

Is Unawareness Justified? The story of Uzzah

Do you remember this story and its circumstances? Let's read:

„So they set the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart. And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill, accompanying the ark of God; and Ahio went before the ark. Then David and all the house of Israel played music before the LORD on all kinds of instruments of fir wood, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on sistrums, and on cymbals.

And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. Then the anger of the LORD was aroused against Uzzah, and God struck him there for his error; and he died there by the ark of God. And David became angry because of the LORD's outbreak against Uzzah; and he called the name of the place Perez Uzzah to this day.

David was afraid of the LORD that day; and he said, "How can the ark of the LORD come to me?" So David would not move the ark of the LORD with him into the City of David; but David took it aside into the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite. The ark of the LORD remained in the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite three months. And the LORD blessed Obed-Edom and all his household.

Now it was told King David, saying, "The LORD has blessed the house of Obed-Edom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God." So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with gladness. And so it was, when those bearing the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, that he sacrificed oxen and fatted sheep. Then David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was wearing a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet." 2Sam6:3-15 NKJV

This story describes events which took place at the time when the Ark of the Covenant fell into the hands of the Philistines, and now David and his people were to receive the Ark from the Philistines and transport it back to Jerusalem.

What are you thinking now of our beloved Heavenly Father who struck Uzza with such a blow? What is our God like whom we believe and trust? Isn't He too harsh and unjust at times?

Let's read what David thought in his heart?

David: "... in his heart [David] questioned the justice of God" {Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets* p. 705.1}

Let's read again the Bible and the Testimonies:

*„And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. Then the anger of the LORD was aroused against Uzzah, and **God struck him there for his error; and he died there by the ark of God.**" 2Sam6:6-7 NKJV*

*„A sudden terror fell upon the rejoicing throng. David was astonished and greatly alarmed, **and in his heart he questioned the justice of God.** He had been seeking to honor the ark as the symbol of the divine presence. Why, then, had that fearful judgment been sent to turn the season of gladness into an occasion of grief and mourning? Feeling that it would be unsafe to have the ark near him, David determined to let it remain where it was. A place was found for it nearby, at the house of Obed-edom*

the Gittite." {Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets* p. 705.1} and the Ark stayed there for three months.

Did Uzza want to do anything wrong? No, he wanted to do well. And how did it turn out? Very bad, if not to say terrible and fatal. Isn't it worth deep considering why God struck Uzza? What's wrong with holding someone else's thing which is about to fall down? What's wrong with being a good person who has good intentions?

At our home very often our guests want to help, especially me -most often in the kitchen matters, and probably for the same good intentions as Uzzah, they come and offer their help or just start helping as they think it will be fine. And quite often it doesn't have a necessarily good effect ... why?

Because they didn't ask **how to** help. And even if they did, they forgot and did it their own way. What's the main reason that their help turns out not to be helpful?

Well, quite often by offering help as guests, we do not want to understand the needs of the host, but we do what we think will be fine. The visitors' eyes are not focused on the host, but on themselves. As guests, we do not empathize with the host's needs in her care to prepare everything perfectly for her guests... but rather we focus on ourselves by offering help and we want to be appreciated for it -no matter how we perform the task.

The guests are not interested in the 'motives for which it is important for the hostess whether the sauce will be served in a glass, in a jug or in a sauceboat. Or if it is appropriate to pull something out of the cupboard yourself or not? Guests don't ask... they just want to transfer the principles of their lives onto mine or ours, despite the fact that they are visiting our place. Quite often they lack good manners and they even do not know about it. And good manners can come to us by two means. One is through the upbringing of our parents. And the other, in case when our parents did not do this job well, is through listening to God's voice. Being calm enough and quiet enough and willing enough to be able to hear and listen to God's instructions about how to behave in many everyday situations will teach us to behave properly in every situation without embarrassing people around us.

And now let's transfer that to heavenly matters//things.

We're on the way to Heaven hosted by God the Father and His Son. **Do we** study the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy in depth to know the principles on which Heaven is based if we want to go there? Do we know our God so as not to be surprised when someone stretches out his/her hand to take hold of the Ark of the Covenant and dies?

Is Heaven's Host so important to us that we want to know with all our hearts His principles in Heaven? His Character? What makes Him happy and what displeases Him? Do you like God the Father - the Host of Heaven who will strike you down - deadly - for taking hold and steadying with your hand something that means a lot in God's eyes and is about to fall? Do you understand His reaction and are you sure that you want to spend eternity with Him?

