

The More Abundant Victorious Life

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The More Abundant

Victorious Life

Expect a MORE Abundant Life

- 1 John 10:10 “I have come that they might have life and have it
2 more abundantly.”
- 3 John 15:1-2 “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.
4 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and
5 every branch that bears fruit He prunes that it may bear more
6 fruit.”
- 7 John 15:3-4 “You are already clean because of the word which I
8 have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch
9 cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can
10 you, unless you abide in Me.”
- 11 2 Corinthians 7:1 “Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let
12 us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit,
13 perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”
- 14 Ephesians 1:4 “...He chose us in Him before the foundation of
15 the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him
16 in love....”
- 17 Colossians 4:12 “...that you may stand perfect and complete in
18 all the will of God.”
- 19 1 Peter 1:15 “As He who called you is holy, you also be holy in
20 all your conduct....”
- 21 “Before the believer is held out the wonderful possibility of being
22 like Christ, obedient to all the principles of the law. But of
23 himself man is utterly unable to reach this condition. The holiness
24 that God's word declares he must have before he can be saved is
25 the result of the working of divine grace as he bows in
26 submission to the discipline and restraining influences of the
27 Spirit of truth. The part of the Christian is to persevere in
28 overcoming every fault. Constantly he is to pray to the Saviour to
29 heal the disorders of his sin-sick soul. He has not the wisdom or
30 the strength to overcome; these belong to the Lord, and He
31 bestows them on those who in humiliation and contrition seek
32 Him for help.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 532.1

33 “‘In His borrowed goodness good,’ we may be perfect in our
34 sphere, even as God is perfect in His.” *Thoughts From the Mount*
35 *of Blessing*, p. 77.4

36 “Holiness is not rapture: it is an entire surrender of the will to
37 God; it is living by every word that proceeds from the mouth of
38 God; it is doing the will of our heavenly Father; it is trusting God
39 in trial, in darkness as well as in the light; it is walking by faith
40 and not by sight; it is relying on God with unquestioning
41 confidence, and resting in His love.” *Acts of the Apostles*, p. 51.2

42 “We believe without a doubt that Christ is soon coming. This is
43 not a fable to us; it is a reality. When He comes He is not to
44 cleanse us of our sins, to remove from us the defects in our
45 characters, or to cure us of the infirmities of our tempers and
46 dispositions. If wrought for us at all, this work will all be
47 accomplished before that time. *Counsels to the Church*, p. 214.4

48 When the Lord comes, those who are holy will be holy still.
49 Those who have preserved their bodies and spirits in holiness, in
50 sanctification and honor, will then receive the finishing touch of
51 immortality. But those who are unjust, unsanctified, and filthy
52 will remain so forever. No work will then be done for them to
53 remove their defects and give them holy characters. The Refiner
54 does not then sit to pursue His refining process and remove their
55 sins and their corruption. This is all to be done in these hours of
56 probation. It is now that this work is to be accomplished for
57 us.” *Counsels to the Church*, p. 215.1

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60 Acknowledge Your

61 TOTAL Inability

62 Jeremiah 17:9 “The heart is deceitful above all things, and
63 desperately wicked; who can know it?”

64 Jeremiah 13:23 “Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard
65 its spots? Then may you also do good who are accustomed to do
66 evil.”

67 Ephesians 2:1 “And you He made alive, who were dead in
68 trespasses and sins....”

69 1 Corinthians 2:14 “But the natural man does not receive the
70 things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor
71 can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”

72 John 8:34 “Whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.”

73 “Our condition is helpless and hopeless....” *Signs of the Times*,
74 January 4, 1883. par. 12

75 “There are but two powers that control the minds of men—the
76 power of God and the power of Satan.” *Signs of the Times*, June
77 29, 1891, par. 2

78 “Every soul that refuses to give himself to God is under the
79 control of another power. He is not his own. He may talk of
80 freedom, but he is in the most abject slavery. He is not allowed to
81 see the beauty of truth, for his mind is under the control of Satan.
82 While he flatters himself that he is following the dictates of his
83 own judgment, he obeys the will of the prince of
84 darkness.” *Desire of Ages*, p. 466.3

85 “Man is Satan's captive and is naturally inclined to follow his
86 suggestions and do his bidding. He has in himself no power to
87 oppose effectual resistance to evil. It is only as Christ abides in
88 him by living faith, influencing his desires and strengthening him
89 with strength from above, that man may venture to face so
90 terrible a foe. Every other means of defense is utterly vain. It is
91 only through Christ that Satan's power is limited. This is a
92 momentous truth that all should understand. Satan is busy every
93 moment, going to and fro, walking up and down in the earth,
94 seeking whom he may devour. But the earnest prayer of faith will
95 baffle his strongest efforts.” *Testimonies for the Church for the*
96 *Church*, vol. 5, p. 294.2

97 “All who are not decided followers of Christ are servants of
98 Satan. In the unregenerate heart there is love of sin and a
99 disposition to cherish and excuse it. In the renewed heart there is
100 hatred of sin and determined resistance against it. When
101 Christians choose the society of the ungodly and unbelieving,
102 they expose themselves to temptation. Satan conceals himself
103 from view and stealthily draws his deceptive covering over their
104 eyes. They cannot see that such company is calculated to do them
105 harm; and while all the time assimilating to the world in
106 character, words, and actions, they are becoming more and more
107 blinded.” *Great Controversy*, p. 508.2

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Choose A BETTER Way

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Take Your Will From Satan And Give It To God

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Philippians 2:13 “Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.”

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2 Corinthians 2:14 “Now thanks be unto God, which always

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causeth us to triumph in Christ....”

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“Pure religion has to do with the will. The will is the governing power in the nature of man. If the will is set right, all the rest of the man will come under its sway. The will is not the taste or the inclination, but it is the choice, the deciding power; the kingly power which works in the children of men unto obedience to God or to disobedience.” *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 513.1

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“What is the new heart? It is the new mind. What is the mind? It is the will. Where is your will? It is either on Satan’s side or Christ’s side. Now it is up to you. Will you put your will today on Christ’s side of the question? That is the new heart. It is the new will, a new mind. “A new heart will I give thee.” Then let us begin right here.” *Sermon and Talks*, vol. 1, p. 210.1

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“Through yielding to sin, man placed his will under the control of Satan. He became a helpless captive in the tempter’s power. God sent His Son into our world to break the power of Satan, and to emancipate the will of man. He sent Him to proclaim liberty to the captives, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free. By pouring the whole treasury of heaven into this world, by giving us in Christ all heaven, God has purchased the will, the affections, the mind, the soul, of every human being. When man places himself under the control of God, the will becomes firm and strong to do right, the heart is cleansed from selfishness, and filled with Christlike love. The mind yields to the authority of the law of love, and every thought is brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. When the will is placed on the Lord’s side, the Holy Spirit takes that will and makes it one with the divine will.” *Our High Calling*, p. 104.4

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“If the human agent consents, God can and will so identify His will with all our thoughts and aims, so blend our hearts and minds into conformity to His Word, that when obeying His will, we are only carrying out the impulses of our minds.” *Our Father Cares*, p. 268.5

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“As the will of man co-operates with the will of God, it becomes

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omnipotent. Whatever is to be done at His command, may be

154 accomplished in His strength. All His biddings are
155 enablings.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 333.1

156 “Self-control is a power that all may possess. It is gained by
157 placing the will wholly on the side of God, taking the will of God
158 for your will.” *Our High Calling*, p. 219.3

159 “Man is safe only when he places himself under the control of
160 God. When this is done, the will becomes firm and strong to do
161 right; the heart is cleansed from all selfishness, and filled with a
162 Christlike love and tenderness. The mind yields to the authority
163 of the law of love, and “every thought is brought into captivity to
164 the obedience of Christ.” The powers, hitherto “members of
165 unrighteousness,” and “servants of sin,” are consecrated to the
166 service of a God of love.” *Signs of the Times*, November 19, 1896
167 par. 9

168 “You must choose to believe, although nothing seems true and
169 real to you. . . . Your part is to put your will over on the side of
170 Christ in the matter of faith. Just as you yield up your will to the
171 will of Jesus Christ, God immediately takes possession of that
172 will, and works in you to will and to do of His good pleasure; and
173 all of your nature is brought under the control of the spirit of
174 Christ, even your thoughts are subject to Him. You cannot control
175 your impulses, your emotions, as you may desire, but you can
176 control the will, and you can make an entire change in your life.
177 Your life, by yielding up your will to Christ, is hid with Christ in
178 God and allied to the power which is above all principalities and
179 powers. You have a strength from God that holds you fast to His
180 strength, and a new life, even the life of living faith, is possible to
181 you. But your will must co-operate with God’s will. . . .” *Letter 49*,
182 1887

183 “When the power of Satan over souls is broken, we see men
184 binding their will to the cross, and crucifying the flesh with the
185 affections and lusts. It is indeed a crucifixion of self; for the will
186 is surrendered to Christ. The will of man is none too strong when
187 it is sanctified and put on the side of Christ. The will is a power,
188 and as many triumphs are to be won in spiritual warfare, and
189 many points of progress to be made in the spiritual journey, and
190 many lessons to be learned from Christ, the great Teacher, it is
191 necessary that the will should be sanctified. In surrendering the
192 will, the root of the matter is reached. When the will is
193 surrendered, the streams that flow from the fountain will not be
194 bitter, but will be as pure as crystal.” *Signs of the Times*, October
195 29, 1894 par. 6

196 “This is the secret of their power. Much prayer, and a humbling
197 of the heart, a constant surrender of the will to God, will bring the
198 help pledged to every worker by the Father, the Son, and the Holy
199 Spirit. Angels of God will work for those who yield themselves to
200 the leading of the Spirit.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 7, p. 354.1

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203 Appropriately CONFESS Your Sins

204 Proverbs 28:13 “He who covers his sins will not prosper, But
205 whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.”

