live in St. Louis, didn't you?

[Brother Risch] That's right.

[Elder Frazee] What was your business in St. Louis?

[Brother Risch] I was in the paint business.

[Elder Frazee] How many paint stores did you have in St. Louis?

[Brother Risch] One time, I had five of them.

[Elder Frazee] Five paint stores Brother Risch had. Well, are you selling paint now?

[Brother Risch] No.

[Elder Frazee] Have you seen this man before?

[Brother Risch] I sure have.

[Elder Frazee] Brother Stearns, have you seen him?

[Brother Stearns] Yes, sir. Yes, yes.

[Brother Risch] Has he been a link in your life?

[Brother Stearns] Absolutely.

[Elder Frazee] Has the Lord used him to bless you?

[Brother Stearns] He sure has.

[Elder Frazee] That's right.

[Brother Stearns] And I'm so thankful for it.

[Elder Frazee] What's your work, Brother Stearns? Some of the audience—they're not acquainted with you.

[Brother Stearns] I'm manager of the Lockheed plant on Signal Mountain Road. You may have read about Lockheed. We're in the news quite a bit—financial problems and that sort.

[Elder Frazee] All right. Now, where did you meet this man here?

[Brother Stearns] Well, it's a long—I looked in the yellow pages for a health food store, and I didn't know anything about the Seventh-day Adventist Church, but I had friends in Dayton, Ohio, that were interested in health food and I'd been visiting them.

So I came back to Chattanooga and looked up in the yellow pages, health foods, and the first two that I looked at, they were down on—in fact, I went down on Broad Street or Market Street, I believe, and they were under the health food ad in the yellow pages but they sold Alka-Seltzers and aspirins and it wasn't the type of health store that I was looking for.

[Laughter from the audience]

So finally, I did drive out on Ringgold Road and the old address was still listed at that time in the yellow pages, but it was across the street I found Foods for Life and Mr. Risch.

[Elder Frazee] Good. Well, that's a good beginning. All right. Thank you, men.

And listen, folks, every one of you is a link in the chain of providence. The salvation is in God. He uses *you* as a contact.

This is fine. The airplane has delivered its passenger. Glad to see you, doctor. We know you have some words for us. We've been having a wonderful time here this evening. We're happy to hear from you. Dr. Margaret Baldwin of the Loma Linda University.

[Dr. Baldwin] I know that I have missed so much by not being able to hear what you have just heard and what you have shared. I'm sorry. I changed my schedule to be sure to get here a couple of hours early so I'd have time to look up some references I wanted and be all ready for Sabbath, and not hold the meeting too late. And then we sat on the ground for an hour and 45 minutes and then switched to another plane.

I'm thankful that they found that before we got in the air and I know that the Lord has His hand over all of these things. So, I'll try to compress the things I've been thinking about this week into a smaller compass than I had thought.

I'm sure you've had prayer but I would like to ask the Lord's blessing. Father, wilt Thou be with us and teach us the things that we individually need, we pray, in Jesus' name, amen.

My memory doesn't recall the lessons for the scripture that I want, and my concordance in my Bible doesn't have it, so you'll have to help me, not only with the reference but the correct wording. But the scripture that I want says this thought—if in the day of peace wherein thou trusteth, thy strength fails, what shall it be in the swelling of Jordan, and if thou hast run with the footmen and that has wearied thee, what shall it be when we have to run with the horses.

Where is it, Paul?

[Brother Paul] Jeremiah 12:5.

[Dr. Baldwin] Thank you very much. Would you read it? Do you have it there? Please read it for us.

Brother Paul]

"If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?"
Jeremiah 12:5.

[Dr. Baldwin] Thank you so much. I think of that word that we have been given, A storm is coming relentless in its fury. Get ready, get ready, get ready. This is the reason for fitness. We've been thinking of fitness.

You know there's more than one kind of fitness, but the reason for our *physical* fitness is—the major reason is, that we can be ready for that storm, that we can be ready to run with the horses, that we can be ready for the swelling of the Jordan. And that involves *total* fitness, the best that we can have, by the grace of God and our own effort, because it requires both.

We had a storm in Miami this morning. It was a *major* storm. You know, it's fun—you see lightning and then count, and roughly—how far do you count to get to a mile? Count to five because sound goes 1100 feet a second and a mile is 5280 feet, roughly. Well, some of those right out my hotel window, right on the ocean front, I couldn't count to one, and it was a glorious storm.

It woke me up and it made me think—a storm is coming relentless in its fury. This major part of this storm lasted only 15 or 30 minutes, and then it passed on to the north, but there's a storm coming that isn't going to stop. It's going to get worse and worse and worse, without any letup until the Lord comes, and we must be ready.

Then, I've been thinking this week of our memory verse or rather our lesson study, and I've been trying to get these things in my mind where I could recall them when I need them. And I've been thinking a great deal about this one in Ephesians 4:14:

“That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro...” Ephesians 4:14.

