

Fundamental Belief Number Thirteen

The Remnant and its Mission

Part 9

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Memory Text

Numbers 12:6 And he said, **Hear** now my **words**: If there be a **prophet** among you, *I* the **LORD** will **make** myself **known** unto him in a **vision**, *and* will **speak** unto him in a **dream**.

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-first spiritual test of a prophet that Ellen G. White fulfilled?

21. Every True Prophet of God will encourage all to read, follow and continue in correct Biblical doctrines as the only guarantee through faith in Christ to being saved

1 Timothy 4:13 Till I come, give attendance to **reading**, to exhortation, to **doctrine**.

1 Timothy 4:14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by **prophecy**, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

1 Timothy 4:15 **Meditate** upon these things; give thyself **wholly** to them; that thy **profiting** may appear to all.

1 Timothy 4:16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; **continue** in them: for in **doing** this thou shalt both **save** thyself, and **them** that **hear** thee.

Observe the following admonition of Ellen G. White regarding this spiritual test.

The apostle Paul, in his dying charge to Timothy, says: "The things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." The instruction given to Timothy contains lessons to be learned by all the servants of Christ. Every one who anticipates engaging in the solemn work of the ministry should give heed to the apostle's charge to his son in the gospel as the latter was entering upon his work: "Let no man despise thy youth." Timothy might pursue so wise a course that he would gain the confidence of all with whom he should be associated. The ground of this confidence the apostle specifies: "But be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." The work of a student was enjoined upon him. **"Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all." {HS 284.2}** These lessons are important, not only to ministers, but to all the workers in the cause of God. Each should give them careful study. **"Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them; for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." {HS 284.3}**

Sound doctrine must be brought into actual contact with men's souls, that it will produce sound practice. God gives sufficient light to guide every man that he shall perform right actions. {20MR 370.4}

The secrets of the Lord are with them that fear Him and keep His covenant. We need faith in God, that under the sanctifying power of God's Word, the principles of human brotherhood may be manifested. We need the Holy Spirit's guidance. Its power upon mind and heart will enable us to present the truths of God's Holy Word. **Sound doctrines brought into**

actual contact with human souls will result in sound and elevating practices. The truth as it is in Jesus must be cherished. Then Christians will not be Christians in name only. The love of Christ will pervade their lives.--Ibid., Feb. 28, 1899. {RC 113.6}

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

22. Every True Prophet of God will receive messages from God in visions and dreams

Numbers 12:5 And the **LORD** came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood *in* the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth.

Numbers 12:6 And he said, **Hear** now my **words**: If there be a **prophet** among you, *I* the **LORD** will **make** myself **known** unto him in a **vision**, *and* will **speak** unto him in a **dream**.

Numbers 12:7 My servant Moses *is* not so, who *is* faithful in all mine house.

Numbers 12:8 With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

The vision was the first of some two thousand that

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Ellen received in her lifetime. Each one helped her and the young Seventh-day Adventist Church to understand God's purposes better. Some visions helped clarify a point of doctrine. Others gave warnings against bad habits and practices among church members. Several depicted the battle between Satan and Christ over the fate of mankind. But all strengthened the church and its members, and many prevented Adventists from falling into the dangers that had destroyed other denominations. Ellen wrote what she saw in the dreams and visions and compiled these in articles and books. Her over 100,000 pages of manuscript—much of it handwritten—have resulted in more than fifty-five major books.

Angel Over Her Tent By D. A. Delafield and Gerald Wheeler pp21, 22

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

23. Every True Prophet of God may at times have signs and wonders associated with their work

Matthew 12:39 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the **sign** of the **prophet** Jonas:

Luke 11:30 For as **Jonas** was a **sign** unto the **Ninevites**, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation.

Isaiah 38:1 In those days was **Hezekiah** sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order: for **thou** shalt **die**, and not live.

Isaiah 38:2 Then **Hezekiah** turned his face toward the wall, and **prayed** unto the LORD,

Isaiah 38:3 And said, Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have **done** *that which is* **good** in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

Isaiah 38:4 Then came the **word** of the **LORD** to **Isaiah**, saying,

Isaiah 38:5 Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus **saith** the **LORD**, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will **add** unto thy days **fifteen** years.

