

The Star of the New Evangelization of America

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All emphases in this article are mine.

Published by

Modern Manna Ministries

PO Box 28

Lodi CA 95241-0028

209-334-3868

Before I begin, I would like to share a statement from the pen of inspiration that is most sobering and pertinent to the times in which we live: “Those who oppose the teachings of spiritualism are assailing, not men alone, but Satan and his angels. They have entered upon a contest against principalities and powers and wicked spirits in high places. Satan will not yield one inch of ground except he is driven back by the power of heavenly messengers. The people of God should be able to meet him, as did our Saviour, with the words: ‘It is written.’ Satan can quote Scripture now as in the days of Christ, and he will pervert its teachings to sustain his delusions. Those who would stand in this time of peril must understand for themselves the testimony of the Scriptures.” (The Great Controversy, p. 559).

“Satan has long been preparing for his final effort to deceive the world. The foundation of his work was laid by the assurance given to Eve in Eden: ‘Ye shall not surely die.’ ‘In the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.’ Genesis 3:4, 5. Little by little he has prepared the way for his masterpiece of deception in the development of spiritualism. He has not yet reached the full accomplishment of his designs; but it will be reached in the last remnant of time. Says the prophet: ‘I saw three unclean spirits like frogs...they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God almighty.’ Revelation 16:13, 14. Except those who are kept by the power of God, through faith in His word, the whole world will be swept into the ranks of this delusion. The people are fast being lulled to a fatal security, to be awakened only by the outpouring of the wrath of God.” (Ibid., pp. 561, 562).

The Two Great Errors

There are two doctrinal errors originating from the Roman Catholic Church that nearly all Christendom has swallowed as part of the “wine of Babylon.” The first is the false teaching of Sunday, the first day of the week, as the Lord’s day; and the second, which is more deadly, is spiritualism—the hellish doctrine of the natural immortality of the soul and man’s consciousness in death.

Friends, do you realize that two of the pope’s last Apostolic letters deal with these two doctrinal errors? On July 7, 1998, the Vatican released the pope’s 104-page Apostolic letter entitled *Dies Domini—On Keeping the Lord’s Day Holy*. Point 67 of *Dies Domini* actually states: “Christians will naturally strive to ensure that civil legislation respects their duty to keep Sunday holy....Sunday must be sanctified.” On the same day, *The Denver Post* quoted Rome as saying; “A violator should be punished as a heretic.”

Has not prophecy warned us that “When the leading churches of the United States, uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common, shall influence the state to enforce their decrees [“civil legislation”] and to sustain their institutions, then Protestant America will have formed an image to the Roman hierarchy, and the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters [heretics] will inevitably result.” (GC. p. 445).

Many Seventh-day Adventists are familiar with Dies Domini, but not many are aware of the pope's Apostolic Exhortation that he gave to the Synod of Bishops in Mexico City prior to his historic visit to St. Louis in January of 1999. It is called Ecclesia [Church] in America of the Holy Father John Paul II: The Way to Conversion, Communion and Solidarity in America. At the council of Bishops in Mexico, the theme of the event was to discuss new strategies for evangelism that the church in America must attain in the third Christian millennium [which begins with the year 2000].

And will the Virgin Mary be a major player in the new evangelistic efforts of the Roman Catholic Church?

The Star of the New Evangelization

While in Mexico, the pope had dedicated the Americas to the Virgin Mary. Quoting from his Exhortation, article 11, I read: "With the passage of time, pastors and faithful alike have grown increasingly conscious of the role of the Virgin Mary in the evangelization of America. In the prayer of the Special Assembly for America of the Synod of Bishops, Holy Mary of Guadalupe is invoked as 'Patroness of all America and Star of the first and new evangelization.' In view of this, I welcome with joy the proposal of the Synod Fathers that the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother and Evangelizer of America, be celebrated throughout the continent on December 12. It is my heartfelt hope that she...will by her maternal intercession guide the Church in America, obtaining the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, as she once did for the early church (cf. Acts 1:14), so that the new evangelization may yield a splendid flowering of Christian life."

"Consequently, not only in Central and South America, but in North America as well, the Virgin of Guadalupe is venerated as Queen of all America." (Ibid.) Furthermore, the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe near Mexico City draws 20 million visitors a year. It is regarded as the most sacred shrine outside of Europe. Mary, or the "demon Mary," is the "Star" of the Roman Catholic Church's new evangelization of the Americas.

Before I proceed any further, I want you to know that the Catholic Church acknowledges the pagan origin of many of the shrines and statues of Mary. "Devotion to Mary began in the earliest years of Christianity, and she is revered in Christian literature as early as AD 150...Throughout the history of the world, sites associated with any one religion have often been re-used by its successor. To do so reinforces the new religion, but may also result in characteristics of deities of different faiths becoming intermingled. Statues of the Virgin...used to be paraded around the fields to ensure a good harvest. The moon and stars, symbols of Diana, Greco-Roman goddess of hunting were later associated with the Virgin, and Mary is frequently referred to as Stella Maria—Star of the Sea. Festivals, too, were assimilated [from paganism] into the new faith: the Festival of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin on 2 February was originally a Roman Festival of purification. And Christians often took over the pagan shrines of the ancient world's goddesses and rededicated them to Mary. A good example is the shrine to Diana at Ephesus, which was re-established in the fourth century as a shrine to the Virgin." (Shrines of Our Lady, pp. 6, 7).

Amazing! Rome blinds the eyes of ignorant souls worldwide, and once loyalty to their pagan statues and shrines is gained, they empty the pockets of their victims. In Acts 19:24 and 25, the Bible says: "For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen; Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, ye know that by this craft we have our wealth."

The Love of the Truth, or "Strong Delusion"

Beloved, as a former Roman Catholic and Mary devotee, I am amazed at and saddened by the lethargy of Seventh-day Adventists, who have been entrusted with the Three Angels' Messages, and their silence on this issue! Who is sounding the trumpet?

Who is warning our people that spiritualism will soon break upon us with a magnitude that may deceive the very elect? The Bible warns us that the day is near when “miracles” and “lying wonders” will deceive those that “love not the truth.”

I believe the warning in 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12 is written for every professed Christian who has either not heeded, or even has rejected, the light sent from heaven, regardless of his church affiliation, and especially for Seventh-day Adventists.

Paul writes: “And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming: 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. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie [including the devil’s first lie that “Ye shall not surely die,” (Gen. 3: 4)]: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” (2 Thess. 2:8-12).

Now to which denomination has been given “the truth”? And, please notice, not only do many of the professed Christians whom Paul refers to “love not the truth,” but also they do not love it because they have “pleasure in unrighteousness.” Certainly, the majority of professed SDAs today are enjoying the pleasures of the world, and this is most evident by the celebration worship services they have adopted from Rome—a product of Vatican III!

And what will be the “strong delusions” that if it were possible would deceive the very elect? 1 Timothy 4:1 states: Now the Spirit speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.”

The Alpha and the Omega

Nearly 100 years ago, Ellen White gave the following warning: “Be not deceived; many will depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. We have now before us the alpha of this danger. The omega will be of a most startling nature....I knew that the omega would follow in a little while; and I trembled for our people.” (SpT, Series B, No. 2, pp. 16, 53).

At the time she wrote this statement, Dr. John Harvey Kellogg, in his book *The Living Temple*, was promulgating the doctrine of [New Age] pantheism—that God is in everything in the material world—“the flower, the tree, the atmosphere, and even the sinner, and in each one of us, as virtually ‘doing away with God,’ and therefore seriously undercutting the sanctuary truth.” (MR 760, p. 1). This leaves you with an impersonal god, not one who is ministering in your behalf in the heavenly sanctuary, but one that is diffused through nature. Such teachings will lead to the worship of the creature, or to God’s creation, rather than to the Creator. After all, is it not Satan’s ultimate goal to rob God of the homage due only Him by whatever medium he himself chooses!

