

# Will There Be Another Prophet?

## PART ONE OF THREE

One influential brother among us has stated that (1) we need a living prophet to resolve the various doctrinal views and other differences of opinion among us; (2) this is necessary, because those differences cannot be settled by referring to the writings of the deceased prophet. And (3), before Christ's return, He will definitely send us another living prophet to solve these problems for us.

I can understand his deep concern for unity among the brethren, as we steadily near the final crisis. He very likely is well-meaning in his intentions.

But, since his views were presented in an open forum to a camp meeting-type gathering, with sermon tapes afterward made available, the topic is now being widely discussed among our people; and some believers are expressing the thought that perhaps we really should expect another living prophet before the end. —*It is urgent that a correct understanding of the issues involved be presented.*

This brother sincerely desires that believers achieve the fullest unity of thinking, before the final crisis breaks upon us. *But his suggested solution for achieving that objective has three flaws:*

1 - We can no longer expect to obtain the help we need from the Bible and/or Spirit of Prophecy; for those prophetic writers are all dead. Only a "living" prophet can provide us with the doctrinal and standards pronouncements needed to carry us safely through to the end of time.

2 - There is an urgent need of a living prophet; and God wants us to have one.

3 - Indeed, God intends to send us one; without any doubt, we should expect the prophet's arrival. And, without hesitation, we should accept the prophet when he or she declares a prophetic status and begins uttering inspired words for us to accept.

I reply that, first, the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy are adamant in the extreme—that the Inspired Writings we already have (every part of it written by men and women now dead) is all we need to instruct us in correct doctrine and standards, perfect Christian character, strengthen us to correctly fulfill our duties in this life, help us finish the work, and enable us (by the grace of Christ) to go to heaven.

Our "unity" of thought and action is to be derived from oneness with Christ, likeness to His character, and obedience to the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. "Unify, unify, unify; but only on the basis of truth," we are told.

Second, we were never told that there would be another prophet, or that God was going to send us another one.

Third, we have been given definite Inspired warnings about accepting any new prophets.

Why were we given such strong warnings? Because when someone speaks to you, whether personally or in a public meeting, you must be very guarded as to everything he says. This is due to the fact that, if you acknowledge him to be a prophet, you will thereafter be inclined to accept whatever he says as from God!

People can be led into great sin by such "prophets." Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, and David Korsh were examples of such prophets. Each one ultimately led the people to accept a variety of false teachings—even to letting him commit adultery with their wives! There is the gravest danger in thinking that you should accept someone as a divinely inspired prophet! Another frequent error of these "prophets" is that they eventually present time prophecies in order to create additional excitement among their followers.

Well then, is there no way that God can send us prophets that we can trust? Oh yes, there is. When Ellen White first began her prophetic ministry,—the Bible tests of a prophet were clearly evident. They are listed on pp. 87-95 of my book, *Prophet of the End*.

These tests include supernatural physical manifestations, given in public gatherings and repeated on a number of occasions: not being able to breathe for half an hour, holding a heavy Bible horizontally at arm's length for over half an hour, etc.

Once again, let me state that it is due to the utter urgency of this matter, that I prepare and send out this tract study. We must not be expecting more living prophets to give us supposed messages from God! We have all we need in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. *This is a subject on which I dare not be silent!* The following Spirit of Prophecy references

are an enlargement of a study prepared over 25 years ago: *What about the New Prophets?*

**THE INSTRUCTION GIVEN IS NOT VOID  
IN THESE CLOSING DAYS**

“Repeatedly the word has come, Write the things that I have given you to confirm the faith of My people in the position they have taken. **Time and trial have not made void the instruction given**, but through years of suffering and self-sacrifice have established the truth of the testimony given. **The instruction that was given in the early days of the message is to be held as safe instruction to follow in these its closing days.** Those who are indifferent to this light and instruction must not expect to escape the snares

which we have been plainly told will cause the rejecters of light to stumble, and fall, and be snared, and be taken. If we study carefully the second chapter of Hebrews, we shall learn **how important it is that we hold steadfastly to every principle of truth that has been given.**”—*Review, July 18, 1907; 1 Selected Messages, 41.*

**THOSE WORDS WILL BE IMMORTALIZED**

[Quoting the words of the angel:] “ ‘Be not afraid of man, for My shield shall protect you. It is not you that speaketh: it is the Lord that giveth the messages of warning and reproof. Never deviate from the truth under any circumstances. Give the light I shall give you. **The messages for these last days shall be written in books, and shall stand immortalized,** to

Here is a statement I made in the October 1, 2005, issue of *Checkpoints*:

(1) We should not be telling the faithful that the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy *are inadequate to provide us all the information we need* for salvation or to do the work of God.

(2) Our great need is to personally plead with God as little children for strength and help, to remain by His side, and to study and obey the inspired writings we already have. *That is where we will find the solution to our problems*, not in waiting for a prophet to do it for us.

(3) All the information we need to prepare our lives for heaven and finish the work of God on earth is found in God’s Written Word—the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. *That must be our message, not the thought that both are inadequate* and we must wait till a new prophet arises. Such a message may lead some to wait past the time that probation forever closes for them.

(4) *What could a new prophet tell us that we cannot find in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy?* Apart from answers to questions raised by idle curiosity,—there is nothing that a new prophet could tell us. All that we need in order to get to heaven and finish the work on earth has already been written down. God has provided food for the birds of the air, but they have to search for it; we do too. We are not to accept the message that we need no longer read what we already have, and instead sit back and relax till a new prophet tells us what to do next.

(5) *It is dangerous to live in expectation of another prophet!* Someone stands up and says, “I am a prophet of God; you must accept my words as fully true.” Such a person could easily mislead many of our people.