Isaiah 38:6 And I will **deliver** thee and this city out of the hand of the **king** of **Assyria**: and I will defend this city.

Isaiah 38:7 And this *shall be* a **sign** unto thee **from** the **LORD**, that the LORD will do this thing that he hath spoken;

Isaiah 38:8 Behold, I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the **sun** dial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward. So the sun **returned** ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down.

Note the interesting way God revealed a secret sign to Ellen G. White for a man involved in the secret society of the Masons.

The N. D. Faulkhead experience in 1892 is a classic illustration of Ellen White's prophetic ministry for the early Australian Adventists. When she went to Australia in 1891, Faulkhead was treasurer of the publishing house; he also held the highest positions in several secret organizations. As time went on, he became increasingly involved in his lodge work, and his church interests waned.

On the boat trip to Australia and soon after arrival, Ellen White had a comprehensive vision involving the publishing house generally and several personal testimonies, including one for the Faulkheads. When she went to mail the message, she felt strongly restrained: "When I enclosed the communication all ready to mail, it seemed that a voice spoke to me saying, 'Not yet, not yet, they will not receive your testimony.'" She held the testimony for almost twelve months. 89

During that time Faulkhead's co-workers noticed his fading interest in his work and pleaded with him to reconsider his infatuation with the lodges. Ellen White saw in vision that he was "a man about to lose his balance and fall over a precipice." 90

One of the Australian Adventists asked Faulkhead what he would do if Mrs. White had a testimony for him in regard to his lodge affiliations. To this he responded, "It would have to be mighty strong." That she indeed had a message for Faulkhead almost a year old, no one yet knew. 91

Shortly after Faulkhead's defiance, he had a dream that Ellen White had a message for him! In a few days, he met her and asked if she had something for him. Replying that she had, she proposed an early meeting in the future. But Faulkhead was eager: "Why not give me the message now?"

She told him that several times she had been ready to send the message but she was "forbidden by the Spirit of the Lord to do so" because the time was not ripe. But now was the time. She began to read the fifty-page manuscript, especially the portion dealing with his involvement with Freemasonry. She went on to reveal how he dropped small coins into offerings on the Sabbath but large coins into the treasury of the lodges. She heard him addressed as "Worshipful Master."

Later, Faulkhead recalled: "I thought this was getting pretty close home when she started to talk to me in reference to what I was doing in the lodges." 92

Then it happened. After giving a certain movement of her hand, she said: "I cannot relate all that was given to me." 93

Faulkhead turned pale, recounting later: "Immediately she gave me this sign. I touched her on the shoulder and asked her if she knew what she had done. She looked up surprised and said she did not do anything unusual. I told her that she had given me the sign of a Knight Templar. Well, she did not know anything about it."

Ellen White went on about how impossible it is to be a committed Christian and a Freemason. **Then she made another secret sign, which she said "my attending angel made to me." Faulkhead knew that this particular sign was known only to the highest order of Masons, and said later: "This convinced me that her testimony was from God. . . . Immediately the statement that I had made to Brother**

Stockton, that it would have to be mighty strong before I could believe that she had a message for me from the Lord, flashed through my mind.”

Faulkhead’s response to the interview was immediate. He told his co-workers the next day how God had spoken to him

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through Ellen White. His first work of the day was to dictate his resignation to his various lodges. But his lodge friends did not give up easily, insisting that he was honor-bound to serve out his term for the next nine months. The struggle was severe and fellow church members trembled for him.

At the end of those nine months Faulkhead wrote to God’s messenger: **“How thankful I am to Him for sending me a warning that I was traveling on the wrong road. . . . I can see now very clearly that to continue with them would have been my downfall, as I must confess that my interest for the truth was growing cold.”**

Faulkhead continued to serve the publishing house for many years and remained a strong spiritual leader in Australia. 94 ***Messenger of the Lord* By Herbert E. Douglass pp 164, 165**

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

24. Every True Prophet of God may at times be involved in plans for building projects that the Lord is interested in constructing for His glory and work of salvation

Ezra 5:1 Then the prophets, **Haggai** the **prophet**, and **Zechariah** the son of Iddo, **prophesied** unto the Jews that *were* in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, *even* unto them.

