“**The Restorer of Paths to Dwell In**” – Chapter 6 - The Exalted

Note- Anytime you see GPS it means “God’s Prophet Says”

**“… and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.”** Isaiah 58:12

As written in chapter 5, God has given us solutions to our problems. I would seriously suggest avoiding those who find problems with the solutions which God has given us.

 We are not to minimize or underestimate the importance of this timely subject as we are running out of time to get things right.

We have been starting every chapter by reading this very important S.O.P. counsel which expresses what God needs in His people for this time. It is found in Education, p. 57. (1903) ***“The greatest want of the world is the want of men,--men who will not be bought or sold; men who in their inmost souls are true and honest; men who do not fear to call sin by its right name; men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole; men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall.”—***

Let us have a brief prayer before we begin. Eternal Father we thank you for Jesus, our Lord, our Savior and Redeemer, our Comforter. We thank you for the power and presence of your Spirit in our lives. Help us understand what you want us to know, help us to be the restorers of paths to dwell, in as we pray in Jesus name, AMEN!

Let’s look at something else, because Sister White identified the Alpha of heresies and she said that the Omega will follow and will not be received by those who do not heed the warning that God has given.

The Alpha dealt specifically with what point? According to Kellogg, he summarized the whole thing into one question: “Is the Holy Spirit a person”? Now the Omega today is not only causing confusion about the Holy Spirit, but it’s extending and causing confusion about the Son of God as well. The Alpha was a bit contained, and we thank the Lord that the servant of the Lord was still alive and wrote about it, because the error was so subtle that none of the ministers at the time detected that there was a problem.

Right now we need to examine what was the foundation of the faith regarding the Son of God. We need to see what the foundation was and then we’ll understand what a departure from the foundation is. We’ll see the connection between the Alpha and the Omega and how a false understanding of the Holy Spirit also affects the understanding of who Jesus is.

In order to understand the foundation we just need to look at some of the pioneer’s writings. Here is an example from James White in Review & Herald, Jan. 4, 1881. He says: ***“The Father was greater than the Son in that He was first. The Son was equal with the Father in that He had received all things from the Father.”***

They believed, as the Bible says, that Jesus really was the begotten Son of God. Today people say, “That’s a heresy.”

John N. Andrews was a brilliant pioneer of the faith. Some of us would be happy to memorize a verse or two in scripture, or even a whole chapter. Andrews memorized all of the New Testament and most of the Old Testament. This is what Andrews said in a Review & Herald article - September 7, 1869: ***“And as to the Son of God, He would be excluded also, for He had God for His Father, and did, at some point in the eternity of the past, have beginning of days.”*** Review and Herald, September 7, 1869

So their belief about the Son of God was very plain. They believed Jesus really was the Son of God, and that He was begotten of His Father. They believed the Father, as the Bible says, is really the Father of Jesus Christ, and that Christ received all things from His Father.

This belief is being attacked today by what is also called “God the Son.” We dealt with “God the Holy Spirit” and we have a very commonly often used term today, which is an unbiblical term, and this 3 word term that the Spirit of Prophecy never used, is called “God the Son.” Nowhere in all the Scripture and likewise nowhere in all of the Spirit of Prophecy will you find those three words, “God the Son.” Jesus is fully God, but the Bible and Spirit of prophecy call Jesus the Son of God. That is very important for a reason which I will explain shortly.

Now let’s look at what another pioneer wrote. This is J. H. Waggoner, the father of the younger Waggoner, E. J. Waggoner, who in 1888 along with A.T. Jones was presenting the message of righteousness by faith. This is his father, and this is a comment that he makes regarding Tritheism.

Now Tritheism is the belief in three Gods – God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit – who are totally unrelated. Notice what he says in Thoughts of Baptism in 1878. ***“There were some very early that turned the doctrine of the Trinity into Tritheism” [this is regarding the early centuries] “and, instead of three divine persons under the economy of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, brought in three collateral, coordinate, and self-originated beings, making them three absolute and independent principles, without any relation of Father or Son, which is the most proper notion of three gods.”*** J. H. Waggoner, 1878. Very plain. When we bring in three collateral, or what’s today termed as “coequal,” beings who are all self-originated, and when you destroy the relation of Father and Son you really end up with three gods.

