GRACE NOTES

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 5 MAY 2018

"THE ROCK"

(No, this is not about Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson.)

Seventh-day Adventists came from many different Christian denominations, and numerous groups have left our faith. We are surrounded by differing opinions, and in my pastoral duties it is inevitable that I interact with these various belief systems. In the past few months I have been dealing with multiple heresies and splinter groups, and these heartaches got me thinking about why I am a Seventh-day Adventist. What is the foundation of our faith?

Adventism can be plagued by tradition, but that is not the foundation of our faith. We are getting closer to our church being in existence for 200 years, and over such a significant span of time many traditions enter the church. We can forget why we believe what we believe and stay out of habit. Many times, SDA's are not tricked by heresies not because they understand they are wrong but because they do not want to change; and while I am happy they are not led away from the truth, still it is dangerous to rely on tradition.

Adventism can be countercultural, but that is not the foundation of our faith. Let's be real. Adventists are weird. We have our own sub-culture. Some people are drawn to that. But there are weirder groups out there, and if you like being "different" then you may be led away from the truth. Believe it or not, it is ok to get along with each other, and not constantly be at odds with everyone over every little thing.

Adventism can be exciting, but that is not the foundation of our faith. Remember when you were first baptized? Remember that first love that burned in your heart? Oh, what a joy it is to be a part of the family of God! But if you chose to join the church merely because of an emotional high and not because of conviction and transformation of the heart, chances are you may lose that high and look for your next fix.

Our faith must be founded on one thing only: Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life; the Word of God. The Bible, which speaks of Jesus, must be that Rock on which we are built. Sola scriptura, the Bible alone. Sola scriptura, the whole Bible, not a couple passages taken out of context. At the most recent Friday night vespers at the Oxford SDA Church, Pastor Wendell Springer shared with us how the Sabbath truth is found from beginning to end in the Bible, and everywhere in-between. The Sabbath, as with all our doctrines, is not based on a couple obscure texts. We have a rich belief system based on the most unique and powerful book in human history, a book inspired by God Himself.

Read your Bible daily, praying that God will help you understand. Do not practice your faith just because it is tradition to you, but know the reasons for your faith. When your faith is built on the solid rock of the Word of God, then and only then will you not be swept away by any flood of false doctrine or heresy.

Pastor Justin Spady

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MANASSEH

Joseph looked at his first child, a son, and named him Manasseh, "for God has made me forget all my hardship and all my father's house". (Gen. 41:51). His name means "forgetting."

Joseph's pleasure and delight in his family was to be amply fulfilled, though he died at a younger age than any of his brothers. God let him live to see his grandchildren to the fourth generation (Gen 50:22).

An ancient Jewish tradition says that Manasseh served as steward and interpreter in Joseph's house. It also records that Manasseh, possessing great physical strength, detained and bound Simeon (Gen. 42:23, 24). Apparently he was even-tempered also, for we have no record that Manasseh ever envied the transfer of the birthright from himself to Ephraim.

Manasseh was Joseph's older son (Gen 41:51). Since Joseph received "the double portion" of his father's birthright, both his sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, were counted among the 12 tribes. This was possible because Levi was granted no inheritance in the Promised Land. Like Ephraim, Manasseh had all the advantages and disadvantages of wealth and privilege. But he chose an altogether different road in life from the one his brother travelled.

He valued his fewer blessings more than his doubly-blessed brother Ephraim cherished his. Scripture did not symbolize his power by a lion, a wolf, or an eagle. Instead, he is imaged in the quiet strength of an Ox:

His firstling bull has majesty,

And his horns are the horns of the wild ox;

With them he will push the peoples,

All of them to the ends of the earth (Deut. 33:17).

The ox's strength endures, like that of Joseph in Egypt. The horns are the bullock's natural weapons of defense and are significant emblems of power. The beast is patient, not flamboyant, but should never be underestimated. In a picture of a wild ox, God proposed to Job the impossibility of man's controlling such a powerhouse of sinewy strength (Job 39:9-12).

From the most ancient times, the image of the ox has represented fertility and power in Semitic cultures. The emblem suits Manasseh well.

(Continued on page 7)

From Ken Wells.