206 James 5:16 “Confess your trespasses to one another and pray for
207 one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer
208 of a righteous man avails much.”

209 1 John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to
210 forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

211 Psalms 34:18 “The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart,
212 and saves such as have a contrite spirit.”

213 “By prayer and confession of sin we must clear the King’s
214 highway. As we do this, the power of the Spirit will come to us.
215 We need the Pentecostal energy. This will come, for the Lord has
216 promised to send His Spirit as the all-conquering
217 power.” *Counsels to the Church*, p. 326.5

218 “Those who have not humbled their souls before God in
219 acknowledging their guilt, have not yet fulfilled the first
220 condition of acceptance. ... Confession of sin, whether public or
221 private, should be heartfelt and freely expressed. It is not to be
222 urged from the sinner. It is not to be made in a flippant and
223 careless way, or forced from those who have no realizing sense of
224 the abhorrent character of sin.

225 True confession is always of a specific character, and
226 acknowledges particular sins. They may be of such a nature as to
227 be brought before God only; they may be wrongs that should be
228 confessed to individuals who have suffered injury through them;
229 or they may be of a public character, and should then be as
230 publicly confessed. But all confession should be definite and to
231 the point, acknowledging the very sins of which you are
232 guilty.” *Steps to Christ*, pp. 37.4 and 38.1

233 “There is to be in the churches a wonderful manifestation of the
234 power of God, but it will not move upon those who have not
235 humbled themselves before the Lord, and opened the door of the

236 heart by confession and repentance.” *Ye Shall Receive Power*, p.
237 299.2

238 “How mistaken are those who imagine that confession of sin will
239 detract from their dignity, and lessen their influence among their
240 fellow men. Clinging to this erroneous idea, though seeing their
241 faults, many fail to confess them, but rather pass by the wrongs
242 they have done others, so embittering their own lives, and
243 shadowing the lives of others. It will not hurt your dignity to
244 confess your sins. Away with this false dignity. Fall on the Rock
245 and be broken, and Christ will give you the true and heavenly
246 dignity. Let not pride, self-esteem, or self-righteousness keep
247 anyone from confessing his sin, that he may claim the promise.
248 “He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth
249 and forsaketh them shall have mercy” (Proverbs 28:13). Keep
250 nothing back from God, and neglect not the confession of your
251 faults to your brethren.” *Selected Messages* vol. 1, p. 326.2

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254 Repent And TURN From Sin

255 Acts 3:19 “Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may
256 be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the
257 presence of the Lord....”

258 Acts 17:30 “Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but
259 now commands all men everywhere to repent....”

260 “The Bible does not teach that the sinner must repent before he
261 can heed the invitation of Christ, “Come unto Me, all ye that
262 labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.” Matthew
263 11:28. It is the virtue that goes forth from Christ, that leads to
264 genuine repentance. Peter made the matter clear in his statement
265 to the Israelites when he said, ‘Him hath God exalted with His
266 right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to
267 Israel, and forgiveness of sins.’ Acts 5:31. We can no more repent
268 without the Spirit of Christ to awaken the conscience than we can
269 be pardoned without Christ.” *Steps to Christ*, p. 26.2

270 “Repentance includes sorrow for sin and a turning away from it.
271 We shall not renounce sin unless we see its sinfulness; until we
272 turn away from it in heart, there will be no real change in the
273 life.” *Steps to Christ*, p. 23.2

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277 Joshua 22:5 “But take careful heed to do the commandment and
278 the law which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, to
279 love the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, to keep His
280 commandments, to hold fast to Him, and to serve Him with all
281 your heart and with all your soul.”

282 Romans 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies
283 of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy,
284 acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”

285 Luke 9:23 “Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come
286 after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and
287 follow Me.”

288 “The soul must submit to God before it can be renewed in
289 holiness.” *Steps to Christ*, p. 43.3

290 “Holiness is constant agreement with God.” *Review and Herald*,
291 May 16, 1907, par. 4

292 “True victory is gained only when the repentant sinner pledges
293 himself to unconditional obedience to God,—only when he
294 pledges himself to honor God in every word, every business
295 transaction, every act of his life.” *Youth’s Instructor*, January 17,
296 1911, par. 6

297 “It is through the truth, by the power of the Holy Spirit, that we
298 are to be sanctified,—transformed into the likeness of Christ. And
299 in order for this change to be wrought in us, there must be an
300 unconditional, whole-hearted acceptance of the truth, an
301 unreserved surrender of the soul to its transforming
302 power.” *Review and Herald*, April 12, 1892 par. 1

303 “God will accept nothing less than unreserved surrender. Half-
304 hearted, sinful Christians can never enter heaven. There they
305 would find no happiness, for they know nothing of the high, holy
306 principles that govern the members of the royal family. The true
307 Christian keeps the windows of the soul open heavenward. He
308 lives in fellowship with Christ. His will is conformed to the will
309 of Christ. His highest desire is to become more and more
310 Christlike.” *Last Day Events*, p. 191.5

311 “There are some who seem to be always seeking for the heavenly
312 pearl. But they do not make an entire surrender of their wrong
313 habits. They do not die to self that Christ may live in them.
314 Therefore they do not find the precious pearl. They have not
315 overcome unholy ambition and their love for worldly attractions.
316 They do not take up the cross and follow Christ in the path of

317 self-denial and sacrifice. Almost Christians, yet not fully
318 Christians, they seem near the kingdom of heaven, but they
319 cannot enter there. Almost but not wholly saved, means to be not
320 almost but wholly lost.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 118.1

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323 Formalize And Publicize Your Surrender In Baptism

324 Receive The Pledged Power Of The Godhead

325 Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV) "And Jesus came and spoke to them,
326 saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on
327 earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations,
328 baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of
329 the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have
330 commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of
331 the age." Amen."

332 Romans 6:4 (NKJV) "Therefore we were buried with Him
333 through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the
334 dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in
335 newness of life."

336 Colossians 2:12 (NKJV) "buried with Him in baptism, in which
337 you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of
338 God, who raised Him from the dead."

339 "In baptism we are given to the Lord as a vessel to be used.
340 Baptism is a most solemn renunciation of the world. Self is by
341 profession dead to a life of sin. The waters cover the candidate,
342 and in the presence of the whole heavenly universe the mutual
343 pledge is made. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy
344 Spirit, man is laid in his watery grave, buried with Christ in
345 baptism, and raised from the water to live the new life of loyalty
346 to God. The three great powers in heaven are witnesses; they are
347 invisible but present." *SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 6, p. 1074.8

348 Christ made baptism the entrance to His spiritual kingdom. He
349 made this a positive condition with which all must comply who
350 wish to be acknowledged as under the authority of the Father, the
351 Son, and the Holy Ghost. Those who receive the ordinance of
352 baptism thereby make a public declaration that they have
353 renounced the world and have become members of the royal
354 family, children of the heavenly King. Manuscript 27a, 1900.6 ...

355 The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, powers infinite and
356 omniscient, receive those who truly enter into covenant relation

357 with God. They are present at every baptism, to receive the
358 candidates who have renounced the world and have received
359 Christ into the soul temple. These candidates have entered into
360 the family of God, and their names are inscribed in the Lamb's
361 book of life. Manuscript 27a, 1900.10 ...

362 Three distinct agencies, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,
363 work together for human beings. They are united in the work of
364 making the church on earth like the church in heaven. They place
365 the resources of heaven at the disposal of those who will
366 appreciate and impart these spiritual treasures, multiplying them
367 by using them to the glory of God. Every diligent effort to
368 improve adds to the gifts we have. The powers of heaven work
369 with human beings on the plan of multiplication. Manuscript 27a,
370 1900.22

371 "When we were baptized "in the name of the Father, and of the
372 Son, and of the Holy Ghost," these three great powers pledged
373 themselves to work in our behalf as we strive to live the new life
374 in Christ. And in receiving baptism, the human agent, inspired
375 with new purposes, pledges himself to die to the world and live in
376 obedience to Christ. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost
377 supply the power that makes him victorious in every conflict with
378 the prince of darkness." Letter 200, 1902.20

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381 **Sometimes Rebaptism Is Necessary**

382 Luke 13:3 (NKJV) "I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will
383 all likewise perish."

384 Acts 2:38 (NKJV) "Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let
385 every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the
386 remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy
387 Spirit."

388 Acts 3:19 (NKJV) "Repent therefore and be converted, that your
389 sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come
390 from the presence of the Lord,"

391 Acts 19:1-7 (NKJV) "And it happened, while Apollos was at
392 Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came
393 to Ephesus. And finding some disciples 2 he said to them, "Did
394 you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to
395 him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy
396 Spirit."

