

The Three Witnesses

Before we start the study I would like to pass on some words which are Jesus Christ's testimony directed to all of us but especially to those who yesterday made their covenant with Our Saviour through acknowledging His Sonship and being baptized in His name. I will read these beautiful and special words:

"The connection of the branch with the vine, He [Jesus Christ] said, represents the relation you are to sustain to Me ... The life of the vine becomes the life of the branch. So the soul dead in trespasses and sins receives life through connection with Christ. By faith in Him as a personal Saviour the union is formed. The sinner unites his weakness to Christ's strength, his emptiness to Christ's fullness, his frailty to Christ's enduring might. Then he has the mind of Christ. The humanity of Christ has touched our humanity, and our humanity has touched divinity... This union with Christ, once formed, must be maintained... Abiding in Christ means a constant receiving of His Spirit, a life of unreserved surrender to His service." (E. White, The Desire of Ages, pp. 675-676) All this is being done in those who enter this special relation called covenant with Jesus through baptism in His name. Now God's adversary will try to do only one thing. He will try to separate you from Jesus. But you should never allow this to happen, no matter what price you will have to pay. May God bless you and guard you.

The Three Witnesses.

Let us return once more to the principle of God's righteousness, which tells us that *"he shall be condemned to death upon the testimony of two or three witnesses"* (Deut. 17:6, E^{SP}). And *"the testimony of just one witness is not enough to condemn him to death"* (Deut. 17:6, BWP).

Let us add one more text from God's Word:

"Every affair shall rest on the testimony of two or three witnesses" (2 Cor. 13:1, BP).

The final God's work on this earth will also be based on the testimony of three witnesses, for when this testimony will have been given, the end will come.

"And this good news of the kingdom will be preached throughout the world for a testimony to all the people; and only then the end will come" (Matt. 24:14, SK)

And when will it be? At the very moment of the announcement of the judgment hour:

"Then I saw another angel [a herald, PI] flying high in the sky. This one was to announce the eternal message [eternal good news, PI] to the inhabitants of the earth, to all nations, tribes, languages and peoples. He cried with a mighty voice: 'Fear God and give him a part [praise PI]! The hour of his judgment has come. Fall on your faces before him who made heaven and earth, the seas and springs of water'" (Rev. 14:6-7, SK).

And when will the hour of judgment come? These witnesses symbolized by the angel will know for they are to announce the time of judgment over the last generation of the inhabitants of the earth. We are talking here about the judgement over the inhabitants of the world not over God's people as the judgement over God's people precedes the other one. As with everything in God's plan, the time of judgment is appointed and revealed.

But before this everlasting message can begin to be proclaimed to the inhabitants of the earth in the power of the latter rain, there must be a gathering of God's people who will be appointed by God's seal as witnesses participating in this final trial.

The Lord God referring to these witnesses will conduct the trial and execute the sentence on the last generation of the wicked inhabitants of the earth. And only those who repent and fall on their knees in front of the Creator, will be shown grace.

As Adventists, we know that in the further part of the eternal message (see: Rev. 14:8-11; Gen. 2:1-3; Exod. 20:8-11; 31:13; Ezek. 20:20) the fall of Babylon will be announced; and the call will be uttered to people so they would leave this system; and a warning will be sent against any recognition nor support in thought, word, or act of this system, and in any form of worship.

The main form of accepting this system will be to recognize Sunday as a holy day. On the other hand, the recognition of the Sabbath as the only holy day will be an acknowledgment and tribute paid to the Creator who made the Sabbath as memorial of creation, a sign of holiness and belonging to God's people (see: Rev. 14:8-11; Gen. 2:1-3; Gen. 20:8-11; 31:13; Ezek. 20:20)

But by what criteria will the end-time witnesses be appointed? Through judgment. for *"the time has come for judgment to begin from the house of God ..."* (1 Pet. 4:17, UBG).

When did it come? It is also an appointed time. The word "time" in 1 Pet. 4:17 means "kairos" and marks the importance of the time for a specific event which in this case begins the judgment over God's people, and the same time "kairos" is also used in the Book of Habakkuk 2: 3 as the appointed time. This is a designated time for a pre-advent judgement.

It was a very important event during the Advent revival which predated Jesus' return. And God gave it special publicity even though it was marked by a misinterpretation of the event. But still the hour of judgment came at that moment.

The same applies to the final judgment of the last generation of God's people, which is equivalent to the final verdict.

If the time of judgment over God's house was so precisely stated in the prophecy of the ***end of 2300 days*** at the end of which the cleansing of the temple began, all the more the end of this process will be precisely stated otherwise our eternal destiny is at stake.

If God does nothing that He will not reveal to His people beforehand, then the end of the judgment over the last generation of God's people and over the world must also be revealed and announced.

If we are to preach the judgment hour, we must know when it came. How can you preach something that you don't know. In spiritual reality the Judgment Hour called also the Day of Atonement began in 1844 – *"... the judgment was set, and the books were opened"* (Dan. 7:10, BW).

The judgement of God's people began. Their accuser is Satan, their defender is Christ, and the judge is God the Father. You can read about it in these texts: (see: 1 John: 13-14; Heb. 9:24; Eccl. 12: 13-14; Zech. 3:1).

So, the judgment has been going on and when will it reach the last generation of God's people so it could finish?

Let us recall the quote from the Testimonies which I have already given.

"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).

What is this warning about? The time of the end of the judgment over God's people is given there. So, if God gave us the time of the beginning of the judgement over God's people, so here at the end of the Book of Revelation He is giving us the closing time of the judgement over God's people. It is the time when God's people are sealed as a result of the judgment and after their positive verification. The seal of the judge is placed on the person who has been found innocent. The judge found nothing in him/her for which He could sentence him/her to the eternal death. And it is because the person reflects the image of his Son.

So, if the person proves to be not guilty, he/she can now be appointed as a witness in the final trial of the last generation of the earth's inhabitants whose eternal destiny will be judged and verified by the testimony of two witnesses.

Dan. 12:11 prophecy defines the end of the judgment over God's people. Those who will be verified positively will be sealed and will be separated and sent in the power of the latter rain to proclaim the last message of grace to the world (see: Dan. 12:7). For 3,5 years they will be preaching the midnight cry message about Christ's coming in due and appointed time. The same period of 3.5 years is mentioned to us in Revelation 13: 3-5 and in Revelation 11: 2. (see: Rev.13:3-5; Rev. 11:2)

This period begins with the regaining of full supremacy by the papacy. It will be possible as the governments of all countries will introduce Sunday Laws internationally -in their global reach.

The first period of 3.5 years which has just begun is the final period of grace for God's nominal people so they could repent and allow God to be cleansed before the decrees come out (see: Zeph. 2:1-3). Before the decrees are released. And the next 3,5 years will be given to the world and to the apostate religion so they could repent and be purified, facing the testimony of the two witnesses from Revelation chapter 11.

This is the last prophetic "week" before Jesus' return. In the middle of the week in which the countdown of these three prophetic periods 1,260; 1,290; 1,335 days - begins, -- Jesus' intercessory service for spiritual Israel ceases.

Christ: "(He is) **today** standing at the altar of incense, presenting before God the prayers of those who desire His help" (E. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 568). He is still standing there today.

The incense altar was in the Holy Place, and today Jesus is in the Most Holy Place. Do you notice the contradiction? How can we understand it. I talked about it a little last year in the lecture titled „The Covenant”.

If we were to understand *literally* the closing of the door to the Holy Place, then from 1844 no one would be allowed to enter the Temple, because there is no other entrance to the Most Holy Place as only through the Holy Place. There is no other door there. There is no other door. *But in the spiritual understanding* of the event - closing of the door to the Holy Place means that since 1844 the only determinant, test and standard for every believer is the Most Holy place in the temple with the decalogue placed in it. The Most Holy Place is God's only determinant of morality for every person. Before 1844 i.e. before the commencement of the judgment there **was no such** requirement or verification of the human condition on the basis of the moral law placed in the Most Holy. Therefore people were judged on the basis of their consciousness and conscience that defended or accused them, on the basis of their knowledge which was allowed not to be complete. (see: Rom. 2:11-15).

But we cannot assume that both the cross and the Holy place are no longer relevant in the plan of man's redemption. Christ is still the bread of life for us. And where was this bread? In the Holy Place. He is still our light – the candlestick, the early rain of his Spirit, and above all, as we have read above, He stands at the incense altar, bringing our prayers to God the Father.

Let's read an excerpt from the Testimonies:

“I saw that the present test on the Sabbath could not come until the mediation of Jesus in the holy place was finished and He had passed within the second veil; therefore Christians who fell asleep before the door was opened into the most holy, when the midnight cry was finished, at the seventh month, 1844, and who had not kept the true Sabbath, now rest in hope; for they had not the light and the test on the Sabbath which we now have since that door was opened” (E. White, *Early Writings*, p. 42.3).