Ken has been transferred from the Redgranite Correctional Facility to the Correctional Facility in Waupun and he now has this new mailing address:

Ken Wells, Jr. #414034,

John Burke Correctional Center,

P.O. Box 925, Waupun, WI 53963-900

Wautoma Schedule for May

5/2/2018	Prayer Meeting/Prophecy @ church @ 6:30 p.m.			
5/3/2018	Revelation Speaks Peace @ 7:00 p.m.			
5/5/2018	Sabbath School/Church @ 9:30 a.m./11:00 a.m.			
5/6/2018	Women's Group will only meet once during May to view the War Room-Date TBA			
5/9/2018	Prayer Meeting/Prophecy @ church @ 6:30 p.m.			
5/10/2018	Revelation Speaks Peace @ 7:00 p.m.			
5/12/2018	Sabbath School/Church @ 9:30 a.m./11:00 a.m.			
5/16/2018	Prayer Meeting/Prophecy @ church @ 6:30 p.m.			
5/17/2018	Revelation Speaks Peace @ 7:00 p.m.			
5/19/2018	Sabbath School/Church @ 9:30 a.m./11:00 a.m.			
5/23/2018	Prayer Meeting/Prophecy @ church @ 6:30 p.m.			
5/24/2018	Revelation Speaks Peace @ 7:00 p.m.			
5/26/2018	Sabbath School/Church @ 9:30 a.m./11:00 a.m.			
5/30/2018	Prayer Meeting/Prophecy @ church @ 6:30 p.m.			
5/31/2018	Revelation Speaks Peace @ 7:00 p.m.			
******	During May, the Women's Group and the Bible Study at the Anderson's are cancelled and will			
resume in June for the first two weeks until Camp Meeting begins.				

Hello from Wautoma,

As of April 29, 2018, the plans for the possible purchase of the old Wautoma SDA Church continue in the works. A meeting is scheduled for 4-30-2018 to consider the most recent counter offer and evaluate both the Spanish and English Companies interest and ability to proceed with the purchase with assistance of the Conference. If we do proceed with the purchase and succeed with procuring the property, there will be some renovations to complete in preparation for recommitting the building to worship. This planned purchase is a project being coordinated jointly with both the Spanish and English Companies which will allow each company to have their own worship facilities. One of our biggest motivations for completing this purchase is the limited space we have for our jointly held children's Sabbath school. The space available is limited while our average attendance is 9 to 11 students; and this group continues to anticipate growth. Our jointly held Potlucks are also quite crowded and it certainly feels cozy with rubbing elbows—both a physical necessity and a joy—as we greatly appreciate our joint fellowship.

On April 28, the English church service highlighted a play of Daniel and the Lion's Den. If time allows for this month's publication, another article will be included highlighting the day's worship experience.

Plans are proceeding for Vacation Bible School to be held in July. The weekly Revelation Speaks will be wrapping up in May. This has been a real blessing to those in attendance. We look forward to future Shawn Boonstra presentations.

Alan Anderson

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MONTHLY HEALTH NUGGET

Health Tip: What does your stool tell you about your health?

Stool analysis can be helpful in diagnosing gastrointestinal disorders, but without laboratory testing, I would be hesitant to go too far with self-diagnosis. However, there are a few things that you may notice as a casual (adult) onlooker that could be medically important.

