

Dear Friend,

September 2019

Recently, I was speaking at some meetings in the great Northwest!! It was a pretty tight schedule with several speakers. I asked the coordinators of the meetings if it would be possible to use one of my time slots for a question and answer period. These meetings are so good because it gives people an opportunity to ask questions and it lets the speaker know what the people's needs are! As we began the meeting, I stated two guidelines for the meeting.

1. The people would ask the questions and, by God's grace, I would give the best answer I could based in the Bible and the SOP. After giving the answer, there would be NO disagreement or debate based on my answer. I did not want to see argument or anger manifested in the meeting. Anyone who didn't like my answer could discuss it further with me outside after the meeting.
2. When asking the question, the person was not to use the microphone as a soapbox to preach a sermon. In other words, keep the questions short and to the point.

The ground rules were simple, short, and everyone understood them. At least, I thought they did!

Well, there were questions about Daniel 12, fanaticism, raising children, apostasy in Adventism, etc. Then, one of the speakers asked about the Holy Spirit within the Godhead. I responded with several Bible verses like Hebrews 9:14, Acts 5:3,4, Genesis 1, and SOP from Evangelism 615-617. While I was speaking, a person in the back right corner of the sanctuary was getting agitated. As I finished, I looked at him and asked, "Sir, do you want to ask a question or respond to what I just said?" "I want to respond" he said. I stated to him the ground rules that there would be NO responses, but we could discuss it later outside. From there, things escalated because that was not acceptable to him. Eventually, he and his son in law became very rude, caustic, loud, and impolite!! Through prayer and singing, things calmed down and the meeting ended fine. Some asked me afterwards if I would ever have a question and answer period again, to which I responded, "A thousand times YES!!" This time is a great opportunity for people to ask questions.

Now, I had a very good idea what the man was going to ask or say. He would misinterpret some SOP statement and make it appear that the Holy Spirit is not the 3rd Person of the Godhead. He would contradict the Bible and SOP statements that are very clear on this matter. Now, I clearly do not agree with him. Whether he is right or not, what struck me by this experience was not his doctrine, but the attitude and character manifest by the man and his son in law! I was the one leading out in the meeting and had made some very simple guidelines that even a child could understand. Did the men feel they had to vindicate 'their truth'? Did the men feel that in their defense of "their truth" that rudeness was justifiable?

You know, take for a moment their side. Let us hypothetically state that they were 100 % correct and I was 100 % wrong? They were absolutely right and I was a total heretic. Being totally right, would that vindicate or justify them in their caustic behavior? If I were an innocent bystander at the meeting, and knew nothing of the Bible or the SOP, I wouldn't want anything to do with those men's religion if it made them behave like that!! What good is 100% truth and a loud, impolite manner that leaves people

saying, “Yuck, get out of here; I want nothing to do with you.” How scary to think that someone could justify being rude and mean because they think they have the truth! They can have ‘their truth’. I want nothing to do with it. The following quote from Ellen White is so powerful and so true. It hits my story to a tee.

“The rabbis counted their righteousness a passport to heaven; but Jesus declared it to be insufficient and unworthy. External ceremonies and a theoretical knowledge of truth constituted Pharisaical righteousness. The rabbis claimed to be holy through their own efforts in keeping the law; but their works had divorced righteousness from religion. While they were punctilious in ritual observances, their lives were immoral and debased. Their so-called righteousness could never enter the kingdom of heaven.

“The greatest deception of the human mind in Christ's day was that a mere assent to the truth constitutes righteousness. In all human experience a theoretical knowledge of the truth has been proved to be insufficient for the saving of the soul. It does not bring forth the fruits of righteousness. A jealous regard for what is termed theological truth often accompanies a hatred of genuine truth as made manifest in life. The darkest chapters of history are burdened with the record of crimes committed by bigoted religionists. **The Pharisees claimed to be children of Abraham, and boasted of their possession of the oracles of God; yet these advantages did not preserve them from selfishness, malignity, greed for gain, and the basest hypocrisy. They thought themselves the greatest religionists of the world, but their so-called orthodoxy led them to crucify the Lord of glory.**