And one more fragment:

“I saw that since Jesus left the holy place of the heavenly sanctuary and entered within the second veil, the churches have been filling up with every unclean and hateful bird. I saw great iniquity and vileness in the churches; yet their members profess to be Christians. Their profession, their prayers, and their exhortations are an abomination in the sight of God. Said the angel, “God will not smell in their assemblies. Selfishness, fraud, and deceit are practiced by them without the reprovings of conscience. And over all these evil traits they throw the cloak of religion.” I was shown the pride of the nominal churches. God is not in their thoughts; their carnal minds dwell upon themselves; they decorate their poor mortal bodies, and then look upon themselves with satisfaction and pleasure... Said the angel: “Their portion is prepared...”

*An innumerable host of evil angels are spreading over the whole land and **crowding the churches**. These agents of Satan look upon the religious bodies with exultation, for the cloak of religion covers the greatest crime and iniquity.”* (E. White, *Early Writings*, p. 274.1). {EW 274.1}

Here is Babylon in all its pseudo “glory”. Besides Dan. 12:11 tells us *[that] the daily [sacrifice] shall be taken away* and this sacrifice was related to the Holy place in the Temple. Thus, at the beginning of these three periods, Christ's intercessory daily ministry for spiritual Israel, God's nominal people - ceases - with the onset of the abomination / abomination of desolation, and thus the establishment and introduction of the Sunday Laws internationally. Therefore, in Zephaniah 2: 1-3 we read that before these decrees come out, God's people are to come to their senses and prepare for sealing.

“Look into yourselves, look into yourselves [gather yourselves], I say, nations not desired! Before the decree comes out [before the decree (רַחֵם - chôq H2706), [before the decree bring forth, KJV] and then the day will pass like chaff; before the wrath of the Lord's anger comes upon you. Seek the Lord, all you humble in the earth, that have done his judgment [which have wrought his judgment, KJV]; seek righteousness, seek humility, [seek meekness, KJV] perhaps you will hide yourselves in the day of the Lord's anger [it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD'S anger, KJV]” (Zeph. 2:1-3, BG).

What a blindness it is to wait for the Sunday Laws neglecting the need for thorough preparation!

The Hebrew word חֹק - chôq [H2706] - means statute / decree / legal act / ordinance/law. It also occurs in (see: Mal. 3:22-24 ; KJV 4:4-6). In these words in Malachi the Lord God warns and reminds the rules and ordinances given to Moses on Mount Horeb in connection with Elijah, who was also on Mount Horeb (see: 1 Kings 19:8-14).

Elijah is sent to the last generation of God's people before Jesus' return with a special message which is to prepare the "remnant" for transfiguration. So, these laws refer to God's commandments which people dared to change and remove one of them. What's more today additional legal acts validate the alleged holiness of Sunday as the day of rest for humanity which is totally contrary to God's commandments/God's law. In the fourth commandment God's law begins with the word "*remember*" – remember the Sabbath day as a memorial of the creative work of true God.

Judging by the announcement of God's prophet Zephaniah, it can be understood that after the passing of the Sunday Laws it will be too late to be reborn. And the combination of the abomination of desolation with the taking away of the daily [sacrifice] in Dan. 12: 7 confirms to us the end of judgment over God's people in the last generation and the beginning of the judgement over the world and its last generation of the inhabitants of the earth. As a result of the testimony of two witnesses, the remnant of God's people will come out of Babylon. So, we see that we are beginning to outline the characteristic features of witnesses that God associates with His servants Moses and Elijah.

Moses symbolizes the law and Elijah symbolizes the prophets. And the law (the Torah / Moses' Pentateuch/first 5 books) and the prophets testify of the Savior.

"... We have found the One Moses wrote about in the Law and the Prophets - Jesus, the son of Joseph of Nazareth" (John 1:45, BT).

But before we go any further in our study, I would like to quote Christ's shocking words about our condition, about our own righteousness. The call from Zeph. 2: 1-3 is among others, an appeal to seek God's righteousness so we could

"find ourselves in Him, based not on our own righteousness which comes from the Law, but on the righteousness which is born through faith in Christ and which is given by God on the basis of faith. [Therefore,] my goal is to know Christ, both by experiencing the power of His resurrection and by participating in His sufferings" (Phil. 3:9-10, EŚP).

I trust that your goal and desire is also to "*... only gain Christ*" and to consider everything else "*worthless compared to the priceless gift of knowing Christ Jesus.*" Then, for Him "*voluntarily give up everything*" and consider all "*as worth no more than mere rubbish*" (Phil. 3:8, EŚP; BWP).

And here is this passage from the Testimonies in which we will hear the words of Christ:

"I saw our Instructor pointing to the garments of so-called righteousness. Stripping them off, He laid bare the defilement [Polish synonyms: abomination, profanity] beneath. Then He said to me: "Can you not see how they have pretentiously covered up their defilement and rottenness [Polish synonym: corruption] of character? 'How is the faithful city become an harlot!' My Father's house is made a house of merchandise, a place whence the divine presence and glory have departed! For this cause there is weakness, and strength is lacking" (E. White, Testimonies for the Church V. 8, 250.2).

Who do you think Christ is addressing these words? To His people, to us, to Adventists who are supposedly waiting for Him. And these words were addressed in 1904. Even then, the disposition of God's people was in a deplorable and appalling condition. Do you remember that at that time the sanatorium burned down, and then in less than eleven months the publishing institutes "Review and Herald" and "Pacific Press" burned down, too.

Let's read on:

"Unless the church, which is now being leavened with her own backsliding, shall repent and be converted, she will eat of the fruit of her own doing, until she shall abhor herself. When she resists the evil and chooses the good, when she seeks God with all humility and reaches her high calling in Christ, standing on the platform of eternal truth and by faith laying hold upon the attainments prepared for her, she will be healed. She will appear in her God-given simplicity and purity, separate from earthly entanglements, showing that the truth has made her free indeed. Then her members will indeed be the chosen of God, His representatives" (E. White, Testimonies for the Church V. 8, 250.3).

Only then...for the time being my dear Adventists *you are a "harlot"* and these are not my words, not even Mrs. White's, but Christ's - the faithful and true witness. Moreover, today, after so many years after these words were said, Adventism has been acidified and ruined by its apostasy and does not stand on the platform of eternal truth. It is entangled in earthly ties with Babylon, so it is not free, but enslaved and shackled in devil's bondage, therefore it cannot be a faithful and true witness and proclaim the truth, which it does not do anyway. Today it is too late for stupid virgins, and is there any time left for the wise ones? What about them, where should they go? Do you remember that they all hear the voice of the Bridegroom and the Bride. But only five ... let's read:

"The truth should have been proclaimed by the ten virgins, but only five had made the provision essential to join that company who walked in the light that had come to them" (E. White, *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 16, p. 269.3).

Who walks in the revealed light that had come to them? The Bride! So, what is the task of wedding guests? As soon as they hear the midnight cry about the Bridegroom coming, they are to recognize this light and join those who are walking further in the revealed light to meet the Bridegroom. As I said in the previous lecture, those who are really preparing for the return of Jesus cannot

"have their minds enlightened by hearing those who are in darkness and error" (E. White, *Early Writings*, p. 124.2).

But it is not all. Let's continue reading:

"I was shown the necessity of those who believe that we are having the last message of mercy, being separate from those who are daily imbibing new errors" (E. White, *Early Writings*, p. 124.3). Being separated from those who walk in errors and joining those who walk in light.

Today, we are living in the time of engagement between the bride and the bridegroom. The seal of the living God seals their marriage. In the meantime, all of God's people will be sealed with the latter rain but let us remember that the seal of the latter rain does not prevent from death.

During the last Feast of Tabernacles on this earth, the wedding begins. The wedding guests (see: Matt. 13:37-41) (the wheat, the wise virgins) also participate in this whole event. On the other hand, the tares, while still near the wheat, were a seed that was not planted by Christ but by his adversary. On the other hand, the stupid virgins, although they were with the wise virgins all the time, were too sluggish about the time of grace and neglected it. They did not allow their old nature to break and die. The group represented by the foolish virgins agreed only to act superficially, without consenting to instill in them a new nature (see: E. White, *Christ's Object Lessons*, pp. 410-411).

On the mountain of transfiguration Christ was transformed and appeared to the three disciples in the glory of His kingdom accompanied by Moses and Elijah. (see: Rev. 11:3-10) In Revelation 11: 3-10 under the symbol of the closed heavens and lack of rain (Elijah) as well as the turning of water into blood (Moses), they represent those who in the power of the latter rain for the last period of grace given to this world, will be announcing the last message of mercy for the perishing mankind. As soon as they give their testimony, the beast will overcome and kill them. But God's work will not be finished then.

And now we have quite a dilemma. Moses symbolizes those who have died in Christ during six thousand years and will be resurrected in the final harvest. Elijah, as we have thought thus far, symbolizes those who will not experience death and will live to see Jesus' return. But in Revelation 11, under the symbol of Moses and Elijah, both witnesses experience death (see: Rev. 11:7). How do you reconcile this contradiction? On one hand E. G. White wrote that Elijah symbolized those who would live to see Jesus return without experiencing death. But on the other hand the testimony of God's Word is unequivocal - two witnesses will die.