- 1. Blood in the stool. Bright red blood in your stool is most commonly caused by hemorrhoids or a small anal fissure. However, it is occasionally associated with colon cancer, so bloody stool should not be ignored. The color of the blood gives an idea of where it came from. If the blood is bright red (i.e. "fresh") it is more likely to have come from the end of the intestinal tract (such as the colon, rectum, or anus. If the blood is very dark, or even black or tar-like in appearance, it is more likely to have come from "higher up" such as the stomach or small intestine. When there is a lot of blood, the stool has a distinct odor, but that is hard to describe to a person without having encountered it frequently, so maybe we'll just leave that one to the imagination.
- 2. Foul-smelling stool. This is a non-specific finding, because scent is rather subjective, and you know the old expression about everyone's poop being stinky. However, there are some colon infections that have a particular odor. Clostridium difficile (known as c. diff) is a soil organism that can overgrow in the colon after a person has recently been treated with antibiotics. C-diff causes watery diarrhea (many episodes per day, sometimes frothy or greenish) and has a uniquely pungent smell. A piercingly smelly bout of diarrhea should be discussed with your doctor, especially if you've had antibiotics recently, or a family member with a C. Diff infection. If you suspect C. diff, see your doctor right away as it can be harmful if left untreated. There are other causes of foul smelling stool (such as malabsorption syndromes or overgrowth of certain bacteria) but C. diff is the one you don't want to miss.
- 3. Hard stool. Constipation is very common, and can be worsened by dehydration, medications (especially opioid pain killers), a low fiber diet, lack of exercise, and intestinal disorders such as irritable bowel syndrome. If drinking more water, exercising, and eating raw veggies and bran/prunes doesn't relieve the problem, then there are many over-the-counter solutions for constipation. Hard stool may be treated first with Colace (docusate sodium) and then with laxative solutions.
- 4. Dark stool. Although dark stool may be caused by blood, remember that stool often reflects the color of the food you eat. Beets are notorious for causing bloody-looking stool, and iron tablets and Pepto Bismol (bismuth) turn stool dark as well.
- 5. Bright green stool. Bile is produced by the liver and stored in the gallbladder. It is a kind of neon yellow color, and is used like soap to break down food in the top part of the small intestine. If your stool is bright green or yellow, you may just be seeing bile. Bile is more noticeable when you have diarrhea (so there isn't as much food to soak up the yellow bile pigment to create brownish stool), or when you have a stomach bug (viral or bacterial illness) that is making your food move through your intestines very quickly. Dark green stool is usually a sign that you recently ate chlorophyll-rich dark green veggies.

Oily or greasy stool. If you see oil floating on the toilet water (and you're not taking Colace as a stool softener), it's possible that you are having absorption difficulties due to an intestinal or pancreas. Greasy stool that is also very smelly is associated with malabsorption such as Celiac disease.

The bottom line is that stool infections are not possible to diagnose with a casual eye. Samples need to be cultured and examined under a microscope to determine if there is a parasitic or bacterial issue. Everyone's bowel habits are a bit different (some people normally pass stool every day and others may go 5 days at a time before they have a bowel movement), and the food we eat (and the fluids we drink) can vary our stool color and consistency quite a bit.

Bloody stool or severe diarrhea are important to discuss with your doctor because delaying treatment could cause you harm. Otherwise, you'll have to rely on more than the look and smell of your poop to determine if you have a disease or medical condition of concern.

Dr. Val Jones MD - Health Tip Content Editor

Submitted by: Freddie Ramirez

HAITI MISSION TRIP – May 15-25.

Supplies and financial help are needed. Check out the Giving Tree to see how you can help. If you have questions regarding the mission trip, Contact:

Emily Thurman

715-451-4721

Wisconsin Rapids SDA Church.

Join us for a Womens Prayer Breahfast

Sunday, May 6 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Seventh-day Adventist Church 611 24th Street North Wis. Rapids



Conversations...

Can be the glue that holds us together as families and sisters in Christ, or the hammer that breaks us apart.

COUNTRY LIFE NATURAL FOODS



The next order is due May 16th

Contact Dean or Pam Thomas at the Wisconsin Rapids Church if you would like to place an order.

715-644-8183

91.7 WRAO

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24/7 Gospel Ministry reaching those in need.



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www.WRAOChristianRadio.org

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Almond's May Events

May 2 Community Bible Study 7:00 (Desire of Ages) *

May 4 Prayer Meeting 7:00

May 5 Sabbath – Vegetarian Potluck

May 9 Community Bible Study 7:00 (Desire of Ages) *

May 11 Prayer Mtg. 7:00

May 12 Sabbath – Vegetarian Potluck

May 16 Community Bible Study 7:00 (Desire of Ages) *

May 18 Prayer Mtg. 7:00

May 19 Sabbath - Vegetarian Potluck

May 20 Prayer Breakfast 9 AM

May 23 Community Bible Study 7:00 (Desire of Ages) *

May 25 Prayer Mtg. 7:00

May 26 Sabbath – Vegetarian Potluck

May 23 Community Bible Study 7:00 (Desire of Ages) *

May 30 Community Bible Study 7:00 (Desire of Ages) *

Important Dates

May 20 Prayer Breakfast 9 AM

This month's menu will be very good, as always. Don't miss out on the food, our time with God and of course the fellowship

God Bless!!!