The same danger still exists. Many take it for granted that they are Christians, simply because they subscribe to certain theological tenets. But they have not brought the truth into practical life. They have not believed and loved it, therefore they have not received the power and grace that come through sanctification of the truth. Men may profess faith in the truth; but if it does not make them sincere, kind, patient, forbearing, heavenly-minded, it is a curse to its possessors, and through their influence it is a curse to the world.” Desire of Ages, pg. 309

If what we believe doesn't make us sincere, kind, patient, forbearing, and heavenly minded, then the truth we profess is a waste to us! Why? Because we have gotten caught in the same snare that led the greatest religionists, the Pharisees to rigidly stand for doctrine and kill God at the same time! 100% truth without the sanctifying power of Christ leads one to Calvary with the cry, “Crucify Him, crucify Him.” Oh, we so much want to stand in defense of truth and righteousness and to fight the battles of the Lord. Before we can go forth as a soldier of the Lord, the Holy Spirit must have access to our minds, holding forth control as King of our beings!

“The greatest want of the world is the want of men—men who will not be bought or sold, **men who in their inmost souls are true and honest**, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name, **men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole**, men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall.” Education, pg. 57

From Edward “I like picking the best stories of faith and leave behind stories of those who criticize or talk ill of this good work. I sometimes get strange calls from the unknown who threaten me while others like Catholics say all sorts of words, but when I look at Calvary and behold Jesus, I immediately

fall short of His glory as I acknowledge every trial to be totally nothing as compared to what my Lord endured and went through. That is what drives me to keep you updated with stories as a result of the good work that you are doing in this neglected part of the world where the blood of Jesus was shed.

In the land of Kuito, West of Angola is a female nurse who has been working as a midwifery in a hospital. She has helped several women to have safe deliveries and because of her kindness to help, she was loved and known by many people. This nurse has been a good Catholic until one strange day when she was attending to a woman who was about to deliver. Like always, this nurse prepared everything to help that woman to deliver her expected child but something strange happened in the delivery room. There was a failure in the delivery process. For strange reasons, the babe had turned in opposite side so much that only a caesarian operation was the solution to that condition. That woman was also lacking enough blood. That nurse explained the matter to the woman and when the woman learned of the complication, she whispered to the nurse to call her husband in to pray. The Doctor and the other nurses tried to ignore the woman as they were trying to rush with time in order to save her. Her husband was outside the hospital waiting. He was called in and briefed about the situation. To the surprise of the Doctor and the nurse, the man refused to take her wife for an operation. He requested from the Doctor to be given a few seconds to pray to his God before they could take his wife to a theatre room. The Doctor refused and denied the man to pray but that good nurse persuaded the Doctor to give chance to the man to pray to his God. That Doctor looked at the nurse and left to attend to another emergency case that just came in. In the meantime, that man was given an opportunity to pray. He knelt down by the bedside where his wife was laying in pain and asked God to pardon him and have mercy on him and his wife. He prayed with tears rolling down his cheek with his right hand touching the stomach of his wife pleading for God's will and His will only. This couple P.B has been without a child for over 15 years and that was the first pregnancy they were pleased to expect a child. When this man ended his prayer and said Amen, his wife felt quick movements in her womb and few seconds, she delivered a sound babe boy. That nurse was thrilled and amazed at what she has witnessed. She quickly called in the Doctor to come and see the wonders of God. The Doctor was shocked and said that the man played some magical tricks because he could not believe how the babe was turned and delivered safely from a medical point of view more also, the woman did not have enough blood. At that point, the man told the Doctor and the nurses around that he was an Adventist with his wife. They live in the country and have been vegans for several years. Their faith in God grew much stronger when they started having lessons about faith in God through the Amazing Grace sermons by a good American brother. They were sharing those wonderful messages in the mainstream until their local pastor with some elders sent them out of the church. They left that church and settled in a quiet country home where a brother from Luena visited them with tracts and a few DVDs. Since that time, they had DVD's as their teachers until this day and in those DVD's was a wonderful presentation about Amazing Grace that grew their faith since then. It was not magic but God's will which he had asked. He was thankful to God in intervening in that situation by amazingly answering to his prayer in a way he never expected. The Doctor was quiet. He had nothing to comment on, the only request he made was about that Amazing Grace series. The testimony of that man moved the Doctor and that good nurse to inquire the kind of DVDs that changed this couple and to be vegans. The man promised the Doctor and the nurse to receive the DVDs but that nurse admired the faith of that man and informed them that she shall visit them at their home to learn more about what that American has taught in the Amazing Grace series. The next Sabbath, that good nurse found this faithful couple having a study from Revelation series chapter 17. That nurse was surprised to hear things her ears has never heard before. She

discovered that this couple had other DVDs which had important lessons. She begged to take them with her so that she could make copies to share with the Doc. and with other members at the hospital. Today, that nurse is an Adventist and visits this couple to worship with them. That Doctor has loved the Health series with the Daniel/Revelation and Amazing Grace series.”