(6) *The fault of why we are not in fullest unity is within ourselves*, not in the Spirit of Prophecy or because we lack more prophets! We are the problem,

not God’s Word.

(7) The church did not have full unity of belief or action when Ellen White was alive. That clearly shows that *lack of unity is caused by the people*, not by the lack of a living prophet.

(8) *God’s people will only have truest unity when the enactment of the National Sunday Law drives them to it.*

(9) The August 12 speaker said it was certain that God was going to send us another prophet. If that was true, we surely should find it in the Spirit of Prophecy. She would have told us that, although she was dying, the Lord would send us another prophet to carry us through to the end. But no, instead she repeatedly told us to read the Inspired Writings we already have. She also—repeatedly—warned us against placing confidence in the new prophets which arose . . .

(10) *Here are two key tests of a prophet* (you will find more in my book, *Prophet of the End*):

*First, every word he will say will fully agree with—not just the Bible but also with—the Spirit of Prophecy.* This is because those writings are far more extensive and detailed than the Bible.

*Second, he will, in public, where people can repeatedly observe it, show physical manifestations.*

Before accepting a “new prophet” as genuine, you should be able to do what was done to Ellen White in public, while in vision: Clamp off his nose with two fingers of one hand, place your other hand over his mouth, and hold both for 10 minutes. If you can do that, then you can know he is having a genuine vision.

D.T. Bourdeau did just that on June 28, 1857. (Read about it in my book, *Prophet of the End*, p. 44.)

When a genuine prophet appears, God initially provides physical manifestations as proof.

Do not accept anyone as a prophet—just because he says so, or even because you like some of what he says!

testify against those who have once rejoiced in the light, but who have been led to give it up because of the seductive influences of evil.”—*1 Selected Messages*, 32.

#### WE MUST STUDY THE TESTIMONIES

“Never have testimonies been more clearly brought before the people than those that have recently been traced by my pen. **God bids me urge upon the attention of our people the importance of their study.** Let this work begin now. Then, whether I am permitted to labor or am laid away to rest until Jesus comes, these messages are immortalized.”—*1 Selected Messages*, 56-57.

#### DANGEROUS TO SET ASIDE THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

“There is in error and unbelief that which bewilders and bewitches the mind. To question and doubt and cherish unbelief in order to excuse ourselves in stepping aside from the straight path is a far easier matter than to purify the soul through a belief of the truth, and obedience thereto. But when better influences lead one to desire to return, he finds himself entangled in such a network of Satan, like a fly in a spider’s web, that it seems a hopeless task to him, and he seldom recovers himself from the snare laid for him by the wily foe.

“**When once men have admitted doubt and unbelief of the testimonies of the Spirit of God, they are strongly tempted to adhere to the opinions which they have avowed** before others. Their theories and notions fix themselves like a gloomy cloud over the mind, shutting out every ray of evidence in favor of the truth. The doubts indulged through ignorance, pride, or love of sinful practices, rivet upon the soul fetters that are seldom broken. Christ, and He alone, can give the needed power to break them.

“The testimonies of the Spirit of God are given to direct men to His Word, which has been neglected. Now **if their messages are not heeded, the Holy Spirit is shut away from the soul.** What further means has God in reserve to reach the erring ones, and show them their true condition?”—*1 Selected Messages*, 46.

#### SATAN’S LAST DECEPTION

“Satan is . . . constantly pressing in the spurious—to lead away from the truth. **The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God.** ‘Where there is no vision, the people perish’ (Prov. 29:18). **Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies,** to unsettle the confidence of God’s remnant people in the true testi-

mony.”—*Letter 12, 1890; 1 Selected Messages*, 48.

#### SATAN’S OBJECTIVE: UNSETTLE FAITH IN THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

“There will be a hatred kindled against the testimonies which is satanic. **The workings of Satan will be to unsettle the faith of the churches in them,** for this reason: Satan cannot have so clear a track to bring in his deceptions and bind up souls in his delusions if the warnings and reproofs and counsels of the Spirit of God are heeded.”—*Letter 40, 1890; 1 Selected Messages*, 48.

*Note:* The full context of the above statement is given in *2 Selected Messages*, 73:4 to 79:2, and is from a letter to a man whose daughter claimed to have “inspired visions” from God. The entire paragraph (2SM 78:2) reveals that a special way Satan will seek to “make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God” will be through the bringing in of “spurious visions,” which, mingling “the false with the true,” will mislead some and cause others to become disgusted with the heaven-sent truths God has sent them in the Spirit of Prophecy.

An attitude of always looking for a new prophet bears similar fruit to always expecting a new time prophecy: discouragement, depression, and an eventual drifting away from God and the work for this time.

We do not accept a Biblical doctrine just because a friend or acquaintance thinks that it is all right. Much more evidence than that is required. But, frankly, accepting a person as a prophet is far more crucial than accepting any single doctrine. For by recognizing that person as a prophet we are signing a blank check. We have mentally conditioned ourselves to more readily accept whatever our new prophet has to say on a variety of concepts. Accepting a person as a true prophet can greatly affect your life.

In view of Spirit of Prophecy statements you will read in this compilation, it is urgent that each of us remain extremely cautious in this matter. We are even told that it would be far better not to check them out at all, and instead focus our attention on reading the Inspired writings we already have.

It is unfortunate that some among us are urging us to look for another prophet, to expect the soon appearance of one, and to believe that (when that prophet arrives) he or she will answer all our little questions.

*What does the Spirit of Prophecy tell us about the possibility of future prophets arising and what we should do about it?* In the following statements, we will learn that, although the possibility is not



ruled out, yet so many warnings are given that the likelihood of a genuine prophet arising is almost nil.