Dear reader, let it be understood that pantheism, the alpha of apostasy, is a form of spiritualism! In fact, the prophet linked pantheism and spiritualism together on a number of occasions. On one occasion she wrote: “Let the world go into spiritualism, theosophy [mysticism], and pantheism, if they choose. We are to have nothing to do with this deceptive branch of Satan’s work.” (Battle Creek Letters, p. 109).

Webster’s College Dictionary gives several definitions for the word spiritualism, one of which is: “The belief that all reality is spiritual [pantheism].”

Ellen White labeled Kellogg’s teachings as “fascinating, spiritualistic science of Satanic origin.” And she goes on to say: “That these beautiful representations are similar to the temptation that the enemy brought to Adam and Eve in Eden.” (Ibid., p. 103; Sermons and Talks, Vol. 1, p. 341).

In Eden Satan spoke through the medium of a serpent. Pantheism teaches that God is in everything, even animals. Have not even animated, talking animals, such as Disney characters, been used as a form of spiritualism to prepare millions of innocent children to drink of the devil's future master delusions? In fact, I just learned that a Hollywood movie, called *The Sixth Sense*, has been the number-one moneymaker for seven weeks in a row! It is about a young boy who is communicating with the dead.

Spiritualism, just like pantheism, is a spiritualistic science of Satanic origin! In the last days, in his grand efforts to deceive, Satan will again speak through mediums, but this time expanding "familiar spirits" to include, not only human-like agencies, but also well-known deceased Christians. The world, with the help of Hollywood, is quickly being primed to accept the demon Mary and other imposters that shall appear.

I believe Ellen White saw that spiritualism and its influence upon God's people would not cease, but, to the contrary, would culminate in the omega of apostasy: "I am instructed to speak plainly. 'Meet it,' is the word spoken to me. 'Meet it firmly, and without delay'....In the book *Living Temple*, there is presented the alpha of deadly heresies. The omega will follow, and will be received by those who are not willing to heed the warning God has given." (1 SM, p. 200). No wonder she "trembled" for our people, for Satan is determined to sweep "all into the ranks of spiritualism"!!! (GC, p. 588).

Spiritualism Will Imitate Nominal Christianity

Revelation 13 warns us that the United States will experience "great wonders ...on the earth in the sight of men. And which will deceive them that "dwell on the earth, by the means of those miracles, which he had power to do in the sight of the beast." (Rev. 13: 13, 14). "The time is coming when Satan will work miracles right in your sight, claiming that he is Christ; and if your feet are not firmly established upon the truth of God, then you will be led away from your foundation. The only safety for you is to search for truth as for hid treasures. Dig for the truth as you would for treasures in the earth, and present the word of God, the Bible, before your heavenly Father and say, 'Enlighten me, teach me what is truth'....You should store the mind with the Word of God; for you may be separated, and placed where you will not have the privilege of meeting with the children of God." (RH, April 3, 1888).

Picture the day when supernatural events, such as Mother Teresa, the Virgin Mary, or the Apostles of Christ walking on this earth, strengthen the efforts of the religious teachers who are urging Americans to obey the traditional ten commandments, which include the worship of the Sunday sabbath.

"As Spiritualism assimilates more closely to the nominal Christianity of the day, it has greater power to deceive and ensnare. Satan himself is converted, after the modern order of things...Through the agency of Spiritualism, miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and many undeniable wonders will be performed. And as the spirits will profess faith in the Bible, and express regard for Sunday, their work will be accepted as a manifestation of divine power." (4SP, p. 406). This will be a time when violators will be threatened with civil fines and imprisonment if they refuse to obey the laws of the land and the words of Satan's "familiar spirits." What will you do then, beloved?

In the exhortation given at the Synod of Bishops in Mexico City, Pope John Paul II saved his best for the last. In Article 73, entitled *The Challenge of the Sects*, he states: "The proselytizing activity of the sects [historic SDAs?] and new religious groups in America is a grave hindrance to the work of evangelization....The success of proselytism by sects and new religious groups in America cannot be ignored." Indeed, the end is upon us!

Celebration 2000—The Grand Jubilee

In case you are not aware, Rome is planning (planned) a great celebration or jubilee to welcome in the third millennium, and the holy doors of the Vatican will be opened on Christmas, December 25, 1999—the starting date of the Grand Jubilee celebration. The Vatican plans a series of masses and other celebrations to mark Christianity's third millennium, and 20 million people are expected to flock to Rome. John Paul has declared 2000 a jubilee year—a time of pilgrimage and celebration.

Pope John Paul II in his new book, *Celebration 2000*, tells us who in the spiritual realm is in charge of leading the church to Christ in the year 2000—a Marian year! He states: "I entrust this responsibility of the whole church to the maternal intercession of Mary, the Mother of the Redeemer: She, the Mother of fairest love, will be for the Christians [all denominations] on the way to the Great Jubilee of the third millennium the Star which safely guides their steps to the Lord." *Celebration 2000*, p. 268.

For quite some time, Pope John Paul has been setting the stage for *Celebration 2000*. "Papal journeys have become a regular occurrence, taking in the particular churches in every continent and showing concern for the development of ecumenical relationships with Christians of various denominations [SDAs included]." (*Ibid.*, p. 235).

Malachi Martin, author of *The Keys of This Blood*, says that the pope is anxiously awaiting a potent worldwide Marian Vision—"an event that will fission human history....It will be an event on public view in the skies, in the oceans, and on the continental landmasses of this planet. It will particularly involve our human sun....But on the day of this event, it will not appear as the master star of our so-called solar system. Rather, it will be seen as the circumambient glory of the Woman whom the apostle describes as 'clothed with the sun' and giving birth to 'a child who will rule the nations with a scepter of iron.'" (*The Keys of This Blood*, p. 639).

If you doubt this could happen, research the "undeniable wonder" that occurred in Fatima, Portugal, on October 13, 1917. The "Miracle of the Sun" took place. "The sun seemed to flicker on and off, first one way and then another. It shot rays in different directions and painted everything in different colors, the trees, the people, the air and the ground. The sun did not hurt the eyes. Everything was still and quiet, everyone looking upwards. At a certain moment, the sun seemed to stop and then begin to move and to dance until it seemed that it was being detached from the sky and was falling on the people. Thousands of the people present saw this phenomenon and the newspapers wrote about it." (*Our Lady of Fatima Web Site*).

Interestingly, Malachi Martin, ex-Jesuit, died July 27, 1999, and reports are varied on his cause of death. The *Sunday Visitor*, August 22, 1999, featured an article by Greg Erlandson, Editor in Chief, in which he labeled Malachi Martin as "half brilliant, half loon, given to incredible conspiracy theories." Perhaps, he revealed too much!

The Vision

The pope's expected vision will be cataclysmic and bring the normal activity of the world to a standstill. Some are praying that Mary—"the Star of the new evangelization"—will walk through the holy doors of the Vatican on Christmas, 1999, the inauguration of Jubilee 2000. Whenever the vision occurs, I believe it may be what the pope needs to exalt him as the head of the New World Order. Will world chaos and calamities precede this vision? Will it validate the global reign of Pope John Paul II, a Marian pope, who credits Mary with saving his life, and establish him as the spiritual judge of the planet and the Roman Catholic Church as the only true church and this pope as God's ordained leader?

Compare this thought with E.G. White's conclusion on page 588 of *The Great Controversy*: "Satan determines to unite them [professed Christians and the ungodly] into one body and thus strengthen his cause by sweeping all into the ranks of

spiritualism. Papists, who boast of miracles as a certain sign of the true church, will be readily deceived by this wonder-working power; and Protestants, having cast away the shield of truth [and who believe in the immortality of the soul], will also be deluded...and they will see in this union a grand movement for the conversion of the world and the ushering in of the long-expected millennium.” (GC, pp. 588, 589).