From Kenya “Very great to inform you about the book ministry of Healing which turned to heal someone suffering from untreatable disease. We met with him 2 months ago at my mission to bro zakayo home and told me that he and his family needs prayers as he was told that he found to be HIV POSITIVE. He requested for prayers and advise. We visited his family some 6 miles away and we had prayers with them and I gave them the book Ministry of Healing. I heard my phone ringing yesterday and when I checked it was bro John who told me the whole story that when he read the book, was inspired, and follow the health laws kept Sabbath and attended the church. When they visited the doctor some 3 weeks later he and his wife and breastfeeding child was free and had no viruses any more. She asked ‘is this possible?’ They requested for baptism. Now I am planning to make another visit to them soon. May God's work continue to expand.”

From Malawi, “We are more proud to inform you that we have received the parcels and we have finished distributing them all to many converts in my area and God is doing his wonderful job here. Even village headmen, businesspersons and women, politicians, youths, office people and even more local people in my area are giving their lives to Jesus as their Lord and savior. We are very busy doing this job day and night as time is already gone and our is about to come any time from now. We are asking you to continue putting us in prayers so that my fellow women who works with me in the ministry, they should continue giving their time to the work of God so that we may have enough time to harvest more souls for the kingdom of God to continue growing up fast. We are planning to go back to Mulanje boarder where we went last time for evangelism activities, we would like to go there for a women meeting and we are going to do the same wonderful job, distributing your gospel materials and praying for the oppressed people, we do like your ministry because it looks both sides of life

From Florida, “I have been reading through "Three Angels over Africa." It has been quite a blessing to see how unstoppable God's Truth is in spite of the obstacles raised to hinder it. Take care.”

From Russia “Pastor Bill, you told how many people say evil words to you, words of hate. We want to tell you kind words. In addition, thank God for your ministry. Many people in Russian watch your sermons. We pray that God would give you many more strengths and many years of service." ...know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." (1 Corinthians 15:58)

From?????? “My name is Benjamin Sumicad. I just watched Pastor Hughes' video about SDA apostasy. I have only one question to ask for this issue keeps coming up in my thoughts every now and then. Should I stop sending my tithe to the SDA church organization altogether and instead send it to independent SDA ministries who are true to the Bible and our SOP teachings? I am conflicted about staying with the church for it is still the apple of God's eye and yet I see that some people, holding prominent positions of influence within the organization, have inserted false doctrines. When the shaking comes I feel God's true SDA followers will be cast out of the apostate body it is slowly becoming. I doubt that when the shaking comes God's true followers will take over the institutions we currently hold from the GC, universities, hospitals, etc. I feel I'm throwing God's Holy tithe into a money pit. Please give me some council to my trepidation. My desire is to support and branch or unit (churches) that remain true to our movement as they share and win souls base on Bible truths and the SOP. By the

promptings of the Holy Spirit, I now certainly know what to do with my tithes. God's work must be done in urgency. Time is short. Heaven must be filled to its capacity. Thank you for this series. I am no longer in conflict of what to do.”

From South Africa “There is a small group of Indians who have started studying, (4) just a few, they are going through the SOP books, they have 42 in their group now, including 3 ministers from a Pentecostal church, and their churches are now keeping Sabbath. They are amazed at what they are studying. Thank you for the book Revealing Revelation, I have been busy with it and can't put it down, very detailed. I call it Revealing Revelations on Revelation

Upcoming Speaking Appointments

September 21 Countryside Sabbath Fellowship Pastor Al and Kaye Fletcher 509 258-6992

October 12 Village Lighthouse Gayle Holback 740 360- 1105

October 31-Nov. 3 Sisterhood of Churches in Arkansas, David Arbour 870 582-3623

Blessings to you,

Pastor Bill