

# Without and All

#0613

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—October 17, 1969

Let us turn to Luke the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter. God selected a doctor to write one of His four Gospels. The apostle Paul speaks of this man as “the beloved physician.” And it is interesting to note that of the three men who wrote down the record of what Jesus said on the Mount of Olives a few days before His death, as He was speaking to His inner circle of disciples relative to His coming and the signs of His appearing, it is interesting to note this beloved physician, Luke, picked up some points that the others missed. And it is to these that I wish to direct your attention, especially this morning.

You remember that seated there on the mount, Jesus was asked about the signs of His coming. And He presented certain signs in the heavens and in the earth that would be tokens of His near approach.

I read now from Luke 21, beginning with the 25<sup>th</sup> verse:

“And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh. And He spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but My words shall not pass away. And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man”  
Luke 21:25–36.

In this galaxy of wonderful thoughts, let us pick out a few of the brightest stars this morning and take a look at them.

First, you notice (and certainly this must be of deep interest to this group here this morning), Christ says that one of the striking signs of His approaching coming, one of the tokens of the fact that we have reached the last generation is:

“Men’s hearts failing them...” Luke 21:26.

Now, I know that He was speaking here of more than this physical organ that pumps the blood. But there is a close connection between the heart that He’s talking about here in the head and the heart here in the chest. You don’t separate the two.

“Men’s hearts failing them...” Luke 21:26.

I need not remind you that heart failure is the leading cause of death in America today, surpassing all the others. I need not tell you that it has reached epidemic proportions and constitutes America’s number one health problem. Jesus put His finger on it.

He said that, “When these things happen, you know that My coming is near” [a paraphrase of Luke 21:28].

Now, Jesus not only pointed out the condition, but He also showed what to do about it. Jesus’ purpose in revealing the number one problem of this world today is to help you and me to keep out of that problem and to devote our lives to helping other people to find the cure if they’re already hooked; to keep out of it if they’re not in it. He puts His finger here on several definite things that are related to this problem.

“Men’s hearts failing them...” Luke 21:26.

For what?

“...for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth...” Luke 21:26.

And then, in the 34<sup>th</sup> verse:

“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged...” Luke 21:34.

Overburdened, become worn; worn out. What with? He mentions three things:

“...Surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life...”  
Luke 21:34.

Surfeiting: eating too much; a rich diet, either in the elements that make it up or in total quantity.

Drunkenness: any poison taken into the body which benumbs the sensibilities, interferes with those electric currents in the 10 billion cells of the human brain.

And cares of this life: the tensions, the worries, the stresses, the frets that are so characteristic of this generation. He puts His finger, I repeat, right on the problem.

Now, I lay that book down for a moment (after all, that's an ancient Book), and I pick up something that is very modern, a special report from two of America's greatest magazines, *Time* and *Life*, collaborating in this special report dealing with America's number one health problem, coronary heart attack.

And in the first photographic spread that introduces this study, we have here four great causes of heart attacks, represented in this graphic way. And what is the first? Emotional stress. What is the second? Fat-rich diet. What is the third? Lack of exercise. What is the fourth? Smoking.

There you have it. I ask you, friends, does the beloved physician, Luke, writing down the words of the great Physician Jesus, does he have anything to tell us this morning about the problems of this generation? You see the connection, don't you? Jesus.

My next question is, "What are you doing about it? What are you, as a man or a woman trained in the knowledge that would help people to learn how to prevent this problem, or how to deal with it if they're already into it, what are you doing about it? Or is that a fair question?

I'm sure that we are here this morning not to be lulled to sleep but to be challenged with the glorious opportunity of this hour.

A few days ago in Michigan, I stood by the little house where over a hundred years ago the angel, Gabriel, came to the Lord's messenger, Ellen G. White, and opened to her in that humble farmhouse near Otsego, Michigan, the great subject of the health reform.

From time to time, Paul Harvey, the radio commentator, calls attention to the interesting way in which the statements of Ellen G. White dealing with diet and health are being shown true by scientific research today. One of the greatest evidences is the fact that those who have followed the light of health reform, those who have studied and put into practice the visions of Ellen G. White, live longer than those who haven't had that privilege.

But my dear friends, when I look at those figures, I often think how much better the figures would look had we *all* put *all* the light into practice. What do you say?

But I'm not thinking this morning so much of what you and I are *doing* about these things. I hope we *are* following out the light. The thing I'm thinking this morning is the privilege, the opportunity, the challenge that you and I have in going about sharing these wonderful things with the world around us.