It has been said by some that New Agers will also accept a worldwide Marian (goddess) vision preceding the coming of their false Christ—the lord Maitreya.

The New Age, Mother Earth, and the Goddess

In his most blasphemous book, *The Armageddon Script, The Power of Prophecy and the Secret Life of Jesus*, New Ager Peter Lemesurier writes enthusiastically about the worship of the “Great Mother Earth.” He writes as if he is an astronaut in a spaceship in orbit around the earth. Now, quoting from his book:

“As they rounded the barren lunar globe for the...last time, and the resplendent half-earth once again rose behind that now familiar curved and rocky horizon, what they saw coming up to meet them was strangely familiar...A god out of the world of the archetypes. It was none other than the rounded form of the Great Mother, earth herself, clad in the same flowering robes of shining blue and white that had been those of mother-goddess of earth and sky throughout history—and not least his most recent mother-goddess, the Virgin Mary herself.” (*The Armageddon Script*, pp. 245, 246). Please notice that the picture of the Virgin Mary on the cover of this book, portraying her as the “Woman” of Revelation 12, has her dressed in the colors blue and white.

Peter Lemesurier, as a pagan worshipper, has no difficulty recognizing the truth that the worship of the Virgin Mary is ancient pagan idolatry. Therefore, non-Christian pagans the world over will have little difficulty accepting the worship of the Roman Catholic demon—the Virgin Mary!

Spiritualism and Ecumenicalism

The prophet has warned us that spiritualism is the means by which Satan will “unite the churches,” and Rome will use spiritualism to “validate” that she is the true church!

I believe the demon Mary will play a critical role in the accomplishment of these goals. Moreover, not only Protestants, but also New Agers, will fall for it because they all believe Rome’s false doctrine of the devil’s first lie—“Ye shall not surely die.” Satan is determined to unite the Christians and the ungodly into one body, and “the whole world will be swept into the ranks of this delusion.” (GC, pp. 588, 562).

The world is ready and ripe for this almost overpowering deception. In fact, the December, 1996, issue of *Life* magazine featured, on its front cover, a picture of a statue of Mary, with the caption: “Two thousand years after the Nativity, the mother of Jesus is more Beloved, Powerful, and Controversial than ever. The Mystery of Mary.”

The ending of this article was especially of interest to me. It stated: “Mary...might lead to an ecumenical reunion of Christian churches [see GC, p. 445]. It might lead to a closer understanding of the teenage girl who gave birth in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago...Can we ask this simple girl to guide what has become not a cult, but a huge and passionate congregation, a movement requiring a hero, a world-wide flock that has long demanded more of her? That has demanded, in some instances, that she deliver her message herself? I wonder: If Mary became merely human—if people could truly touch Mary—would Mary be enough?” After all, Rome makes the assertion that not only is the pope the Spiritual father of all Christians, but Mary is their mother! Quoting from *A Catechism of Christian Doctrine*, p. 27: “The Blessed Virgin is our Mother also because, being the brethren of Jesus, we are the children of Mary.”

Will She Deceive the Very Elect?

And will SDAs also be overcome by this wonder-working demon? Please, study the prophecies of Ezekiel 8 and 9. Ellen White alludes to Ezekiel 9 in Volume 5 of the Testimonies in the chapter called The Seal of God, pages 207-216. Here she likens the destruction of apostate SDAs to the destruction by the slaughtering angels of Ezekiel 9, which begins in the sanctuary, or the church. "Here we see that the church—the Lord's sanctuary—was the first to feel the stroke of the wrath of God. The ancient men, those to whom God had given great light and who had stood as guardians of the spiritual interest of the people, had betrayed their trust.... Thus, 'Peace and safety' is the cry from men who will never again lift up their voice like a trumpet to show God's people their transgressions and the house of Jacob their sins. These dumb dogs that would not bark are the ones who feel the just vengeance of an offended God. Men, maidens, and little children all perish together." (5T, p. 211).

And for what reason will the Lord destroy the people called by His name? Because the "abominations" in Ezekiel 8 are being practiced in the Lord's house—His church—one of which is the worship of the "image of jealousy." "The faithful few.... lament and afflict their souls because pride, avarice, selfishness, and deception of almost every kind are in the church." (5T, p. 210). Omega!

Historian Alexander Hislop tells us in his book, *The Two Babylons*, that the "image of jealousy" is that of the Babylonian Madonna, the "queen of heaven." Therefore, what provokes the wrath of God today is that "the child she [modern Babylon] holds forth to adoration is called by the name of Jesus, His son." (*The Two Babylons*, p. 88).

With "Satan himself" being "converted after the modern order of things," (see GC, page 588), the image would be that of "BABYLON, THE GREAT'S" [Roman Catholicism's] Madonna, or the Virgin Mary and baby Jesus [who really would be Tammuz (see Ezekiel 8:14)], set up in the church that claims to worship the true God.

The Lord commanded: "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath.... Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God." (Ex. 20:4, 5). Is it any wonder why the Catholic Church removed the second commandment from the moral law?

Furthermore, Jeremiah records that God's people obeyed not "the voice of the Lord, nor walked in His law, nor in His statutes, nor in His testimonies," for they were burning "incense to the queen of heaven." (Jer. 44:23, 25). Is this another example of "the sure word of prophecy"? (2 Pet. 1:19). E. G. White was shown in vision many years ago that "modern Israel are in greater danger of forgetting God and being led into idolatry than were His ancient people." (1T, p. 609).

"It is to be remembered that the greater the light bestowed, the greater the delusion and darkness of those who reject the word of God and accept fables." (ST, November 8, 1899).

After all, was it not the leaders of the Jewish nation that had Christ murdered with the aid of the Roman power! Will history be repeated? "However high any minister may have stood in the favor of God, if he neglects to follow out the light given him of God, if he refuses to be taught as a little child, he will go into darkness and satanic delusions and will lead others in the same path." (5T, p. 214).

The Betrayal

One may ask, "Will SDAs really accept spiritualism and the false Mary?" To this I ask, "Will the majority of SDAs worship Sunday when it is enforced by law?" Here are very sobering comments bearing on this matter from inspiration: "And because iniquity

shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold'...Soon God's people will be tested by fiery trials, and the great proportion of those who now appear as genuine and true will prove to be base metal....They will cowardly take the side of the opposers. The promise is: 'They that honor me I will honor'...To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few—this will be our test." (5T, 136).

"I was shown the startling fact that but a small portion who now profess the truth will be sanctified by it and be saved." (1T, 608).

The Spirit of Prophecy has also told us that [SDA] ministers in the "open air will urge upon the people the necessity of keeping the first day of the week." (See RH, March 18, 1884).

She has also given this warning: "As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth [remember those that love not the truth will accept strong delusion], abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit ["pleasures in unrighteousness"], they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. Men of talent and pleasing address [dumb dogs that would not bark (see Isaiah 56:10)], who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren. When Sabbath-keepers are brought before the courts to answer for their faith, these apostates are the most efficient agents of Satan to misrepresent and accuse them, and by false reports and insinuations to stir up the rulers against them." (GC, p. 608).

Does this mean that apostate SDAs will turn us in to the Catholics? Ellen White was shown in vision that "the nominal church and nominal Adventists, like Judas, would betray us to the Catholics to obtain their influence to come against the truth. The saints will be an obscure people, little known to the Catholics; but the churches and nominal Adventists who know of our faith and customs...will betray the saints and report them to the Catholics as those who disregard the institutions of the people; that is, that they keep the Sabbath and disregard Sunday." (Spalding and Magan Collection, p. 1).