Do we devote a lot of time getting to know the smallest details about our everyday life which would please God and tell us how we should live, what we should eat, what clothes we should wear; whether to celebrate birthdays or not, whether to vote or not, whether to wear face masks at present times or not; should we vaccinate our children, ourselves, etc.? We should know answers to all these details and we should have known them our whole life from the moment of gaining awareness so we could stand out in the crowd by the fact that we are followers of Jesus Christ. Moreover, by being faithful to all these heavenly details God will be allowed to pour His Spirit into us and seal us, so that later, when the real test comes, His Spirit in us, the Spirit of His Son, could testify about the Truth.

Think now of how many people have lost their salvation because you 've been sleeping and you've missed idly so many years?

What is our main sin? What was Uzzah's sin?

In the English translation of the Bible in the second Book of Samuel, chapter 6 and verse 7, it says that God struck Uzzah **for his error!** Let's read:

*„And when they came to Nachon's threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth [his hand] to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook [it]. And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there **for [his] error**; and there he died by the ark of God" (2Sam6:6-7, KJV)*

What was Uzzah's error?

In the English translation of "Patriarchs and Prophets" on page 705.1, the verses are the same, but instead of the word *error* there is the word *rashness*, which means that God struck him down for his imprudence/ carelessness / recklessness, as these are the synonyms of the word *rashness*. Let's read this fragment:

*„...when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah, and God smote him there **for his rashness**" {Ellen G. White Patriarchs and Prophets p. 705.1}*

We already know something but these are still too vague statements. We need a deeper answer to the question of what Uzzah's sin was. Personally, I really wanted to know what would cause my death inflicted on me by God even if *I thought* that I had good intentions?

Does my ignorance justify me? Do I have the right to the ignorance and unawareness? Well, it turns out that I have **no right to it**. Therefore, I really started to think of Uzzah's case and humbly asked God to explain his case to me.

David also had at that moment three months to pray and find out the answer from God the Father and make up for his error! So let us now consider for a moment what Uzzah's sin was.

By the way, I would also like to add that we should always ask God why is this or that happening to me? Because it turns out more than once, as I know, because we have contacts with people who call themselves believers that they hardly analyze *sincerely* with God what happens to them in their lives. Generally, as a people of God we are skin-deep, not to say that we are shallow and superficial in our experience with God and it would be more than welcome if we changed this bad habit and give a chance to God to make His Son our Guide and Saviour.

Let us return to the story of Uzzah.

The Bible itself answers the question of why God killed Uzza for touching the Ark of the Covenant:

"Then David said, "No one may carry the ark of God but the Levites, for the LORD has chosen them to carry the ark of God and to minister before Him forever." 1 Chron. 15:2, NKJV

Was Uzzah a Levite? No, he wasn't.

Let us recall now another Biblical story how the Levites were ordained to be priests of God and how they were selected for this honorable service? Let's read it:

*„So he stood at the entrance to the camp and shouted, “All of you who are on the LORD’s side, come here and join me. “And all the Levites gathered around him. Moses told them, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: Each of you, take your swords and go back and forth from one end of the camp to the other. Kill everyone—even your brothers, friends, and neighbors.” The Levites obeyed Moses’ command, and about 3000 people died that day. Then Moses told the Levites, “Today **you have ordained yourselves for the service of the LORD, for you obeyed him even though it meant killing your own sons and brothers. Today you have earned a blessing.**” Exod. 32:27-29 NLT*

This scene took place when Moses ascended Mount Sinai to receive the 10 commandments from God and the impatient and unfaithful people while waiting for Moses to return - made a golden calf with Aaron's approval.

On the basis of the situation described above from Exod. 32: 27-29 - can you realize what kind of uncompromising fidelity to God and His principles will ordain us to be God's servants? Is such faithfulness to God's commandments, rules, , instructions, advice your characteristic and is it shown to your family members as your distinguishing feature?

This topic will be thoroughly discussed in the next article titled "Are you Eli of our times?"

Now let's continue our reflection on what Uzzah's sin was. Let's think of what was hidden under Uzzah's disregard, rashness, recklessness, carelessness, and imprudence and what was also David's sin although indirectly.

Uzzah, as we have already stated, was not a Levite.

