

literature ministry in the Advent Movement (in Life Sketches)?

.....

.....

2. What was the title of the first publication? How many copies were printed?

.....

.....



Name three countries in which Mrs. White recognized printing presses that had been shown to her in vision years before the publishing houses were established:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

6. Briefly describe the symbolic representation by which the rapid and rapid widespread development of Spiritualism was pictured to Mrs. White.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

THINK ON THESE THINGS (No written answers)

Why was Ellen White restrained from speaking until the “man” left the platform, in Melbourne, Australia?

Are spiritualist mediums false prophets?

Does the promise of success in missionary endeavor give you a strong desire to have a personal part in the work of God?

Have you told your neighbors?

These lessons are being supplied to you without charge by The Voice of Prophecy. Your help in solicited in continuing the circulation of this course.

Providences and Fullfilled Predictions

8

PROPHETIC GUIDANCE

GUIDING TEXT: O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out. - Romans 11:33

One Mark of a True Prophet

And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe.-John 14:29.

In order to establish confidence in messages of grace and guidance spoken by His prophets, God has given dear, convincing evidence as a sound basis for confidence - *accurate predictions* whose fulfillment can be observed.

It is God's purpose that the inhabitants of the earth, and especially the Advent people, shall understand the full significance of events taking place about them, and that they shall know what is to come in the future. To enlighten His church, God has given advance information through the Bible prophets, and much helpful counsel and prophetic guidance through His messenger, Ellen White.

The providences of God are seen at work in the fulfillment of predictions, so we have linked these together in this lesson.

God Showed to Mrs. White Matters Hidden to Others

One manifestation of the prophetic gift in the work of Mrs. White was seen in her knowledge of matters hidden from other believers. A great many incidents that illustrate this are recorded by those who worked closely with her in her ministry. To record all such occurrences would fill several books. Concerning the manifest providence of God in the communication of such hidden knowledge, Ellen White wrote:

Sometimes the things which I have seen are hid from me after I come out of vision, and I cannot call them to mind until I am brought before a company where that vision applies, then the things which I have seen come to my mind with force. . . .

It is impossible for me to call up things which have been shown me unless the Lord brings them before me at the time that He is pleased to have me relate or write them. - *Spiritual Gifts*, vol. I, p. 292,293.

We include here one incident in connection with a conference in the North Fitzroy church in Melbourne, Australia, in the late 1890's. H. M. Blunden, an eyewitness tells the story:

She [Mrs. White] walked onto the platform, led by Elder Daniells. He accompanied her to the desk, introduced her to the congregation, and then withdrew to his seat.

Sister White opened her Bible and seemed to be ready to begin her address. She opened her mouth as if to speak but her voice was silent. Then holding the desk with her hands, she ran her keen eyes around the congregation as though searching for someone. There was not a stir among the people.

Her search, however, seemed to be fruitless and so a second time she attempted to begin her sermon, but once again there was no voice. The words refused to come, and once again her eyes searched through the entire congregation, this time a little more thoroughly than before. But still failing to locate the person she was evidently seeking among the people, she turned around and scanned the five men on the platform. Her eyes settled upon one man in the end seat, and pointing her finger at him she said to Elder Daniells, "What is this man doing on this platform with me?" The man thus singled out slowly arose to his full height of over 6 feet, and with a guilty look quickly left the platform and vanished. It was a dramatic scene.

While the entire congregation was thinking upon the scene and wondering concerning the meaning of it all, Sister White, with an air of relief, returned to the desk and began her discourse, making no reference of any kind to the incident. The man who was pointed out in this strange manner was actually a spiritualistic medium, a wolf in sheep's clothing. Sister White did not know him, but immediately upon entering the church she was conscious of his presence. She had seen him in vision and somehow knew he was present in this gathering. She was unable to use her voice until she found him. - "*Spirit of Prophecy Day Program*." 1958.

God Used the Gift of Prophecy to Guide Church Leaders

Within a decade after the beginning of Sabbath keeping among the Adventists, an organized apostasy developed under the direction of two men named H. S. Case and C. P. Russel. These men, having been reproved by Ellen White for their faults, had become bitter and, to justify themselves, began to attack the church leaders.