If professed SDAs will accept one of the two papal errors, namely, Sunday-keeping, why won't they accept the other papal error—the immortality of the soul. After all, "the easy, popular side" will already be worshipping the demon Mary. In fact, goddess worship today ties together approximately 75% of the world's population:

Roman Catholicism—974 million

Eastern Orthodox—164 million

Buddhism/various sects—1 billion 100 million

Hinduism—690 million

Japanese Religions—230 million

Tribal Religions—100 million (approx.)

Mohammedism—924 million

Protestants—351 million

SDAs—? (Information taken from Almanac 1991)

A Terrifying Dream

Ellen White, the messenger of the Lord, once had a terrifying dream that she could not understand at the time. It occurred while on a journey with her husband to Battle Creek. "I dreamed that I was in Battle Creek looking out from the side glass at the door and saw a company marching up to the house, two by two. They looked stern and

determined. I knew them well and turned to open the parlor door to receive them, but thought I would look again. The scene had changed. The company now presented the appearance of a Catholic procession. One bore in his hand a cross, and another a reed. and as they approached, the one carrying the reed made a circle around the house, saying three times: 'This house is proscribed ["In ancient Rome, to announce the name of a person as condemned to death and subject to confiscation of property." (Webster's College Dictionary)]. The goods must be confiscated. They have spoken against our holy order [of the priesthood].' Terror seized me, and I ran through the house, through the north door, and found myself in the midst of the company, some of whom I knew, but I dared not speak a word to them for fear of being betrayed. I tried to seek a retired spot where I might weep and pray without meeting eager, inquisitive eyes wherever I turned. I repeated frequently: 'If I could only understand this! If they will tell me what I have said or what I have done!'" (1T, p. 578). Had she seen the omega!

The Betrayal Has Already Begun

Dear friends, has the betrayal already begun in light of the recent official compromises and associations between Seventh-day Adventists and Catholics? Such as the Week of Prayer at Pacific Union College that was led by an ex-priest, who had the students recite several times after him: "We are Easter men and Easter women, Alleluia, that's our name." I heard the audios with my own ears. Another example is PorterCare of Adventist Health Systems, which has lost its investment grade rating due to its involvement with financially struggling Centura Health—Colorado's largest hospital system. Centura is a joint management company, formed in 1995 between PorterCare and the Sisters of Charity Health Services, now part of Catholic Health Initiatives.

And what about Willow Creek Church, an inter-denominational Pentecostal-style church near Chicago that focuses on church growth and celebration-style worship—an ecumenical ploy of Vatican II? Since at least 56 SDA churches have joined the Willow Creek Association, I wonder if we will soon see charismatic SDA churches as a result? Unsurprisingly, an SDA pastor just informed me that Adventists in Southern California are speaking in false tongues—another spiritualistic manifestation that will be used by Satan to unify the churches of all denominations!

And what about the tragedy at College View Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, where the Cardinal and Archbishop of Baltimore preached on baptism and sprinkled the heads of those present as a symbol of baptism!! And why, during communion, are some SDA ministers calling their congregations forward—a standard procedure of the Catholic mass—to receive the "Holy Eucharist"—a Roman Catholic term applied to the wafer, which according to Catholic doctrine, becomes the "literal body of Jesus Christ"? In the meantime, the General Conference of SDAs has filed a trademark lawsuit against a brother who is placing ads in major newspapers, warning the world of Dies Domini and the coming Sunday Law—the mark of the beast—the mark of Rome! And, sad to say, may be using tithe money to pay their legal fees.

Undoubtedly, Rome has infiltrated the headquarters of the corporate church; and when the headquarters is infected, it affects "the whole body of believers!....Satan's chief work is at the headquarters of our faith. He spares no pains to corrupt men in responsible positions and to persuade them to be unfaithful to their several trusts." (4T, p. 210).

The prophet has warned us that Satan's threefold union will be formed when Protestantism and spiritualism "reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power" and trample "on the rights of conscience." (GC, p. 588).

You can, then, understand the shock I felt when I read the following in Sunday—a quarterly magazine published by The Lord's Day Alliance of the United States. In a special tribute to Dr. James Wesberry, Executive Director-Editor and Administrative Assistant, for his loyal service from 1975 – 1992, it was noted: "He also made history for

the alliance when he spoke at Andrews University and Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Michigan, and led in exploration of ways The Lord's Day Alliance and Seventh-day Adventists could work together. 'In spite of differences of opinion in reference to the Sabbath question,' Wesberry explained, 'we had clasped hands across these differences and denominational lines and felt the warm, sincere grip and gracious friendship among brothers and sisters in Christ.'" (Sunday, Vol. LXXIX, NO. 3, p. 11). Why in the world did the SDA Theological Seminary join hands with one of the most ardent promoters of the Sunday sabbath? Is the answer betrayal?

I would like to conclude my summary of events in this growing apostasy in Adventism with the most recent stab to my already aching heart. On January 26 and 27, 1999, Modern Manna went to St. Louis for the papal visit with 100,000 copies of 'Is the Virgin Mary Dead or Alive?' At the same time, The Eternal Gospel Church of SDAs had also evangelized St. Louis with their ad—Earth's Final Warning—which ran in the St. Louis Post Dispatch. Were we justified in feeling betrayed when we learned that SDA men in responsible positions were already apologizing to the beast of Bible prophecy, "Pope John Paul II and the Catholic Church, for discrimination, hatred and persecution inspired by offshoot groups" in St. Louis. (Adventist Today, January, 1999).

E. G. White hit the nail on the head when she prophesied: "Instead of standing in defense of the faith once delivered to the saints, they are now, as it were, apologizing to Rome for their uncharitable opinion of her, begging pardon for their bigotry." (GC, p. 572). The Seventh-day Adventist Church World Headquarters raised the white flag to Rome! (See Adventist News Network News Release: 27 January 1999).

But this is not the end of the story, friends, for I am sad to say there is more. During the ecumenical service held on January 27 at the Basilica of St. Louis, B.T. Rice, pastor of the Northside Seventh-day Adventist Church and president of the St. Louis Clergy Coalition, presented a document to the "man of sin" welcoming him to the community and acknowledging "his tireless example on behalf of interfaith understanding and community relations." He also presented him with "a hand-made banner, bearing the logo Faith Beyond Walls." (St. Louis Post Dispatch, January 27, 1999, in the article entitled "Many faiths join to work for a better community").

How symbolic! Just as the middle wall of partition was broken down in Bible times between Jew and Gentile, the wall, as noted by the words on the banner, suggests the same is now the case in these modern times between Catholicism and Seventh-day Adventism. Pure ecumenicalism—a movement promoting cooperation and unity among religious groups—of which the Demon Mary will be the "Star!" Friends, certainly this is a time to be "sighing and crying for the abominations that are done in...the church!" (5T, pp. 209, 210). I am trembling for our people, for they have drunk deeply from Rome's intoxicating cup, and the omega is just around the corner!

The Very Last Deception

Did not E. G. White foresee in the terrifying dream referred to earlier in this article, a future time when SDAs will betray their own people—including their prophet.

Could this dream have its fulfillment when SDAs betray not only their brethren, but also the truths entrusted to them by God—by rejecting or "betraying" the Spirit of Prophecy, or Testimonies, written by the prophet herself? Remember, "In rejecting the truth, men reject its author." (GC, 583). "Satan is...constantly pressing in the spurious—to lead away from the truth. The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God. 'Where there is no vision, the people perish.' (Prov. 29:18). Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, to unsettle the confidence of God's remnant people in the true testimony.

"There will be a hatred kindled against the testimonies which is satanic. The workings of Satan will be to unsettle the faith of the churches in them, for this reason:

Satan cannot have so clear a track to bring in his deceptions and bind up souls in his delusions if the warnings and reproofs and counsels of the Spirit of God are heeded.” (1 SM,, p. 48). This is my reason for writing this booklet! Will we forget lessons from the past? During the alpha of apostasy also, the Spirit of Prophecy had come under attack!

