



The Book of James Lesson 13 4th Q 2014 The Everlasting Gospel

We continue to receive emails from around the world expressing thanks for our materials and this message.

Thank you for your ministry!!! I have been totally blessed with the new understanding of God's Love Law that I find myself excited to share with everyone who gives a hint of interest.

I have been a Christian all my life but not until reading your books am I able to say with experience "The truth will set you free." Today, God reveals what He would have me do day by day with victory as He does in me what I can not do for myself!!! Such freedom trusting Him to lead me, clean me take me where He would have me go!

Please send copies of all books and all DVDs to share with my church family, community, friends and family.

Thank you again for your generosity and Ministry sharing the truth about God!

What is the Everlasting Gospel?

I went online and these are some of the definitions I found:

- The word Gospel literally means “good news.” It is the plan that God has designed to save sinful humans from eternal separation from Him. www.allaboutgod.com
- The word *gospel* means “good news,” so the gospel of Christ is the good news of His coming to provide forgiveness of sins for all who will believe www.gotquestions.org
- The gospel is the message that God will give us pardon from our sins and eternal life with Him in heaven... www.harvest.org

There are many definitions of the gospel on the net, but these are fairly representative of the most common ideas. Do you notice how these descriptions of the gospel focus on us and our legal status?

But the gospel is the everlasting or eternal good news; we find the everlasting gospel in Revelation 14 as the message that is to go to the world to prepare the world for Christ's return.

Now, is it eternally true – meaning in eternity past as well as eternity future, that Jesus died, or even that humans needed Him to die for their sins?



It is true Jesus died to save us and was willing in eternity past to do so, but it wasn't evidenced or needed in eternity past. It is true that this is *part* of the good news, but is this part, the part about us being saved, eternal, or is this part a more recent expression, revelation and unfolding of the good news that has always been true?

As we reason this through, what light does this passage add?

Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 2Tim 2:10

What do you hear this saying? That the gospel *is* the destruction of death and bringing forth of life, or that the gospel is the means by which Christ destroys death and brings immortality to light? In other words, is the good news that death has been destroyed – or is the good news what had destroyed death?

This was written by one of the founders of our church over 100 years ago:

The gospel and the medical missionary work are to advance together. **The gospel is to be bound up with the principles of true health reform.** Christianity is to be brought into the practical life. Earnest, thorough reformatory work is to be done. **True Bible religion is an outflowing of the love of God for fallen man...**We are to present the **principles** of health reform before the people, doing all in our power to lead men and women to see the necessity of these **principles** and to practice them.--Testimonies, Vol. 6, p. 379. {CME 41.5}

Do you see any connection between the gospel and health reform? This author says the gospel is to be bound up with the “principles” of true health reform. What does this mean?

What is a principle? Is it a rule, an arbitrary law, or is it design protocol?

So, what is the basis of true health reform? Understanding God's design, how He actually constructed life to operate and intelligently live in harmony with it.

And what is the basis upon which life is constructed to operate?

Love – the principle of giving. We cannot get well outside this design.

- In living for self he has rejected that divine love which would have flowed out in mercy to his fellow men. **Thus he has rejected life. For God is love, and love is life.** {COL 258.3}

Why is love life?

Because God is love, and God created, constructed, built all life to operate in harmony with Himself.



The same power that upholds nature, is working also in man. The same great laws that guide alike the star and the atom control human life. The laws that govern the heart's action, regulating the flow of the current of life to the body, are the laws of the mighty Intelligence that has the jurisdiction of the soul. **From Him all life proceeds.** Only in harmony with Him can be found its true sphere of action. For all the objects of His creation the condition is the same--**a life sustained by receiving the life of God,** a life exercised in harmony with the Creator's will. **To transgress His law, physical, mental, or moral, is to place one's self out of harmony with the universe,** to introduce discord, anarchy, ruin. {Ed 99.2}

How does this work? It is design law, not imposed rules.

We must receive nutrition from the plants (and yes it all comes from the plants, if you eat animal products you are only getting nutrition second hand, hand-me-down nutrition) and then we give back the products of digestion to fertilize the plants. If something goes wrong with our system and we don't give back, we will eventually die.

How is this principle related to the gospel?

