



## 2020 1Q Daniel: Lesson 9 From Contamination to Purification

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

### SABBATH

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As we get into this lesson there will be a lot of details and many people get confused or disagree over the details—but there really isn't any need for that, because we simply need to remember, irrespective the details, the big themes which are:

- God is Creator who built the universe upon design laws
- Adam sinned and infected humankind with a terminal condition
- Jesus is promised in Genesis 3 to be come and save humanity—to provide the remedy to our sin condition.
  - This means that humankind could not be saved without the life death and resurrection of Jesus as man's substitute (2Cor 5:21)
- After Jesus' victory He works from heaven to apply His victory into the lives of believers—this is known as the sanctuary message, in other words, Jesus works to prepare His people to be ready for His return. Thus the sanctuary is a metaphor, a lesson book, a teaching method, a way to describe the reality of God bringing sinners back into perfect at-one-ment with God. This is only accomplished by cleansing sinners from sin.

That is the big overview—all the rest are details, which we will explore, but it is okay that people see certain things differently as long as we don't contradict the big themes. It is okay to see the details differently, because we are developing and understanding at different rates, like some understand math differently than others because of their ability to comprehend more complex elements of mathematics than others. This is why Paul says, “let every person be fully persuaded in their own mind.”

The title, From Contamination to Purification: What has been contaminated that needs to be purified?

What contaminates? Would it be sin?

What is sin? Transgression of the law, or lawlessness?

Can physical matter transgress the law?

Can molecules choose to disobey?

If we have a piece of wood, or stone, or metal can that substance sin?

What if that substance were carved or molded into an idol and worshipped by people—has the wood or stone or metal sinned?



When Aaron shaped gold into a calf—was the golden-calf sin or sinful?

If we should have that collection of physical matter, the idol, would we have sin in our hands? Does the universe need to be cleansed of the wood, stone or metal used to create idols?

What does need cleansing? Would it be the minds and hearts of people who worshipped the wood, metal or stone? And from what would the minds and hearts of people need to be cleansed of?

Can physical matter be sinful?

What does Paul mean when he says all nature groans under the weight of sin?

Does he mean the physical matter that makes up the earth is sinful or that sin has damaged God's design and creation is suffering from that damage?

Is there a difference between eradicating a disease and healing the damage caused by the disease?

Can a person who is delirious, because they have viral meningitis, drive their car right through their house?

- Will curing the meningitis fix the house?
- Is the house sinful because it was damaged by the delirious person?
- Does the virus that caused the delirium need to be eradicated?
- Does the house also need to be fixed?
- Does the house need to be cured of the viral meningitis?

So, what has been contaminated when Adam sinned and what needs purifying?

Do the physical non-living, inanimate structures in heaven need to be cleansed from sin?

Read memory verse: And he said to me, "For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed." (Daniel 8:14 NKJV)

To what is the text referring?

Does this text tell us what the sanctuary is or which sanctuary is to be cleansed? What information does this text give us?

- A timeframe
- A cleansing event
- A sanctuary to be cleansed

Does this text tell us when the 2300 years starts or ends?



Does this text tell us what type of cleansing is going on (i.e. physical like washing dishes or bodies, or spiritual cleansing of minds from lies, fear and selfishness)?

No, we need more information to figure out what is actually happening.

One of the founders of the SDA church, who is central in establishing the sanctuary doctrine, wrote the following:

**The coming of Christ as our high priest to the most holy place, for the cleansing of the sanctuary, brought to view in Daniel 8:14;** the coming of the Son of man to the Ancient of days, as presented in Daniel 7:13; and **the coming of the Lord to His temple, foretold by Malachi, are descriptions of the same event;** and this is also represented by the coming of the bridegroom to the marriage, described by Christ in the parable of the ten virgins, of Matthew 25 (Ellen White, *The Great Controversy*, p. 426).

Do these other Bible texts give us further insights into what is actually happening?

According to Malachi what is being cleansed? The Levites, which means what?

Why would the Levites need cleansing?

Where does sin happen—does sin happen in books or does it happen in hearts and minds?

Can hearts and minds be cleansed by a legal review of historical records? Can hearts and minds be cleansed by erasing ink from parchment?

