

The Final Testimony

(part one)

Welcome Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Let's begin the preaching of another message called „The Final Testimony“ part one and tomorrow we will continue with part two.

Is our desire to totally surrender ourselves to God and become His unconditional possession? Do you want to be heralds of Christ's second coming? And do you know what it means? And what did it mean to John the Baptist, who had been the messenger of Christ's first coming? They beheaded him. So are you ready to be beheaded? He died alone, forgotten, lonely, isolated, rejected, ridiculed, humiliated, in suffering, in anguish, in pain, hunger and loss of everything and everyone ...

So do you still want to surrender yourselves totally to God and to be His unconditional possession? Do you want to belong to God in such a way that He could do His work in you and through you without any objections or resistance from your side? Let us not deceive ourselves if we believe that the path to glory is through exaltation and promotion. It is quite contrary - for only

"... he who humbles himself shall be exalted" (Matt. 23:12, NKG).

„Before honor is humility. (...) But before the crown must come the cross.“ (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 436; p.422). So then: "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? (Luke 24:26.KJV)

What about our suffering which enables us to enter our glory? Sometimes I have an impression that many of us think that we **already have** these crowns. And as soon as we are being reproved, we react immediately in such a way so that the crowns were about to **fall off** our heads. Dear Friends, I must reassure you that the crowns will not fall from our heads when you will humbly accept the instruction, admonition or reproof because we simply do not have these crowns yet. Our Savior had to suffer a lot (see: Luke 17:25) and had to be rejected by His generation whom He came to serve. So, do you expect that as the heralds of Jesus' second coming you will avoid suffering? Or that you will be recognized and accepted as eminent people by this last generation of mankind? No, this will not happen since as we read:

"For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake; Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear [to be] in me...." (Php. 1: 29-30, KJV).

For "God, from whom all things come and by whom all exists, desiring to lead many to share in his glory, thought it would be appropriate to improve/perfect through suffering the Maker of human salvation [made the leader of their salvation perfect through suffering, UBG]" (Heb. 2: 10, BWP).

And for this very reason "But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy [are ye] [blessed are you, BW] ; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you" (1 Pet. 4:13-14, KJV)

So "even if you were to suffer for righteousness, blessed you are. Therefore do not be afraid of their threats, and do not feel scared. But sanctify the Lord Christ in your hearts [worship devoutly, BP; sanctify, UBG; make God holy in your hearts, NKG], always ready to defend yourself against anyone who asks you to explain your hope [with gentleness, respect, fear (UBG), with a righteous conscience, always be ready to defend this hope, which is in you, NKG]"(1Pet. 3: 14-15, BW).

And remember that each of us is to strive for "an ever more perfect hope" (Heb. 6:11, BP), in this way to inspire hope in other hearts and to be a witness worthily representing the Kingdom of our Father and His Son. And as we read in yet another verse in the Bible:

"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after your short-term sufferings, will prepare you for it, will strengthen you, establish you, settle you on a firm ground" (1 Pet. 5:10, BW). He "will lift you up ... and make you perfect" (NBG).

Let us trust that every toil, pain, suffering, and oppression is always a short trial period in comparison to eternity. And during the suffering, let us always remember that taking part in the pain is a tremendous privilege in which we can be witnesses of our Creator's character, provided that He has already become holiness in our hearts.

Dear Brother and Sister, "Do not be afraid [then] of the sufferings that are to come upon you. Behold, the devil will put some of you in prison to be tested, and you will be in distress for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Rev. 2:10, BW). So, we do not possess these crowns yet.

The number *ten* appears in many verses in the Bible as for example: ten commandments, ten virgins, ten lepers, ten servants, ten talents, ten drachmas, ten kings, ten horns, and the tenth part of the income that was God's property. In some of the above mentioned examples the number *ten* is used symbolically and means a complete whole: everything and everyone. When we accept the historical interpretation of this text, these ten days can mean 10 years (according to the prophecy about "a day for a year") and especially referring to the cruel persecutions of the first Christians from 303 to 313 AD. The greatest persecutions were during the reign of Emperor Diocletian, and they were finally ended by the so-called Edict of Milan of 313 AD when Emperor Constantine the Great granted Christians the same rights as the followers of other gods. So, as we can see the most cruel 10 days came right before the deliverance and so it will be now.

But regardless of the interpretation, be it symbolic, historical or, for example, factual - covering **literally** ten days, God calls us to remain **faithful** in every trial and suffering, regardless of its length or intensity or even if they lead to death. The ten days symbolize time, both in the sense of *chronos* and *kairos*, for it is the time when one must testify and pass the trial victoriously. Daniel and his companions also faced the ten-day trial that they overcame victoriously (see: Dan. 1: 14-15). Thanks to their victory God was able to make a name for Himself in the ancient Babylon and perform His works for the chosen people and for the people of Babylon, including their king. Do you remember when all the Israel nation was in captivity, and there was a statue put up/erected? How many of them did not bow down in front of it? **Only three witnesses.**

Everything that is connected with this world of sin is transitory. So, no matter how hard the trial, experience, suffering, toil, tribulation, oppression, hunger is - it will pass anyway! It is enough then, to remain faithful and persistent. And if we base our hope on Christ and His righteousness, then even if we overpay our faithfulness with our lives and.... die-- we will live anyway! (see: John 11:25).

So, if God the Father, as we read: „*thought it would be appropriate*” to make His Son "*perfect through suffering*", and in turn it "*was granted that we can not only believe in him, but also suffer for him*", then let us make God holy in our hearts, that for His glory we could bear testimony - worth of the gospel of Christ; that we may also live a life worthy of the God who calls us to His kingdom and His glory (see: Phip. 1:27; 1 Thess. 2:12). Let us *not* follow the example of those whose bodies fell dead in the wilderness because of their disbelief, disobedience, infidelity, murmuring, complaining, and discontent or lack of temperance. I am sure you must remember the experience with the quails.

The final testimony of God's power will not be revealed/shown/performed by any public media of this world, for very soon this kind of preaching will simply be blocked. The truth will not be preached in the traditional waywhich we know from the so-called evangelization, therefore God needs *living* witnesses, not virtual witnesses, but living witnesses from whom the earth will shine with the light of God's glory (see: Rev. 18: 1).

