

exercise. I told him the “miracle spring water” and the ideas behind them are a trap designed to guide our minds into thinking that there are other ways to access God that don’t involve the prescriptions outlined by God Himself. I read the following passage from the book written by Ellen G. White, The Great Controversy;

“Many endeavor to account for spiritual manifestations by attributing them wholly to fraud and sleight of hand on the part of the medium. But while it is true that the results of trickery have often been palmed off as genuine manifestations, there have been, also, marked exhibitions of supernatural power... Many...when brought face to face with manifestations which they cannot but regard as supernatural, they will be deceived, and will be led to accept them as the great power of God. These persons overlook the testimony of the Scriptures concerning the wonders wrought by Satan and his agents... The coming of the Lord is to be preceded by ‘the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness.’ 2 Thessalonians 2:9, 10... No mere impostures are here foretold. Men are deceived by the miracles which Satan’s agents have power to do, not which they pretend to do” (The Great Controversy, page 553.1-2).

As I said to him, the bottom line is this: Satan, who is the master liar and deceiver, not only has the power to deceive through false words and accusations, but also and just as importantly, he has the power to deceive through supernatural miracles and wonders. So on the one hand you have Satan using words to convince us that he does not exist, and on the other you have Satan using miracles to convince the world that there are many ways to access God (all of which lead back to Satan).

How is anyone supposed to see through the deception? Thankfully, we were created by a God who loves us greatly and will not lie to us. He is just and merciful, having given us a warning against deception, along with His plan for ending it. That plan is written down and available to anyone willing to read it. Pick up and read a Bible, and you will discover that we do, in fact, have access to God. That access comes only through one source, and that is His Son, Jesus Christ. ●●●

# UPLIFT

Farmington  
Seventh-day Adventist  
Church Newsletter

Copyright © 2021 Farmington Seventh-day Adventist Church. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible. Scripture quotations marked NKJV are taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Scripture quotations marked (NIV) are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com The “NIV” and “New International Version” are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.™

Church@FarmingtonAdventist.net  
www.FarmingtonAdventist.org

**Church Worship Service:**  
Saturdays at 10:45 a.m.  
Bible Study & Discussion  
Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.

PRSRST STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM Retail



SEVENTH-DAY  
ADVENTIST CHURCH  
404 N 2ND ST  
PO BOX 187  
FARMINGTON, WA 99128

LOCAL  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

...continued from page 6

her so He forgave her and told her to change her life.

There will come a day of judgment when those who have chosen to turn away from God will be destroyed. God does not want anyone to receive that judgment, yet it will happen. At the end, He does it in order to remove all evil, pain, and suffering from this world. This is no God who takes joy in vengeance, because He is the God of love, peace, mercy, patience, wisdom, compassion and forgiveness. He wants a personal relationship with all of us that He may give us peace and comfort.

*Pastor Robert Harvey*

## The God of Peace and Love

There are many who were raised to believe that God is wrathful; just waiting in anticipation to hand out judgment on the wicked. But this is not the God that I know and love. This is not the God that I find in scripture. I do not deny that there will be a judgment, but the Bible defines it this way, “...and bring to pass His act, His unusual act” (Isaiah 28:21 NKJV). God does not enjoy judgment, but out of necessity will do what has to be done to destroy evil.

Even so, Jesus taught that we should not fight back when personally attacked. It was commonly taught that when you are wronged you should seek vengeance by doing to the other person exactly as was done to you. This makes sense when making penalties for crimes, but no one should take the law into their own hands. Instead, we should forgive one another as Jesus instructed (see Matthew 5:38-42).

Christ not only taught peace but lived it, and at no time was this more obvious than when he was persecuted and crucified. He went peaceably to the cross and then while hanging on the cross He said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do” (Luke 23:34 NKJV). Even in His heart He harbored no anger to those who persecuted Him. He calls us to have the same attitude.

Jesus was once brought a woman caught in adultery. The law said that she should be put to death by stoning, but instead Jesus said, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her” (John 8:7 NIV). One by one they all left realizing that they were sinful themselves. Christ then forgave her and told her to “go, and sin no more” (John 8:11). Jesus could have agreed to her execution and according to the law He would have been justified, but instead He wanted to save

Continued on page 5...

