

# The Banner

WORLD WIDE REFORMATION

"He That Winneth Souls Is Wise"



## THE BANNER

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J. B. MOSLEY.....Editor  
MRS. L. L. JOHNSON.....Associate Editor  
E. C. CHATMAN.....Contributing Editor

**General Assembly Directory**  
Office Address.....610 W. 36th Street  
Telegraphic Address.....610 W. 36th Street  
Cable Address.....Adventist, Savannah, Ga.

**Executive Committee**  
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## DISAPPOINTED

**DISAPPOINTED:** "Defeated of expectation or hope."—Webster. "Without counsel purposes are disappointed." Prov. 15:22. One may purpose in his heart that he will at last have a part in the kingdom of God; but unless he follows the counsel of the Lord relative thereto, he is sure of disappointment in his purpose. "There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand." Prov. 19:21; Ps. 33:11.

In His counsel the Lord has said, "Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that they do." Deut. 29:9. "Turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest." Joshua 1:7. Again: Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Ps. In view of all these solemn truths, how important the counsel given through King Jehosaphat to Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, "Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper." 2 Chron.

20:20.

Alas! how many there are at the present day who have a more form of godliness, but fail in their daily life to manifest the fruits of the power of godliness. The world attracts, its tinsel charms, and its approbation flatters them; so they stand in the line of those addressed by the Saviour. "Strive" (agonize) to enter at the straight gate." Luke 13:24. The reason why such earnest effort must be made, is thus expressed in Matthem: "For wide is the gate, and broad is the way, which leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat; because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matt. 7:13, 14.

"Broad is the road that leads to death,  
And thousands walk together there:  
While wisdom shows a narrow path,  
With here and there a traveler."

How sad the condition at last of those who have sought simply the things of this world—to gratify the "lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life," which the apostle John says is all that is in the world." 1 John 3:16. How terrible to be, at the execution of the judgment, aroused to the fact that they have lost eternal life. "What is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Matt. 16:26. What would he not give at that time, if he could but secure that eternal life? He would do more than that dying queen who cried out. "The half of my kingdom for a day more of life!"

He may be one of those who had a name to live a Christian, while in fact the world was the absorbing theme of his thoughts, and the great object of his pursuit. His position at the great day is thus delineated by the Saviour, and recorded by the apostle Luke, "When once the Master of the house is risen up, and hath shut too the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, and say Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know

you not whence ye are. Then shall ye begin to say, we have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence you are; depart from Me, all ye workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing to teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and ye yourselves thrust out." Luke 13:25-28.

There is a statement made in the wisdom of Solomon, as recorded in the Apocrypha of the Old Testament which not only shows the disappointment of the wicked respecting themselves, but also with reference to those who shall be saved: "Then shall the righteous stand in great boldness before the face of such as have afflicted Him, and made no account of His labors. When they see it, they shall be troubled with terrible fear, and shall be amazed at the strangeness of His salvation, so far beyond all they looked for. And they, repenting and groaning for anguish of spirit, shall say within themselves, This is He, whom we sometime had in derision, and a proverb of reproach. We fools accounted His life madness, and his end to be without honor; how is he numbered among the children of God, and his lot is among the saints."—Wisdom of Sol. 5:1-5.