Today, many people try to be producers of many religious messages in the internet, and each and every one is even more haunted. But there where the truth is preached, the message has already been getting blocked. For example, a man recorded YouTube lectures about today's pandemic on how to avoid being contaminated by the coronavirus. His message concerned some advice on *raw food*. Unfortunately, his lecture was removed and he received a warning that if he continued to promote his ideas, his YouTube channel would be temporarily blocked, and if that does not help, he will be banned from using this channel forever.

Thus, it is not under human jurisdiction that God's people will give the final testimony of the Truth. They will give it under *heavenly authority* which in the precise translation of this phrase from Greek means having "*great authority*" (PB).

What *authority* is mentioned here? The same Greek word "exousia" [ἐξουσίαν] also appears in the following text. Let's read:

"And Jesus, having called his twelve disciples, gave them power and authority [exousia] over all demons, and power to heal diseases. And He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick "(Luke 9: 1-2, UBG).

This authority is exactly the same that Christ had and still has, and whoever joins Christ is, as we read: "*one spirit with Him*"(1 Cor 6:17, BT) It is the unity which Jesus had with His Father and the Father with Jesus.

And yet interestingly when Christ's adversaries asked Him with what power He performs these extraordinary deeds, these words use the same Greek word "exousia", which in some translations is translated as "power", and according to the Greek original it means " authority". So, their question was more about: who gave Christ *the authority* by which He could perform such marvelous acts. Let's read: "*Who gave you the authority to do these things?*" (Mark 11:28, BWP).

Indeed, His authority was precisely the authority over demons whom He bound how and when He wanted. Then Jesus asked His adversaries: "*was the baptism of John from heaven or from men?*" (Mark 11:30, PI).

With this question Jesus put these hypocrites into quite a confusion because they could not answer: *from heaven* as then they would admit that they had not accepted God's message and did not believe John. Nor could they say that John's message was of human origin, for they feared the people, "*for all regarded John as a true prophet*" (Mark 11:32, UBG).

So, in their hypocrisy they replied to Jesus that they did not know. Then Jesus replied smartly to them, "*Then I will not tell you what [exousia, PI] I am doing [under what authority UBG] these things*" (Mark 11:33, BWP). Well, do we then always need to answer all tricky questions? What we really need is to know *when to answer and when not to answer*.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, if we think that the Internet will do this job for us and all we need to do - is record lectures or sermons on YouTube or distribute leaflets, books, magazines, and use various other methods to win people for the Truth, we will be bitterly disappointed. Despite today's media opportunities, despite the ability to move and travel quickly around the world; despite communicating by phones, no one has yet achieved what Christ did, who did not have a car nor a plane; did not have a telephone, Internet; had no access to television , billboards, nor did he write any book or use leaflets to gather people for the Truth. First of all, He Himself embodied the truth. He Himself was the gospel, that is, the good news. He was the Life. He was the Way. In the same way the last witnesses with the last message to this world must become His Life, His Way, and His Truth.

The trap into which the entire Christian world has fallen, as well as all religions is to desire power, more or less of it but to have some or all power. Therefore, satan, through his spirit fills the souls of deceived people with *his* power and he also sends them "light" which unfortunately turns into

darkness because he keeps people in an illusory understanding of spirituality about which they think that comes from the spirit of God. But unfortunately, it has nothing to do with true God.

And now the most important thought, directly exposing both satan and every appearance of godliness. Let's read:

"Lucifer desired God's power, but not His character" (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 435).

Dear Friends, I've got a feeling that the same applies to almost all of us. In all our religiosity, we do not look for God's character, we do not focus on what we are like, but we transpose our religious zeal and dedication *into action*. We think that when: *I act* it means that *I am*. But what am I like? Do I have the character of Christ? Do I have His heart, His Spirit? Is it His Mind that controls my life, and has His will already become mine - fully immersed in the Father's will?

Generally our behavior, words, attitudes, habits, character do not resemble those of Christ's in any way. Can you see this? Moreover, we add to the above wrong behaviours - our pride, self-justification, falsifying reality, distorting the facts of life, so that *mine* is always on top. Personally, this is how I perceive most of the so called nominal God's people. So now, how do we want to meet and face up to the allied forces of darkness? Without *that authority* that Christ had, we are only dust that will be blown away by this world as easily as ash is blown from a fire. Although our lips are full of sublime and lofty religious phrases, and our intellectual knowledge puffs us up to such an extent that we are no longer able to accept any criticism, admonition, rebuke nor advice. Additionally, we are wrapped in the mark of Judas. Yes indeed, every now and then - even in our community, this mark manifests itself in the same attitudes that it manifested in Judas.

Therefore, without having the same authority, the mandate that Christ had, let us forget about any participation in the work ending this great controversy as witnesses of the true God.

Some time ago I had a dream in which a man called to save people, to save families, to seek their salvation. He did it in a rather emotional manner and with a raised voice. The people who listened to him were moved but also lost. I wanted somehow to break through his shouting voice and explain to all these people that this was not the way to save our loved ones. I wanted to tell them that first we should look at ourselves and see what **we** are really like as in fact it is **we** who desperately need Christ in order to be able to give testimony of life that He gave to us. Unfortunately, no one wanted to listen to me and I wasn't able to break through the crowd. They all wanted to act not to listen. Through their actions they wanted to demonstrate themselves. Only I was aware that because of their attitudes they had nothing to offer to the dying world. They only brought mayhem, confusion, disruption and chaos ...

This dream shows how the preaching of the gospel looks like today. It focuses on constant undertaking of religious actions which need more and more power to be spectacular and pseudo effective and in this way have something to brag about. It shouldn't be so.

All our attention and concentration should be focused on being like Christ in character and disposition. We should not be focused on acting about which we think that the more zealous it is and the more active we are as religious activists, the more noteworthy for Heaven we are.

It is our choice if we still want to sit at the congregation pews and study the same Bible lessons and listen to the same sermons over and over again, which is actually being fed on milk and suck a pacifier /comforter- remaining infants unable to accept solid, hard food, i.e. difficult speech that cuts like a double-edged sword in order to hew us and make us a clean vessel that can be filled with God's gifts which will equip us with authority over demons, over the powers of darkness, because it is they who must surrender and eventually facing the God's people' final testimony, recognize superiority of both God and His witnesses and give them way.

