

Fundamental Belief Number Thirteen

The Remnant and its Mission

Part 4

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Memory Text

Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, *that* I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your **sons** and your **daughters** shall **prophesy**, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

Joel 2:29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

Joel 2:32 And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the **remnant** whom the LORD shall call.

Bible Study Summary Introduction Statement

The universal church is composed of all who truly believe in Christ, but in the last days, a time of widespread apostasy, a remnant has been called out to keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. This remnant announces the arrival of the judgment hour, proclaims salvation through Christ, and heralds the approach of His second advent. This proclamation is symbolized by the three angels of Revelation 14; it coincides with the work of judgment in heaven and results in a work of repentance and reform on earth. Every believer is called to have a personal part in this worldwide witness.

BIBLE STUDY

Ellen G. White fulfils the Thirty Spiritual tests of a True Prophet of God

What is the sixth spiritual test of a prophet that Ellen G. White fulfilled?

Every True Prophet of God will point all to love and to serve the true God

1 Kings 18:21 And **Elijah** came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the **LORD** be God, **follow** him: but if Baal, *then* follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

1 Kings 18:39 And when all the **people** saw *it*, they fell on their faces: and they said, The **LORD**, he *is* the **God**; the LORD, he *is* the God.

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, **choose** you this day whom ye will **serve**; whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, **we** will **serve** the **LORD**.

Joshua 24:23 Now therefore put away, *said he*, the strange gods which *are* among you, and **incline** your **heart** unto the LORD **God** of Israel.

Joshua 24:24 And the people said unto Joshua, The **LORD** our **God** will we **serve**, and his **voice** will we **obey**.

Notice in the following quote from Ellen G. White's writings how she also fulfils this test of the prophetic gift.

The graces of Christ's Spirit must be cherished and revealed by the sons and daughters of God. By their humility, their penitence, their desire to be like Jesus, to be conformed to his will by practising his lessons in their daily life, they honor him. They hope in God, and commit the keeping of their souls to him, as unto a faithful Creator, and God honors their trust in him. {RH, August 24, 1897 par. 7}

But God takes none to heaven but those who are first made saints in this world through the grace of Christ, those in whom he can see Christ exemplified. **When the love of Christ is an abiding principle in the soul, we shall realize that we are hid with Christ in God.** Then we shall be able to say: "I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." **Look to Calvary. Let every proud look be humbled. Look to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith,** "who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." "Thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place; with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the

humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." The cry of the broken heart is as music in the ears of the Lord, because he can restore and heal. {RH, August 24, 1897 par. 8}

"The Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy." "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. . . . As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." He looks upon his redeemed heritage with pity. He is ready to pardon their sins if they will surrender and be loyal to him. In order to be just, and yet the justifier of the sinner, he laid the punishment of sin upon his only begotten Son. {RH, August 24, 1897 par. 9}

But it is only because of the value of the sacrifice made for us that we are of value in the Lord's sight. It is only because of Christ's imparted righteousness that we are counted precious by the Lord. For Christ's sake he pardons those that fear him. He does not see in them the vileness of the sinner; he recognizes in them the likeness of his Son, in whom they believe. In this way only can God take pleasure in any of us. "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." {RH, August 24, 1897 par. 10}

What is the seventh spiritual test of a prophet that Ellen G. White fulfilled?

7. Every True Prophet of God will encourage all to prepare for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ as the main priority in life

Luke 1:17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people **prepared** for the **Lord**.

1 John 2:28 And now, little children, abide in him; that, when **he** shall **appear**, we may have **confidence**, and **not** be **ashamed** before him at his **coming**.

2 Peter 3:11 *Seeing* then *that* **all** these things shall be **dissolved**, what **manner** of persons ought ye to **be** in *all* holy conversation and godliness,

2 Peter 3:12 **Looking** for and **hasting** unto the **coming** of the day of **God**, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

2 Peter 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, **look** for **new** heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

2 Peter 3:14 Wherefore, beloved, **seeing** that ye **look** for such things, be **diligent** that ye may be **found** of him in peace, without spot, and **blameless**.

Amos 4:12 Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: *and* because I will do this unto thee, **prepare** to **meet** thy **God**, O Israel.

Matthew 24:42 **Watch** therefore: for ye know **not** what hour your **Lord** doth **come**.

Matthew 24:43 But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.

Matthew 24:44 Therefore **be** ye also **ready**: for in such an hour as ye think **not** the **Son** of man **cometh**.

Matthew 25:13 **Watch** therefore, for ye know **neither** the **day** nor the **hour** wherein the **Son** of man **cometh**.

Mark 13:32 But of that day and *that* hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

Mark 13:33 Take ye heed, **watch** and **pray**: for ye know not when the time is.

Mark 13:34 *For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his **work**, and commanded the porter to **watch**.*

Mark 13:35 **Watch** ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:

Mark 13:36 Lest **coming** suddenly he find you sleeping.

Mark 13:37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, **Watch**.

Once again we can observe in the following Ellen G. White quotes abundant evidence that fulfils yet another Biblical test of true prophet of God.