Here is another quote from the book *Christ's Object Lessons*

No man can rightly present the **law of God without the gospel,** or the **gospel without the law.** The **law is the gospel embodied, and the gospel is the law unfolded.** The law is the root, the gospel is the fragrant blossom and fruit which it bears. {COL 128.2}

What does this mean? How do you understand the law and the gospel to be related? What does the root and blossom metaphor suggest is happening? A natural outgrowth.

So, while in eternity past Christ had not died for sinners— What was true in eternity past?

- What is true in eternity past and eternity future that Christ brought to earth resulting in death being destroyed and immortality being brought to light?
- What is true through all time, past, present and future, that is bound up with true health reform?
- What is the relationship between the law and the gospel?

Here is another quotation from more than 100 years ago, things that used to be taught in our church:

When the gospel is received in its purity and power, it is a cure for the maladies that originated in sin. The Sun of Righteousness arises, "with healing in His wings." Malachi 4:2. Not all this world bestows can **heal a broken heart, or impart peace of mind, or remove care, or banish disease.** Fame, genius, talent—all are powerless to gladden the sorrowful heart or to restore the wasted life. The life of God in the soul is man's only hope. {Counsels for the Church 216.5}



The love which Christ diffuses through the whole being is a vitalizing power. Every vital part—the brain, the heart, the nerves—it touches with healing. By it [love] the highest energies of the being are roused to activity. It [love] frees the soul from the guilt and sorrow, the anxiety and care, that crush the life forces. With it [love] come serenity and composure. It [love] implants in the soul, joy that nothing earthly can destroy—joy in the Holy Spirit—health-giving, life-giving joy. {CCh 216.6}

Our Saviour's words, "Come unto Me, . . . and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28, **are a prescription for the healing of physical, mental, and spiritual ills.** Though men have brought suffering upon themselves by their own wrongdoing, He regards them with pity. In Him they may find help. He will do great things for those who trust in Him. 367 {CCh 217.1}

What do you hear? Do you hear healing, restoration, recreation, and somehow it is connected to the gospel – how?

And one more quote from history, from *Counsels on Health*:

The very essence of the gospel is restoration, and the Saviour would have us bid the sick, the hopeless, and the afflicted take hold upon His strength. {Counsels on Health 31.2}

The power of love was in all Christ's healing, and only by partaking of that love, through faith, can we be instruments for His work. If we neglect to link ourselves in divine connection with Christ, **the current of life-giving energy cannot flow in rich streams from us to the people.** There were places where the Saviour Himself could not do many mighty works because of their unbelief. So now unbelief separates the church from her divine Helper. Her hold upon eternal realities is weak. By her lack of faith, God is disappointed and robbed of His glory. (32) {CH 31.3}

Why does death come? Through the gospel Christ destroys death – so why does death come?

If one believes the lie of Satan, then death comes from God as a punishment for breaking His law.

If this were true multiple problems:

- God is the source of death – so Eastern religions which teach eternal dualism, the eternal existence of good and evil, would be true, because both life and death originate in such a god. But it is not true.
 - The Bible says Satan is a murderer from the beginning – or murder began with Satan, i.e. death originated with Satan not God. God is the source of life. Here is what our church used to teach:



- **“Christ never planted the seeds of death in the system. Satan planted these seeds** when he tempted Adam to eat of the tree of knowledge which meant disobedience to God. {2SM 288.2}
- If one believes the lie, it would mean that there really isn't anything wrong with sin, there is something wrong with God who can't get a grip on His anger and wrath. If He could just control Himself we could live forever in sin, but alas, we can't because God lashes out to kill...
- Believing the lie would also result in creating false remedies or solutions, namely penal substitution ideas in which Jesus took our legal penalty and God had to use His power to inflict punishment upon His Son. Or God had to be propitiated so He wouldn't kill us. Thus, it results in a distorted god who resembles Satan in character.
- This results in a “form of godliness but denies the power” because it denies the gospel, or the good news, because the good news is NOT we have a legal solution. The good news is that God is not like Satan alleged, that God is love and love is life – and that harmony with God is life.

So why does death come?

- The wages of sin is death Rom 6:23
- Sin when full grown brings forth death James 1:15
- whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; Gal 6:8

So why does death come? Because sin is deviation from the way God has built life to operate and it, unremedied results in death.

And what caused that deviation?

- Lies believed break the circle of love and trust
- broken love and trust result in fear and selfishness
- fear and selfishness result in destructive acts (sins)
- destructive acts are damaging to mind, body, character a terminal condition

So what is the good news the eternal good news? That God is love and His design for life is love – it has always been so and will always be so. And that good news was brought to earth by Jesus, both in truth to reveal God's character and action to restore God's character into the species human while destroying the infection of fear and selfishness with which we are born.