I hope that you can't imagine that you can win any battle even the smallest one without having an advantage over your opponent. Christ had this advantage, and only He, by imparting His Spirit on us

is able to resist the allied powers of darkness. We have to be aware of the fact that all these fights are not with blood and flesh. This fight is not among people. Somewhere deep inside we know about it, but still there are a lot of battles ... among human beings! We keep focusing our attention on people because we think that this person or that person said this or that or behaved in this or that way and we keep forgetting that there is always an evil spirit behind our behaviour.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high [places][against spiritual evil]." (Eph. 6:12, KJV)

So, how do you want to fight and win this battle without having control of these powers? So, How can we get this authority?

In the days of our pioneers when the Advent movement was being founded, or to be more exact at the time when the Millerites experienced their first disappointment when Jesus did not come between 1843 and 1844, everyone was **confused** as they could not deny God's presence in this message, and yet Jesus did not come back. Then something happened that I would like to use as an illustration of a principle on which God's guidance of those whom He calls to His service - is based.

At a tent meeting in Exeter in August 1844, a man suddenly came on horseback and sat down in the last pew. At that time, Joseph Bates was preaching, suddenly Mrs. John Couch stood determinedly to her feet. She was sister to Samuel Snow, the rider who had just arrived. She spoke courteously but with conviction:

„Brother Bates! It is too late to spend our time upon these truths which we are familiar. Time is short. The Lord has servants here who have meat in due season for His household. Let them speak, and let the people hear them." (C. Mervyn Maxwell, Tell it to the world, p. 28)

Do you remember the circumstances under which these words were spoken and what happened next? The next day, Samuel Snow presented the truth about October 22nd, 1844, and explained why Jesus was not able to or was not allowed to return between the spring of 1843 and the spring of 1844. He referred to the Jewish feasts and stated that basically all the world's events have already happened and will occur in accordance with the feasts in which God, kind of „described" His whole plan of Salvation. At that time they thought that Jesus was to return on the Day of Atonement, that is, the Day of Judgment. And indeed, the pre-advent judgment **began** at that time, and although Jesus did not return, the world's attention was drawn not only to the promise of Jesus' return, but also to the fact that the hour of judgment had come, according to Daniel's prophecy of 2,300 evenings and mornings.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Dear Adventists, it is a waste of time to constantly grind everything that we have known for years and revolve around truths that we know almost by heart and to which false, Babylonian teachings have been introduced. We need to recognize those who have „meat in due season" , namely the last years in which we are living. And not only to recognize but gratefully accept this so called "meat". We need to digest it and put it into practice in order to stand in the ranks of the last army of God's Kingdom as its ambassadors and defeat God's adversary. We need to make free those whom he seized and who belong to our Father. They are not God's adversary's property although they had been enslaved and chained by him. So let us break their chains and let set free those who were imprisoned in Babylon.

In order to do so we need to outline a strategy; We need to recognize both the enemy and his plans in order to know how the end of this great controversy will look like and how to face the "spiritual evil", rulers and authorities of this world of darkness and evil spirits in the skies.

I assume that when I am talking about **power** we certainly associate it in our minds with the common understanding of this term. Therefore now, I would like to present to you a paradox on the basis of which we can obtain *power* that Christ possessed. Let's read:

*"The most childlike disciple is the most efficient in labor for God... He who feels most deeply his need of divine aid will plead for it; and the Holy Spirit will give unto him glimpses of Jesus that will strengthen and uplift the soul. ... The simplicity, the self-forgetfulness, and the confiding love of a little child are the attributes that Heaven values. These are the characteristics of real greatness.... The sincere, contrite soul is precious in the sight of God... He places His own signet upon men, not by their rank, not by their wealth, not by their intellectual greatness, but by their oneness with Christ." (E. White, *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 436-437).*

My Dear Ones, the more you become like these children in your needs, weaknesses and dependencies, the more you will receive God's Spirit. And do you remember what was written about Judas? That he was ... self-sufficient. It is difficult for me to put it in words, but I am sure that each of us knows about it and I am sure that we can clearly see it that *we are not like these children*. Everyone wants to make their position, role and task significant. It is his/her voice that must be heard and taken into account; it is he/she that must have the last say; it is he/she who is important; it is his/her ego that must exist, it is what he/she thinks that is important and others must take it into account, etc. His/her opinion is important.

Do you know why James and John forbade a certain man to cast out devils in Jesus' name because he did not follow them? Because:

*„they began to see that they were jealous for their own." (E. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 437).*

Dear Friends, we have no chance in any work or service for Christ - without Christ in us - the hope of glory,

For as we read: *„only the righteousness of Christ could make the service acceptable to God." (E. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 439).* Very powerful and meaningful words. Let us not be deceived that we ourselves mean anything, that our zealous deeds, religious actions are accepted and praised by heaven and angels. Let's read further:

*„All who would present themselves "a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God", must receive the saving salt, the righteousness of our Saviour. Then they become "the salt of the earth," restraining evil among men, as salt preserves from corruption." (E. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 439).*

Now I will recall some information from previous lectures. I hope that you listened carefully and you now understand the importance of the salt in Ezekiel's prophecy. Do you remember the gushing stream? *"This river's coastal backwaters and swamps will not be drained, and it will still be full of salt."* This river / stream will be protected by the salt that accumulates on the river banks. So, evil will have no access to God's people, who will have power over the powers of darkness by the power of God's Spirit. This salt will protect them from the corruption of this world. This is what we are supposed to be like, seasoned with salt that protects from corruption.

"Have salt in yourselves, and be in harmony with one another [live in peace with one another, BP]" (Mark 9:50, BWP).

So let us have Christ's righteousness within ourselves. Salt symbolizes Christ's righteousness, for only then we can live in peace with one another. Then, just as Christ is our righteousness, so will we also become the righteousness for this world. Only then, as the heralds of Jesus Christ's return, will we go before Him

"in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their sons, and to the unbelievers [of the disobedient, BT; resistant, UBG] [towards the wisdom of the just, KJV] [towards the wisdom of the righteous, EŚP; to the prudence of the righteous, BG; to the consciousness of the righteous, NBG], and to prepare for the Lord a perfect people [righteous, BW; ready, BG; a people well-disposed, EŚP]" (Luke 1:17, BWP).

