

CHRIST IS ALL, AND IN ALL

the
REFORMATION
herald

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GRATEFUL FOR GOD'S LOVE

God is love” (1 John 4:8). The plan of redemption is based on love. “Love is the fulfillment of the law” (Romans 13:10). The essential principle of the Law is love. Jesus said: “If you love Me, keep My commandments” (John 14:15). “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). The great commandment of the Law is: “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets” (Matthew 22:37–39). In other words, the entire Bible reveals God’s love in creation and redemption.

True Christians love one another and even their enemies (Matthew 5:44; Romans 12:20, 21). Both the Law and the Gospel are revelation of God’s love for His creatures. John, the beloved disciple, followed the same life of thought: “He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother, abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness” (1 John 2:9–11).

The whole life of Christ on earth was a full revelation of God in behalf of humanity, and before returning to His Father, He left this message: “If a man love me, he will keep My words: and My Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not My sayings” (John 14:23, 24). “This is My commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. . . . These things I command you, that ye love one another” (John 15:12, 17).

The last message that will finish God’s work on earth, is the revelation of love in the life of God’s children. And as we assemble in general conference capacity, this love is to shine brighter than ever! *R*

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“The age in which we live calls for reformatory action.”
—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, p. 488.

Editor D. P. Silva
Assistant to the Editor B. Montrose
Layout and Design H. Melnychuk, D. Lee
Photography C. Mátyás, N. Tyler

Web: www.sdarm.org • E-mail: info@sdarm.org

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“CHRIST IS ALL, AND IN ALL”

By Davi P. Silva

The Bible reveals that Christ is all that we need in order to be saved. He is described as the Creator (John 1:3; Hebrews 1:2; Colossians 1:16); the mighty God, Wonderful, Counsellor, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1; Hebrew 1:6–8); the Saviour (Matthew 1:21); the Healer, the Teacher, the Preacher (Matthew 4:23); our Advocate (1 John 2:1); our High Priest (Hebrews 3:1; 5:10; 8:1); our Judge, our Lawgiver; our King (John 5:22; Isaiah 33:22).

Christ is fully God, and as such, He is omnipresent, omnipotent, and omniscient. He is called the greatest gift given to humanity for their salvation and restoration.

Being fully God, Christ became a perfect man, lived a holy life, developed a righteous character, and finally died on the cross in behalf of humanity. He also resurrected, ascended to heaven, where He intercedes in our behalf, and He will soon come again to take His faithful children to the heavenly home.

He is the main source of grace. John declares that “the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ” (1:17).

Christ and the plan of salvation are the main themes in the Bible. Jesus is revealed in all the pages of holy writ. He was the invisible Leader of the people of Israel during their journey through the wilderness, as He is our Leader today. Paul affirms that the people did “all drink the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ” (1 Corinthians 10:4).

Peter refers to those who have “obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God, and our Saviour Jesus Christ”; and explains that “grace and peace” are multiplied to us “through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord” (2 Peter 1:1, 2).

Further, the veteran apostle declares that Christ “hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory

and virtue” (verse 3). In other words, everything we need for this life and the life to come is found in Christ.

In the same chapter, Peter describes all the attributes we need to develop in our character—all of which are found in Christ: faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly love, and charity. When we accept Christ as our Saviour and Lord, all these attributes are imputed to us, and, as we remain in Him, the Holy Spirit imparts them to our character.

In Romans chapter 8, Paul also declares that God “spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not **with him also freely give us all things?**” (verse 32, emphasis added). The main point about Christ is that He possesses all the attributes and gifts which enable Him to give us complete salvation. He is the One who has all power to restore us to our early condition at creation.

All the virtues included in Christ’s character become part of our character through the work of

the Holy Spirit and the power of His Word.

As the representative of Christ, the Holy Spirit—through the Word—makes us partakers of the divine nature, and this way Christ becomes all to His people. It is essential that we be guided the whole time by the third Person of the Godhead and be connected to His sacred word.

Christ is our Elder Brother, the foundation and Builder of His church, the Captain of our salvation, the Center of our faith, hope, and true doctrine, the Champion of truth, as well as the main linking

agent between earth and heaven. He is also the Cornerstone of the spiritual temple of the Lord, which is His church. He is our Defender in the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary.

In Christ's soon coming is centralized the climax of our eternal hope. Faithful believers through the centuries were taken to rest in the blessed hope of His appearing at His second coming. This is also our hope.

He is also the fountain of all the true knowledge we need to be made wise unto salvation. He is the Head of the mystical body of His church.

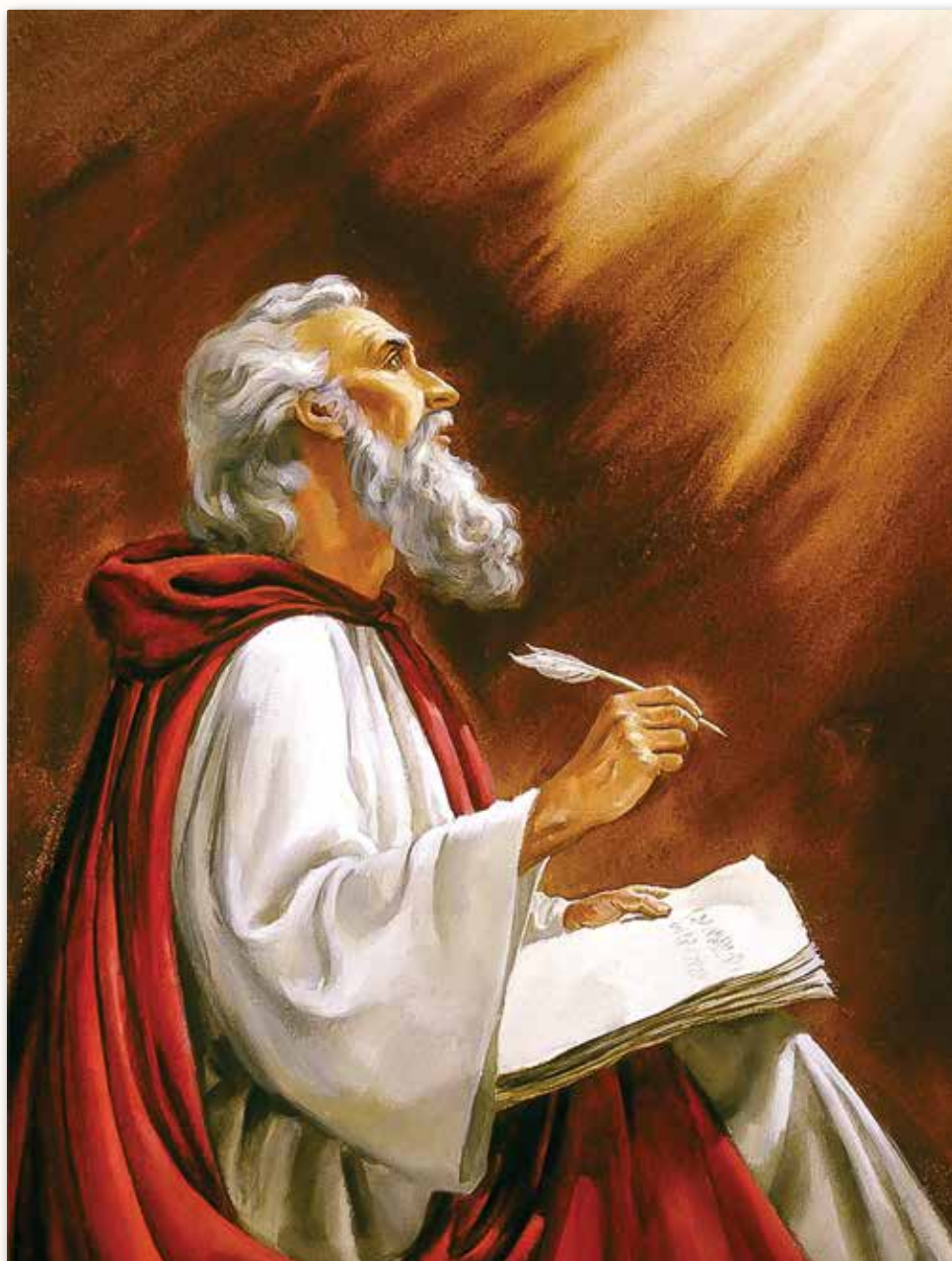
We cannot overlook mentioning His cross as the center of our Christian life. Even though all His life was a sacrifice in our behalf, at the cross Jesus paid the price of our salvation and satisfied the justice of God which demanded eternal death of all sinners. Paul wrote to the Galatian believers: "God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world" (Galatians 6:14).