We are told that people will arise, claiming to have visions from God,—and that they must be tested. As mentioned earlier in this study, the “tests of a true prophet” are found in my book, *Prophet of the End*, 87-95. They include the physical tests (not breathing, etc.)

#### THEY WILL MISAPPLY SCRIPTURE

“It is when Satan appears as an angel of light that he takes souls in his snare, deceiving them. Men who pretend to have been taught of God, will adopt fallacious theories, and in their teaching will so adorn these fallacies as to bring in Satanic delusions. **Thus Satan will be introduced as an angel of light and will have opportunity to present his pleasing fables.**

“**These false prophets will have to be met. They will make an effort to deceive many,** by leading them to accept false theories. **Many scriptures will be misapplied in such a way that deceptive theories will apparently be based upon the words that God has spoken.** Precious truth will be appropriated to substantiate and establish error. These false prophets, who claim to be taught of God, will take beautiful scriptures that have been given to adorn the truth, and will use them as a robe of righteousness to cover false and dangerous theories. **And even some of those who, in times past, the Lord has honored,** will depart so far from the truth as to advocate misleading theories regarding many phases of truth, including the sanctuary question.”—*Manuscript 11, 1906; Evangelism, 360.*

#### MANY WILL CLAIM IT

“I have been shown **many who will claim to be especially taught of God, and will attempt to lead others,** and from mistaken ideas of duty they will undertake a work that God has never laid upon them. **Confusion will be the result.** Let everyone seek God most earnestly for himself that he may individually understand His will.”—*Letter 54, 1893; 2 Selected Messages, 72.*

#### MORE AND MORE WILL BE LED ASTRAY

“There will be those who will claim to have visions. When God gives you clear evidence that the vision is from Him, you may accept it, **but do not accept it on any other evidence; for people are**

**going to be led more and more astray** in foreign countries and in America.”—*Review, May 25, 1905; 2 Selected Messages, 72.*

#### MORE OF IT AS WE NEAR THE END, YET THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY WILL UNVEIL ITS FALSITY

“When I was first wrought upon by the Spirit of the Lord, I was shown that I would be brought in contact with those who claimed to see visions, but that the Lord would not permit me to be deceived. **My work was to unveil this falsehood,** and to rebuke it in the name of the Lord. **As the end drew near, I was to see more of these manifestations.**”—*2 Selected Messages, 76.*

#### SEEK NOT AFTER MORE VISIONS, BUT TAKE THE WORD INSTEAD

“Satan will work with all deceivableness of unrighteousness to personate Jesus Christ; if it were possible, he would deceive the very elect. Now **if the counterfeit bears so close a resemblance to the genuine, is it not essential to be on your guard,** that no man deceive you? Christ enforces His warnings, saying, ‘Behold, I have told you before’ (Matt. 24:25). Brethren, preach the Word, **call not the people to rest their faith upon uncertain things or to place confidence in the human agent.** I have the word from the Lord. I was shown Elder R before a number of persons reading from the professed revelations of Anna Phillips. A noble, dignified Person was present, and with a grieved expression upon His countenance He removed the written document, placed in Brother R’s hand the Bible, and said, ‘**Take the Word of God as your textbook,**’ ‘All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works’ (2 Tim. 3:16, 17)

“**Those who search the Scriptures will find explicit instruction as to what God requires of them on points of practical religious life.** You are making a mistake in calling the attention of the flock of God **from the Word,** the unerring word of prophecy. **Take heed what you hear, and be cautious what you receive.** There is need of caution lest the minds of the little flock shall be found accrediting that which is not the genuine work of the Holy Spirit. There is very great danger here. **Satan is ever seeking to introduce spurious material into the work,**

# Will There Be Another Prophet?

**PART TWO  
OF THREE**

Continued from the preceding tract in this series

in order that he may mar the testimony, and bring discredit upon the truth. He would mingle with it **an element that would be a stumbling block** in the pathway of God's people."—2 *Selected Messages*, 87-88.

## **BEWARE OF GIVING YOUR INFLUENCE TO THIS WORK**

"My brother, why should Elder R and yourself pursue the course you have taken in regard to Anna Phillips without a greater certainty that the Lord has chosen her as His mouthpiece to the people, His channel through which to communicate light? **If you accept everything of this order that shall come up purporting to be a revelation from God, if you continue to encourage these supposed prophets** as you have done, giving the influence of your testimony to sustain their work, you will not be a safe keeper of the Lord's heritage. **The warnings Christ has given mean something to us.** See Matthew 24:21-23."—2 *Selected Messages*, 87.

## **ENCOURAGING THOSE WHO BRING NEW VISIONS**

"I have a message to you from the Lord. Brother R is not engaged in the work which the Lord would have him do. God has given to every man his work, and Brother R is stepping out of the lines to which the Lord has appointed him. **He cannot see the outcome of this work which he has taken up.** Anna Phillips is being injured, she is led on, encouraged in a work which will not bear the test of God."—2 *Selected Messages*, 88-89.

## **MANY TOO WILLING TO FOLLOW FALSE PROPHETS**

"The light given me has been very forcible that **many would go out from us, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils.** The Lord desires that every soul who claims to believe the truth shall have an intelligent knowledge of what is truth. **False prophets will arise and will deceive many.** Everything is to be shaken that can be shaken. Then does it not become everyone to understand the reasons for our faith? In place of having so many sermons, **there should be a more close searching of the Word of God,** opening the Scriptures text by text, and searching for the strong evidences that sustain the fundamental doctrines that have brought us where we now are, upon the plat-

form of eternal truth.

"My soul is made very sad to see **how quickly some who have had light and truth will accept the deceptions of Satan, and be charmed with a spurious holiness.** When men turn away from the landmarks the Lord has established that we may understand our position as marked out in prophecy, they are going they know not whither."—*Undated Manuscript 148; Evangelism*, 363-364.