Let us pay special attention to the final phrase of Luke 1:17 in the translation from the Brzeska Bible: *"that he may prepare a **seasoned** people for the Lord,"* that is, seasoned with salt.

So, let us not be surprised by these particularly radical words that *"only the righteousness of Christ can make service acceptable to God."*

Common sense, wisdom, prudence, awareness - of the righteous people. What kind of people are to bow down to the righteous people? Unbelievers, disobedient and reluctant. What is of utmost importance here - is that these adjectives do not describe the people from the world *but God's people!* Yes, within the nominal God's people there are the unbelieving, the disobedient, and the resistant ones; it is among God's people that children do not obey their parents; wives do not obey husbands; and husbands do not obey Christ. This all refers especially to God's people today as it is they who do not live in the order of the gospel, instead they live in a destructive headlessness and in an independent existence called by them „freedom“.

If we are not seasoned with the salt which symbolizes the righteousness of Christ, then in no other case are we able to prepare ourselves nor can we help others to be prepared for Jesus' coming so that they may be righteous, ready, perfect and well-disposed to meet Christ in the clouds of Heaven.

Elisha, using salt, purified the spring whose water was poisoned.

"The men of the city said to Elisha: Behold, the situation/condition of the city is good, as my lord sees, but the water is bad and the land/ground is barren. He said, Bring me a new bowl and put salt in it. They brought him. He went to the spring of water, put salt there, and said: Thus says the Lord: I heal this water. Death and crop failure will not come out of here any more. And the water was healed to this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke "(2 Kings 2: 19-22, BP).

The salt which was offered to God was also a symbol of the covenant. Let us read:

"You must salt each of your food offering well. You will not deprive any sacrifice of the salt of your God's covenant; with all your gifts you offer and salt [the salt of your God's covenant must never be lacking in food offerings, BWP] "(Lev. 2:13, BP).

If any our sacrifice for God is not seasoned with salt which symbolizes God's righteousness then it cannot be accepted, just as we read: no service. How can God accept human carnal efforts no matter how eager and frank. The importance of salt is very deep. Its meaning is very significant and Christ's announcement to us that **we are** to become the salt of the earth, and therefore His justice and righteousness for the perishing world, gives this call an even more emphatic rank and at the same time places on us an enormous responsibility.

It is *"Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."* (Matt. 5:13, KJV).

Only that much remains/ is left out of our religious conduct without the righteousness of Christ which is symbolized by salt.

„Jesus says: Your energy and efficiency in the upbuilding of My kingdom, Jesus says, depend upon your receiving of My Spirit. You must be partakers of My grace, in order to be a savor of life unto life. Then there will be no rivalry, no self-seeking, no desire for the highest place. You will have that love which seeks not her own, but another's wealth" (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 439).

If we only recognize and accept Jesus as the early and the latter rain, then:

"We shall be willing to be anything or nothing, so that we may do heart service for the Master. We shall rejoice to bear the cross after Jesus, to endure trial, shame, or persecution for His dear sake" (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 439).

The Apocalypse /Revelation must reveal Christ to us as never before, for indeed the first words of The Book of Revelation tell us that it is *"the unveiling of Jesus Christ ..."* (Rev 1: 1, NBG).

"Therefore, watch yourselves fully sober [be ready, EŚP; have your minds ready, BWP], put your hope in grace that gives you the revelation [unveiling, PI] of Jesus Christ "(1 Pet. 1:13, BP).

God's grace reveals, unveils and discovers to us the true Jesus Christ as the Son of God the Father. If we think that the Book of Revelation will satisfy our curiosity and we will discover some sensational news, we will be deeply disappointed even now- right here during this Feast of Tabernacles. There is nothing more important than the Person of Jesus Christ.

We must therefore go to the Mount of Revelation ... to the Mount of Transfiguration where God will reveal, show and unveil to us - His Son in His glory and truth. So it would be possible for the truth about the end times to be revealed to us, which after all is Christ Himself whom we have been waiting and longing for so long. And only in this context can God, in His grace, show us this special time *kairos* which closes itself in the last seven years before Jesus' return, and *closes everything that is related to the events of the end times*. And never the other way round. God will reveal these truths only to those who love His Son with an unconditional love and want to cooperate with Him for His glory in completing the service that He began in 27 AD, so that they could meet Him and be taken to our Father in Heaven. But more on that we will say later in this year's message.

Now, it is my desire to draw our attention to the fact how much we need Christ. Yes, Christ, although we think that we recognize and understand this need and we think that we know Him very well, yet we do not have His Spirit in such power so we could rule over the powers of darkness and build His body effectively. His body which is the Temple in which He will fully reveal Himself; we do not possess enough of His Spirit so that He may begin the work of his Father and complete it, but *this time in and through us - not Himself*.

God's nominal people miss the most important thing which has a direct impact on our separation for the public service in the power of the latter rain.

Christ's life consisted of three phases:

- preparation for His public service – which lasted 30 years
- separation and anointing for His public service – which lasted 3.5 years
- the testimony of His faithfulness until death – which lasted His last 12 hours of His life

Most often, we skip the preparation period and as soon as we convert, we start being religiously active. We do this in spite of the fact that it should be *Christ in us doing these things* - who is to be the hope of glory, both for ourselves and for others. In the whole church religion we become, so to speak, intellectual evangelists. So we preach religious doctrines; we want to prove that we are right; we use Biblical arguments as our support, and we use these arguments to convince others that our perception of theology is right and others are wrong. This is more or less what it looks like, perhaps simplifying a bit this phenomenon.

What did Christ's preparation for His life mission look like? To understand this, we have received from God the Testimony of Christ, which is the Spirit of Prophecy. And What is the Spirit of Prophecy? The testimony of Christ. So, it is the Word that opens/unveils the Word of God to our sinful minds. In this way, we are uniquely privileged as a community of God's people, for we have a treasure that the earlier reformers did not possess. Therefore, there is a fierce attack of God's enemy on the Testimonies as he cannot bear them. And it is there, in His Testimony, that God showed us His Son in the period in which He Himself was trying to recognize His identity and was preparing Himself for the mission which was His life task that the Father had assigned to Him.

So, if the present period of our lives does not reflect in us - the corresponding period of preparation in Jesus Christ's own life, then let us not be deceived that when the time is fulfilled we will be *just like that* - prepared to be separated for the public service nor that we will possess the same power and authority in which He served.