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

"To Paul the cross was the one object of supreme interest. Ever since he had been arrested in his career of persecution against the followers of the crucified Nazarene he had never ceased to glory in the cross. At that time there had been given him a revelation of the infinite love of God, as revealed in the death of Christ; and a marvelous transformation had been wrought in his life, bringing all his plans and purposes into harmony with heaven. From that hour he had been a new man in Christ. He knew by personal experience that when a sinner once beholds the love of the Father, as seen in the sacrifice of His Son, and yields to the divine influence, a change of heart takes place, and henceforth Christ is all and in all."¹

In 1 Corinthians 1:30, Paul declares that Christ "is made unto us **wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption**" (emphasis supplied). These are essential elements for our salvation and are all found in Jesus.

Wisdom. The Bible talks about two kinds of wisdom: human and divine. Human wisdom is considered by God to be foolishness. The prophet



Jeremiah declares that a person should not glory in his or her own wisdom. Instead, we should look for the divine wisdom that is found in Jesus Christ alone.

Righteousness. The prophet Isaiah says that human righteousness is as filthy rags. Christ says that we need a righteousness that is greatly superior to that of the scribes and Pharisees as an essential condition to be in God's eternal kingdom. True righteousness is found only in Christ and is received only by a faith that works by love and purifies the soul.

Sanctification. True sanctification is a Bible doctrine and is possible only through a permanent connection with Christ by faith. Paul makes clear that without holiness no one will see the Lord. "The righteousness which Christ taught is conformity of heart and life to the revealed will of God. Sinful men can become righteous only as they have faith in God and maintain a vital connection with Him. Then true godliness will elevate the thoughts and ennoble the life. Then the external forms of religion accord with the Christian's internal purity. Then the ceremonies required in the service of God are not meaningless rites, like those of the hypocritical Pharisees."²

"Sinful man can find hope and righteousness only in God; and no human being is righteous any longer than he has faith in God and maintains a vital connection with Him."³

Redemption. The entire humanity was bought by Christ when He offered His life on the cross of Calvary. However, only those who surrender their lives to Jesus, by humble submission and willingness to do His will, shall be the redeemed in His eternal kingdom.

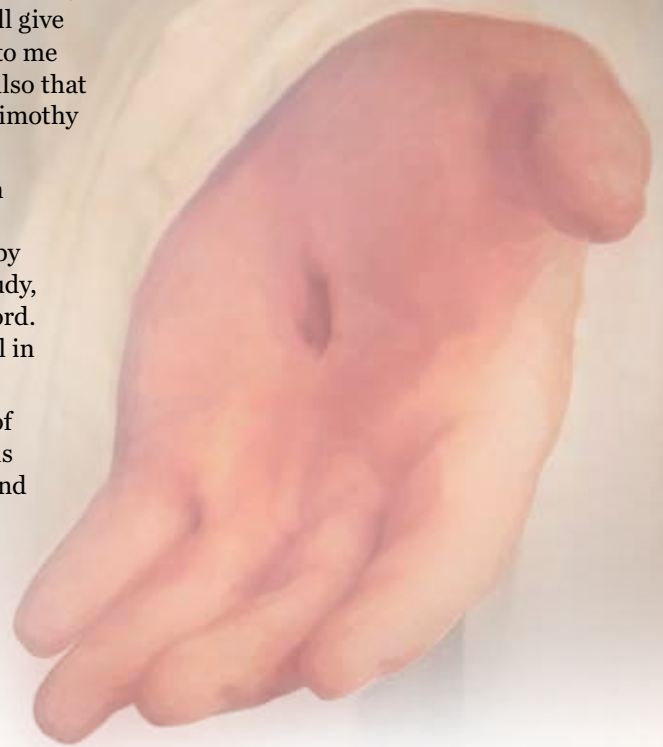
Before his death, Paul declared with full confidence: "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I

have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Timothy 1:12; 4:6-8).

Our eternal salvation depends on our vital connection with Christ by faith through prayer, study, and obedience to His word. This way He becomes all in all His children.

"It is by the perusal of the Bible that the mind is strengthened, refined, and elevated. If there were not another book in the wide world, the word of God, lived out through the grace of Christ, would make man perfect in this world, with a character fitted for the future, immortal life. Those who study the word, taking it in faith as the truth, and receiving it into the character, will be complete in Him who is all and in all."⁴

"When one is fully emptied of self, when every false god is cast out of the soul, the vacuum is supplied by the inflowing of the Spirit of Christ. Such a one has the faith which works by love and purifies the soul from every moral and spiritual defilement. The Holy Spirit, the Comforter, can work upon the heart, influencing and directing, so that he enjoys spiritual things. He is 'after the Spirit' (Romans 8:1), and he minds the things of the Spirit. He has no confidence in self; Christ is all and in all. Truth is constantly being unfolded by the Holy Spirit; he receives with meekness the engrafted word, and he gives the Lord all the glory, saying, 'God has revealed them unto us by his Spirit.' 'Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things which are freely given to us of God' (1 Corinthians 2:10, 12).



The Spirit that reveals also works in him the fruits of righteousness. Christ is in him 'a well of water, springing up into everlasting life' (John 4:14). He is a branch of the True Vine and bears rich clusters of fruit to the glory of God. What is the character of the fruit borne? 'The fruit of the Spirit is love.' Mark the words—love, not hatred; it is joy, not discontent and mourning; peace, not irritation, anxiety and manufactured trials. It is 'longsuffering gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law' (Galatians 5:22, 23)."⁵

Are we willing to allow the Lord to be all in us? *R*

References

- ¹ *The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 245.
- ² *The Desire of Ages*, p. 310.
- ³ *Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 367.
- ⁴ *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, pp. 445, 446.
- ⁵ *The Home Missionary*, November 1, 1893.



1914

1915



1916

1920



Over 100 Years— STILL WANDERING

A Bible and Spirit of Prophecy compilation, with commentary by members of the *Reformation Herald* staff

Picture the scene:

“Moses rose up early in the morning, and went up unto mount Sinai, as the Lord had commanded him, and took in his hand the two tables of stone. And the Lord descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children’s children, unto the third and to the fourth generation” (Exodus 34:4–7).

We can certainly echo the above declaration, for the Lord has indeed been merciful, gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth toward our pilgrim band for over a century. God has tenderly sustained us in spite of our

spiritual frailty. For many of us, our great-grandparents in the present truth message never dreamed that they would live to see their great-grandchildren. They had expected to see their Lord coming in the clouds of heaven.

Where are we now?

If we were to envision a timeline spanning over the past 100 years, we would initially see believers who were alive during the first two decades of the 20th century. These saw a great shaking among the Advent people during World War I.

Concurrently, in 1915, Sister Ellen G. White was laid to rest, leaving behind a tremendous written legacy of inspiration from God to lighten the pathway of His pilgrim band through the end of time.

In 1919, the League of Nations—predecessor of the United Nations—was established in the hopes of resolving international disputes in a more civilized manner.

In 1925, the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement was organized by the believers in 16 different countries who had peaceably upheld the Ten Commandments—even in time of war—and as a result had been disfellowshipped by the church they loved.

By the mid-30s, persecution rekindled against the meekness of God’s faithful few. Before the decade was over, the nations of the earth were again embroiled in world war. Many more Sabbathkeepers were disfellowshipped for adhering to the Ten Commandments by refusing to take up weapons of war against others and refusing to trample upon God’s holy day of rest.

After the war, a few decades of comparative prosperity began to flourish in many countries of the world. Satellites and a moon landing brought headlines to the news as outer space was pioneered.