Let us return once again to the symbolism.

The wheat (Moses) symbolizes all the saved people who will be resurrected. And whom do the wise virgins symbolise? When did the first midnight cry happen/was made? In 1844. During the Advent Awakening. This was then when the parable of the ten virgins had its first spiritual fulfillment / realization. I have already talked about it in previous years that when a witness / servant became unfaithful (Protestantism at the time), God called a new revival movement to continue the Reformation (see: Matt. 24:45-51 - 25:1-13). Just then, *"the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins ..."* (Matt. 25:1, BW). It is appointed in time. The Advent Movement arises as the people of prophecy.

Now, again the Advent Movement of present times has become an unfaithful servant, so God called the last revival movement, also as the people of prophecy who will complete the Reformation. It all starts again in the same way – with the midnight cry: *Behold the Bridegroom is coming!* So, the ten virgins now symbolize Adventism. There is no other possibility. We also associate the Adventism movement with Elijah. The Adventism movement was like Elijah for Protestantism. So if Moses symbolizes wheat meaning all the saved who will be resurrected during the harvest, then Elijah must symbolize the wise virgins and thus the Advent Movement from the time it was set up/called up, i.e. from 1844.

Do you remember when I talked about three seals two years ago? Since 1844 God's people have been sealed with the seal of the Sabbath. Then, at the end of the Day of Atonement they will be sealed with the seal of the latter rain, which unfortunately does not protect against death what I have already mentioned that at the time of the final preaching the persecution will increase and the number of martyrs will be completed. (see: Rev. 6:11). But also during this time many more will die simply with natural death in the grace of Christ. And finally, there is the seal of the living God, which is the seal of eternity without tasting death (see: Ezek. 9:4-6; Rev. 7:2-3; 9:4). In previous lectures I listed some supportive quotes from the Spirit of prophecy on this issue. There is no time now to talk about it. Those who study carefully know what I am talking about.

So, what is the difference between Moses and Elijah when both will experience death and resurrection? "Elijah", that is, all those of God's people who have died in Christ after 1844 and have been sealed with the seal of the Sabbath will be resurrected in a partial resurrection and together with the bride will welcome the returning Bridegroom as ...and here we will pause for a moment and go back to the experience of the second Elijah, namely John the Baptist. We need to approach this subject very meticulously as it is very important. Let's get back to the events connected with the second Elijah – namely John the Baptist. The first Elijah was taken alive to heaven, but the one who came in Elijah's power and spirit and was identified by **Jesus as the second Elijah died a martyr's death** (see: Matt. 11:14). So, the belief that, since the first Elijah did not experience death, the third Elijah will not experience it either, is an oversimplification, because in the meantime **the second Elijah died a martyr's death**.

Now let's read a passage from God's Word very carefully.

"He who has a bride is the bridegroom; and the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and listens to him, experiences the highest joy at the voice of the bridegroom. This joy of mine has reached its peak. He needs to increase and I need to decrease" (John 3:29-30, BT) This is what John the Baptist said.

So far we may have believed that the climax of our calling would be to gain the Elijah's experience, but God's Word tells us that "Elijah" is the Bridegroom's friend and consequently the Bride's, too. And he must decrease, and the Bridegroom must increase and so must the bride. And at the end times together with the Bride. So, Elijah is to get out of sight because it is the Bridegroom who enters the foreground – so to speak - and, in the time of the end the bridegroom will enter the scene along with the bride.

Let's transpose it to the reality of the third "Elijah" who as a friend of the Bridegroom and Bride recedes into the shadows, because the wedding is only between the Bridegroom and the Bride, and not with friends or with wedding guests.

Let us remember that John the Baptist was a prophet and these words are prophetic and go back to the time of the marriage vows and the wedding. The Bridegroom's friend's joy only testifies to his heavenly character. He rejoices at bridegroom's voice which is the voice of the midnight cry about the return of the Bridegroom who wants to marry his bride. John the Baptist as the second Elijah was the herald of Jesus' first coming. Likewise, the third Elijah is the herald of Jesus' second coming and he calls the wedding guests to the wedding feast.

So, the first witness in Revelation 11 symbolized by Moses are all those who will come out of other churches and will join the midnight cry. And the second witness in Revelation 11 symbolized by Elijah, is Adventism. So the wheat and the wise virgins. Let us remember that the wheat means all the saved who are resurrected, and the wise virgins mean the small part of the Advent Movement that remains faithful.

Now, let's read the passage from the Testimonies very carefully:

"John represented himself as the friend who acted as a messenger between the betrothed parties, preparing the way for the marriage. When the bridegroom had received his bride, the mission of the friend was fulfilled" (E. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 179). Two witnesses give their testimony and recede.

This is also a prophetic word, for in Jesus' days as a result of the work of the apostles - the wheat harvest had begun and Christ, as barley first fruits, can only marry a barley harvest, also first fruits, a pure virgin.

"For I am seeking you with God's zeal; for I betrothed you [ἀρμόζω] to one man to present a pure virgin to Christ" (2 Cor. 11:2, BW).

In Greek, the word "betrothal" - [ἀρμόζω - harmozo; har-mod'-zo] - means „engagement“; it means "to connect"; "to fit together".

His spouse must be united to him as he is united to his Father. For a married woman is taken from her husband. She is a part of him, a part of his heart, his mind, spirit and word. He is her Head, she is His body.

This new light does not diminish what we have believed so far, but only clarifies, and shows even more precisely to us the specific order in which God will complete the plan of redemption. The last generation of God's people must work in a very close cooperation with Heaven, so they must know and be aware of what is required of them in general and in individual aspect. And when we come to the practical dimension of these three witnesses you will see what tasks lie ahead of us and what we have been called to do. Even the angels themselves are amazed at it and do not see everything clearly in our experience as these are things the angels desire to look into. Let's read:

"Man must pass over the ground over which Christ has passed. As Christ overcame every temptation which Satan brought against Him, so man is to overcome. And those who strive earnestly to overcome are brought into a oneness with Christ that the angels in heaven can never know" (E. White, Letter 5, 1900.5)

The bridegroom's and the bride's cry at midnight is heard. It means that the bride also participates in the announcement of Jesus' return, so by all means **she is** in the group of Elijah because the bride **comes from** the group of Elijah i.e. from Adventism. But it will be revealed if she is going to be separated at the appointed prophetic time.

Both the wheat and the wise virgins are/constitute the wedding guests. But "Elijah" that is the wise virgins are a friend of the bride – so why there still is the difference between the wheat and the wise virgins? - because the wise virgins= the so called „Elijah group“ and the bride have the same origin, they come from Adventism. This is what distinguishes them from the wheat. Therefore, they will experience an earlier resurrection in its partial act, even before Jesus returns, but after the end of the time of grace for the world, that is, during the plagues. So, they will welcome the returning Bridegroom together. I hope you remember it - because we are not going to read all the following verses as there is no time for it, and you can study this all thoroughly at your homes and Andrzej read to us at the very beginning - what happens to the world when they see that they are resurrected in the first partial resurrection. This is going to be the partial resurrection. When the two witnesses are resurrected – in a moment we will explain why Moses symbolizes them

I don't know if you've noticed but I no longer refer to virgins as "ten virgins", but I focus only on five of them. Do you know why? Today there is no message for the foolish virgins, their time is up. They will not change their fate anymore. Today the message is only to the wise virgins and to the wheat namely to God's people who will come out of Babylon. And the bride is a message herself, because it is she who calls together with the Bridegroom - the wedding guests to the marriage of the Lamb,.

It should be added, however, that in the last generation of God's people, both the wheat (Moses) and the wise virgins (Elijah) will experience resurrection at the same time (see: Rev. 11:11). The ten virgins are awakened by the bride's preaching of the midnight cry message but only five of them join those who have already been walking in the revealed light. Then the message of the returning Bridegroom begins to be preached in the power of the latter rain with even greater intensity until it reaches the whole world. In this way the people of God symbolized by the wheat (Moses) who come out of Babylon also join those who have been walking in the revealed light. They are involved in opposing the beast and its image, too. In this way along with the wise virgins (Elijah) they also do not accept the beast's mark and bear the consequences of their fidelity to the Creator of heaven and earth. As we have read before when they give their testimony - Satan in his personification fights with them and overcomes them by depriving them of their lives. It will be then when he will be visible/disclosed. Both witnesses die and many of them are martyred and both will be resurrected in the partial resurrection.

"And I saw the souls of all those beheaded for bearing witness to Jesus and the word of God, and the souls of those who were killed because they refused to pay homage to the Beast or its image, or let a mark be pressed on their forehead or hands. They were all risen and reigned with Christ for a thousand years" (Rev. 20:4, BWP).