It is yesterday, today and tomorrow that defines who we are and who we will be. It is our lives as children, youth, husbands, fathers, wives, mothers, sisters, brothers that testifies the truth if it is true, or it testifies a mere appearance of piety, which is not true, but merely its duplicate.

Now, of course, I will not quote the entire book titled "Desire of Ages", or known to us in Poland as "The Life of Jesus", because anyone can reach for it and read it for themselves, and ... see ourselves in the mirror of Christ reflection when He was a child, a young man, during His public service and as a man of sorrows in His last act of life . This year, I am trying to use as many of the quotes from this book as I can to show you the unfathomable beauty of our Savior's charm, but all this is not enough to become what and who He was. I personally have been studying this book my whole life. I have bought and read all its successive editions as such careful study of the book makes it quite worn and its pages become loose after some time so I've had to replace one by another. And even so I keep reading this book - my hunger and thirst hasn't been fully satisfied and every time I read it again, I constantly discover new layers of God's splendor. And it has been so for all my life. In my opinion, this is an amazing proof of the origin of these words, because, like the Bible, the Testimonies also have the same origin, and therefore they are filled with the same Spirit whose source is our Father. And His Word is unfathomable and each and every day shines on us with its newer and brighter light that illuminates the next and subsequent layers of the darkness of our being, our soul, so we could introduce there the rays and beams of the glow of God's glory, which will dispel all the darkness until full brightness which will reveal / unveil in us, Christ - the hope of glory.

So, I recommend and encourage you to examining the book "Desire of Ages" every day, as well as all the other Testimonies. We prepared for each and every guest a copy and everybody can leave this place with this book. They are already displayed by Damian and I can see that some guests have already taken some of the copies. If you would like to take more copies for the members of your family or friends just say, I guess there will be enough for everybody. Please, leave this place with this book. Of course, they are free. Once again I will repeat, that I recommend every day study of the book Desire of Ages and all the testimonies. The copies we are giving you function under a different title but it is the book. „Mary's son” Let me tell you more. Our dazed with sin minds are not able to see the depths of the Word of God contained in the Bible, therefore we need a simple Testimony that was sent to us by a simple, uneducated woman, so that we could see the splendor of both Heaven and their inhabitants, and above all - our Father and His Son.

Unfortunately though, I am sorry to say this but it is very easy to recognize those Adventists who do not study the Testimonies from those who do. Unfortunately, the level of spirituality in those who think that the Bible alone is enough for them is very low and their practice of life and attitudes, behavior do not bring praise to God, but rather defame Him. However, this is not the case with those for whom Testimonies are precious and use them in order to understand the Bible better and to make their lives glorious in a practical way. Certainly their piety is much deeper than those for whom the Testimonies are not of such importance and value.

This is my digression that over the years of my being Adventist I have met members of both of the above mentioned groups and my thesis has always proved to be true. Of course that mere reading as a physical activity either the Word of God or the Testimonies does not automatically make us pious people nor people who come from the Truth, for we may wish to be only the hearers of the Word in order to gain religious knowledge, or the theory of truth and not *true faith*. Or we can be doers of the Word, so that we may live with/ by it and that this Word may live in us for the glory of the One who sent it to us.

In my book titled „The Return To Eden”, I highlighted this period in Jesus' life by citing many Testimonies' passages about this very period of Jesus' preparation for His public service. So you can use it, but most of all I recommend the book "Desire of Ages" as your daily reading. As a child I used to browse the Spirit of Prophecy's books which at that times in the 60s and 70s were published with illustrations so even not being able to read at that time I used to look at the pictures and through them God talked to me and His Spirit made an indelible record in my mind. In my later adolescent

years I strayed from the right path but as soon as I came back to it , even before I took again my Bible I studied the Spirit of Prophecy books for twenty years. I knew I was too dumb to take the Holy Book to my hands. Right after 20 years God let me have a look into His holy scripture and started to teach me how to recognize the spiritual message of His Holy Book. For next 15 years God taught me how to connect the Spirit of prophecy passages with the Bible's ones; how to deal with apparent paradoxes found in the Bible; God showed me certain verses whose understanding we can receive only when we take into account a very broad context either the one referring to the meaning and to its historical background; how to deal with visions, raptures, dreams and words such as „Thus saith the LORD God of Israel” from „I -Paul say therefore ..” as it is also written in the Bible. He taught me how to weigh the importance of certain advice and instructions and orders and revelations and warnings found in the Spirit of Prophecy and the Bible. And all this has had only one aim: to understand the good news about our Father's Kingdom in its practical sense which must find its reflection in our everyday practical lives both in men and women, in youth and children, in marriages and families and in the true gathering of the saint ones to which we have been called and chosen if only we stay faithful till the end we will see something that no human eye has seen nor human ear has heard.

There are so many important factors which should be taken into consideration in our preparation for the separation for the public service- that it is impossible to present and discuss them all now.

Our every thought, every word, deed, behavior, attitude, habit, reaction, disposition, character, way of speaking - they all reflect who we are. The transformation of our lives into the life of Christ can be accomplished by our daily rebirth of our hearts and minds only if everything that is old in us - dies. You are what you eat/what your food is/ what your input is. So, until Christ becomes your only food, your only bread of life, nothing will change in your life. It may be religious but without authority nor power over the demons as you lose your life battles with them.

Let me remind you once again the key to success, which I have already quoted in „The Anointing” lecture. Let's read it again:

- Emptying ourselves completely of our selves/our ego
- Submitting each and every our thought to slavery in obedience to Christ
- surrendering our hearts completely so that Jesus can live in them
- Seeing/admiring the perfection of our Savior's character.
- craving for complete renewal and transformation into the image of His purity.
- showing an unquenchable need for reflecting His image/ being like He is

If the above mentioned factors do not accompany us every day, in every moment of our lives, then we are not following the path designed for us by Heaven.

Finally we **must** become fully aware of the fact that both the early rain and the late rain are nothing but Jesus Christ in us as the only hope of glory (see: Col. 2:27). He desires to dwell in us through His Holy Spirit and do in us and through us the works of His Father, until His work is completed. Let's read very important thoughts.