Elder D. E. Robinson, for many years a secretary to Mrs. E. G. White, drew together the records which show how the timely action of the Spirit of Prophecy saved the church leaders' energies and channeled them into fields of useful service:

The attacks of the apostates [Case and Russel and others] through their paper, "The Messenger of Truth," became so bitter that five of the brethren, [James] White, [J. H.] Waggoner, [M. E.] Cornell, [J. B.] Frisbie, and [J. N.] Loughborough, agreed upon a distribution of labor in meeting the charges. While prayer was offered ... Mrs. White was taken off in vision. Of this revelation, given at Oswego, N. Y. in June, 1855, she said, in substance, as recorded by Elder Loughborough from memory:

"You brethren have made a mistake in your plans to refute the lies of the *Messenger* paper. When you answer one of their lies, they will make two more to match it. It is a trick of the enemy to keep you following them up, to draw you away from working in the interest that is now so evidently arising with the public. You let the Messenger people alone, and pay no attention to their work, and in less than six weeks they will be at war among themselves. That paper will go down; and when they cease its publication, you will find that our ranks have doubled." - *Pacific Union Recorder*, June 30, 1910. Quoted in *Prophetic Guidance*, a Syllabus, by D. E. Robinson, p. 41.

Read Ellen White's account of this same vision as printed in *Testimonies*, vol. I, pp. 122, 123.

Very soon after Mrs. White's vision in Oswego, New York, one of the apostates was refused permission to publish in the *Messenger* an article declaring that the horns of the two-horned beast of Revelation 13 represented England and France. Offended, he withdrew his support. Others followed, and the wrangle among them continued. But when the *Messenger* ceased publication in 1857, the number of loyal Seventh-day Adventists had more than doubled. Early the following year, 1858, James White wrote regarding the main personnel of the *Messenger* party:

Wyman, rejected by his party for crime, and a town charge. Bezzo, their editor, fined \$25 for presenting a pistol, and threatening to shoot a scholar in school. Case, run out as a preacher, and fishing on the lakes. Chapin, in a clothing store. Lillis, a Spiritualist. Russel and Hicks had denounced Bezzo and the publishers of their sheet as hypocrites, and were standing alone. It seems that as soon as these restless spirits went out from the body by themselves, that they immediately went to biting and devouring one another until not one of the eighteen messengers of which they once boasted as being with them is now bearing a public testimony, and not one place of regular meetings to our knowledge among them. - *Review and Herald*, January 14, 1858, p. 77.

Of the remarkable increase of church membership among the Seventh-day Adventists during these three years of opposition, he continued:

The true friends of the cause have been led by these things to see the necessity of bearing a bold and independent testimony for the truth, and for the gifts of the Holy Spirit. And that gift which was so despised by the faction, never was prized by the body as now. The faction has crumbled and disappeared, and the body has risen in union and strength. And where one destitute of moral worth has left the ranks, four of real worth have joined the ranks of Sabbath-keepers. At the time of the disaffection, when the effort was to break down the REVIEW, the church property at the office was only \$700; since it has increased to \$5000. Then there were but 1000 paying subscribers, now there are near 2000. - *Ibid*.

Events of International Significance Foreseen by Ellen White

A world engulfed in war and trouble.

In a message to the world published in the *Signs of the Times*, twenty-four years before the outbreak of World War 1, Ellen White solemnly predicted:

... The tempest is coming, and we must get ready for its fury by having repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord will arise to shake terribly the earth. We shall see troubles on all sides. Thousands of ships will be hurled into the depths of the sea. Navies will go down, and human lives will be sacrificed by millions. Fires will break out unexpectedly, and no human effort will be able to quench them. The palaces of earth will be swept away in the fury of the flames. Disasters by rail will become more and more frequent; confusion, collision, and death without a moment's warning will occur on the great lines of travel. The end is near, probation is closing. Oh, let seek God while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near! – *Signs of the Times*, April 21, 1890; *Messages to Young People*, pp. 89, 90.

PROPHETIC GUIDANCE IN THE ADVENT MOVEMENT

PROVIDENCES AND
PROVIDENCES AND FULFILLED PREDICTIONS

Test Questions - Lesson 8

1. Fill in the words missing from the following:

- 1. As a sound basis for our confidence in His inspired messages, God has givenwhose fulfillment can be observed.
- 2. “And now, I have told youit come to pass, that when it isye might believe.” John 14:29.



Answer these questions

- 1. How many times did John N. Loughborough see Mrs. White in vision?
- 2. How many of her predictions did he say he had seen accurately filled?

3. Underline the word in parentheses which do not truthfully complete these statements:

- 1. “Hidden things” which God revealed to Mrs. White (were often hid from her till the time and occasion for their application) (she never forgot) (she could not call to mind by her own will).
- 2. The man whom Mrs. White pointed out in the North Fitzroy church in Melbourne, Australia, was (an honest S.D.A. minister) (a spiritualistic medium) (a wolf in sheep’s clothing).

4. List three of four predictions made by Ellen G. White concerning world conditions which have been fulfilled in recent years, or are in process of fulfillment:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.....

5. Answer these questions:

By what figure of speech did Mrs. White forecast a great