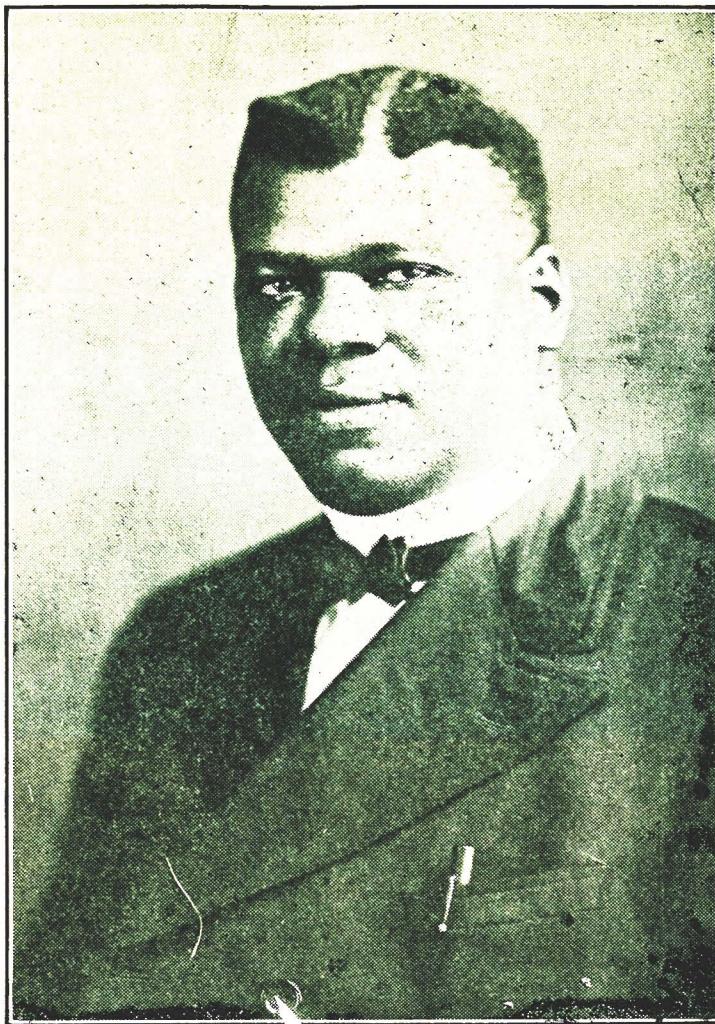
A remnant of cloth is the last portion, and must be exactly like the first yard. So the remnant church must be like the apostolic.

Don't reject a true prophet because there are false ones. You would not throw away your purse because there is counterfeit money in circulation.

Some hauntingly ask, "Why are there more women in the church than men?" Why are there more men in prison than women?

Lucifer, the highest angel in heaven, because of sin, became the lowest devil in earth.

None but a whole-hearted Christian can be a true gentleman.



## IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE LATE ELDER JOHN WES- LEY MANNS.

The first day of April brings to our minds four years ago today—the death of Elder J. W. Manns, our beloved leader, the founder and president of the General Assembly of Free Seventh-Day Adventists. Today this service is not to sound the praise of a hero nor to swell his fame, but for our own sake, that the many things said may be beneficial to our souls.

Who was he? To begin with, he was a great pattern of a man. When God has a great work to do He prepares special instruments. Sometimes His pattern men, who are the most useful, have faults—I suppose all men have them—but their faults are only made more conspicuous by their greatness. Luther had his, William the Silent had his and Cromwell had his. Possibly our beloved leader had his—God made him on a large pattern, and gave him a great nature; and we believe it is correct to

say, anyone of twenty great things were possible for him to do if God's provisions had led him to them.

He was also a man of one book. That was a great thing about him. He loved the Bible; he believed the Bible; he knew the Bible as very few men ever come to know it; and used it trustfully. He was gifted by God with a rare power of generalship. His body was a strong massive body; his eye a keen, flashing eye; his will a great commanding will. And you remember how he pointed that finger when it would seem almost like the sword of a general; when his voice sounded like a bugle call; and when his strong common sense was put to the work of managing the strong work of the organization of Free Seventh-Day Adventist in such a wonderful way.

In doing his work he commanded the ready acquiescence of all sorts of people. All the way up and down the gamut of human nature he was master of the scale. He was a great lead-

er of evangelism in our time. But on the first day of April, 1929, he fell asleep in Jesus.

Someone has said we shall never see the likeness of him again. Speaking from a human standpoint, it would be impossible to replace Elder J. W. Manns. None of us can lay today at his feet a tribute that is commensurate with our desires or our efforts, because he was so great a blessing to everyone who had the privilege of knowing him. It seems as Elder Manns stands before us as a splendid example of noble tirelessness for the Lord's work. Does he not come close to our ideal of the strenuous urgency of the Great Master, Who said, "I must do the will of Him that sent Me, while it is called today?"

His faculty of adapting himself to new conditions was shown in the results of conferences with people of all parts of the world and in the establishment of churches and companies throughout the States and foreign fields as well. He was a man of prayer. Every evangelistic campaign was prayed up. After he started in on them he didn't care what man said. Oh, how he exemplified these words of Scripture: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Our hearts are full today. Oh how we miss him! While he was living they often called on him to halt, but in his death they all give him praise. His evangelization in America, the West Indies, Cuba and Central America stand as monuments for this organization. But, Elder Manns has passed and now awaits the great resurrection morn.

Servant of God well done;  
Thy glorious warfare past,  
The battle fought, the victory  
won,  
And thou await thy crown.

"The joy of love is service;  
and its test is what one is willing to do for another."

"Every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things."

"The art of getting to heaven is getting heaven in the heart."