„Jesus is waiting to breathe upon all His disciples, and give them the inspiration of His sanctifying Spirit, and transfuse the vital influence from Himself to His people. Their will must be submitted to His will, they must act with His Spirit; that it may be no more they that live, but Christ that liveth in them. Jesus is seeking to impress upon them the thought that in giving His Holy Spirit He is giving to them the glory which the Father hath given Him, that He and His people may be one in God.” (E. White, Manuscript Releases Volume Two pp. 36-37).

Is there anything more beautiful than that?

„Christ gives them the breath of His own spirit, the life of His own life.” (E. White, *The Desire of Ages* p. 827.3).

Is this kind of experience part of your desires? It is a tragic and utter misconception to think and even worse to believe that the early rain and the late rain are equal to "god the holy spirit" from the Trinitarian concept of deity, a third god. Satan did everything using his guile, cunning shrewdness and deviousness to bathe not only the whole world but also God's nominal people in his own spirit, persuading them that this is their real God. In addition, Satan has already made sure that even our sincere desires for a complete transformation and renewal in the image of Christ and His purity come to naught. Today you have this determination. If only our determination to achieve the goal is too shallow and weak, you will not achieve anything. And this, in turn, is associated with our loose attitude in achieving the goal, as the road is so narrow that only few can find it, and having found it, we have to climb it and start following it and persevere/endure to the very end (see : Matt. 7:14). Under what circumstances will we have to endure? (see Matthew 10: 21-22; Matthew 24: 10-13).

When a brother delivers up a brother to death; the parents - the children, and the children - the parents. When the hatred of the whole world will build up against the remnant of God's inheritance. When lawlessness/iniquity/injustice will spread to such an extent that God's people will have no support in anything or anyone in this world. Love will become so cold that it will no longer be a feeling that stops the march of evil. There will be Offenses/ Scandals, the power of false teaching, denunciations, fabricated accusations, false slander, accusations of religious fundamentalism, fanaticism, and radicalism that threaten world peace and security. No one will listen to your understanding of the Bible, because there are the scribes who are allowed to explain and interpret God's Word, not you. Any Biblical arguments for the truth will not impress anyone.

Do you still want to follow the path of truth? If so, then you must be aware that the world will not worship you, it will hate you, especially the religious world will hate you. Did the world love or hate Christ?

"If the world hates you, then know that it hated me earlier than you... hated me without cause" (John 15: 18,25, *EŚP*), Christ told us. And is Christ loved or hated today? Unfortunately, it is exactly the same as it was then, the world hates Him, but pays homage to a false Christ. Let's read:

"A certain man of noble family traveled to a far country to obtain the royal throne for himself and to return. He called his ten servants, gave them ten pounds and said to them: Keep turning them until I return. But his citizens hated him and sent a message after him, saying, "We don't want him to be our king [we don't want him to rule us, BWP]" (Luke 19: 12-14, *BP*). This fragment describes the period from the resurrection till Jesus' second coming – 2000 years of hatred towards Jesus. He went to gain the King's throne and to come back – and we know that He has not come back, yet. So, these verses describe this very period.

Does the world want Him to be their king? Absolutely not, therefore the king of this world is the prince of darkness who will soon appear as an angel of light, sitting personally on the throne of the kingdom of this world. And the whole world will accept him. Moreover, they will pay homage and worship him.

Go to churches to preach the Truth and proclaim the true Christ, and you will experience the same hatred that Christ experienced. Let us be aware of the fact that:

"The world does not hate those who are like it in spirit; it loves them as its own." (E. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 451).

Have you noticed what I 've just read about those who are like the world *in spirit*! So, does the world love you or hate you? It is crucial that you verify the spirit that guides you and emanate from you. *Likeness in spirit* - what an important thought. What spirit binds and unites Christianity today? Is Christianity today the city of God – is it Jerusalem or Babylon?

You cannot rely on human opinions regarding you, for some people considered Christ sent to them by God and others as a deceiver. Let's read:

„Many defended Him as one sent from God, while others denounced Him as a deceiver of the people” (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 451).

Under what circumstances then, did Christ stand in the Truth and was its teacher till the very end? Let's read:

„Day after day new schemes to silence Him were tried. The priests and rulers were watching to entrap Him. They were planning to stop Him by violence. But this was not all. They wanted to humble this Galilean rabbi before the people.” (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 455).

Expect nothing else, Dear Brothers and Sisters. If you choose the same path, following Christ to where He wants to lead you. And:

„We are to follow in the path He trod” (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 416).

And on this path awaits us exactly the same what He experienced. And although Christ has paved the way for us, it is still marked with the cross and blood for us, too.

So lethargy, laziness, lack of vigilance, lack of perseverance must end in our lives if we are seriously thinking about enlisting in the army of the Kingdom of Heaven. Compactness, readiness, showing unconditional nature, vigilance, perseverance, diligence, faithfulness, discipline in life, deep awareness - *characterize the watchmen*. And who, if not the watchmen are to blow the trumpet? *It is “The watchmen upon the walls of Zion should be the first to catch the tidings of the Saviour’s advent, the first to lift their voices to proclaim him near, the first to warn the people to prepare for his coming. (E. White, The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. IV, 1884, p. 199).*

But *„this message, both at the time of Jesus' first coming and at the time of the Advent revival, as well as in our times “was not to be committed to the religious leaders of the people” (ibid)*

Let us learn from the past history, and let us not be surprised that no message or light will come from the leadership of any church today, for *“they had failed to preserve their connection with God, and had refused the light from Heaven;” (ibid)*

There is nothing *less* or *more* important in preparation. In the service to which God wishes to call us, every detail, every little thing, even the smallest one is essential, important and has its place in achieving the goal. This is what Christ was like! He always put the tools back in their places with due diligence after finishing work and always took care of them. There was order in His life. He was neat and clean. He was characterized by a harmonious development of the mind that was nourished by the Word of the Father. Even at His resurrection, he did not forget to put his robes in order- for that was His habit/part of His character. Let's read a fragment:

„He was not willing to be defective, even in the handling of tools. He was perfect as a workman, as He was perfect in character. By His own example He taught that it is our duty to be industrious, that our work should be performed with exactness and thoroughness, and that such labor is honorable... Throughout His life on earth, Jesus was an earnest and constant worker.” (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 72).