Then, in 1989, the blessing of freedom came to a significant portion of the world’s population. Oppressive



1925



1935



1939

regimes collapsed in eastern Europe and Eurasia, opening the door in the 1990s for the present truth to be preached to vast numbers of people who had never experienced the opportunity to hear the good news of God's great love and the wisdom of His law—the holy transcript of His peaceful character. Might not such a grand and widespread moment have been sufficient to usher in the return of our Lord? No, not yet.

Now we are in 2015—a hundred years after the beginning of our little timeline. Why the delay? Why do we still find ourselves wandering in a sin-sick, fallen wilderness? There are two main reasons: “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9). “And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto **all** nations; and then shall the end come” (Matthew 24:14, emphasis added).

Are we really about our Master's business as we should be?

Back in the early days of the Laodicean era that began back in 1844, the Lord's messenger had already been constrained to pen a timely vision that still applies today:

“I saw many traveling in this broad road who had the words written upon them: ‘Dead to the world. The end of all things is at hand. Be ye also ready.’ They looked just like all the vain ones around them, except a shade of

sadness which I noticed upon their countenances. Their conversation was just like that of the gay, thoughtless ones around them; but they would occasionally point with great satisfaction to the letters on their garments, calling for the others to have the same upon theirs. They were in the broad way, yet they professed to be of the number who were traveling the narrow way. Those around them would say: ‘There is no distinction between us. We are alike, we dress, and talk, and act alike.’ . . .

“Many who profess to believe the truth for these last days think it strange that the children of Israel murmured as they journeyed; that after the wonderful dealings of God with them, they should be so ungrateful as to forget what He had done for them. Said the angel: ‘Ye have done worse than they.’ ”¹

“Some in these churches are in constant danger because the cares of this life and worldly thoughts so occupy the mind that they do not think upon God or heaven and the needs of their own souls. They rouse from their stupor now and then but fall back again in deeper slumber. Unless they shall fully rouse from their slumbers, God will remove the light and blessings He has given them. He will in His anger remove the candlestick out of its place. He has made these churches the depository of His law.”²

“We who are living in this age have greater light and privileges than were given to Abraham, Joseph, Moses, Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah, and other

ancient worthies, and we are under correspondingly greater obligation to let our light shine to the world. God has made us the depositaries of His law. We have been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, and we are to follow in His footsteps, to represent Him before the world. But are we faithful depositaries of the truth, correctly representing it amid the spiritual declension and moral corruption that now exist? Are we doing one-third that we might and should do to diffuse the precious light of truth? Brethren, you see the truth, you understand the claims of God's law. You know that no willful transgressor of that law will enter into life, and yet you see that law made void in the world. What is your duty? You are not to ask, What is convenient for me? what is agreeable? but, What can I do to save souls?”³

A call to action

A 100-year anniversary of this type is not something of which to boast. Are we really serious about preparing for the Lord's return—or are we underestimating the urgency of the hour? We are warned that “if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to smite his fellow-servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; the lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Matthew 24:48–51).



1943



1944



1948



1961



1969

“It is not the length of time we labor but our willingness and fidelity in the work that makes it acceptable to God. In all our service a full surrender of self is demanded. The smallest duty done in sincerity and self-forgetfulness is more pleasing to God than the greatest work when marred with self-seeking. He looks to see how much of the spirit of Christ we cherish, and how much of the likeness of Christ our work reveals. He regards more the love and faithfulness with which we work than the amount we do.

“Only when selfishness is dead, when strife for supremacy is banished, when gratitude fills the heart, and love makes fragrant the life—it is only then that Christ is abiding in the soul, and we are recognized as laborers together with God.”⁴

Living in the time of the sealing

“Many do not realize what they must be in order to live in the sight of the Lord without a high priest in the sanctuary through the time of trouble. Those who receive the seal of the living God and are protected in the time of trouble must reflect the image of Jesus fully.”⁵

“Let everyone who claims to believe that the Lord is soon coming search the Scriptures as never before; for Satan is determined to try every device possible to keep souls in darkness and blind the mind to the perils of the times in which we are living. Let every believer take up his Bible with earnest prayer, that he may be enlightened by the Holy Spirit as to what is truth, that he may know more

of God and of Jesus Christ whom He has sent.”⁶

“In this life we must meet fiery trials and make costly sacrifices, but the peace of Christ is the reward. There has been so little self-denial, so little suffering for Christ’s sake, that the cross is almost entirely forgotten. We must be partakers with Christ of His sufferings if we would sit down in triumph with Him on His throne. So long as we choose the easy path of self-indulgence and are frightened at self-denial, our faith will never become firm, and we cannot know the peace of Jesus nor the joy that comes through conscious victory. The most exalted of the redeemed host that stand before the throne of God and the Lamb, clad in white, know the conflict of overcoming, for they have come up through great tribulation. Those who have yielded to circumstances rather than engage in this conflict will not know how to stand in that day when anguish will be upon every soul, when, though Noah, Job, and Daniel were in the land, they could save neither son nor daughter, for everyone must deliver his soul by his own righteousness.

“No one need say that his case is hopeless, that he cannot live the life of a Christian. Ample provision is made by the death of Christ for every soul. Jesus is our ever-present help in time of need. Only call upon Him in faith, and He has promised to hear and answer your petitions.

“Oh, for a living, active faith! We need it; we must have it, or we shall faint and fail in the day of trial. The darkness that will then rest upon our

path must not discourage us or drive us to despair. It is the veil with which God covers His glory when He comes to impart rich blessings. We should know this by our past experience. In that day when God has a controversy with His people this experience will be a source of comfort and hope.

“It is now that we must keep ourselves and our children unspotted from the world. It is now that we must wash our robes of character and make them white in the blood of the Lamb. It is now that we must overcome pride, passion, and spiritual slothfulness. It is now that we must awake and make determined effort for symmetry of character. ‘Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts.’ We are in a most trying position, waiting, watching for our Lord’s appearing. The world is in darkness. ‘But ye, brethren,’ says Paul, ‘are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.’ It is ever God’s purpose to bring light out of darkness, joy out of sorrow, and rest out of weariness for the waiting, longing soul.

“What are you doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are uniting with the world are receiving the worldly mold and preparing for the mark of the beast. Those who are distrustful of self, who are humbling themselves before God and purifying their souls by obeying the truth—these are receiving the heavenly mold and preparing for the seal of God in their foreheads. When the decree goes forth and the stamp is impressed, their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity.



1975



1989

1995



2001



2011

“Now is the time to prepare. The seal of God will never be placed upon the forehead of an impure man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of the ambitious, world-loving man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of men or women of false tongues or deceitful hearts. All who receive the seal must be without spot before God—candidates for heaven. Go forward, my brethren and sisters. I can only write briefly upon these points at this time, merely calling your attention to the necessity of preparation. Search the Scriptures for yourselves, that you may understand the fearful solemnity of the present hour.”⁷

“If God’s people make no efforts on their part, but wait for the refreshing to come upon them and remove their wrongs and correct their errors; if they depend upon that to cleanse them from filthiness of the flesh and spirit, and fit them to engage in the loud cry of the third angel, they will be found wanting. The refreshing or power of God comes only on those who have prepared themselves for it by doing the work which God bids them, namely, cleansing themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and