397 3 And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?"

398 So they said, "Into John's baptism."

399 4 Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of
400 repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him
401 who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."

402 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the
403 Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy
404 Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and
405 prophesied. 7 Now the men were about twelve in all."

406 "The new birth is a rare experience in this age of the world. This
407 is the reason why there are so many perplexities in the churches.
408 Many, so many, who assume the name of Christ are unsanctified
409 and unholy. They have been baptized, but they were buried alive.
410 Self did not die, and therefore they did not rise to newness of life
411 in Christ (Manuscript 148, 1897)." *SDA Bible Commentary*, Vol.
412 6, p. 1075.7

413 "The Lord calls for a decided reformation. And when a soul is
414 truly reconverted, let him be rebaptized. Let him renew his
415 covenant with God, and God will renew His covenant with him....
416 Reconversion must take place among the members, that as God's
417 witnesses they may testify to the authoritative power of the truth
418 that sanctifies the soul." Letter 63, 1903

419 "There are many at the present day who have unwittingly violated
420 one of the precepts of God's law. When the understanding is
421 enlightened, and the claims of the fourth commandment are urged
422 upon the conscience, they see themselves sinners in the sight of
423 God. "Sin is the transgression of the law," and "he that shall
424 offend in one point is guilty of all." *Sketches From The Life Of*
425 *Paul*, p. 133.1 The honest seeker after truth will not plead
426 ignorance of the law as an excuse for transgression. Light was
427 within his reach. God's word is plain, and Christ has bidden him
428 search the Scriptures. He reveres God's law as holy, just, and
429 good, and he repents of his transgression. By faith he pleads the
430 atoning blood of Christ, and grasps the promise of pardon. His
431 former baptism does not satisfy him now. He has seen himself a
432 sinner, condemned by the law of God. He has experienced anew a
433 death to sin, and he desires again to be buried with Christ by
434 baptism, that he may rise to walk in newness of life. Such a
435 course is in harmony with the example of Paul in baptizing the
436 Jewish converts. That incident was recorded by the Holy Spirit as
437 an instructive lesson for the church." *Sketches From The Life Of*
438 *Paul*, p. 133.2

439 "There are backslidden church-members and backslidden
440 ministers who need re-converting, who need the softening,
441 subduing influence of the baptism of the Spirit, that they may rise
442 in newness of life and make thorough work for eternity. I have
443 seen the irreligion and the self-sufficiency cherished, and I have
444 heard the words spoken, "Except ye repent and be converted, ye
445 shall never see the kingdom of heaven." There are many who will
446 need re-baptizing, but let them never go down into the water until
447 they are dead to sin, cured of selfishness and self-exaltation until
448 they can come up out of the water to live a new life unto God.
449 Faith and repentance are conditions, essential to the forgiveness
450 of sin." *The Bible Training School*, April 1, 1906, par. 7

451 "Baptism may be repeated over and over again, but of itself it has
452 no power to change the human heart. The heart must be united
453 with Christ's heart, the will must be submerged in his will, the
454 mind must become one with his mind, the thoughts must be
455 brought into captivity to him. A man may be baptized, and his
456 name be placed on the church roll, and yet his heart be
457 unchanged. Hereditary and cultivated tendencies may still work
458 evil in his character." *Review and Herald*, September 18, 1900
459 par. 4

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462 RECEIVE Pardon AND

463 Christ's Righteousness

464 Romans 5:19 "For as by one man's disobedience many were
465 made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made
466 righteous."

467 2 Corinthians 5:21 "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin
468 for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

469 "What is justification by faith? It is the work of God in laying the
470 glory of man in the dust, and doing for man that which it is not in
471 his power to do for himself. When men see their own
472 nothingness, they are prepared to be clothed with the
473 righteousness of Christ." *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 20, p. 62

474 "The thought that the righteousness of Christ is imputed to us, not
475 because of any merit on our part, but as a free gift from God, is a
476 precious thought. The enemy of God and man is not willing that
477 this truth should be clearly presented; for he knows that if the
478 people receive it fully, his power will be broken." *Review and
479 Herald*, December 24, 1908 par. 2

480 “It was possible for Adam, before the fall, to form a righteous
481 character by obedience to God's law. But he failed to do this, and
482 because of his sin our natures are fallen and we cannot make
483 ourselves righteous. Since we are sinful, unholy, we cannot
484 perfectly obey the holy law. We have no righteousness of our
485 own with which to meet the claims of the law of God. But Christ
486 has made a way of escape for us. He lived on earth amid trials
487 and temptations such as we have to meet. He lived a sinless life.
488 He died for us, and now He offers to take our sins and give us His
489 righteousness. If you give yourself to Him, and accept Him as
490 your Saviour, then, sinful as your life may have been, for His
491 sake you are accounted righteous. Christ's character stands in
492 place of your character, and you are accepted before God just as
493 if you had not sinned.” *Steps to Christ*, p. 62.2

494 “All who have a sense of their deep soul poverty, who feel that
495 they have nothing good in themselves, may find righteousness
496 and strength by looking unto Jesus. He says, "Come unto Me, all
497 ye that labor and are heavy-laden." Matthew 11:28. He bids you
498 exchange your poverty for the riches of His grace. We are not
499 worthy of God's love, but Christ, our surety, is worthy, and is
500 abundantly able to save all who shall come unto Him. Whatever
501 may have been your past experience, however discouraging your
502 present circumstances, if you will come to Jesus just as you are,
503 weak, helpless, and despairing, our compassionate Saviour will
504 meet you a great way off, and will throw about you His arms of
505 love and His robe of righteousness. He presents us to the Father
506 clothed in the white raiment of His own character. He pleads
507 before God in our behalf, saying: I have taken the sinner's place.
508 Look not upon this wayward child, but look on Me. Does Satan
509 plead loudly against our souls, accusing of sin, and claiming us as
510 his prey, the blood of Christ pleads with greater
511 power.” *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessings*, pp. 8.2

512 “Grace is an attribute of God shown to undeserving human
513 beings. We did not seek after it, but it was sent in search of us.
514 God rejoices to bestow this grace upon every one who hungers
515 for it. To every one He presents terms of mercy, not because we
516 are worthy, but because we are so utterly unworthy. Our need is
517 the qualification which gives us the assurance that we shall
518 receive this gift.” *Review and Herald*, September 15, 1896, par. 5

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522

Be TRANSFORMED...

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524

In Receiving GOD'S Word

525 Psalms 119:11 "Your word have I hid in my heart that I might not
526 sin against You."

527 John 17:17 "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."

528 John 8:32 "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make
529 you free."

530 Romans 10:17 "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by
531 the word of God."

532 Romans 12:2 "And do not be conformed to this world, but be
533 transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove
534 what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

535 2 Corinthians 3:18 "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as
536 in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the
537 same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

538 "The Scriptures are the great agency in the transformation of
539 character. Christ prayed, "Sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy
540 word is truth." John 17:17. If studied and obeyed, the word of
541 God works in the heart, subduing every unholy attribute. The
542 Holy Spirit comes to convict of sin, and the faith that springs up
543 in the heart works by love to Christ, conforming us in body, soul,
544 and spirit to His own image. Then God can use us to do His will.
545 The power given us works from within outwardly, leading us to
546 communicate to others the truth that has been communicated to
547 us." *Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 100.1

548 "Received into the heart, the leaven of truth will regulate the
549 desires, purify the thoughts, and sweeten the disposition. It
550 quickens the faculties of the mind and the energies of the soul. It
551 enlarges the capacity for feeling, for loving." *Christ's Object
552 Lessons*, p. 101.1

553 "The purity, the holiness, of the life of Jesus as presented from
554 the Word of God, possess more power to reform and transform
555 the character than do all the efforts put forth in picturing the sins
556 and crimes of men and the sure results. One steadfast look to the
557 Saviour uplifted upon the cross will do more to purify the mind
558 and heart from every defilement than will all the scientific
559 explanations by the ablest tongue." *Testimonies on Sexual
560 Behavior*, p. 108.2

561

563 Psalms 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted
564 among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

565 Habakkuk 2:10 "The Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth
566 keep silence before Him."

567 Matthew 6:6 "But you, when you pray, go into your room, and
568 when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the
569 secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you
570 openly."

571 "Prayer is a necessity; for it is the life of the soul. Family prayer,
572 public prayer, have their place; but it is secret communion with
573 God that sustains the soul life." *Review and Herald*, December
574 31, 1908 par. 10

575 "You will receive more strength by spending one hour each day
576 in meditation, and mourning over your failings and heart-
577 corruptions, and pleading for God's pardoning love, and the
578 assurance of sins forgiven, than you would by spending many
579 hours and days in studying the most able authors, and making
580 yourself acquainted with every objection to our faith, and the
581 most powerful evidences in favor of our faith." *Review and
582 Herald*, January 19, 1864 par. 19

583 "When every other voice is hushed, and in quietness we wait
584 before Him, the silence of the soul makes more distinct the voice
585 of God. He bids us, 'Be still, and know that I am God.' Psalms
586 46:10. Here alone can true rest be found. And this is the effectual
587 preparation for all who labor for God. Amid the hurrying throng,
588 and the strain of life's intense activities, the soul that is thus
589 refreshed will be surrounded with an atmosphere of light and
590 peace. The life will breathe out fragrance, and will reveal a divine
591 power that will reach men's hearts." *Desire of Ages*, p. 363.3

592 "How shall this victory over the world be obtained? Go to your
593 closet, dear reader, and there plead with God: "Create in me a
594 clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Be in
595 earnest; be sincere; Jacob-like, wrestle in prayer. Do not leave
596 your closet until you feel strong in God. Remain until unutterable
597 longings for salvation are awakened in your heart, and the sweet
598 evidence is obtained of pardoned sin. Then when you leave your
599 closet, watch; and so long as you watch and pray, the grace of
600 God will appear in your life." *Signs of the Times*, November 18,
601 1886 par. 7

603

In Accepting God's SPECIAL

604

Messages For Our Day

605 2 Chronicles 20:20 "Believe in the LORD your God, and you
606 shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper."

