

Last Generation News

Richard Drake Editor

Last Generation Ministries

February, 2008

Volume 2 Issue 1

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ 1 Corinthians 1:4

Periodically we receive phone calls and emails from fellow believers asking us the following two questions: 1) We are being disfellowshipped from our church for our observance of God's holy days. Where do we worship? 2) We see that the church is in apostasy. Where does God want us to send our tithes and offerings? We decided to address these issues in this current newsletter.

On January 1, 2008 we received the following e-mail that is self-explanatory. We are including it in whole because many of you are facing the same decisions and are asking the same questions. This same scenario is re-

peating itself in different forms all across this country and Canada. We're struggling here. We have a group of about 10 believers - strong in the Adventist and the Three Angels Message - but also have taken that step further and are celebrating the holy days. "When we first discovered the truth about the feasts and festivals I made the mistake of going to our pastor and asking why we didn't, as a church, keep them and he told me that in his experience he had never seen anyone who kept the holy days and remained in the Adventist church. I thought he was totally off the wall - we had no desire to leave the church - but you know, I think it was self-fulfilling prophesy. No, we had no desire to leave, but have grown to the point that we're not comfortable staying. Now my question for you - where do we go from here? We've been attending a Messianic Jewish congregation on Friday nights, in addition to services at the Adventist church on Satur-

day mornings, and neither feels right. The rabbi is very vocal about literal Israel and politics often enter his sermons, which makes at least one of our families uncomfortable to the point of not wanting to attend. The Adventist church we've been attending for years now has become so worldly that several of our families don't want to attend. We're stuck. Do you have any suggestions for us? Any and all guidance you could give would be greatly appreciated."

On January 18, 2008 I received the following e-mail from the same person. "Well, we're out. Got the ultimatum - conform or see you later and so . . ." In other words, these families have now been told by church leaders to leave simply because they observe God's holy days, the same days that Jesus Himself observed. We used to sing the song "Be Like Jesus" on a regular basis. What has happened? During the same time frame I received a call from Canada expressing similar troubles up there and so we have decided to devote this newsletter to addressing the following issues since we are being asked these questions on a regular basis:

1) Where should we worship? 2) Where do we put our tithes and offerings?

It is not our intention to be 'negative' about any group of people, but rather to simply speak the truth because the "truth will set you free."

"The trials of the children of Israel, and their attitude just before the first

Inside this issue:

Where Do We Worship?	2
Where Do We Put our Tithes?	2
Health Corner	3
Blueprint for the Bride	4
Comforting Promises	4
DVD's Available	4
God's Holidays	4

Note address Change

Outreach needs:

- Our ministry is a faith-based ministry operating on a shoe string budget. If you would like to help with your prayers, time, or finances we would be very grateful.
- Elder Allen Fine has a radio ministry with a potential audience of over 18 million people. He is in need of funds to keep his radio ministry going. If God impresses you to help, contact him at 304-565-7808.
- Jesus is coming soon. Are you doing everything you can to get ready?

Lessons from 1st Century Pharisees By Richard Drake

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day mornings, and neither feels right. The rabbi is very vocal about literal Israel and politics often enter his sermons, which makes at least one of our families uncomfortable to the point of not wanting to attend. The Adventist church we've been attending for years now has become so worldly that several of our families don't want to attend. We're stuck. Do you have any

coming of Christ, have been presented before me again and again to illustrate the position of the people of God in their experience before the second coming of Christ..." SM Vol. 1, p. 406.

This is a rather scary thought. God's professed people were in full-blown apostasy just before Jesus' first coming, all the while thinking that they were doing His will. What this means is that the Gospels and the *Desire of Ages* are prophecy books. If we want to know what God's professed people will be like just before the Second Coming, take a look at what His professed people were like at His First Coming.

"Among many of the professing followers of Christ there is the same pride, formalism, and selfishness, the same spirit of oppression, that held so large a place in the Jewish heart." AA p. 431. "As the light and life of men was rejected by the ecclesiastical authorities in the days of Christ, so it has been rejected in every succeeding generation. Again and again the history of Christ's withdrawal from Judea has been repeated. When the Reformers preached the word of God, they had no thought of separating themselves from the established church; but **the religious leaders would not tolerate the light**, and those that bore it were forced to seek another class, who were longing for the truth. **In our day few of the professed followers of the Reformers are actuated by their spirit. Few are listening for the voice of God, and ready to accept truth in whatever guise it may be presented. Often those who follow in the steps of the Reformers are forced to turn away from the churches they love, in order to declare the plain teaching of the word of God. And many times those who are seeking for light are by the same teaching**

obliged to leave the church of their fathers, that they may render obedience." DA 232.2

WHERE DO WE WORSHIP?