Here we see that the pioneers were opposed to all kinds of trinity, including tritheism, including the belief in three divine beings who are not related as would be a Father and Son, which makes three gods. In other words, when you destroy the Father-Son relationship, when you say it’s a metaphor, when you say it’s symbolical, when you say it’s only prophetical, when you say it’s only a role play, when you say all these things, you really destroy the Father-Son relationship. You end up with three gods.

Let’s continue. This is an article by John Loughborough, “Objections to the Trinity,” and he says why he is objecting to the trinity. These are the reasons that he gives. He says:

***1. It is contrary to common sense.***

***2. It is contrary to scripture.***

***3. Its origin is pagan and fabulous.*** (meaning not real)

***It’s not very consonant*** (in agreement with) ***with common sense to talk of three being one, and one being three. Or, as some ex-press it, calling God ‘the Triune God’ or ‘the three-one-God.’ If Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are each God, it would be three Gods; for three times one is not one, but three.”*** J. N. Loughborough, Review and Herald, November 5, 1861.

Notice that we find a very common thread in all the pioneer’s writings. They all believed the same thing. There was a common foundation that they all believed and subscribed to. Here is another one. This is [E. J.] Waggoner, the son of J. H. Waggoner. Let’s see what he says regarding the Son of God in Signs of the Times, Apr. 8, 1889. He says: ***“While both are of the same nature, the Father is first in point of time. He is also greater in that He had no beginning, while Christ’s personality had a beginning.”*** E. J. Waggoner, Signs of the Times, April 8, 1889.

Why is that? Because Christ was begotten of His Father. He came out of His Father. Now Waggoner says that both are of the same nature.

Here is what Waggoner continues to say. This is in his book Christ and His Righteousness, pages 19-24. He says: ***“There was a time when Christ proceeded forth and came from God, from the bosom of the Father, but that time was so far back in the days of eternity that to finite comprehension it is practically without beginning.”*** E. J. Waggoner, Christ and His Righteousness, pp. 19-24.

T hen on page 12, same book, Waggoner wrote, ***“The angels are sons of God, as was Adam… by creation; Christians are the sons of God by adoption*** (Romans 8:14, 15)***, but Christ is the Son of God by birth, and so Christ is the ‘express image’ of the Father’s person.”*** E. J. Waggoner, Christ and His Righteousness, 1890, p. 12. Very plain. He tells us what they believed. What year was this? 1890

Let’s keep in mind the fact that if any pioneer published a false statement, God would have had His prophet to get it corrected in haste, just as she did with Dr. Kellogg. She was shown however, that the pioneers needed to have their works published so that these truths would live on while they slept awaiting their Savior’s return.

Now, let’s look at a statement from the Spirit of Prophecy five years after Waggoner’s 1890 book. GPS in Signs of the Times, May 30, 1895. Notice carefully what she says: ***“‘God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,’ – not a son by creation, as were the angels, nor a son by adoption, as is the forgiven sinner, but a Son begotten in the express image of the Father’s person….”*** Signs of the Times, May 30, 1895.

This is from the Youth’s Instructor, December 16, 1897. It says***: “From eternity there was a complete unity between the Father and the Son. They were two, yet little short of being identical; two in individuality, yet one in spirit, and heart, and character.***” Youth’s Instructor, December 16, 1897. Here we have a statement that mentions Father, Son, and spirit. It says the Father and the Son were how many? Two, “a little short of being identical.” What does that mean? They’re not exactly identical, just a little short of being identical. And then it says: “they were two in individuality, yet one in Spirit.”

Remember what we read that the pioneers said? The Holy Spirit is really the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ. In other words, the Father and the Son, share the same Spirit. The word “spirit” as defined in the Bible means “life.” If you look it up, life means the mind… it is the person of God, the personality of God when it comes to the Holy Spirit.