In the book *The Desire of Ages* the same author wrote the following, do you agree or disagree?

**In the cleansing of the temple**, Jesus was announcing His mission as the Messiah, and entering upon His work. That temple, erected for the abode of the divine Presence, was designed to be an object lesson for Israel and for the world. From eternal ages it was God's purpose that **every created being, from the bright and holy seraph to man, should be a temple for the indwelling of the Creator**. Because of sin, humanity ceased to be a temple for God. Darkened and defiled by evil, the heart of man no longer revealed the glory of the Divine One. But by the incarnation of the Son of God, the purpose of Heaven is fulfilled. God dwells in humanity, and through saving grace the **heart of man becomes again His temple**. God designed that the temple at Jerusalem should be a continual witness to the high **destiny open to every soul**. But the Jews had not understood the significance of the building they regarded with so much pride. They did not yield themselves as holy temples for the Divine Spirit. The courts of the temple at Jerusalem, filled with the tumult of unholy traffic, represented all too truly **the temple of the heart**, defiled by the presence of sensual passion and unholy thoughts. **In cleansing the temple from the world's buyers and sellers, Jesus announced His mission to cleanse the heart from the defilement of sin—from the earthly desires, the selfish lusts, the evil habits, that corrupt the soul**. "The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in:



behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appears? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver" (Ellen White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 161).

What do you hear? Does this sound like a legal process?

God wants to cleanse the hearts and minds of people from lies, fear and selfishness, sinfulness, lusts, evil habits, to restore His perfection in us. Once we are cleansed in heart and mind, it is a simple matter to fix the physical damage done to creation.

Remember from last week's lesson we discovered that the little horn power of Daniel 7 and the man of sin in Thessalonians 2 are the same and that the man of sin set himself up in God's temple proclaiming himself to be God.

We discovered the man of sin did this by waging a war of lies about God. The primary lie being that God's law functions like human law and this resulted in God being worshipped as a dictator who is the source of legal infliction of pain, suffering and death to punish sin.

God foretold to Daniel that it would be 2300 years until enough truth was recovered for people to make a right judgment about God and reject the imperial view of Him and have their minds (sanctuary) cleansed of the lies about Him.

Thus, the same author wrote in the book *The Great Controversy*:

Both the prophecy of Daniel 8:14, "Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed," and the first angel's message, "Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of **His judgment** is come," **pointed to Christ's ministration in the most holy place, to the investigative judgment**, and not to the coming of Christ for the redemption of His people and the destruction of the wicked. p. 424

It is the hour in human history when we finally stop viewing God as a dictator and start worshipping the Creator who made the heavens....

## SUNDAY

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Read first paragraph, "As in Daniel 2..." What kind of judgment was going on during this time? Is this a judicial process of legal accounting done by a heavenly magistrate, or is it a judgment of what is diseased, what is misunderstood, what is wrong in heart, mind, character and who trusts Jesus and who is open to have their hearts and minds cleansed by Jesus?

In the book *The Great Controversy*: After referencing Daniel 8:14, Daniel 7, Malachi 3, Revelation 14, the author writes the following about this time in human history:



Says the prophet: “Who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.” Malachi 3:2, 3. **Those who are living upon the earth when the intercession of Christ shall cease in the sanctuary above are to stand in the sight of a holy God without a mediator.** Their robes must be spotless, **their characters must be purified from sin by the blood of sprinkling.** [what is to be purified, their characters or their records in heaven?] Through the grace of God and their own diligent effort they must be conquerors in the battle with evil. **While the investigative judgment is going forward in heaven, while the sins of penitent believers are being removed from the sanctuary, there is to be a special work of purification, of putting away of sin, among God's people upon earth. This work is more clearly presented in the messages of Revelation 14.** GC 425.1

What is the connection between cleansing the records in heaven and the cleansing of the people on earth?

What is recorded in the records of heaven?

