



METRO NEW YORK WORLD MINISTRY
ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL CONTRIBUTING NOTES
For the week of April 18 – 24, 2015
Lesson: **Book of Luke, Lesson 4**

SABBATH – The Call to Discipleship

(Memory Text) **Luke 9: 23** -- And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

Love is the supreme test of discipleship. This is following Christ no matter what the circumstances.

(Selected Messages, vol. 1, p. 110) When you give up your own will, your own wisdom, and learn of Christ, you will find admittance into the kingdom of God. He requires entire, unreserved surrender. Give up your life for Him to order, mold, and fashion. Take upon your neck His yoke. Submit to be led and taught by Him. Learn that unless you become as a little child, you can never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Abiding in Christ is choosing only the disposition of Christ, so that His interests are identified with yours. Abide in Him, to be and to do only what He wills. These are the conditions of discipleship, and unless they are complied with, you can never find rest. Rest is in Christ; it cannot be as something apart from Him.

Being a disciple of Christ means doing what he has said. It's preaching what he has commanded you to preach. It's teaching what he has commanded you to teach. It is not following anything else whether it be a pastor, elder, a church, layman, etc...

(The Desire of Ages, p. 825) In the commission to His disciples, Christ not only outlined their work, but gave them their message. Teach the people, He said, "to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." The disciples were to teach what Christ had taught. That which He had spoken, not only in person, but through all the prophets and teachers of the Old Testament, is here included. Human teaching is shut out. There is no place for tradition, for man's theories and conclusions, or for church legislation. No laws ordained by ecclesiastical authority are included in the commission. None of these are Christ's servants to teach. "The law and the prophets," with the record of His own words and deeds, are the treasure committed to the disciples to be given to the world. Christ's name is their watchword, their badge of distinction, their bond of union, the authority for their course of action, and the source of their success. Nothing that does not bear His superscription is to be recognized in His kingdom.

The plans of any person or organization must be what Christ has instructed.



SUNDAY – Fishers of Men

The lesson points out a tremendous point: we must be obedient to Jesus in order to be his disciple and win souls for the kingdom. It is Jesus that makes us fishers of men. We have no converting power of our own. We are only an instrument.

(Luke 5:10) "...from henceforth thou shalt catch men." When we are totally dedicated to Christ and his cause he will bring success in soul winning and evangelism.

(Isaiah 55:11) So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

When we give the message as Christ has directed it will have an impact. We may not see it immediately but it will have its impact and the word of the Lord will do its work.

We must also remember...

(Testimonies, vol. 6, 370) The Lord does not now work to bring many souls into the truth...

Why is this so?

The Lord does not now work to bring many souls into the truth, because of the church members who have never been converted and those who were once converted but who have backslidden. What influence would these unconsecrated members have on new converts? Would they not make of no effect the God-given message which His people are to bear?

Our part is to give the message faithfully and let the Holy Spirit do its work of impressing hearts and minds and decisions will be made for or against Jesus and his truth. God will bring the people in when the timing is right.

Are we doing the work given to us?

(Selected Messages, vol. 2, p. 176) Herein lies a most important lesson for God's people today--a lesson that many are slow to learn. The spirit of covetousness, of seeking for the highest position and the highest wage, is rife in the world. The old-time spirit of self-denial and self-sacrifice is too seldom met with. But this is the only spirit that can actuate a true follower of Jesus. Our divine Master has given us an example of how we are to work. And to those whom He bade, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matt. 4:19), He offered no stated sum as a reward for their services. They were to share with Him His self-denial and sacrifice.

Speaking of being made "fishers of men"...

(The Great Controversy, p. 171) The less they had been influenced by the false teaching of their time, the more successfully could Christ instruct and train them for His service.

Recommended reading: This Day with God, p. 41, Youth Instructor, Dec. 8, 1898



MONDAY – Selection of the Twelve

In Revelation 12:1 there is a woman who has a crown of twelve stars. This woman is the true people of God – the true church. At this point the twelve stars represent the twelve tribes of Israel - which are God's Old Testament people, and ultimately the founders of the twelve tribes.

Who were the founders of the twelve tribes? It was the twelve sons of Jacob. So we begin with twelve individuals and they proliferate and become twelve tribes. In other words they become a people. The twelve stars represent the twelve sons of Jacob or the twelve tribes of Israel that come from them.

Let's notice where this idea of the twelve stars comes from, but first a question: Is Joseph a type of Christ? And the answer is a clear yes.

(Genesis 37:9) And he (Joseph) dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

Why is it 11 stars? Because Joseph is the twelfth. The twelve stars represent the sons of Jacob.