You know, just to be a physician today doesn't necessarily mean solving *this* problem. I have a dentist friend who told me that if all the dentists in the United States were paid by the federal government to spend all their time doing nothing but filling teeth, they would never catch up. The diet that Americans are on, the other health practices or lack of them that make up the average American life, these things are making holes in peoples teeth faster than all the dentists in the country could fill them. Not very hopeful, is it? What's needed?

Well, let me read something from this book *Medical Ministry*. And what I've said from my dentist friend, many of you could supply similar things in other areas. Am I right? After all, heart transplants are hardly the answer. There are 25 million people in America that have already had a heart attack or are getting ready for one fast.

Somebody even suggested (and they weren't laughing when they said it) that the answer is in learning how to transplant the heart of the pig into human beings. Quite a bright idea, isn't it? I hope none of you are thinking of going into research in that direction.

*Medical Ministry*, 221:

"The distinction between prevention and cure has not been made sufficiently important. Teach the people that it is better to know how to keep well than how to cure disease" *Medical Ministry*, page 221.

Or is it? Where is the money, my friends? If a man wants to make money today, does he go into prevention? Not by a longshot. No, he goes into patching up the pieces in one way or another, dealing with the results. Am I correct?

And this is also seen in the time and effort that's being devoted. Take America's number one health dollar. How is it being spent? In the federal governments, state governments, universities, and by the American public generally, take every dollar that is spent dealing with the health problem, and how much of it is going into preventing these conditions? You know, it's precious little. We are interested in dealing with symptoms and results rather than dealing with causes.

Do you know why? Well, it's much more glamorous to open up a man's chest down in South Africa or some other place and put in an organ from a dying or dead individual. That's much more glamorous than it is to teach people patiently, lovingly, earnestly, over a period of years, how to eat and drink and exercise and live so as to prevent that heart attack. Am I correct? Much more glamorous.

Also, the American public is not willing to spend very much money in having somebody teach them how to quit doing the things they want to do.

I was telling the group here last night about a top-flight surgeon whose specialty is stomach surgery. One of our young men was taking a residency in surgery with him. And the question came up that really one of the main causes of

the stomach surgery he was performing on many people was tobacco. You know that's true. It's not the only cause, but it's one of the big causes.

But the surgeon himself was a smoker. And our young friend raised the question about it. And that great surgeon made this statement. Think of it, friends.

He said, "I would rather give up my stomach than give up my tobacco."

Do you see what we're up against, friends?

Too many people have the attitude, "Well, I'm going to die someday of something. I'd just as well enjoy life while I'm at it."

And if "enjoy life" means to fill up on all kinds of artificial sweets, if to "enjoy life" means to eat and eat and eat until the bloodstream is filled with cholesterol, and the deposits begin to form in the arteries, if to "enjoy life" means to smoke two or three packs a day, like that poor fellow that has led the minority party in the senate for so long. Now, he's sleeping. Emphysema, lung cancer, heart, all got him at once, didn't it? What does it mean, friends?

It means, I repeat and as this same book says, the physician who is going to carry out God's glorious program in these days will have (and I quote) "an uphill business" [a paraphrase of *Medical Ministry*, page 222].

This is not the way to make money. This is not the way to get famous. But this is the way, my dear friends, to make the Master Who made me happy, and who's coming soon to find a people made ready, prepared for His coming.

Back to the Dr. Luke chapter we were looking at, Jesus says:

"And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares" Luke 21:34.

Emotional stress is listed here as one of the great causes of this terrific problem. But it isn't just coronary heart attacks that come from stress. The mind filled with worry, fear, anxiety, has precious time or energy left to deal with the great spiritual experiences that get a people ready for the coming of Jesus.

I'd like to raise this question. Why did God put the medical work, the health work, in the third angel's message? Have you stopped to think that this denomination is quite unique in its relation to health?

Oh, I know that there are some movements, like Christian Science, that deal with health, but from an utterly unscientific standpoint. You agree with me, I'm sure. Then, we have the Pentecostal faith healers who bring them in by the hundreds and pass them along laying their hands on them.

But the approach of the Seventh-day Adventist movement is quite different. Here is a movement, small in its membership but devoting millions of dollars every year to dealing with the health problem. Why? And why is it done in a scientific way? Why do we train doctors and nurses and other medical personnel? Because we believe two things: first, that the laws of nature are the laws of God; that the rules God has written on the liver and the lungs, the heart and the brain, are as truly divine as the Ten Commandments.

