

Old Paths

Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. Jeremiah 6:16

The secret of the LORD is with them that fear Him; and He will show them His covenant. Psalm 25:14

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Straight and Narrow

September 1999

Jacob's Struggle

by Lynnford Beachy

When Jesus became a man He emptied Himself and was made in the likeness of men. Paul wrote of Christ, "Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made Himself of no reputation [emptied Himself], and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men." (Philippians 2:6, 7) At Christ's birth on earth, He did not retain the memory He had when He was with His Father. Throughout Christ's childhood His Father was revealing more and more to Him until He exclaimed to His earthly parents, "wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" (Luke 2:49)

Through divine revelation and the the study of the Scriptures, the Father revealed to Jesus His identity as the Son of God. Because of this, Jesus could boldly proclaim: "For the Father Himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. His disciples said unto Him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb." (John 16:27-29) Jesus was telling His disciples of the time when He was with His Father.

Luke wrote, "And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon Him." (Luke 2:40) "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." (Luke 2:52) His wisdom increased through divine revelation and study of the Scriptures. Let us take a look at how Christ's learning experiences have an impact upon us and *our* experiences.

Choose the Good

When we choose evil over the good, we are developing a habit, which produces character. The more we

choose evil, the harder and harder it becomes for us to choose the good over the evil. The result of this is that our moral strength is weakened, and we do not have as much strength to face our next temptation. However, when we choose the good over the evil, we will have more strength to face the next temptation. We should take every opportunity to strengthen our moral faculties by choosing the good over the evil.

Jesus never chose the evil over the good, which means that with each right decision He made, He had more moral strength to face His next temptation. This resulted in His having an incredible amount of moral power, because none of His moral strength was lost, and the moral power He had was continually becoming stronger. What does this tell us? Did Jesus have it much easier than us, because He had a much greater amount of moral strength? No! Remember the verse in 1 Corinthians 10:13. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." God promises us that He will not allow us to be tempted above that we are able.

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Jesus, with His great moral strength, was able to endure severe trials and temptations. With each passing temptation, we have the opportunity to become closer to God. If we take this opportunity our characters will more closely resemble that of the Divine character. The reason God allows us to be tempted, is so that our characters may be purified and refined. "Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience." (James 1:3) "Wherein ye greatly rejoice though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 1:6, 7) "And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." (Romans 5:3-5)

Jesus was allowed to suffer temptations which strengthened Him to endure His final trial which was much more severe than the trial any of us will face. All of Christ's life on earth, God was preparing Him for this final struggle. Christ would not have been ready to endure His final trial and suffering twenty-five years earlier. While perfect and without sin, He was in need of even more spiritual growth. He was made "perfect through sufferings." (Hebrews 2:10) God is also preparing us for something. We are allowed to go through temptation and tribulation so that we can become more and more ready to endure the final trial of our faith.

When the time came for Jesus to bear the sins of the world, He had an incredible amount of moral strength that was able to endure the immense weight of our sins. At this time of great distress, Satan attacked Jesus with everything he had. With the almost unbearable feeling of guilt that our sins brought to the Saviour, He was tempted to believe that it would forever shut Him out of heaven. He was tempted to believe that He would never see His Father's face again. Until, with bitter anguish these words were wrung from His lips, "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)

Every outward evidence was telling Him that He was forsaken. It was by faith alone that He clung to the promises of His Father's love and acceptance. This, my friends, is a feeble portrayal of Christ's final struggle. His temptations were much greater than we will ever have to endure.

Ye Shall Drink of the Cup

One day a woman came to Christ desiring a certain thing. Matthew wrote, "Then came to Him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping Him, and desiring a certain thing of Him. And He said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto Him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom. But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto Him, We are able. And He saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father." (Matthew 20:20-23)

What was Jesus talking about when He said that His disciples were going to drink of the cup that He was going to drink of? Where in the Bible does it talk about a cup that Jesus drank of? Mark wrote, "And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and He saith to His disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray. And He taketh with Him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy; And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch. And He went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. And He said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt." (Mark 14:32-36)

This cup that Jesus was talking about was not a literal cup, but represented an experience He went through. He tells us we will take part in the same experience He encountered. Christ was able to endure much more temptation than we are able because of His greater moral power and character. Based on the principle of 1 Corinthians 10:13 we know that Christ's temptation was in proportion to His strength. Our moral strength is less, and our temptations are in proportion to our strength. However, as we grow in grace, our moral strength will increase. The struggle Christ went through is very similar to the struggle we will go through. We will drink of the cup, but Christ drank all of the cup, even to the dregs.