## **A DEMON GAVE THE VISIONS**

"I have seen several fall in vision; but **when I rebuked the spirit which controlled them, they immediately came out of vision,** and were in great distress of mind."—2 *Selected Messages*, 77.

## **SPIRIT OF PROPHECY CONDEMNED WHEN REPROVED BY IT**

"Many years of painful experience in connection with the work of God **have made me acquainted with all kinds of false movements.** Many times I have been sent to different places with the message, 'I have a work for you to do in that place; I will be with you.' **When the occasion came, the Lord gave me a message for those who were having false dreams and visions,** and in the strength of Christ I bore my testimony at the Lord's bidding. The most terrible denunciations were hurled against me, which they said were from the Lord, because I was opposing His work. They said that terrible calamities would come upon me."—2 *Selected Messages*, 75.

## **NEW VISIONS AND THE PATH OF PRESUMPTION**

"I have a warning to give to our brethren, that they shall follow their Leader and not run ahead of Christ. Let there be no haphazard work in these times. **Beware of making strong expressions which will lead unbalanced minds to think that they have wonderful light** from God. The one who bears a message to the people from God must exercise perfect control. He should ever bear in mind that the path of presumption lies close beside the path of faith . . . If there is not careful, earnest, sensible work, solid as a rock, in the advancement of every idea and principle, and in every representation given, souls will be ruined . . . **The greatest care should be exercised concerning those who claim to receive revelations from God.** There needs to be much close watching and much praying."—2 *Selected Messages*, 91.

### ALWAYS FALSE PROPHETS

**“Those who pursue a course of rebellion against the Lord can always find false prophets who will justify them** in their acts, and flatter them to their destruction. Lying words often make many friends, as is illustrated in the case of these false teachers among the Israelites. **These so-called prophets, in their pretended zeal for God, found many more believers and followers than the true prophet** who delivered the simple message of the Lord.”—*4 Bible Commentary, 1158.*

### A SATANIC MASTERPIECE OF DECEPTION WHICH CAN LEAD TO FANATICISM

“I know what I am talking about. **In our first experience in the infancy of this cause we had to meet similar manifestations.** Many such revelations were given, and we had a most disagreeable work in meeting this element and giving it no place. Some things stated in these revelations were fulfilled, and this led some to accept them as genuine . . . You cannot be too careful how you talk of the gift of prophesying, and state that I have said this and that in reference to this matter [in regard to giving approval to other “prophets”]. Such statements, I well know, **encourage men and women and children to imagine that they have special light in revelations from God, when they have not received such light. This, I have been shown, would be one of Satan’s masterpieces of deception.** You are giving to the work a mold which it will take precious time and wearing soul labor to correct, to save the cause of God from **another spasm of fanaticism.**”—*2 Selected Messages, 86.*

### JUDGED BY THE WORD OF GOD

“‘Beware of false prophets.’ Matthew 7:15. **Teachers of falsehood will arise to draw you away from the narrow path and the strait gate.** Beware of them; though concealed in sheep’s clothing, inwardly they are ravaging wolves. Jesus gives a test by which false teachers may be distinguished from the true. ‘Ye shall know them by their fruits,’ He says. ‘Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?’

**“We are not bidden to prove them by their fair speeches and exalted professions. They are to be judged by the Word of God.** ‘To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this Word it is because there is no light in them.’ ‘Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.’ Isaiah 8:20; Proverbs 19:27.”—*Mount of Blessing, 145.*

### MAY GIVE PREDICTIONS THAT ACTUALLY TAKE PLACE

“In one place, four in one family professed to

have communications from the Lord, reproving wrong, **and they predicted things that actually did take place. This inspired confidence in them.** But the things that did not take place were kept in the dark, **or were treated as something mysterious, which would be understood later.** Whence did these receive their inspiration?—From satanic agencies, which are many. The Lord laid it upon me to meet these things, and bear a decided testimony against them.”—*2 Selected Messages, 76-77.*

### THEY MAY SAY MANY GOOD THINGS

“I tell you plainly, the messages of your daughter Anna are not from God. This the Lord has shown me, and He will not lie. **She may say many good things, may speak much that is truth, but so does the enemy of souls. The counterfeit will in many respects resemble the true.**”—*2 Selected Messages, 74-75.*

### VISIONS LIKE THOSE OF SISTER WHITE’S

“He [Garmire] would not be convinced. I told them the visions of his daughter [Anna] were spurious, yet **these visions, he claimed, were like the visions of Sister White, testifying to the same things.** This daughter was deceiving the family and several others who believed these false messages. I was shown that **the young girl was not virtuous; but was corrupt.** If ever a man that I looked upon was inspired, this man certainly was; but I told him plainly his inspiration was of Satan, not of God.”—*2 Selected Messages, 65; 1 Manuscript Releases, 299.*

### BEARING REPROOFS AND GIVING PREDICTIONS

“The Lord gave me a message for those who were having false dreams and visions, and in the strength of Christ I bore my testimony at the Lord’s bidding . . . **Some things spoken in these visions came to pass; but many things—in regard to the time of Christ’s coming, the end of probation, and the events to take place—proved utterly false,** as your prophesyings and Anna’s have done. Yet **they would try to excuse the blunders** [predictions which did not come true and other obvious errors] **by twisting the statements about, and giving them another meaning,** and go on in the same way, deceiving and being deceived.”—*2 Selected Messages, 75-76.*

### THE SURE RESULT OF FALSE VISIONS

“Several now living are skeptics, have no belief in the gifts of the church, no faith in the truth, no religion at all. Such, **I have been shown, is the sure result of spurious visions.**”—*2 Selected Messages, 78.*



**"SISTER WHITE IS INFLUENCED"  
SAY SOME HAVING VISIONS**

"Some write to me, **saying that God has revealed to them** that Sister White is in error, that she is influenced by the leaders to believe some things that are not true, and to reject some things that are true. **But the word comes again, 'Heed them not;** I have not spoken by them, nor given them any word or message. They have spun lying words, from the suggestions of Satan.'"—2 *Selected Messages*, 76.