* The Desire of Ages Study will be held at the home of John & Dorothy Tess 715-366-4691.

Portage April Events

Portage SDA Church email address is:

portagesdachurch@gmail.com

Portage SDA Church Facebook:

Type Portage Seventh Day Adventist

Radio station:

WPSA LP 93.5 FM

Bible study:

Every Tuesday at 6:30 pm at fellowship hall. Topical study from Mark Finley's "Studying Together"

Date	Speaker	Elder	Deacon	Call to Worship
5/5	Mike Minier	Jerry M	Laurie Baartz	Ps. 95:1,2
5/12		Jeff M	Illona M.	Ps. 122:1,2,4
5/19	Illona Minett	Steve Collins	David Grady	ls. 56:7
5/26	Pastor	Jerry M	Diedre Roat	Ps. 100:1,2,4

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(Manasseh-Continued from page 2)

Manasseh played an active part in the victories of Israel over her enemies. Promptly and decisively they conquered, capturing the towns and renaming them after their own clan leaders (Num 32:39-42). The cities of the giants of Bashan also fell to Manasseh (Deut. 33,14). Gideon, judge and hero, was the tribes most prominent leader (Judges 6:15). With his famous band of 300 men, he routed the entire Midianite army. Later, his son, Abimelech actually maintained himself at the head of a short-lived kingdom.

Another strength of the tribe lay in an unexpected source, its women. Of the seven tribal families, the chief was founded by Machir, the son of Manasseh's Syrian concubine 1 Chron. 7:14). Three generations later in the line Zelophehad appeared. Distinguished for having 5 daughters and no sons, his death during the wilderness wanderings left his inheritance in question. And his holdings were probably substantial. The five resourceful girls laid their case before Moses and as a result helped establish a new "women's rights" clause in the laws of Israel (Num. 27:1-8). In the same vein, David found "men of great ability" in Jazer in Gilead, and put them in charge of affairs in the lands east of the Jordan (1 Chron. 26:31,32). No doubt the king wished he had located this talent sooner, rather than in the fortieth year of his reign.

After the conclusion of the wars of settlement, Joshua dismissed the Manasseh warriors with honor: "Go back to your homes with much wealth, and with very many cattle, with silver, gold, bronze, and iron, and with much clothing" (Joshua 22:8), the rewards befitting a Manassite's standard of living. But the Bible tells us that they did not drive out all the inhabitants of their land, but put them to tribute, which had far reaching consequences.

Material prosperity, however, did not dull Manasseh's spiritual sensitivity. The eastern tribe participated in the building of the great alter at Jordan to keep themselves in touch with the religious life of the west bank (Joshua 22:1-34). They also supported the religious reforms of King Asa, by coming "in abundance" (2 Chron. 15:9).

Hezekiah's renewal of the Passover drew only a few from the northern kingdom, but among them came a representation from Manasseh (2 Chron. 30:11; 31:1; 34:6, 9). They returned home from that revival enthusiastic to destroy the cultic shrines throughout their territory. But at last, plagued by more apostasy and idolatry, Manasseh went into captivity like the rest of the northern tribes (1 Chron. 5:23-26).

We can identify modern Manasseh's by their dependability and strength. Solid citizens, they have a large capacity to cope. They are the quiet ones **we** meet from day to day. Because they demand so little recognition for their work, however, sometimes we overlook them. Their dislike for exhibitionism enables them to keep their material prosperity in a proper perspective.

Such openness reserves for every faithful Manassite, a place in the kingdom. Echoing the patriarchal blessing of Jacob, God announces, "Manasseh is mine" (Psalms 108:8).

Among the sealed in the last days, Manasseh is mentioned (Rev. 7:6), and his name is on a gate to the golden city. From there he beckons to all who have inherited his traits of character, and who face the battles he has fought and won. He points them to the Redeeming Angel who stands ready to bless and save.