The Cup of Trembling

The cup that Christ was referring to represented the experience of guilt and the separation that sin makes between God and man.

“But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear.” (Isaiah 59:2) At the garden of Gethsemene, when the sins of the world were placed upon Him, Christ fully realized the separation that sin makes between God and man. This separation caused Him to cry out in anguish, “My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me.” (Matthew 27:46)

This is the cup that Jesus told us we will drink of. We will experience that same separation, and feel forsaken of God. Our only hope will be to cling to the promises of God by faith alone. It was by faith that Christ overcame the world, and it is only by faith that we will overcome the world. “For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.” (1 John 5:4)

Clearly we can see that the cup we will drink of is referring to the experience Christ had just prior to His death. The Bible calls this experience “the time of Jacob’s trouble.” (See Jeremiah 30:7.)

“For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? Wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.” (Jeremiah 30:5-7) Praise the Lord for His mercy. He not only has warned us of the struggle we will have to face, but He has promised that we will be “saved out of it.” Not saved from experiencing it, but saved through it. Remember that blessed promise.

We shall drink of the cup of the Lord, but He will not allow us to drink it to the dregs. We shall drink of the cup that Christ drank of, but Christ drank the cup completely. We will only taste of the cup, yet this taste will be so severe that the Bible calls it the “time of Jacob’s struggle.”

Notice what the Bible tells us about this cup: “Thus saith thy Lord the LORD, and thy God that pleadeth the cause of His people, Behold, I have taken out of thine hand the cup of trembling, even the dregs of the cup of my fury; thou shalt no more drink it again: But I will put it into the hand of them that afflict thee; which have said to thy soul, Bow down, that we may go over: and thou hast laid thy body as the ground, and as the street, to them that went over.” (Isaiah 51:22, 23)

We see from these verses that God will take the dregs of the cup out our hands and give it to the wicked. The experience of guilt, separation and being forsaken will finally be given to the wicked, and they will realize that their case is closed and that they are

forever lost. This will be a terrible feeling and will outrage them.

“For thus saith the LORD God of Israel unto me; Take the wine cup of this fury at my hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send thee, to drink it. And they shall drink, and be moved, and be mad, because of the sword that I will send among them. Then took I the cup at the LORD’s hand, and made all the nations to drink, unto whom the LORD had sent me: To wit Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, . . . and all the kingdoms of the world, which are upon the face of the earth.” (Jeremiah 25:15-18, 26) The wicked will drink of the cup which is the experience of feeling forsaken and separated from God forever. May God keep us from such an experience.

God’s servant is the one bearing the cup to the wicked. “Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.” (Zechariah 12:2, 3)

Those who have thought they were doing the will of God, and now realize that they are lost, will be ashamed when they behold “the remnant of Israel [who] shall not do iniquity.” (Zephaniah 3:13) God’s people will then be a cup of trembling to all those round about them. For the Scripture says, “he that is upright in the way is abomination to the wicked.” (Proverbs 29:27)

Reaction of Professed Leaders

Jeremiah presents a picture of the reaction of those who have neglected to take the opportunity of advancing with increased light and turning from every cherished sin. “Howl, ye shepherds, and cry; and wallow yourselves in the ashes, ye principal of the flock: for the days of your slaughter and of your dispersions are accomplished; and ye shall fall like a pleasant vessel. And the shepherds shall have no way to flee, nor the principal of the flock to escape. A voice of the cry of the shepherds, and an howling of the principal of the flock, shall be heard: for the LORD hath spoiled their pasture.” (Jeremiah 25:34-36)

They have appeased their flocks with cries of peace and safety. They have refused to enter the kingdom and hindered those who were seeking entrance. These have held on to their sins too long, and now comes the stark realization that they are forever separated from the God whom they have professed to love. Probation

has closed for them, and the cup they are drinking is a horrible one.