We have been asked this question many times by people who are distressed over the apostasies that they are seeing in the church and by those who have been disfellowshipped for following in the footsteps of Jesus by observing His holy days as He Himself did. We believe that the Seventh-day Adventist Church was raised up by God for the purpose of repairing the breaches in His Word. Therefore, we tell everyone to stay in the SDA Church as long as possible and be a positive witness for Him, both in and outside the church, unless: 1) You have children who are being corrupted by the apostasies in the church and there is no other local SDA Church to go to where they will not be corrupted. A word to the wise if you have children. A number of years ago, when our children were teenagers, we were told that the youth were being taken to meetings away from the church and away from their parents where they could be led contrary to what faithful, SDA parents believe. We did not believe them, so we determined to go ourselves to the next such meeting. We were absolutely shocked by what we saw and found out we had been told the truth. 2) You yourself are being corrupted by the apostasies in the church and are not yet strong enough spiritually to stand strong in such an environment. 3) You have been told to leave because you are following Jesus' example in all things. The only time a church should tell someone to leave is if they are engaging in open sin that they refuse to repent of. Unfortunately, this rule is being broken. We are very sad over this state of affairs. So, if we have to leave the church because of one of the above three reasons, where do we go? This is the question that we have given much thought to. We have already been told that we should form small companies

for the purpose of evangelizing. "The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort has been presented to me by One who cannot err." Testimonies, vol. 7, pp. 21, 22. So, why not form an SDA Branch Sabbath School in your home?

WHAT SHOULD BE OUR ATTITUDE?

What should be our attitude towards the apostasies that we see in the church? "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof (Ezekiel 9:4)...At the time when the danger and depression of the church are greatest, the little company who are standing in the light will be sighing and crying for the abominations that are done in the land. But more especially will their prayers arise in behalf of the church because its members are doing after the manner of the world...The class who do not feel grieved over their own spiritual declension, nor mourn over the sins of others, will be left without the seal of God...The seal of God will be placed upon the foreheads of those only who sigh and cry for the abominations done in the land." Testimony Volume 5, "The Seal of God," pp. 207-216.

WHERE DOES GOD WANT US TO PUT OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS?

From time to time we have someone approach us with this question. We have given this question much thought ourselves as we earnestly desire to do God's will. We believe that the answer to this question is found in the chapter entitled "The

Seal of God” in Testimonies, Volume 5. God seals His people just before the time of trouble (“Just before we entered it [the time of trouble], we all received the seal of the living God.” 7BC 968, 1846, or Last Day Events p. 228), so this chapter is describing the last generation within the church. We urge you to read this entire chapter in Testimonies Volume 5, pp. 207-216, to see the complete picture. In this chapter Ellen White gives a very accurate description of God’s church just before the end. Here are a few of the quotes in this chapter. “At the time when the danger and depression of the church are greatest, the little company who are standing in the light will be sighing and crying for the abominations that are done in the land. But more especially will their prayers arise in behalf of the church because its members are doing after the manner of the world... These sighing, crying ones had been holding forth the words of life; they had reproved, counseled, and entreated. Some who had been dishonoring God repented and humbled their hearts before Him. But the glory of the Lord had departed from Israel; although many still continued the forms of religion, His power and presence were lacking... Here we see that the church—the Lord’s sanctuary—was the first to feel the stroke of the wrath of God. The ancient men, those to whom God had given great light and who had stood as guardians of the spiritual interests of the people, had betrayed their trust.” This quote says the following: 1) The little company, a minority in the church, will be standing in the light. 2) The majority of the church are doing after the manner of the world, causing the glory of the Lord to depart from them. 3) The ancient men (church leaders) have betrayed their trust.

The picture that is painted here is

that at the end there are only two groups in God’s church, the small company who are standing in the light, and the majority. The small company who are standing in the light are God’s faithful ones who go through to the end and who finish the work. The majority in God’s church will apostasize and go the wrong way. So who do we give our tithes and offerings to? The small company standing in the light, or the majority? We think the answer is obvious. We are told to put everything we own on the altar and ask God to guide us as to what we should sell, when we should sell, and when we should put the money into the gospel. Also pray for guidance as to where you should put God’s money and we know that He will answer your prayer.

