

## Fundamental Belief Number Thirteen

### The Remnant and its Mission

#### Part 10

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**Jeremiah 1:9** Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have **put** my **words** in thy **mouth**.

**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 twenty-Fifth spiritual test of a prophet that Ellen G. White fulfilled?

**25. Every True Prophet of God may at times point out the secret sins of individuals when revealed to them by the inspiration of His Spirit for their salvation**

**2 Samuel 12:1** And the **LORD** sent **Nathan** unto **David**. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were **two** men in one city; the one **rich**, and the other **poor**.

**2 Samuel 12:2** The **rich man** had **exceeding** many **flocks** and herds:

**2 Samuel 12:3** But the **poor man** had nothing, save **one** little ewe **lamb**, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and **was** unto him **as a daughter**.

**2 Samuel 12:4** And there came a **traveller** unto the **rich man**, and he spared to take of his **own** flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but **took** the poor man's **lamb**, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.

**2 Samuel 12:5** And **David's** anger was greatly kindled **against** the **man**; and he **said** to **Nathan**, *As* the LORD liveth, the **man** that hath done this *thing* shall surely **die**:

**2 Samuel 12:6** And he shall **restore** the lamb **fourfold**, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.

**2 Samuel 12:7** And **Nathan** said to David, **Thou art** the **man**. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;

**2 Samuel 12:8** And **I** gave thee thy master's **house**, and thy master's **wives** into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if *that had been* too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.

**2 Samuel 12:9** Wherefore hast thou **despised** the **commandment** of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed **Uriah** the **Hittite** with the sword, and hast taken his wife *to be* thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

**2 Samuel 12:10** Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast **taken** the **wife** of **Uriah** the Hittite to be thy wife.

**2 Samuel 12:11** Thus saith the **LORD**, Behold, I will raise up **evil** against **thee** out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give *them* unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.

**2 Samuel 12:12** For thou didst *it* **secretly**: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.

**2 Samuel 12:13** And **David** said unto Nathan, **I have sinned** against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

**2 Samuel 12:14** Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the **enemies** of the LORD to **blaspheme**, the child also *that is* born unto thee shall surely die.

Although specially honored by God, Ellen at first felt reluctant to accept the great responsibility of becoming God's prophet to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Many times the angel who appeared in the visions pointed out evil in church members and told her to warn them about their bad habits and traits. She dreaded revealing the evil in human nature and did not want to hurt anybody's feelings. Occasionally she had to struggle with the temptation to soften God's reproofs to the church, not realizing that she was being unfaithful to her role as a

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prophet. Nor did she see the dangers in such a course both to her and to the church. God decided to illustrate to Ellen her responsibility toward her fellow church members. Again He used a symbolic dream. Taken into the presence of Christ by an angel, she saw Christ frown at her, then turn His face away. Terror and agony seized Ellen, and she fell speechless to the ground. An overpowering desire to hide from Christ's frown made her

understand the feelings of those who would beg for the mountains to fall on them during Christ's second coming.

A brightly glowing angel appeared and, attracting Ellen's attention, pointed to a group of people with bloodstained clothing and faces filled with horror and despair. Noticing Mrs. White, they ran to her, grabbed hold of her clothes, and began to rub their bloody rags on her dress. The blood stained her clothes. The sight of the people and their blood on her dress made her faint. She instantly realized that the smeared blood symbolized her guilt in not warning others of their faults and mistakes. No excuse to defend herself before the angel came to her lips. She knew that she had none. Flee she could not.

"This is not your case now," the angel suddenly said. He explained that he had presented the scene to warn her of her fate should she not present God's warnings and reproofs to others. But if she would faithfully do her duty, at Christ's second coming she would gain eternal life. "You will have to suffer much," the angel emphasized, "but the grace of God is sufficient." God would give her the strength, the courage, and the insight she needed.

Later, with the publication of her first book, *Christian Experience and Views*, in 1851, she included a special note to the readers. "A sense of duty to my brethren and sisters and a desire that the blood of souls might not be found on my garments have governed me in writing this little work," she wrote.

Never again did she weaken any of her warnings or instructions from God, but delivered them faithfully. Some of her fellow church leaders thought her needlessly severe at times. She did not let their attempts at pressure influence her. "I had to set my face like steel to do this," she explained. Her task brought her much heartache at times, though she knew that she would face greater sorrow if she did not fulfill her mission. *Angel over Her Tent* by D. A. Delafield and Gerald Wheeler pp 22, 23

Mrs. White knew that at last the time had come for her to deliver the message. She went to her writing stand, opened a drawer, and took out a package of typed sheets. She sat down in an easy chair and, with Mr. Faulkhead sitting near, began to read what she had written nearly a year before.