(Genesis 49:28) All these are the twelve tribes of Israel: and this is it that their father spake unto them, and blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them.

So you have the twelve sons of Jacob - literal individuals - that proliferate and multiply and become the nation of Israel - the twelve tribes of Israel. That's God's Old Testament church.

The New Testament Twelve

How many apostles did Jesus choose? It was twelve. Did Jesus choose twelve just because it sounded like a good number? After the child is born the twelve stars the woman of Revelation 12 has also represent the twelve apostles. This is the New Testament Church.

The New Testament church, the twelve apostles represented by the twelve stars, are the same church because it's still the same woman.

The twelve apostles multiply the church spiritually.

(Mark 3:14) And he ordained (appointed) twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,

The apostles are addressed as "the twelve" several times in Scripture.

(Matt. 10:1) And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples...

(vs. 2) Now the names of the twelve apostles are these...

(vs, 5) These twelve Jesus sent forth...



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(Matt. 11:1) And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples,

(Matt. 26:20) Now when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve.

The apostles are constantly called "the twelve". In other words there's something significant about the number twelve.

(Acts of the Apostles, p. 19) As in the Old Testament the twelve patriarchs stood as representatives of Israel, so the twelve apostles stand as representatives of the gospel church.

Why did Jesus choose twelve? It was because he wanted to express the continuity between the Old Testament Church and the New Testament Church. There is one woman – one church with two stages.

The significance of Acts 1

Why was there such an urgency to name the twelfth apostle before the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost? It's interesting that the first item of business was to elect apostle number twelve - why?

(Acts 1:16-26) Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled (*the prophecy about Judas*), which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

17 For he was **numbered** (*this is a key word*) with us, and had obtained part of this ministry.

18 Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.

19 And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood.

20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take.

21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,

22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, **must one be ordained** to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

23 And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

24 **And they prayed...**

This is very important that it says "they prayed" because there are some who say God wanted Saul of Tarsus to be the twelfth apostle and the church back then jumped the gun. This is nothing more than good ole' Adventist mythology with no foundation in Scripture as it says "they prayed" before they made this decision.

24 And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two **thou hast chosen**,

25 That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.



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26 And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; **and he was numbered** with the eleven apostles.

Is the number “twelve” significant? It is, but why was it so important to name apostle number twelve?

In the Old Testament the High Priest, when he was clothed and ready to begin his ministry for Israel, one of the items of his dress was called the breastplate. This breastplate covered the heart.

Read Exodus 28:15-30 - verse 29 says he will have the children of Israel on his heart. The stones on the breastplate - twelve of them - represented the twelve sons of Jacob and by extension Israel.

When did Jesus begin his high priestly work - for the church? It's when he went back to heaven on the Day of Pentecost. That's when Jesus entered the Holy Place and became the intercessor and began his work of applying the benefits of the atonement to those that claim what Jesus did.

If Jesus began his work as High Priest when he ascended to heaven, must he then have had a breastplate? The answer is absolutely. How could he have a breastplate with 11 stones? Did he have to have a breastplate with twelve stones representing the fullness of God's people – which at this stage is the twelve apostles? Absolutely, and this had to take place before the Day of Pentecost - before he began his work as High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary. There had to be twelve.

So did they jump the gun? No, they did not jump the gun at all. But yet a myth goes around in some Adventist circles that says God wanted Saul of Tarsus and the early church jumped the gun and voted in another.

The Spirit of Prophecy confirms what the Bible says:

(Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 3, p. 264) Two men were selected, who, in the careful judgment of the believers, were best qualified for the place. But the disciples, distrusting their ability to decide the question farther, referred it to One that knew all hearts. They sought the Lord in prayer to ascertain which of the two men was more suitable for the important position of trust, as an apostle of Christ. **The Spirit of God selected Matthias for the office.**

That's pretty clear - it was not going to be Saul of Tarsus. That would have been 3 1/2 years too late because Jesus had to have twelve stones on his breastplate.

TUESDAY – Commissioning of the Apostles

Read Luke 9:1-6 and realize it is Jesus who calls us to do his work. We move when he instructs us. Many wait until the church tells them what they can do – this is not the commission of Christ.

(Testimonies, vol. 8, 150) The arms of power in Battle Creek are being extended more and more widely, seeking to control the work far and near, and to crush that which they cannot control. I lift my voice in protest. The spirit that now controls is not the Spirit of the Lord.