*"All who have died in the faith of the third angel's message come forth from the tomb glorified, to hear God's covenant of peace with those who have kept His law" (E. White, *The Great Controversy*, p. 637.1)*

Let us remember that the latter rain seals Christ's character in God's people. The wheat also attains/accomplishes the same degree of sanctification and therefore becomes first fruits **of the wheat harvest**. If you carefully follow all the messages that have appeared in our *Philadelphia* journal so far, then in No. 20 issue I wrote about the harvest order.

Now, let me just briefly remind you that first are the barley pieces to be assembled, and then the wheat first fruits. Both the first and the second harvest have their first fruits. When we come to the third witness, you will understand that the first sheaf of barley begins the barley harvest which symbolizes Advent people in the earlier/partial resurrection (the wise virgins, Elijah). Later the first fruits of the wheat allow the wheat harvest to begin, which is about the resurrection of all the saved from the entire six thousand year period in the time when Jesus will come down.

Everything is very precisely planned by God. And the history of Israel with their system of feasts - serve us as an illustration and consequently as image or shadow of spiritual reality which we can explore and discover in details and therefore understand both the beginning and the end of the great controversy.

Without laying down the first fruits no Jew had the right to begin the harvest. And throughout the agricultural cycle there were two harvests, barley and wheat (Elijah and Moses); (the wise virgins / Adventism -and all other saved people). Perhaps many will feel offended with what I am going to say now: but it is Adventism that is the spiritual Israel of the end times. And it is not a compliment because as the people from prophecy unfortunately they followed the same path as literal Israel. However, as in literal Israel also in spiritual Israel God has kept a faithful remnant. For *"if the Lord of hosts had not left us a tiny little remnant, we would have been like Sodom, we would have become like Gomorrah" (Isa. 1:9, UBG)*. We can observe it right now in the world...and in churches as well.

Any approach that makes us look at the geographical Israel of today as the chosen people/nation is, so to speak delicately, a great misunderstanding, or to put it a bit more bluntly - one of the greatest deceptions of the end-times. Remember that the dragon/beast deceives all the inhabited world (see: Rev. 12:9,12). Please tell me, is it possible to announce the Bridegroom's return without knowing when he is coming?

It is impossible to utter the midnight cry without knowing exactly the time of His coming. This was the case in the first edition of the midnight cry, what was confirmed by the date and so it is now in its second fulfillment.

So we are going to experience time that has never happened before. The time when each individual worshiper of true God will reveal in his/her life *"the shape identical to the image of His Son ..."* (Rom. 8:29, PI) and will be sealed by the latter rain.

But this is not the end of God's work. So far we have thought that there is nothing above Christ and that accomplishing Christ's likeness in us is the highest standard of sanctification. And so it is of course!

But it is Christ in us - the hope of glory who will prepare the third witness to give testimony that has never been given before; testimony which is above all that could be revealed, known, experienced and demonstrated before the whole world and the universe. Before characterizing the third witness, let us use God's Word to determine the time when he will testify. We already know from the above study that it is the bride who is the third witness and she also has her counterpart in the Old Testament, just like the wheat = Moses and the wise virgins=Elijah, so the bride also has to have her counterpart in the Old Testament, about which we will be talking later. And now... at what time do the two witnesses in Rev. 11 finish their mission? When do they give their testimony? What time is it? It is written that once they give their testimony, the beast that comes out of the abyss will fight with them, overcome them, and kill them. The Beast of the Abyss is the personification of Lucifer who will be then acting visibly as a person/creature as the Angel of Light. The Angel of Light will be the personification of demon. He will come out of his "hollow" and will declare himself the *savior of the world*. He will do his best to disguise himself as Jesus Christ. He will be such a luminous figure and his disguise will be so good that no one will be able to resist him except for two witnesses. Finally, the rest of

people will have chosen their leader in satan! (see: Dan. 11:44) So the mission of the two witnesses will come to an end. God's people will be totally ruined/devastated. We can read here about it: (see: Dan. 11:44).

Their lofty calling begins with their sealing with the latter rain. God's response to Sunday laws which will be introduced all over the world - is the sealing of **His people**. Then the people of God with great power and courage will announce the consequences that the world will have to bear if it does not begin to repent and return faithfully to the Creator, the only true God. The Sabbath i.e. the seventh day of the week on which He Himself rested and blessed the day and made it holy is a memorial of God's creative works, (see: Gen. 2:2-3). Any violation of this day as a holy day **is a rebellion against Creator**. But to replace it with another day - under the pressure of state laws - is a blasphemy and rejection of God = so the abomination of desolation.

Both (see: Dan. 12:7 and Rev. 11:2; 13:5) tell us about the same time in which the witnesses will be testifying of the truth. The beginning of this testifying in the full power of God's Spirit is in autumn of 2024.

To be exact the Feast of Tabernacles 2024 is the time when God's people will receive the latter rain in its fullness. This testifying of the witnesses to all nations will end after 3.5 years of papal supremacy. And after the 3,5 year the time of grace for the world will end. And the witnesses will be silenced. But not all of them because the third witness who will know very precisely when to flee to secluded places will manage to save themselves. Their testimony which they are to give is no longer proclaiming and preaching **but drinking from the cup of bitterness which will be filled up to the brim**. The third witness is the bride and will have to follow the Bridegroom's/Lamb's path and drink from the cup from which He drank. Thus the end of the time of grace and the beginning of the last seven plagues marks the beginning of the time for the third witness come to the scene.

Let's read God's Word:

"And one of the seven angels who hold the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues, time is given here, came and said to me: 'Come, I will show you the Bride, the Lamb's Wife'" (Rev. 21:9, BT)

The time of grace for the world is over; An angel comes who will be pouring the plagues and says: *'Come, I will show you now..'* The time of grace for the world is over- two witnesses have given their testimonies. The last generation of earthlings have chosen their final fate. The temple has been cleansed as well as God's people. Jesus Christ can leave the Temple now. At the same time Heaven announces that *"the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has prepared herself ... blessed are those invited to the marriage feast of the Lamb" (Rev. 19:7,9, BW)*. They have already given their testimonies and are blessed because they will resurrect soon, in partial resurrection. So, the wedding can begin because the bride has prepared herself and she has been sealed i.e. married. But before the wedding begins the Bride must pass the final test in which she must testify in favor of her husband, she must prove her love. Now her husband can leave her alone without Him being her mediator. It is because He gave her the original life, the life originating from before the fall of man. Because as we read:

„In Christ is life, original..." (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 530).

And this "life for me is Christ ..." (Phil. 1:21, NBG).

My Dear Brothers and Sisters, this Life in its fullness is the life of the Lamb's wife, *"because she was taken out of her husband"* for His glory. When one of the seven angels who are preparing to pour out the last seven plagues will start his mission, simultaneously he will begin the revelation, the unveiling, and the presentation of this original life in the Bride. This is the time when the bride must drink from her husband's cup of bitterness in order to unite with him in everything and to follow his path till the end.

Let's read an excerpt from the Testimonies:

"Those who are living upon the earth when the intercession of Christ shall cease in the sanctuary above are to stand in the sight of a holy God without a mediator... Then she will look "forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners" (SS. 6:10). (E. White, The Great Controversy, p. 425.1-2).

So there we saw an angel who is about to pour out plagues ; *'Come, I will show you...'* which informs us that Jesus has come out from the Temple. And then His Bride will shine and this is going to be the testimony for the end times.

In next scenes of the angel's presentation of the bride's beauty, John sees the description of the Lamb's wife, presented in a symbolic image. For example, the precious stones presented there - are a reflection of God's perfect wisdom and justice; God's light; They are a symbol of the incomparable beauty of God's creation.

We also read in the Word of God:

"your Creator is Your spouse/husband, Yahweh of armies - this is His Name, and your Savior - the Holy One of Israel, the God of all the earth - is His name" (Isa. 54:5, BP).

It is probably hard for you to believe that you can be married with your Creator. There is no deeper and more intimate relationship than marriage. With the growing awareness of this beautiful destiny, she or one can feel dizzy. These are inconceivable things that human language cannot express. That is why the bride was shown to John in profound symbolism in which every detail expresses the inconceivable beauty that bore fruit through the service of the patriarchs, prophets and apostles, and became not only the symbol of the number twelve but multiplied by twelve thousand, which gives us 144,000 first-born servants of the Most High God, wedded to His Son.

Let's read God's word:

"Behold, I will set your stones on malachite and your foundations on sapphires. I will make the battlements of your walls of rubies, your gates of rock crystal, and of precious stones the entire circumference of your walls. All your sons will be disciples of the Lord, great will be the happiness of your children. You will be judged firmly in righteousness ... " (Isa. 54:11-14, BT).