**ALWAYS MORE WHO FOLLOW  
THE FALSE PROPHETS**

"**Other false prophets arose to sow confusion** among the people by turning them away from obeying the divine commands given through Jeremiah, but **God's judgments were pronounced against them** in consequence of their grievous sin of bringing rebellion against Him.

"**Just such men arise in these days and breed confusion and rebellion among the people** who profess to obey the law of God. But **just as certainly as divine judgment was visited upon the false prophets, just so surely will these evil workers receive their full measure of retribution;** for the Lord has not changed. Those who prophesy lies encourage men to look upon sin as a small matter. When the terrible results of their crimes are made manifest, they seek, if possible, to make the one who has faithfully warned them responsible for their difficulties, even as the Jews charged Jeremiah with their evil fortunes.

"**Those who pursue a course of rebellion against the Lord can always find false prophets who will justify them in their acts and flatter them to their destruction.** Lying words often make many friends, as in the case of Ahab and Zedekiah. These false prophets, in their pretended zeal for God, found many more believers and followers than the true prophet, who delivered the simple message of the Lord."—4 *Testimonies*, 173-174.

**FALSIFYING  
THE PHYSICAL MANIFESTATIONS**

"After a very solemn meeting with these deceived ones, **confessions were made that they threw themselves into attitudes** [falling on the ground and pretending to faint, etc.] **resembling Sister White, as nearly as they could. It was all a farce,** a deception. **Yet many things they told came to pass** as they predicted.

"I was asked how this could be if the visions were all false. I told them that **it was Satan's purpose to mingle truth with error, that through these deceptive exercises** he might make of none effect

the genuine work of God."—2 *Selected Messages*, 77-78.

**BELIEVING THE FALSE  
WILL REMOVE FROM US THE TRUE**

"**You called these false visions and meaningless dreams the wonderful light of God, but it is like the chaff to the wheat.** This is a serious matter. It will have a decided influence upon your family. **While you regard your daughter's words as spoken under the influence of the Spirit of God, it will be the same to you as though they were true.** You are under strong delusion of Satan. You will claim to credit them, **and thus your confidence in the veritable, genuine messages from God will be uprooted.** And so will it be with all who believe as you do. **This is why Satan is so constantly pressing in the spurious**—to lead away from the truth."—2 *Selected Messages*, 78.

**SOLEMN WARNINGS AND REPROOFS**

"Such experiences as these came to be very common. Several in one family were under this species of deception . . . **Messages would be given for different members of the church,** telling some poor trembling soul, 'You are proud'; another, 'You are unbelieving; you will be lost.' The Lord gave me light in this instance to speak words of comfort and encouragement. I bore my testimony to those deceived ones, whether they would hear, or reject it. **Their visions were Satan's work. The things revealed were often common, earthly matters . . . Mingled with these frivolous things were sacred truths, which they had found in the Bible and testimonies.** Satan's hand was in all this, to disgust people, and cause them to spurn everything in the nature of visions. **Thus the false and the true would be rejected together.** And even those who were engaged in the deception, when they should become weary of it, would be inclined to doubt all visions."—2 *Selected Messages*, 77.

**TILL THE END OF TIME**

"Among the false teachers in Babylon were **two men who claimed to be holy, but whose lives were corrupt.** Jeremiah had condemned the evil course of these men and had warned them of their danger. Angered by reproof, they sought to oppose the work of the true prophet by stirring up the people to discredit his words and to act contrary to the counsel of God . . .

"**To the end of time, men will arise to create confusion and rebellion** among those who claim to be representatives of the true God. **Those who prophesy lies will encourage men to look upon sin as a light thing.** When the terrible results of

their evil deeds are made manifest, they will seek, if possible, to make the one who has faithfully warned them, responsible for their difficulties.”—*Prophets and Kings*, 442.

#### DOING THE WORK OF DARKNESS BY TIME SETTING

“The daughter of Mr. Garmire claims, or he claims for her, to have **visions; but they bear not the stamp of God. They are of the same character as many such things we have met in our experience—a delusion of Satan.**

“I plainly stated at the Jackson camp meeting to these fanatical parties that they were doing the work of the adversary of souls; they were in darkness. **They claimed to have great light that probation would close** in October, 1884.

“I there stated in public that **the Lord had been pleased to show me that there would be no definite time in the message given of God since 1844;** and that I knew that this message, which four or five were engaged in advocating with great zeal, was heresy. The visions of this poor child were not of God. This light came not from heaven.”—*2 Selected Messages*, 73.

#### BELIEVE THEM NOT

“**Various things will appear claiming to be revelations from God, but which flow from the imagination of a conceited and deceived mind.** We had to meet these things in our early experience. There were youth and children as well as those of mature age who claimed to be led and taught of God, having a special message to declare. They were springing up on every side, **having the truth on some points, and error upon other points. For years the message from God came to me, ‘Believe them not, for they lead into false paths. God hath not sent them.’**”—*Letter 4, 1893; 2 Selected Messages*, 90.

#### BELIEVING THEM HURTS YOU AND THEM

“I have received from God the warning which I now send to you. Anna Phillips should not have been given the encouragement she has had; it has been a great injury to her—fastened her in a deception. I am sorry that any of our brethren and sisters are ready to take up with **these supposed revelations, and imagine they see in them the divine credentials.** These things are not of the right character to accomplish the work essential for this

time . . . **While the work has an appearance of great sanctity, it is calculated to ensnare and mislead souls.**”—*2 Selected Messages*, 89.