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(Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 300) Let me tell you that the Lord will work in this last work in a manner very much out of the common order of things, and in a way that will be contrary to any human planning. There will be those among us who will always want to control the work of God, to dictate even what movements shall be made when the work goes forward under the direction of the angel who joins the third angel in the message to be given to the world. God will use ways and means by which it will be seen that He is taking the reins in His own hands. The workers will be surprised by the simple means that He will use to bring about and perfect His work of righteousness. Those who are accounted good workers will need to draw nigh to God, they will need the divine touch. They will need to drink more deeply and continuously at the fountain of living water, in order that they may discern God's work at every point. Workers may make mistakes, but you should give them a chance to correct their errors, give them an opportunity to learn caution, by leaving the work in their hands.

The lesson speaks of obedience and unity as being vital for the mission to succeed. This is very true. The reason why the church is not succeeding in the commission is because it is disobedient, every wind of doctrine is blowing, and therefore there is no true unity. Sure, we speak of unity in the worldwide church. But any unity that is built on anything but the truth is a false unity.

In Jesus' prayer for his followers to be one he prayed...

(John 17:17) Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

When we are not faithful to our calling God will choose others.

(Last Day Events, p. 59) When a church proves unfaithful to the word of the Lord, whatever their position may be, however high and sacred their calling, the Lord can no longer work with them. Others are then chosen to bear important responsibilities. But, if these in turn do not purify their lives from every wrong action, if they do not establish pure and holy principles in all their borders, then the Lord will grievously afflict and humble them and, unless they repent, will remove them from their place and make them a reproach.--14MR 102 (1903)

(Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 455) God has called His church in this day, as He called ancient Israel, to stand as a light in the earth. By the mighty cleaver of truth, the messages of the first, second, and third angels, He has separated them from the churches and from the world to bring them into a sacred nearness to Himself. He has made them the depositaries of His law and has committed to them the great truths of prophecy for this time. Like the holy oracles committed to ancient Israel, these are a sacred trust to be communicated to the world. The three angels of Revelation 14 represent the people who accept the light of God's messages and go forth as His agents to sound the warning throughout the length and breadth of the earth. Christ declares to His followers: "Ye are the light of the world." To every soul that accepts Jesus the cross of Calvary speaks: "Behold the worth of the soul: 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.'" **Nothing is to be permitted to hinder this work. It is the all-important work for time; it is to be far-reaching as eternity.** The love that Jesus manifested for the souls of men in the sacrifice which He made for their redemption, will actuate all His followers.



WEDNESDAY – Sending the Seventy

The seventy sent out by Christ going from city to city was done before Jesus would go to that city. This was to prepare souls ahead of time for Jesus' appearance. This is an example of the same work that could and should be done before any evangelistic series that we might have today. God's people should go out in pairs, door to door, working the neighborhoods prior to an evangelistic campaign, raising awareness, and searching out souls who are looking for truth.

(The Desire of Ages, p. 350) Calling the twelve about Him, Jesus bade them go out two and two through the towns and villages. None were sent forth alone, but brother was associated with brother, friend with friend. Thus they could help and encourage each other, counseling and praying together, each one's strength supplementing the other's weakness. In the same manner He afterward sent forth the seventy. It was the Saviour's purpose that the messengers of the gospel should be associated in this way. In our own time evangelistic work would be far more successful if this example were more closely followed.

This is the example but the problem lies in the local church and its members. There is no training involved. Leaders aren't sure themselves how to do this work. And another problem is the lack of unity when it comes to the understanding of the word and sound doctrine.

Because of these problems areas we've resorted to turning to Babylon on how to evangelize. We've sent over 1000 of our pastors to Willow Creek Community Church (Chicago) for training. We've also turned to Rick Warren and the Saddleback Church and his books ('The Purpose Driven Life' and 'The Purpose Driven Church'). These Babylonian organizations are influenced and controlled by Rome and the Jesuits – you can rest assure on that. These lead us away from God and his word and from the Three Angel's Messages.

Rick Warren discourages the study of prophecy – notice:

“If you want Jesus to come back sooner, focus on fulfilling your mission, not figuring out prophecy.” (Rick Warren, *PDL*, pp. 285-286)

And yet we would dare offer these books to our people from our Book Houses?

“Small Groups” and why we should beware

One of the deadliest and almost imperceptible snares is the program “Small Groups.” This program came from Willow Creek (who got it from Rome) to the Adventist Church when we sent 1000 of our pastors there some years ago. Many can't see the danger in this but this program comes from the Roman Catholic Church. It is designed to get you used to Roman Catholic principles and concepts.

The proponents of Small Groups say the ideal Small Group is twelve people - because Jesus had twelve disciples. The problem here is this - now that you have twelve people in the group -someone has to play the role of Jesus that the twelve will follow and obey.