Second, we believe that in those who are translated when Jesus comes, there will be found full conformity to, full harmony with all His laws, both moral and physical, is that correct? For it is written in Revelation 14:12 of those who wait for the coming of Jesus:

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

It's going to be a wonderful thing as the world gets more and more enmeshed and involved in the problems that it's created through disobedience, it's going to be a wonderful thing to find a people more and more emerging, developing, who reveal in their lives full obedience to all the laws of God, health wise, moral wise, and stand before the world as exponents of that program, showing the joy of harmony with God.

This is why Jesus died. This is why He lived here. This is why He sent the Spirit from the sanctuary upon His people. This is why He gave us the great gift of prophecy in these latter days. To lead our minds back to a full understanding of His total way of life, full obedience to His total way of life.

Now, may I read this wonderful paragraph again here in *Medical Ministry*, 221:

“The distinction between prevention and cure has not been made sufficiently important. Teach the people that it is better to know how to keep well than how to cure disease. Our physicians should be wise educators, warning all against self-indulgence, showing that abstinence from the things that God has prohibited is the only way to prevent ruin of body and mind” *Medical Ministry*, page 221.

Physicians, you who are this morning and you who are getting ready to be, I challenge you with that statement. What will you devote your life to?

Moody once said, “Some people seem to think this world is a ship that's sprung a leak here and there, and if we'll all get busy and patch up the places, the ship can be kept afloat.”

But Moody said, “This world is a sinking ship. And when God found me, He gave me a lifeboat and said, ‘moody, save as many as you can off the old wreck before it goes down.’”

And this is the fundamental difference between many of the approaches to the world's problems today and the approach of this message. Are we going to unite in an effort to keep the holes filled in the teeth, and find some way to get more dentists filling the teeth, so we can keep up with the holes that the diets people are eating make? Or are we going to find in the great mass of humanity those who will listen to a sensible approach and adopt a way of life to prevent those things?

And here friend is the hidden value in that—the same type of mind which will accept a sensible approach to the health problem and be willing to change the habits of life in order to have better health, that's the same type of mind that will accept this message and get ready to meet Jesus.

On the other hand, if a man doesn't care about his life in this world enough to change his habits of life, what good would it do to merely change his doctrine and change the day he comes to church on? What good would it do? Not a bit of it, my friends.

God gave us the health message as a great sieve that coming in contact with the people would give us those whose hearts would respond to a sensible message, the combined approach of science and the Gospel. Oh, I thank the Lord for the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy guiding us through these problems.

But now, let's be practical this morning, for you men and women are practical people.

Scientific training tends to make people think, "Well now, how is this to be done?"

Exactly; how is this to be done? May I call your attention that in the Spirit of Prophecy we have not merely some ideals of healthful living; we have hundreds and thousands of pages devoted to the subject of how to carry on a Seventh-day Adventist health program—the place of the physician, the nurse, the minister, the Bible worker, the farmer, the cook, the whole program. It's all here in these books.

And if we will accept this blueprint seriously and seek to carry out in our individual lives what we find in these books, we shall find the answer to the world's problems insofar as they are willing to listen to the answers. They'll work, friends.

But one of the great things that we come into as we study these books is this, this program calls for teamwork. There is no man who is a whole in himself. We are like the different organs of the human body, the stomach, the heart, the liver, the lungs, the kidneys, even the little adrenal glands. Each organ has its place, and it is as a *team* that we accomplish something; so, in this program.

Oh, I haven't time this morning to go into the details, but God's ideal program, as pictured in these books, is that the minister and the physician, the nurse and the Bible worker, the cook and the teacher should all be tied together in Gospel medical evangelistic teams, operating from a country base.

There's an old-fashioned word that describes that country base. It's called a sanitarium. A sanitarium located not in the city, but in the country, dealing not primarily with those things that we associate with a hospital, although it may include a hospital. But dealing primarily with these four great causes that this national report on America's health problem number one points out, dealing with changing the habits of the people through education, through treatment.

Some of you are acquainted with the fact that in Europe governments, insurance companies, and business executives have joined together in some very interesting programs of reconditioning or health conditioning. Thousands of men in factories and in offices are interviewed and are examined. Those who are coronary prone or they have problems that are going to eventuate in a heart attack, are found, and they are sent to these health conditioning centers.

These are not religious institutions. Over there in Europe, people are getting down to business dealing with this problem. And what do they do in these health conditioning centers? They are given instruction on a diet which will reduce the danger of a heart attack. They are given various hydrotherapy treatments. But first of all and most of all they are exercised. Not primarily in gymnasiums, but out on the trails, hiking up the mountains. And they go sunshine or rain every day they're there. Literally thousands of people in Europe are participating in these health conditioning centers.