In these words the prophet of God prophesies about the bride, and John sees her in a similar description. And this is the time of her bitterness which is a trial of marital fidelity. A test that no one has passed before and will not pass after. Let's read another prophecy about this trial:

"Indeed, like a forsaken woman, depressed in spirit [harassed, BP; distressed, BB; depressed, UBG; broken, BWP] called you thy Lord. And as if to the abandoned wife of his youth, your God says: For a short while I forsaken you, but I will take you with great love. In anger, I hid my face from you for a short time, but in everlasting love I had compassion on you, saith the Lord your Redeemer " (Isa. 54:6-8, BT).

Don't these words remind you of what Christ must have experienced? His wife will suffer a similar spiritual anguish. She will suffer abandonment by her husband because he will no longer be in the Temple. Besides His Spirit will be taken from the earth. Darkness and hopelessness will be everywhere, no support from anyone. On one hand the awareness of her miserable situation, and on the other hand the inability to remember whether everything has been confessed or if there is something left that has placed only one flaw on her character.

Lack of certainty and lack of possibility to see beyond the engulfing darkness. Overwhelming loneliness. Surrounded by people panting with the desire of murder. Do you realize what the death decree is? It means that any man will be allowed to kill you.

Let us now analyze thoroughly the description of the bride as the third witness. The third witness does not appear only at the very end of the time of grace, but her/his testimony has been given for the whole duration of the time of grace. This testimony has also been a revelation, an unveiling of the matters of the kingdom of God. It shows the order of Heaven. Basically it is a reflection of the heavenly family. The Bride's/ the third witness's testimony basically shows the functioning of God's kingdom in miniature. The glory of this kingdom will be shown in him/her so deeply and fully that he/she will naturally be able to be transferred to eternity without seeing death. The law of death will have no force over him/her.

But let's go to the Word of God. I have quoted these words many times, but I will quote them again because they are crucial in understanding of God's work in revealing to us the truths that so far have been hidden or veiled. So let us read again:

"Remember the first things that happened in a century/ of old; for I am a God, and you have no more God, and you have no like me; Which I tell from the beginning the last things [final, BB; declaring the end from the beginning KJV; in the beginning I announce the end, NBG], and a long time ago what has not yet happened [I keep saying that what I intend will come and that I will do what I think is right, BWP] " (Isa. 46:9-10 BG).

"I announce the last things from the beginning and what has not happened for a long time. I say: My intention will come true and I will do all my will "(UBG).

Glory to you, Father! We can rest completely in the revealed will of the Most High. And when did God reveal it to us? At the very beginning of His works. From the very beginning - the duration of this rebellion and sin as well as the duration of the restoration of order and original harmony were revealed to us. In the first lecture, we already mentioned six thousand years, which is a closed period of duration of sinfulness / sin nature on the earth.

The first creative week has already revealed this end to us. The whole cycle of the number seven not only determines the beginning and end, but also has served God to reveal all the truths that are related with God and His kingdom. The number of man is six because he was created on the sixth day. The number seven belongs to God, because God begins and ends everything. And the whole plan for restoring harmony and peace in God's kingdom has been closed in number seven. After the number seven, there is nothing left. In the spiritual reality after the seventh millennium, a return to a time beyond the time in which our Creator functions begins. So for a short while we were locked in space-time for which six thousand years were designated as the time of the existence of sinful man. And the whole "matter" ends in the seventh millennium which is the period that belongs to God, in which God's justice will be finally revealed through the judgment of ungodly mankind.

Let us summarize: the sixth millennium ends the era of sinful man. The seventh millennium is the rest, the culmination of the work of redemption. And after the seventh millennium, we will go back to the time beyond time and we will begin again with what we lost. So, after this "short" pause for the number "six," there is a further realization of God's plans for the creation of man, up to the thousandth generation (see: Deut. 5:10). I have not counted very careful but today there have lived about 300 generations. Something incomprehensible and amazing will begin there and God through His Spirit wants to reveal to us the truth about it.

This is only an introduction to/for an attempt to locate fully the third witness both in time and in the event as well as in her/his (Bride's/third witness's) timeless testimony.

So let's go to the beginning ...

At the beginning of God's works, appears a being that has not been found in the entire universe, yet. This being is created in the image of Elohim – not in the image of the Son, but the Elohim. This being has the image / picture of the Father and the Son because Adam was created in their likeness. The Son of God was in the Father, in His bosom where God the Father had begotten Him in eternity (see: Mic. 5:1; John 1:18) in time that basically does not exist, because eternity has no beginning nor it ends and does not pass, so it is beyond time, which as a concept is related only to our sinful earth. So, we do not have to inquire when it was. It had the beginning.

Likewise, Adam's wife physically appeared only after the creation was completed, when the garden of Eden was planted, where the fruit trees already grew, as well as the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (see: Gen. 2:8-9). Then Adam gave names to all the animals, and only then came into existence Adam's wife "taken from husband". She was taken literally from him. She was a part of him, his heart, his mind. She is married woman and her name is ... Adam.

"Male and female he made them; blessed them and called them Adam on the day they were created" (Gen. 5:2, UBG).

This married woman did not have her own name before falling into sin. Her identity was her husband – Adam was her identity, so she bore/carried his name. Adam – one name for both -symbolizing the very unity that took place between the Father and the Son who also inherited the name Yahweh from the Father. It is a beautiful picture showing the whole universe, the position of the Son of God, who is the only-begotten Son and therefore the only Son of this kind born of God the Father.

Likewise Adam's wife was the only one of this kind because she was derived from her husband, as she was taken from him. God's plan and its illustration had been prepared to restore harmony and peace to the Kingdom of God - simultaneously dealing with the Lucifer's rebellion although not in haste but in God's justice. So from the very beginning this plan had been based on an idea of creating *a being* as a marriage. Beings that had never existed before in the universe in order to make them witnesses by means of which evil will be condemned to death in eternal annihilation. Unfortunately, Lucifer seeing what was happening that the creation of a human being is to lead to his judgment and condemnation to death, attacked the newly-created being

ruthlessly, thus wanting to remove the argument against himself from God's hands. He doesn't want any witnesses against him, he doesn't want anyone to be able to testify against him and contribute to his undoing and loss. Remember that the testimony of two witnesses brings about the verdict over the wicked humanity and the testimony of the third witness brings about death for satan and all powers of darkness. It is very important. The third witness does not preach anything to mankind. And this is what is revealed to us from the very beginning. Therefore satan so mightily strikes the third witness because it is the third witness is to contribute to his loss. So his desire was to usurp our planet as his kingdom. He failed in completing His rebellion against God's order successfully in Heaven, so he focused on the earth and took from Adam his dominion over the earth. The earth began to be populated. At the beginning there are two families the line of Set and the line of Cain. The Lord God constantly warned and appealed to the line of Seth to stay away from the line of Cain. My Dear, it is hard to express but please try to understand that there is a battle going on, the great controversy is going on about this one witness. From the very beginning till the end – marriage has been attacked – marriage as the third witness. Unfortunately ... we read in the Testimonies that it is true:

"For some time the two classes remained separate. The race of Cain, spreading from the place of their first settlement, dispersed over the plains and valleys where the children of Seth had dwelt; and the latter, in order to escape from their contaminating influence, withdrew to the mountains, and there made their home. So long as this separation continued, they maintained the worship of God in its purity. But in the lapse of time they ventured, little by little, to mingle with the inhabitants of the valleys. This association was productive of the worst results. "The sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair." The children of Seth, attracted by the beauty of the daughters of Cain's descendants, displeased the Lord by intermarrying with them. Many of the worshipers of God were beguiled into sin by the allurements that were now constantly before them, and they lost their peculiar, holy character." Look, they constantly had a temptation/allurements before their eyes – how important it is not to look at it! ... "and they took them wives of all which they chose." The children of Seth went "in the way of Cain" (E. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 88.3).

Evil started to prevail, so God raised up new witnesses, thanks to whom he wants to keep the dividing line and to maintain the family from whom the Messiah will come into the world. This is the first phase of the plan thanks to which the earth is finally recaptured from the hands of the usurper. And exactly as the seventh child after Adam, Enoch is born. He is God's answer to the evil that has spread to the earth during the first six generations. In this marathon relay towards victory, Enoch is a special "runner" who ruined the plans of God's adversary to such an extent that he not only managed to rescue Lucifer's captives from the Cain's family, but in addition it turned **out that death had no access to him**. Why? Let's read:

*"Enoch lived a life of **such close communion with God that he was not permitted to fall under the power of death**. The godly character of this prophet represents **the state of holiness** which must be attained by those who shall be "redeemed from the earth" (Rev. 14:3) at the time of Christ's second advent." (E. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 88.3).*

Simply unbelievable ... "**state of holiness**" that cannot "**fall under the law of death**". That's amazing! When the Father and the Son were creating heaven and earth, in all this inconceivable eternity a certain period of time was set aside and marked with a number seven. In this symbolism in which God sets this closed period of eternity, He allocates it to deal with the rebellion of Lucifer which he had evoked in the Kingdom of God the Father. So the end is announced not only in the seven-day week cycle according to the counting method from the words in 1 Pet. 3: 8 where a thousand years is like one day and one day is like a thousand years, but also on the example of Enoch God shows us directly that His witness is the seventh descendant of Adam, who will make the final crackdown on sin. But why? For he will reach a "state of holiness" which cannot "be subject to the law of death". At the beginning God reveals the end. Without a mediator in the Heavenly Temple, without the presence of God's Spirit on earth, in circumstances of life that no man on earth has ever experienced – God's witness will stand steadfastly on God's side in the personification of the original image of Elohim in which he was created at the very beginning of God's works.

