# RIGHTEOUSNESS SIMPLIFIED: EVERYTHING SWALLOWED UP

**CHRIST OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS: 7** 

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### REVIEW

- We have completed the 80-year overview of Adventist history, and have seen:
- The setting of the Movement is in the process of the final battle between the two principles.
- The final battle is the fully ripening witness of these two principles, giving versus taking.
- The Second Coming is not the first event in this process, as a preparation is needed first.



### REVIEW

- The 7 landmarks are "the truth for this time" (and are covered in Revelation 14).
- The Cleansing of the Sanctuary / Day of Atonement is the process of transition.
- The 4 messages bring the whole world to face the transition.
- The 2 messages are especially for the messengers, showing their need before God.
- The principle of selfishness causing unbelief has delayed the process.



# OVERVIEW



• See the 2 tables in the syllabus Reference section for more details.



#### **BACK TO BASICS**

- Marriage between two people is a demonstration of the oneness of unselfish love:
  - In the Godhead ("our image" Genesis 1:26)
  - Between God and His people ("His wife hath made herself ready" Revelation 19:7)
- Paul uses the last symbolism with the Corinthians:
  - "I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." (2 Corinthians 11:2, 3)



- = One principle only: unselfish love
- Eye single to God's glory (Matthew 6:22): reflecting only unselfishness
- This is the necessary preparation for heaven where there will be only the eternal principle functioning.
- The Lamb's wife has "made herself ready" means the selfsacrificing Bridegroom has finally a self-sacrificing bride.
- Cleansed from selfishness / self-exaltation = heart of the cleansing of the sanctuary



- The eternal principle of unselfish love is God's core character, for "God is love." (1 John 4:8).
- This is what the Bible calls "the truth" in contrast to "the lie" the devil speaks about God (John 8:44; compare Romans 1:25; 2 Thessalonians 2:8-13).



As we mature in that love, we are prepared for "the day of judgment"—prepared to stand, prepared to give the final witness. "We have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as He is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love Him because He first loved us." (1 John 4:16-19)



- Note what "the sealing" Revelation 7:1-3 refers to:
- "Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads—it is not any seal or mark that can be seen, but a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved—just as soon as God's people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come. Indeed, it has begun already." (1902). {Last Day Events, page 219.4} (emphasis supplied)



# ADVENT MOVEMENT IN JUDGMENT HOUR

- Review how the Advent Movement has been called to its mission before Jesus comes, to announce the process that ends the temporary principle of selfishness.
- The announcement includes a demonstration of unselfishness!
- Consider in summary how the messages, the landmarks, and the ministries were designed to appeal to and demonstrate the truth of God's unselfishness, and to warn against and reform from selfishness.



# MESSAGES AND TWO PRINCIPLES

Eternal Principle: Unselfishness	Temporary Principle: Selfishness
1831: <b>First Angel's Message:</b> hour of judgment; worship Creator	1844: <b>Second Angel's Message</b> : Babylon is fallen, is fallen; global, fornication
1844: <b>Midnight Cry</b> : wise virgins, oil in vessels, follow Bridegroom into wedding; but	Foolish virgins left out; 1844: <b>Third Angel's Message</b> : worship beast, image = no future; but
Remnant keep commandments of God & faith of Jesus; 1852: <b>Laodicean Message</b> : need Jesus	1886: <b>Loud Cry</b> (beginning); Babylon is fallen, is fallen; party, power, profit; glorify self; take life; but
Loud Cry: message has great authority, and the earth is lightened with glory of the truth	Come out of Babylon: powerful, final calling out of the lie



## LANDMARKS AND TWO PRINCIPLES

Landmark	Eternal Principle	Temporary Principle	
Second Coming	Jesus' return to rescue those sealed by the truth of unselfishness.	Those refusing to give up the lie of selfishness are left, put to sleep for 1000 years.	
Cleansing of the Sanctuary	Before Jesus returns, there is a preparation of following Jesus (and His blood) into the Most Holy Place.	Those who are unwilling to go there with Jesus reject the principle of the cross, like Judas, to the end.	
Three Angels' Messages	Those embracing the truth carry God's final messages to call all into the Most Holy Place before Babylon's physical fall.	Those who insist on living for self are pictured as "Babylon" with all its systems, including religious, political, and financial.	



### LANDMARKS AND TWO PRINCIPLES

Landmark	Eternal Principle	Temporary Principle		
Commandments of God	God's law still expresses the love that defines His character and how we are to reflect His image.	Those who are "lawless" reject living with unselfish love, and their selfishness abounds.		
Faith of Jesus	The gospel of the cross gives the only hope any sinner has, and enables them to live by faith (in God and in others) to the end, as Jesus.	Those who reject the gospel demonstrate the inability to trust anyone, including God, as the crop of selfishness ripens.		