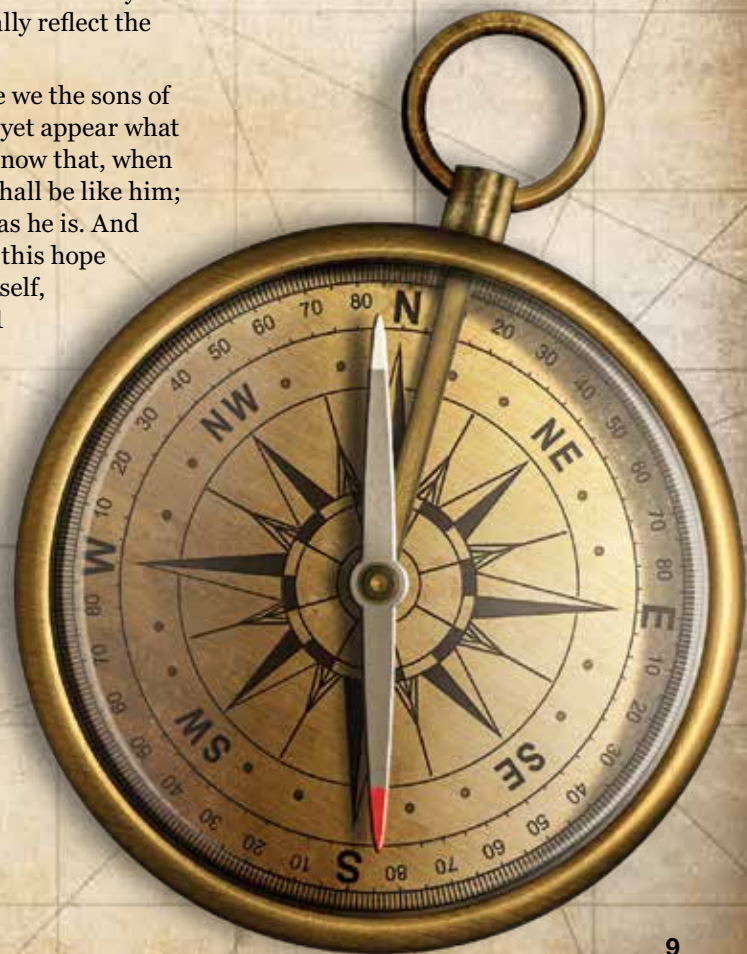
spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”⁸

May the Lord fortify us in this hour of preparation, that we may trust in Him fully and finally reflect the character of Jesus!

“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure” (1 John 3:2, 3). *R*

References

- 1 *Testimonies*, vol. 1, pp. 128, 129.
- 2 *Ibid.*, vol. 4, p. 286.
- 3 *The Review and Herald*, May 13, 1884.
- 4 *Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 402.
- 5 *Early Writings*, p. 71.
- 6 *Selected Messages*, bk. 1, p. 362.
- 7 *Testimonies*, vol. 5, pp. 215, 216.
- 8 *Ibid.*, vol. 1, p. 619.



THE NORTH AMERICAN REGION

Reaching Out to the Masses

North America—the very birthplace of the Great Advent Movement. Ironically, however, the SDARM reflects in this region today more of a distinctly foreign presence as a product of our various worldwide churches rather than an autochthon American predominance.

Much has been done in North America, of course, but a few highlights really stand out as encouraging beacons of the progress of the Lord's work here:

The Las Vegas Missionary Project was an evangelistic effort in the state of Nevada, specifically at Las Vegas—a brightly neon-lit city widely renowned for its famous gambling casinos. I am glad to report that the Lord Jesus Christ has given us the chance to taste the beauty of bringing new souls to Him. On May 25, 2013, after almost four years of unceasing

labor, the Lord Jesus Christ blessed the joint efforts of the Western North American Union ministers and workers to produce the biggest baptism in the history of the North America Region. Over 19 souls were baptized, joining the church of God. The brethren and sisters in Las Vegas are now in full-speed progress, having a considerable amount of candidates for baptism, plus many other current visitors.

The Vancouver Project with the theme, “Wake-up Call, Planet Earth” was an international evangelistic outreach in the greater Vancouver area in June–July, 2012. It was an encouraging experience. A group of young people from East Canada, the Western North American Union, and Australia distributed invitations—interacting with the people and

helping to establish contacts. Today there is an established group of visitors, and a minister has been sent to prepare more souls for baptism.

“God says, ‘Enter the cities. Give the inhabitants of these cities the call to prepare for the coming of the Lord.’ . . .

“Many in the cities are still without the light of the gospel message. Those who neglect to sound forth the last message of warning will in the future suffer deep regret. My message is, ‘Let companies be organized to enter the cities. Seek proper locations for holding meetings. Circulate our literature. Make earnest efforts to reach people.’ “¹

“We do not realize the extent to which satanic agencies are at work in these large cities. The work of bringing the message of present truth



Baptism, Las Vegas, U.S.A.



Camp meeting, Pensilvania, U.S.A.





before the people is becoming more and more difficult. It is essential that new and varied talents unite in intelligent labor for the people.”²

“The Lord God of Israel will hold the men and women who are intelligent in regard to the truth for this time, accountable for those cities that are left without warning. The instruction has been given me, Work the cities; work the cities where the first and second angel’s messages were proclaimed. . . .

“Do not expect that men will come to you and say, If you will come and work in our cities, we will support you. You are to go into these cities and begin work in a humble way.”³

May the Lord help us all to courageously do our part in His strength! *R*

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- ¹ *Evangelism*, p. 96.
- ² *Ibid.*, p. 31.
- ³ *The General Conference Bulletin*, June 4, 1909.



Conference, California, U.S.A.



Camp meeting, Florida, U.S.A.



Children's program, Canada



Canvassing, U.S.A.

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN REGION

Seminars and Strategies

The Central American Region is composed of 3 Unions—the Colombian Union, the Central American Union, and the Mexican Union, plus the Venezuelan Field, the Dominican Field, the Haitian Mission, and some other island missions. Doors have also opened now in Cuba; we now have a small group of supporters in Havana and Santiago who have gladly accepted the Reform message.

The Lord has blessed this region with 311 worship places, 5 missionary schools, 4 health institutions, 2 broadcasting institutions, and a school for primary and middle school

education. We diligently seek to stand firm to the principles of our faith and to teach them in spirit and in truth.

The bulk of our recent work, however, has consisted of seminars on administration, home and family, doctrine, Sabbath school and missionary work, and of seminars for the workers' wives.

Challenges are faced by the lack of human and financial resources. Surely now is the time we can echo the words of the pen of Inspiration:

“We must work in prayer and love, with faith and unwearied patience, hoping all things and believing all

things, having the wisdom of the serpent and the meekness of the dove, in order to win souls to Christ. . . .

“We are not, as a people, sufficiently aroused to the short time in which we have to work, and we do not understand the magnitude of the work for the time.

“The night soon cometh, in which no man can work. God calls for men and women to qualify themselves, by consecration to His will and earnest study of the Scriptures, to do His special work for these last days. He calls for men now who can work. As they engage in the work in sincerity and humility to do all they can, they will be obtaining a more thorough experience. They will have a better knowledge of the truth and better know how to reach souls and help



Youth Convention, Colombia



Evangelistic Meeting, Guatemala



them just where they need to be helped. Workmen are needed now, just now, to labor for God. The fields are already white for the harvest, and yet laborers are few.”¹

“Open new fields, is the word from the Lord, and add to your workers. Educate young men to labor, and tarry not. Educate, educate, educate.”² *R*

References

- ¹ *Life Sketches*, pp. 211, 212.
- ² *Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 416.



Baptism, Colombia



Missionary School graduation, Honduras



Mission in Martinique

THE SOUTH AMERICAN REGION

Reaching Out Through Media

“Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord” (1 Corinthians 15:57, 58).

In the administration division in the General Conference, the South American Region is composed of the following countries: Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Guyana, Suriname, and French Guiana—totaling a third of the membership of the Reform Movement around the world.

The biggest challenge in this region of the church is to evangelize the million people who inhabit the 11 countries. But in spite of our frailty in the face of such a challenge, new

souls have been added to the church and new churches have been built as a beacon of present truth. Praise be to God!

Progress is taking place in Brazil, for example. There are over 5,000 members in the North Brazilian Union with headquarters in the nation’s capital, Brasília. During this past quadrennium, 2 new Missions and a new Field have been added—so now the North Brazilian Union has 6 Fields and 2 Missions. There are also 2 academic schools and a vegetarian restaurant.

Stop-smoking evangelistic campaigns have been held in several places, using the following plan:

1. How to quit smoking (for health reasons);
2. Bible themes are introduced, and

3. Home visitation then follows to those who have become friends as a result of the program.

This method has brought excellent results.

Summer vacation colporteur programs have also been quite effective among the youth, along with various online Bible study courses designed for the public.