- But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered. Daniel 12:1 NIV84
- Yes, and I ask you, loyal yokefellow, help these women who have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life. Philippians 4:3 NIV84
- He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels. Rev 3:5 NIV84
- All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world. Rev 13:8 NIV84

What does name represent in Scripture? Character, and what is recorded in the records of heaven? Again, one of the founders of the SDA church wrote:

**Remember, your character is being daguerreotyped [photographed] by the great Master Artist in the record books of heaven,** as minutely as the face is reproduced upon the polished plate of the artist. **What do the books of heaven say in your case? Are you conforming your character** to the Pattern, Jesus Christ? Are you washing your robes of character and making them white in the blood of the Lamb? "Behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be" [Revelation 22:12]. . . . {TSB 62.1}

Remember that **this world is God's daguerreotype office. The pictures of all who live here, old or young, are being made in the books of heaven.** What shall the likeness be?—Letter 78, 1901. 3MR 352.3

So, how do we put all of this together?



Imagine your child is dying of leukemia and the doctors say there is nothing they can do, but you hear of a doctor out west who has 100% success rate. Every person that goes to him comes away with a clean bill of health. You get an appt, and you take your child to see the doctor. You take the MRI scans, the pathology reports, the biopsies, the lab results and give all these medical records, which document in precise detail the extent of this terminal disease.

And the doctor takes the records, opens them, removes all the record of illness and inserts clean, blank, white sheets of paper and hands it back to you saying, “Here, no more record of disease.” Are you satisfied?

This is the fraud of the legal theory of salvation and the investigative judgment.

What is the truth? Once you go to the doctor he examines all the record of disease but then goes to your child and intervenes in your child with a remedy that puts the cancer into remission, remission—the cancerous cells remit back to their previous cancer free state. Without the shedding of Christ’s blood there is no remission of sin—without the victory of Jesus sinfulness in humanity would not remit, we could not be changed back to God’s perfection as He created Adam to be.

And, so, the doctor intervenes in your child and actually puts the cancer into remission. The medical records accurately document the extent of the cancer, but also accurate documents the remedy applied and then accurately documents the healing, transforming, curing of the cancer and that your child is actually well.

The only way we get our records in heaven cleansed is for us to trust Jesus with our hearts and minds here on earth and give Him permission to “create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me.”

Thus, the quote above, while the IJ is going on in heaven there is a putting away of sin in the people of God on earth!

## **MONDAY**

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We talked about the little horn last week so won’t spend time on it this week.

## **TUESDAY**

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The first paragraph helps us understand how the little horn power makes war against the saints. When we put this together with other texts, like 2Cor 10:3-5 we understand that the war is not physical, but a war of ideas, truth versus lies, love versus selfishness, freedom versus coercion for the hearts and minds of God’s intelligent beings—who will we trust and who will we become like?



The primary attack of the little horn was to get people to believe the lie that God's law is like human law.

Once that happened, then all kinds of arguments happen over various theological ideas, with opposing sides arguing against each other, but both actually supporting the same lie. From my book *The God Shaped Heart*:

A few years ago I received an email with a link to a Christian talk show on which a Catholic priest and a Protestant theologian discussed the Eucharist and transubstantiation. They went back and forth over several points, then the Protestant honed in on the allegation that transubstantiation sacrifices Christ again and again whereas the Bible teaches Jesus died once for all.

To this the Catholic priest responded:

There are two elements to any sacrifice: the immolation and the offering. The immolation is a bloody death. The lamb is slain. What is precious about that is the life in the blood of the lamb that is precious and pays back God. That's how the Old Testament rituals used to work. The immolation happened once but the offering is something Christ does for all eternity. He is right now in the presence of the Father, in the holy of holies, in the eternal presence, offering himself to the Father for the forgiveness of our sins. . . . Christ isn't killed again and again and again, he is offered [in the Eucharist] in the same eternal presence as Christ offers himself.

The priest said it was by this *offering* of his sacrifice over and over again that the sins were paid for. So each time we sin, we must take mass in order to have the sacrifice of Christ pay the Father for that sin.

How do you think the Protestant theologian responded? He argued that Christ is in heaven not offering his sacrifice to the Father over and over, oh no! He emphatically stated that Jesus is in heaven offering his *merits* to the Father over and over again to remind the Father that he has already paid for our sins.<sup>1</sup>

In the Protestant view, all human sins were placed on Christ at the cross and paid for there. When we pray for forgiveness, Jesus goes to the Father and reminds him of what Jesus has already done in paying for the sins and makes the *legal application* of his "merits" as the payment he offers to the Father into our individual accounts.