“Uzza and most of the Israelites who accompanied the transport of the Ark were falsely religious. They believed in God but did not hold His teachings in their hearts and did not follow them. Today we also have many people pretending to be pious. It can be assumed that this is what Uzzah did, he helped in God's transport ignoring God's standards. God does not want faith in Him to be artificial and forced, but He wants our sincere hearts ” (found in <http://www.biblia-bog.pl/trudne-tematy/178-uzza-arka.html>)

Uzza's sin meant lack of insightfulness/penetration/deepness in God's matters. He did not penetrate into what God was like. He did not penetrate into what was allowed and what was not allowed in God's "world". He did not live the spiritual life every day. He did not ask God what God liked and what God did not like in Uzzah's own life and attitude. Uzzah didn't even care if he should change anything in his life. His superficial religion was sufficient for him as a form and some kind of "tradition" and therefore he did not know how to behave and he did not know what he was allowed and what he was not allowed to do. By taking hold of the Ark he showed an ordinary human feature - quite rare today but still *human* - i.e. goodheartedness and kindness... which are not enough in God's eyes. Let's read from the Testimonies:

*„The fate of Uzzah was a divine judgment upon the violation of a most explicit command. Through Moses the Lord had given special instruction concerning the transportation of the ark. None but the priests, the descendants of Aaron, were to touch it, or even to look upon it uncovered. The divine direction was, “The sons of Kohath shall come to bear it: but they shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die.” Num. 4:15. The priests were to cover the ark, and then the Kohathites must lift it by the staves, which were placed in rings upon each side of the ark and were never removed. To the Gershonites and Merarites, who had in charge the curtains and boards and pillars of the tabernacle, Moses gave carts and oxen for the transportation of that which was committed to them. “But unto the sons of Kohath he gave none: because the service of the sanctuary belonging unto them was that they should bear upon their shoulders.” Num. 7:9. **Thus in the bringing of the ark from Kirjath-jearim there had been a direct and inexcusable disregard of the Lord's directions.** {Ellen G. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 705.2}*

Let us read, listen carefully and remember the above words, lest some God's law be disregarded in our lives, which will prove unforgivable and inexcusable.

Let's consider whether today as God's people, we have also received such detailed instructions on how to live? Where are they saved for us?

Of course, in the Bible. But as the chosen people we also received them in the Testimonies and all works of Ellen White's Prophetic Spirit. Do we explore the Testimonies and other Spirit of Prophecy works day and night? Or are we disrespectful to God in this matter?

In the Testimonies there are many practical tips there. Do you read in the Bible that drinking coffee is a sin. No, you don't. And is it a sin? Yes, it is! And this piece of information you can find in the Spirit of Prophecy books. Drinking coffee is sinful because there are compounds in coffee that destroy the frontal lobe of the brain which is responsible for our spirituality and our contact with God. The second aspect of deserting coffee in our lives is also the matter of denying ourselves many unhealthy products, i.e. the issue of abstinence. When Israel was wandering in the desert for 40 years, the Lord God purified their taste and sort of deprived them from their lust by feeding them with manna every day for 40 years. Manna had a mild and sweet taste. God taught the Israelites to be abstemious in what is good and to reject all that is bad.

Let's read another fragment from the Testimonies:

„David and his people had assembled to perform a sacred work, and they had engaged in it with glad and willing hearts; but the Lord could not accept the service, because it was not performed in accordance with His directions.” {Ellen G. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 705.3}

Now think of your children when you ask them to do something for you. So, they start to do what they are asked to do with joyful/glad and willing hearts, but they do not follow the instructions you've given them. They do not follow **your** instructions. And when you point out that their work isn't done properly, they feel indignant and offended. In their minds they do not accept that as a parent instead of appreciating their commitment, you disapprove it. And in their understanding you just "pick on them" and complain that they are doing something wrong because it is not done as you as a parent wanted it to be done.

Have you ever considered the fact whether a child or an employee whose boss asks for something to be done has the right to disapprove your willing and joyful commitment but done not according to the boss's or parents' instructions even if you think that it is done correctly?

Try to answer yourselves.

Consider also whether we, as God's people read the Testimonies carefully or do we approach them exactly in the same way as Uzzah did? Do we follow all the instructions written and saved for us in the Testimonies and all Spirit of Prophecy books? There are 9 volumes of the Testimonies for the Church by EGW so we could get to know the Heavenly Host.