607 "The written testimonies are not to give new light, but to impress
608 vividly upon the heart the truths of inspiration already revealed.

609 Man's duty to God and to his fellow man has been distinctly
610 specified in God's word, yet but few of you are obedient to the
611 light given. Additional truth is not brought out; but God has
612 through the *Testimonies* simplified the great truths already given
613 and in His own chosen way brought them before the people to
614 awaken and impress the mind with them, that all may be left
615 without excuse. The *Testimonies* are not to belittle the word of
616 God, but to exalt it and attract minds to it, that the beautiful
617 simplicity of truth may impress all." *Counsels to the Church*, p.
618 92.1

619 "There are not many of you that really know what is contained in
620 the *Testimonies*. ... It is because you have neglected to acquaint
621 yourselves with God's inspired Book that He has sought to reach
622 you by simple, direct testimonies, calling your attention to the
623 words of inspiration which you had neglected to obey, and urging
624 you to fashion your lives in accordance with its pure and elevated
625 teachings." *Counsels to the Church*, p. 92.5

626 "I have been shown that unbelief in the testimonies of warning,
627 encouragement, and reproof is shutting away the light from God's
628 people. Unbelief is closing their eyes so that they are ignorant of
629 their true condition. They think the testimony of the Spirit of God
630 in reproof is uncalled for or that it does not mean them. Such are
631 in the greatest need of the grace of God and spiritual discernment,
632 that they may discover their deficiency in spiritual
633 knowledge." *Testimony Treasures*, vol. 2, p. 289.1

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636

In Being BROKEN

637 Psalms 51:17 "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken
638 and a contrite heart—these, O God, You will not despise."

639 Psalms 34:18 "The Lord is near to those who have a broken
640 heart...."

641 "We must fall upon the Rock and be broken before we can be
642 uplifted in Christ. Self must be dethroned, pride must be

643 humbled, if we would know the glory of the spiritual kingdom.
644 The Jews would not accept the honor that is reached through
645 humiliation. Therefore they would not receive their Redeemer.
646 He was a sign that was spoken against.” *Desire of Ages*, p. 56.4
647 “To those who believe, Christ is the sure foundation. These are
648 they who fall upon the Rock and are broken. Submission to Christ
649 and faith in Him are here represented. To fall upon the Rock and
650 be broken is to give up our self-righteousness and to go to Christ
651 with the humility of a child, repenting of our transgressions, and
652 believing in His forgiving love. And so also it is by faith and
653 obedience that we build on Christ as our foundation.” *Desire of*
654 *Ages*, p. 599.3
655 “Every one who accepts the present truth should make the fullest
656 possible surrender of himself to God. He should fall upon the
657 Rock, and be broken. Old habits, hereditary and cultivated traits
658 of character, must all be broken up; we must yield ourselves to be
659 moulded by the divine Spirit if we would become vessels unto
660 honor. Do not seek to conform the truth to your peculiarities and
661 imperfections. But as the Comforter shall come, and reprove you
662 of sin and of righteousness and of judgment, be careful lest you
663 resist the Spirit, and be left in darkness. Be willing to see your
664 errors and yield up your self-will. Submit yourself to God, that he
665 may work in you to will and to do according to his good
666 pleasure.—MS.” *Gospel Workers* 1992, p. 311.2
667 “You say, ‘The surrender of all my idols will break my heart.’
668 This is what is needed. In giving up all for God, you fall upon the
669 rock and are broken. Give up all for him without delay, for unless
670 you are broken, you are worthless.” *Signs of the Times*, August 8,
671 1892 par. 2

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673

674 In Agreeing to DIE TO Self

675 Luke 9:23 “Then He said to them all, ‘If anyone desires to come
676 after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and
677 follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but
678 whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.’”

679 1 Corinthians 15:31 “I die daily.”

680 Romans 6:1-4 “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin
681 that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to
682 sin live any longer in it? Or do you not know that as many of us
683 as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

684 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death,
685 that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the
686 Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

687 “Jesus bade His followers take up the cross and bear it after Him.
688 To the disciples His words, though dimly comprehended, pointed
689 to their submission to the most bitter humiliation,--submission
690 even unto death for the sake of Christ. No more complete self-
691 surrender could the Saviour's words have pictured.” *Desire of*
692 *Ages*, p. 416.3

693 “It is because men are not more than half converted that the
694 church is so dead and lifeless. There are many who are and have
695 been all their lives half Christians. Their names are in the Book of
696 Life, and if they turn to the Lord with full purpose of heart, they
697 then respect the voice that says unto them, “Seek ye My face,”
698 and reply, “Thy face, Lord, will I seek,” and they shall see God
699 with a clear, elevated, spiritual sense. The religious sentiment
700 awakened in the heart is recognized as God’s call, and is obeyed.
701 Everyone will be tested and tried in the very way that is the most
702 trying. Men cannot trust to their own wisdom. Self-sufficiency, if
703 indulged, will be their stumbling block. Self must die and not
704 have a resurrection every other day. The words must be truly
705 spoken, “I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.” The “I” is a
706 very hard personality to kill. “I” rises into life in full proportions
707 if given the least opportunity or encouragement. Then, confident
708 in their own supposed wisdom, men forsake the right
709 way.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 21, p. 368.2,3

710 “Why is it so hard to lead a self-denying, humble life? Because
711 professed Christians are not dead to the world. It is easy living
712 after we are dead.” *Review and Herald*, January 6, 1863, par. 10

713 “The new birth is a rare experience in this age of the world. This
714 is the reason why there are so many perplexities in the churches.
715 Many, so many, who assume the name of Christ are unsanctified
716 and unholy. They have been baptized, but they were buried alive.
717 Self did not die, and therefore they did not rise to newness of life
718 in Christ.” *SDA Bible Commentary*, Vol. 6, p. 1075.7

719 “We cannot retain self and yet be filled with the fullness of God.
720 We must be emptied of self. If heaven is gained by us at last, it
721 will be only through the renunciation of self, and the receiving of
722 the mind of Christ.” *Signs of the Times*, November 21, 1892, par.

723 4

724 “The greatest burden we have to bear in this life is self. Unless
725 we learn in the school of Christ to be meek and lowly, we shall
726 miss precious opportunities and privileges for becoming
727 acquainted with Jesus. Self is the most difficult thing we have to
728 manage. In laying off burdens, let us not forget to lay self at the
729 feet of Christ.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 21, p. 302.3

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731

732 In Being EMPTIED OF Self

733 Romans 8:12-13 “Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the
734 flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to
735 the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the
736 deeds of the body, you will live.”

737 Romans 13:14 “But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no
738 provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.”

739 2 Corinthians 7:1 “Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let
740 us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit,
741 perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”

742 Galatians 5:24-25 “And those who are Christ's have crucified the
743 flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us
744 also walk in the Spirit.”

745 1 John 2:16-17 “For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh,
746 the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but
747 is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it;
748 but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

749 “Man must be emptied of self before he can be, in the fullest
750 sense, a believer in Jesus. When self is renounced, then the Lord
751 can make man a new creature. New bottles can contain the new
752 wine. The love of Christ will animate the believer with new life.
753 In him who looks unto the Author and finisher of our faith the
754 character of Christ will be manifest.” *Desire of Ages*, p. 280.4

755 “Those who work for God are daily to empty the heart of self,
756 that they may be cleansed of their hereditary and cultivated
757 tendencies to wrong. They are to depend wholly upon Him who
758 taught as never man taught. Unless the soul temple is daily
759 emptied of self, and prepared for the reception of the Holy Spirit,
760 self will rule the entire being. The words and acts will be
761 tarnished with selfishness. Christ will not appear in the life. There
762 will be seen a self-confidence that is wholly
763 inappropriate.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 18, p. 168.3

764 “Let every one empty himself of the spirit of self-importance and
765 receive the meekness of Christ.” *Record of Progress and An*
766 *Appeal In Behalf of the Boulder-Colorado Sanitarium* p. 51.2
767 (SpTB05 51.2)

768 “The Lord bids us empty our hearts of the selfishness which is the
769 root of alienation. He longs to pour upon us His Holy Spirit in
770 rich measure, and He bids us clear the way by self-renunciation.
771 When self is surrendered to God, our eyes will be opened to see
772 the stumbling stones which our un-Christlikeness has placed in
773 the way of others. All these God bids us remove.” *Testimonies for*
774 *the Church*, vol. 6, p. 43.2