Do you see it, the deep infection of the imposed-law construct? Here we have two sincere people, both desiring to live in harmony with God through the victory of Jesus, arguing over whether Jesus is presenting his *sacrifice* or his *merits* to the Father to *pay for our sins*, **yet missing the fact they are both worshiping a dictator god who requires some payment in**



**order not to punish. Why do they think God needs a payment? Because they both accept the idea that God's law functions like human laws—imposed rules**, and if God doesn't punish, then there is no justice. Their doctrine is based on the idea we need protecting from God. Thus, trust in God is undermined and Christians, rather than being reconciled to God in heart and mind, are separated from God by beliefs that keep them fearful and distrusting of him.

This is what happens when we accept the lie that God's law works like human law, imposed rules that require God to punish rule-breakers. We end up arguing over irrelevant points while both sides still misrepresent God.

See if you can see this problem in the third paragraph, "In Daniel 8:11, the daily..." Were sinners forgiven through the OT services? Were sins actually dealt with through the OT sanctuary?

The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. 14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! Heb 9:13-14 NIV84

What is the reality?

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, **having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.** Heb 10:19-22 NIV84

What is actually happening? We are being cleansed by receiving the life of Christ into our hearts and minds.

If we retain the legal lie, the imposed law lie, then we have two sides arguing against each other:

- We must go to priests on earth to intercede with God to get our sins forgiven by presenting to God the sacrifice Jesus made and having those bad deeds removed from God's record book
- We must go to our heavenly High Priest who represents us in the court of heaven so He goes to God reminds God of the legal price He already paid and then removes the record of our bad deed from the books of heaven

Do you see they both teach the same lie about God and God's kingdom and keep people trapped in a system that prevents them from being healed and restored as God desires? Their spirit temples are not being cleansed.





Let's talk about forgiveness: could God, from His heart, forgive us without Jesus coming to earth as our Savior or did God need Jesus to die and offer Him the blood of a human sacrifice in order to get God to be willing to forgive?

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. Jn 3:16 NIV84

Did God forgive us before or after Jesus died?

But is forgiveness from God sufficient to fix the sin problem? Or, even with God's forgiving attitude toward us, did humankind, after Adam sinned, have an actual sin-condition that required fixing and if not fixed would result in death, despite God forgiving us?

This line of questioning exposes again the fallacy of the legal approach. In the legal approach the problem is not our condition, but our legal standing before the court of heaven, and God may have a forgiving heart, but the law of heaven will not allow God to forgive us unless someone pay the penalty. Thus Jesus died to pay the penalty so God now has the legal right to act on the forgiveness that was in His heart. The entire construct is fraudulent because it is built upon a false premise, that God's law functions like human law.

When we understand the truth about God's law we understand that God's forgiveness was automatic because of who God is—God is love. But His forgiveness didn't change the reality of the sin-condition, that required Jesus to come and reverse the damage Adam did, to restore God's perfection into humanity. Thus EGW wrote:

The law requires righteousness,—a righteous life, a perfect character; and this man has not to give. He cannot meet the claims of God's holy law. But Christ, coming to the earth as man, lived a holy life, and developed a perfect character. These He offers as a free gift to all who will receive them. His life stands for the life of men. **Thus they have remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.** More than this, Christ imbues men with the attributes of God. He builds up the human character after the similitude of the divine character, a goodly fabric of spiritual strength and beauty. Thus the very righteousness of the law is fulfilled in the believer in Christ. God can “be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.” Romans 3:26. DA 762.2

## WEDNESDAY

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Read first paragraph, “After the devastating attack...” What law lens is being used to describe these events?

This is based on misreading Daniel 7 as a judicial process rather than the same event as Revelation 5, a coronation of Christ, which is recognized in the minds of intelligent beings, including those of us on earth, seeing the truth of who God is and judging Him to be Creator and not dictator.