Unfortunately, in the nominal people of God, the so-called theological truth has displaced this practical sphere of our lives and now no attention is paid to minor matters, and it is these small matters that testify to who we are and what we are like. Most often we do not pay attention to the fact if there is order, cleanliness around us, we do not pay attention to the quality of our work, quality of spoken words, to the way we express ourselves. We do not value the ability to be silent, calm and being a good listener. Today everybody wants to talk, but the paradox is that they who talk a lot - have nothing to say. And it should be so that if someone speaks, he/she has to speak like the Word of God, and if there is no Word from God in him/her, let/may them be silent and listen (see: 1 Pet. 4 : 11).

Another very significant quote from the Testimonies in the practical dimension of the gospel:

„Jesus did not shirk care and responsibility, as do many who profess to be His followers. It is because they seek to evade this discipline that so many are weak and inefficient. They may possess precious and amiable traits, but they are nerveless and almost useless when difficulties are to be met or obstacles surmounted. The positiveness and energy, the solidity and strength of character, manifested in Christ are to be developed in us, through the same discipline that He endured. And the grace that He received is for us” (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 73).

Oh! How much our sinful nature dislikes being disciplined! A disciplined life is usually considered to be practicing legalism and overexaggerated care of little things. And it is all about how:

„to bear the strain of worldly business, and yet keep the eye single to the glory of God” (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 73)

In every moment of our lives, at work or any other tasks under whatever pressure, toil, provocation – these are circumstances which serve to discipline our behaviour. ... *and yet keeping the eye single to the glory of God* will bear testimony of Christ in us. The trick is to keep calm and maintain our dignity and this of others around us regardless of any tension related to our earthly daily existence and be able to give the testimony of our life with our behavior, attitudes and words always bringing glory to God.

We have only one year left, only a year to allow God to accelerate the preparation proces in us - so we could be able to perform a task that has never been entrusted to anyone, yet, as only our generation will have lived till the very end of times and now all Heaven's attention is focused on us, but also on the powers of darkness as they focus all their energies against us. Therefore, we need the same authority that Christ had, the same authority and mandate from heaven thanks to which this sinful earth will shine for the second time with the splendor of God's glory *“which is in the face of Jesus Christ” (2 Cor. 4: 6, EŚP)*. Yes, in His face, not ours. Therefore, it is only Christ in us who is the hope of this glory, *“that it may be known that this enormous power/authority [the dignity of this authority, BG; excellence, NBG; magnificence, UBG; honesty, BB] which surpasses all things, BW] comes from God, not from us ”(2 Cor. 4: 7, BP)*.

Even Christ Himself attributed everything to His Father and, in fact, He did not say anything nor did anything by Himself. He was guided solely by the will of His Father, not His own. Therefore, the fullness of His Father's glory could be revealed in His face. And exactly the same should be with us. Jesus will certainly not share *our* glory with His own, so as I mentioned earlier, we must empty ourselves from ourselves completely and let the splendor of His Father's glory fully shine in us.

Let us recall a principle in God's order referring to His actions thanks to which it is always possible for us to see the end at the beginning.

“Remember the former things of old: for I [am] God, and [there is] none else; [I am] God, and [there is] none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times [the things] that are not [yet] done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure [I keep saying that what I intend will come and that I will do whatever I think is right, BWP] (Isa. 46:9-10 KJV)

Do you remember that we have already applied this principle to the work of creation, in which God from the very beginning revealed the end to us - both regarding the time allotted for the existence of sin and sinful humanity, **and** the testimony that must be given **so the end could come**. We will come back to these thoughts later during next days.

But right now, I want to apply this principle to the beginning of Christ's public ministry. It began in the year 27 AD. In 31 AD, in the middle of this prophetic week from the Book of Daniel, Christ made a sacrifice of His life as a ransom for every person on this earth. In 34 AD, the time of grace for the chosen people finished. So, from 27 AD till 34 AD lasted a prophetic last week before the chosen

God's nation namely Israel lost their last chance to benefit from being the chosen one and was rejected by God – not individually but as a whole nation.

We also have lived to see the last prophetic week. So the period of the last seven years before Christ's return has just begun which means the beginning of the destruction of this world. But in this case, the time of grace for the whole world will finish at the end of the last prophetic week.

In this prophetic week the time of grace for God's nominal people will be over *in the middle of it* (not at the end of the week) and just then, in the middle of the week, the last word of warning will be given to the world which should make God's people leave Babylon so they could avoid the plagues of this evil system.

In the previous prophetic year Christ served His people personally for the first 3.5 years, and for the next 3,5 years -His disciples served steadily and progressively in His place and brought the message of the kingdom of God and of the crucifixion and resurrection of the Savior throughout the world.

In our generation's prophetic week - the first 3.5 years will be devoted to a special service for Adventists. Just as the disciples who were endowed with the power of the Spirit before the pouring out of the early rain to bring the good news of deliverance from the chains of death to their brothers and sisters, so will we gradually receive more and more of the gift of God's Spirit in order to reach Adventists and gather the remnant of God's faithfuls, just before the expiration of the sealing time, so we could unite ourselves in the Truth and fulfill Christ's measure so that "*the life of Jesus may be shown in us*" (2 Cor. 4:10, BP).

Then, so equipped, anointed, appointed, called, chosen, and sealed with the Spirit of Christ, we will be sent to the world as Christ's witnesses and representatives of His kingdom.

So the first 3.5 years is a special service to Adventism, and the next 3.5 years to the world. In the middle of this period, the time of grace for Adventism ends, and at the end of this period, the time of grace for the world ends and the pouring out of the seven apocalyptic plagues begins, which in their meaning and scope reveal to us the very end of the existence of this world and the falling wrath of God on the unrepentant world.

And this special warning for the people of God was given to Daniel and written in the last chapter of the Book of Daniel, with a special mention of the time when the beginning of the abomination of desolation comes, which is the Sunday Laws, which will be introduced in the whole world, and a special mention in the Book of Daniel of the time of the taking away of the daily sacrifice of Christ's constant intercessory service to the nominal God's people. This is where we read this warning:

"Let us read and study the twelfth chapter of Daniel. It is a warning that we shall all need to understand before the time of the end. (E. White, Letter 161, July 30, 1903; Manuscript Releases, Volume Fifteen, p. 228).

