

WHY MANY SDA'S WILL NOT RECEIVE THE LATTER RAIN

Are we hoping to see the whole church revived? **That time will never come.** There are persons in the church who are not converted, and who will not unite in earnest, prevailing prayer. **We must enter upon the work individually.** We must pray more, and talk less. Iniquity abounds, and the people must be taught not to be satisfied with a form of godliness without the spirit and power. If we are intent upon searching our own hearts, putting away our sins, and correcting our evil tendencies, our souls will not be lifted up unto vanity; we shall be distrustful of ourselves, having an abiding sense that our sufficiency is of God.

We have far more to fear from within than from without. The hindrances to strength and success are far greater from the church itself than from the world. 1 SM 122

In the manifestation of that power which **lightens the earth with the glory of God,** they will see only something which in **their blindness they think dangerous,** something which will arouse their fears, and they will **brace themselves to resist it.** **Because the Lord does not work according to their ideas and expectations, they will oppose the work.** “Why,” they say, “should not we know the Spirit of God, when we have been in the work so many years?”—Because they did not respond **to** the warnings, the entreaties of the messages of God, but persistently said, “I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing.” Talent, long experience, will not make men channels of light, unless they place **themselves** under the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness, and are called, and chosen, and prepared by the endowment of the Holy Spirit. When men who handle sacred things will humble **themselves** under the mighty hand of God, the Lord will lift them up. He will make them men of discernment—men rich in the grace of his Spirit. Their strong, selfish traits of character, their stubbornness, will be seen in the light shining from the Light of the world. “I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.” If you seek the Lord with all your heart, he will be found of you.

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Unless those who can help in _____ are aroused to a sense of their duty, **they will not recognize the work of God when the loud cry of the third angel shall be heard.** When light goes forth to lighten the earth, instead of coming up to the help of the Lord, they will want to bind about His work to meet their narrow ideas. **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.--*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 300. (1885) EV 117,118

In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in **the world as watchmen and light-bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world.** On them is shining wonderful light from the Word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import,--the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention. EV 119 (9T 19)

As I traveled through the South on my way to the conference, I saw city after city that was unworked. What is the matter? **The ministers are hovering over churches which know the truth while thousands are perishing out of Christ.** EV 381

If the proper instruction were given, if the proper methods were followed, every church member would do his work as a member of the body. He would do Christian missionary work. But the churches are dying, and they want a minister to preach to them.

They should be taught to bring a faithful tithe to God, that He may strengthen and bless them. They should be brought into working order, that the breath of God may come to them. They should be taught that unless they can stand alone, without a minister, they need to be converted anew, and baptized anew. They need to be born again.-- *Manuscript 150*, 1901. EV 382

Go Work for Souls.--Instead of keeping the ministers at work for the churches that already know the truth, let the members of the churches say to these laborers: "Go work for souls that are perishing in darkness. We ourselves will carry forward the services of the church. We will keep up the meetings, and, by abiding in Christ, will maintain spiritual life. We will work for souls that are about us, and we will send our prayers and our gifts to sustain the laborers in more needy and destitute fields."-- *Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 30. (1900) EV 382

God calls for consecrated workers who will be true to Him--humble men who see the need of evangelistic work and do not draw back but do each day's work faithfully, relying upon God for help and strength in every emergency. The message is to be taken up by those who love and fear God. Lay not your burden upon any conference. Go forth, and, as evangelists, in a humble way present a "Thus saith the Scriptures."-- *Letter 43*, 1905.

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