The answer is: No, we don't. Let's be honest. No, we do not read them!

And the SDA Church even calls Ellen G. White - simply a popular Adventist WRITER not a prophet anymore !!! Many of God's people don't even like to read Ellen White's works because there is too much of the verb "must" there. And we do not need to do anything, right? We think that the "joyful /glad and willing" hearts are enough!!! And we love to sing in praise for God !!!

But the Lord God says:

„Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!” Amos 5:23-24 NIV

God will not forgive us for our lack of insightfulness and prudence! It would be different if we were the Philistines.... but we aren't :

„The Philistines, who had not a knowledge of God’s law, had placed the ark upon a cart when they returned it to Israel, and the Lord accepted the effort which they made. But the Israelites had in their hands a plain statement of the will of God in all these matters, and their neglect of these instructions was dishonoring to God. Upon Uzzah rested the greater guilt of presumption. Transgression of God’s law had lessened his sense of its sacredness, and with unconfessed sins upon him he had, in face of the divine prohibition, presumed to touch the symbol of God’s presence. God can accept no partial obedience, no lax way of treating His commandments. By the judgment upon Uzzah He designed to impress upon all Israel the importance of giving strict heed to His requirements. Thus the death of that one man, by leading the people to repentance, might prevent the necessity of inflicting judgments upon thousands.” {Ellen G. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 705.3}

Although David, as we read, questioned God's justice in his heart, he was far from accusing God or withdrawing from serving Him. Therefore, he wanted to study God's actions and judgments. Thus, David wanted to ask God questions and wait for answers that actually came immediately. First of all, David’s sensitive conscience immediately prompted him:

„...that his own heart was not wholly right with God, David, seeing the stroke upon Uzzah, had feared the ark, lest some sin on his part should bring judgments upon him. But Obed-edom, though he rejoiced with trembling, welcomed the sacred symbol as the pledge of God’s favor to the obedient. The attention of all Israel was now directed to the Gittite and his household; all watched to see how it would fare with them. “And the Lord blessed Obed-edom, and all his household.” {Ellen G. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 706.1}

We can read here about one family= one household which in God is capable of so many good things. I hope you can remember my husband mentioning in previous lectures the power that God put in one well disciplined and well ordered family who worship Him.

Let’s read on the Testimonies:

“Upon David the divine rebuke accomplished its work. He was led to realize as he had never realized before the sacredness of the law of God and the necessity of strict obedience. The favor shown to the house of Obed-edom led David again to hope that the ark might bring a blessing to him and to his people. {Ellen G. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 706.2}

David accepted the rebuke, felt repentance, confessed his sin, and atoned for the mistakes made in the first attempt to bring the ark to Israel.

Here we see the positive attitude of David who was able to accept the rebuke and confess his sin in repentance. Let him be an example to us of how to accept rebuke and how to deal humbly with God's judgments which we do not understand at first. May David also be an example to us that when we see God's blessings in someone, as David saw them in the Obed-Edom’s family, let us not be envious of these people’ blessings in our hearts, but let us ask God to share in the same blessings! After all, they are all available to all of God's children.

At the end of three months, David realized **the error of disregarding the Lord's laws** and:

„... resolved to make another attempt to remove the ark, and he now gave earnest heed to carry out in every particular the directions of the Lord.” {Ellen G. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 707.1}

This time he asked the Levites to carry the Ark:

*„David assembled all Israel in Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the LORD to the place he had prepared for it. He called together the descendants of Aaron **and the Levites: (...)**He said to them, “You are the heads of the Levitical families; you and your fellow Levites are to consecrate yourselves and bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel, to the place I have prepared for it. It was because you, the Levites,*

did not bring it up the first time that the LORD our God broke out in anger against us. We did not inquire of him about how to do it in the prescribed way.” 1 Chron. 3-4; 12-13 NIV

Let's read from the Testimonies:

„Again the chief men of the nation were summoned, and a vast assemblage gathered about the dwelling place of the Gittite. With reverent care the ark was now placed upon the shoulders of men of divine appointment, the multitude fell into line, and with trembling hearts the vast procession again set forth. After advancing six paces the trumpet sounded a halt. By David's direction sacrifices of “oxen and fatlings” were to be offered. Rejoicing now took the place of trembling and terror. The king had laid aside his royal robes and had attired himself in a plain linen ephod, such as was worn by the priests. He did not by this act signify that he assumed priestly functions, for the ephod was sometimes worn by others besides the priests. But in this holy service he would take his place as, before God, on an equality with his subjects. Upon that day Jehovah was to be adored. He was to be the sole object of reverence. {Ellen G. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 706.3}.