The South Brazilian Union, with its headquarters at the rural site known as Ebenezer in Itú, S.P., is the second largest SDARM Union in the world. Besides the administrative offices and residences on this property, a new, high-tech media studio has just been constructed. The media project, operating in conjunction with the General Conference, has been established to promulgate the three angels’ messages in multiple languages. The two Brazilian Unions have begun by launching together a series of “Principles of Faith” on DVD



Canvassing Convention, Brazil



Inauguration of Media Studio, Brazil



with 37 lectures. This material is being used for evangelization and preparation of candidates for baptism.

The South Brazilian Union is also home to our missionary school and the health sanitarium, Oasis Paranaense, located outside the city of Curitiba in the state of Paraná.

The Bolivian Union recently promoted an outreach seminar with the theme "Harvest Time." The event was crowned with a baptism of 26 souls. This union was also host to the 1st Symposium of Sacred Music to be held in the South American region.

A new church was recently inaugurated in Paraguay and

construction on another chapel has been approved by the local municipality to begin in Suriname.

In Guyana, the work is growing and in 2014, a new chapel and parsonage were built, awaiting a new missionary to provide spiritual assistance and organize missionary activities there.

This is just a small sampling of all that the Lord is doing through His people in the South American region. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit may touch the hearts

of each one of us to do more than our part to promote His soon-coming kingdom, that souls may be won to the Saviour who is all, and in all. *R*



Workers' seminar, Peru



Workers' seminar, Argentina



Ready for literature distribution, Brazil



Music symposium, Bolivia

THE AFRICAN REGION

Good Training—Good Results!

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ with Romans 10:13–15, “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?”

In order to be sent, it is necessary to get training. After this you can answer the question, “Here am I; send me” (Isaiah 6:8).

From August 17–September 10, 2014, the African seminar for leaders and Bible workers was held in Angola. Many countries were represented and the brethren from the GC, together with some from Brazil, were teachers. It was a wonderful seminar; everyone who took part came back greatly encouraged; the event left happy memories in Angola and beyond.

Since that time, we have been receiving good news as a result of this seminar; for example, the development of God’s work in Madagascar.

As many may be aware, Madagascar is the dream site of nature and outdoor enthusiasts. Home to thousands of animal species found nowhere else on earth, this beautiful and exotic island nation has a human population of over 22 million. Various forms of traditional and ancestor worship are common, although nearly half of the people profess Christianity.

After attending the African seminar, our brother from Madagascar was pleased to declare, “In this country only my wife, my children, and I are interested in



NORTH AFRICAN REGION



SOUTH AFRICAN REGION



Madagascar

the Reform Movement church—and sometimes my family discourages me from continuing to worship alone. But now I have material and understanding to preach the gospel and enable the Lord’s work here to expand.”

Then after 6 months, we received news that in Madagascar many souls are joining

the Reform Movement. In June, one of our ministers went to this country and baptized 45 souls—so the mission in Madagascar was organized as a fruit of this seminar. Praise be to God! *R*



Burundi



Liberia



Rwanda

THE EUROPEAN REGION

News from the European Continent

“The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect. The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance” (Psalm 33:10–12).

Europe is unique, not only because of its cultural, linguistic, and national diversity but also because of its historical background. Long religious persecutions, revolutions, the ever-fighting monarchical powers, the Protestant Reformation, two world wars that left a great number of orphans and widows behind, the traumatic events of the great disappointment of the advent movement, the denial of God, the doctrine of evolution for decades, and so on. The European nations have seen it all. Today it is still not easy. Right here where the Protestant

Reformation originated, people are becoming the victims of compromise, accepting the overpowering influence of the eastern religions. But God still has many faithful children in these countries, for whom Christ shed His precious blood. Finding these souls is our greatest priority. Our religious activities branch out to many areas as the political situation, culture, and people’s different conception demands it. Including, of course, holding fast to the never changing truth we have. The servant of the Lord says:

“We have not six patterns to follow, nor five; we have only one, and that is Christ Jesus. If the Italian brethren, the French brethren, and the German brethren try to be like Him, they will plant their feet upon the same foundation of truth; the same spirit that dwells in one will dwell in the other—Christ in them, the hope of glory. I warn you, brethren and sisters, not to build up

a wall of partition between different nationalities. On the contrary, seek to break it down wherever it exists. We should endeavor to bring all into the harmony that there is in Jesus, laboring for the one object, the salvation of our fellow men.”¹

How is this being done? Largely through spiritual conferences, family, youth, and educational seminars, sacred music concerts, canvassing programs, health programs, and cooking demonstrations.

With God’s help, results are being seen, for example:

In Romania, much is being accomplished to promote God’s cause through the work of the sanitarium and the Porumbacu campus.

In the South Slavonic Union, there is a vigorous work going on and two workers were recently ordained to faithfully do their part in the Lord’s vineyard.

In Italy there is a revival taking place.

The youth in Spain are actively taking part in the work of canvassing and other voluntary services.

The Portuguese Field now extends to two new areas: Cape Verde as well as the Sao Tome and Principe Islands. There is an urgent need for both islands each to have a gathering place on each of these islands.



Workers’ seminar, Italy



In France, there are spiritual conferences and canvassing programs organized. The work of this mission field also extends to Belgium and Switzerland.

The work in England has made a significant move forward as result of the London Project in 2013. The brethren here are actively engaged in various programs such as cooking demonstrations and Bible seminars and the membership has grown to 26.

In Germany and in Austria, the activity of the church is gradually becoming livelier. The believers organize conferences, canvassing outreach programs in various cities, as well as trying to organize medical seminars. Lately they have had new interests also. In the South German Field they also organize conferences

where a good number of visitors come. In many cities they hold book demonstrations and canvassing programs along with medical seminars where they involve the young people.

Hungary has recently been blessed with the establishment of a missionary school, and the work continues to go forward in Bulgaria, Greece, and Albania as well.

May the Lord prepare a people for His second coming, composed of all nations and people who honestly work for the salvation of

Medical-missionary work, Romania



Missionary outreach, Germany



New Mission, England



Camp meeting, Romania



souls and accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, washing their robes in the blood of the Lamb that they may be white as snow. This is my prayer. *R*

References

¹ *Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 181.

THE EURASIAN REGION

Reaching for the Greatest Riches

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.” “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 1:3, 4, 6, 7).

The Eurasian region is made up of the following:

- Eastern European Union.
- Moldavian Union.
- Polish Missionary Field.

- Czechoslovakian Missionary Field.
- Turkish Mission.
- Israel Mission.

In this region, there are certain countries that do not have freedom of religion. In some of the areas, the predominant church is Orthodox, and in others it is Islam. Yet God has His people who are faithful to the principles of the church and, as their possibilities allow, perform missionary work.

Our brethren and sisters print and distribute newspapers, pamphlets, and books of spiritual as well as medical missionary character. The media departments are also doing a very important work, broadcasting different programs with Sabbath School discussion and medical missionary topics. Many brethren

and sisters as well as those who are interested are happy to view these broadcasts.

Seminars, youth meetings, and camp meetings are held regularly and together the brethren reconstruct and build houses of worship. In this time of economic turmoil it is quite difficult, but with God’s help and the participation of our ministers, members, and friends, the work is advancing and we are hoping that it will be successfully finished.

The First Sabbath Offering for St. Petersburg was a very great blessing. We are hoping that this year we will be able to dedicate this building for the Lord.

Despite the economic crisis, the project of building a house of worship in the village of Alexandrovka Zakarpatye was also completed. All



Missionary outreach, Russia



Childrens' summer camp, Ukraine



of this was possible by the financial efforts of the local community as well as your generous donations toward the First Sabbath Offering for this purpose.

of addition, we trust that God in His mercy will work on the plan of multiplication—that a rich harvest of souls may be reaped for His eternal kingdom. Maranatha! *R*



Camp meeting, Moldova



Church inauguration, Poland



New church, West Ukraine



Camp meeting, Ukraine

Worship places in Poland, in Kiev, and in Dnepropetrovks have also been purchased and dedicated. In Turkey there is now have a rented place of worship as well.