Health Corner

by Melody Drake

According to information collected by the US government, the nutritional content of our food had declined over the last few decades. This makes nutritional supplementation not just a good idea, as recommended by the American Medical Association, but essential to maintain health and vitality. But with the vast array of supplements on the market today, how do you choose which one? To be effective, nutrients must be in a form that is readily absorbed by the body, and nutrients must be combined in a balanced form in order to provide maximum benefit. We have found only one company that produces such a product. The scientist who developed this product spent 10 years and over 800 formulas to combine what was needed for a healthy cell. He, himself, was in a wheelchair in pain from being hit by shrapnel while parachuting

to help some wounded in the closing days of World War II. The medical community at that time could offer no hope of physical restoration. As he consumed this product, he was eventually able to get rid of that wheelchair, because, given the right nutrients in the right balance our miraculous bodies are, many times, able to heal themselves. This product focuses on promoting wellness and a higher quality of life by delivering optimal levels of nutrients. You never have to worry about the purity or potency of this product. Quality is guaranteed. I have done a lot of research into this product before sharing it with you. I have talked to many people who have results with health issues that plague our families and friends. So if you are sick and tired of being sick and tired, call me for more information. And if you are healthy and want to stay that way, call me for more information. Your satisfaction is guaranteed. 870-545-3884

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We were recently contacted by a group near Washington D.C. who observe the feasts. They wish to pass out our *Armageddon and the International Sunday Law* books at every place that the pope visits this April. They say that they can pass out 20,000 books, which will take most of our remaining books. They are going to place in each book a local address which people can contact for additional information. This group does not have the money to pay for these books, and we cannot ignore such a request, so we are sending them these books and trusting in God to provide. If God impresses you to make a donation for this cause, send your checks to Last Generation Ministries, 1071 CR 987, Huntsville, AR 72740.

Last Generation Ministries

1071 CR 987
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****Note phone and address change!****

E-mail: RLDrake78@gmail.com

We are on the web!
GodsHolidays.com

Our newsletter is now on the web! Forward it to your friends or download it into your archives.

<http://www.godsholidays.com/newsletter.shtml>

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. 3 John 2

WE THANK YOU

There are a number of feast keeping groups on both coasts of the US, but not nearly as many in the heartland. For this reason, we believe that God led us here to be a witness for Him. Since coming here, we have been under the fiercest attack by the enemy that we have ever faced. However, God is sustaining us. On a regular basis we receive phone calls, encouraging notes, and donations from our readers. You will never know how much of an encouragement this is to us, and for this, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Comforting Promises

“Labor in faith and confidence, for the time will never come when I forsake you. I will be with you always, helping you to perform your duty, guiding, comforting, sanctifying, sustaining you, giving you success in speaking words that shall draw the attention of others to heaven.” Acts of the Apostles, p. 29.

“LORD, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power; help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on Thee, and in Thy Name we go against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God; let not man prevail against Thee.” 2 Chronicles 14:11

They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth forever. As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about His people from henceforth even forever. Psalms 125:1,2

****Check www.GodsHolidays.com under “Articles” for 92 questions and answers about God’s feast days.**

We recently received this letter of encouragement. “Dear Friends, ‘Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.’ Galations 6:9. Praise the Almighty for your work!” Your friend, CR

Richard Gonzales is offering a beautiful laminated and frameable print of the Ten Commandments on a donation basis. If you wish to order, call him at 703-360-0350. He lives in the Eastern Time Zone.

We enjoyed a wonderful Tabernacles Convocation near Lincoln City, Oregon this last October. If you would like DVD’s of the presentations at this convocation, Contact Linda Jacobson at:

84576 Telephone Pole Rd
Milton Freewater, OR 97862
541-938-5749

The DVD’s are sent on a donation basis or until the funds run out. Call Linda for info.

We are now in the process of uploading video of different presentations to our website so that you can download it for free. We don’t have all of the bugs worked out yet, but we are working on it.

Blueprint for the Bride

Pam Benton is making her DVD “Blueprint for the Bride” available to our readers. You should receive your copy in the near future. If you would like to hand these out in your church give Pam a call at 707-263-5871. This is a wonderful witnessing tool that will introduce your friends to God’s Law in a new way. Pam is doing this on a donation basis—her costs are about \$2.00 per copy plus shipping. Help us get the good news out! Also ask her about “Diamonds in the Sand.”

God’s Holidays

We believe that the time has come to send the book God’s Holidays to believers overseas. If you would like to help us with this project you can send donations to Last Generation Ministries c/o Richard Drake at the address on this newsletter. We are also making the book available for \$5.00 each in quantities of 10 plus \$5.00 shipping.