So the Bible says:

Jesus said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!” MK 1:14,15



The good news is about God, His character and methods of love, perfectly revealed in Christ and through Christ perfectly restored into the species human, thus returning life to this species and destroying death! Can we believe it?

Many struggle to believe the good news about God and instead of repenting of the lies about God and believing God is really this good, present God like a dictator who runs the universe like we run our governments.

SUNDAY

The gospel in the Old Testament – what is the gospel in the Old Testament?

Jesus said, regarding the Old Testament:

You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life. John 5:39

Do you find the good news about God and Jesus in the Old Testament? Where?

"The Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering 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." Exodus 34:6, 7.

What does it mean? Why will God by no means clear the guilty? What law lens do you view the statement through?

Here is a statement from a journal written in 1886, what do you hear?

"Sin is the transgression of the law," and "the wages of sin is death." [why? because God must inflict death or because God's law is how life is built and deviations are incompatible with life?] **It was sin that brought death into the world.** [Does death come from God? No! It comes from sin, which is deviation from God and His design] **Had there been no sin, there would have been no death.** Christ died as the sinner's substitute, to save him from **the penalty of his disobedience.** [What is the penalty of disobedience? Is it inflicted by God or the result of deviating from God's design? If a child drinks poison in disobedience to their parent's rules to stay out of the medicine cabinet, is there a penalty for that disobedience? What is that penalty? Why?] Could the law of God have been changed or abolished, Christ need not have died; **for death was not necessary in order to abolish the law.** [If death was not necessary to abolish the law what did get abolished by Christ's death? Satan's power (Heb 2:14), death (2Tim 1:10), the devil's work (1Jn 3:8), which are the lies about God and the carnal nature). The fact that God spared not his own sinless, beloved Son from the



penalty he pledged himself to bear as the sinner's substitute, is the most telling argument that could be produced to show that the **claims of his law will not be released**, even in the slightest degree, to save the transgressor. [What does the law claim? Perfect accord with it, why? Because that is how life is built. It is uncompromising. If you jump overboard in the ocean with 100 pounds of lead tied to your legs, the law of respiration is uncompromising. It cannot be changed to meet you in that condition. So you must be delivered from that condition if you are to be saved. Likewise, Christ came to deliver humanity from the condition deviant from God's design] So in the death of Christ we have evidence, not only of God's love for sinful man, but of the changeless character of his law. **The law could not be abolished; one precept could not be altered to save the sinner and meet man in his fallen condition; [why?]** but God so loved the world that he gave his Son to suffer the penalty of its transgression in the sinner's stead. {ST, July 29, 1886 par. 2}

MONDAY

The gospel made flesh – what is the gospel? The good news about God, and that good news, the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Read last paragraph, “Both stories...” What does it mean paid the full price? What was the full price? To whom was it paid?

If your child was dying of renal failure and you donated your kidney to save them, could we say, “you paid the full price necessary to save your child?” Would it mean it was a legal price?

Why was donating your kidney the full price you had to pay to save your child? To whom was the price of your donated kidney paid? Why?

So, in the plan of salvation – when Adam sinned did God get changed? Did God's law get changed? Did humanity in Adam get changed?

Then if restoration and unity with God and God's law is to be achieved where must Christ's work be effectual? In humanity. Thus, Christ's activity was not to do something to God, or God's law, but was to actually provide to humanity what humanity needed in order to restore it back to rightness, or righteousness with God.

What was needed? Well, what separates us from God? Lies we believe and our carnal natures – then what reconciles us?

The truth will set you free and a new nature, we become partakers of the divine nature, so it is no longer I that live but Christ lives in me.



This price, the price of bringing the truth and providing a new nature was the price our condition required, because it was the only way to restore the species human back to God's design for life. Thus the price was paid to us!

TUESDAY

Read last paragraph, "The gospel..." How do you hear this? What is the correct understanding of these metaphorical terms and what is a distorted understanding?

Which law lens do you hear them through?

WEDNESDAY

Read first paragraph – "The book of..." Did God establish the Old Covenant? What was the Old Covenant?

The Old Covenant, which was faulty, was when Israel said "All the Lord said WE will do." It was when Israel took the responsibility to save themselves and of course failed.