We are so thankful for all these developments. As we work on the plan

THE ASIAN REGION

Challenging Times for Christians

Asia encompasses a vast territory—the largest continent on earth, totaling 30% of the world’s land. In an area covering over 17 million square miles (44.5 square kilometers) and over 4.4 billion people, our work here is similar to elsewhere—“for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12), both for the purpose of inward edification and outward propagation of the gospel.

In recent years, Christians in many parts of Asia have suffered under

the heavy hand of persecution. You may have heard the news reports of tension and violence directed against believers and especially against fresh, new converts to Christianity. In spite of these perils, the Lord’s work is moving forward in many places. Because of the membership growth in Asia, some new units in this region have been added—specifically the Sri Lankan Northern Province Mission, the Sri Lankan Central Mission, and the Andaman and Nicobar Mission.

We thank our brethren and sisters from around the world for the relief

that has poured into Nepal following the devastating earthquake in the spring of 2015.

Surely, the recent experience of many of our members throughout the Asian region can aptly illustrate the following inspired passages:

“The daily record of disasters shows that there is no safety anywhere. Even in our homes we are in danger; for storms, floods, and fire are sweeping off thousands, while earthquakes are destroying additional thousands. If there ever was a time when we should be sober and watch unto prayer, it is now. Our lives are safe only when hid with Christ in God. We need every day to purify ourselves even as He is pure. There is always hope for us in God. Faith is our defense, for it connects our human weakness with divine power.”¹

“When the testing time shall come, those who have made God’s word their rule of life will be revealed. In summer there is no noticeable difference between evergreens and other trees; but when the blasts of winter come, the evergreens remain unchanged, while other trees are stripped of their foliage. So the falsehearted professor may not now be distinguished from the real Christian, but the time is just upon us when the difference will be apparent. Let opposition arise, let





bigotry and intolerance again bear sway, let persecution be kindled, and the halfhearted and hypocritical will waver and yield the faith; but the true Christian will stand firm as a rock, his faith stronger, his hope brighter, than in days of prosperity.”²

Amen! *R*

References

- ¹ *The Review and Herald*, January 29, 1884.
- ² *The Great Controversy*, p. 602.



Medical-Missionary seminar, India



Conference, India



Union Mission Council, South India

THE PACIFIC REGION

Progress in the Pacific Rim

There is a vast amount of travel and territory involved in the Pacific Region of the SDARM.

The Australian Union Conference has been active with missionary training, plus cooking, health, and depression classes for the community. This unit is a strong supporter of the South Pacific Union Mission which was organized with a headquarters in Vanuatu.

Properties have recently been purchased for local churches in Fiji and Samoa. The Papua New Guinea Mission Field has been active with health presentations, counseling, and cooking classes. The brethren and sisters of Indonesia are also very active in this type of missionary work.

In South Korea, a self-supporting minister has been having good success for the last 25 years as a naturopathic health practitioner in a natural clinic. The health message is thus being used as an entering wedge for the gospel.

In Vietnam there are around 167 members, and literature is being translated into the Vietnamese language to better equip our Bible workers in their mission.

The work in Japan has now spread to four places in that country. The believers there are very active in live streaming their programs every Sabbath, producing CDs of doctrinal presentations, distributing literature, and holding health and cooking

classes. The message is being taken also to Okinawa through evangelistic programs.

Interests are growing in Taiwan and elsewhere as well.

In the Philippines, our church is quite active. The believers appreciated very much the aid sent to them following the severe climatic disasters that have crippled the country's economy.

Truly the prophecies are to be fulfilled:

“The Lord would have you no longer confine to a few places at home all the great facilities that concern the moral and spiritual advancement of His work. The word of command is: ‘Go forward. You to whom I have given much are called upon to impart. Place your means where it will help now in giving light to darkened nations and to the islands of the sea.’”¹



Sabbath School Seminar, Indonesia



South Pacific Union Mission Delegates



“The people everywhere are to have the Bible opened to them. The time has come, the important time when through God’s messengers the scroll is being unrolled to the world. The truth comprised in the first, second, and third angels’ messages must go to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people; it must lighten the darkness of every continent and extend to the islands of the sea.”² *R*

References

- 1 *General Conference Daily Bulletin*, March 2, 1899.
- 2 *Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 134.





MEET THE DELEGATES

AT LARGE

Davi Paes Silva
 Duraisamy Sureshkumar
 Peter D. Lausevic
 Eli Tenorio da Silva
 Rudolfo Gessner
 Devapiriyam Samydoss
 Marius Daniel Stroia
 Petru Mangul
 Ferenc Matyas
 Liviu Tudoroiu
 Rolly Colasito Dumaguit
 Manuel Henda
 Ion Adrian Finaru
 Aurelian Raducu Ionita
 Pedro Manuel da Conceicao
 Dragan Ivanov
 Daniel Lee
 Segundo Daniel Guzman Hurtado
 Rômulo Pereira Borges
 Paul Edwin Chapman
 Paul Gavric

NORTH AMERICAN REGION

Eastern US Field

Dorival Nicolas Dumitru

South-East US Field

Eduardo Moreno
 Homero Paredes

Western US Union

David Zic

Jorai Pereira da Cruz
 Iulian Utupanu

East-Central US Field

Ljuban Vukotic

East Canadian Field

Walter Lukic

CENTRAL AMERICAN REGION

Central American Union

Victor Orlando Garcia Amaya
 Jose Rubi Gamez Villanueva
 Felix Padilla
 Jary Hernan Reyes

Colombian Union

Edgar Moreno Ortiz
 Javier Alonso Silva Vargas
 Jesus Nasareno Turushina
 Altamirano
 Gonzalo Mayorga Pinzon
 Hermenciano Guiza Quiroga

Dominican Field

Salomon Carrasco Guevara
 Nelson Julio Almonte Surun

Mexican Union

Daniel Aurelio Avelar Jaimes
 Jose Angel Usuga Goetz
 Ma del Carmen Clemente Solis

Haitian Mission

Romel Beauvil

SOUTH AMERICAN REGION

South Brazilian Union

Felipe de Souza Silva
 Andre Marcelo Devai
 Aroldo Gessner
 Jose Francisco Campos
 Cicero Jose de Almeida Filho
 Delvacir Dias Preto
 Edson de Oliveira Custodio
 Jose Aparecido Corte
 Joel Antonio Silva
 Renato Konrath de Oliveira
 Mario Cesar Linares Nunez
 Francisco de Assis Rodrigues
 Gildo Andrade da Silva
 Jaime Lemes Campos
 Ronaldo Araujo Ramos
 Romar Ramos Machado
 Emilson Motta
 Joel Ramos da Silva
 Carlos Mello Mangueira
 Daniel Duarte Carneiro

North Brazilian Union

Matheus Souza da Silva
 Carlos Enrique Linares Nunes
 Josimar Ribeiro Cardoso de Oliveira
 Francharle Ferreira Figueiroa

Enio Johab das Virgens Silva
 Julio Sandro Ribeiro
 Wagner dos Santos Guidini
 Valtterubem Sousa Santos
 Marcos Aurelio Silva Pedrazas
 Jairo Moreira Nizio Junior
 Luis Carlos de Melo
 Edimar Bilio da Rocha
 Silvan Paulo da Silva
 Marcos Wagner Rodrigues Vaz
 Hermes dos Santos Barbosa
 Tiago Honorio Cruz
 Isaias Barbosa dos Reis
 Lourival Jose de Santana
 Heber Silva Gomes
 Marcelo Araujo Silva
 Moises da Cunha Fernandes

Peruvian Union

Juan Salazar Salazar
 Roman Ayala Payco
 Segundo Grimaldo Sacramento Rojas
 Aureliano Becerra Vasquez
 Mario Freddy Alvarado Palacios
 Erasmo Jhon Coila Gomez
 Ysaac Chichipe Quintana
 Guillermo Yañac Caviedes
 Manuel Jesús Rodriguez Cabañas
 David Chichipe Guablocho
 Julio Romero Marín