Please remember, beloved, the Spirit of Prophecy is one of the two identifying marks of the remnant church of Bible prophecy (see Rev. 12:17). It is a gift from God! Why, then, must we continue to rebel against God’s Word when He has so clearly warned us of the following: “One thing it is certain is soon to be realized,—the great apostasy, which is developing and increasing and waxing stronger, will continue to do so until the Lord shall descend from heaven with a shout. We are to hold fast the first principles of our denominated faith!” (SpT, Series B, No. 7, pp. 56, 57).

Ellen White’s Most Solemn Warning

Ellen White, perhaps, issued her most solemn warning to the SDA brethren when she penned what would happen if they disseminated the seductive, spiritualistic theories of the alpha of apostasy: “I was shown a platform braced by solid timbers,—the truths of the Word of God. Someone high in responsibility in the medical work was directing this man and that man to loosen the timbers supporting the platform. I heard a voice saying, ‘Where are the watchmen that ought to be standing on the walls of Zion? Are they asleep? This foundation was built by the Master Worker, and will stand storm and tempest. Will they permit this man to present doctrines that deny the past experience of the people of God? The time has come to take decided action.’

“The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and 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 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 [the sanctuary, the nature of Christ, sanctification, the beast, etc.]. A new organization would be established [which faithful historic Seventh-day Adventists are accused of doing!!]. Books of a new order [new theology] would be written. A system of intellectual theology would be introduced [SDA ministers are receiving their advanced education and “philosophies” from the evangelical teachers of the world]. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work [5T, p. 210, says: “The glory of the Lord had departed from Israel (applicable here to the SDA church); although many still continued the forms of religion, His power and presence were lacking]. The Sabbath, of course, would be lightly regarded, and also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement [lawsuits against faithful SDAs for preaching the Three Angels’ Messages, ordering them to drop the name, etc.]. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice [loving apologies to Rome and peace and safety sermons], but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on sand, and storm and tempest would sweep away the structure.” (Sp.T., Series B, No. 2, pp. 54, 55).

Oh, friends, the structure church is quickly heading down the primrose path! But, Praise God, not one faithful soul, not one true Israelite, will be lost!

What Will You Do?

Now ask yourself, dear friends, this question: “Are you seeing the inroads of any of the points listed above in your church?” Or, perhaps, is there just a dead silence from your ministers and church leaders? Should we be silent at this hour? How about your own heart? Even Ellen White delayed sending this letter out which the Spirit of the Lord had impelled her to write. But she realized, in the providence of God, that the errors that had been coming in must be met. She then alludes to a story about a ship in the fog

meeting an iceberg. She was presented in the night the following scene: "A vessel was upon the waters, in a heavy fog. Suddenly the lookout cried, 'Iceberg just ahead!' There, towering high above the ship, was a gigantic iceberg [pantheism-spiritualism]. An authoritative voice cried out, 'Meet it!' There was not a moment's hesitation. It was time for instant action...With a crash she struck the ice...and the iceberg broke in pieces...The passengers were violently shaken...but no lives were lost." (Ibid., pp. 56, 57).

Oh, may the church repent and return to the first principles of the denominated faith—the "old paths" spoken of by the Jeremiah the prophet! (Jer. 6:16). For history is seeking to repeat itself, and, in fact, soon will! Friends, not only is the great apostasy waxing stronger, but its climax, the omega—spiritualism under a Christian guise—as exemplified by the iceberg, is right before our eyes! Just as the spiritualistic science of pantheism was the alpha of "deadly heresies," the "startling nature" of "modern spiritualism"—pantheism's big sister—with Satan being "converted after the modern order of things" will be the omega. The "startling nature" of the omega is that spiritualism will "closely imitate the nominal Christianity of the day."

What will you do, beloved? Will you meet it head on, even at the risk of being ostracized or disfellowshipped from the church which you love? As in the alpha of apostasy, evil angels took captive the mind of John Harvey Kellogg. So in the omega, Satan will be "using all his science in playing the game of life for human souls. His angels are mingling with and instructing them in the mysteries of evil. These fallen angels will draw away disciples after them, will talk with men, and will set forth principles that are as false as can be, leading souls into paths of deception. These angels are to be found all over the world, presenting the wonderful things that will soon appear in a more decided light." (MR, 760, p. 17). Says spiritualism, pantheism's big sister, "I'm back!"

Warnings From God

Most SDAs have read Isaiah 8:20: "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." But how many of us have noticed in what context this verse was written? Isaiah 8:19 warns: "And when they shall say unto you, seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep and that mutter; should not a people seek unto their God? For the living to the dead?" The admonishment of Isaiah 8:20 is warning us of spiritualism—in conversing with our beloved dead, who are really demon imposters! Incidentally, this is why I refer to the Virgin Mary, universally beloved by Christians, as the "demon Mary."

And what about the famous Letter 55, written in 1886, that says: "The church may appear as about to fall, but it does not fall. It remains, while the sinners in Zion will be sifted out." What is it that threatens the elect to such a magnitude as this? The sentence that precedes the ones quoted above is rarely mentioned in conjunction with them. It reads: "Satan will work his miracles to deceive; he will set up his power as supreme." Thus, spiritualism—the omega—will be a great test of a most startling nature for the people of God!

Thousands of Supernatural Apparitions

Satan has been preparing the world for a master deception for quite some time. Mary apparitions have been reported for centuries, and, more recently, the phenomena is steadily increasing. "Spiritualism is about to take the world captive. There are many who think that Spiritualism is upheld through trickery and imposture; but this is far from the truth. Superhuman power is working in a variety of ways, and few have any idea of what will be the manifestations of Spiritualism in the future." (Signs of the Times, May 28, 1894).

Is it any wonder, then, that all over the world major Mary apparitions and pilgrimages are increasing each year? "Since the first recorded supernatural appearance

of Mary to a third-century pagan lawyer turned Christian turned bishop named Gregory Thaumaturgus...thousands of apparitions of the Virgin...have been claimed." "Hundreds of visions have been reported in the twentieth century alone, although only a few have ever received official 'approval' by the Catholic Church." (Searching for Mary, p. 6).

The December 30, 1991, issue of Time magazine reported that "the late 20 th century has become the age of the Marian pilgrimage" to many shrines established to commemorate the many sightings of the Virgin Mary in recent years. Perhaps the two most famous shrines are at Lourdes, France, and Fatima, Portugal. But, "There are thousands of shrines of Our Lady in every country of the world." (Shrines to our Lady, p. V).

Shrines are usually built at locations where an apparition has appeared. Especially in the twentieth century, Mary apparitions have been reported and shrines erected in Portugal, Ireland, Rwanda, Venezuela, Italy, Yugoslavia, Korea, Mexico, Japan, and many other countries drawing millions of visitors every year.

A major U.S. newspaper, the San Francisco Chronicle, on December 25, 1998, featured the following headline: Virgin Mary Fervor Grows As More Sightings Reported. The Chronicle cited that the three major reasons for the added Marian fervor are the approach of the millennium, the strong devotion of Pope John Paul II to Mary, and the continuing influence of events at Medjugorje, a Bosnian village where the mother of Jesus supposedly appeared in 1981." (Chronicle, December 25, 1998).

In Carthage, Missouri, 50,000 were estimated for the 21 st annual observance of Marian Days. (Scope, August 12, 1998). Then, "in Conyers, Georgia, 100,000 people gathered on a farm to hear a middle-aged housewife named Nancy Fowler channel messages from the Virgin Mary." (Ibid.).

On the feast of Guadalupe, about two dozen Mexican farm workers and their families gather around a large shade tree at a Yuba City housing project. They see an image of Mary in a large knothole and have laid candles and poinsettias at the base of the tree. The Chronicle continues: "This rising devotion to Mary cuts across lines and denominational boundaries." (See GC, p. 445).