Today we also do not want anyone in Glinik to **only** help us **in transporting** the Words of our messages to other people, or only accompanying **Philadelphia** and die forever as a **not born-again and an undedicated to God person** who does not have God's teachings in his/her heart and is not guided by the Word of God. Our strong wish is that everybody who gets in contact with **Philadelphia** may be involved and devoted to God's matters with his/her whole heart, body and mind.

That is why the Spirit of Sonship is so important, the spirit of Jesus in us, who penetrates all that belongs to the Father in Heaven and who lives with His every Word ... it is *the Spirit* that will always know what is allowed and what is not allowed. It is the Spirit of submission that never claims his/her rights. The Spirit that never fights for their rights. The Spirit that does not make excuses; does not get angry or proud and will always suffer damage to themselves.

Uzzah's sin was the lack of care for God's things, lack of insight into God's things, lack of interest in God's things, i.e. the lack of adequate knowledge about God's things and the resulting lack of fear of God and lack of trust that God Himself would take care of His Ark for which He Himself set certain rules. Uzzah acted humanly, with a human, quite good and rational reflex. He was missing something extremely important: insightful spirituality and deep piety.

Therefore, let us not feel too safe when we fight for our rights, e.g. when we want to prove that wearing masks nowadays is illegal. We show in this way that we are not faithful to the messages that flow from the Testimonies .

Overeating is a sin; lust is a sin; lack of abstinence is a sin; disorder, lack of discipline, mess, dirt – these are sins. Fear of whether I will be hungry if I just eat a few pieces of fruit and bread with oil and nuts during one day is a sin; gossiping is a sin; superficial way of thinking and superficial faith are sinful; naughtiness is a sin; flirtatiousness is a sin and a stain on our character; dressing in pants when we women are aware that for us God has prepared a female costume - is a sin; it is a sin for a woman who is aware of how should her look and appearance look like in God to wear short cut hair; drinking coffee is a sin; evil and sceptical thinking - is a sin; not covering the heads by women is a sin. Failure to explore the writings of Ellen G. White is a sin; failure in asking and finding answers to our questions in God is a sin; failure to follow the advice of the Spirit of Prophecy - is a sin... for which is death!

So, will we still be so careless and hypocritical as to claim that Ellen G. White is just an Adventist writer? May we not share the fate of Uzzah, then! Our error will then be unforgivable, and God's judgment will be irreversible and merciless! The kind we read about in the text my husband quoted in one of his previous lectures:

„Utterly slay old and young men, maidens and little children and women; but do not come near anyone on whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary.” So they began with the elders who were before the temple.” Ezek. 9:6 NJKV

I am trying to evoke a huge impression on your minds and an indelible mental picture that our God the Father **is not** a Santa Claus or some Grandfather Frost who jokes when coming with gifts at a traditional Christmas tree, and asks if the children have been polite and the biggest rascals smile carelessly then and somehow the rod turns out to be just an ordinary prop, and finally the gifts are given to all the children, obedient and disobedient. We all have been brought up in this myth. And the gospel of nauseating and tender false love which does not know firmness, consistency and decisiveness - is even starting to be forced upon us that if we do not profess this kind of love, it is said about us that we do not confess Jesus and there is no love in us!

Personally, I experience this miraculous righteous love of God every day. Love of the most tender Father ... but I know that I listen to His voice and I do not provoke Him to anger. I do not take His recommendations lightly. I study His will and I fear God.

Nevertheless, I see how others behave, how naïvely, nonchalantly and disrespectfully they approach God's advice, recommendations, instructions and commands and they are not afraid of... the consequences!

We mustn't praise the miraculous messages coming from Glinik i.e. from God's Word if after leaving the Feast of Tabernacles we continue to live the old life and nothing changes in us and our life remains the same. What's the point in coming here or reading **Philadelphia** if we do not consider deeply the topics and we do not want to devote our hearts to Jesus completely?

This is why God lets us meet one another so that we could create His one body of Christ and we would not feel offended when reproved, admonished or instructed and given advice because in this way God wants to save us and does not want anyone to die. Let us not judge those who admonish us for the way they do it. Let us leave it to God ... but let us rather listen to their admonitions.

