

October 21, 1934.

Route 2, Box 161
Oroville, California.

Dear Sister

Your letter of June 16 has been handed to me by Elder W.C. White with the request that I answer the questions you raise in your letter.

Let me ask you to pardon the long delay in dealing with this inquiry. It is due to the heavy pressure of important manuscript work and some other lines which could not be neglected.

You ask if Sister White says that "Silence is eloquence," or "silence is golden" in regard to the question of the 144,000.

It is reported that she said both. We have no written statement from her pen to that effect however. It is a fact that Sister White says very, very little regarding the 144,000. She does however make this statement written in 1901 which has been printed in a pamphlet entitled "A Reply to the Shepherd's Rod" on pages 56 and 57. In case you may not have this book within easy reach, I will quote what she says regarding the matter of discussing or entering into controversy over the matter as to whom shall compose the 144,000.

"Christ declared that when He comes some of His waiting people will be engaged in business transactions. Some will be sowing in the fields, others reaping and gathering in the harvest, and others grinding at the mill. It is not God's will that His elect shall abandon life's duties and responsibilities and give themselves up to idle contemplation, living in a religious dream. They are to be ~~S~~'not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord."

"Christ says that there will be those in the church who will present fables and superstitions, when God has given grand, elevating, ennobling truths, which should ever be kept in the treasure house of the mind. When men pick up this theory and that theory, when they are curious to know something it is not necessary for them to know, God is not leading them. It is not His plan that His people shall present something which they have to suppose, which is not taught in the word. It is not His will that they shall get into controversy over questions which

which will not help them spiritually, such as who is to compose the 144,000. This those who are the elect will in a short time know without question.

"My brethren and sisters, appreciate and study the truths God has given for you and your children. Spend not your time in seeking to know that which will be no spiritual help.

'What shall I do to inherit eternal life?' This is the all-important question, and it has been clearly answered. 'What is written in the law? how readest thou?'" Luke 10:26. --

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Your second question is regarding a reported statement that sufficient light has been given which if heeded will carry us through to the kingdom. This too, is a report of an oral statement, but I can cite you to no authentic source for it.

We understand it to be in harmony with Sister White's understanding of the matter. If you will turn to "Testimonies to the Church," Vol. 8, page 99, you will find this statement, "Light enough has been given." If it were acted upon further light would not be needed."

It is possible that the words which you have quoted in your letter have originated from the thought in this quotation from Volume 8.

Sincerely your brother,



Ass't Sec.
ELLEN G. WHITE ESTATE

ALW:lfw.