

INCREASED LIGHT SINCE 1888

A Prediction in Process of Fulfillment
G. B. Starr

We were in attendance at the Minneapolis General Conference in 1888; and greatly rejoiced in the definite teaching of Righteousness by faith, so clearly and forcefully presented there.

The entire books of Romans and Galations were then definitely joined as an integral part of the Three Angel's Messages, as were the books of Daniel and the Revelation given and received as their foundation. It is our conviction that these epistles to the Romans and Galations, which so clearly present justification by faith, will never, in the future, be separated from the proclamation of the Three Angel's Messages, in their world-wide work and influence, but will continue to bring added light and power to the messengers and believers.

The Holy Spirit was manifestly present during that conference, and witnessed to the presentation of that vital subject. Our souls were refreshed with the water of life and our spirits rejoiced in Jesus as our personal, all-sufficient Saviour. His person, His love, His righteousness and His power to save to the uttermost, were exalted as we had never heard them in any preceding conference.

At that meeting a statement was made by the servant of the Lord that the presentation of the righteousness of Christ, as then brought to us, and its reception, marked the beginning of the "Loud cry of the Third Angel's message"; and the joining with the Third Angel of that other angel, mentioned in Revelation 18:1; whose glory was to fill the whole earth.

These verbal utterances, made at that meeting, were soon after presented in writing and printed. In the Review and Herald of September 3, 1889, we read:

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"The present message, justification by faith, is a message from God; it bears the divine credentials, for its fruit is unto holiness." EGW.

Some sincere persons, at this time, questioned whether the definite teaching of justification by faith, and emphasis given to that subject was really a part of the work of the ministry of the Third Angel's message, and so wrote Sr. White regarding it. She replied in the Review of April 1, 1890:

"Several have written to me inquiring if the message of justification by faith is the Third Angel's message? And I have answered; "It is in verity."

Later, when we reached Australia, she was led to write constantly upon this theme, in articles for the papers, and in the manuscripts for forthcoming books. She also wove it into her public talks; and encouraged the teachers in the Australian Bible School, opened in Melbourne, to emphasize it in their classes. This was done; and the books of Romans and Galatians were studied, verse by verse, and deep spiritual experiences followed. Sr. White stated, that she saw rays of light from the courts above coming down into these class rooms.

In the Review and Herald of November 22, 1892, one year after our arrival in Australia, she wrote:

"The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the Third Angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin-pardoning Redeemer. This is beginning of the light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth."

In her earliest visions Sr. White had been shown these promised movements of these angels, and now recognized the fulfillment. In Early Writings page 277, she wrote:

"I saw angels hurrying to and fro in heaven, descending to the earth, and again ascending to heaven, preparing for the fulfillment of some important event. Then I saw another mighty angel commissioned to

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descend to the earth, to unite his voice with the Third angel, and give power and force to his message. Great power and glory were imparted to the angel, and as he descended, the earth was lightened with his glory. The light which attended this angel penetrated everywhere; as he cried mightily, with a strong voice. . . .The work of this angel comes in at the right time to join in the last great work of the Third angel's message, as it swells to a loud cry. And the people of God are thus prepared to stand in the hour of temptation, which they are soon to meet. I saw a great light resting upon them, and they united to fearlessly proclaim the Third angel's message."

In considering all that is embraced in the special light of these angels, which was to lighten the whole earth, we naturally inquire what the messengers of the Third angel are carrying to the people of all lands, that is bringing light and joy and salvation to them? And we see an open Bible in the hands of every messenger, with special light shining upon its prophetic books, illuminating sealed portions; and directing minds upward toward the heavenly sanctuary; toward Christ as its High Priest, engaged in the closing work of the gospel. They are also diligently considering the promises, in all portions of the word, of the speedy second coming of the Lord Jesus, in power and great glory.

We also see the converts to these messages in possession of books and messages, entitled; "The testimonies of Jesus; the spirit of prophecy." We further note that those who read these books most devotedly are filled with faith and love. They seem to have special love for God and His word and love for one another; and we note great transformation in their lives. We learn also that these writings have accompanied the proclamation of the three angel's messages from their beginning, as predicted in Revelation 12:17. We further note that a marked increase in light and volume of these writings since the prediction of increased light at the conference of 1888.

To this increase of spiritual light, at this particular time, Elder A. G. Daniells in his helpful booklet; "Christ Our Righteousness," calls special attention. He says:

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"Among the greatest of all the blessings that have followed that meeting has been the abundant instruction which the Lord has sent to His people, through the spirit of prophecy regarding our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and how to live His life by faith."

"This instruction is truly illuminating. It is worthy of note that since the Minneapolis Conference there have come to us, through the spirit of prophecy, the following volumes of instruction:

"Steps to Christ" in 1892
"Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing?" 1896
"The Desire of Ages" 1898
"Christ's Object Lessons" 1900
"The Ministry of Healing" in 1905
"The Acts of the Apostles" in 1911
"Prophets and Kings" 1915

"It is well known to all who have read these books that the great dominant theme is Christ,--His victorious life in humanity, His atoning sacrifice on the cross, and how He now may be made unto us poor mortals; wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption."

"Besides these intensely spiritual books, scores and scores of messages have been sent to us through (counsels to individuals and churches and) through the REVIEW AND HERALD, which contain the clearest and most helpful instruction regarding the subject of righteousness by faith. All this is of priceless value to the church. It throws a flood of light upon the great problem of redemption in all its phases."

Can the reader estimate the loss to the people of God, and to the whole world, of spiritual light and encouragement, had these books never been inspired and written?

Through these messages of the spirit of prophecy, the Lord Jesus has also given clear proofs of His divine Leadership in this world-movement. Fields afar have been pointed out, and the messengers called to enter. "Regions beyond," have been occupied, and heathen fortresses, long held by the Prince of Darkness, have fallen before the light and power attending the Third angel's message. Delivered captives from sin, by the thousand, in many lands, are today singing their songs of deliverance, of praise for the light that has

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reached and rescued them. This song is rapidly swelling into a loud universal hallelujah, in all languages, of praise to the Lord Jesus, the Great Deliverer.

Daily reports from the messengers in all lands bear testimony to their conviction that the loud cry of the message is now sounding, accompanied by the falling of the showers of the promised "Latter rain."

We, in the home lands, must now, by faith, be putting on the wedding garment of Christ's righteousness, for

"Only those who are clothed in garments of His righteousness will be able to endure the glory of His presence when He shall appear with 'power and great glory.'" Review and Herald, July 9, 1908.

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