answer them. But I ran across that text in Jeremiah, “O Lord, are not thine eyes upon the truth?” [Jer 5:3 KJV] You know, that settled the whole business and I stopped worrying. It was a good thing I did, for what is the use of our trying to carry the load that only God can carry? He will keep His eye on the truth. It is ours to push along and bear witness to it” [quoted in Godfrey T. Anderson, Spies: Leader with the Common Touch, p. 79].

Yes, God brought our church and its message triumphantly through the Kellogg crisis—and through all our other past crises.

Jesus said there would always be tares among the wheat and, conversely, wheat among the tares; so we shouldn’t be surprised by the tares, or overlook the splendid wheat that is growing right now among the tares.

Our Sabbath School lessons in Zechariah have reminded us that it is “not by might nor by power but by My Spirit, saith the Lord.” Human power didn’t establish the church—and human power will never be able to destroy it.

In 1886 Ellen G. White was inspired with the promise that Zion might seem about to fall, but that it wouldn’t fall; only the chaff would be sifted out from among the wheat.

And on the 1848 equivalent of this Nov. 18-19 weekend, years ago, the Lord’s special messenger to this movement was shown that the Sabbath message, far from faltering or fading away, would increase and grow brighter until Jesus comes, and after that, throughout eternity.

When that truth [about the Sabbath] arose there was but little light in it, but it has been increasing…. It grows in strength… [and] it lasts forever when the bible is not needed.…. O how mighty is that truth, it’s the highest after they enter the goodly land, but it will increase till they are made immortal…. [and] it never goes.

THE LAST DAYS
By Ellen G. White

A Book Preview by the Editor
Leo R. Van Dolson

Since we retired, my wife, Bobbie Jane, and I have been working part time for the Ellen G. White Estate. One of our most fascinating assignments has been to prepare a compilation of the Ellen G. White writings on final events.

This project was begun by Donald Mansell several years ago when he served on the staff of the White Estate. He launched a thorough review of the manuscripts in the vaults in Washington, searching for everything available that Ellen G. White had written about the last days. When Don left the White Estate, Gerard Damsteeg was assigned to organize into book form the materials that Don had spent so much time and effort collecting.

By the time of our retirement, Gerard had relocated at Andrews University, and so we were asked to put the materials into final form for publication. How amazed we were when, soon after our arrival in Kennebunkport, Maine, the United Parcel Service delivered four large cartons containing 27 thick notebooks full of typed manuscripts that Don and Gerard had assembled.

It is our understanding that approximately 80 percent of this material has never been published. What a blessing we have received as we have worked through the manuscripts, arranging and editing selections for publication!

We have narrowed the exciting materials to 267 pages of single-spaced typed manuscript. As of the present date, the Pacific Press still
needs a few months to get the material published, but we have been
given permission by the White Estate to share with the readers of the
JOURNAL some of the gems we came across. My two most notable
favorites were these:

**The Practical Significance of the Investigative Judgment.** We
should be astonished at our own indifference when we should be all life
and vivacity [if we] could see the work that is going on in heaven. Here
is the work of our Intercessor.

The great antitypical day of atonement and the work of judgment
is going on with the dead, and how soon will it begin with the living?
When every one of our cases will pass in review before God? And let
it be understood by you that, if you do not [do] the work that God has
given you, you will be weighed in the balances of the sanctuary and
found wanting. To us who have this hope and faith it is a dangerous
thing to be putting off the day of God.

A living church is a working church and a working church is a
living church. We must educate ourselves to be thinking and dwelling
upon the great scenes of the judgment just before us; and then, as we
keep the scenes of the great day of God before us when everything
will be revealed, it will have an effect upon our character. One brother said
to me, "Sister White, do you think the Lord will come in ten years?"

"What difference does it make to you whether He shall come in
two, four, or ten years?"

"Why," he said, "I think I would do differently in some things than
I now do if I knew the Lord was to come in ten years."

"What would you do?" I asked.

"Why," he said, "I would sell my property and begin to search the
Word of God and try to warn the people and get them to prepare for
His coming, and I would plead with God that I might be ready to meet
Him."

Then I said, "If you knew that the Lord was not coming for twenty
years, you would live differently!"

He answered, "I think I would."

Then I said, "You know your Master's will, and it is your duty to
do just as though you knew that He was coming in [ten] years."