Why did God so precisely describe this time to His people? Because only He knows what awaits us and what we will face. Without giving us time, we wouldn't have endured. And so, the awareness of the closed period, as it was told accurately to Daniel: "*it will be the appointed time, two times and a half times*" (Dan. 12: 7, BW), will make God's people fully aware of how long they are to warn the world regardless of increasing persecutions (1,260 days), i.e. 3,5 years from the time of separation them for the public service under the power of the latter rain. Thanks to God's precision in describing for us this time we will know when to stop preaching and flee to secluded places (day 1290), and finally (day 1335), we will know that those who have endured and lived through this period may be blessed with a special and incredible blessing of not suffering mortality. That is, without experiencing mortal death, they will be able to welcome the returning Savior alive without experiencing death.

In our *Philadelphia* journal No. 23 you can find a very detailed study of Daniel chapter 12. Therefore I would not like to repeat these prophetic truths right now, but develop the subject with

what we did not know two years ago, and now in His grace God has revealed to us in the Book of Revelation. I will only add that this *appointed time* from the Book of Daniel, according to the translation of the Septuagint, is the time of *kairos*, so it is this specific time in the prophecy, during which God's people will be sealed, in which they will give the final testimony to the world and will proclaim the coming of Jesus and thus warn humanity about the destruction of the world. And they will do it in the power and authority of the Spirit of Christ, that is, in the latter rain that ends God's work on behalf of sinful humanity. Besides, this time has been appointed under oath, so it is all the more certain and will neither be shortened nor lengthened. We can read about the oath here: (see: Dan. 12: 7).

In any case, the time of grace for the chosen nation is over, because they did not recognize their Messiah and did not accept Him. For God's nominal people today, the time of grace will end for the same reason - not recognizing Christ in the latter rain; Opposing and harassing Him, betraying and persecuting those in whom Jesus will fully reveal Himself and will seal them with the power of His Spirit. Let's read what will happen then:

„I saw that the nominal churches and nominal Adventists, like Judas, would betray us to the Catholics, to obtain their influence to come against the saints. The saints will be an obscure people, but little known to the Catholics, but the church and nominal Adventists will know of our faith and customs, and will betray the saints and report them to the Catholics, as those who disregard the institution of the pope, that is they keep the Sabbath and disregard Sunday” (E. White, Spalding and Magan’s Unpublished Manuscript Testimonies, p. 1 {Ms15-1850.6})

The word *nominal* originates from the Latin word *nominalis* and means existing only in name; titular, formal. So it is the institutional Seventh-day Adventist Church that will become the Judas of the end times. But why? Because it is today that the mark of Judas is upon both the leadership of the church and its followers. By introducing an alien trinitarian god into the principles of their faith, they are no longer able to recognize the Spirit of Christ, and thus do not recognize Him in the blessing of the latter rain. E.G. White also prophesied about it :

„The third angel’s message will not be comprehended, the light which will lighten the earth with its glory will be called a false light, by those who refuse to walk in its advancing glory.” (E. White, The Review and Herald, 27.V.1890).

And do you remember us reading what happens when only one beam of light is neglected by us... one beam...yes, spiritual numbing. With the Adventists it will be exactly the same as it was with the Jews in their reaction against Jesus Christ.

*„In the manifestation of that power which lightens the earth with the glory of God, they will see only something which in their blindness they think dangerous, something which will arouse their fears, and they will brace themselves **to resist it.**” (E. White, The Review and Herald Extra, 23.XII.1890).*

So, let us tell it today to our brothers and sisters, and then to the whole world, that through our Creator, the true God, the door to eternity has been opened. Nobody has to die forever. Christ took the guilt out of all of us, so He irretrievably wiped out this *"incriminating debt letter that turned against us with his requirements and removed it by nailing it to the cross" (Col. 2:14, BW). "Annulled the record of court decisions that was against us" (NBG). "What spoke against us, he removed by nailing to the cross" (BP).*

None of us has any chance to stand before God's judgment and to be saved, for (see Rom. 3:23) we have all sinned and we lack the glory of God, and without it we cannot stand before our holy God.

But our beloved Savior took our guilt, our sins, our sinful nature upon Himself, and He condemned it all in His flesh (see Romans 8: 3). So he brought us back to the beginning, to that original purity and holiness of God's humanity.

So Christ in Himself put to death our sin, our sinfulness, our sinful nature. But that is not all, for as we read: He *"disarmed [also] principalities and powers, made a mockery to the public, dragging them in his triumphant march [triumphed over them, UBG]" (Col. 2:15, BP).*

Do you notice this almost incredible authority over the powers of darkness? Actually, they aren't any powers, because they are... disarmed and, what's more, they are being made a laughing stock. Do you remember Elijah laughing? Before Christ they have no weapons nor powers to help them overcome Him. Christ is invincible and therefore always victorious! And we? Can you see fully what Christ has done for us? Can you believe it, accept it and rejoice in the incomprehensible love that He wants to fill our hearts with?

The door to eternity is open, and anyone can walk through that door and find a peaceful pasture full of fertile grass and wonderful water. You will never lack anything, and you will always be refreshed, strengthened, fed, led, cared for, and above all, Christ has always loved you with a never-ending love and endured for you everything that happened to Him. Therefore, His love has forgiven you all and now He wants to renew you in the original image of the splendor of God's creation. Will you let God do it? Jesus says:

"My Father has so loved you, that He even loves Me more for giving My life to redeem you. In becoming your substitute and surety, by surrendering My life, by taking your liabilities, your transgressions, I am endeared to My Father." (E. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 483).

My Dear Ones, but Christ: *"compels none to follow Him...It is not the fear of punishment, or the hope of everlasting reward, that leads the disciples of Christ to follow Him..."* but *"Love awakens in the heart of the beholders". Therefore "They hear His voice, and they follow Him"* (E. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 480).

"Do not be afraid, for I am with you" (Isa. 43: 5, BW), says Christ to each of us. And He adds:

"I have endured your sorrows, experienced your struggles, encountered your temptations. I know your tears; I also have wept. The griefs that lie too deep to be breathed into any human ear, I know. Think not that you are desolate and forsaken. Though your pain touch no responsive chord in any heart on earth, look unto Me, and live." (E. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 483).

Amen.

*In Blessed Hope
Piotr Paweł Maciejewski*