Blood, Tears, and Roses

In Thornton, California, 50,000 devoted pilgrims from all over the country arrive, many in motor homes, in hopes of seeing a repeat performance of the "moving statue of Mary." Many others have reported statues of the Virgin shedding tears of blood.

"In the small town of Naju, located near the southwestern tip of the Korean peninsula, Our Lady began giving urgent messages and signs to Julia Kim. On June 30, 1985, Our Lady's statue, owned by Julia, began weeping tears, and on October 19, 1986, it began weeping tears of blood. Until January 14, 1992, the statue wept for a total of exactly 700 days. The tears of blood were tested and found to be human blood. Now the statue has been giving odors of fragrant oil...Julia is surrounded by the sweet fragrance of roses. Also, when she kisses a rosary or simply holds it in her hands for a few seconds, it becomes fragrant." (Our Lady of Naju Web Site).

In Stockton, California, my hometown, two statues recently transported from the Philippines sporadically emitted a "palatable fragrance of sweet-scented oil." (The Record, May 5, 1999).

Outside California City, in the Mojave Desert, a Mexican-born mystic and visionary named Maria Paula has drawn crowds numbering in the thousands since 1989. "The crowds come on the thirteenth of every month for prayer and to witness Maria Paula's reception of an apparition and a message from the Virgin Mary. Pilgrims have reported sun miracles, visions, healings, and numerous other miraculous phenomena." (Searching for Mary, 169.).

In Corpus Christi, Texas, a \$12.00 statue of the Virgin “turned its head, opened its eyes, and took mincing steps.” (The Star Tribune, June 6, 1998). About 50 people a minute visit the site where a subway worker’s child noticed a water stain on the floor of Mexico City’s Hidalgo Metro station, a likeness to the nation’s most powerful religious symbol—the beloved Virgin Mary of Guadalupe. (The Denver Post, June 14, 1997). Praise God the book *Is the Virgin Mary Dead or Alive?* is now in Spanish!

The Great Chastisements

“Medjugorje (‘between the hills’) has become well known in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the world, because of six young people who claim to have seen visions of the Madonna. Beginning on June 24, 1981, the Blessed Mother appeared to and later told the visionaries God had sent her to our world to help us convert our hearts and lives back to Him.” (Medjugorje Web). Visions and apparitions at Medjugorje—sometimes called The New Fatima—are continually being reported.

In Fatima, Portugal, on July 13, 1917, the Virgin had imparted three secrets to three shepherd children. The second secret included the Virgin’s desire that the pope consecrate Russia to her immaculate heart, thus securing the conversion of that nation. [Interesting how communism was defeated through the conspiracy of Pope John Paul II and President Ronald Reagan! Beware, beloved, for while in Mexico, the same pope consecrated the Americas to Mary, calling for solidarity!].

“Fatima’s third secret, still unrevealed, has been kept under lock and key at the Vatican since the late 1950s and has been the subject of much speculation since its existence was first made known. It is widely supposed that the secret concerns a coming worldwide cataclysm and the approach of the end-times.” (Searching for Mary, pp. 10, 11).

Garabandal, Spain—A Masterful Deception

From 1961 through 1965, in Garabandal, Spain, four young girls experienced more than two thousand apparitions of the Virgin Mary over a four-year period. These particular visions and apparitions are a perfect example of the devil’s ability to perform masterful delusions and lying wonders—a prelude of what is to come. “On July 1, 1961, a shining, winged angel spoke to the children and told them that the following day they would see the Blessed Virgin. The next day the Virgin appeared with two angels and continued to appear throughout the month. Each time the girls went into ecstasy, during which they exhibited extraordinary physical changes: they became insensitive to pinpricks, extreme noise and bright lights, and their slight bodies could hardly be lifted from the ground by two strong men...The Virgin would pass the infant Jesus to one of the girls to cuddle, or remove her crown and let the girls try it on....The girls received out-of-body experiences during which they claimed they were taken on spiritual journeys through the heavens by the Virgin.

Many eyewitnesses declared on oath that they had observed the girls seeming to fly over the ground at great speed when Our Lady was calling them to her.” (Shrines of Our Lady, p. 153).

According to Conchita Gonzales, one of the four children: “On an unspecified date in the future...the Great Miracle...will take place in a grove of pines near Garabandal. Everyone who is in the area will see it; the sick who are present will be cured, sinners will repent, and Russia will be converted. The second phase of the miracle is to establish a permanent, miraculous sign in the groves of pines. The sign will be capable of being photographed and touched, its divine origin will be beyond question, and it will last until the end of time. The final leg of the prophecy, the Chastisement, is a global catastrophe held in reserve by God in the event the Warning and Miracle don’t have their intended effects.” (Searching for Mary, pp. 11, 12).

Calamities Will Increase

In Bayside, N.Y., “The Lourdes of America,” Jesus and Mary speak to the world through a seer named Veronica Lueken. Warnings of impending doom are presented of a massive world monetary depression and Russian plans of attack. Mary warns of increasing natural disasters through the elements of nature, and that these judgments from God—His chastisements—are increasing because the world has violated His moral law—the Ten Commandments.

Again, compare the words of the demon Mary with the words of E. G. White: “Satan works through the elements also to garner his harvest of unprepared souls. He has studied the secrets of the laboratories of nature, and he uses all his power to control the elements as far as God allows....While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation. Even now he is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power....These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous.” (GC, pp. 589, 590).

A category-five tornado in Salt Lake City, a first of its kind, causing millions of dollars in damage; the worst hurricane to hit Texas in over ten years; 72 tornadoes in one day in Kansas and in Oklahoma City; one of the ten most deadly earthquakes in history, killing 40 thousand in Turkey—such calamities as these are becoming “more frequent and disastrous.”

So in the future, as these calamities increase and Sunday worship is urged upon us, we can expect nominal SDA ministers [whose testimonies will be seconded by the demon spirits (see GC, pp. 590, 591)] in “responsible positions taking a course directly opposite to that pursued by Nehemiah....In churches and in large gatherings in the open air, ministers will urge upon the people the necessity of keeping the first day of the week. There are calamities on sea and land: and these calamities will increase, one disaster following close upon another; and the little band of conscientious Sabbath-keepers will be pointed out as the ones who are bringing the wrath of God upon the world by their disregard of Sunday.” And it will also be asserted “that this sin has brought calamities that will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced; and that those who present the claims of the fourth commandment, thus destroying reverence for Sunday, are troublers of the people, preventing their restoration to divine favor and temporal prosperity.” (RH, March 18, 1884; GC, 590).

Obviously, these leaders are practitioners of the omega!

The Thunder of Justice

I remember that the first time I read *The Thunder of Justice*, written by two Catholics who are very active in the Marian Movement, how alarmed I was by their frequent use of Adventist terms. The book, which focuses on prophetic end-time events, appears to be the Catholic’s version of *The Great Controversy*. In fact, it uses the very language of Ellen G. White—the language with which SDAs are familiar. This book attempts to counterfeit the Three Angels’ Messages and to give all the glory to the Virgin Mary.

Some terms used in this false Spirit of Prophecy are “the little flock,” “the remnant,” Mary’s message to “recite and keep the Ten Commandments,” and that she is “the prophetess of the last days.”

The Thunder of Justice tells us that the demon Mary prophesied that rockets will hit New York in the near future. (*The Thunder of Justice*, p. 344). Interestingly, Ellen White has foretold of a time when New York will suffer a great fire: “I was in the night season called upon to behold buildings rising story after story toward heaven....The

scene that next passes before me was an alarm of fire. Men looked at the lofty and supposedly fireproof buildings and said: 'They are perfectly safe.' But these buildings were consumed as if made of pitch. The fire engines could do nothing to stay the destruction. The firemen were unable to operate the engines." (9T, pp. 12, 13).

