



# News and Views

*The official Newsletter for the Wilson SDA Church*

March 1, 2018

Volume 25 Issue 3

---

## **Daniel, continued**

By Ellen White

The strength of nations and of individuals is not found in the opportunities and facilities that appear to make them invincible; it is not found in their boasted greatness. That which alone can make them great and strong is the power of God. They themselves, by their attitude toward his purpose, decide their own destiny.

Human histories relate man's achievements, his victories in battle, his success in attaining worldly greatness. God's history describes man as heaven views him. In the divine records all his merit is seen to consist in his obedience to God's requirements. His disobedience is faithfully chronicled as meriting the punishment he will surely receive. In the light of eternity it will be seen that God deals with me accordance with the momentous question of obedience or disobedience.

Hundreds of years before certain nations came upon the stage of action, the Omniscient One looked down the ages, and predicted through his servants the prophets the rise and fall of the universal kingdoms. The prophet Daniel, when interpreting to the king of Babylon the dream of the great image,—an image symbolic of the kingdoms of the world, ---declared to Nebuchadnezzar that his kingdom should be superseded. His greatness and power in God's world would have their day, and a

second kingdom would arise, which also would have its period of trial as to whether it would exalt the one Ruler, the only true God.

Not doing this, its glory would fade away, and a third kingdom would occupy its place. Proved by obedience or disobedience, this also would pass away; and a fourth, strong as iron, would subdue the nations of the world. These predictions of the Infinite One, recorded on the prophetic page and traced on the pages of history, were given to demonstrate that God is the ruling power in the affairs of this world. He changes the times and the seasons, he removes kings and sets up kings, to fulfill his own purpose.

Under King Nebuchadnezzar, Babylon was the richest and most powerful kingdom on the earth. Its riches and splendor have been faintly portrayed by Inspiration. But it did not fulfill God's purpose; and when his time had come, this kingdom of pride and power, ruled by men of the highest intellect, was broken, shattered, helpless. Christ has declared, "Without me you can do nothing." The illustrious statesman of Babylon did not regard themselves as dependent of God. They thought that they had created all their grandeur and exaltation. But when God spoke, they were as the grass that withereth, and the flower of the grass that fadeth away. The word and will of God alone endure forever.

If these several kingdoms had kept the fear of the Lord always

before them, they would have been given wisdom and power, which would have bound them together and kept them strong. But the rulers of the kingdoms of the world made God their strength only when harassed and perplexed. Failing to obtain help from their great men, they sought it from men like Daniel, men who they knew honored the living God and were honored by him. To these men they appealed to unravel for them the mysteries of Providence; for they had separated themselves so far from God by transgression that they could not understand his warnings. They were forced to appeal to those who minds were illuminated by heavenly light, for an explanation of the mysteries they could not comprehend.

The voice of god, heard in past ages, is sounding down along the line, century to century, through generations that have come upon the stage of action and passed away. Shall God speak, and his voice not be respected? What power mapped out all this history, that nations, one after another, should arise at the predicted time and fill their appointed place, unconsciously witnessing to the truth of that which they themselves knew not the meaning.

The centuries have their mission. Every moment has its work. Each is passing into eternity with its burden. Well done, thou good and faithful servant, or, Woe to the wicked and slothful servant. God is still dealing with earthly kingdoms. He is in the great cities.

His eyes behold, his eyelids try the doings of the children of men. We are to say, God was, but, God is.

He sees the very sparrow's fall,, the leaf that falls from the tree, and the king who is dethroned. All are under the control of the Infinite One. Everything is changing. Cities and nations are being measured by the plummet in the hand of God. He never makes a mistake. He reads correctly. Everything earthly is unsettled, but the truth abides forever.

In the eyes of the world, those who serve God may appear weak. They may be apparently sinking beneath the billows, but with the next billow, they are seen rising nearer to their haven. I give them eternal life, saith the Lord, and none shall pluck them out of my hand. Though kings shall be cast down, and nations removed, the souls that through faith link themselves with God's purpose shall abide forever. "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and forever.

Youth Instructor Sept. 29, 1903

.....