### LANDMARKS AND TWO PRINCIPLES

Landmark	Eternal Principle	Temporary Principle	
Sabbath	The worship of the Creator God reveals those whose conviction is that He is alone is worthy.	Those who refuse God's sign of being Creator and Redeemer insist on worshiping the creature.	
Non-Immortality of the Wicked	The dependence the creature has on the Creator reveals that on-going life is dependent on union with Him, and they live forever.	Those who continue to embrace the devil's lie refuse to face the fact that the result of living for self is death, but they die forever.	



- How successful have the movement and particularly its ministries been in portraying the eternal principle of unselfish love? Or how contaminated have they been with selfishness?
- Consider these examples of counsel (emphasis supplied)--



General	1890: Men who are controlled by <b>selfish</b> desires should not remain connected with
(for any	our institutions, and their course of action had better be exposed, that every
ministry or	church of Seventh-day Adventists may know what principles govern these men.
institution)	(Manuscript Releases, Volume 1, page 197.2)



Meetings 1888: There are many Christless sermons preached, which are wholly destitute of the power and Spirit of God. The speaker may please the ear; but his words do not impress the soul. God will work through humble men, who love and fear him, and who will not ascribe the glory to themselves; but will give all the praise of their being a light in the world to the Source of all light. O, for less of **self**, and more of Jesus! It is human pride and self-confidence, mingled with human depravity, that has enfeebled the churches, until they are sickly, and ready to die. (*Review and Herald*, September 4, 1888 paragraph 7)



Publishing1857: I saw that there was a feeling among the hands in the Office, too selfish.There must be a sacrificing spirit with every one. Their interest must be in the<br/>paper, that everything be just right about it, that there be no errors in it. (Pamphlet<br/>16, To Brother J. N. Andrews and Sister H. N. Smith, page 30.2)



Organization 1910: Those who are standing in responsible positions should understand clearly that they are not rulers over their fellow-workers. Men in responsibility should be Christ-like in deportment. They need to be leaders in every reformatory movement for the purification of the church. They are to reveal that angels of God are constantly round about them, and that they are laboring under the influence of the Holy Spirit. Carefully are they to avoid everything that savors of a spirit of **selfishness** and self-esteem; for in meekness and humility of heart they are to be ensamples to the flock. (*North Pacific Union Gleaner*, April 6, 1910, paragraph 9) (See also September 1895 on the timeline, tying principles of administrative leadership with the righteousness of Christ.)



Health

1868: I was shown that there was a spirit in that Institution to get all the means they could. An avaricious spirit was manifested by Dr. Byington, also by Dr. Lay and the helpers; a **selfish** spirit, that brought the frown and curse of God upon those who possessed it.... There was not an unselfish devotion to the work, and laboring with an unselfish interest.... God wants this branch of the work to live and flourish, and all who act a part in it to possess a spirit of self-denial, a spirit entirely different from that heretofore exhibited, which has been to get just all that it was possible to get, and to advantage self, out of the Institute. (*Pamphlet 97,Testimony for the Church at Battle Creek*, page 48.1). (See also October 12, 1896 on timeline, tying the medical work with justification by faith.)



Education 1893: Impulse, impatience, pride, **selfishness**, and self-esteem, if cherished, will do a great amount of evil which may thrust the soul upon Satan's battle ground without wisdom to navigate his bark, but he will be in danger of being tossed about at the sport of Satan's temptations until shipwrecked. Every teacher has his own peculiar traits of character to watch lest Satan should use him as his agent to destroy souls, by his own unconsecrated traits of character. The only safety for teachers is to learn daily in the school of Christ, His meekness, His lowliness of heart, then self will be hid in Christ, and he will meekly wear the yoke of Christ, and consider that he is dealing with His heritage. (*Fundamentals of Christian Education*, page 277.1)



#### TIME SUMMARY

- 1830's and 1840's: the First Angel's Message to the Third Angel's Message, the discovery of all the Landmarks (but neglecting the Faith of Jesus), employing Meetings and Publishing
- 1850's: the expansion of the Publishing ministry under the Third Angel's Message, and a window of opportunity through the Laodicean Message for the Latter Rain and Loud Cry (but not experienced)
- 1860's: the beginning delay requiring two more ministries, Organization and Health



#### TIME SUMMARY

- 1870's: the ongoing delay necessitating yet one more ministry, *Education*, completing the ministries
- 1880's: the beginning of final message of the Loud Cry
- 1890's onward: the impact of the battle over the two principles on the Messages, the Landmarks, and the *Ministries* (further windows of opportunity; the best and the worst often side by side)



### SUMMARY

• Consider a final table--



Two Principles					
Unselfishness		Selfishness			
The Truth		The Lie			
Eternal		Temporary			
Messages	Landmarks			Ministries	
First Angel	Second Coming			Meetings	
Second Angel	Cleansing of the Sanctuary			Publishing	
Midnight Cry	Three Angels' Messages			Organization	
Third Angel	Commandments of God			Health	
Laodicean Message	Faith of Jesus			Education	
Loud Cry	Sabbath				
	Non-immortality of the wicked				
Block	Move (unbelief)			Contaminate	



# THOUGHT QUESTION

 Do you desire to reflect the simplicity of the unselfish love God has for you?