# UPLIFT



Revelation 16:13-14

FARMINGTON  
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST  
CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2, No. 1, 2021

## Miracle Spring Water

●●● Daniel MacPherson

A friend once asked me if I had seen the late night commercial about miracle spring water. I had not, so I did a quick search on YouTube and there it was: Miracle Spring Water.

Instantly, you are presented with images of paradise beaches, mansion-sized houses, large boats, and super sports cars, along with the announcement that all of your dreams can come true.

Having problems with money, health, or relationships? No problem! This miracle spring water can cure it all. This is followed by public testimonies by women who claim this water has worked for them. Just pay handling and processing and they’ll send you your “free” bottle of it, but order now, and they’ll include a second bottle for free...just pay separate processing and handling.

After I watched the clip, I had to admit that it was quite the fantastic claim being made. Large sums of cash, miraculous healings, luck

turned around-- All you needed was this water to make it happen.

My friend went straight for the jugular. He said that the man selling this stuff is a straight-up charlatan, a snake oil salesman. I admitted that I had similar thoughts, but I also wanted to share with him an alternative view of what we were seeing in this advertisement.

I asked him to assume for a moment that all of the testimony offered in the ad was true. What if the women’s testimonies in the ad were true, in just the way they described? What if one of us were to get some of this “miracle spring water” and we were able to reproduce the results? Do not these women and would not we have to concede that there is something more at work than can be explained by science? Dare I say that the results would appear supernatural?

He concurred, but wanted to know what the point was to this mental

Continued on page 5...



## Snog on the Rocks®

Wes Wagner (farmer.ww@hotmail.com)

The first vehicle I owned actually came as a pair. I got a 1949 4 door Plymouth for \$40.00 and the seller threw in his 1940 Ford pickup for an extra \$10.00. I was only 12, but they were my cars even though I can't remember paying my dad for either of them. I think dad started shopping right after I ripped the muffler off our Rambler station wagon while screaming through a shallow ditch in the field. Bang!



And so, my first pickup came home. I loved my ugly pickup and named it "The Snog" as a tribute to its terrible looks, but we burned many donuts together and became a terror around our farm house.

One day after church, I decided to take it for a "gentle" drive through the lentil field behind our house while mom and dad napped. At the south end of the field there was an area we called the scab rock. It was too rocky to be farmed and grass had taken over what little soil there was. When I got to it, I decided to drive on into the grass. Everything was going great until there was a thud followed by a terrible rattling noise under the hood.

I killed the engine—Dad's law was to shut off anything that started making weird noises—and got out to inspect the damage. Antifreeze was streaming everywhere and I could see that the radiator had been pushed into the engine fan by the rock that was hiding in the grass where I was driving. I was devastated and started my mournful, half-mile walk back to the house.

Once the old people—they were all of 35 years old—finally woke up, I anxiously told them about my accident. I was glad Dad had napped! He still stunned me by simply shrugging and saying "We'll tow it home tomorrow." And that's what happened. I don't remember how it got repaired, but dad had the radiator back in my pickup in about two weeks. The really hard part was waiting.

I remember looking at my repaired radiator when it came back from the shop and how upset I was that it had lots of scars on it from the fan blades denting the soft copper. It would never look perfect again, but it's never leaked and my pain is no longer as intense. That's life and learning.

Albert Einstein once said, "We can't solve our problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them." He is right.

Take my pickup wreck for example. Notice how my thinking got me into trouble. First, I went out on my own. I didn't think I needed any help or direction. Secondly, I thought I could do anything I desired to do. And finally,

I was too confident. I couldn't imagine anything would go wrong right up to the very moment I struck the rock hidden in the grass.

Surprisingly, thinking the opposite of what got me into trouble in the first place did solve my troubles: First, I acknowledged my error and decided I needed help. Second, I realized I couldn't do anything I wanted to; like drive it back home. And finally, I heeded my father's advice and asked him for help and direction because there was no better place to go.

It is rather amazing that I did trust my dad's instruction and that it never occurred to me to ignore what he said. I never imagined that what he said was wrong. I also never thought I could fix those leaks with bubble gum, rubber grommets or stop leak.

