

Elmira
Seventh-day Adventist Church
Newsletter
Special Weekly Edition
April 26, 2020



PASTOR'S CORNER

“You Must Prophecy Again!”

When last did you eat a book? It is almost hilarious whenever I hear an American say “I’m starving.” That statement usually means that the person saying it is a little late in eating a given meal. Or, at the very worst, they have skipped a meal. But did you know that in the 31,622,400 seconds in this leap year, more than 9 million people will die from hunger/hunger-related diseases? That’s about one person dying every 3 1/2 seconds. I met someone recently, whose dad lived through war times in his native country. That individual survived on salt & water for an extended period of time. Could you do it?

Now, the apostle John was sentenced to prison and labor camp possibly in a salt mine. There he had a visit from the Divine. When Jesus Christ showed up, “He had a little book open in His hand.” **Revelation 10:2a** says so.

Now, to be frank, John might have been hungry too. Like the Guantanamo Bay prison in Cuba, the Isle of Patmos prison was designed to crush religion, if not humanity, out of its prisoners. I don’t know if they used water-boarding techniques back there. But what I do know is this. When Jesus Christ showed up, John’s frame of mind was transported beyond his circumstances. John was enraptured. John was joyful.

John was buoyant. He was rejuvenated. John was in an instant transported in spirit to heavenly realms. No taunts from cruel prison guards bothered him now. No virus outbreak in his prison block could scare the aging John now. That which totally consumed his attention was that he pleased God, fully. How about you? Is pleasing God a top priority for you? When this lockdown strategy or tragedy (viewpoints vary) is over, after hearing this sermon, after this virus has passed, what are your plans? Do you plan to go back to business as usual? I hope not

Let us take a good look at Revelation 10. Please turn to that passage in your Bible. And while you do, I want to remind you that one of my highlights of the passage is what Jesus said to John. **“You Must Prophecy Again!”**

The angel or Messenger is the LORD Jesus Christ. He is the Sovereign, rightful Ruler, of earth, and sea and sky. He comes clothed with a cloud, He’s the real Divine. A real rainbow is on His head and His face did brightly shine. He is the same shining One whom Moses met on Mt. Sinai. His feet were like fire. His pavement stones of sapphire. He is the same God of Israel who was glimpsed by each elder. It was Christ. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. See

Exodus 24:10.

Know this. Jesus will never leave you nor forsake you. It does not matter what you did or what you did not do. What matters is that you turn to Christ now. He will pardon and accept you. Give Him your fears, your scars, and all your worries too. God will heal and forgive, and also cleanse you. Just ask! Wait and see what He will do. God will make you a saint, all through and through.

If you are in jail, quarantine or lockdown, flee to God and claim Christ as your own. He is the King of kings, who wears heaven's crown. Christ is the Majesty of heaven, and soon He will come down. He is longing to take you to heaven. Now, don't let Him down.

God is for us, so who can be against us? It does not matter. Do you agree? Now, I am calling on all males everywhere to count the cost. Stand up, and determine to be men of God. Females, I call on you all to count the cost. Stand up and determine to be women after God's own heart. Let all our girls be girls for Christ. Let all our boys be boys for Christ. Now is the time to right our wrongs. Now is the time to surrender your life to Christ. Now is the time to get baptized. Do you want to get baptized and join the SDA Movement? If so, just let us know. Are you already a biblically baptized Christian but wish to join our Movement? We have a process for that too. Just message us and let us know. Contact us by the easiest method for you. We will follow up. By the way, we are only looking for the called and the elect to join us. **II Peter 2:10** "Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble."

Even if you have stumbled, there is hope for you. If you have fallen from grace, there is a cure for you. Jesus is our Balm in Gilead. Jesus is our Great Physician. Jesus is our Healer. Jesus is the only One who can make us whole, completely whole. He does it harmoniously. Physically, mentally and spiritually, socially monetarily, and emotionally. Jesus can make us whole all at once. He's the One who is altogether lovely. **Proverbs 24:16** "For a righteous *man* may fall

seven times and rise again. But the wicked shall fall by calamity."

George Washington's favorite Bible portion was in Micah 6. I will now share with you from **Micah 6:6-8**. "With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the High God? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn *for* my transgression, the fruit of my body *for* the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O man, what *is* good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God?"

Yes, therein lies the secret of successful biblical Christians They do justly or righteously. They love mercy. They walk with God in humility. Humility is the hallmark of true Christianity. And when you are humble, God's Ten Commandment Law means something to you. Your eyes are opened and you get to see that God's Law and God's gospel are inseparable. God's gospel grants you grace-empowered obedience.

Romans 1:16-17 " For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith.'"