**She read a description of some of the meetings of the secret societies to which he belonged, as she had seen them in the vision. As she read, he recognized the very**

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**words he had spoken in one of their meetings and the replies the men had made, expressed in the terms and forms of speech peculiar to the society. She even told him where he was sitting when he talked with the men, and what he was advising the men to do.**

**"I heard them address you as 'Worshipful Master,'" she said.** She described scenes of drinking that had taken place late at night after the regular meetings had closed and he had left.

She warned him of his danger. He was becoming so absorbed in the work of the lodges and so proud of the honors received that he was losing the love he once had for his Saviour. In the vision she had seen him contributing large sums of money to the lodge, whereas at church he searched his purse for small coins. She told him plainly that unless he broke his connection with his associates, he would give up the truth and lose eternal life.

**After reading and talking to him for a long time, she said, "I cannot relate all that was given to me," and she unconsciously moved her hands in the same manner the angel had used when he gave her the instruction.**

**Suddenly Mr. Faulkhead turned pale. In a startled voice he asked, "Sister White, do you know what you did just now?"**

**"No," she replied, "I'm not aware that I did anything unusual."**

**Attempting to control his excitement, he exclaimed, "You made a secret sign known only to lodge members!"**

**The two talked on. Again Mrs. White made another movement with her hands. Again he paled. When he had regained composure, he said, "You did it again,**

**Sister White; again you made a secret sign. This one is known only to the highest order of the society.” He told her that**

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**only six persons in all Australia were entrusted with a knowledge of that sign. He had learned it himself only a few days before. He said, “It's one that is never divulged to a nonmember, and no woman is ever told about it.”**

Mr. Faulkhead needed no further evidence that God had revealed these things to Mrs. White in vision. He felt solemn to think that God had noticed him and had sent him a special message.

Mrs. White's face brightened, for she could see that Mr. Faulkhead believed her words and would receive the counsel.

As Mrs. White continued reading and talking, May Walling, her niece, came to the room. “Aunt Ellen,” she said, “you should rest.” But Mrs. White said, “May, I have special word from the Lord for Brother Faulkhead, and I must give it to him.”

Later my father knocked at the door and protested, “Mother, you're wearing away your strength; you've been talking with Mr. Faulkhead for nearly three hours!”

“Don't disturb us; the Lord is giving me strength for the task,” she said quietly. She closed the door, and her son left.

Turning to Mr. Faulkhead, she saw that a great struggle was going on in his mind. Good and evil angels were battling for his soul. Soon his face lightened with heavenly joy. Looking up, he exclaimed, “Lord, I give myself unreservedly to Thee!”

With tears in his eyes, he said to Mrs. White, “I accept the light the Lord has sent me through you. I will act upon it. I'm a member of five lodges, and three others are under my control. I transact all their business. Now I shall attend no more of their meetings, and shall close my business relations with them as fast as possible. I've just taken the

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highest order in one of the societies, but I shall sever my connection with them all.”

It was now nearly time for the late train to leave for his suburban home. When he reached the station it had already pulled out, leaving him to walk the four miles. He chose the quiet streets, for he wanted to think. A great joy filled his heart as he realized that the God who rules the universe and guides the planets had seen his danger and had sent a message just for him.

Early the next morning he was at the publishing house, telling his associates of his decision. The news quickly spread through the offices, causing joy among his friends.

Calling his secretary, he dictated letters of resignation to the lodges. Then, afraid lest he should change his mind, he handed the letters to Elder Daniells to mail.

During the remainder of his life, Mr. Faulkhead gave his time to the work of the Echo office, spreading the message of Jesus' soon return.

Through the years he frequently warned young men not to join secret societies, telling them of the temptations that had come to him. He would often show them a pile of invitations from governors, premiers, and other rich and honored men—invitations to parties of pleasure and revelry. But he said, “Every time I look at them they remind me of the devil's snares.” ***Stories of my Grandmother* BY ELLA M. ROBINSON pp 173-177**

### **The County Treasurer and the Missing Money**

**As told by Arthur L. White pp 42-44**

This story about the county treasurer and the missing money shows how God helped the people to know that the message of the pioneers was the truth and that He spoke to His people through the Spirit of Prophecy.

In the winter of 1849-1850, Elder and Mrs. White lived at Oswego, New York, right near Lake Ontario. While there, Elder White published several numbers of our first little paper, The Present Truth. He also held meetings and presented our message, particularly the Sabbath truth. Our pioneers called it the third angel's message, and we call it that today.

The Methodists were especially disturbed, and with a very earnest business man leading out, they held revival meetings. This man, whom we know only as Mr. M. was the county treasurer. The people were very much impressed and some found it hard to decide as to who

was right, this man who upheld Sunday or Elder White, the young minister who had just moved to Oswego and who lived in a rented house with borrowed furniture, who was teaching the Sabbath truth. Mr. M., well-known in the town and the county treasurer conducting a religious revival, told the people that the Sabbath was not important. All that they had to do was to turn from sin and give their hearts to God.

