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In every meeting since 1888 Gen Conf souls have eagerly accepted message of righteousness by faith

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Elder David Sibley, President
19 Eagle Terrace
Brisbane B 13
Queensland, Australia

My dear Brother Sibley:

Last year Elder White received a letter from you in which you made mention of your desire for statements that replace in proper balance and perspective the Minneapolis Conference of 1888.

In some unfortunate way the idea has obtained that 1888 represents a sort of a parting of the ways. The implication is that, since that hour, we have been following the broad road to ruin and that Christ has been walk-along on the narrow way to heaven, with few, if any among us, walking by His side. This is a delusion. It is not a correct representation of the facts.

I believe that a statement by Mrs. White in the Review and Herald of July 23, 1889, is helpful in this connections. Note, if you will, that Sister White is preaching to the believers at a campmeeting held at Ottawa, Kansas. She is not feeling well and the low spiritual state of the people and the temptations of the evil one have distressed her. But through faith in Christ she rallied to meet the situation and brought the message of Righteousness by Faith in all of its fullness to the people. In the Review and Herald article, she comments on the meetings at the Kansas campmeeting and she observed that "the tidings that Christ is our Righteousness has brought relief to many, many souls, and God says to His people, 'Go forward!'" She also said:

"In every meeting since the General Conference, souls have eagerly accepted the precious message of the righteousness of Christ. We thank God that there are souls who realize that they are in need of something which they do not possess--gold of faith and love, white raiment of Christ's righteousness, eyesalve of spiritual discernment. If you possess these precious gifts, the temple of the human soul will not be like a desecrated shrine. Brethren and sisters, I call upon you in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, to work where God works. Now is the day of gracious opportunity and privilege. (Selected Messages, Book II, pages 357, 358.)

It is interesting that "God says to His people, 'Go forward.'". It is interesting to observe to that Sister White mentions, "In every meeting since the General Conference, souls have eagerly accepted the precious message of the righteousness of Christ." The message of righteousness by faith has indeed gone forward with increasing success, though there is not the emphasis upon that there should be today. It is Satan's studied effort to obscure this truth from the minds of people, for he knows when they understand and grasp it fully, his power over them will be broken. But the emphasis is nonetheless present in the church.

I trust, Elder Sibley, that you will secure Selected Messages, Books I and II and read particularly the section, "Christ Our Righteousness" in Book I beginning page 355 to 400.

Faithfully your brother,

D. D. DELBERT