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Van Dolson: Preview of White Eschatology Compilation

I opened the Scriptures and read to him... and he was convicted
that he should change his course, and he did change his course of
action... How selfish was the expression that he would live a different
life if he knew his Lord was to come in ten years! Why, Enoch walked
with God 300 years. This is a lesson for us that we shall walk with God
every day, and we are not safe unless we are waiting and watching.
We must have an eye single to God's glory.—Manuscript 10, 1886

**The Bright Home of the Saints.** The bright home of the saints
was presented vividly before me.... I seemed to be there, where all was
peace, where no stormy conflicts of earth could ever come. Heaven, a
kingdom of righteousness where all the holy and pure and blest are
congregated... living and walking in happy, pure intimacy, praising
God and the Lamb who sit on the throne. Their voices are in
perfect harmony. They never do each other wrong. Princes of heaven,
the potentates of this mighty realm, are rivals only in good; seeking the
happiness and joy of each other. The greatest there is least in self-
esteeem, and the least is greatest in his gratitude and wealth of love.

There are no dark clouds to cloud the intellect. Truth and know-
ledge, clear, strong, and perfect, have chased every doubt away, and no
gloom of doubt casts its baleful shadow upon its happy inhabitants. No
voices of contention mar the sweet and perfect peace of heaven. Its
inhabitants know no sorrow, no grief, no tears. All is in perfect harmony,
in perfect order and perfect bliss....

Heaven, sweet heaven, the saints' eternal home, the abode for the
toilers, where the weary who have borne the heavy burdens through
life find rest, peace, and joy. They sowed in tears, they reap with joy and
triumph. Heaven is a home where sympathy is alive in every heart,
expressed in every look. Love reigns there.—Letter 30, 1882 (To G. I
Butler, summer 1882).

Other Selections

The manuscript as submitted contains 27 chapters, divided into
four sections. The selections that follow have been chosen from these
four sections and are arranged under the section titles.
Section 1: The Conditions Surrounding the Advent

The Last Scenes of This Earth's History. In the last scenes of this earth's history, war will rage. There will be pestilence, plague, and famine. The waters of the great deep will overflow their boundaries. Property and life will be destroyed by fire and flood. Disasters will come unexpectedly upon the world. This should show us that the souls for whom Christ has died should be fitting up for the mansion that He has gone to prepare for them. There is a rest from earth's conflict. Where is it? "That where I am, there ye may also" (John 14:3). Heaven is where Christ is. Heaven would not be heaven to those who love Christ, if He were not there.—Manuscript 41, 1896 ("Words of Christ").

Human Theories Designed to Undermine Confidence in the Adventist Message. The world's opinion will oppose the very work that must be done in order that the safety of the flock of God shall not be imperiled. The fact that men... are imperiled by the sophistries that are coming in... shows that a power from beneath is making its imprint on human minds. Every movement made now is to be carefully guarded, for the forces of Satan have minds under their control, and will strive through them to unsettle faith in the experience of the past, which bears the signature of heaven. The delusive influences working upon human minds are of a character to unsettle the faith of the people of God in the experience of the past, which has borne the signature of heaven... [and] in the testimonies which the Lord has given His people....

History is being repeated. The perils that God's people encountered in past ages will be encountered again, intensified... Unless we give the most earnest heed to the Word of God, human minds will work up theories according to their own deficient practices... and will misrepresent and misapply a "Thus saith the Lord." A departure from the great principles Christ has laid down in His teachings, a working out of human projects, using the Scriptures to justify a wrong course of action under the perverse working of Lucifer, will confirm men in misunderstanding, and the truth that they need to keep them from wrong practices will leak out of the soul like water from a leaky vessel.—Manuscript 5, 1904 (Diary, Jan. 20, 1904).

Apostasy and Shaking in the Church. Many will stand in our pulpits with the torch of false prophecy in their hands, kindled from the hellish torch of Satan. If doubts and unbelief are cherished, the faithful ministers will be removed from the people who think they know so much....

God himself will work for Israel. Every lying tongue shall be silenced. Angel hands shall overthrow the deceptive schemes that have been formed. The bulwarks of Satan will never triumph. Victory will attend the third angel's message. As the Captain of the Lord's host tore down the walls of Jericho, so will the Lord's commandment-keeping people triumph, and all opposing elements be defeated....

Some will go out from among us who will bear the ark no longer. But these cannot make walls to obstruct the truth, for it will go onward and upward to the end.—Manuscript 92, 1897 ("God's Messengers," Aug. 12, 1897).

How Sabbath Keepers Are to Deal with Sunday Laws. To defy the Sunday laws will but strengthen in their persecution the religious zealots who are seeking to enforce them. Give them no occasion to call you lawbreakers.... Keep right on with your [missionary] work, with your Bibles in your hands, and the enemy will see that he has worsted his own cause.