775 “Many think they have not time to pray, or that it would be
776 useless to pray if they had time. They indulge themselves in the
777 gratification of unholy desires. They cherish unchristlike traits of
778 character, and the least crossing of their will arouses their
779 combativeness and upsets their temper. While they are thus
780 unemptied of self, and unwilling to renounce their evil way, they
781 cannot expect to receive answers to their prayers; for evil tempers
782 and corrupt indulgences will make prayer of none effect.” *Bible*
783 *Echo*, February, 15, 1893, par. 7

784 “We cannot retain self and yet be filled with the fullness of God.
785 We must be emptied of self. If heaven is gained by us at last, it
786 will be only through the renunciation of self, and the receiving of
787 the mind of Christ. Pride and self-sufficiency must be crucified,
788 and the vacuum supplied with the Spirit and power of God. Are
789 we willing to pay the price required of us for eternal life? Are we
790 ready to sit down and count the cost, and conclude that heaven is
791 worth the sacrifice of dying to self, of having our will brought
792 into perfect conformity with the will of God? Until we are
793 willing, the transforming grace of God will not be manifested
794 upon us. When we present our emptied nature to God, he will by
795 his Holy Spirit supply the vacuum made by the renunciation of
796 self, and give us of his fullness.” *Signs of the Times*, November
797 21, 1892, par. 4

798 “No outward observances can take the place of simple faith and
799 entire renunciation of self. But no man can empty himself of self.
800 We can only consent for Christ to accomplish the work. Then the
801 language of the soul will be, Lord, take my heart; for I cannot
802 give it. It is Thy property. Keep it pure, for I cannot keep it for
803 Thee. Save me in spite of myself, my weak, unchristlike self.
804 Mold me, fashion me, raise me into a pure and holy atmosphere,

805 where the rich current of Thy love can flow through my
806 soul.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 159.3

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808

809 In Accepting NECESSARY

810 Refining Trials

811 John 15:2 “Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes
812 away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may
813 bear more fruit.”

814 Psalms 51:7-8 “Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash
815 me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear joy and
816 gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice”

817 Malachi 3:3 “He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He
818 will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver,
819 That they may offer to the Lord An offering in righteousness.”

820 2 Corinthians 4:17 “For our light affliction, which is but for a
821 moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal
822 weight of glory.”

823 James 1:2-4 “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into
824 various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces
825 patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be
826 perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”

827 Revelation 3:19 “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten.
828 Therefore be zealous and repent.”

829 Hebrews 5:8 “Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience
830 through the things which He suffered.”

831 “Christ desires nothing so much as to redeem His heritage from
832 the dominion of Satan. But before we are delivered from Satan's
833 power without, we must be delivered from his power within. The
834 Lord permits trials in order that we may be cleansed from
835 earthliness, from selfishness, from harsh, unchristlike traits of
836 character. He suffers the deep waters of affliction to go over our
837 souls in order that we may know Him and Jesus Christ whom He
838 has sent, in order that we may have deep heart longings to be
839 cleansed from defilement, and may come forth from the trial
840 purer, holier, happier. Often we enter the furnace of trial with our
841 souls darkened with selfishness; but if patient under the crucial
842 test, we shall come forth reflecting the divine character. When
843 His purpose in the affliction is accomplished, "He shall bring

844 forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the
845 noonday." Psalm 37:6" *Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 174.3

846 "Trials are essential in order that we may be brought close to our
847 heavenly Father, in submission to his will, that we may offer unto
848 the Lord an offering in righteousness. God's work of refining and
849 purifying the soul must go on until his servants are so humbled,
850 so dead to self, that when called into active service, they may
851 have an eye single to the glory of God. . . . The Lord brings his
852 children over the same ground again and again, increasing the
853 pressure until perfect humility fills the mind, and the character is
854 transformed; then they are victorious over self, and in harmony
855 with Christ and the Spirit of heaven." *Review and Herald*, April
856 10, 1894, par. 2

857 "The very trials that test our faith most severely, and make it
858 seem that God has forsaken us, are designed to lead us nearer to
859 Christ, that we may lay all our burdens at his feet, and receive the
860 peace he will give us in exchange. . . . When you surrender
861 yourself entirely to God, when you fall all broken upon Jesus,
862 you will be rewarded by a victory, the joy of which you have
863 never yet realized. As you review the past with a clear vision, you
864 will see that at the very time when life seemed to you only a
865 perplexity and a burden, Jesus himself was near you, seeking to
866 lead you into the light. Your Father was by your side, bending
867 over you with unutterable love, afflicting you for your good, as
868 the refiner purifies the precious ore. When you have thought
869 yourself forsaken, he has been near you to comfort and sustain.
870 We seldom view Jesus as he is, and are never so ready to receive
871 his help as he is to help us." *Gospel Workers* 1992, p. 372.3

872 "Some seek to control their surroundings, thinking that if they are
873 placed in favorable positions, the bad traits in their character will
874 not be developed. But God orders our surroundings, and he will
875 place us where we shall have test after test, to prove us and to
876 reveal what is in our hearts. Again and again we shall be brought
877 into strait places, that it may be known whether we are indeed
878 crucified with Christ or full of self-love. How will this proving,
879 testing process end with each of us? The prince of darkness will
880 put forth all his power to retain us in his possession; but we have
881 a mighty helper." *Review and Herald*, June 3, 1884, par. 11

882 "The Father's presence encircled Christ, and nothing befell Him
883 but that which infinite love permitted for the blessing of the
884 world. Here was His source of comfort, and it is for us. He who is
885 imbued with the Spirit of Christ abides in Christ. Whatever

886 comes to him comes from the Saviour, who surrounds him with
887 His presence. Nothing can touch him except by the Lord's
888 permission. All our sufferings and sorrows, all our temptations
889 and trials, all our sadness and griefs, all our persecutions and
890 privations, in short, all things work together for our good. All
891 experiences and circumstances are God's workmen whereby good
892 is brought to us." *Ministry of Healing*, p. 488.4

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895

In Receiving NEW Life

896

And Power "IN Christ"

897 John 15:4 "Abide in me, and I in you."

898 Colossians 1:27 "To them God willed to make known what are
899 the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which
900 is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

901 1 Corinthians 3:16 "Do you not know that you are the temple of
902 God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you."

903 Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I
904 who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in
905 the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave
906 Himself for me."

907 2Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new
908 creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have
909 become new."

910 1 John 4:4 "You are of God, little children, and have overcome
911 them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the
912 world."

913 "When the soul surrenders itself to Christ, a new power takes
914 possession of the new heart. A change is wrought which man can
915 never accomplish for himself. It is a supernatural work, bringing
916 a supernatural element into human nature. The soul that is yielded
917 to Christ becomes His own fortress, which He holds in a revolted
918 world, and He intends that no authority shall be known in it but
919 His own. A soul thus kept in possession by the heavenly agencies
920 is impregnable to the assaults of Satan." *Desire of Ages*, p. 324.1

921 "The Lord Jesus loves His people, and when they put their trust
922 in Him, depending wholly upon Him, He strengthens them. He
923 will live through them, giving them the inspiration of His
924 sanctifying Spirit, imparting to the soul a vital transfusion of
925 Himself. He acts through their faculties and causes them to

926 choose His will and to act out His character. With the apostle
927 Paul they then may say, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless
928 I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now
929 live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved
930 me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20). . . ." *That I May*
931 *Know Him*, p. 78.4

932 "“Without me ye can do nothing.’ It is at the peril of the soul that
933 so many feel able to work in their own finite wisdom. Without
934 Christ we cannot subdue a single sin nor resist the slightest
935 temptation. It is connection with a power that is almighty which
936 will make us overcomers. Then let everyone who comes to Jesus
937 walk humbly, and feel daily that he needs a power out of and
938 above himself, to soften his stony heart; that he needs to be
939 melted over, that the dross of self may be consumed. The same
940 power that turned the water to wine at the marriage feast of Cana
941 is able to eradicate all evil from our nature, and to make us
942 partakers of the divine nature. The very same power that made
943 the leper clean can make the heart pure, fit for the society of God,
944 of angels, and of the redeemed host. Holy obedience will be
945 found only in the righteousness which Christ imparts to the
946 believing soul. “As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it
947 abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.” And
948 every soul that abides in Christ and has Christ abiding in him, is
949 as dear to God as is his own beloved Son. Accepted in the
950 Beloved, he is an object of the Father’s tender care, and he will
951 bear much fruit as the result of his union with the True
952 Vine.” *Signs of the Times*, August 10, 1891, par. 2

953 “A union with Christ by living faith is enduring; every other
954 union must perish. Christ first chose us, paying an infinite price
955 for our redemption; and the true believer chooses Christ as first
956 and last and best in everything. But this union costs us something.
957 It is a union of utter dependence, to be entered into by a proud
958 being. All who form this union must feel their need of the atoning
959 blood of Christ. They must have a change of heart. They must
960 submit their own will to the will of God. There will be a struggle
961 with outward and internal obstacles. There must be a painful
962 work of detachment as well as a work of attachment. Pride,
963 selfishness, vanity, worldliness--sin in all its forms--must be
964 overcome if we would enter into a union with Christ. The reason
965 why many find the Christian life so deplorably hard, why they are
966 so fickle, so variable, is that they try to attach themselves to

967 Christ without first detaching themselves from these cherished
968 idols.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 231.3

969 “Do you ask, “How am I to abide in Christ?” In the same way as
970 you received Him at first. “As ye have therefore received Christ
971 Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him.” “The just shall live by faith.”
972 Colossians 2:6; Hebrews 10:38. You gave yourself to God, to be
973 His wholly, to serve and obey Him, and you took Christ as your
974 Saviour. You could not yourself atone for your sins or change
975 your heart; but having given yourself to God, you believe that He
976 for Christ's sake did all this for you. By faith you became Christ's,
977 and by faith you are to grow up in Him--by giving and taking.
978 You are to give all,--your heart, your will, your service,—give
979 yourself to Him to obey all His requirements; and you must take
980 all,—Christ, the fullness of all blessing, to abide in your heart, to
981 be your strength, your righteousness, your everlasting helper,—to
982 give you power to obey.” *Steps to Christ*, p. 69.2

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985

COOPERATE With

986

The Holy Spirit

987 Acts 1:8 “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has
988 come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem,
989 and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

990 Ephesians 5:18 “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is
991 dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit.”