His stone on the priest's breastplate was the blue agate, the blue of heaven. This symbol of the light and joy of obedience to the law of God. By the power of the grace of Christ his life was changed. His counter-part in the city is **James**, one of the "sons of thunder," the first martyr among the disciples, slaughtered by the sword of Herod.

Submitted by Freddie Ramirez

Are You In Need of?

Upright Piano to give away

Well behaved and completely housebroken.

Contact Cindy Barten 715-921-9485

In need of washer, refrigerator and sofa

Contact Maria @ 715-498-0305



This section is intended as an outreach to help those with needs, also helping those with the need to free up space in their homes by donating those un-needed items to someone who may have a use for them. May God Bless you for your generosity. If you have items to donate to someone, please let us know. 715-572-0650

or gracenotesnewsletter@yahoo.com

Happy Birthday!



May Birthdays

- 2 Martin Olajec
- 3 Jasper St. Bernard
- 4 Charlene Leonard
- 6 Ronald Boyd
- 16 Julie Coens
- 16 Perry Williams
- 21 Jadon Dettman
- 28 Leticia Cuchuizo
- 30 Margo Duda

If we missed your birthday and you would like to be recognized, please let us know so that we can update our records.

Wisconsin

Rapids

Calendar of Events

May 2 Revelation Speaks Peace, 6:00 p.m.

WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST – Sunday, May 6th, 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. No age restrictions.

May 9 Revelation Speaks Peace, 6:00 p.m.

May 14 Church Board meeting, 6:30 p.m.

May 16 Revelation Speaks Peace, 6:00 p.m.

May 23 Revelation Speaks Peace, 6:00 p.m.

May 30 Revelation Speaks Peace, 6:00 p.m.

NEHEMIAH BIBLE STUDY meets Mondays at 1:00 p.m. at Pat Mummert's house. If you are interested in attending, contact Cindy Barten.

District Meeting Portage District

The next district meeting is to be held in Portage on the second Sabbath in May, the 12th at 2:30.

We hope to see you all there.

Further details will be coming soon. Keep watching for that to come...

Let your unspoken prayers become spoken. Be bold! Be brave! The Bible instructs us not to be shy or embarrassed when asking God for things. He wants us to approach Him with our hearts not only to express our faith in Him but also to grow closer!

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. – Hebrews 4:16

...You do not have because you do not ask God. – James 4:2

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Oxford SDA Church

Sabbath Worship Times

Bible Study @ 11:00 a.m.

Worship @ 9:15 a.m.

LOCATION

322 E Chauncey St Oxford, WI 53952-9064

608-586-5770

Portage Seventh-day Adventist Church

2100 Ē State Road 33 Portage, WI 53901-1468 608-742-4695

Pastor: Justin Dane Spady Phone: 260-413-3066

Email:

Service Times:

Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.

Reedsburg SDA Church

115 S. Oak St.

Reedsburg WI 53959

Pastor Justin Spady Reedsburg SDA Church

Join Us This Saturday

Service times:

Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

See Page 13 for more information...

The Shepherd's House

Previously: Wausau SDA Church Address: 6300 Bittersweet Rd

Wausau WI 54401-9465 Mail: 6300 Bittersweet Rd Wausau WI 54401-9465

Phone: 715-241-7722 Fax: 715-241-7723

Pastor: Tom (Thomas) J Michalski Sabbath School begins at 10:00 a.m. Church Service begins at 11:20 a.m.

Antigo SDA Church

1515 3rd Ave. Antigo WI 54409-1481 Bible Study @ 10:15 a.m.

Worship @ 9:00 a.m.

Contact

715-623-4168

Pastor Tom Michalski

tommichalski@gmail.com

Wisconsin Rapids SDA

611 24th St. N

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Service Times:

Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday evening Bible Study @ 6 p.m.