Jesus is coming again. Before parting with his disciples on the earth, he gave them the promise of his return. "Let not your heart be troubled," he said; "in my Father's house are many mansions: . . . I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." {RH, November 22, 1906 par. 1}

The exact day and hour of Christ's coming have not been revealed. The Saviour told his disciples that he himself could not make known the hour of his second appearing. But he mentioned certain events by which they might know when his coming was near. "There shall be signs," he said, "in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars." "The sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars of heaven shall fall." Upon the earth, he said, there shall be "distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." **{RH, November 22, 1906 par. 2}**

"And they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." **{RH, November 22, 1906 par. 3}**

The signs in the sun, moon, and stars have been fulfilled. Since that time earthquakes, tempests, tidal waves, pestilence, and famine have multiplied. The most awful destructions, by fire and flood, are following one another in quick succession. The terrible disasters that are taking place from week to week speak to us in earnest tones of warning, declaring that the end is near, that something great and decisive will soon of necessity take place. {RH, November 22, 1906 par. 4}

Probationary time will not continue much longer. Now God is withdrawing his restraining hand from the earth. Long has he been speaking to men and women through the agency of his Holy Spirit; but they have not heeded the call. Now he is speaking to his people, and to the world, by his judgments. **The time of these judgments is a time of mercy for those who have not yet had opportunity to learn what is truth. Tenderly will the Lord look upon them. His heart of mercy is touched; his hand is still stretched out to save. Large numbers will be admitted to the fold of safety who in these last days will hear the truth for the first time. {RH, November 22, 1906 par. 5}**

I was pointed to the remnant on the earth. The angel said to them, "Will ye shun the seven last plagues? . . . If so, ye must die that ye may live. **Get ready, get ready, get ready.** Ye must have a greater preparation than ye now have. . . . Sacrifice all to God. Lay all upon His altar--self, property, and all, a living sacrifice. It will take all to enter glory." **{Mar 98.4}**

Christ is coming with power and great glory. He is coming with His own glory and with the glory of the Father. . . . While the wicked flee from His presence, Christ's followers will rejoice. . . . To His faithful followers Christ has been a daily companion and familiar friend. They have lived in close contact, in constant communion with God. Upon

them the glory of the Lord has risen. . . . Now they rejoice in the undimmed rays of the brightness and glory of the King in His majesty. They are prepared for the communion of heaven; for they have heaven in their hearts. {Mar 98.5}

If you are right with God today, you are ready if Christ should come today. {Mar 98.6}

What is the eighth spiritual test of a prophet that Ellen G. White fulfilled?

8. Every True Prophet of God will encourage all to keep the Seventh-day Sabbath holy according to the Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:8 Remember the **sabbath** day, to keep it holy.

Exodus 20:9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

Exodus 20:10 But the **seventh** day *is* the **sabbath** of the LORD thy God: *in it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates:

Exodus 20:11 For *in* six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the **seventh** day: wherefore the LORD blessed the **sabbath** day, and hallowed it.

Acts 13:27 For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the **prophets** which are **read** every **sabbath** day, they have fulfilled *them* in condemning *him*.

Matthew 24:20 But **pray** ye that your flight be **not** in the winter, neither on the **sabbath** day:

Hebrews 4:9 So that there is **still** a **Sabbath-keeping** for the **people** of God. **Bible in Basic English**

Ellen was very clear on this obvious Biblical injunction also as we will notice in the following quote from her writings.

As the sun goes down [at the close of the Sabbath], let the voice of prayer and the hymn of praise mark the close of the sacred hours and invite God's presence through the cares of the week of labor. {CCh 264.3}

It means eternal salvation to keep the Sabbath holy unto the Lord. God says: "Them that honor Me I will honor." 1 Samuel 2:30. 474 {CCh 264.4}

The words and thoughts should be guarded. Those who discuss business matters and lay plans on the Sabbath, are regarded of God as though they engaged in the actual transaction of business. To keep the Sabbath holy, we should not even allow our minds to dwell upon things of a worldly character. 486 {CCh 269.3}

Reverence for the Sabbath

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Exodus 20:8 {ML 287.1}

"Remember" is placed at the very first of the fourth commandment. Parents, you need to remember the Sabbath day yourselves to keep it holy. And if you do this, you are giving the proper instruction to your children; they will reverence God's holy day. . . . All through the week keep the Lord's holy Sabbath in view, for that day is to be devoted to the service of God. It is a day when the hands are to rest from worldly employment, when the soul's needs are to receive especial attention. {ML 287.2}

The Sabbath--oh! make it the sweetest, the most blessed day of the whole week. . . . Parents can and should give attention to their children, reading to them the most attractive portions of Bible history, educating them to reverence the Sabbath day, keeping it according to the commandment. . . . They can make the Sabbath a delight if they will take the proper course. The children can be interested in good reading or in conversation about the salvation of their souls. **{ML 287.3}**

During a portion of the day all should have an opportunity to be out of doors. . . . Let their young minds be associated with God in the beautiful scenery of nature, let their attention be called to the tokens of His love to man in His created works. . . . As they view the beautiful things which He has created for the happiness of man, they will be led to regard Him as a tender, loving Father. . . . As the character of God puts on the aspect of love, benevolence, beauty, and attraction, they are drawn to love Him. **{ML 287.4}**

The Sabbath is the golden clasp that unites God and His people. {ML 287.5}
It means eternal salvation to keep the Sabbath holy unto the Lord.

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{ML 287.6}

Would you like to prepare for the Second Coming of Christ by loving and serving Him and keeping the Seventh-day Sabbath as all the prophets have encouraged us to do? Yes!

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

What is the sixth spiritual test of a prophet? Every True Prophet of God will point all to love and to serve the true God

How do we do this? By choosing to serve and obey Him

What seventh spiritual test of a prophet gives one of the central themes of the Bible? Every True Prophet of God will encourage all to prepare for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ as the main priority in life

How can we prepare for the Second Coming of Christ? Work, watch, pray and be ready

Which Commandment did all of the prophets and followers of God love and keep? The fourth Commandment to Remember the Seventh-day Sabbath.