### Pine Wood Derby Races

On February 3, the racers of the Jam Dam area assembled to compete in the annual Pine Wood Derby car races. Cars of various shapes and color were entered into the great race. You could tell that many hours had been spent on getting the race cars into shape for the great races. There were forty cars were entered into the open class and the pathfinder class. The spectators were able to enjoy pizza and popcorn as they watched the races. Forty pizzas and lots of popcorn were sold and raised \$319 for the Pathfinder Club. The support of the community of the Pathfinder Club is greatly

appreciated by the members of the club.

Awards were given for various classes. For best of show, the first place went to Josh Thurman for his mustang. Second place went to Kaya Zinke for flower, and third place went to Elijah Boerschinger for his tow truck.



The Pathfinder with the fastest car was Ben Berger. Second place went to Lucia Messersmith, and third place went to Jake Zinke.



In the open class, the fastest car was Ari Coursey. Second place went to Ezra Boerschinger, and third place went to Eric Coursey.



All who attended enjoyed the evening. Perhaps some are planning on joining the competition next year.

.....

"Faith in God's love and

overruling providence lightens the burdens of anxiety and care. It fills the heart with joy and contentment in the highest or the lowliest lot. " My Life Today 158

.....

### For What It's Worth

Have you ever evaluated your character? Really asked yourself some serious questions about who you are; how you act; what are your values; are you kind; am I pure in my thinking? ...and many other such questions?

Paul commands us to do this evaluation. "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?--unless indeed you are disqualified." 2 Cor. 13:5

If I understand correctly, your character is the only thing you can take to heaven. You can't take money, land, clothes, computers, phones, or anything else from this world. Just you: your body and your character.

Your body is something that God will change at his second coming, changing your mortal body to immortality. Exactly how that is done is a mystery. It will be made into a perfect body like God designed it to be in the beginning.

It happened to Enoch, Moses, Elijah, and those raised at Jesus' resurrection. It will be capable of interstellar travel with no space suits of any kind. It is amazing to think about.

But your character is fixed when you die. If you go into the grave being dishonest, you are not going to be raised to life telling only the truth. If you are unkind when you die, you are not going to rise being gentle and kind to everyone. If you die a gossip, you won't be raised speaking only good things about people.

If you die being critical of others, you are not going to rise praising people. If you die being selfish and thinking more about your needs than others, you aren't going to rise putting others first. If you die thinking evil is okay, you will not rise thinking evil is bad. The list could go on and on. Depressed to happy; revengeful to forgiving; like fighting to peaceful; yelling at people to speaking respectfully.

But the good news in the Bible is that the character can be changed now. It has to be changed while we are alive. And though we can't do it ourselves, God has offered His infinite power to make the changes He sees need to be made to fit into his perfect world. The choice is ours. We have to choose to let Him make the changes and cooperate with Him in the process. When we die, He can't work on us anymore.

Consider these thoughts. "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are **being transformed** into the same image from glory to glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord." 2 Cor. 3:18

"And do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed** by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Rom. 12:2

"If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus; that you put off concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and **renewed** in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which is created according to God in true righteousness and holiness." Eph. 4:21-24

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." Phil. 2:5

"Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from

the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life....Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin....Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts." Rom. 6: 4, 6, 12

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; **behold all things have become new.**" 2 Cor. 5:17

Those are just a few of the texts you can find about how God can change a sinful person into a new creature. It is one of Satan's lies that you can't obtain a perfect character. Listen to these words.

"Often the question arises, Why then, are there so many, claiming to believe God's Word, in whom there is not seen a reformation in words, in spirit, and in character?...The reason is that they are not converted. They have not hidden the leaven of truth in their heart. It has not had opportunity to do its work. Their natural and cultivated tendencies to do evil have **not been submitted to its transforming power.** Their lives reveal the absence of the grace of Christ, an unbelief in **His power to transform the character.**" COL p. 99. Read the whole page.

"God reaches for the hand of faith in us to direct it to lay fast hold upon the divinity of Christ, that we may attain to perfection of character." DA p. 123

"God's ideal for His children is higher than the highest human thought can reach. "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." This command is a promise. The plan of redemption contemplates our complete recovery from the power of Satan. Christ always separates the contrite soul from sin. He came to destroy the

works of the devil, **and He has made provision that the Holy Spirit shall be imparted to every repentant soul, to keep him from sinning.** " DA p 311.