This is the testimony of the third witness.

"Elohim said: let us make Adam in our image, like us ... So Elohim created Adam in the image of Elohim He created him: male and female he made" (Gen. 1:27, Pl).

Likewise the same order is reflected in Adam's family. And in this order:

"Husband ... is an image and a reflection of the glory of God; but the woman is a reflection [image, PI] of her husband's glory" (1 Cor. 11:7, BW).

So God created it so that within marriage there is the same likeness which is in the image of Elohim, where the Son of God is

"a reflection of God's own glory and the most perfect expression [image, picture, NBG] of what God himself is" (Hebrews 1: 3, BWP). Can you see this intended by God reflection of the image of Elohim in marriage?

And now,

"did not He create this unity, a living being [with a part of His Spirit, NBG]? And isn't the purpose of this unity God's seed?" (Mal. 2:15, BWP).

"Didn't he make you one by giving out of his spirit? And what does this One want / seek / require / ask for? The Seed of Elohim" (PI).

It is so because the marriage was created in the image of Elohim! And the fruit of the marriage, the godly seed will do what?will bruise satan's head! (Gen 3:15, KJV)

I talked quite a lot about this great goal for marriage of the last generation of God's people in the lecture entitled "And it was very good ...". We will not devote now any time repeating it now. I would rather go a little further in relating this message to Enoch who is the symbol of the third witness and who was revealed to us in the OLD TESTAMENT. So the three witnesses: Moses, Elijah, and now Enoch.

"And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and became the father of Methuselah" (Gen. 5:21, BG).

We see that he was certainly different from the first and the second Elijah in that he had a family. He was the seventh descendant originating from Adam, and he had a son who was the longest-living man on the earth. It also has its own symbolism and shows us the power of the Elohim seed, even despite the sin nature. We can be sure that such a son was born to Enoch, because he himself lived in a special relationship with his Creator. And thanks to Enoch's disposition God was able to show the unity, the part of His own spirit and see His own seed!

Let's read a fragment from the Testimonies:

*"But after the birth of his first son he reached a higher experience; he was drawn into closer relationship with God. As he saw the child's love for its father, its simple trust in his protection; as he felt the deep, yearning tenderness of his own heart for that first-born son, he learned a precious lesson of the wonderful love of God to man in the gift of His Son, and the confidence which the children of God may repose in their heavenly Father. The infinite, unfathomable love of God through Christ became the subject of his meditations **day and night..**" (E. White, Testimonies for the Church, V. 8, p. 329.3).*

Are we also day and night reflecting and thinking on God's wonderful love revealed to us in the life, death and resurrection of God's Son? Day and night!

*"Enoch was a prophet... He was a light amid the moral darkness, a pattern man, a man who walked with God, being obedient to God's... And now God would demonstrate to the universe the falsity of Satan's charge that man cannot keep God's law. He would demonstrate that though man had sinned, he could so relate himself to God that he would have **the mind and spirit of God** and would be a representative symbol of Christ. This holy man was selected of God to denounce the wickedness of the world, and to evidence to the world that it is possible for man to keep all the law of God" (E. White, Manuscript Releases, V. 6, p. 146)."*

Well, Enoch was a prophet. He was a light. He possessed the mind and Spirit of God and became the representative symbol of Christ. He was a witness of God, and by being His witness he condemned the wickedness of the antediluvian world. Are we the same as Enoch? Let's continue reading:

"For three hundred years Enoch had been seeking purity of heart, that he might be in harmony with heaven. For three centuries he had walked with God. Day by day he had longed for a closer union; nearer and nearer had grown the communion, until God took him to Himself. He had stood at the threshold of the eternal world, only a step between him and the land of the blest; and now the portals opened, the walk with God, so long pursued on earth, continued, and he passed through the gates of the holy city, the first from among men to enter there" (E. White, Testimonies for the Church, V. 8, p. 331.1)

As the first – so the last ones will be alike. He was the first among humans. And I hope that you remember that God reveals the end- at the beginning? Let's read further:

“Enoch’s life and character, which were so holy that he was translated to heaven without seeing death, represent what the lives and characters of all must be, if, like Enoch, they are to be translated when Christ shall come. His life was what the life of every individual may be if he closely connects with God. We should remember that Enoch was surrounded with influences so depraved that God brought a flood of waters on the world to destroy its inhabitants for their corruption” (E. White, Our High Calling, p. 278).

“Enoch did not become polluted with the iniquities existing in his day” (E. White, Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, 113.2).

“His association with Christ day by day transformed him into the image of Him with whom he was so intimately connected. Day by day he was growing away from his own way into Christ’s way, the heavenly, the divine, in his thoughts and feelings. He was constantly inquiring, Is this the way of the Lord? His was a constant growth, and he had fellowship with the Father and the Son. This is genuine sanctification” (The Review and Herald, April 28, 1891;6BC 1097.7)

“Enoch’s case is before us. Hundreds of years he walked with God. He lived in a corrupt age, when moral pollution was teeming all around him; yet he trained his mind to devotion, to love purity. His conversation was upon heavenly things. He educated his mind to run in this channel, and he bore the impress of the divine. His countenance was lighted up with the light which shineth in the face of Jesus” (E. White, The Faith I Live By, p. 350.2)

Such a step of faith taken on our part is necessary if we want to participate in the divine character. His glorious and sanctifying influence, namely the power of God's Life is to be reflected in our hearts.

Let’s continue reading:

“Enoch was the first prophet among mankind. He foretold by prophecy the second coming of Christ to our world, and his work at that time. His life was a specimen of Christian consistency. Holy lips alone should speak forth the words of God in denunciation and judgments. His prophecy is not found in the writings of the Old Testament. We may never find any books which relate to the works of Enoch, but Jude, a prophet of God, mentions the work of Enoch” (E. White, Manuscript 43, 1900; 1BC 1088.2).

So, Enoch was the first and the symbol of the last among men who will be witnesses to God's works and His power. Here is the bride who also announces Christ's second coming. Although there is only one remark of Enoch and his prophecy in the New Testament, still it is very significant.

Now let's read a similar account of Enoch in the Testimony passage we have already read in the book of Revelation 21:9 regarding the bride. I hope you remember the description „Come, I will show you the bride” and all the precious stones ...

“Then I was taken to a world which had seven moons. There I saw good old Enoch, who had been translated. On his right arm he bore a glorious palm, and on each leaf was written “Victory.” Around his head was a dazzling white wreath, and leaves on the wreath, and in the middle of each leaf was written “Purity,” and around the wreath were stones of various colors, that shone brighter than the stars, and cast a reflection upon the letters and magnified them. On the back part of his head was a bow that confined the wreath, and upon the bow was written “Holiness.” Above the wreath was a lovely crown that shone brighter than the sun. I asked him if this was the place he was taken to from the earth. He said, “It is not; the city is my home, and I have come to visit this place...” (E. White, Early Writings, p. 39.3)

City as a symbol of the Bride. Victory, Purity, Holiness.

Let's sum up:

In the symbol of Enoch we begin to see the firstborn sons of God, the 144,000 servants of God, for whom Enoch is the prototype; the first, but also revealing the end. At the beginning of God's work, we have a perfect Adam who, however, falls, and very quickly the world turns into darkness. Six generations pass and the seventh descendant of Adam appears, in which God presents a picture of what holiness will be achieved by the last generation of his people, which will not be subject to the law of death.

Then the wicked ones died in the flood and now they will die in fire. Despite being burdened with a legacy of six thousand years of sin, the last witness will reveal the original beauty of Eden as the crown of God's creation. Enoch was the sixth generation and the first fruits will be the last generation in the six thousand year history of the earth. And just as the seventh descendant who was not subject to the law of death closes the first six generations, so the last witness who will also not be subject to the law of death will close the six

thousand year history of the earth. The third witness opens the seventh millennium of rest, both for all of God's saved people, and the rest for the earth.

Let's read God's word:

"By faith, Enoch was taken from this world so that he would not experience death [by faith Enoch is transferred/translated, BG]. Nobody looked at him anymore because God took him to Himself. But even before that, as the Scriptures say, God found pleasure in him "(Heb. 11: 5, BWP).

And a fragment from Testimonies:

"To such communion God is calling us. As was Enoch's must be their holiness of character who shall be redeemed from among men at the Lord's second coming" (E. White, Testimonies for the Church, V. 8, p. 331.3)

Will we listen and obey this call? Will God's people finally break down and melt their hearts in deep repentance? Will they start crying out to God for the experience of Moses, Elijah, and Enoch; For the fullness of Christ and the fullness of Christ in us, hope and glory?