Mr. Hiram Patch and the fine young lady he was about to marry were especially troubled. How could they know what was the truth in this matter? They were deeply impressed with the earnestness of the Methodist county treasurer and the meetings he held. They could also see clearly the Bible proofs for the Sabbath truth and the third angel's message.

**About this time, Sister White was given a vision in which she was shown the true character of Mr. M., and that he was not honest. And she was instructed to tell Mr. Patch, "Wait a month, and you will know for yourself the character of the persons who are engaged in this revival, and who profess to have such a great burden for sinners."**

**When Mrs. White told this to Mr. Patch, he said, "I will wait."**

About two weeks later, as Mr. M., the county treasurer, in one of the revival meetings, was praying in agony for sinners, a blood vessel in his stomach broke, and he was carried home in great pain. As others took over his treasurer's work at the county court house, they discovered a shortage in the county funds of one thousand dollars. The sheriff and his assistant were sent to the treasurer's home to ask about the missing money. The sheriff went to the front door and the assistant stayed out in the yard. The sheriff found Mr. M. in bed.

**Mr. M. told the sheriff that he did not know anything about the missing money. Just then the sheriff's assistant came in the back door with Mrs. M. and he had in his hand a bag of money. He got there just in time to hear the treasurer call on God to witness that he had not taken the money.**

**The sheriff's assistant then held up the bag of money and asked, "What is this?"**

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**As he stood outside while the sheriff went into the house, he had seen Mrs. M. go out the back door carrying a bag and this she quickly hid in a pile of snow. Then as she returned to the house, she met the man who had been watching her, and he took her back with him to get the bag. Just as he had suspected, it contained the missing money. The treasurer was put under arrest. The revival meetings collapsed, The people of the town were shocked.**

Now Mr. Patch knew who had the truth and he, with the young lady he soon married accepted fully the third angel's message, joined the Sabbathkeeping Adventists and were very faithful members. When they saw the fulfillment of the predictions of Sister White, they knew that God was guiding this people and that they had the truth.

**[Story based on the account given by J. N. Loughborough in Great Second Advent Movement, pp. 230-232, and Mrs. White's reference to the experience in Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 2, pp. 123, 124.] Campfire Junior Stories from the days of the S. D. A. Pioneers pp 42-44**

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

**26. Every True Prophet of God is ordained and chosen by God not by themselves or by the church**

**Jeremiah 1:5** Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, *and* I **ordained** thee a **prophet** unto the nations.

**Jeremiah 1:6** Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I **cannot** speak: for I *am* a **child**.

**Jeremiah 1:7** But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I *am* a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall **send** thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt **speak**.

**Jeremiah 1:8** Be not afraid of their faces: for I *am* with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

**Jeremiah 1:9** Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have **put** my **words** in thy **mouth**.

Notice the difficulties that Ellen experienced as she describes this test of the gift of prophecy with her following thoughts written for us below.

**In my second vision, about a week after the first, the Lord gave me a view of the trials through which I must pass, and told me that I must go and relate to others what He had revealed to me. It was shown me that my labors would meet with great opposition, and that my heart would be rent with anguish; but that the grace of God would be sufficient to sustain me through all. {CET 65.1}**

After I came out of this vision I was exceedingly troubled, for it pointed out my duty to go out among the people and present the truth. My health was so poor that I was in constant bodily suffering, and to all appearance had but a short time to live. I was only seventeen years of age, small and frail, unused to society, and naturally so timid and retiring that it was painful for me to meet strangers. {CET 65.2}

**For several days, and far into the night, I prayed that this burden might be removed from me, and laid upon someone more capable of bearing it. But the light of duty did not change, and the words of the angel sounded continually in my ears, "Make known to others what I have revealed to you." {CET 65.3}**

Hitherto when the Spirit of God had urged me to duty, I had risen above myself, forgetting all fear and timidity in the thought of Jesus' love and the wonderful work He had done for me. {CET 65.4}

**Are you happy to receive the gift of prophecy that He chose to give through the ministry of Ellen G. White to point people to Jesus and the message that is able to make them wise unto Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? Yes!**

## **RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

**What secret sin of David did God reveal through Nathan the prophet to bring David to repentance and to restore him to salvation? Taking Bathsheba, Uriah's wife, and murdering Uriah to cover his guilt.**

**How did David respond to Nathan's message from God? He admitted his guilt and repented of his sin**

**How did God respond to David's repentance? He put away his sin**

**What were the consequences of David's sin? It gave reason for God's enemies to blaspheme and his first son would die.**

**Does a prophet appoint themselves to have visions and dreams and if not who does appoint a prophet? No God appoints them.**