Jorge Vidal Garayar Flores

Bolivian Union

Samuel Ramos Ramos
Edgar Ramos Ramos
Alfredo Ramos Mamani
Rolly Vargas Avila

Ecuadorian Union

Joffre Alex Castro Martinez
Wilson Joffre Salvador Arias

South American Southern Union

Carlos Cordova Leon
Raul Hernan Cordova Leon

Chilean Union

Max Eleazar Uribe Ulloa
Joel Armando Morales Espinoza

EUROPEAN REGION

Romanian Union

Simion Muresan
Fivi Picu
Ioan Bobes
Marin Barbu
Ioan Emanoil Farcas
Ioan Bogdan
Marian Manolache
Catalin Barnea
Ionel Aria
Iosif-Arpad Siko
Emil Barbu
David Muresan

Bulgarian Field

Vasil Vesin Hristov

Spanish Field

Eduardo Lainez Claros
Sorin Suceava

French Field

Marcos Valerio Goncalves Dias

Hungarian Field

Miklos Zagoni-Szabo
Laszlo Bodnar

Italian Field

Abel Alfonso Morales
Daniele Campodonico

German Field North

Marcelo Ponce Sanchez
Ovidiu Gheorghie Nasui

South Slavonic Union

George Bosanac
Mladen Aradski

Portugal Field

Hilton Pereira Castro
Pedro Miguel Chaves Batista

EURASIAN REGION

East European Union

Anatolii Bogatov
Pavlo Brovchenko
Oleksandr Pash
Viktor Pysaniuk
Alexander Volgin
Sergiy Brovchenko

Moldovan Union

Iacob Costas
Beniamin Costas
Anatolie Mariceanu

AFRICAN REGION

Angolan Union

Zeferino Dovala
Estevao Gaca
Jose Nguepe
Engrácia Pedro Sebastião

South African Field

Jethro Mandlenkosi Sithole
Alexander Kaushi

Rwanda Union Mission

Marie Ange Joselyne
Numukobwa
Jean Bosco Nsengiyumva

East African Union Mission

Paulo Petro Sagday
Geoffrey Samson Waeno
Daniel Arwa Ojuok

Ethiopian Union Mission

Sileshi Tessema Teklemariam

Mozambique Mission

Manuel Orlando de Nascimento
Mateus

Zimbabwe Field Conference

Qiniso Ndebele

Zambian Union Mission

Justin Chewes Kambe
Stephen Bwembya Musonda

Burundi Mission

Edison Bigirimana

Congo Union Mission

Samuel Kabongo Tshijuke

PACIFIC REGION

Australasian Union

Ferenc Csongor Matyas
Nathanael Benjamin Tyler

South Pacific Union Mission

Benjamin Peter Thiel
John Dumambi

Korean Field

Jong Hwan Hyun

Philippine Union

Roberto Embuscada Dizon
Olivine Espiritu Uy
Rosario Butron Dizon
Remelito Uy

South China Union

Zhixin Ding
Xuanfei Lin

North China Union

Yongde MA
Bingquan Liu

Vietnam

Nguyen Nam Long

ASIAN REGION

South India Union

Rajasekar Kavundappadi Israel

North India Union

Alwyn Vedhasingh Baskaradoss
Murugesan S S
Jeyasingh D

HIGHLIGHTS FROM

The 22nd delegation session of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement began on Tuesday, August 25, 2015 in the beautiful state of Virginia, U.S.A. The location for this very important event was a conference center situated on Smith Mountain Lake, in the town of Wirtz. This was a historic moment, since the last GC session held in the U.S.A. was in 1979 in Bushkill, Pennsylvania.

One hundred seventy five delegates were representing 38,675 church members in more than 100 countries around the world.

The GC president for the past four years, Davi Paes Silva, shared a brief message emphasizing our need of the Holy Spirit and of a continuous connection with Christ. He made reference to John 20:22, Hosea 5:15–6:3, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 805, and other passages, encouraging the delegates in a few very important aspects of preparation—acknowledging our condition, seeking the Lord, experiencing His healing and revival, and receiving the former and latter rain of the Holy Spirit.

The delegates chose D. Sureshkumar to serve as the temporary chairman, assisted by Peter D. Lausevic, and Eli Tenorio as the session secretary.

Wonderful topics were presented by those entrusted with the worship meetings. Marcos Pedrazas brought words of exhortation on the importance of fixing our eyes on things unseen and eternal rather than on the temporary things of this earth. He explained that our circumstances may become dark and mysterious in our Christian walk, but if we look upon things unseen and eternal, we have the blessed assurance that “all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28).

Tapping into the Fire

Sureshkumar shared a story about a missionary who had gone to a country where he found a native man who had never been in contact with civilization. The missionary decided to take him to a modern city to show him around. The man was

so excited to see the city with all the moving cars, and people, whose dress he observed with great curiosity and whose conversation he heard attentively. He was greatly amazed.

When they arrived at the hotel, the man was so surprised to see a glowing light globe, as he had never seen such a thing before—glowing light without a fire? He asked the missionary, “How does it work?” The missionary tried to explain the light and electricity to him, but the man couldn’t understand it. So the missionary decided to explain to him in a very simple way: “There is fire in it,” he said. To which the man replied, “That makes sense.”

By that time they had gotten into the elevator, and again the native man just could not understand. How does the box in the house move? Now the missionary already knew how to answer the man in the simplest terms, and he said, “There is fire in it.” The man replied again, “That makes sense.”

Later in the day, the missionary called his wife on the phone, and the native man looked on with



THE DELEGATION

amazement, wondering, “Why does he talk to himself?” He asked the missionary, “Why do you talk to yourself?” The missionary replied, “No, I was talking to my wife.” Again the man just could not understand how the phone works. The answer was evident again. “There is fire in it.”

Now the man understood that, if there is fire in it, the light glows, the box in the house moves, and the phone works. One day as they were returning from their daily walk, there was a power outage, and the traffic lights were not working. Things were not functioning properly in the city, and chaos ensued. The man quickly realized what the problem was and said, “There is no fire in it; it does not work.” This experience taught the missionary a great lesson—if there is no fire in it, nothing works.

Then Sureshkumar made an appeal to all the delegates to let the Lord guide their thoughts and mind, that human power may be put aside, and that the fire of the Lord may come and inspire all the delegates, so that His glory may be revealed in the plans made.

Focusing on the Lord

Felix Padilla presented the message, “By Beholding We Become Changed.” He emphasized the importance of keeping our eyes focused on Christ. By doing this our mind will become clearer, our faith stronger, and our hope confirmed. This will drive all doubt and discouragement away. Looking unto Jesus as our personal Saviour, we show our dependence on Him, and He will be our righteousness.

Aroldo Gessner shared a message based on 1 Peter 5:7, 8, “Casting all your care upon [Christ]; for he careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”

There is no need for anyone to be anxious about the toils and problems of everyday life. For if we cast all such cares upon Jesus, who knows what is the best for us all, we can rest assured that all that comes our way is for our best, and that blessings will follow.

“If you feel yourself to be the greatest sinner, Christ is just what you need, the greatest Saviour. Lift up your head and look away from yourself, away from your sin, to the uplifted Saviour; away from the poisonous, venomous bite of the serpent to the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world.”¹ Christ is just what we need.

D. Ivanov gave a very interesting presentation for the morning worship, entitled “Spiritual and Physical Maladies Healed.” He spoke about the human body and how marvelously it was created, emphasizing the power of the brain as being the “Boss of the Body.” This has a very important spiritual lesson for us. The brain is the organ that listens to the voice of the Creator; it has the capability to sympathize with everyone in need. This happens when the brain thrives and functions well. When this organ is abused and is not able to function, as it was intended to function when it was created, then the brain dries up. An image of a dry land with a dried-up tree was shown by the speaker to perfectly illustrate the direness of the



brain when it is disconnected from its Creator.

The brain has a special ability to serve like no other organ. It serves all the other organs of the body. D. Ivanov drew a parallel to the greatest boss in one's life—the mother. The interesting thing about mothers is that they are the bosses in our lives, because they serve us like no other human being their entire lives, and this is why they are able to exert the biggest influence in our lives. The speaker then mentioned Christ who was able to serve like no other human being, and this made Him the greatest leader of all time.

Peter Lausevic addressed the delegates and spoke about success. He asked the questions: "What is success? Do we want to have success as individuals?" He also prompted the delegates to reflect on what our goals are as individuals and as a church. We are here to discuss many aspects of the work, to discuss doctrinal matters. But we need to ask ourselves continuously: "What is our goal?" In the book of Joshua, we have the definition of success: "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all

that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success" (1:8).