#### THE COUNTERFEIT MAY ENDORSE THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

“Your expressing so much faith in the testimonies, and making them so prominent, is no help to me or my work, because **you place the false visions of your daughter on the same level with those the Lord gives to me, and thus lower the sacredness and exalted character of the work God has given me to do.**

“The Lord has plainly shown me that what you regard as communications from God to you and others through your child Anna, are not from Him. They do not bear the divine credentials. **It is another spirit that controls the child. It is the enemy that works in her. Such manifestations will be more and more common in these last days. They do not lead to unity,** into all truth, but away from the truth . . . I tell you plainly, the messages of your daughter Anna are not from God. This the Lord has shown me, and He will not lie. **She may say many good things, may speak much that is truth, but so does the enemy of souls. The counterfeit will in many respects resemble the true.** It is the fruit borne that testifies of the character.”—*2 Selected Messages*, 74-75.

#### DON'T MINGLE THESE OTHER VISIONS WITH YOUR PRESENTATION OF TRUTH

“**Did you suppose that God had commissioned you to take the burden of presenting the visions of Anna Phillips, reading them in public, and uniting them with the testimonies the Lord has been pleased to give me?** No, the Lord has not laid upon you this burden. He has not given you this work to do . . . Do not belittle the work by mingling with it productions that you have no positive evidence are from the Lord of life and glory.”—*2 Selected Messages*, 85.

#### MIRACLES WITHOUT OBEDIENCE AND “ONLY ACCEPT CHRIST”

“**Some have come to me claiming to be Christ, and have apparently worked miracles.** They have said that the Lord led me in many things, but the Sabbath was not a test question; that the law of God was not binding upon men; all we had to do was to accept Christ, and they themselves were Christ. I have had experience with all these preten-



# Will There Be Another Prophet?

**PART THREE  
OF THREE**

Continued from the preceding tract in this series

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tious claims, and I have no faith in them. 'To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them' (Isa. 8:20)."—2 *Selected Messages*, 76.

## **MANY HAVING VISIONS, BUT "BELIEVE THEM NOT"**

"**Letters have come to me from different ones, relating visions that they said God had given them; but the Lord Jesus tells me, 'Believe them not; I have not sent them.'**"—2 *Selected Messages*, 76.

## **SPURIOUS VISIONS PART OF THE VERY LAST DECEPTION**

"**The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God.** 'Where there is no vision, the people perish' (Prov. 29:18). Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, **to unsettle the confidence of God's remnant people in the true testimony. He will bring in spurious visions** to mislead, and will mingle the false with the true, and so disgust people that they will regard everything that bears the name of visions as a species of fanaticism; but honest souls, by contrasting false and true, will be enabled to distinguish between them."—2 *Selected Messages*, 78.

## **ALTHOUGH REPEATING SPIRIT OF PROPHECY, THEY ULTIMATELY INTRODUCE ERROR**

"These revelations are largely a repetition of that which has been before the people in publication for years; and **yet mingled with this are some things that will lead astray.**"—2 *Selected Messages*, 91.

## **NOTHING HARMFUL DOES NOT MEAN SAFELY ACCEPTABLE**

"You seem to think I should be able to point out just where the particularly objectionable sentiments lie. **There is nothing so very apparent in that which has been written; you have been able to discover nothing objectionable;** but this is no reason for using these writings as you have done. Your course in this matter is decidedly objectionable. **Is it necessary that you should discern at once something that would produce harm to the people of God, to make you cautious?** If nothing of this kind appears, is this a sufficient reason for you to set your endorsement to these writings?"—2 *Selected Messages*, 94.

## **FIRST GAIN CONFIDENCE OF PEOPLE, THEN EVENTUALLY INTRODUCE ERROR**

"Do you not think I know something about these matters? **All along our pathway to the heavenly Canaan** we see many souls that have made shipwreck of faith, and in their false movements **have led others astray through the supposition that they were led of God in special revelations.** I have had to write many, many pages to correct these errors. I have been burdened and oppressed night after night, unable to sleep because of the agony of my soul for God's heritage, His people, who are in danger of being misled. **Many things in these visions and dreams seem to be all straight,** a repetition of that which has been in the field for many years; **but soon they introduce a jot here, a tittle of error there,** just a little seed which takes root and flourishes, and many are defiled therewith."—2 *Selected Messages*, 86-87.

## **LOOKING TO THE VISIONISTS FOR COUNSEL**

"A question has been brought to me concerning the attitude that we should take toward **the work of a sister in Germany, who claims to have visions.**

"The word given me by the Lord during the past night is that God does not direct His people to look to this sister for counsel. **If we should encourage this sister in the work she thinks she is called to do and in the messages she bears, much confusion would be caused.** The Lord has not given her the work of saying what this one shall do, and what that one shall do. **He says to His people, 'Come unto Me,** all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light' (Matt. 11:28-30). **If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God,** that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord' (James 1:5-7).

"**Teach the people to seek God individually for guidance, to study the Scriptures,** and to counsel together, humbly, prayerfully, and with living faith. **But do not encourage this sister to think that the Lord has given her messages for the**

people. The light given me regarding this case is that **should this sister be encouraged to think that she has been given messages for others, the result would be disastrous**, and the sister would be in danger of losing her own soul.”—2 *Selected Messages*, 97-98.