I have often wondered why SDAs are not more alarmed by the inroads of spiritualism and Satan's use of Mary in his efforts to deceive the world, but us also. The demon Mary claims to be the "Mother of the Second Advent," and that she is preparing us for Christ's Second Coming. Friends, that is our work of our church! For we are the true church that has been called to give the Elijah message to the world! But the demon Mary insists: "I am the Virgin of Revelation." I am the "woman clothed with the sun who does battle with the dragon and his powerful army of evil." (The Thunder of Justice, pp. 90, 99).

Comparisons and Counterfeits

The audacity of the demon Mary to take the symbolic vision given to John in Revelation 12, which is a symbol of God's true church, and incorrectly apply it to herself! The false Mary also elaborates on the Holy Spirit's role in the last days: "On the feast of Pentecost, May 22, 1988, the message from Our Lady to the Marian Movement of Priests was clear: 'The Holy Spirit will come to establish the glorious reign of Christ....What will come to pass is something so very great that it will exceed anything that has taken place since the beginning of the world.'" (Ibid., pp. 309, 310).

Friends, are we not waiting for the outpouring of the Spirit?—that "time when the events of the day of Pentecost shall be repeated with even greater power than on that occasion....and [a time] to maintain such a close connection with Him that they may be partakers of the latter rain when it shall be poured out." (RH, July 20, 1886).

The demon Mary also says that the apostles, "Saint Peter and Saint Paul, having come down from Heaven, shall preach in the whole world and designate a new Pope. A great light will flash from their bodies and will settle upon a cardinal who is to be Pope. Christianity, then, will spread throughout the world. He is the holy Pontiff, chosen by God to withstand the storm. At the end, he will have the gift of miracles, and his name shall be praised over the whole earth. Whole nations will come back to the church and the face of the earth will be renewed. Russia, England, and China will come into the church." (The Thunder of Justice, p. 353).

I do not know whether this scenario will happen or not, for Satan is the "father of lies." But Ellen White has warned us that "the apostles, as personated by these lying spirits, are made to contradict what they wrote at the dictation of the Holy Spirit when on earth. They deny the divine origin of the Bible [the Roman Catholic Church denies that the Bible is the sole authority of God's word and defends the founding fathers and their traditions], and thus tear away the foundation of the Christian's hope." (GC, p. 557).

The comparisons continue with the counterfeit Mary's message that she "will bring you to the full understanding of Sacred Scripture...Above all, I will read to you the pages of its last book [Revelation], which you are living." (The Thunder of Justice, p. 90).

Then, believe it or not, on page 100 of the same book, she quotes the Three Angels' Messages from Revelation 14!!! Dearly beloved, "Knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed." (Rom. 13:11).

Demons Will Appear Before Our Eyes

"I saw that Satan has power to bring before us the appearance of forms purporting to be our relatives or friends who sleep in Jesus. It will be made to appear as if these friends were actually present, the words they uttered while here, with which we were familiar, will be spoken, and the same tone of voice that they had while living will

fall upon the ear. All this is to deceive the world and ensnare them into the belief of this delusion.

“I saw that the saints must have a thorough understanding of present truth, which they will be obliged to maintain from the Scriptures. They must understand the state of the dead; for the spirits of devils will yet appear to them, professing to be beloved relatives or friends, who will declare to them unscriptural doctrines.

They will do all in their power to excite sympathy and will work miracles before them to confirm what they declare. The people of God must be prepared to withstand these spirits with the Bible truth that the dead know not anything, and that they who thus appear are the spirits of devils [including the relative of Jesus—the Virgin Mary—his mother!]. . . This delusion will spread, and we will have to contend with it face to face; and unless we are prepared for it, we will be ensnared and overcome. But if we do what we can on our part to be ready for the conflict that is just before us, God will do His part, and His all-powerful arm will protect us. He would sooner send every angel out of glory to make a hedge about faithful souls, than have them deceived and led away by the lying wonders of Satan.” (EW, p. 262).

Please read the chapter in *The Great Controversy* entitled *The Scriptures a Safeguard*, pages 593-602! Seventh-day Adventists have been given the truth on the state of the dead. We have been entrusted with the most precious light ever given to mortals to save us from the masterful, spiritualistic deceptions of Satan in these last days.

Scripture support is abundant in defense of this truth that unmasks the lie perpetrated by Satan in the beginning that “ye shall not surely die.” The only defense for SDAs during the omega—when deceased loved ones, the apostles, the demon Mary, etc. begin making their false appearances, is a “thus saith the Lord.”

The Scriptures a Safeguard

And will it be Mary who will introduce, through the almost overpowering delusion, her son, the false Christ, to the world—“the crowning act in the drama of deception”? “In his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed. He declares that those who persist in keeping the seventh day are blaspheming his name by refusing to listen to his angels sent to them with light and truth.”

Our cry must be “it is written:” “For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything;” “the dead praise not the Lord, neither any [including Mary] that go down into silence;” for “his breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.” (Eccl. 9:5; Ps. 115:17; 146:4).

The words of Job address this subject quite clearly: “If a man die, shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come. Thou shalt call and I will answer thee.” (Job 14:14, 15). And John 5:28 and 29 tell us that it is the voice of Christ that wakes the sleeping saints on resurrection morn: “Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.”

Mary, the beloved mother of Jesus, “is both dead and buried, and [her] sepulchre [no one knows its location] is with us unto this day.” Contrary to Roman Catholic teaching, Mary, like David, “is not ascended into the heavens.” (Acts 2:29, 34). In fact, David himself wrote in Psalms 17:15 “As for me, I will behold Thy face in righteousness, when I awake, with Thy likeness.” Such words also apply to Mary!

Jesus spoke of death as sleep. In John 11:11 and 14, Christ stated: “Our friend Lazarus sleepeth, but I go to awake him out of sleep... Then Jesus said unto them

plainly, Lazarus is dead.” In sound sleep one is wholly lost to consciousness; time goes by unmeasured; and mental activity is suspended for the time being. “Blessed rest for the weary righteous! Time, be it long or short, is but a moment to them. They sleep; they are awakened by the trumpet of God to a glorious immortality.” (GC, p. 550).

The Sound of the Trumpet

There are three portions of Scripture that specifically mention a trumpet blast just prior to the Second Coming of Christ. And when these Scriptures are compared, they clearly reveal the exact time a deceased person will regain consciousness. The first trumpet verses are in 1 Corinthians 15:51-55: “Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.” Only God has immortality (see 1 Tim. 6:16), and no mortal will receive the gift of immortality until the last trumpet sounds at the Second Coming of Christ!

The second trumpet” verses say: “For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent [precede] them which are asleep. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first; Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.” (1 Thess. 4:15-18). Here again the Scriptures confirm that no man receives his immortality until he is awakened by the trumpet of Christ at the Second Coming.

The third trumpet verses actually address the magnitude of spiritualism and Satan’s lying wonders before the Second Coming of Christ: “Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Immediately after the tribulation of those days...He shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.” (Matt. 24: 26, 27, 29a, 31). Careful examination of the three paragraphs above place the trumpet sounds at the time of the Second Coming—when the resurrected saints will receive their eternal reward of immortality, and not before! Praise God, the Scriptures are our safeguard!

The Origin of Man’s Consciousness in Death

The doctrine of consciousness after death, of the spirits of the dead being in communion with the living, has no foundation in the Scriptures, and yet this theory is affirmed as truth. The doctrine of man’s consciousness in death, especially the belief that spirits of the dead return to minister to the living, has prepared the way for modern spiritualism. Nearly all forms of ancient sorcery and witchcraft were founded upon a belief in communion with the dead. Modern spiritualism is founded upon the first lie by which Satan beguiled Eve in Eden: “Ye shall not surely die.”