And remember, I didn't pay for the Snog, my father did. And, when I broke it, he repaired it. I didn't pay for the repairs either. Everything was done for me except my decision to defer to my father's care and I did that because of my relationship with him. Isn't that how we should relate to God?

I couldn't repair the damage from hitting the rock. But my father did repair it and, even though he is gone, I am still **joyful** today some 50 years later that he did that for me. I can **rejoice** in my experience even though I endured deep sorrow, embarrassment and disappointment. I still marvel that my father had compassion for me and cared enough to cover my mistake.

Well, that event was no small discomfort for a 12-year-old boy, but life can be ridiculously tough in comparison to my leaky radiator. At some point, everybody hits a rock that threatens to blow up their life.

President John F Kennedy was being

interviewed about his world war II experiences. The reporter asked, "Can you tell me how you became such a hero?"

"I couldn't help it," Kennedy replied, "the Japanese sank my boat."

Can you relate? What is trying to sink your boat; a lost job, a new boss, a multitude of farming woes, aging parents, unexpected health problems, the death of a family member or friend, a difficult relationship, abuse, divorce, an addiction to any number of things, or how about Covid-19 and quarantining? You fill in the blank. More importantly, how does one survive the evil that threatens to sink our souls?

May I suggest it is by the keeping power of the redeemer. It is faith in our God; faith in His power to sustain us and if need be, to literally drain the ocean if that is what's best for us. It is by faith that the Holy Spirit will repair us and this "faith comes from listening to this Good News—the Good News about Christ."<sup>1</sup>



Listen to the Word. In any difficult time, you can "Let him [God] have all your worries and cares, for he is always thinking about you and watching everything that concerns you."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Romans 10:17 (TLB)

<sup>2</sup> 1Peter 5:7 (TLB)

○●○

## The Timelessness of Kindness

Randy's Ramblings by Randy Eastman



In late September of 1805 a small band of men stumbled out of the Bitterroot Mountains and onto the Weippe prairie. Short of rations, the group had been lost in the mountains for days. They were starving and exhausted. Led by Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, The Corp of Discovery, for the first time met the Nez Perce. Many of the starving men, given dried salmon and camas root by the Nez Perce, gorged themselves and became quite ill. Weak and now sick, The Corp camped there with the Nez Perce on the banks of the Clearwater River.

As the Nez Perce sat in council, the question was asked, what do we do with the white men? Many of the warriors wanted to kill the white men. The Corp carried an ample supply of firearms, ammunition, and trade goods. By killing the white men, the Nez Perce would have instantly become the wealthiest tribe in the entire region and in their condition the men of The Corp could have offered little resistance.

Then, from somewhere in the village a message came, it said, "Be kind to the white men, for they were kind to me". The message had been sent by an old Nez Perce woman, Watkuweis, which translated means "Returns from a Far Land". When Watkuweis was a girl, she had been captured by an enemy tribe. She had then been traded between tribes until at last she ended up in the possession of white people. They had treated her with kindness. They supplied her with a horse and food and thus she had been able to make the long journey back to her people. The council heeded the message of the old woman and decided to help The Corp. From henceforth the Nez Perce were always known as the tribe who had befriended the whites.

Lewis and Clark had no way of knowing that their lives and the lives of every man of The Corp of Discovery lie in the hands of an old woman. Even less could they have realized the impact of an act of kindness by people long dead and forgotten. Forgotten that is, by all but an old woman here on earth, and in the courts of Heaven above.

The Bible says "Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it" (Heb. 13:1-2 NIV). In Genesis chapter 18, Abraham runs out to offer hospitality to three strangers who were passing by. At that moment he had no idea who he was showing kindness to, but what a blessing to him it would turn out to be. In the beginning of the book that bears her name, Ruth shows kindness to the mother of her dead husband (Ruth 1:16-17). She could have never imagined how that kindness would eventually lead to the wonderful blessing it did. Proverbs 11: 17 (NIV) says "Those who are kind benefit themselves" and Jesus said "Give, and it will be given to you... For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you" (Luke 6:38 NIV).

Dear friend, the small kindnesses we show today may be all but forgotten and seemingly swallowed up in the passage of time. They may never bear fruit until later, maybe many years later. But Heaven never forgets, so "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9 NIV). ○●○