"Revelation Speaks Peace"
Pastor: Joseph Perricellia

Cell Phone: (641) 680-2944 Email: <u>sdapastorjo-</u> <u>seph@gmail.com</u>

Stevens Point Church

Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
1510 Sherman Ave
Stevens Point WI 54481
715-344-4337
Pastor Tom Michalski

715-623-4168

tommichalski@gmail.com

Almond SDA Church

Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service: 11:00
Potluck follows each week!
1340 Elm St.
Almond WI 54909

715-570-2179

www.almondsda.org

Pastor Justin Spady 260-413-3066

Prophecy Highlights May 2018

(Adventism's Visitation Series)

"We should know for ourselves what constitutes Christianity, what is the truth, what is the faith that we have received, what are the Bible rules-the rules given to us from the highest authority (see Grace Notes Sept. 2017, Prophecy Highlights for Today by Tim Schmidt)." The 1888 Materials, p. 403.

"At the very time specified, Turkey, through her ambassadors, accepted the protection of the allied powers of Europe, and thus placed her under the control of Christian nations. The event exactly fulfilled the prediction. When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation adopted by William Miller and his associates, and a wonderful impetus was given to the advent movement. Men of learning and position united with Miller, both in preaching and publishing his views, and from 1840-1844 the work rapidly extended." The Great Controversy, p. 334 & 335.

"God has given the messages of Revelation 14 their place in the line of prophecy, and their work is not to cease till the close of this earth's history. The first and second angel's messages are still truth for this time, and are to run parallel with this which follows. The third angel proclaims his warning with a loud voice. 'After these things,' said John, 'I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power, and the earth was lightened with his glory.' In this illumination, the light of all the three messages were combined (see Grace Notes Dec. 2017, Prophecy Highlights by Tim Schmidt). The 1888 Materials, p. 804.

"I was shown the interest which all heaven had taken in the work going on upon the earth. Jesus commissioned a mighty angel to descend and warn the inhabitants of the earth to prepare for His second appearing. As the angel left the presence of Jesus in heaven, an exceedingly bright and glorious light went before him. I was told his mission was to lighten the earth with his glory and warn man of the coming wrath of God. Multitudes received the light. Some of these seem to be very solemn, while others were joyful and enraptured. All who received the light turned their faces toward heaven and glorified God. Though it was shed upon all, some merely came under its influence, but did not heartily receive it. Many were filled with great wrath. Ministers and people united with the vile and stoutly resisted the light shed by the mighty angel. But all who received it withdrew from the world and were closely united with one another." <u>Early Writings</u>, p. 245. [A possible interpretation of the 9/11 event in American History in relationship to a parallel prophecy].

"The whole earth is to be lightened with the glory of the Lord. The pure in heart shall see God. It is those who are following the Lamb whithersoever He goes that will receive power from that angel that came down from heaven 'having great power.' *The first message is to be repeated proclaiming the second advent of Christ to our world. The second angels' message is to be repeated,* 'Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies' (Revelation 18:1-3)." *Manuscript Releases, vol. 16, vs. 40.*[I ask you a question: Which buildings of the U.S. were destroyed by the 9/11 attack? It was the worldwide financial trade network].

"Now the word that I have declared to you that New York is to be swept away by a tidal wave. This I have never said. I have said, as I looked at the great buildings going up there, story after story, 'What terrible scenes will take place when the Lord shall arise to shake terribly the earth! *Then the words of Revelation 18:1-3 will be fulfilled.*' The whole of the eighteenth chapter of Revelation is a warning of what will be coming upon the earth. But I have no light in particular in regard to what is coming to New York, only I know that one day the great buildings there will be thrown down by the turning and overturning of God's power. From the light given me, I know that destruction is in the world. One word from the Lord, one touch of His mighty power, and these massive structures will fall. Scenes will take place the fearfulness of which we cannot imagine." *Review and Herald July 5. 1906*.

"The angel who unites in the proclamation of the third angel's message is to lighten the whole earth with his glory. A work of worldwide extent and unwonted power is here foretold. The advent movement of 1840-1844 was a glorious manifestation of the power of God; the first angel's message was carried to every missionary station in the world, and in some countries there was a great religious interest which has not been witnessed in any land since the reformation of the sixteenth century; but these are to be exceeded by the mighty movement under the last warning of the third angel.