“For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and He poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out, and drink them.” (Psalm 75:8) All of the wicked will drink of the same cup that Christ drank of and that His people will drink of.

Of the wicked Job said, “His eyes shall see his destruction, and he shall drink of the wrath of the Almighty.” (Job 21:20) The cup they are drinking is seeing their own destruction, and the knowledge that they are forever shut out from the presence of the Lord. “Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou shalt drink of thy sister’s cup deep and large: thou shalt be laughed to scorn and had in derision; it containeth much. Thou shalt be filled with drunkenness and sorrow, with the cup of astonishment and desolation, with the cup of thy sister Samaria.” (Ezekiel 23:32, 33)

The wicked that drink of this cup will be filled with sorrow, astonishment and desolation. “Waters of a full cup are wrung out to them.” (Psalm 73:10)

“Upon the wicked He shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.” (Psalm 11:6) The worst part of the destruction of the wicked, is their realization that they are going to die and never come back again, knowing that they had a chance for life everlasting.

“And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture [undiluted] into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.” (Revelation 14:9-11)

Those who drink of the wine of the wrath of God that is poured out undiluted will experience the weight of their sins, and will feel completely forsaken and hopeless. They will have no rest day or night while they reflect on their miserable life.

Final Separation from God

The feeling of being separated from God is the most miserable and terrifying feeling that any can experience. This is the cup Christ drank of, and this is the cup that His people will drink of just prior to their deliverance from this world. This is also the cup that

those who have neglected to submit their lives wholly to Christ, so that He could subdue all their iniquities (Micah 7:19), will have to drink of. The wicked also who never acknowledged God in their thoughts will also drink of this cup.


“The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.” (Psalm 10:4) This verse does not say that God is not in any of his thoughts, but that God is not in all his thoughts. Is God in all your thoughts, or just in some of them? God wants all our thoughts to be focused on Him, and everything we do to be done for Him. God’s remnant people will have God in all of their thoughts.

We must strive with every part of our being to be part of the “remnant of Israel [who] shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth.” (Zephaniah 3:13)

“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 2:5) What mind, or type of thinking, did Christ have in Him? His Father spoke to Him, describing Christ’s mind, saying, “Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.” (Hebrews 1:9)

Christ hates sin, and He longs to impart to us that same hatred for sin. May God give us that same hatred for sin that we will not tolerate sin of any kind to taint our garments. “Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.” (Psalm 119:133)

There is a final struggle that we will go through before the Lord returns for us, and it will be such as we have never experienced before, neither have any before us experienced it in the same way we will. If we want to know what we will soon face, we need to look at the experience Christ went through just prior to His death. Oh, dear friends, truly “It is time to seek the LORD, till He come and rain righteousness upon you.” “Break up your fallow ground.” (Hosea 10:12) “Seek ye the LORD while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near.” (Isaiah 55:6)

My friend, you have a choice now, whether to give your life to God and be saved even through Jacob’s Struggle, or to forsake God and suffer the bitter consequences of your choice. God is pleading with you now to give your life to Him in complete surrender, for He has “no pleasure in the death of the wicked.” (Ezekiel 33:11) Right now is the time to seek God. “For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, *now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*” (2 Corinthians 6:2) 

Bible Conference

The Bible conference schedule for September 9-14 is shown below. We are still in need of input from those wishing to make presentations. Some of the topics that are currently under consideration include:

- What is God's Participation in the Destruction of Sinners? (Does God destroy?)
- Feast Days
- Proper Christian Music
- The Usage of God's Name (Sacred Name)
- Bible Prophecy
- The Sanctuary
- The Godhead Clarified

Responsible persons who wish to make presentations must notify us immediately. You may call us at (304) 732-9204 or e-mail us at: berean@smyrna.org.

As noted before, the Bible conference will precede the Illinois camp meeting. Directions and accommodations are the same as for the camp meeting. All are invited to attend to make presentations, to listen to the presentations, and to participate in the discussions following the presentations.

Editors

Camp Meeting

The fall camp meeting will be held September 15-19, in southern Illinois. For the schedule, detailed directions, theme, etc. see last month's issue of *Old Paths*. If you need further information call (618) 996-2525 and ask for Crystal.

