



INFIDELITY IN DISGUISE

Genesis 9, Chapter 8, *The Spirit of Prophecy*, Volume 1

WEEK OF CREATION

- I was then carried back to the creation, and was shown that the first week, in which God performed the work of creation in six days and rested on the seventh day, **was just like every other week.** (*1SP 85.1*)

THE FLOOD

Men will endeavor to explain from natural causes the work of creation, which God has never revealed. But human science cannot search out the secrets of the God of Heaven, and explain the stupendous works of creation, which were a miracle of almighty power, any sooner than it can show **how God came into existence.** (*1SP 89.3*)

Looking upon the world, God saw that the intellect He had given man was perverted, that the imagination of his heart was evil and that continually. God had given these men [the antediluvians] knowledge. He had given them valuable ideas, that they might carry out His plan. But the Lord saw that those whom He designed should possess wisdom, tact, and judgment, were using every quality of the mind to glorify self. By the waters of the Flood, He blotted this long-lived race from the earth, and with them perished the knowledge they had used only for evil. When the earth was repopled, **the Lord trusted His wisdom more sparingly to men, giving them only the ability they would need in carrying out His great plan. (CC 34.3)**

It is impossible for the finite minds of men to fully comprehend the character **or the works** of the Infinite One. To the keenest intellect, to the most powerful and highly educated mind, that holy Being must ever remain clothed in mystery. (*5T* 698.2)

We can so far comprehend His dealing with us, and the motives by which He is actuated, that we may discern boundless love and mercy united to infinite power. **We can understand as much of His purposes as it is for our good to know**; and beyond this we must still trust the might of the Omnipotent, the love and wisdom of the Father and Sovereign of all. (5T 699.1)

The word of God, like the character of its divine Author, presents mysteries which can never be fully comprehended by finite beings. It directs our minds to the Creator, who dwelleth “in the light which no man can approach unto.” It presents to us His purposes, which embrace all the ages of human history, and which will reach their fulfillment only in the endless cycles of eternity. It calls our attention to subjects of infinite depth and importance relating to the government of God and the destiny of man. (5T 699.2)

The portions of Holy Writ presenting these great themes are not to be passed by as of no use to man. All that God has seen fit to make known we are to accept upon the authority of His word. Only a bare statement of facts may be given, with no explanation as to why or how; but though we cannot comprehend it we should rest content that **it is true, because God has said it**. All the difficulty lies in the weakness and narrowness of the human mind.

(5T 699.4)

The Bible unfolds truth with a simplicity and a perfect adaptation to the needs and longings of the human heart, that has astonished and charmed the most highly cultivated minds, while it enables the humble and uncultured to discern the way of salvation. And yet these simply stated truths lay hold upon subjects so elevated, so far-reaching, so infinitely beyond the power of human comprehension, that we can accept them only because God has declared them. (*5T* 700.2)

Those are blessed **with clearest light** who are willing thus to accept the living oracles **upon the authority of God**. If asked to explain certain statements, they can only answer: “It is so presented in the Scriptures.” They are obliged to acknowledge that they cannot explain the operation of divine power or the manifestation of divine wisdom. It is as the Lord intended it should be, that we find ourselves compelled to **accept some things solely by faith**. To acknowledge this, is only to admit that the finite mind is inadequate to grasp the infinite; that man, with his limited, human knowledge, cannot understand the purposes of Omniscience. (*5T* 700.3)

LAODICEAN INFIDELITY

- Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me **gold** tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and **white raiment**, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with **eyesalve**, that thou mayest see. (Revelation 3:17, 18)

- The gold tried in the fire is faith that works by love. (*COL* 158.3) **Faith and love** (*4T* 88.2)
- The white raiment is **purity** of character, the righteousness of Christ imparted to the sinner. (*4T* 88.2)
- The eyesalve is that wisdom and grace which enables us to **discern** between the evil and the good, and to detect sin under any guise. (Ibid.)