Dr. Paul Dudley White, Dr. Wilhelm Robb and other physicians in this country are crying earnestly that America shall do something similar. But I want to tell you something, friends. Because of the lack of glamour and the lack of financial remuneration that are associated with prevention, the people in this country who do much about this are going to be those who have a genuine love for humanity and who in their lives are moved by the example of Jesus.

If Seventh-day Adventists will arise to the challenge of the hour and come back, not merely to the way of living that is represented in these inspired books, but the program of medical work that is outlined in these books, we can reach every honest heart today with a message which makes sense, which makes sense, dealing with prevention. Cure? Yes, as an auxiliary. But the *great* thing is devoting the life to helping people change their life's habits so that they will be ready for the coming of Jesus.

This is more than a public-health program, what I'm talking to you about this morning. This is most of all a soul-winning program. For as I said last night, if you love a man enough to add 10 years to his life, what would you do if you could add a million years to his life? That's what soul-winning means, my friends. It means adding a million years to a man's life, and that's just the start, on and on through eternal ages.

And the medical work is the right arm. It's the arm to get around the man who's going down, down from tobacco, down from liquor, down from overeating and overweight, down from home problems, down from business stress, down from all kinds of confusion, to get that arm around him and lift him up, through the grace of God.



My dear friends, there are men and women here this morning who, if you will get the vision and devote your life 100 percent to letting Jesus use you, you can win hundreds of souls between now and the time that Jesus comes, hundreds of souls.

Let me read you a very interesting statement here in *Counsels on Health*, page 503:

“I have been surprised at being asked by physicians if I did not think it would be more pleasing to God for them to give up their medical practice and enter the ministry. I am prepared to answer such an inquirer: If you are a Christian and a competent physician, you are qualified to do tenfold more good as a missionary for God than if you were to go forth merely as a preacher of the Word”  
*Counsels on Health*, page 503.

Oh, my dear friends, what God is calling every doctor, every nurse, every person that has had any kind of medical training to do, is not to put that right arm in a sling and stand up and spend all your time preaching. Oh, no. God needs that right arm, but He needs it tied to a body of evangelism. He needs that right arm united with the ministry of the Word. He wants *you*, my brother, you who have had a training in medical lines, along with it to learn how to win souls. Not as a hobby like butterfly collecting or stamp collecting, but as the great business of life.

This is the work of our Example, the Lord Jesus. He was a medical missionary. He devoted more time to healing the sick than He did to preaching [a paraphrase of *Ministry of Healing*, page 19]. But He never forgot what it was all about, the winning of souls; the winning of men and women that they might be saved in His eternal kingdom.

And I read on page 544 of this wonderful book *Counsels on Health*:

“The greatest physician is the one who walks in the footsteps of Jesus Christ” *Ibid.*, page 544.

I’ll tell you this, friends. If you’ll go to Jesus and say, “Lord, I’d like to get in on something like that,” if you play fair with Him, He’ll lead you. If you play fair with Him, He’ll put you into something that you’ll have many, many stars in your crown.

Let me tell you about something that happened on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of August 1950. Just outside the Golden Gate, a young Italian fisherman was coming in with a haul of fish. He had nearly \$3,000 worth of fish in his boat, and he was proceeding to harbor to sell his catch cautiously because a heavy fog was on.

Presently, he noticed in the water about him men that were struggling, and looking down as the fog lifted a little, he saw in the waters beneath him the United States naval hospital ship, Benevolence. It had been rammed in the fog by another vessel. And these men struggling in the water were the survivors.

John Napoli said, “A voice said to me, ‘You’ve seen this. Go to work.’”

And the little fellow reached over the edge of his boat and pulled the nearest man up and into his boat; and then another and another. But presently, he had a problem. There was no more room. What to do?

Overboard went a box of fish, and in came some more men. Then overboard went another box of fish, and in came some more men. And finally, friends, the last box of fish was at the bottom of the ocean. And that fisherman carried into port 70 men that he himself had pulled out of the waters that foggy afternoon. But he didn’t have a dollar. The things that would bring money were all at the bottom of the sea.

Was it worth it? I can tell you this, my friends. If just one of those 70 was somebody you loved, it was worth it. Do you agree with me? And unless John Napoli had tumbled back into the briny deep his last box of fish unless he’d done that to save somebody you love, your father, your brother, your husband, unless he had done it, you wouldn’t say, “Well done,” to him, would you?

Someday soon, we’re going to meet the One who made men in His image and gave His life to restore that image that sin had marred. It’ll be a wonderful thing to have Him say, “Well done,” won’t it?