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## DEATH AND THE RESURRECTION

God said to the sinless pair in the Garden of Eden, "But of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shall not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." Gen. 2:27. The serpent said to the woman, "Ye shall not surely die." Gen. 3:4. But she ate of the fruit and for six thousand years men and women have died. Satan has produced almost every kind of a theory to explain away death, and prove that in some way he told the truth, nevertheless men have died.

In speaking of death, Job says, "There is hope in a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. Though the root thereof wax old in the earth, and the stock thereof die in the ground; yet through the scent of water it will bud and bring forth boughs like a plant. But man dieth, and wasteth away: yes, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he? As the waters fail from the sea, and the flood decayeth and drieth up: so man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep." Job 14:7-15.

David says, "His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish." Ps. 146:4. Solomon bears the following testimony: "That which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beast; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yes, they have all one breath; so that a man have no pre-eminence over a beast." Eccl. 3:13-20.

The doctrine of the resurrection of the dead and the translation of the living righteous is the only hope through which the righteous are to be gathered into the kingdom of God. David looked forward to it as a time when he would be satisfied to awake in the likeness of Christ. Ps. 17:15. Job desired an iron pen to engrave his hope that in his flesh he would see God, whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another." Job 19:23-27. The prophet Isaiah declares, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces. And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is the Lord; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation." Isa. 25:8, 9. "Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust." Isa. 26:19-21. Jeremiah comforts the sorrowing mothers by telling them their children will be brought again to their own border. Jer. 31:15-17. Our blessed Messiah bears His testimony that "the hour is coming, in which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5:27, 29.

Paul exhorts the brethren not to be ignorant concerning those who are asleep, for Christ will bring them all with Him. I Thess. 4:13-18. The resurrection is a cornerstone of the gospel of Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 15: 16-22. Prophets and apostles have spoken of the glad day when sickness and sorrow will be at an end, and friends will meet, broken families will be re-

united; sin and sorrow will be at an eternal end in the kingdom of God.

O glorious day, O blest abode,  
When we shall be near, and  
like our God.

## UNCONSCIOUS INFLUENCE

Every one exerts an unconscious influence. Each one has a following. He is saying by what he does, "As you see me do, so do ye." It is, in fact, not what we say, but what we do, that influences other lives for good or ill. Few possess a positive and commanding influence, but the unconscious influence none can escape.

Jesus recognized the fact that the Gentiles exercised authority one over the other; "but," said He, "It shall not be so among you;" "all ye are brethren." This was as much as to say, "You are to teach by example; your authority lies in the life you live. Not in what you say, but in what you do, lies your power. Jesus came, not to preach, but to live the life He desired others to live. He "went about doing good;" and to His disciples He said: "Follow me."

He lived for thirty years what He taught and continued to live for three years. He taught by example. One example is worth a thousand precepts. There were many teachers before Christ's advent. They said, and did not; therefore they lacked authority. Jesus "began both to do and teach." He first did and then taught "as one having authority, and not as the scribes."

The life we live in private determines our authority in public. The life is the light of men. Ultimately it will be seen that only the unconscious influence exerts a transforming influence on their lives.

D. H. K.

When God says "Come," he goes to meet us; when He says "Go" He goes with us.

"Some people are opposed to the Bible because the Bible is opposed to them."

The Christian on his knees sees more than a philosopher on tiptoe.

"In the cross of Calvary we see our liberty."

## THE RAVEN

"Consider the ravens; for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse or barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls." Luke 12:24.

The Lord would never have told us to "consider the ravens," if there had not been important lessons for us to learn from them. From the above text we are to learn confiding trust in God's tender care.

Among the long life of difficult questions that the Lord asked Job out of the whirlwind was the following: "Who provideth for the raven his food?" Job 38:41.

It seems the Lord loves to call the attention of His people to the fact that He in His great love and tenderness supplies the need of the least of His creatures; for the Psalmist says God giveth food "to the young ravens which cry." Psa. 147:9.

The raven is an unclean bird and was never to be eaten. Lev. 11:15; Deut. 14:14. It has its place in the great plan of God. The raven belongs to the large army of scavengers that the scavengers that the Lord has created to keep the earth free from that which would defile it. This army is divided into three great divisions; scavengers of the air, of the land, and of the sea. The raven is a scavenger of the air and is classed with the eagles. Prov. 30:17. Of the eagle it is said, "Her young ones suck up the blood, and where the slain are, there is she." Job 39:30. The raven is also classed with the owl, which is well known as a bird of prey. Isa. 34:11.