"And Enoch walked with God: and he [was] not; for God took him [לָקַח - lāqah]" (Gen. 5:24, BG).

The Hebrew word "took" [לָקַח - lāqah] also means "to marry," "to take a wife," "to wed."

The same word appears in the following text:

"And the Lord God brought a deep sleep upon Adam, and he fell asleep. And he took [לָקַח - lāqah] one of his ribs, and closed the body instead; And the rib that God took [לָקַח - lāqah] from [Adam, Pl] made it a woman and brought her to the man. And Adam said, It is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: I shall call her Woman, for she was taken [לָקַח - luqōhâ] out of man " (Gen. 2:21-23, KJV).

The Lord God "took" Enoch as the model for the bride. Enoch's house, as we have already read in EG White's description is the "city", the symbol of the bride. He is a representative of those who will attain the same state of holiness as he did.

"The knowledge of God that works transformation of character is our great need. If we fulfill His purpose, there must be in our lives a revelation of God that shall correspond to the teaching of His word" (E. White, Testimonies for the Church, V. 8, 329.1).

Revelation of God in harmony with His Word. There is no other revelation. The change of character must also be done by the power of God's Word, in harmony with that Word. The Word is the pattern!

Please, notice that for Enoch one of the factors that shaped him was his family. The birth of his firstborn son resulted in his deeper experience in relationship with God.

The original image that Adam was created into - is Elohim. God's work must end with the full, complete revelation of this very image. And the reconstruction of this image can only take place in marriage and through marriage. This is our important and honorable goal, the goal for the last generation of God's people, for we will be the only marriages among all saved people, therefore this new song that will be sung by 144,000 no one will be able to learn (see: Rev. 14:3) . The rest that are dead will rise as angels (see: Mark 12:25). This is one third of God's people because as we read in Zechariah

"... but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It [is] my people: and they shall say, The LORD [is] my God" (Zech. 13: 8-9, KJV).

The saved ones will very accurately fill the gap that arose in the Kingdom of God after the Lucifer's rebellion that deceived a third part of God's angels (see: Rev. 12:4).

Let's read a few confirming passages from the Testimonies:

"The very thing that gained for Satan the sympathy of one-third of the angels in heaven, was this spirit of self-justification. The angels were deceived by Satan's misrepresentations and by his artful power of accusing those who would not unite with him" (E. White, Manuscript Releases, vol. 18, 324.3).

"One-third of the angels lost their innocence, their high estate, and their happy home" (E. White, Testimony for the Church - No. 32, 47.1)

*"His false representations won to his side one-third of all the heavenly angels; and so strong was their delusion **that they would not be corrected**; they clung to Lucifer, and were expelled from Heaven with him" (E. White, The Signs of the Times, October 25, 1883, par. 25)*

Do you notice what the consequences are when we do not want to be corrected, instructed, rebuked, warned, advised?

The kingdom of God must be complete again, and the first fruits of the new earth (the firstborn) must begin and continue God's intentions which were interrupted by this short (in comparison to eternity) period of rebellion. But if we follow the same spirit that deceived the third part of the angels, we will be also deceived by the same methods and we will turn away from those who walk in the revealed light. And you will be tested and you will be attacked because your faith must be tested.

The bride of the Lamb, the first fruits of the new earth, a perfect barley sheaf offered to God and to the Lamb, thanks to which the harvest will be done. (see: Eph. 5:32-33). Only married couples can be the Lamb's bride. The third witness i.e. the bride must perfectly reflect, show, reveal the beauty of God's crowning creation. And this is how the great mystery of marriage will be revealed or unveiled.

Enoch was married, wasn't he? And where can we read anything about his wife? Nowhere! The 144,000, these are only men, God's servants. And where can you read about their wives? Nowhere! The wives are as during creation - in Adam. The 144,000 are in number, so this is the actual number of those who will stand with Jesus on Mount Zion, John heard this number and saw it (see: Rev. 7:4; 14:1).

Men were counted but women and children were not counted (see: Num. 26:1-4, BWP). Therefore, in the group of 144,000 - women and children are not counted. I will quote two texts:

"And those who ate were four thousand men, not counting women and children" (Matt. 15:38, BT).

"And those who ate the bread were five thousand men" (Mark 6:44, BT)

If or when we realize that the marriages which will gain the original unity of God's creation and will be able and allowed to conceive children of God's Spirit- determine the end of God's work - then we will be able to understand what God expects from us! We will recognize the scope of our task and the purpose of our appointment with our spouses.

"O Yahweh, our Lord, how glorious is Your Name in all the earth! Your glory is spoken in the heavens. From the mouths of children and infants you made a fortress against your enemies, to shut the mouth of both the opponent and the rebel" (Ps. 8:2-3, BP).

And yet in another translation:

"From the lips of children and infants, you receive glory in defiance of your enemies. You make the vengeful enemy fall silent" (Ps. 8:3, EŚP).

The final testimony of both marriage couples and the whole families will be the same testimony that Enoch gave. Because of his testimony at least one family survived the destruction of the earth. One family for the entire world then!

And today God needs such families and they will survive. How many of them? Exactly 144,000. For this time the firstborn sons, the 144,000 men of God will not only attain *"the shape identical to the image of His Son ..."* (Rom. 8:29), but also having recreated the image/shape of Elohim in their marriages identical to the image of Elohim in which they were originally created -they will bring their wives to Mount Zion.

No worshiper of God can be counted among the 144,000 first fruits unless he brings his wife to Mount Zion with him. He received her as a gift from God, as a complement to himself. In order to give his Creator glory, honor and gratitude for the miraculous gift he received in his spouse, he must perform the same kind of service that Christ did in his love for mankind. Only then will they become the one that they were before they fell into sin. Only then will they become an image of the Bridegroom's love for the bride. Only then will they become witnesses of the end time God. I cannot say now for certain whether these men of God will also bring their children to Mount Zion, for this work is even more difficult than achieving unity of the marriage itself. But it is not impossible, so you can rather be sure that such a testimony is also necessary because, as we have read God is also waiting for the testimony given by the children, *to make "a stronghold against my enemies, to shut the mouth of the opponent and the rebel"* (Ps. 8:2-3, BP) *to silence "the vengeful enemy"* (Ps. 8:3, EŚP), once and for all.

And if we look closely at the Hebrew word *"i-sad"* which has been translated above as "fortress" and "glory", we will see many more meanings of this word like: "laying the foundation", "setting", "eternal establishment", "ordination", "instruction", "appointment", "a tested stone in Zion." And what is „a tested stone“? This is the stone which will endure all kind of pressures and burdens.

It appears in all these meanings in the Word of God. So it is extremely important because it means that through such testimony, God lays the foundation of His work, sets it down and establishes it forever. In this

way, He ordains, instructs His enemies, appoints His chosen ones so that they may become a tried stone in Zion where the 144,000 first fruits go. And this is where we are to be as a already tested stone together with our Saviour! This is where the 144 000 first fruits are going!

One family! Can you imagine what God is able to do through one family which is anchored in His power? A family which reflects the order of Heaven and will become His instrument in carrying out His works?

"By faith Noah built, miraculously warned of what could not yet be seen, full of fear, an ark to save his family; through the ark he sentenced [he judged, BB, condemned, BT] the world, and inherited justification which is by faith" (Heb. 11:7, BW).

Do you see what I see? Through the saved family, Noah sentenced the world! Through this one family that testified for the true God, for the truth, for the sake of justice and love - the Judge of the entire universe made the judgment of the world of that time. He needed a witness to be able to do this.

"Noah, worshiping God when he received the warning, built an ark for the rescue of his home [to save his home, UBG]" because he believed in what was not yet seen, what was invisible. And do you remember what I said in the message "The Blessed Hope"? That by faith we should see what is not yet visible, that we look at what is invisible, because everything else that everyone can see, will pass away. What will be left? Only the invisible, for this what is invisible: "lasts forever" (2 Cor. 4:18, EŚP).

This is true faith. God speaks and I listen. God shows what is invisible and I look and see. And only then can I recognize the right path and follow it in the direction set by Heaven.

Let us get back to the end of the first lecture. Let us reread the same passage from the Testimonies:

"One well-ordered, well-disciplined family tells more in behalf of Christianity than all the sermons that can be preached (...) The greatest evidence of the power of Christianity that can be presented to the world is a well-ordered, well-disciplined family. This will recommend the truth as nothing else can, for it is a living witness of its practical power upon the heart (...) A well-ordered, a well-disciplined family in the sight of God is more precious than fine gold, even than the golden wedge of Ophir. God would have our families symbols of the family in heaven" (E. White, The Adventist Home, pp. 32.1-4; 17.2).