Look at this statement from Great Controversy 493. ***“Christ the Word, the Only Begotten of God, was one with the eternal Father, one in nature, in character, and in purpose - the only being in all the universe that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of God.”*** Great Controversy, p. 493. Now if you believe that the Holy Spirit is a third God being – like the Father and the Son – how is it that He cannot enter into the counsels of God? Could it possibly be that your belief is not accurate? How is it that we read in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy that the Father and the Son have a throne, but there is no mention of a Holy Spirit throne? The Father and Son both have thrones. The question then would be, why would it be necessary to have a throne for their Omnipresent Spirit that has no physical body?

Listen to this quote: ***“The Father and the Son alone are to be exalted.”*** Youth’s Instructor, July 7, 1898. Why? Because the Father and the Son are the only two Divine Beings in the universe. Satan does not want you to believe that and everyone who speaks to the contrary is a spokesperson for Satan. The Holy Spirit inspired this irrefutable statement’, ***“The Father and the Son alone are to be exalted”*** And when Jesuswas here in the flesh, He taught us how to pray and who to pray to. He never suggested praying to “God the Holy Spirit” nor did He ever suggest praying to the Holy Spirit which is the Father’s Omnipresence and Christ’s Omnipresence. So when Sister White wrote that **“The Father and the Son alone are to be exalted,”** she knew there were just two Divine Beings in the Godhead.

But let’s read another very plain statement: ***“God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God. To Christ has been given an exalted position. He has been made equal with the Father. All the counsels of God are opened to His Son.”*** 8T, 268. It says right here, according to inspiration, Christ has been given an exalted position; He has been made equal with the Father. The Spirit of Prophecy is saying; listen this is very simple: God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God, you don’t need to be confused about it. And yet people still today are confused.

Listen carefully now to this statement, ***“The only being who was one with God lived the law in humanity, descended to the lowly life of a common laborer, and toiled at the carpenter’s bench with His earthly parent.”*** Signs of the Times, October 14, 1897. She says Christ is “the only being who was one with God.” But if you believe there is another Divine Being besides the Father and the Son, you are in an area that is very dangerous, because here it says: ***“the only being.”*** Remember that there is a created being who once sat on the left hand of God who boasted, **“I will be like the Most High.”** Isaiah 14:14. Satan believes that he is not only like the most high, but in his mind, better. Why? Because he has a Sabbath that he achieved through the manipulation of finite men and has most of the Christian world honoring the counterfeit. But listen, in the same verse 14 he said “I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; …” Now listen carefully to the next quote:

GPS this in R&H Oct. 22, 1895 ***“Satan accomplished the fall of man, and since that time it has been his work to efface in man the image of God, and to stamp upon human hearts his own image. Possessing supremacy in guilt, he claims supremacy for himself, and exercises over his subjects the power of royalty. He cannot expel God from his throne, but through the system of idolatry, he plants his own throne between the heaven and the earth, between God and the human worshiper. He intercepts every ray of light that comes from God to man, and appropriates the worship that is due to God.”*** {RH, October 22, 1895 par. 2} Did you hear that? This quote is powerful. ***He intercepts every ray of light that comes from God to man.*** Today Satan does not want you to receive the light of truth about the person of the Holy Spirit being the Omnipresence of Christ. This quote ends by saying, ***“…and appropriates the worship that is due to God.”*** Many SDA’s including historic Adventists are unknowingly giving worship to Satan and that many in leadership are encouraging it.

Today some in leadership positions and even through quotes found in some books of a new order, Adventists are being encouraged to pray to “God the Holy Spirit.” I would like to suggest that in all the quotes that we have read so far, the facts are that there is no Divine Being called “God the Holy Spirit.” There is a strong possibility that any prayers directed to such, may be appropriated by Satan who ***“… plants his own throne between the heaven and the earth, between God and the human worshiper.”*** Satan is the author of all trinities, including the Trinitarian doctrine found in the Fundamental Beliefs published in 1981 that mirrors what Dr. Kellogg wrote and Mrs. White said is a deadly heresy. So let us pray as Jesus taught us to pray and not become victims of the misleading intellectual philosophy. And let us forgive anyone who ever encouraged praying to a false god.