#### DREAMS, SYMBOLS, AND FIGURES

“**It is no light matter to substitute for God’s revealed will, opinions and assertions, dreams, symbols, and figures from human, finite beings.** Our actions, words, spirit, and influence are watched and criticized. Those whom God has chosen to be His ministers are to settle solidly into His Word, and let the Word of God be their authority.”—2 *Selected Messages*, 93.

#### REPROOFS AND COMPLIMENTS

“**She had figures and symbols presented to her, and had reproofs** for her mother and for her father. **After a scathing reproof, there followed the most flattering representations** of the wonderful things the Lord would do for them. These things I was pointed to as spurious, a deception. **They descended to the most minute and trifling matters**, commingled common, cheap things with important subjects. The imagination was largely developed, **there was a mingling of the sacred and the common.** The truth of God was belittled, and yet some received these pretended revelations, and carried out their teaching. A little party was formed who were apparently inspired by them, and **the visions were declared to be more spiritual than the visions of Sister White.**”—2 *Selected Messages*, 89.

#### ENDORSEMENT WILL LEAD TO FANATICISM

“**We shall have scores of just such developments**, and if our leading brethren shall catch up things of this character and endorse them as they have done in this case, **we shall have one of the most sweeping tidal waves of fanaticism** that has been seen in our experience. **There will be the wildest performances.** Satan has already begun his work. To give ready credence to these things, and make loose, unguarded statements endorsing them without sufficient evidence of their genuine character, is one of Satan’s devices. The Lord Jesus has certainly given cautions sufficient in regard to this matter, so that none need be deceived.”—2 *Selected Messages*, 92.

#### DO NOT ACCEPT THEM JUST BECAUSE THERE IS “NOTHING OBJECTIONABLE”

“**The great wonder to me is that our brethren should accept these writings because they**

**could see nothing objectionable in them.** Why did they not consider what there is in them that is of a character to be endorsed and sent forth with the power of influence which gives them their force?”—2 *Selected Messages*, 94.

#### PLEASE, PLEASE, BE ON GUARD

“**Fanaticism will appear** in the very midst of us. **Deceptions will come**, and of such a character that if it were possible they would mislead the very elect. **If marked inconsistencies and untruthful utterances were apparent** in these manifestations, the words from the lips of the Great Teacher would not be needed. [*That is, God would not have to warn us of the deception, if the deception was easy to recognize.*] It is because of **the many and varied dangers** that would arise, that this warning is given. The reason why I hang out the danger signal is that through the enlightenment of the Spirit of God **I can see that which my brethren do not discern.** It may not be a positive necessity for me to point out all these peculiar phases of deception that they will need to guard against. **It is enough for me to tell you, Be on your guard;** and as faithful sentinels keep the flock of God from accepting indiscriminately all that professes to be communicated to them from the Lord.”—2 *Selected Messages*, 95.

#### FALSE PROPHETS IN THE LAST DAYS WILL INTRODUCE HERESIES

“Peter, **describing the dangers to which the church was to be exposed in the last days**, says that as there were **false prophets who led Israel into sin**, so there will be false teachers, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 686.

#### THE MORE WE WANT THEM, THE MORE OF THEM WE SHALL HAVE

“I fail to see in the writings of Sister Phillips anything of a character that should create such movements as have been made. And **if things of this nature are to be so eagerly grasped, you will have plenty of them**, varied in some respects, **yet such as you could treat with as much confidence.** I am so sorry, so sorry.”—2 *Selected Messages*, 94.

#### NOT TO ACCEPT EVERYTHING THAT MAY APPEAR TO BE TRUTH

“**In these days of peril we are not to accept everything that men bring to us as truth.** As professed teachers from God come to us declaring that they have a message from God, it is proper to inquire carefully, How do we know that this is truth? **Jesus has told us that ‘false prophets shall arise and shall deceive many.’** But we need not be deceived; for the Word of God gives us a test whereby

we may know what is truth. The prophet says, 'To the law and to the testimony: **if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them.**'

"From this statement it is evident that it becomes us to be diligent Bible students, **that we may know what is according to the law and the testimony.** We are safe in no other course of action. Jesus says, 'Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits.'"—*Review, February 23, 1892; 7 Bible Commentary, 951-952.*

#### DELUSIONS AND DECEPTIONS WILL MULTIPLY AS WE NEAR THE END

"I would say to our dear brethren **who have been so eager to accept everything that came in the form of visions and dreams.** Beware that you be not ensnared. Read the warnings that have been given by the world's Redeemer to His disciples to be given again by them to the world. The Word of God is solid rock, and we may plant our feet securely upon it. Every soul must needs be tested, **every faith and doctrine must needs be tried by the law and the testimony.** Take heed that no man deceive you. The warnings of Christ on this matter are needed at this time; for **delusions and deceptions will come in among us, and will multiply as we near the end.**

"**'Of your own selves shall men arise,** speaking perverse things, **to draw away disciples** after them. Therefore watch, and remember.'

"Bear in mind that trials of this character are to come upon us, **not only from without, but from within our own ranks.** Our individual safety is in entire consecration to God."—*Manuscript 27, 1894; 7 Bible Commentary, 952.*

#### THEORIES, THEORIES, THEORIES

"In these days of delusion, **every one who is established in the truth will have to contend** for the faith once delivered to the saints. **Every variety of error will be brought out** in the mysterious working of Satan, which would, **if it were possible, deceive the very elect,** and turn them from the truth. There will be human wisdom to meet—**the wisdom of learned men,** who, as were the Pharisees, are teachers of the law of God, but do not obey the law themselves. There will be **human ignorance and folly** to meet in **disconnected theories arrayed in new and fantastic dress**—theories that it will be all the more difficult to meet because there is no reason in them.