Have you ever felt like a child tossed? This is an age of tossing. The Devil is coming down with great wrath because he knoweth he hath but a short time. People that I know intimately are having tossings or are being tempted with tossing such as they've never had before. Young people are being tossed.

And what are these things that the Devil is trying to toss us with? What is he bringing about? Well, it says here:

“...every wind of doctrine...” Ephesians 4:14.

I've been hearing so many winds of strange doctrine. I don't know about this area, but there a lot of peculiar doctrines. I get more things in the mail that claim to be new truth for God's people. And they speak of the third angel's message, and they speak of the right arm, and they speak of the Spirit of Prophecy, but when I read them, they don't sound like truth. I read until I find out, and then I have to discard them.

And it says:

“...by the sleight of men...” Ephesians 4:14.

S-L-E-I-G-H-T. That means deceptiveness, doesn't it—sleight of hand, sleight of men. Those tossings—things that look true but aren't.

“...and cunning craftiness...” Ephesians 4:14.

Trying to put together something that looks sound, but isn't.

"...whereby they lie in wait to deceive" Ephesians 4:14.

If we're going to stand the storm, run with the footmen and be able to cross the Jordan, we must learn how to stand these enormous storms, these winds, these tossings, that are brought upon us. And our boat—it's going to have to sail straight through.

What are these tossings that are coming upon us? One is temptation in areas that we never thought we could be tempted on. Have you ever heard people say, "Well, I have my faults but I've never been tempted to steal." Or, "Well, I do this and I'm having trouble with this, but thank the Lord I've never been troubled with this." Have you ever *thought* that? Ever felt it? Let me warn you, be on guard in *that* area, as well as in those that you know you have trouble with.

You remember the scripture that says:

"...let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall"
1 Corinthians 10:12.

[Elder Frazee] Yes.

We are secure in *no* area unless we're fortified by the Word of God, by commitment to the Lord and by the presence of the Holy Spirit. And this is going to happen and this *is* happening to some of us—temptation in areas where we never thought that we could be tempted, and we need to be on guard in *those* areas.

I'm thinking of a section in *Volume 2* of the *Testimonies for the Church*, a little chapter entitled, The Deceitfulness of Riches. Have you read it recently? Have you ever read it? Go home and read it over Sabbath, if you can, or in the near future. This is one of the most frightening and yet one of the most precious and one of the most comforting statements in the Spirit of Prophecy to me.

Let me briefly tell you. This is one of the things I wanted to reread this afternoon, and I may not get the details right, but I'll try in broad outline to paint you the picture there. When you read it, forgive my inaccuracies, but I think that I will not do injustice to the message of this chapter.

There was a woman whose way was extremely difficult. Difficult because her husband was not with her in her love of the Lord and love of the truth. Difficult because she had small children to care for and raise in a very difficult divided home, and difficult because of poverty. She loved the Lord. She really did. The testimony of the Lord was that she loved the Lord and the Lord loved her.

And in her poverty, she clung to the Lord. She reared her children ever so carefully, and she brought them up in the fear of the Lord. She loved her husband. She loved the work of the Lord. She sacrificed to do the Lord's will. And in her poverty and in her longing to do something for the Lord in a more tangible way, she

would see people who had means, she would see them using those means unwisely, and she would think, “Oh, if only I had means. What I could do to relieve the necessities of others. What I could do to further the work of the Lord. I wish I had means to serve the Lord.” But she did with what she had, to the glory of God, and the Lord was pleased.

And then, this is a message to her from the servant of the Lord, and the words are like this. The Lord said, “I have tried her with poverty. She has stood the test. Now, I will try her with riches.”

Her husband passed away. She assumed some business (I don’t know the nature of it), and she was successful. Her poverty became less difficult and she, over a period of time, prospered, the Lord blessed her work, and she came into the possession of considerable means, and she loved the Lord, and she put her means into the work.

But time went on, and she continued to prosper, and the need was not so acute. And her consciousness, her awareness, of the purpose of means, her awareness of the needs of the Lord’s work and of those in need, was less acute, and less acute, and less acute, until the time came that she found that her work required really a nicer home and nicer furniture and nicer clothing. And perhaps it did require nicer but not as nice, and she began to use her means in a way that did not fulfill the purpose of God.

Her work kept her from her children, and as they got older, they grew up with less and less and less of mother’s nurture and care until one son married. His wife was not interested in the work of the Lord, and the lady who was now being tried with the riches felt that she couldn’t antagonize her daughter-in-law, and she would have to be fairly quiet about the use of the funds.

And the message came from the servant of the Lord, “You are in a perilous position. God tried you with poverty, and you stood the test. God was pleased with you. You were very close to Him. Now, He is trying you with wealth. Repent quickly. Return to the Lord.”

[Recording ended in progress]

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