And remember that God said this in Exodus 34:14, **“For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:”** This is serious. Why? Because to stay with a non-existent third god being, called “God the Holy Spirit” is worshipping another god.

I want to go back now to a well-known prophecy which we spoke of previously. Selected Messages, book 1, 204, 205. It says: ***“The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church would be discarded. Our religion would be changed.”***

The two parts of the prophecy ***“… reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, …”*** and ***“Our religion would be changed,”*** are fulfilled prophecy. Seventh-day Adventists today are worshipping a different religion then the one that God established. God is looking for **“restorers of paths to dwell in.”** In the Noah Webster 1828 Dictionary, one meaning for “dwell” is “to continue.” So God is looking for “restorers of paths to continue in.” In Strong’s Concordance the Hebrew word is yashab (yaw-shab) and it can mean to remain; to continue; to abide. So we can say “restorers of paths to remain in.” “restorers of paths to abide in.” Brothers and sisters there are Seventh-day Adventists across the United States and around the world who are waking up to these marvelous truths that we have been studying these six chapters, and the common feeling is let us take our religion back to God’s honor and glory. You can believe that Satan is angry, but God is in control, Amen?

Well we still have much more to cover. In this same quote from 1 SM 204, 205 it reads, ***“Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years [1853 onward] would be accounted as error….”*** 1Selected Messages, 204, 205.

Sister White said the fundamental principles would be accounted as error and that prophecy has been fulfilled as there are many SDA’s who are saying our pioneers and Sister White were wrong.

Continuing with the same quote: ***“A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written.”*** 1 Selected Messages, 204, 205. We will talk about a couple of those books in a minute or two.

She said ***“A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. … Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed…”*** [God is removed. Very interesting] ***“…they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on the sand, and storm and tempest would sweep away the structure.”*** Selected Messages, book 1, pp. 204, 205

So here we have a prophecy about a movement that will move from the solid rock and will shift onto the sand. And in order to do that, they will account the fundamental principles as error, they will write new books, they will change our religion, and God will be removed. How is God removed? When you take the Omnipresent Spirit of God and Christ, that is everywhere present in the universe, and say that it is really a third being that our pioneers never believed in, then God has been removed and replaced in your belief system.

We are aware of “The Living Temple” in the alpha, but what about the Omega? What are some examples of these “books of a new order” that are written more currently today, that Sister White talks about.

I will mention two, but there are many supporting the Trinity and/or Tritheism. “Questions on Doctrine,” a book that was written in the 1950’s. If you open the pages of that book you’ll find that there is a belief in there that talks about the Trinity, exactly as Kellogg was teaching. But then it gets a little more updated.

And then there is another book called “The Trinity” [©2002], and this is a book by three doctors from Andrews University and it talks about the doctrine of the Trinity. It talks about God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. The very words of Kellogg that Sister White called a deadly heresy.

Sister White tells us why Satan is trying to do what he’s doing. 1 SM, p. 156. Notice***: “Satan is determined that men shall not see the love of God which led Him to give His only begotten Son to save a lost race; for it is the goodness of God that leads men to repentance.”*** Selected Messages, book 1, p. 156.

What’s Satan determined to do? That you do not see God’s love in giving His only begotten Son. And so Satan is making a full-scale attack on the Son of God. And he’s not starting this in 2015, he started this a long time ago in heaven.

We have still much more to discover and we will pick up where we left off in chapter 7. What God’s prophet has given us is the truth that God would have us to know at such a time as this, so that we will become the restorers of paths to dwell in which He commanded us to be.

My brothers and sisters let us pray … Eternal Father forgive us if we have prayed, or even encouraged others to pray to a god called “God the Holy Spirit.” We know Satan said He will be like the Most High and so he has a counterfeit Sabbath and stands ready to intercept prayers meant for you. Fill our minds with real truth that we may never be ashamed as we pray in the name of your only begotten Son, AMEN.