The covenant of grace was revealed to the patriarchs. The covenant made with Abraham four hundred and thirty years before the law was spoken on Sinai **was a covenant confirmed by God in Christ, the very same gospel which is preached to us.** "The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." **The covenant of grace is not a new truth, for it existed in the mind of God from all eternity. This is why it is called the everlasting covenant.** The plan of redemption was not conceived after the fall of man to cure the dreadful evil; the apostle Paul speaks of the gospel, the preaching of Jesus Christ, as "the revelation of the mystery, which hath been kept in silence through times eternal, but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, is made known unto all the nations unto obedience of faith." (Revised Version.) {ST, August 24, 1891 par. 10}

There has only and always been on eternal or true covenant, and it is the covenant of God's character of love, revealed in Christ and restored in humanity through Christ.

THURSDAY

The climax of the gospel – the end time gospel presentation – how would you describe it? What is the final message of mercy that is to enlighten the world?



It is the truth of God's character of love, as Creator who designed His universe to operate upon design law, not imposed law. It is a message to free minds from the infection from Imperial Rome which distorts in the minds of men the character of God, making Him out to be like us.

Thus the three angels messages:

- Be in awe of God and reveal His true character of love in your life for the time in earth's history has come for everyone to make a right judgment about God and His character and methods – call them back to worship and adore Him who made the heavens, earth, sea – call them back to His Design Law of Love
- Because Babylon, that confused system of imposed law, in which God's law is misrepresented as imposed, has resulted in a contradictory system in which Christianity has fractured into 34,000 different groups all with different interpretations and regulations, because they have accepted the lie that God's law is like Rome's, imposed rules and God must punish like a dictator must punish.
- And everyone who accepts this lie about God and marks themselves in their forehead by truly believing God is like a dictator and His law is imposed and God is the source of imposed punishment and death, and those who mark themselves in their hands by going along with such a perverse system of coercion, based on human law, will be tormented in mind, heart and character when they come into the presence of the holy angels and the Lamb, for having rejected the truth about God, there is no healing for their terminal condition in a legal solution of appeasement.

We must come back to worship our Creator and Designer and present the truth about His character and law of love!



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Opportunity to Share:

The General Conference of SDA will have its meeting (which occurs every five years) in San Antonio Texas, July 1-12, 2015. 50,000-70,000 Adventist from all over the world are expected to attend. This presents an opportunity to share this healing message about God in a most impactful way.

We plan on giving away our DVDs, Dr. Jennings' Book *Could It Be This Simple?* and other materials. This will be an enormous project. If you would like to share in this opportunity, you can do so by making donations to *Come and Reason Ministries* either via Paypal, or check mailed to our address below.

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And in Australia or New Zealand email australia@comeandreason.com and Thanks to Simon Harrison who manages



our ministry down under. Dr. Jennings will be going back to Australia/New Zealand spring 2015. If you are interested in Dr. Jennings speaking at your group please contact Simon at this email address.

Jan 10, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at The Haven, formerly Elmshaven, SDA church.

Jan 24, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Monterey Peninsula SDA Church

February 21, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be presenting the God and Your Brain Seminar at Shilo Inn. 3223 Bret Clodfelter Way, The Dalles, Oregon. For more info and to register for this free conference contact Joyce Browne at 541-300-0111.

March 13-14, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be speaking in NYC at the Advent Hope Outreach Health Event.

March 27-28, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the University of Tennessee Health Science, Psychiatry and Family Medicine Conference in Memphis, TN.

April 10-11, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the Yuba City, SDA Church, Yuba City, CA.

April 13, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the meeting of Adventist Health Systems West, Sacramento, CA.

April 13, 2015 (7 p.m.): Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the Carmichael SDA church in Sacramento, CA.

May 1-2 2015: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Springwood SDA Church Brisbane, Australia.

May 3, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at St Andrews Anglican Church Lutwyche, Australia.

May 5-9, 2015: Dr. Jennings will speak in Australia specific venues pending for these dates

May 11-12, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Peer Psychology Group Seminar, Melbourne, Australia, For info contact Tamara Auora-McCulloch at ladytamara.amcc@gmail.com

May 15, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Avondale College, Cooranbong, NSW, Australia.

May 16, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be doing an all day seminar at Maitland SDA Church, Australia

May17-20, 2015: Dr. Jennings will be speaking to the Adventist Education Department, Auckland, New Zealand.

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