I want to read a larger section from *The Desire of Ages* before and after the section I just read:

**In the opening of the great controversy**, Satan had declared that the law of God could not be obeyed, that justice was inconsistent with mercy, and that, should the law be broken, it would be impossible for the sinner to be pardoned. **Every sin must meet its punishment, urged Satan;** and if God should remit the punishment of sin, He would not be a God of truth and justice. When men broke the law of God, and defied His will, Satan exulted. It was proved, he declared, that the law could not be obeyed; **man could not be forgiven.** Because he, after his rebellion, had been banished from heaven, Satan claimed that the human race must be forever shut out from God's favor. God could not be just, he urged, and yet show mercy to the sinner. DA 761.4

**But even as a sinner, man was in a different position from that of Satan. Lucifer in heaven had sinned in the light of God's glory.** To him as to no other created being was given a revelation of God's love. Understanding the character of God, knowing His goodness, Satan chose to follow his own selfish, independent will. This choice was final. There was no more that God could do to save him. But man was deceived; his mind was darkened by Satan's sophistry. The height and depth of the love of God he did not know. **For him there was hope in a knowledge of God's love. By beholding His character he might be drawn back to God.** DA 761.5

Through Jesus, God's mercy was manifested to men; **but mercy does not set aside justice.** [what does justice require? What law lens? What is the just thing if the law is human law? What if it is design law?] The law reveals the attributes of God's character, and **not a jot or tittle of it could be changed to meet man in his fallen condition.** [why? Because it is the protocol for life, like saying the law of respiration cannot be changed to meet a man under water] **God did not change His law**, but He sacrificed Himself, in Christ, for man's redemption. "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." 2 Corinthians 5:19. DA 762.1

**The law requires righteousness,—a righteous life, a perfect character;** and this man has not to give. He cannot meet the claims of God's holy law. But Christ, coming to the earth as man, lived a holy life, and **developed a perfect character. These He offers as a free gift to all** who will receive them. His life stands for the life of men. Thus they **have remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.** More than this, **Christ imbues men with the attributes of God. He builds up the human character after the similitude of the divine character**, a goodly fabric of spiritual strength and beauty. Thus the very righteousness of the law is fulfilled in the believer in Christ. God can "be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus." Romans 3:26. DA 762.2

**God's love has been expressed in His justice no less than in His mercy.** [justice, what law lens? When we understand that justice is doing what is right, which is healing the damage from sin, and also letting those who refuse healing to reap what they chose, then we see how this is



love] Justice is the foundation of His throne, and the fruit of His love. It had been Satan's purpose to divorce mercy from truth and justice. **He sought to prove that the righteousness of God's law is an enemy to peace.** [how? By teaching the law is imposed, thus to enforce the law requires the law giver to use power to punish lawbreakers thus it makes God out to be the source of death and violence and enemy to peace] But Christ shows that in God's plan they are indissolubly joined together; the one cannot exist without the other. "Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other." Psalm 85:10. DA 762.3

By His life and His death, Christ proved that God's justice did not destroy His mercy, **but that sin could be forgiven,** [forgiven not paid for, but forgiveness alone doesn't save, we needed the remedy described above a righteous character developed by Christ] and that the law is righteous, and can be perfectly obeyed. Satan's charges were refuted. God had given man unmistakable evidence of His love. DA 762.4

**Another deception was now to be brought forward. Satan declared that mercy destroyed justice,** that the death of Christ abrogated the Father's law. [What is the lie based upon? This idea that God's law is imposed, same lie, just presented in a different way. Jesus died to pay the penalty and now the law has been set aside for law breakers. No, it is design law and God restores law breakers to harmony with the law through what Christ has achieved.] **Had it been possible for the law to be changed or abrogated, then Christ need not have died.** But to abrogate the law would be to immortalize transgression, and place the world under Satan's control. It was because the law was changeless, because **man could be saved only through obedience to its precepts,** [What does this mean? Under the imperial lie, God could only legally pardon with a sinless offering to pay the penalty to make sure the integrity of the law and divine government are sustained. The truth of design law is that only in harmony with the law is life possible, thus we had to be restored to live out the law] that Jesus was lifted up on the cross. Yet the very means by which Christ established the law Satan represented as destroying it. **Here will come the last conflict of the great controversy between Christ and Satan.** DA 762.5