Let's be like David who came to his senses when he saw what happened to Uzzah.

And now think - if God were to kill one of us now as an example for others, so that they would come to their senses, just as David came to his senses when he saw what had happened to Uzzah, then think, could it be you who could serve as such an infamous example? ??

Would you die here and now – instantly- struck by God because you've been neglecting something and making fun out of something about what you know that is holy?

Have you been engaged in doing something that can lead many to evil? Will your pride lead you to eternal death because you cannot forgive, forget, let something go and leave it to God's judgement?

In a moment I will tell you a dream that I had after Uncle Józek's // Joseph's prayer during this Feast of Tabernacles in which he asked for a dream. He prayed for a dream as an answer to our questions which developed while we were talking about the motives that drive us today - in our present state of minds and hearts- when we make decisions about whether to cover our faces publically or not. Before I tell you the dream, I must introduce to you the character of our dog Dingo.

In my dreams Dingo our dog was often a symbol or it represented my husband ... Dingo is a Swiss Shepherd, a herding dog with the dominant character of the Alpha dog, as it is said today. He loves people, children, games ... when he joined our family he was given a task from my husband that he was to look after Saba (the other of our dogs- a female also Swiss shepherd which is no longer alive), who had been alone here before we brought Dingo. When she was in her heat admirers would come to her. Dingo chased away every strange dog. He felt extremely responsible for this area and was not allowing any other dog enter our place.

But ... interestingly enough with his extremely brave, courageous and determined attitude, (he had never checked whether the dog that appeared on our land was female or male, he just ran up and "turmoiled" and harassed the guest dog and made it run away) he still had his moments of reflection ... and when our neighbor visited us with his little goats - Dingo fully accepted them. When he ran up to the tied goats which belonged to our neighbour - he also turned back fully accepting them and did not even bark at them.

Moreover, he did not hurt our third dog called Blackie when Blackie appeared on our land for the first time. Blackie was one of the pack of dogs that our not quite mentally balanced neighbor has. And while Blackie was approaching Dingo, he showed that he was afraid of Dingo but he did not bark nervously nor he tried to escape. Instead Blackie showed submissiveness, respect and fear when he lay down completely and trustingly before Dingo ... showing that he was humbly accepting his fate even if it meant to be bitten by huge Dingo. Thanks to his humble and submissive attitude Blackie became Dingo's friend. During this first meeting Dingo fully accepted him.

What is even more interesting, when our friends came to us with a she husky puppy already large in size, our Blackie was jealous of this puppy and supposedly imitating Dingo was almost ready to bark and was trying to bite this puppy. But Dingo stood up in defense of this puppy and started to knock down Blackie!

I've shortly described the character of our dog to you and now I will tell you my dream:

In my dream another Swiss Shepherd dog, white as Dingo which would make him equal to Dingo, although younger ran from the direction of our house. The dog was glad and full of joy, just like people described in the following fragment:

*„David and his people had assembled to perform a sacred work, and they had engaged in it with **glad and willing hearts**; but the Lord could not accept the service, because it was not performed in accordance with His directions.” {Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 705.3}.*

And just like David and his people, this younger shepherd dog ran joyfully and eagerly towards Dingo's playpen. The younger dog was carefree. I watched the scene and unfortunately heard only one snap of Dingo's teeth - one but very effective. For the first time in his life, our dog killed another sheepdog in one move - with one snap of his teeth on the neck. I saw the other dog lying dead in the playpen, and Dingo, although he had blood stains on his muzzle, was content and behaved as if nothing had happened. I had a strong feeling that this what had happened was irreversible.

What does this dream mean? It was certainly a response for our prayers during the Feast of Tabernacles. And it confirmed that being carefree; showing lack of insight but only a willing and joyful heart but imbued with superficial attitude towards God's matters is not enough and will become the cause of our doom. Instead of running so carelessly, it is better to stop and think deeply about God's demands. Ask God if this or that behaviour is allowed or not. Ask God for knowledge concerning our role and position; It is better to think twice before we say something that might show our ignorance.