A Note From the Editor

Dear Brother and Sisters:

Recently the Lord has been dealing with me in loud tones that my work schedule has been too hard and too busy for too long. After suffering at least the symptoms, if not an actual heart attack, I have been convinced that I must decrease my work load and slow down my pace. I hope that you will understand if I am slow, or unable at times, to respond to requests. I do solicit your prayers that I may be temperate in all things. (1 Corinthians 9:25) May the God of peace bless Israel.

Allen Stump

Topic for the Day:		Does God Destroy Godhead		Feasts	Sacred Name Sanctuary Prophecy	Music
Time:	Thursday 9	Friday 10	Sabbath 11	Sunday 12	Monday 13	Tuesday 14
6:15-7:00		Devotional Study		Devotional Study	Devotional Study	Devotional Study
7:00-9:00	Arrival and Camp Setup	Break	Alternate Schedule: Same as Camp Meeting	Break	Break	Break
9:00-9:45		Reasons in favor of D G D		Reasons in favor of Feasts	Reasons in favor of Sacred Name	Music
9:45-10:45		Discussion		Discussion	Discussion	Discussion
10:45-11:00		Break		Break	Break	Break
11:00-11:45		Reasons Against D G D		Reasons Against Feasts	Reasons Against Sacred Name	Music
11:45-12:30		Discussion		Discussion	Discussion	Discussion
12:30-2:30		Lunch		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
2:30-3:30		Discussions on the Godhead		Further Discussions	Discussions on the Sanctuary	Summary
3:30-4:00		Break		Break	Break	Break
4:00-5:00		Conclusions		Conclusions	Discussions on Prophecy	Camp Meeting Preparation
5:00-7:00		Dinner & Sabb. Preparation		Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
7:00-8:30		Welcome		Vespers		Bible Study

“Faith and love are the essential, powerful, working elements of Christian character. Those who possess them are one with Christ, and are carrying forward his mission. “I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.... But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.”

We are to sit at Christ’s feet as continual learners, and to work with his gifts of faith and love. We shall then wear Christ’s yoke, and lift his burdens, and Christ will recognize us as one with him; in heaven it will be said, “Ye are laborers together with God.” Will our youth remember that without faith it is impossible to please God? and it must be faith that works by love and purifies the soul. “Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God: for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify, that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar. For he that loveth not his brother, whom he hath seen, how can he love God, whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he that loveth God, love his brother also.”

“A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.” “If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my

Father’s commandments and abide in his love.... This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.... Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his Lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father, I have made known unto you. Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. These things I command you, that ye love one another.”

It is profitable for all to read carefully, prayerfully, and frequently, the last prayer of Christ for his disciples. He prays: “Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone; but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me, I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one; I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them as thou hast loved me.”

In these words we have a most convincing statement to prove the fact that unity, kindness, and love will exist among those who are Christians indeed. The world’s Redeemer is exalted, glorified, in the character of all those who believe. He says, “The glory which thou gavest me, I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one;... that the world may know that thou has sent me, and hast loved them as thou hast loved me.” What tremendous consequences to the world depend upon the unity of those who claim to be Christians, who claim to believe that the Bible is the word of God; who through repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ are represented as branches grafted into the living vine.

The signs of the times reveal to us that the coming of our Saviour is at hand. We should work with every God-given ability to win souls to Jesus Christ. If self is hid with Christ in God, we shall have no differences to alienate us one from another. If we can fasten the mind upon Christ, in whom our hope of eternal salvation is centered, we shall have that oneness with Christ that he prayed might exist among his disciples; and the burden of our message will be, “Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”

(E. G. White, *Youth’s Instructor*, August 2, 1894)

Letters

“The article ‘Ouch!’ was so necessary and done in Christian grace. I must confess I lose my Christian spirit when I read those who are blatantly less than honest. Allen said it just right. His witness rang true. Praise God!”
North Carolina

“I just received *Old Paths* and *Present Truth* today. I can hardly wait to start reading. I remember your ministry always in my prayers.”
Montana

“Please remove my name from your mailing list. Thanks.”
Kentucky

“Please put us on your mailing list. Thank you.”
Ohio

“A couple of years ago a friend gave me your publication *Holland 1995*, and today I thank God for that friend. I thank God for you and others who have done much research and distribution through the publication of *Old Paths*. What I could not and /or did not do, for various reasons, God provided through your ministry.