Why isn't it written that it would be enough for such a family to just love one another? And instead, we are informed that it should be:

- well-governed
- well-organized
- well-disciplined
- well-ordered

Do you want your families to be the greatest proof of the power of Christianity? Do you want to be seen as the most precious in God's eyes? Do you want your families to be a symbol of a family in Heaven? If so, then you must abandon all your previous notions about love and let be convinced that if you learn to manage your family well, organize it well, discipline and rule it well, then your hearts will have love about which today's religious world has no idea. Today's church, tender shallowness makes the stomach feel sick. In churches people talk about love in such a sentimental way that hardly anyone knows what love really is. Ironically, those in whose hearts real God's love is deeply rooted are accused of not having that love! People are so dull today that if they meet and see someone with common sense and God's wisdom, they will rise up against him, considering him insane, because he is not like them in their own stupor.

Meekness and cowardice envelop God's nominal people today. And this falsely understood love is a cover for their destruction.

Men do not choose Christ as their Head, so womenbecome their heads. As a result their children do not obey any authority, have no respect to heads above them, do not accept any limits and do not submit to anything and anybody. In this way, the prophecy in which God tells us that

"As for my people, children [are] their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause [thee] to err, and destroy the way of thy paths]" (Isa. 3:12, KJV).

Headlessness, destruction, slowness, weakness, disorganization, lack of order, turning everything upside down. But they say that's this is the true love. So God has to demonstrate and reveal His true love. He made His first demonstration at Golgotha. How did He do this? With the whip! He whipped sin out, spat at it, pounded it with his fists, and finally put it to death on the cross, for *"he/the Lord hath put [him] to grief" (Isa.*

53:10, BP). "But it pleased the Lord to bruise him and crush him [break him, NBG; bother with infirmity, BG; crush him with suffering [EŚP]" (Isa. 53:10, UBG). What a love!

This is the way God the Father treated sin, because it was He who "made his own Son - be sin for us" (2 Cor. 5:21, BW).

Let us not delude ourselves. If we do not participate in the same treatment of sin, we will not become witnesses of the Holy God. We live in delusion believing that good will, commitment and religious zeal are enough.

Please, notice that in our own personal struggle the same factors in the treatment of sin - must be involved. The same how Christ was treated who was made sin. So overcoming sin must involve: beating with fists, slapping, whipping and death.

So, "I do not wave my fists randomly, but I hold my hands and take possession of my body" (1 Cor. 9:26, EŚP).

"I don't fight with my fists like the one that beats the air" (NBG).

Blows must be accurate and effective. Those who beat Christ with their fists, did it in such a way that He would feel it. Let's read about it:

"Then they spat on his face and slapped him, and others beat him with their fists" (Matt. 26:67, BW). And why? Because He became sin for us.

What would you do if I spit in your face? Slapped and punched you? As I have said it many times, we are so delicate and sensitive to the point that a mere admonition or reproof already leads us to showing anger, feeling offended. Therefore, the faithful and true witness says, "You don't know." What is that you do not know? That you are naked, blind, wretched, and pitiful.

"To him who slaps you on the cheek, turn the other, too" (Luke 6:29, BW).

Is this kind of attitude the principle of your life? Do you fight for your own rights? Or do you let to violate your rights in favor of others?

"... one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand,..." (John 18:22, BW).

Did Jesus strike him back?

"Then Pilate took Jesus and scourged him" (John 19:1, BW).

Did Jesus refuse, shout or curse?

And what is said about us?

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten" (Rev. 3:19, KJV).

"Whom the Lord loves he punishes, and he whips [scourges, BP] every son he accepts" (Heb. 12:6, BW).

Are you then a beloved son of God or an **out of wedlock** child?

And how it ends?

"And it was the third hour when they crucified him" (Mark 15:25, BW).

This is the end/the finishing post for our old life. Are you on the way to it or have you chosen a different path/direction for your run? What have you chosen: the end of sin and sinful nature, or life in hypocrisy and lies?

Let's read the Bible about our crucifixion:

"Know this, that for the destruction of sinful flesh, our former man was crucified with Him so that we would no longer be in bondage to sin. For whoever has died has become free from sin" (Rom. 6:6-7, BT), "we must never serve sin again" (EŚP).

Dear Brother and Sister, whose witness do you want to be if you hit the void while hitting with your fists? Whose witness do you want to be if you cannot accept admonitions, reproofs, advice with calmness, humility and gratitude? How do you endure whipping and discipline? Are you even willing to submit to it? And finally, have you been crucified with Christ? If so, then free from sin -have you become a minister of righteousness?

Are you then crucified with Christ? Is He already living in you, or is it just a religious life that you diligently live out in action to have something to boast about?

Dear friends, we have only one year left, and there is still a shadow of hope for our receiving the latter rain seal when the water reaches our ankles. (see: Rev. 11:1). In the years to come, we will continue to be measured as long as we remain in the Temple. Whoever perseveres till the end, passing from year to year positive verification of the judgment, will be sealed with the fullness of the latter rain, the rushing stream of

God's Spirit. Whoever marginalizes the importance of this message, belittles the message, and continues to live a carefree life being drunk with the "wine of insane fornication", will be cut off from God's people.

Finally, I would like to quote a passage from the Testimonies in which Christ, for the last time - just before His death, made a firm call to the chosen people - pleading them to repent. We know how it all went on and how this generation ended in 70 AD.

"With hand uplifted to heaven, and a divine light enshrouding His person, Christ spoke as a judge to those before Him. His voice, that had so often been heard in gentleness and entreaty, was now heard in rebuke and condemnation. The listeners shuddered.... Christ's indignation was directed against the hypocrisy, the gross sins, by which men were destroying their own souls, deceiving the people and dishonoring God... He discerned the working of satanic agencies. Keen and searching had been His denunciation of sin; but He spoke no words of retaliation. He had a holy wrath against the prince of darkness; but He manifested no irritated temper. So the Christian who lives in harmony with God, possessing the sweet attributes of love and mercy, will feel a righteous indignation against sin; but he will not be roused by passion to revile those who revile him. Even in meeting those who are moved by a power from beneath to maintain falsehood, in Christ he will still preserve calmness and self-possession" (E. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 619).

Let these final thoughts be engraved deeply on our minds, so that we can change our thinking effectively enough so that our further life may glorify God and be a guide for those who seek a path to eternity -beyond death.

Let us go to the beginning for this is where the end was revealed. Christ Himself recalled the beginning, saying, *"from the beginning it was not so" (Matt. 19:8, BW).*

Marriage, diet, Sabbath. In these three aspects we must go back to the beginning if we want to have a share in the completion of what we call the end. **The end** of the old world, **the end** of the order in this world, **the end** of sin, evil and death. Only then we will be able to initiate the continuation of God's work in the new earth.

"Now the children of Israel after their number, [to wit], the chief fathers and captains of thousands and hundreds, and their officers that served the king in any matter of the courses, which came in and went out month by month throughout all the months of the year, of every course [were] twenty and four thousand" (1 Chron. 27:1, KJV)

24,000 times 12 months is 288,000. The number that doubles 144,000.

Let us compare one more numerical similarity. Under the symbol of 144 cubits is the measure of the wall surrounding the holy city, which is the symbol of the bride (see: Rev. 21:17). The same number but doubled also occurs in the kingdom of David.

"And their number, along with all the gifted and trained brothers to sing to the Lord, were two hundred and eighty-eight" (1 Chron. 25:7, BT). They sing the very song which no one else will be able to sing!

In these comparisons there is a hidden message for us that confirms the connection between David's ancient kingdom and the kingdom on which "the Son of David" sits (see: Matt. 12:23; 21:9). His immediate surroundings consists of 288,000 of faithful servants. It is our marriages that are to constitute this victorious retinue towards the settlement of the new land. These are the 144 000 sealed servants of God with the seal of eternity with their 144 000 wives. The 144,000 married couples in whom the great mystery of God has been accomplished namely the restoration of the beauty of God's creation in marriage. And as the crown of God's creation they reflect the image of Elohim in which they were created. And this is precisely the culmination/ the climax of the eternal good news of regaining the lost Eden.

So do we wish to return to Eden? If so, let us bring it back first in our lives, in our homes, marriages and families.

On the mountain of transfiguration in the glory of God's kingdom three witnesses were revealed.

Moses (wheat) - represents all the saved who will be resurrected and the last generation as the wheat first fruits.

Elijah (wise virgins) - represents the Advent Movement from 1844.

Christ (Bridegroom) - represents His bride.

There was no Enoch on the mountain of the transfiguration. But his name, which means "dedicated/fully devoted", "beginning", "initial" is the essence of our vocation. It is in Christ that "the time is fulfilled," both the beginning and the end. He is the beginning and the end (see: Rev. 22:13).

And the three invited disciples, who became witnesses of the revelation of the glory of God's kingdom, confirm our conviction that this revelation has been entrusted to us. May we not be overwhelmed by sleep, that we could fully enjoy the blessings poured out upon us from the mount of transfiguration. Amen

In blessed hope
Piotr Paweł Maciejewski