



October 15, 1980

3245 So. 10th St.
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502

Dear Sister

A portion of your letter of October 5, 1980, has been handed to me to answer. In it you say that you have heard that Ellen White "saw the coastal cities in flames, and California slipping into the ocean." As to the first part of your question the only place Ellen White speaks of the destruction of coastal cities is found in her book, *The Great Controversy*, p. 637 where, speaking of the mighty earthquake of the seventh vial, she says: "The seaports that have become like Sodom for wickedness are swallowed up by the angry waters." Please note that she describes destruction of these cities by water, not by fire.

Now for the second part of your question: To our knowledge Ellen White never predicted that California would slip into the ocean. She did state on September 1, 1902: "Well equipped tent meetings should be held in large cities, such as San Francisco; for not long hence these cities will suffer under the judgments of God. San Francisco and Oakland are becoming as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the Lord will visit them in wrath." --*Life Sketches*, p. 412

The San Francisco earthquake which occurred four years later undoubtedly was a partial fulfillment of the prediction. Two days before this catastrophe, she wrote what appears on pages 407-409 of *Life Sketches*. I've included a xerox copy for your convenience.

Soon after this earthquake rumors began to circulate to the effect that she had predicted that Los Angeles would be the next city to suffer. Concerning this she wrote what appears on page 411 of *Life Sketches*. I've included a xerox copy of this also.

The claim that Ellen White saw California slipping into the sea probably originated in the same way--as a rumor. This is not to say that California will not subside beneath the waves at some time in the future, but if it does, it was not predicted by Ellen White.

I trust I have answered your query. If we can be of any further service to you, please let us know.

Sincerely,

D. E. Mansell
Assistant Secretary