If we look at the pledge the Adventist Church took right at the beginning of the Advent Movement, it was one promising that they would be faithful to the law and never depart from it.

The speaker continued his sermon, stating:

"My brethren, this is my 6th delegation session. We made pledges at all of these sessions to keep the law of God and to lift up the standards, but have we? When we look back, we find failures along the way. We still have not succeeded. OK, we opened new areas, and we see great success, but have we kept the law? Have we maintained the standards that were established at the beginning of our movement? We need Jesus as our personal Saviour. Have you consciously surrendered your life to Jesus? If not, when we come together again in four years and analyze our resolutions, we will make more resolutions and declarations, but nothing will change. We need to surrender our heart to Jesus today, my brethren. If the message of Christ our Righteousness by Jones and

Waggoner was accepted in 1888, we could have been in heaven two years after. Please consider this as you carry on with your work today."

Anatolii Mariceanu expressed his thanks to God for His great goodness toward us. God, in His great love, keeps our hearts beating, so that we can experience God's wonderful love and forgiveness and praise God as Jeremiah did when he said, "The Lord's compassions fail not. They are new every morning." Though our first parents failed, God has made it possible for us to be redeemed and restored. Though the angels were willing to give themselves for our salvation, only Jesus' sacrifice could make it possible for us to be saved.

Throughout history, humanity has misunderstood the key to salvation. Cain didn't realize that it was only a blood sacrifice that could bring him salvation. The Pharisees misunderstood it and tried to earn their salvation through works. The rich young ruler was looking for salvation through works and asked Jesus how he could be saved. In Luke 11:27 a woman approached Jesus; she understood that to be a relative of Jesus would provide some extra blessing, some extra advantage. Recently, while driving in Moldova



NEWLY ELECTED

(list as yet incomplete as of September 4)

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT	DAVI PAES SILVA
1 ST VICE PRESIDENT	PETER D. LAUSEVIC
2 ND VICE PRESIDENT	ROLLY C. DUMAGUIT
SECRETARY	ELI TENORIO DA SILVA
TREASURER	RUDOLFO GESSNER

REGIONAL SECRETARIES:

ASIA	D. SAMY DOSS
ASSISTANT	ALWYN VEDHASINGH
CENTRAL AMERICA	S. DANIEL GUZMAN H.
EURASIA	PETRU MANGUL
EUROPE	FERENC MATYAS
NORTH AMERICA	DURASAMY SURESHKUMAR
NORTHERN AFRICA	MANUEL HENDA
PACIFIC	ROLLY C. DUMAGUIT
ASSISTANT	NEHEMIAH CHANG
SOUTH AMERICA	ROMULO PEREIRA BORGES
ASSISTANT	ALWYN VEDHASINGH
SOUTHERN AFRICA	TO BE DETERMINED

even the winds and the sea obey him!” (Matthew 8:23–27).

“As Jesus rested by faith in the Father’s care, so we are to rest in the care of our Saviour. If the disciples had trusted in Him, they would have been kept in peace. Their fear in the time of danger revealed their unbelief. In their efforts to save themselves, they forgot Jesus; and it was only when, in despair of self-dependence, they turned to Him that He could give them help.”—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 336.

Only when the disciples realized that they all would perish did they cry out: “Lord, save us; we perish.” They did not realize that the same peace-giving Power that allowed Jesus to sleep was able to care for them and save them. As He rested in the Father’s care, so could they have rested by faith in the Father’s arms. Likewise, when we face difficulties and life gets complicated and our ship starts filling up with water, let us remember that Jesus is in the same ship. Let us surrender our life to His care by faith, and the same voice that calmed the stormy sea will calm the sea surrounding us. Let us cry out today “Lord, save us; we perish.” He will hear our fading voices, and He will be there to rescue us. We are worth much in His eyes. He died for us to save us and to give us eternal life. Are you willing to admit that your ship is in need of His help? Amen!

New President’s Address

Dear Brethren, I am very thankful to the Lord because we see that the Holy Spirit is working in the session and I am conscious, that we have a big task before us, and that by ourselves we can do nothing.

I understand that those who voted made a commitment to support us in the work. We have no idea how to work by ourselves with our small team, but we depend first on God’s grace. We depend on the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

As we travel around the world, we see that we have much to do. We have many problems to solve. But if we get closer to the Lord, if we make a complete surrender of our life to Him,

the prime minister’s brother had been caught speeding; but because he was related to and had the same name as his brother, he was given some mercy, some advantage.

When Jesus’ mother and brothers sought Him, the people thought they would have some extra advantage because of their relation to Jesus. Jesus made it plain, however, that family relations give no extra advantage for our salvation. But when the Pharisees brought an adulteress to Jesus to be stoned, she experienced forgiveness of her sins when the Pharisees, who were trying to earn salvation, had their sins revealed and left without salvation. When we look unto Jesus, we have equal opportunity to take hold of salvation. The Bible teaches that through Jesus we can have salvation, and Ellen White encourages us meet Jesus every

morning and give ourselves to Him.

Pedro Conceição spoke on the topic of “A Person’s True Worth.” He talked about the experience of the disciples and the stormy sea, and about how the disciples were frightened by the storm in which they found themselves. They marveled how it was possible that the ship was filling with water, and yet Jesus was asleep.

“And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him. And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep. And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish. And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that

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MOVING? Please let us know.

NEW PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

if we keep a connection with Him the whole time, for sure God's people will be victorious very soon.

Brethren, when we think that the message of the Seventh Day Adventist Church started in 1844, how many years have passed already? When we consider 1888, more than 120 years (have passed) and we are still in this wilderness.

The Reform Movement started in 1914, more than 100 years (ago). I think, brethren, we have no reason to manifest a kind of triumphant idea – we have no reason.

I think that it is time to seek the Lord. We should recognize our weakness. We should recognize our dependency, and we should surrender ourselves completely to the Lord.

Otherwise, brethren, we don't know how many years we will still walk in this wilderness. I don't know, but we need to make a decision – not a resolution – but we need to decide by ourselves here, to seek the Lord with our hearts. Our connection in our life should include all the departments in our life.

A question: Are we walking in the light that we know?

I would like to read some Bible verses. Isaiah 55:6 & 7, "Seek the Lord while He may be found, call on Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Brethren, besides surrendering our life to Christ we need to do something else. We need to remain in Him. Colossians 2:6 & 7, "As ye have therefore

received Christ Jesus the Lord, [so] walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."

Brethren, in Revelation, chapter 14 we find the description of the character of the 144,000. "And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and



with him an hundred forty [and] four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads."

Brethren, what is the meaning of this, having the father's name and Christ's name in our foreheads? What is the meaning? We have his character in our life.

His character is impressed in our life. Verse four says, "These are they which were not defiled with women," which means they kept themselves pure—these people have a pure doctrine.

They follow the Lamb wherever He goes. The Spirit of Prophecy says if you want to follow the Lamb to Mount Zion we need to follow Him today. It is

not enough, brethren, to dream about salvation. Salvation depends on a vital connection with the Lord the whole time, and verse 5 says, no lie was found in their mouth, they are blameless.

Now, brethren, God's people have a work to do. We find in Revelation 18, "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit . . ."

Now in verse four, "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people."

Then, brethren, we have a mission that is far beyond our power; we depend on the Holy Spirit individually and as a church. We need to be baptized by the Holy Spirit individually and as a church to fulfill the Word.

Brethren, we see here two great powers. For instance the Bible talks about Babylon. Babylon controls the world. The angel of Revelation 18 needs to face Babylon.

Compared with the denominations of the world we are just a very small number. How can we do this ourselves?

Dear Brethren, we have a great responsibility before the Lord. Let us seek the Lord with all our hearts. I count on your prayers in my behalf and on the behalf of my team that will be chosen later.

I would like to appeal to you, please, brethren, let's take seriously our calling. Let us struggle with the Lord as Jacob, so that our name can be changed to "Israel", an "overcomer." *R*