By faith, we exercise trust in God. By faith, we live for God. By faith, we walk with God. By faith, we sin less and less. By faith, we over-come sin and Satan. By faith we bow the knees to the Great YHWH God, the Great Jehovah. By faith, we obey the law of YHWH God.

Psalms 119:165 "Great peace have those who love Your law, and nothing causes them to stumble."

"You must prophesy again!"

In the Vietnam War, some 58,220 American casualties were reported. Vietnam lost about three to

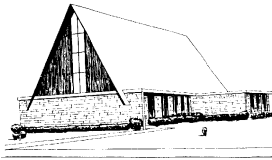
four times that number. COVID-19 is on course to claim more American lives than the number in that war. But how do you fight an invisible enemy like **COVID-19**? One of the very reasons that I exist as a preacher is the same reason that you exist as a biblical Christian. We need to demonstrate in our lifestyle how to trust in our now-Invisible God regardless of what we face. After all, our Invisible God is our trusted Invisible Friend. He is locked in on a raging battle for us. Jesus Christ is standing up to Satan. Jesus is fighting our ultimate invisible enemy who is Satan. Satan is the enemy of collective humanity.

Satan is behind COVID-19. But God is on the unseen stage battling for us. Otherwise, COVID-19 would be killing on a far more catastrophic scale. Satan is our real enemy. So, let us stand with God and obey His mandate which says:

“You Must Prophecy Again!”

Elder Waren Muir

CHURCH NEWS



CHURCH SERVICES

Join us on Facebook at 11:30 AM Sabbath mornings for livestreaming of the church service.

<https://www.facebook.com/vhsda>

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

You may donate via www.adventistgiving.org.



MAY OFFERING SCHEDULE

May 2	Local Church Budget	May 23	New York Excel
May 9	Disaster & Famine Relief	May 30	New York Conference Evangelism
May 16	Local Church Budget		

Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter is for the Trans-European Division.



SUNSET SCHEDULE

Friday, May 1 – 8:06 PM
Sabbath, May 8 – 8:07 PM

NEW YORK CONFERENCE


The best place to stay current on conference information is to go to one of the following:

Website: www.nyconf.org

Facebook: New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Email: We use Constant Contact to mass email our constituency. If you would like to receive conference email, please email Barb Bridgers at barbara@nyconf.org and ask to be added to the list.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

 Because of the COVID-19 virus, many blood drive donation sites are not available. Since we are able to provide this service, we have been asked to host a drive in May. Our last newsletter indicated that this would be May 12. The date has been changed to Friday, May 29 from 11:30 AM until 4:30 PM. Future drives will return to our normal Tuesday schedule.

*God's Word is a message to us to be obeyed, a volume to be perused diligently,
and with a spirit willing to take in the truths
written for the admonition of those upon whom the ends of the world are come.*

It must not be neglected for any other book. . . .

*When we open the Bible, let us compare our lives with its requirements,
measuring our character by the great moral standard of righteousness.*

In Heavenly Places, p. 134

TEN-FIFTEEN



Remember to spend at least ten minutes praying and fifteen minutes studying God's word each day. As we are living in earth's last days, how much more we need to be in prayer and in the Word.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He shall lift you up. James 4:7-10

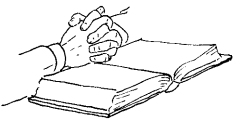


VISION 2020: EACH ONE REACH ONE FOR CHRIST

Let us, each one, make it our goal to be used of God to lead at least one person to surrender their lives to Jesus Christ in the coming year.

SABBATH SCHOOL

During the second quarter, our Sabbath School lessons are "How to Study Scripture." Be sure to continue your study at home while we are not able to meet together. This week's study (Lesson 5) is entitled "By Scripture Alone – *Sola Scriptura*."



Memory text: *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12*

Texts for this week's study: 1 Corinthians 4:1-6; Titus 1:9; 2 Timothy 1:13; Mark 12:10, 26; Luke 24:27, 44, 45; Isaiah 8:20.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – During our time of "sheltering in place" because of the Coronavirus, we will be planning to send out a weekly newsletter, including Elder Muir's sermon notes. Any other news of interest or articles should be submitted by Sunday evening.

CONTACT Sharon and Jim Reynolds at 734-1560 with newsletter information. You may also send your articles to: 813 Maple Avenue, Elmira, NY 14904, or e-mail us at newsletter@elmirasda.com. Please limit your articles to approximately one half to one full page. Please take note of the season, if your article is seasonal. All articles should properly acknowledge the author and include permission to print.



Fear thou not; for I am with thee:
be not dismayed; for I am thy God:
I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee;
yea, I will uphold thee
with the right hand of My righteousness.

Isaiah 41:10



Elmira Seventh-day Adventist Church
c/o Jim & Sharon Reynolds
813 Maple Avenue
Elmira, NY 14904

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