"There will be **false dreams and false visions,**

**which have some truth,** but lead away from the original faith. The Lord has given men a rule by which to detect them: 'To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them' (Isa. 8: 20). If they belittle the law of God, **if they pay no heed to His will as revealed in the testimonies of His Spirit** [that is, if they teach something different than that which is in the Spirit of Prophecy], they are deceivers. They are **controlled by impulse and impressions,** which they believe to be from the Holy Spirit, and consider more reliable than the Inspired Word. They claim that every thought and feeling is an impression of the Spirit; and when they are reasoned with out of the Scriptures, they declare that they have something more reliable. But while they think that they are led by the Spirit of God, they are in reality following an imagination wrought upon by Satan."—*Bible Echo, September, 1886; 2 Selected Messages, 98-99.*

#### NOT TO PRAISE FALSE PROPHETS

"If **those in charge of our periodicals** have no more judgment than to fill the publications with **the exaltations of human beings,** then let them seek wisdom from God. Your spiritual eyesight needs the heavenly anointing . . . In pouring forth **an overflow of praise of one** whom they do not know, **who has not accepted a 'Thus saith the Lord' in keeping His commandments,** they place themselves where, in the crisis coming upon us, **they will have defective discernment** as they shall see the good things done by those who will seek to deceive, **who will claim to be Christ and prophets sent of God.**"—*Counsels to Writers and Editors, 98.*

#### THE GENUINE AND THE COUNTERFEITS

"The enemy is preparing to deceive the whole world by his **miracle-working power.** He will assume to **personate the angels** of light, to **personate Jesus Christ.** Everyone who teaches the truth for this time is to preach the Word. Those who cling to the Word will not throw open the doors for Satan by making **unguarded statements in reference to prophesying or to dreams and visions.** To a greater or less degree, **false manifestations have been coming in, here and there, since 1844,** after the time when we looked for the second coming of Christ. We have had them in the Garmire case, in the statements of K, and in the Stanton movement. [See TM 32-62.] **We shall have them more and more,** and like faithful sentinels we must be on guard. Letters are coming to me from **many per-**



sons concerning visions which they have had and feel it their duty to relate. May the Lord help His servants to be cautious.

**“When the Lord has a genuine channel of light, there are always plenty of counterfeits.** Satan will surely enter any door thrown open for him. He will give messages of truth, mingling with the truth ideas of his own, **prepared to mislead souls, to draw the mind to human beings and their sayings,** and prevent it from holding firmly to a ‘Thus saith the Lord.’ In God’s dealings with His people, all is quiet; with those who trust in Him, **all is calm and unpretending.** There will be simple, true, earnest believers in the Bible, and there will be doers of the Word as well as hearers. There will be sound, earnest, sensible waiting upon God. The believer will hang his helpless soul on Jesus Christ. Christ will be exalted. **Working and praying, watching and waiting, is our position.**”—*Letter 102, 1894; 2 Selected Messages, 96-97.*

#### NO MORE MESSAGES BASED ON TIME

“Again and again have I been warned in regard to time setting. **There will never again be a message for the people of God that will be based on time.** We are not to know the definite time either for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit or for the coming of Christ.

“I was searching through my writings, before coming to this meeting, to see what I should take with me to Australia, and I found an envelope on which was written, ‘Testimony given in regard to time setting, June 21, 1851. Preserve carefully.’ I opened it, and this is what I found. It reads:

“A copy of a vision the Lord gave Sister White, June 21, 1851, at Camden, N.Y. The Lord showed me that **the message must go, and that it must not be hung on time; for time will never be a test again. I saw that some were getting a false excitement, arising from preaching time,** that the third angel’s message can stand on its own foundation, and that **it needs not time to strengthen it,** and that it will go with mighty power, and do its work, and will be cut short in righteousness.

“I saw some were making everything bend to this next fall; that is, **making their calculations,** and disposing of their property in reference to that time. I saw that this was wrong for this reason: instead of going to God daily, and earnestly desiring

to know their present duty, they looked ahead, and made their calculations as though they knew that the work would end this fall, without inquiring their duty of God daily. E. G. White.’—*1 Selected Messages, 188-189.*

#### DECEITFUL TEACHINGS TO LULL SOULS

**“There are many false prophets in these days, to whom sin does not appear specially repulsive.** They complain that the peace of the people is unnecessarily disturbed by the reproofs and warnings of God’s messengers. As for them, **they lull the souls of sinners into a fatal ease by their smooth and deceitful teachings.** Ancient Israel was thus charmed by the flattering messages of the corrupt priests. Their prediction of prosperity was more pleasing than the message of the true prophet, who counseled repentance and submission.”—*4 Testimonies, 185.*

#### THE SIGN FOR OUR DAY

“Deceptions will come, and of such a character that if it were possible they would mislead the very elect . . . **If we work to create an excitement of feeling, we shall have all we want,** and more than we can possibly know how to manage. Calmly and clearly ‘preach the Word’ (2 Tim. 4:2). **We must not regard it as our work to create an excitement.** The Holy Spirit of God alone can create a healthy enthusiasm. Let God work, and **let the human agent walk softly before Him, watching, waiting, praying, looking unto Jesus every moment,** led and controlled by the precious Spirit which is light and life.

**“The people want a sign,** as in the days of Christ. Then the Lord told them that no sign should be given them. **The sign that should be manifest now and always is** the working of the Holy Spirit upon the mind of the teacher, **to make the Word as impressive as possible.** The Word of God is not a dead, dry theory, but spirit and life. **Satan would like nothing better than to call minds away from the Word,** to look for and expect something outside of the Word **to make them feel. They should not have their attention called to dreams and visions.** If they would have eternal life, they must eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of God.”—*Letter 68, 1894; 2 Selected Messages, 95.*

**What I say unto one, I say unto all: Be on guard, for the devil wants to destroy you! —vf**