The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its open-

(Continued on page 11)

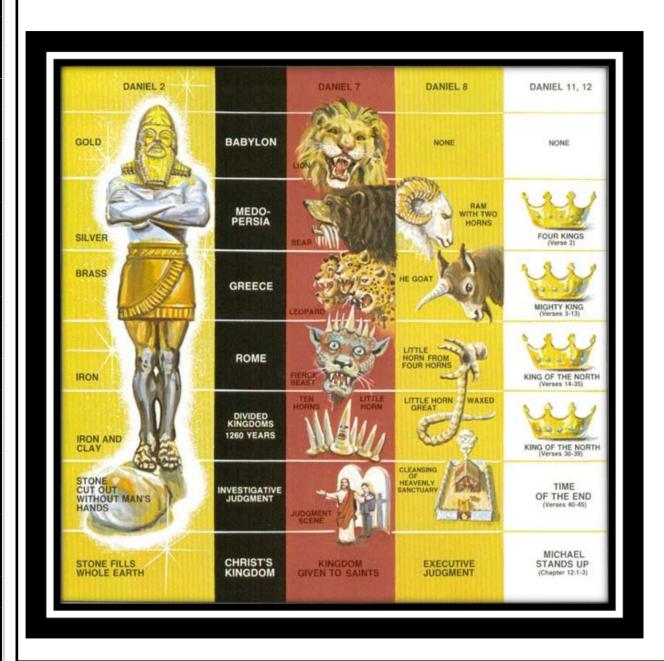
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ing. The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel **are again to be fulfilled** in the latter rain at its close. Here are the times of refreshing to which the apostle Peter looked forward to when he said, 'Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the **times of refreshing shall come from the** *presence of the Lord*; and He shall send Jesus.' Acts 3:19 & 20." The Great Controversy, p. 611 & 612.

"Only those who are living up to the light they have will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain. It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it." <u>Testimonies to Ministers</u>, p. 506 & 507.

(Submitted by Timothy Schmidt from the Wautoma SDA Company).



GRACE NOTES

Mailing Address: Grace Notes c/o Rick Felts 9162 Boelter Lake Drive Almond WI 54909-9729

Phone: 715-572-0650 E-mail: gracenotesnewsletter@yahoo.com

Contribution deadline is the 23rd of the month

Disclaimer:

The stories, views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the original authors and other contributors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Grace Notes or any of its staff. Thank you...



Mission Statement:

Fostering Unity

Vision Statement:

To be a resource which encourages and inspires unity in our church district; through inspirational thoughts, informative articles and testimonials; preparing for the soon coming of Christ.

Ministry From Home

Have you ever thought of having a prison ministry? You don't have to leave your home to have this. A letter changes the life of an inmate every time they receive it. Pray that God will lead you to write an inmate. Give an inmate a blessing!

Ken Wells, Jr. #414034, John Burke Correctional Center, P.O. Box 925, Waupun, WI 53963-900

Letters to the editor...

If you have ideas, thoughts, complaints or opinions, write to us. This column will appear each month.

Send emails to

"gracenotesnewsletter@yahoo.com"

Thanks,

Grace Notes Editor

Grace Notes needs your help!

We have all been blessed in many different ways and I would like to ask that you share some of your talents with us. I've seen first hand the results of this newsletter and it's effect on the people that became friends and family rather than strangers.

Since we have this new arrangement of districts, it's even more important for us to stay connected, to get to know one another. How can we do this? It's simple. Even if you think you don't have good writing skills, write up something and send it to us anyway. I promise that no one will laugh. Write up your testimony to share. Something that God has placed on your heart or just something that is important to you. How about a good recipe that you want to share? Are you in need of something? Write us and we'll put it into the newsletter and God will provide those needs. Speaking of needs, here is a big one.

We need someone from each church to be the go-to person for the newsletter. I'm not asking you to be an editor, I'm not asking for hours of work. What I need is someone to get me a schedule of upcoming events you want to promote, your weekly schedule, birthdays of your members and maybe give some encouragement to others to write up something to share with the rest of us. It's not as big of a job as you might think but please give it some thought. I believe that Grace Notes can continue to be a blessing to all of us and I pray that you would want to be a part of that blessing.

I look forward to putting out the newsletter, with God's help and with yours too!

And, of course, in all that we do...

To God be the Glory!

Rick Felts, Grace Notes Editor