992 “The only power that can quicken the heart into activity is the
993 power which will give life to the dead—the Holy Spirit of God. . .
994 . Hang your helpless soul upon your Mediator. In and through
995 Him, and Him alone, you can come to God. . . .” *Manuscript
996 Releases*, vol. 2, p. 24.4

997 “The Spirit was to be given as a regenerating agent, and without
998 this the sacrifice of Christ would have been of no avail. The
999 power of evil had been strengthening for centuries, and the
1000 submission of men to this satanic captivity was amazing. Sin
1001 could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency
1002 of the third person of the Godhead, who would come with no
1003 modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power. It is the
1004 Spirit that makes effectual what has been wrought out by the
1005 world's Redeemer. It is by the Spirit that the heart is made pure.
1006 Through the Spirit the believer becomes a partaker of the divine
1007 nature.” *Review and Herald*, November 19, 1908, par. 5

1008 “Transformation of character is wrought through the operation of
1009 the Holy Spirit, which works upon the human agent, implanting
1010 in him, according to his desire and consent to have it done, a new
1011 nature. The image of God is restored to the soul, and day by day
1012 he is strengthened and renewed by grace, and is enabled more and
1013 more perfectly to reflect the character of Christ in righteousness
1014 and true holiness.” *Review and Herald*, September 17, 1895, par.
1015 7

1016 "A mere intellectual knowledge of religious truth is not enough.
1017 There are today many as ignorant as those men of Ephesus of the
1018 Holy Spirit’s work upon the heart. ... Christ himself calls our
1019 attention to the growth of the vegetable world to illustrate the
1020 agency of his Spirit in sustaining religious life. *Sketches From*
1021 *The Life Of Paul*, p. 133.1

1022 The juices of the vine, ascending from the root, are diffused to the
1023 branches sustaining growth, and producing blossoms and fruit. So
1024 the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit, proceeding from Christ,
1025 and imparted to every disciple, pervades the soul, renews the
1026 motives and affections, and even the most secret thoughts, and
1027 brings forth the precious fruit of holy deeds. The life attests the
1028 union with the true and living Vine. *Sketches From The Life Of*
1029 *Paul*, p. 133.2

1030 The Author of this spiritual life is unseen, and the precise method
1031 by which it is imparted and sustained is beyond the power of
1032 human philosophy to explain. It is the mystery of godliness. Yet
1033 the operations of the Spirit are always in harmony with the
1034 written word. As in the natural, so in the spiritual world. Human
1035 life is preserved, moment by moment, by divine power; yet it is
1036 not sustained by a direct miracle, but through the use of blessings
1037 placed within our reach. So the life of the Christian is sustained
1038 by the use of those means which Providence has supplied. He
1039 must eat of the bread of life, and drink of the waters of salvation.
1040 He must watch, he must pray, he must work, in all things giving
1041 heed to the instructions of the word of God, if he would “grow up
1042 to the full measure of the stature of a man in Christ
1043 Jesus.” *Sketches From The Life Of Paul*, p. 133.3

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1045

1046 GRASP The Divine Nature

1047 2 Peter 1:4 “by which have been given to us exceedingly great
1048 and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers

1049 of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the
1050 world through lust.”

1051 “Partakers of the divine nature.” Is this possible? Of ourselves we
1052 can do no good thing. How, then, can we be partakers of the
1053 divine nature?—By coming to Christ just as we are, needy,
1054 helpless, dependent. He died to make it possible for us to be
1055 partakers of the divine nature. He took humanity upon himself
1056 that he might reach humanity. With the golden chain of his
1057 matchless love he has bound us to the throne of God. We are to
1058 have power to overcome as he overcame.” *Review and Herald*,
1059 April 14, 1904, par. 2

1060 “As the repenting sinner lays hold of Christ as his personal
1061 Saviour, he is made a partaker of the divine nature.” *Signs of the*
1062 *Times*, April 7, 1898, par. 8

1063 “We need the power to lay hold of divinity, a power that will
1064 never fail us so long as we keep our hold upon it. That power
1065 makes us a “partaker of the divine nature,” and enables us to
1066 escape “the corruption that is in the world through lust.” Let us
1067 now come humbly before God, confessing our sins, and let us by
1068 faith take hold of the divine nature. Then the angels of God will
1069 come into our midst.” Manuscript 71, 1907.17

1070 “In Christ it is our privilege to come to God and to lay hold of
1071 Him with living faith, and to say, “I believe in myself I can do
1072 nothing, but through the provision thou hast made, I believe that
1073 humanity can grasp divinity. I grasp it in the name of Jesus Christ
1074 of Nazareth.” Now that is the very work many neglect to do.
1075 What is at stake? Your souls.” Manuscript 115, 1909.35

1076 “Christ came to the world to bring divine power to humanity, to
1077 make man a partaker of the divine nature.” *General Conference*
1078 *Bulletin*, February 25, 1895, Art. A, par. 7

1079 “He took upon Himself humanity, that He might perfect in His
1080 own life a humanity that we can lay hold of and be united with
1081 divinity. The divine nature is to be imparted to every true seeker
1082 after Jesus Christ. Divinity must be united with humanity. Thus
1083 humanity may be partakers of the divine nature, that men may be
1084 able to escape the corruption that is in the world through
1085 lust.” *Sermon and Talks*, vol. 2, 294.2

1086 "How did Christ come? If He thought it was essential, why did
1087 He not come with the glory of His Father and the holy angels to
1088 surround Him? He could have had angels, myriads of them to
1089 have round about Him, but no. He laid off His royal crown; He

1090 laid aside His royal robe; and He clothed His divinity with
1091 humanity, that humanity might understand that with humanity
1092 united with divinity, every soul, if they believe in Him, could
1093 overcome the temptations that are in the world through lust."
1094 Manuscript 177, 1907.4

1095 "By his obedience to all the commandments of God, Christ
1096 wrought out a redemption for man. This was not done by going
1097 out of himself to another, but by taking humanity into himself.
1098 Thus Christ gave to humanity an existence out of himself. To
1099 bring humanity into Christ, to bring the fallen race into oneness
1100 with divinity, is the work of redemption. Christ took human
1101 nature that men might be one with him as he is one with the
1102 Father, that God may love man as he loves his only begotten Son,
1103 that men may be partakers of the divine nature, and be complete
1104 in him. *Review and Herald*, April 5, 1906, par. 15 The Holy
1105 Spirit, which proceeds from the only begotten Son of God, binds
1106 the human agent, body, soul, and spirit, to the perfect, divine-
1107 human nature of Christ. This union is represented by the union of
1108 the vine and the branches. Finite man is united to the manhood of
1109 Christ. Through faith human nature is assimilated with Christ's
1110 nature. We are made one with God in Christ." *Review and*
1111 *Herald*, April 5, 1906, par. 16

1112 "It is our privilege to so fully partake of the divine nature that we
1113 may be one with Christ as He is one with the Father. When this is
1114 so, Christ can confess His people before His Father and before
1115 the heavenly angels. By our love and unity we show to the world
1116 the credentials that God sent His Son to this earth to save the
1117 human race." Manuscript 11, 1899.22

1118 "God helping me, I am determined to be an overcomer. Through
1119 Christ, I shall obtain the victory. Then His joy will remain in me,
1120 and my joy be full. I will talk of His goodness; I will tell of His
1121 power. Through a dependence upon the divinity of Christ, I may
1122 overcome as He overcame." Manuscript 37, 1908.19

1123 "How abundant is the gift to our world of the Holy Spirit! It is
1124 beyond the power of language to express the blessings it brings to
1125 God's people. If received and appreciated, the Holy Spirit will
1126 make us holy, Christlike. *Through* its agency, we are united with
1127 Christ, partakers of the divine nature. The reception of the Holy
1128 Spirit in its fulness is the great need of the church today. Let us
1129 pray earnestly that it may soon be realized." *Letter* 178, 1907.12

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1132

RECEIVE Victory

1133 2 Corinthians 2:14 “Now thanks be to God who always leads us
1134 in triumph in Christ....”