**That the law which was spoken by God's own voice is faulty,** that some specification has been set aside, is the claim which Satan now puts forward. **It is the last great deception that he will bring upon the world.** He needs not to assail the whole law; **if he can lead men to disregard one precept, his purpose is gained.** For "whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." James 2:10. [Why is this true? Because if we set aside one precept we accept the lie that the law is changeable, which means we accept the lie that God's law is imposed not design law, which means we believe Satan's version of God's character] By consenting to break one precept, men are brought under Satan's power. **By substituting human law for God's law, Satan will seek to control the world.** This work is foretold in prophecy. Of the great apostate power which is the representative of Satan, it is declared, "He shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand." Daniel 7:25. DA 763.1



**Men will surely set up their laws to counterwork the laws of God. They will seek to compel the consciences of others, and in their zeal to enforce these laws they will oppress their fellow men.** DA 763.2 [notice the principles described. Is anything said about Sabbath here? It certainly could be the day of worship that is involved in this, but it doesn't have to be, it could be any coercion, because THAT is how imposed law works!]

**The warfare against God's law, which was begun in heaven, will be continued until the end of time. Every man will be tested.** Obedience or disobedience is the question to be decided by the whole world. **All will be called to choose between the law of God and the laws of men. Here the dividing line will be drawn. There will be but two classes. Every character will be fully developed; and all will show whether they have chosen the side of loyalty or that of rebellion.** DA 763.3

Do you see clearly the issue is about worshipping the Creator whose laws are design laws and developing Godly character, which is the cleansing of the Temple in which the man of sin has set himself up in, or rejecting the Creator God and accepting the imperial dictator god who requires legal payment and must use power to punish law breakers—regardless of which day one goes to church upon.

So, is there a temple in heaven? Yes, and what is the material it is constructed out of? According to EGW, the central figure in the SDA Sanctuary doctrine, she writes, which is consistent with many Bible passages the following:

The first tabernacle, built according to God's directions, was indeed blessed of Him. The people thus were preparing themselves to worship in the temple not made with hands--a temple in the heavens. The stones of the Temple built by Solomon were all prepared at the quarry and then brought to the Temple site. They came together without the sound of ax or hammer. The timbers were also fitted in the forest. The furniture was likewise brought to this house all prepared for use. {3MR 231.3}

Even so, the mighty cleaver of truth has **taken out a people from the quarry of the world and is fitting this people, who profess to be the children of God, for a place in His heavenly temple.** We want the cleaver of truth to do its work for us. **We are taken from the quarry of the world. The material must not be a dead substance but living souls, and these souls must be brought out of the quarry of the world, where the hand of God can fit them for the temple in heaven.** We are here as probationers, and we must pass under the hand of God. All rough edges and rough surfaces must be removed and **we must be stones fitted for the building.** We are brought into church capacity with defects of character, but we must not retain them. **We must be fitted and squared for the building. We must be "laborers together with God," for we are "God's husbandry," we are "God's building."** In view of this we must see that our temple is not defiled with sin. We should be lively stones, not dead ones, but live ones that will reflect the image of Christ. We must be worshipers in spirit and in truth. {3MR 231.4}



The problem with the penal legal lie is that it makes the temple in heaven out of dead substances, elements of matter that cannot sin and cannot be contaminated by sin and cannot be cleansed by sin. It teaches people a lie—that the sin problem is not in their hearts and minds, but in record books and cleansing is not cleansing our hearts and minds but erasing facts of history out of books in heaven.

This is quite different than erasing sinfulness out of the heart, character, motivations, passions, drives of people.

Thus, from the Heavenly Sanctuary and the Investigative Judgment for the Modern World, we have taken some passages from EGW and shown their true meaning. See page 16 of that document.

## THURSDAY

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Merely goes into the way the year 1844 is reached.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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**March 27,28, 2020:** Dr. Jennings will be speaking at an AACC River Conference at Plano, TX. More info at <http://theriverconference.com/>

**April 17,18, 2020:** Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the Lakewood SDA church in Lakewood OH.

**September 17-19 2020:** Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the AACC National Conference in Dallas, TX

**October 3, 2020:** Come and Reason will have a one day seminar in Chattanooga TN on Healing the Mind, Recovering from Sexual Abuse, the Impact of Digital Media on Kids and more. Details coming soon.