There is not much, if any, Bible study - the group usually (and is encouraged to) becomes an open "confessional" - openly speaking or praying about personal sins/problems to the group or in front of the group - thus you have an open "confessional". Again, this is all designed to lead people back to Rome. If a person is comfortable and practicing in a Small Group setting - it will be much easier for Rome to take over.



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Another aim of the Small Groups program is to break down individual thinking. Members of the group are instructed to not "argue" over a point of disagreement. This would include Bible doctrine. Members are instructed to be loyal and dedicated to the "group".

Where did Small Groups start? According to Roman Catholic sources, Small Groups got their start with a small group of people which called themselves *The Blue Army*. These people were extremely dedicated to the Pope and Mary. They operated in many of the same ways that Small Groups operate today. Protestants have accepted this deception and Adventists have picked it up from influential mega-churches like Bill Hybel's Willow Creek Church (in Chicago) and Rick Warren's Saddleback Church (in southern California). Rome knows that Adventists still won't take anything directly from her but she does know that we will take it from Evangelicals - this is why she gave it to them.

The bottom-line about Small Groups is that it is designed to make the participants obedient to a man (leader) without question. This is not Protestantism, but Catholicism.

You can rest assure this is the Devil's plan for Adventists. The Spirit of Prophecy warned us about the Omega of Apostasy that would come into the church. The Small Groups program (part of and related to Spiritual Formation) plays a large part of the Omega that the Spirit of Prophecy warns us (1SM, 204) that would come into the church in the last days..

The following statements are from a book entitled "As Jesus Did It: How to Plant New Congregations and Promote Growth in Established Churches Through Small Groups"

Written by President Jose H. Cortes, NJ Conference of SDA:

Participating in Small Groups assures your place in heaven?????:

"By enrolling in this plan, each person is securing a place among those who will be victorious with Jesus and His church. They will be more than mere spectators; they will have an active part in the final victory." (p. 71)

It must be a group think mentality:

"The lofty ideal of every church should be to inspire 100% of the membership to get involved in this program; **there is no room for exclusivist thinking**, and nobody should be turned down who sincerely wants to take part in an orderly, harmonious fashion." (p. 71)

Notice that we need a Jesus Figure:

"Why the number twelve? There is nothing particularly magical about the number; I just felt inspired by the way Jesus organized His initial group. He could have called seven, or maybe thirteen, but no, twelve was His preference. So, based on that example, I always like to launch small groups with twelve original members symbolizing Jesus' twelve disciples. In time, those men became apostles and along with their Master they form an ideal model for us. **Our small group will also need a group leader who humbly represents the true Master, Jesus.**" (p. 29)



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Notice the Adventist version of the Roman Catholic Confessional:

"This meeting (the Small Group meeting) is like the warmth of a cozy fireplace; it comforts and cheers the heart during the course of weekly activities. It provides a sensation of worth to even the timid because they can participate to the extent of their possibilities and do so with increasing confidence, exchanging ideas and taking part, perhaps as never before, in real missionary activity.

"This should be a very special occasion where each member of the group and those they have invited can feel comfortable, and respectfully at ease among friends in whom there is a sense of trust. **In this setting of confidence the participants can almost go ahead and think out loud. It is an environment where one can pray freely even about personal problems without fear of being judged or misunderstood.** There should reign grace, mercy, and the sage counsel that builds up but doesn't tear down.

"It causes me sadness when at prayer meetings I hear that oft repeated petition, 'pray for my secret request'. That certainly could be reasonable when it has to do with very intimate matters, but often it seems to me to be only the painful confession of a lack of trust that exists among church folks. 'I can't share my situation with anyone here...if I ask the brethren to pray for my problem and I reveal what it is, I know that it will be all over tomorrow's morning edition of the news.'

"I firmly believe that the small group can become a nucleus of trust where folks help one another without reserve. A spirit of loyalty between brothers and friends can develop in that setting and there will be assurance of care which every human being needs."

Paul says in speaking of the man of sin (The Roman Catholic system):

(2 Thessalonians 2:9, 10) Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

There is nothing wrong with a group of believer that are small in number getting together to study the Bible, but the Roman Catholic "Small Groups" model is not the way to heaven. Small Groups is designed to lead you to receive the Mark of the Beast.