One does not receive the mark of the beast because he shows that he realizes the wisdom of keeping the peace by refraining from work that gives offense, doing at the same time a work of the highest importance.... Whenever it is possible, let religious services be held on Sunday. Make these meetings intensely interesting. Sing genuine revival hymns, and speak with power and assurance of the Saviour's love. Speak on temperance and on true religious experience. You will thus learn much about how to work, and will reach many souls.

Make no demonstrations on Sunday in defiance of law.... We can use Sunday as a day on which to carry forward work that will tell on the side of Christ. We are to do our best, working with all meekness and lowliness.—Letter 132, 1902 (To A. G. Daniells and G. A. Irwin, Aug. 17, 1902).

Section 2: The Proclamation of the Adventist Message

Focus on the Message. Be sure, when you go out to teach others
not to get your minds upon little things, but keep your mind upon the
great work of God for Satan will surely turn you off if possible. Do not
try to be original and get up something you have not heard your
brethren speak of, for many have been shipwrecked in this way. Keep
the mind upon the third angel's message. When you keep this before
the minds of the people they will see wisdom in it. But when you get a
great many little trifling things before them they become confused just
like the Jews. What we want to do is to get the truth before the
people.—Manuscript 91, 1886 ("Morning Talk," Sept. 21, 1886).

The Certainty of Eternal Life. If I know my own heart, it is to do
the will of God to the very letter. I am willing to be a pilgrim and a
stranger here, for I am seeking a city whose builder and maker is God.
It is only a little while that we shall have to work, and we want to do
our work with diligence. We want to make sure of eternal life. We do
not want to follow our inclinations or our pleasure, but just do the will
of God and wait for His salvation and the final reward. I have peace
and joy in my Saviour. I am looking to the great beyond, and, if the
Master says "Well done," I shall be entirely satisfied. I love Jesus. I love
do His will. I ask no position or honor or ease or convenience. I
want to labor together with God, practicing self-denial and self-
sacrifice, and be a partaker with Christ of His sufferings [in order] that
I may be a partaker with Him of His glory.—Letter 62, 1886 (To J. H.

This Is No Time to Haul Down Our Colors. The Sabbath is
God's memorial of His creative work, and it is a sign that is to be kept
before the world. There is to be no compromise with those who are
worshiping an idol Sabbath. We are not to spend our time in controv-
ersy with those who know the truth, and upon whom the light of truth
has been shining, when they turn away their ear from the truth to turn
to fables.

I was told that men will employ every policy to make less
prominent the difference between the faith of Seventh-day Adventists
and those who observe the first day of the week. In this controversy
the whole world will be engaged, and the time is short. This is no time
to haul down our colors.

A company was presented before me, under the name of Seventh-
day Adventists, who were advising that the banner or sign which makes
us a distinctive people should not be held out so strikingly, for they
claimed it was not the best policy in securing success to our institu-
tions. This distinctive banner is to be borne through the world to the close

Fearful Perils Will Face the Leaders of God's Cause. Fearful
perils are before those who bear responsibilities in the cause of God,
perils the thought of which make me tremble. But the word comes, "My
hand is upon the wheel, and I will not allow men to control My work
for these last days. My hand is turning the wheel, and My providence
will continue to work out the divine plans, irrespective of human
inventions." Men's plans will be overthrown and the Lord God of
heaven will reveal His glory.

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit will work out Heaven's
law. These three great Powers have pledged themselves to bring to
touch the inventions of idolatrous minds. They have put the infinite
resources of heaven at the command of God's struggling people. (God
says,) "As the wheel is turned by a divine hand, the philosophy of the
wisest men who are working contrary to My purposes will become
intricate and confused."...

In the great closing work we shall meet with perplexities that we
know not how to deal with, but let us not forget that the three great
Powers of heaven are working, that a divine hand is on the wheel, and
that God will bring His purposes to pass.—Manuscript 118, 1902

Section 3: Dangers Facing God's People

When Will the End Come? There must be no concealing of
the principles of our faith. The third angel's message is to be sounded by
God's people. It is to swell to the loud cry. The Lord has a time
appointed when He will bind off the work. But when is that time? When
the truth to be proclaimed for these last days shall go forth as a witness
to all nations, then shall the end come. If the power of Satan can come
into the very temple of God and manipulate things as he pleases, the
time of preparation will be prolonged.—Letter 83, 1896 (To O. A.
Good and Evil Angels Will Appear on Earth as Human Beings. Satan will use every opportunity to seduce men from their allegiance to God. He and the angels who fell with him will appear on the earth as men, seeking to deceive. God's angels also will appear as men, and will use every means in their power to defeat the purposes of the enemy. We too have a part to act. We shall surely be overcome unless we fight manfully the battles of the Lord.—Letter 83, 1903 (To H. W. Kellogg, May 13, 1903).