Notwithstanding the fact that the raven is a bird of prey, it ranks high in intelligence among birds. When Noah wished to know of the condition of the earth after the flood, he "sent out a raven, a bird of quick scent, to discover whether the earth had become dry." The raven evidently was able to gather some food, for it continued to go "to and fro until the waters were dried up." Gen. 8:7.

In "considering the ravens" we should remember that they obey the commands of God. In the beginning of that wonderful three years and a half when

there was neither dew nor rain but according to the word of Elijah, the Lord said to Elijah, "Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan, . . . and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there." 11 Kings 17:3, 4.

Elijah was a man "subject to like passions as we are," yet he believed the ravens would obey the command of God and went forth to the brook without any food, or any resource from which to secure food. He relied upon the obedience of the ravens, and they did not fail to supply his needs. The record does not state how long Elijah stayed by the brook, but from the fact that he remained at Zarepath a full year, it would seem that he remained there a year or more. 1 Kings 17:15 (margin). During all these weary months Elijah's call to dine was the flutter of the raven's wings as they brought his morning and evening meal daily. 1 Kings 17:6.

It is a beautiful picture, and we can fancy those ravens perched upon the prophet's shoulder as he partook of the frugal meal, for they must have become very friendly with Elijah during that long period.

There is another text of Scripture that mentions the raven. It is a description of the beloved of the church of God. "My beloved is . . . the chieftest among ten thousand. His head is as the most fine gold. His locks are curled and black as a raven." Songs of Sol. 5:10, 11 (margin).

## WHAT THE MILLER SAID

The miller said that there were seventeen sieves through which the ground wheat passed before it came out below pure and white and fine in the shape of flour. The miller said that every one of the seventeen sieves was necessary to give the flour that fineness and whiteness for which the mill was famous. Less than that number of sieves would leave the flour a little too coarse and not absolutely white. Everyone of the sieves took out something from the flour that was not desirable and that kept it from reaching the standard that the miller set for his flour.

How similar life is to the flour

mill! Through one testing after another we pass, for the Lord desires to have us purified; not seven times, or even seventeen times, perhaps, but many, many times we meet the tests of life at last he has us ready for that place which he has prepared for us.

How sad it is that we sometimes grumble and complain at the sieves through which the miller sees best to put us. If we only had the faith to go even into the valley of the shadow of death without fear, trusting Him who has promised to be with those who put their trust in Him! How much better to hear, instead of words of grumbling and complaint, the words of the Master, "Well done, good and faithful servant; . . . enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

Remember, the miller said that so many sieves were necessary to make the flour what it should be, but that it was worth it in the end. So our Lord says that we are not to marvel at the fiery tribulations that we must pass through in life, for they work out for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

Y. C.

## WHAT WE NEED

What is the thing we most need as individuals, as communities, and as a country? A very good answer to the question is given in what former President Coolidge said as he stood beside the grave of the Unknown Soldier:

We do not need more national development;

We need more spiritual development.

We do not need more intellectual power;

We need more spiritual power.

We do not need more knowledge;

We need more character.

We do not need more law;

We need more religion.

Mr. Coolidge was right, beyond question. We may have everything else, but if we are without true religion, we are utterly hopeless and will eventually be utterly miserable. But if we have true religion which changes our own hearts and ennobles our lives, then we would be rich and powerful even if we had nothing else.

We need religion.

## FREE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS PROGRAM

### Our Program Is:

1st—A deeper consecration to do service in the vineyard of the Lord.

2nd—To do our BIT in preaching the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ, in all the world, for a witness unto all nations.

3rd—As a race, maintain self-respect, and do as Our Lord has said, "Occupy until I come."

4th—To establish among Negro Seventh-Day Adventists, Negro Conferences with Negro officers— Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Bookkeepers.

5th—To establish schools for the training of our children and for workers in our organization.

6th—To establish a publishing house in which we may furnish employment to Negro Men, Women, Boys and Girls, as we strive to preach the truth of the Third Angel's Message through the printed page.

An invitation is extended to all "INTELLIGENT" Negro Seventh-Day Adventists, those, with a vision, with moral courage, with backbone, those who are strong in the knees, in short, just common self-respect, who have the love of God in the heart, to join with us and help to put this program over the TOP, for over the TOP it must GO.

"Of a truth, I perceive that God is no respecter of persons." Acts 10:34. Therefore, we are determined to, "Stand fast . . . in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us Free." Gal. 5:1.