(Evangelism, p. 525) The divine commission needs no reform. **Christ's way of presenting truth cannot be improved upon.** The worker who tries to bring in methods that will attract the worldly minded, supposing that this will remove the objections that they feel to taking up the cross, lessens his influence. **Preserve the simplicity of godliness.**



THURSDAY – The Cost of Discipleship

The lesson makes a distinction between discipleship based on human philosophy verses that of based on the teachings of Jesus. It is interesting of what the Spirit of Prophecy says that would permeate the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the last days:

(Read this statement carefully)

(Selected Messages, vol. 1, pp. 204-205) The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization. **Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced.** The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on the sand, and storm and tempest would sweep away the structure.

That is quite a mighty list of changes in the Seventh-day Adventist faith. If we believe that we are living in the end-times then we have to realize that the above statement has come true. But many are oblivious to the fact. If we think this statement isn't going to happen to the church then will we go as far to say that Ellen White is a false prophet?

It's also to note that the phrase "new organization" is used in reference as to something that will happen to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. So a "new organization" is not some new structure, some new conference being established by what we call "offshoots" – it is something that will happen to our church. It also mentions that we would give up the "pillars" of our faith and write books that reflect this.

What is a "new organization"? Let's allow Ellen White to interpret Ellen White.

(Selected Messages, vol. 2, p. 390) The Lord has declared that the history of the past shall be rehearsed as we enter upon the closing work. Every truth that He has given for these last days is to be proclaimed to the world. Every pillar that He has established is to be strengthened. We cannot now step off the foundation that God has established. **We cannot now enter into any new organization; for this would mean apostasy from the truth.**

Entering a "new organization" means to step off the platform of truth – which is the Three Angel's Messages. How many sermons have you heard from the pulpit of your church about the sanctuary, the hour of God's judgment and 1844? What about Babylon being fallen? And that Babylon is all the Protestant churches who rejected the first angel? What about the third angel? Do we expose the beast power (the Roman Catholic system), the image of the beast (Apostate Protestantism), and the mark of the beast (Sunday worship)?



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We don't preach these things anymore because many/most of our people in leadership positions don't believe it anymore? If they preached it they probably wouldn't have a job anymore. And this leads us to the title of this lesson – The Cost of Discipleship.

Will we sacrifice the truth for the sake of a paycheck and benefits? Will we depend on man to supply our needs and give up the truth instead of trusting God and defending his message? What have many of our people gotten themselves into?

Now notice what the Spirit of Prophecy continues saying about this “reorganization” of the church:

(1SM, 205) Who has authority to begin such a movement? We have our Bibles. We have our experience, attested to by the miraculous working of the Holy Spirit. We have a truth that admits of no compromise. Shall we not repudiate everything that is not in harmony with this truth?

I hesitated and delayed about the sending out of that which the Spirit of the Lord impelled me to write. I did not want to be compelled to present the misleading influence of these sophistries. **But in the providence of God, the errors that have been coming in must be met .**

The apostasy must be dealt with. They must be denounced. The best way to denounce it is to uphold the truth and expose the error for what it is.

Speaking of the three angels messages:

(Evangelism, p. 119-120) The most solemn truths ever entrusted to mortals have been given us to proclaim to the world. The proclamation of these truths is to be our work. The world is to be warned, and God's people are to be true to the trust committed to them. . . . In clear, distinct rays light has come to us, showing us that the great day of the Lord is near at hand, "even at the door."

(Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 455) God has called His church in this day, as He called ancient Israel, to stand as a light in the earth. By the mighty cleaver of truth, the messages of the first, second, and third angels, He has separated them from the churches and from the world to bring them into a sacred nearness to Himself. **He has made them the depositaries of His law and has committed to them the great truths of prophecy for this time. Like the holy oracles committed to ancient Israel, these are a sacred trust to be communicated to the world.** The three angels of Revelation 14 represent the people who accept the light of God's messages and go forth as His agents to sound the warning throughout the length and breadth of the earth. Christ declares to His followers: "Ye are the light of the world." To every soul that accepts Jesus the cross of Calvary speaks: "Behold the worth of the soul: 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.'" **Nothing is to be permitted to hinder this work. It is the all-important work for time; it is to be far-reaching as eternity.** The love that Jesus manifested for the souls of men in the sacrifice which He made for their redemption, will actuate all His followers.



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(Maranatha, p. 240) Mark this point with care: **Those who receive the pure mark of truth, wrought in them by the power of the Holy Ghost, represented by a mark by the man in linen, are those "that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done" in the church.**

The class who do not feel grieved over their own spiritual declension, nor mourn over the sins of others, will be left without the seal of God. . . .

(Luke 6:26) Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

The bottom line is when the pure unvarnished truth is spoken – it will cost you something. Most will not receive the message and many will shun the messenger. It happened to Jesus and it will happen to his followers.