1135 1 Corinthians 5: 57 “But thanks be to God, who gives us the
1136 victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1137 Hebrews 5: 25 “Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost
1138 those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to
1139 make intercession for them.”

1140 “In order to gain the victory over every besetment of the enemy,
1141 we must lay hold on a power that is out of and beyond ourselves.
1142 We must maintain a constant, living connection with Christ, who
1143 has power to give victory to every soul that will maintain an
1144 attitude of faith and humility.... As those who hope to receive the
1145 overcomer’s reward, we must press forward in the Christian
1146 warfare, though at every advance we meet with opposition.... As
1147 overcomers, we are to reign with Christ in the heavenly courts,
1148 and we are to overcome through the blood of the Lamb and the
1149 word of our testimony. “Him that overcometh will I make a pillar
1150 in the temple of my God.” *Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 370.4

1151 “None will enter the holy city, the paradise of God, but as
1152 conquerors,—those who have separated themselves from the
1153 world, and stood in defense of the faith once delivered to the
1154 saints, and have fought the good fight of faith, looking constantly
1155 to ‘Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that
1156 was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is
1157 set down at the right hand of the throne of God.’” *Review and
1158 Herald*, August 25, 1885. par. 16

1159 “Let us take the robe of His righteousness woven in the loom of
1160 heaven. There is not a thread of humanity in that robe. It is the
1161 robe of Christ’s righteousness. Let us put it on right here. We
1162 want life. We want to give the example of what Christ is and
1163 what we may be. Oh, that we might manifest God to a fallen
1164 world. We may be purified so that we may wear the robe of
1165 Christ’s righteousness, and the crown of immortality. God grant
1166 that this may be our lot; for Jesus loves us with a love that is
1167 infinite. He does not want that one of us should perish, but that
1168 everyone may have that life that measures with the life of God.
1169 God grant that we may secure that blessed inheritance—Ms. 12,
1170 1894.” *Sermons and Talks*, vol. 1, p. 249.1

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1173

Exercise LIVING Faith

1174 Romans 10:17 “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by
1175 the word of God.”

1176 “As Satan seeks to break down the barriers of the soul, by
1177 tempting us to indulge in sin, we must by living faith retain our
1178 connection with God, and have confidence in His strength to
1179 enable us to overcome every besetment. We are to flee from evil,
1180 and seek righteousness, meekness, and holiness.” *Our High*
1181 *Calling*, p. 15.4

1182 “We can overcome. Yes; fully, entirely. Jesus died to make a way
1183 of escape for us, that we might overcome every fault, resist every
1184 temptation, and sit down at last with Him in His throne. It is our
1185 privilege to have faith and salvation. The power of God has not
1186 decreased. It would be just as freely bestowed now as formerly;
1187 but the church have lost their faith to claim, their energy to
1188 wrestle, as did Jacob, crying, ‘I will not let thee go, except thou
1189 bless me’ (Genesis 32:26). Enduring faith has been dying away. It
1190 must be revived in the hearts of God's people. They must claim
1191 the blessing. Faith, living faith, always leads upward to God and
1192 glory; unbelief, downward to darkness and death.” *Ye Shall*
1193 *Receive Power*, p. 367.2

1194 “[M]any say, “How can I help sinning? I have tried to overcome,
1195 but I do not make advancement.” In your own strength you will
1196 fail, but help has been laid upon One who is mighty. In his
1197 strength you may be more than conqueror. Say, “Through the
1198 grace of God I will be an overcomer.” Put your will on the side of
1199 God's will, and with your eye fixed upon Him who is the author
1200 and finisher of your faith, you may make straight paths for your
1201 feet. When you are tempted, say, “Jesus is my Saviour, I love him
1202 because he first loved me.” Show that you trust him. As you walk
1203 the streets, as you work about your house, you can communicate
1204 with your Lord; lay hold upon him by living faith, and believe his
1205 Word to the letter.” *Bible Echo*, July 15, 1892. par. 3

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Do Not CONSULT Your Feelings

1209 Jeremiah 17:9 “The heart is deceitful above all things, and
1210 desperately wicked; who can know it?”

1211 Php 4:4 “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!”

1212 Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not
1213 on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him,
1214 and He shall direct your paths.”

1215 “If you look to yourself, you will see only weakness. There is no
1216 Saviour there. You will find Jesus away from yourself. You must
1217 look and live; [look] to Him who became sin for us, that we
1218 might be cleansed from sin and receive of Christ’s
1219 righteousness.” *Daughters of God*, p. 146.3

1220 “Satan may try to bind you to his car [chariot] as a helpless soul.
1221 But shout in victory that Christ has made you a free man. Do not
1222 dishonor God by one expression of inefficiency and inability to
1223 overcome fully, entirely, and gloriously through Jesus Christ,
1224 who has died to redeem you, and make you a free man. Conquer,
1225 yes, conquer. Put your will every moment on the side of God’s
1226 will. Think hopefully and courageously. In faith cry out against
1227 Satan, and looking unto Jesus who is the author and finisher of
1228 your faith, say, ‘Jesus, my Redeemer, I am weak. I cannot do
1229 anything without Thy special help. I hang my helpless soul on
1230 Thee.’ Then let your imagination dwell on the thought that you
1231 are in the presence of Jesus, walking with God, your life hid with
1232 Christ in God.... Then you will not glorify Satan by imagining
1233 yourself weak and helpless. You will keep yourself uplifted into a
1234 pure and holy atmosphere. You will receive the Holy Spirit as a
1235 comforter, as a sanctifier.... You will have a calm, restful spirit in
1236 God. You will say, ‘Jesus lives, and because He lives I will live
1237 also. He has conquered Satan in my behalf, and I will not be
1238 conquered by the devil once. I will not disgrace my Lord and
1239 Leader; but I will triumph in His holy name, and come off more
1240 than conqueror.’” *Our High Calling*, p. 41.3

1241 “If we believe in the power of Jesus’ name, and present our
1242 petitions to God in His name, we shall never be turned away....
1243 Our help cometh from God, who holds all things in His own
1244 hands. Our peace is in the assurance that His love is exercised
1245 toward us. If faith grasps this assurance, we have gained all; if we
1246 lose this assurance, all is lost. When we surrender all we have and
1247 are to God and are placed in trying and dangerous positions,
1248 coming in contact with Satan, we should remember that we shall
1249 have victory in meeting the enemy in the name and power of the
1250 Conqueror. Every angel would be commissioned to come to our
1251 rescue when we thus depend upon Christ rather than that we
1252 should be permitted to be overcome.” *That I May Know Him*, p.
1253 256.3

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ADOPT Christ's Lifestyle Of

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Obedience And Service

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Take CHRIST'S Yoke

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Do Not Take On FALSE Yokes

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Take Up CHRIST'S Yoke

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Matthew 11:28-30 "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Galatians 5:1 "Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage."

John 8:36 "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."

"Does He not tell us the truth when He says, 'My yoke is easy'? If we manufacture yokes for ourselves, as many are doing, we shall find them extremely galling; but if we take the yoke that Christ has prepared for us, and become meek and lowly in heart, self will be hid with Christ in God. This is the correct position for us to occupy." *Sermon and Talks*, vol. 2, p. 275.1

"We often think we are having a hard time in bearing burdens, and it is too often the case, because God has not made any provision for us to carry these burdens; but when we bear His yoke and carry His burdens, we can testify that the yoke of Christ is easy and His burdens are light, because He has made provision for these." *SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 5, p. 1091.2

1 John 5:3 "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome."

"This yoke, [which] you are afraid [to] put upon your neck because you fear it will gall, Jesus says is easy. The burden you dare not touch—it is light. All that is required on your part is to resolutely lay hold upon it, and you will find it a support rather than a grievous burden. That cross which seems to you so inconvenient an instrument to lift, which seems too heavy to be

1293 raised, when you cheerfully lay hold upon it and lift it, it will lift
1294 you and be a support and strength to you....” *The Upward Look*,
1295 p. 376.4

1296

1297 What is Christ’s Yoke?

1298 It Is A Yoke Of Obedience And Service

1299 "If you will seek the Lord and be converted every day; if you will
1300 of your own spiritual choice be free and joyous in God; if with
1301 gladsome consent of heart to His gracious call you come wearing
1302 the yoke of Christ,—the yoke of obedience and service,—all your
1303 murmurings will be stilled, all your difficulties will be removed,
1304 all the perplexing problems that now confront you will be
1305 solved." *Mount of Blessings*, p. 101.3

1306

1307 The Yoke Of OBEDIENCE

1308 John 6:38 “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My
1309 own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.”

1310 John 13:17 “If you know these things, blessed are you if you do
1311 them.”

1312 “The yoke and the cross are symbols representing the same
1313 thing,—the giving up of the will to God.” *SDA Bible*
1314 *Commentary*, vol. 5, p. 1090.8

1315 “What is ‘My yoke’? It is perfect submission to God.” *Sermon*
1316 *and Talks*, vol. 1, p. 152.3

1317

1318 What is Christ’s Yoke?

1319 The Yoke of SERVICE

1320 Matthew 10:8 “Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead,
1321 cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.”

1322 Matthew 20:26-28 “And whoever desires to be first among you,
1323 let him be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be
1324 served, but to serve....”