And it was the Roman Catholic Church that originated and perpetuated the teaching of the Assumption—that Mary was assumed into heaven before her body saw corruption in the grave. “At the end of her life on earth, the Church teaches, Mary was ‘assumed’ body and soul, into heaven. This teaching was first proclaimed by St. Gregory of Tours in the sixth century. An earlier tradition has it that all the Apostles witnessed her death, but that when her tomb was opened years later it was found to be empty. The doctrine of the Assumption was defended in the Middle Ages by St. Albertus Magnus and St. Thomas Aquinas. It has been adhered to by Christians from the earliest times, and eventually, on 1 November 1950, Pope Pius XII declared the Assumption of the

Blessed Virgin to be an article of faith. It is celebrated annually on 15 August.” (Shrines of Our Lady, p. 6).

“Through the false doctrine [of the immortality of the soul] the way has been opened for the spirits of devils to deceive the people in representing themselves as the dead. Satanic agencies personate the dead [even the mother of Jesus Christ], and thus bring souls into captivity. Satan has a religion, he has a synagogue and devout worshippers. To swell the ranks of his devotees he uses all manner of deception. The signs and wonders of Spiritualism will become more and more pronounced as the professed Christian world rejects the plainly revealed truth of the word of God and refuses to be guided by a plain ‘Thus saith the Lord,’ accepting instead the doctrines and the commandments of men.” (ST, May 28, 1894).

Two Astonishing Letters

While writing this article, I received two amazing letters that I want to share with you. The first letter came from a woman in Puerto Rico who informed me that a statue of the Virgin Mary or “La Virgen del Rosaria del Pozo” is going to be built in the town of Sabana Grande. The statue’s size will be greater than that of the Statue of Liberty in New York. Here is what she wrote:

“Dear brethren of Modern Manna:

“I talked to Pastor Vierra about reaching the town of Sabana here in Puerto Rico. On May, 1953, the ‘Virgin’ appeared near a well (always wearing a rosary), to 3 children, 2 girls and a boy—still living. Thousands of people visited the island, 24 hours a day. Many ‘miracles’ happened, most of them healings of all kinds [see GC, p. 588]. Since then, this town celebrates a ‘Virgin Marathon,’ when around 200,000 to 300,000 people come to adore the Virgin. They celebrate mass and everything else. Now they are planning the ‘Ciudad Mystica’ (Mystic City), in order to attract people from all over the world. Enclosed is the newspaper story about it. Maranatha!”

It is interesting to note that the artists rendition of the new statue in the newspaper I received from Puerto Rico had the Virgin Mary decked with the colors white and blue—the very colors of Mother Earth as previously mentioned by New Ager, Peter Lemesurier. Mary is often portrayed in pictures and statues as dressed in these colors. The second letter I received was initially sent to Pastor Bill Hughes in Florida from an SDA minister from Ghana, West Africa. It reads:

“Dear Pastor:

“On the 12 th of August, 1999, I decided to go to a certain village and share the word of God with them [and] more particularly what is bound to happen before Jesus comes. Before that, it appeared in our daily paper that the Virgin Mary has appeared bodily to Togo, a country which shares the common border with Ghana and millions of people went to Togo to see the Virgin Mary. I thank God and you for clearly opening my eyes because I read it in one of your books sent to me—Is the Virgin Mary Dead or Alive? Chapter 19 clearly talks about how Satan will manifest himself through the Virgin Mary, and this has really motivated me to carry the message across whether rain or shine.”

Demons Will Urge Sunday-keeping

Before I close, I want to make another vital point. We read and hear much about the Sabbath vs. Sunday issue. This one papal error is trumpeted ever so loud and clear. Ads are run and books written, small and large, that expound on this subject with clarity and precision. But what is usually overlooked is the fact that wonder-working demons, in the form of dead humans, even the Virgin Mary, are going to urge upon the world Sunday-keeping, and that the violation of God’s moral law is the cause of the chaos and calamities that are increasing.

Once again, quoting from *The Great Controversy*: “The miracle-working power manifested through spiritualism will exert its influence against those who choose to obey God rather than men. Communications from the spirits will declare that God has sent them to convince the rejecters of Sunday [Reader, that may be you!] of their error, affirming that the laws of the land should be obeyed as the laws of God.

They will lament the great wickedness in the world and second the testimony of religious teachers that the degraded state of morals is caused by the desecration of Sunday. Great will be the indignation excited against all who refuse to accept their testimony.” (GC, pp. 588, 589).

It would be worth your while to research the *Spirit of Prophecy*, Volume 4, sometimes referred to as the 1884 Edition of *The Great Controversy*. On page 406 it contains an extremely vital point that the 1911 edition of *The Great Controversy* omits: “As the spirits will profess faith in the Bible and express regard for Sunday, their work will be accepted as a manifestation of divine power.” Later in *The Great Controversy*, in the chapter entitled *The Time of Trouble*, the prophet warns us that as the “crowning act in the drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ.” That he will heal the diseases of the people and claim “to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday,” and will command all to hallow the day which he has blessed. (GC, p. 624).

But, have you ever considered that before he appears to give support to this claim, the demon Mary, along with other demons impersonating well-known deceased Christians and infidels, will have already been advocating Sunday-keeping? Has anyone ever warned you of this? Is it possible that a false Ellen White might appear and contradict her very own writings, as the false Apostles of Christ will theirs? Are you prepared, beloved? Spiritualism is the means the devil will use to persuade the world and the churches into accepting the false sabbath! That is exactly why God has expressly warned us that “through the two [not one] great papal errors, the immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness, Satan will bring the people under his deceptions.” (GC, p. 588). Spiritualism will put the teeth into the Sunday issue!

Remember the past, dear friends, the alpha of apostasy resulted, within one devastating year, in the destruction of two major SDA institutions—Battle Creek Sanitarium and the Review and Herald Publishing Company! Never forget the prophet’s words: “The omega will follow, and will be received by those who are not willing to heed the warning God has given.” (1SM, p. 200). A fearful woe is upon them! For if any form of spiritualism, like the warning given against pantheism, is accepted, it will result in the sweeping away of the structure! (See SpT, Series B, No. 2, pp. 54, 55).

Friends, please take a close look at the *Spirit of Prophecy*, Vol. 4, or the 1884 Edition of *The Great Controversy*. You will find the chapter entitled *Spiritualism*, page 370, immediately preceding the chapter entitled *The Aims of the Papacy*. I believe the Lord deliberately linked the two chapters together to clearly magnify the fact that through spiritualism and its imposters, such as the Virgin Mary, the aims of the papacy will be accomplished—the enforcement of Sunday worship!

Watch, Pray, and Warn

Please, watch and pray, beloved, for soon: “The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience.” (GC, p. 588).

Friends, the church and the world must be warned! Remember, Satan will not give one inch when we labor to expose his most powerful tool—spiritualism. Oh, how we have seen this prophecy fulfilled at Modern Manna since the publishing of *Is the Virgin Mary Dead or Alive?* But, thank God for Jesus and the heavenly messengers that have

been promised to guard us from evil. All of those who are looking for the soon coming of our Lord have been commanded by Almighty God to scatter earth's final message to warn the world—the Three Angels' Messages that unmask the threefold union. We must scatter the Mary book wherever possible while there is still a remnant of time.

In the very near future, legislation may be passed that will classify the little God-given book as hate literature. What we must do, we must do quickly! And, please, do not only watch, but pray for the courage to proclaim the message and to stand for the truth when champions are few, knowing that the final warning will enrage the wicked against us. Soon the loud cry will be given with the power of the latter rain: "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.' The message of the fall of Babylon, as given by the second angel, is repeated, with the additional mention of the corruptions which have been entering the churches since 1844." (EW, 277). The omega is coming! Maranatha!