Oh friends, I can tell you this. There are many good things that people are doing today, thousands of them. But there is *one* thing for a blood-bought soul to do, and that’s to link with Jesus in the line of work that will lift the largest number of men out of the ocean of sin and save them in the kingdom of God.

This is why God gave us the medical missionary work. This is its goal. Not the patching up of all the results of sin in this world, but the finding of individuals who will accept the saving grace of Christ, and through His power, change their habits of life and get ready to meet the King and live forever.

Your talent, your training—oh, how much they mean. I think friends, of what you can be, and I covet you for the Master’s service. I covet you for this glorious program of medical evangelism. Oh, in Jesus’ name, I beseech you, have done with lesser things. Leave to the world the solving of its problems. It’s soon to perish. But enter into the solving of God’s problem—how to get these dying men out of the waters. Let the fish go overboard, friends, let the fish go overboard.

Tell me, friend. Suppose you and I were to go up to heaven this morning, take a space trip, really a space trip, not a moon trip, suppose we were to go up there and spend several days enjoying that beautiful place. We eat that delicious fruit. We bask in that eternal glory. We get acquainted with the angels, Enoch and Elijah, and all the rest of the folks that are up there. We have a wonderful time.

And finally, we go to Jesus and say, “Jesus, you’ve been giving me such a wonderful time up here. I’d like to do something for you while I’m here. Have you got anybody around here that’s hungry that I could carry some of this delicious fruit to?”

And He says, “No, we don’t have any hungry people here.”

“Well, have You got anybody that’s sick that I could go and minister to? I’d like to go help some sick person.”

“No,” He says, “we don’t have any sick people here.”

“Well, have You got anybody I could go give a Bible study to, and help to win them to You?

“No,” Jesus says, “we don’t have anybody up here that needs that.”

“You mean there’s nobody I can give a treatment to? Nobody I can win to Christ? No poor person I can help?”

“Nobody.”

“Oh, I wish there were. I’d just love to do something for you.”

And then Jesus says, “There is a place I could send you, if you were willing to go. Do you see that little planet way down there? There’s a place where there are hungry people that need to be fed. There’s a place where there are sick people that need My love. There’s a place where there are lost souls that need the Gospel. If you’re willing to leave this beautiful heaven and go down there, you can show your love for Me.”

Would you go?

I can tell you this, friends. The last chance we’ll ever have in all the eternal ages to go on a mission like that is right now. Things are closing up fast. Right now, you and I have the privilege of joining in a program that will save the last souls that will ever be saved in the universe.

May God bless you, my dear friend, as you think of why He has given you the talents, the training, that have fallen to your lot. “Who knows but you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this” [a paraphrase of Esther 4:14].

May I ask in closing this morning, is there anybody here this morning that as you hear the trumpet call of the Word of God, as you hear the still small voice of Jesus in the inner silence of your soul, you believe that God brought you to this meeting this morning to make a change in your lives?

I’m not making a general call. I’m making a specific, giving a specific question. Is there somebody here that you *know* as you hear the message this morning that God brought you here that your life might be changed, the direction of your life might be changed?

I’m not talking just about leaving sin and following the way of holiness; I’m talking about giving up the ordinary and accepting the extraordinary. I’m talking

about leaving the fish and catching men. I'm talking about a change in life that turns away from the regular conventional and accepts the challenge of the emergency.

This world is going down, and God is calling for somebody who will help Him rescue the last soul. And if there's somebody here this morning that, as you contemplate that, you realize that to accept that call means for you a change in what you had thought and planned. And you'd like to stand here this morning in token of that. I'd like to pray for you as we close this service.

Just remain standing a moment. You who are standing with bowed heads, talk to Jesus. Forget about this audience. Think of the One who loved you and gave Himself for you. Think how glad you make Him as you link with Him in giving all you have, that what He died for may be accomplished.

Is there another that God is speaking to this morning? "Jesus accepts, oh so gladly, every human agency that is surrendered to Him" [a paraphrase from *Mount of Blessing*, page 44].

Yes, I'm glad the boys and girls are hearing the call, too. Young or old, there's a place for you. *You* can win a soul. You can have a crown heavy with stars.

May we bow our heads?

Heavenly Father, we thank Thee with all our hearts that you've thought enough of us to let us in on this opportunity. This morning, we pray that Thou wilt help each heart to enter fully into the glorious privilege of being a partner with Jesus in saving men physically and spiritually.

Bless these standing ones, and may they be true to the decision Thou art helping them to make at this hour. Bless this entire audience, and may each one of us find in Thy way of life that which fills our hearts with devotion and our hands with service, in Jesus' name, amen.

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