Let me summarize:

In the religious world there are thousands of religious groups, churches, communities that function on the basis of human criteria which are most often established by some leader or a governing body or some human leadership. Various methods are used in order to sell some ideas to people and act and

make money out of these actions. In all these communities, churches, groups Truth is never a commodity for sale because Truth is difficult to be sold due to the fact that Truth is not popular. Therefore, as my husband said last year all those communities, churches and religious groups act according to the so-called pop religious culture so that in the messages of these religious groups everyone could find something nice for themselves treating religion as a kind of springboard from the dull everyday reality.

It has never been my husband's goal to create this type of religious group. His purpose is to assemble a real remnant of God's people, unconditionally faithful to God, and to form a congregation of saints in which God is present and which God will lead based on the order of gospel. Throughout the Bible the Lord God reveals to us this order. In His Word He shows us the principles of His Heavenly order from which we can draw guidance and learn how to live according to this order and obey it so as not to lose God's presence.

My husband is accused of being demanding and not tolerating disobedience. But isn't our God demanding? Does our God tolerate disobedience? What did we see from the example of Uzzah? We saw that not only God does not tolerate disobedience, but He is also very consistent in it.

Everyone who connects his/her life with ours and lives in our house does so voluntarily and can always leave. Anyone who comes to us for the Feast of Tabernacles also does so voluntarily and either binds his/her life with ours under the rules that are clearly stated in the Bible, or never comes again. And everyone can come, everyone is invited regardless of their beliefs or denominational affiliation, but they certainly will not be able to teach or introduce their principles here if God has not appointed them to do so. This, among other things, is the basis of the gospel order, that both for leading and teaching in a given community that God establishes, **He appoints those** whom He uses for specific tasks, duties assigning on them specific responsibility for the service entrusted to them and He will hold them accountable for it.

And finally, I will remind you of the rules of God's order which say that everyone has their head: there is God the Father, Jesus Christ, husband, wife, children; the firstborn child and younger children and ... a dog ... 😊

And in social relations we also have such a ladder: employer - employee; host - guest; senior teacher at work and „junior“ teacher; and in general: older - younger.

Moreover, the same person in two different relationships may have a different position: in our home, our "adopted" sons are submissive towards us, but they are or will be heads of their own families. Whenever two people meet, only one of them can rule / lead. The other one must surrender and submit. How can we learn how to be submissive and surrender to whoever is chosen by God and leads His tasks?

Singing will be a good example here. When we learn how to sing a new song or when we sing this new song with someone who leads it a bit differently than we have already known it - we need to calm

down and mentally step back behind the leader and rather listen to him/her in order not to overtake the leader nor jam or drown him/her out. We should gently listen to the notes and the strokes of the piano ... always a few mental steps behind the leader trying to adjust ourselves to the leader so that the melody and harmony are kept complete.

Music is such an interesting and profound sphere of life . Those who can sing know that it is possible to tune into the leader listening to him or her carefully even without knowing the melody and still be able to sing a song beautifully. It is just a matter of being humble and reserved.

I found two fragments in the Prophetic Spirit - in English where the Lord Jesus rebuked Satan twice saying:

*„Christ declared to the tempter, ‘**Get thee behind Me, Satan:** for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve’” {Ellen G. White, *Desire of Ages*, p. 130.1}.*

These words were spoken by Jesus to satan while he tempted Jesus in the wilderness. Jesus rebuked satan by showing him his place. He bluntly told him that he should withdraw behind the Son of God and listen to Jesus' words from there. Jesus reminded satan of the order of the Gospel.

Again Jesus spoke similar words to satan when he spoke through apostle Peter, allegedly "comforting" the Savior that the sufferings He told them about would not come upon Him:

*„‘**Get thee behind Me, Satan.**’ No longer interpose between Me and My erring servant. Let Me come face to face with Peter, that I may reveal to him the mystery of My love” {Ellen G. White, *Desire of Ages*, p. 416.1}.*

The Lord Jesus in these two examples clearly shows the order of the Gospel as it has been in Heaven and as it is to be on the earth, which satan did not accept and has led to 6000 years of tragedy and suffering. And everyone who does not want to be subject to this order becomes satan's helper and joins his rebellion, accusing God of injustice and contributes to human tragedy and suffering, and takes away from himself and others the opportunity to take advantage of Jesus' sacrifice and eternal life.

I want all of us to think deeply about the above discussed example of Uzzah's story, lest we make a mistake that may prove irreversable and unforgivable !!!

After my husband, I will repeat:

In blessed hope

Beata Maciejewska