“I have always wondered about the Trinity. Now I know that it is the spiritual abomination of desolation. Praise the Lord Jesus Christ for His wonderful truth through His Spirit. And I thank Jesus for you.

“Now I ask that you pray for our Ministry as we move forward through the Holy Spirit of God to better teach others, as we pray for you and yours.”
Alabama

“I really enjoy both *Old Paths* and *Present Truth*. I especially learned a lot with the article ‘Righteousness’ by A. T. Jones. Thank you so much.” *Minnesota*

“Friends: Came across your site on the Internet and would like to order the book *Foundation of our Faith* by Allen Stump.”
Canada

“I was given a copy of *Old Paths* Vol. 7, No. 1, ‘The Holy Spirit of God.’ I was so interested in it I thought I would ask for the free request on the back, to be sent monthly. Do you have any more on the same subject?

“I also noticed a friend with a paper on *Did They Believe in the Trinity* from the same name and address. Is this still available? Please, I am a widowed pensioner, I live alone so like to read what I can.”
Australia

“Thank you so much for your newsletter on ‘Adventist Review Perpetuates the Omega.’ This clears up a lot of confusion on this trinity business now under discussion by Adventist church members. We know a dear sister who has left the church because of the church’s adoption of this theory of accepting the trinity doctrine. So many articles trying to shed light on this topic have been confusing. I am making copies and will share this with the brethren. Please send me a copy of *The Formulation of the Trinity Doctrine*. Thank you again for your research. God bless you.”
Florida

“My son _____ gave me a copy of your book, *What did the Pioneers Believe?* and it has been a real blessing to me. Now I understand the trinity for the first time in my religious experience, and I’ll never be deceived by it again. Could I get additional copies to give to family and friends?”
Pennsylvania

“This is just a note to thank you for all the mailouts you send to us. We find them most encouraging and uplifting. Praise the Lord for the Truth on the Trinity issue.

“It is overwhelming to believe that so many Adventists will not read the truth, or believe what was originally sent by God. How do you tell them they are being wilfully ignorant. It is sad, and is very difficult to tell them of the truth. God will save those who are ignorant but what about those who are wilfully ignorant? We love the truth, and are learning day by day as the light comes to us, what things we must let go. It is not always easy, but the Lord gives us strength.”
New Zealand

“Thank you for sending the *Old Paths* so regularly—we appreciate the interesting articles contained therein. Also, thanks for the video concerning the Alpha and Omega apostasy; however, we do not have a machine for viewing it as yet.”
Canada

“Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.” (Malachi 3:16)

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Thank you from Africa

A few months ago we printed An Appeal from Africa in *Old Paths*. Our brethren in Nigeria were asking for funds to help them get a mill started where some of the brethren who cannot find work elsewhere—due to their Sabbath observance—could work to sustain themselves and their families. We thought this was a very noble cause, evidently the Lord had similar thoughts.

When we printed this appeal in *Old Paths* we were eager to see what the Lord would do. We are happy to report that the Lord moved His people to send funds in abundance to supply the need for our brethren in Africa to get their mill started. We at Smyrna would like to thank each of you for your generosity and willingness to help in time of need. Our brethren from Africa would also like to thank you. To the right is a copy of a letter we received from them. They asked us to make sure that everyone who contributed to the Africa Mill Project would get a copy.

Brethren,

Blessed is he that considereth the poor. (Psalm 41:1) and the Lord says “He that hath mercy on the poor lendeth to the Lord. (Proverbs 19:17) Your act of benevolence providing the mill for the poor brothers and sisters here is unto the Lord. And He says again, “He that giveth to the poor shall not lack.” (Proverbs 28:27) Therefore, our prayers to you all that donated for the mill project in Africa is that God should honour all His words and pour His bountiful blessings (Psalm 41:1-4; Daniel 4:27) upon you all in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Shalom!

Pastor Etim Udo Akor

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