Ezra 5:2 Then rose up Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and began to **build** the **house** of God which *is* at Jerusalem: and with them *were* the **prophets** of God **helping** them.

Ezra 6:14 And the **elders** of the Jews **builded**, and they **prospered** through the **prophesying** of **Haggai** the **prophet** and **Zechariah** the son of Iddo. And they builded, and finished *it*, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the commandment of Cyrus, and Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia.

Note: Ellen G White was often given counsel from God to guide in the plans of the construction of buildings that would be used in God’s work.

Brother -----, it is not wisdom to become involved in debt. You are a wise man, and do not need this

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reminder. A debt is a yoke,--a binding, galling yoke. It would not be wisdom to purchase another place near ----- . You have been pressed almost beyond measure in the effort to build and equip the ----- Sanitarium. It would have been wiser to make the building smaller. I have always thought that it would be best to cut down the building plans still more than they were cut down, and then, when means came in, and if more room was needed, the building could have been enlarged. It would cost much less to furnish a smaller building,--**Letter 158, 1902. {CS 274.4}**

Relation of Ellen White to Administrators, Institutions, etc.

In regard to the Sanitarium, Brother Merrit Kellogg drew up the plan for the building. I was instructed by the Lord that the Sanitarium should not be a mammoth building, because there are other places where Sanitariums must be

established. All these buildings must be erected in the most economical manner, that the most possible good may be done. In all our designs the expenditure of means must be carefully considered. We must be careful how we spend the money so essential to sustain the work in new fields, to commence and advance the work in places where the truth has never yet been represented. **The question came up as to whether we should build the Sanitarium of brick or of wood. I said, "Brethren, build it of wood. If you hear the patients discussing the matter, saying that wooden buildings are not safe on account of fire, tell them that wooden buildings are more healthful than brick buildings."** I related the experience I had while living in brick and stone buildings in Rochester, N.Y., and in Preston, Melbourne. **{6MR 52.2}**

They discussed the matter for some time, arguing pro and con, and finally decided unanimously that wooden buildings are more in accordance with

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our belief in the third angel's message than brick buildings. We found by reducing the size of the building, and using wood instead of brick we could save eight or ten thousand pounds. **{6MR 52.3}**

We were sent for again to come to Summer Hill and consider the building plans. We did this, and before we left, there was some talk of lessening the size of the building still more. With these changes we think the plan will succeed. Dr. Kellogg came to Cooranbong and told us that he had made some more changes. He had taken two sections out of the plan, to reduce the expense all that he possibly could. **{6MR 53.1}**

Thus we have cut down the expense, using wood instead of brick, and reducing the plan, until we think that it will pass before the Lord as an acceptable building, fit to be used as a Sanitarium. **{6MR 53.2}**

All our school buildings were erected upon the most strictly economical plan. Our meeting house in this place is built on wooden piles to save expense. I do not see how we could have put up the buildings with more economy. You will bear testimony with us to this. After the word had gone forth in regard to our extravagance in the expenditure of means, and had been plainly and decidedly corrected, it is strange that Brother _____ should take his way to America and Battle Creek, and make the same false statements that others have made. He knows better; he has judgment and insight; but when the human heart is yielded to the temptations of the enemy, Satan can lead where he will.--**Letter 122, 1900, pp. 2-4. (To Brother Irwin, August 12, 1900.)**

Are you happy to receive the writings of the prophets that if heeded are able to make us wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? Yes!

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Is advised in the Scriptures that it is alright to neglect the writings of a prophet? No

How should we respond to the gift of prophecy Paul's' admonition in 1 Timothy 4:13-16? Meditate, read and give ourselves wholly to what is written by the prophets.

How does God usually reveal Himself to a true prophet? God makes known Himself to the prophet through a vision or dream

Did Ellen G. White have God reveal Himself to her through visions and dreams? Yes

Did Ellen G. White ever have any signs shown through her to confirm peoples confidence in her gift of prophecy? **Yes**

Did Ellen G. White have any instructions on building projects that God wanted to see give progress to the work of spreading the gospel as some of the Bible prophets also had? **Yes**