Undermining the Testimonies and Foundations. We met a very intelligent young man [in Norwich, Mass.]... who is altogether filled with the idea that no one is quite as smart as himself. He has been studying up the messages in Revelation and he thinks he has discovered wonderful light. But is it that "wonderful light" that will flash forth all along the pathway till the end of time [or is it] the theory that tears away and takes the vitals out of all the past experience in the messages? To see such a youth, of a babe's experience, turning away [from] the pillars of our faith seems just terrible....

The enemy has made his masterly efforts to unsettle the faith of our own people in the testimonies, and when these errors come in they claim to prove all the positions by the Bible, but they misinterpret the Scriptures. They make bold assertions... and misapply the prophecies of the Scriptures to prove falsehood. And after men have done their work of weakening the confidence of our churches in the testimonies, they have torn away the barrier [in order] that unbelief in the truth shall become widespread and there is no voice to be lifted up to stay the force of error. This is just as Satan designed it should be, and those who have been preparing the way for the people to pay no heed to the warnings and reproofs of the testimonies of the Spirit of God will see that a tide of errors of all kinds will spring into life. They will claim Scripture as their evidence and deceptions of Satan in every form will prevail.—Letter 109, 1890 (To W. C. White, and J. E. White and wife, Dec. 6, 1890).

Section 4: Preparation for the Second Advent

Jesus Does Not Change Our Characters at the Second Advent. If you would be a saint in heaven you must first be a saint on earth. The traits of character you cherish in life will not be changed by death or by the resurrection. You will come up from the grave with the same disposition you manifested in your home and in society. Jesus does not change the character at His coming. The work of transformation must be done now. Our daily lives are determining our destiny. Defects of character must be repented of and overcome through the graces of Christ and a symmetrical character must be formed while in this probationary state that we may be fitted for the mansions above.—Letter 18b, 1891 (To Bro. and S. Kynett, Feb. 15, 1891).

Temptations Stronger Near the End. As we near the end, temptations will be stronger and more seductive, but we need not yield to them, we need not open the door of the heart and invite Satan to enter. There is no power in earth or hell [strong enough] to compel...you to sin and dishonor your holy faith.—Letter 18b, 1891. (To Bro. and S. Kynett, Feb. 15, 1891).

Believers in Ellen G. White's Inspiration Will Be Safe From Heresies, Especially Those Concerning the Sanctuary. Men may get up schemes after schemes and the enemy will seek to seduce souls from the truth, but all who believe that the Lord has spoken through Sister White, and has given her a message, will be safe from the many delusions that will come in these last days.

I know that the sanctuary question stands in righteousness and truth just as we have held it for so many years. It is the enemy that leads minds off on sidetracks. He is pleased when those who know the truth become engrossed in collecting Scriptures to pile up around erroneous theories which have no foundation in truth.—Letter 50, 1906 (To W. W. Simpson, Jan. 30, 1906).

Preparation for What Is Coming. The perils of the last days are upon us and, at this time, we are each determining what our destiny for eternity shall be. Individually we are to form characters that will stand the test of the judgment. Individually we are to give in the church where we are an example of faithfulness and consecration. The ministry of the Word is designed to prepare a people to stand in the times of temptation in which we live....

There has been revealed to me the grave dangers we shall meet in these last days of peril and temptation. Our only reliable light and...
guide for this time is the Word of God. We must take this Word as our Counselor and faithfully follow its instructions or we shall find that we are being controlled by our own peculiar traits of character and our lives will reveal a selfish work that will be a hindrance and not a blessing to our fellow men.—Manuscript 61, 1909 (“Words of Instruction,” Sept. 17, 1909).

History is being repeated. The perils that God’s people encountered in past ages . . . will be encountered again, intensified . . . Unless we give the most earnest heed to the Word of God, human minds will work up theories according to their own deficient practices . . . and will misrepresent and misapply a “Thus saith the Lord.” A departure from the great principles Christ has laid down in His teachings, a working out of human projects, using the Scriptures to justify a wrong course of action under the perverse working of Lucifer, will confirm men in misunderstanding, and the truth that they need to keep them from wrong practices will leak out of the soul like water from a leaky vessel.—Ellen G. White, Manuscript 5, 1904 (Diary, Jan. 20, 1904).