Did you catch the significance of that last quote, especially the last sentence. She goes on to say...."The tempter's agency is not to be accounted an excuse for one wrong act. Satan is jubilant when he hears the professed followers of Christ making excuses for their deformity of character. It is these excuses that lead to sin. There is no excuse for sinning. A holy temper, **a Christlike life, is accessible to every repenting, believing child of God.** p. 311

**"Jesus revealed no qualities, and exercised no powers, that men may not have through faith in Him. His perfect humanity is that which all His followers may possess, if they will be in subjection to God as He was.** " DA 666

That is fantastic news. There are so many more comments like that in the SOP. So if you and I have a defect of character, where do we go to get it fixed? God's Word and asking for the Holy Spirit to both to will and to do His good pleasure. Phil. 2:13

And when are we to have this work of character development done?

**"To a great extent everyone is the architect of his own character. Every day the structure more nearly approaches completion. The Word of God warns us to take heed how we build, to see that our building is founded upon the Eternal Rock. The time is coming when our work will stand revealed just as it is. Now is the time for all to cultivate the powers that God has given them, that they may form characters for usefulness here and for a higher life hereafter."** CG 164

And one more.

***“Now is the time to prepare. The seal of God will never be placed upon the forehead of an impure man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of the ambitious, world-loving man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of men or women of false tongues or deceitful hearts. All who receive the seal must be without spot before God,—candidates for heaven. Search the Scriptures for yourselves, that you may understand the fearful solemnity of the present hour.” Christian Experience and Teachings p. 191***

And so she promised him that she would do that. Well, he died. I was placed in his casket and his wife and her best friend were sitting there. After the ceremony, and just before the undertaker got ready to close the casket, the wife said, “Wait just a moment.”

She had a small metal box with her. She came over and put it in the casket. Then they closed the casket and rolled it away.

So her friend said, “Girl, I know you were not foolish to put all that money in there with your husband.”

The loyal wife said, “ Listen, I am true to my word. I keep my promises. I promised that I was going to put that money in the casket with him.”

“You mean to tell me you put that money in the casket with him?”

“I sure did,” said the wife. “I got it all together, put it into my account, and wrote him a check for the full amount....If he can cash it, then he can spend it.”

Happy Birthday to you all.

.....



## An Old Farmer’s Advice

“Words that soak into your ears are whispered, not yelled.”

“Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.”

.....



Bumper Stickers

“Never give the devil a ride! He will always want to drive.”

“A clean conscience makes a soft pillow.”

.....

Funny how long an hour seems when worshiping God or serving Him in some way and how small sixty minutes seems when watching television, playing sports, or taking a lunch break.

.....

1. What kind of man was Boaz before he got married?
2. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?
3. What excuse did Adam give his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?

1. Ruth-less
2. Samson- he brought the house down
3. Your mother ate us out of house and home.

## Good for a smile

If you start the day without caffeine: get going without pep pills: always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pain: resist complaining and boring people with your troubles; eat the same food every day and be grateful for it; understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time; take criticism and blame without resentment; resist treating a rich friend better than a poor friend; conquer tension without medical help; relax without liquor, sleep without the aid of drugs.....then you are probably the family dog.

## Another one???

There was this man who worked all his life, saved all of his money, and was a real miser when it came to his money. Just before he died, he said to his wife..”When I die, I want you to take all my money and put it in the casket with me. I want to take my money with me. It's mine”



- Tanner Pearson 1
- Ed Wery 7
- Carolina Champion 9
- Connie Bruso 12
- Tom Berger 13
- Alaina Walechka 13
- Sharon Wery 13
- Chad Blumenshein 14
- Isabella Blasco 14
- Clara DeGrave 18
- Wade DeGrave 23
- Maria DeGrave 25
- Angela Blumenshein 26
- Jeff Walechka 26
- Gabriella Molgaard 27
- Patsy Olson 27
- Jacob Miller 28
- Francesca Molgaard 29
- Kalvin McCoy 30
- Laila Strauss 31