1325 “The yoke is an instrument of service. Cattle are yoked for labor,
1326 and the yoke is essential that they may labor effectually. By this
1327 illustration Christ teaches us that we are called to service as long
1328 as life shall last. We are to take upon us His yoke, that we may be
1329 co-laborers with Him.” *Signs of the Times*, June 29, 1904 par. 3

1330 “The Master, Jesus Christ, has placed His yoke upon the neck of
1331 every disciple. The life service is pledged to Him in accepting His

1332 yoke. Anything that will mar or hinder his perfect service to God
1333 is to be broken off, whatever its nature or character may be. . .
1334 .” *Heavenly Places*, p. 201.4

1335

1336 Christ’s Yoke Is To Be Worn

1337 In MEEKNESS And LOWLINESS

1338 Psalms 25:9 “The meek will he guide ... the meek will he teach
1339 his way.”

1340 Psalms 37:11 “But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall
1341 delight themselves in the abundance of peace.”

1342 Psalms 149:4 “He will beautify the meek with salvation.”

1343 Matthew 5:5 “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the
1344 earth.”

1345 “We are to take his yoke of submission, restraint, and obedience,
1346 in meekness and lowliness of heart. Those who yoke up with
1347 Christ will find rest and peace.” *Gospel of Health*, December 1,
1348 1899, par. 6

1349 “In our separation from God, in our pride and darkness, we are
1350 constantly seeking to elevate ourselves, and we forget that
1351 lowliness of mind is power. Our Saviour’s power was not in a
1352 strong array of sharp words that would pierce through the very
1353 soul; it was His gentleness and His plain, unassuming manners
1354 that made Him a conqueror of hearts. Pride and self-importance,
1355 when compared with lowliness and humility, are indeed
1356 weakness.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 477.1

1357 “The meekness and lowliness of Christ is the Christian’s power.
1358 It is indeed more precious than all things which genius can create
1359 or wealth can buy.” *Counsels on Health*, p. 403.1

1360 “Jesus expects that his gentleness and condescension will be
1361 reproduced in those whom he blesses. Jesus came to our world,
1362 and chose the lowliest life, took the humblest position, leaving us
1363 an example that we should follow in his steps. The Majesty of
1364 heaven was meek and lowly in heart, and he expects all his
1365 followers to catch his spirit of meekness and lowliness....” *Signs*
1366 *of the Times*, August 22, 1895, par. 1

1367 “In the world the Christian will be slighted and dishonored, and
1368 will consent to be least of all and servant of all. He will submit to
1369 be injured, to be despitefully used and persecuted, but wearing
1370 the yoke of Christ he will find rest unto his soul, and the yoke
1371 will not be galling.” *Signs of the Times*, August 22, 1895, par. 5

1372 “Meekness is a precious grace, willing to suffer silently, willing
1373 to endure trials. Meekness is patient and labors to be happy under
1374 all circumstances. Meekness is always thankful and makes its
1375 own songs of happiness, making melody in the heart to God.
1376 Meekness will suffer disappointment and wrong, and will not
1377 retaliate.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 335.1

1378

1379

1380 Christ’s Yoke Is EASY To Carry

1381 John 16:33 “Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

1382 James 1:2-4 “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into
1383 various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces
1384 patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be
1385 perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”

1386 2 Corinthians 4:17 “For our light affliction, which is but for a
1387 moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal
1388 weight of glory.”

1389 “It was the spirit of uncomplaining submission in which our
1390 Saviour did His duty that made His yoke easy and His burden
1391 light. He conformed to the law of obedience and service, and the
1392 same principle that made Him so useful everywhere, He requires
1393 His followers to obey. In this way every man must be educated
1394 before he can love God supremely and his neighbor as
1395 himself.” *Signs of the Times*, June 16, 1898, par. 9

1396 “When you find your work hard, when you complain of
1397 difficulties and trials, when you say that you have no strength to
1398 withstand temptation, that you cannot overcome impatience, and
1399 that the Christian life is uphill work, be sure that you are not
1400 bearing the yoke of Christ; you are bearing the yoke of another
1401 master.” *Child Guidance*, p. 267.3

1402

1403 What Is The PRACTICAL Outcome

1404 Of Wearing Christ’s Yoke?

1405 1 John 2:6 “He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to
1406 walk just as He walked.”

1407 Micah 6:8 “He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what
1408 does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and
1409 to walk humbly with your God.”

1410 Isaiah 66:2 “But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and
1411 of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word.”

1412 “Lowliness of heart, that meekness which is the fruit of abiding in
1413 Christ, is the true secret of blessing. ... It was through the desire
1414 for self-exaltation that sin entered into the world, and our first
1415 parents lost the dominion over this fair earth, their kingdom. It is
1416 through self-abnegation that Christ redeems that which was lost.
1417 And He says we are to overcome as He did. Through humility
1418 and self-surrender we may become heirs with Him, when the
1419 “meek shall inherit the earth.” *Sons and Daughters of God*, p.
1420 303.5

1421

1422 You Will Be BLESSED In

1423 Taking Up Christ’s Power-Bringing Yoke

1424 Romans 8:37 “Yet in all these things we are more than
1425 conquerors....”

1426 1 Corinthians 15:57 “But thanks be to God, which gives us the
1427 victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1428 “There is rest for the soul in wearing Christ's yoke, in lifting
1429 Christ's burdens. It seems a contradiction to say that there is no
1430 rest for the soul except that which is found in continuous and
1431 devoted service. But this is true. Happiness comes in willing,
1432 obedient service, where all the powers of our being are moving in
1433 happy, healthy, harmonious action in obeying our Captain's
1434 orders. The more responsible the task assigned to Christ's
1435 soldiers, the more the soul exults in the Saviour's love and
1436 approval. The soul realizes a freedom in the performance of the
1437 weightiest and most taxing duties.” *Pacific Union Recorder*,
1438 January 15, 1903, par. 3

1439 “None but God can subdue the pride of man’s heart. We cannot
1440 save ourselves. We cannot regenerate ourselves. In the heavenly
1441 courts there will be no song sung, “To me that loved myself, and
1442 washed myself, redeemed myself, unto me be glory and honor,
1443 blessing and praise.” But this is the keynote of the song that is
1444 sung by many here in this world. They do not know what it
1445 means to be meek and lowly in heart, and they do not mean to
1446 know this if they can avoid it. The whole gospel is comprised in
1447 learning of Christ His meekness and lowliness.” *Manuscript*
1448 *Releases*, vol. 20, p. 117.2

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MAINTAIN This Life

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Maintain This Life Through

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PRAYER AND COMMUNION With God...

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Matthew 6:6 “But you, when you pray, go into your room and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.”

1460

“Prayer is a necessity; for it is the life of the soul. Family prayer, public prayer, have their place; but it is secret communion with God that sustains the soul-life.” *Review and Herald* December 31, 1908, par. 10

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Maintain This Life

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Through BIBLE STUDY...

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Psalms 119:11 “Your word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against You.”

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“The Bible is God’s voice speaking to us just as surely as though we could hear Him with our ears. The word of the living God is not merely written, but spoken. Do we receive the Bible as the oracle of God? If we realized the importance of this Word, with what awe would we open it, and with what earnestness would we search its precepts. The reading and contemplating of the Scriptures would be regarded as an audience with the Most High.” *In Heavenly Places*, p. 134.2

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MAINTAIN This Life

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Through Doing GOD’S WILL...

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Matthew 7:21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”

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“Much prayer, and a humbling of the heart, a constant surrender of the will to God, will bring the help pledged to every worker by the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Angels of God will work for those who yield themselves to the leading of the Spirit.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 7, p. 354

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1491 Maintain This Life
1492 Through SERVING God...
1493 Matthew 4:19 “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”
1494 “True happiness is to be found, not in self-indulgence and self-
1495 pleasing, but in learning of Christ, taking His yoke, and bearing
1496 His burden. Those who trust to their own wisdom and follow
1497 their own ways, go complaining at every step, because the burden
1498 which selfishness binds upon them is so heavy and its yoke so
1499 galling. They might change all this if they would but come to
1500 Jesus and by His grace put off the yoke that links them to Satan, .
1501 . . take the burden which Christ gives them, and let His yoke bind
1502 them to Him in willing, happy service.” *That I May Know Him*, p.
1503 121.3
1504 “We are to love our neighbor as ourselves, all our service
1505 merging itself into the life of Jesus Christ. The noble life which
1506 Christ has made it possible for us to live,—one of obedience and
1507 service,—will make us partakers of the divine nature. When we
1508 possess the inner strength of piety, which animated Jesus Christ,
1509 the experience of the great apostle will be ours. Then we can say,
1510 “I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.” That life will reveal
1511 that it is a part of Christ’s life. Its possessor will wear Christ’s
1512 yoke and lift His burdens. The transformation of the human
1513 character makes the yoke of Christ easy, and His burden light.”
1514 *Signs of the Times*, March 10, 1898, par. 5

This study was compiled by Dan Augsburger. Commercial use is forbidden. Dan spends his time studying and presenting seminars/weeks of prayer, and speaking on righteousness by faith, prayer, revival, raising children and practical Christianity. Find more resources on this subject at discipleheart.com. Find a Spanish translation of this document at discipleheart.com as well.

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