

Sanctuary Under Siege: The Omega Apostasy

“I was instructed that certain sentiments in Living Temple were the Alpha of a long list of deceptive theories.”

– Ellen White, Sermons and Talks, vol. 1, 343

“Be not deceived; many will depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. We have now before us the Alpha of this danger. The Omega will be of a most startling nature.”

– Ellen White, 1 SM, p. 197

1902

February 18, 1902 - Battle Creek
Sanitarium burns down

March 17, 1902 – Plans were laid to
rebuild sanitarium larger.
The book the “Living Temple” was written
to fund the sanitarium.

The 1902 GC Autumn council rejected
the book Living Temple from being
published by the church through the
Review.

Kellogg asks the Review to publish it as a
private order.

On December 30, 1902 – the Review
publishing house burns to the ground.

One witness: “There is something strange about your SDA fires, with the water poured on acting more like gasoline.”

Ellen White’s warning before the fire: “Unless there is a reformation, calamity will overtake the publishing house, and the world will know the reason.” – 9T, p. 96

“In the book Living Temple there is presented the Alpha of deadly heresies. The Omega will follow, and will be received by those who are not willing to heed the warning God has given.” - Ellen White, 1 SM, p. 200

“Living Temple contains the Alpha of these theories. I knew that the Omega would follow in a little while; and I trembled for our people.”

– Ellen White, 1 Selected Messages, p. 203

WC White issued a statement on the Omega Apostasy – (Catalogued by the White Estate QA-31B-7)

“It has always seemed to me that when the omega came it would bear two characteristics, somewhat similar to the alpha.

The movement designated as the alpha, embraced a deep laid plan on the part of the great adversary of truth to introduce false doctrine which struck at the very vitals of Christian belief. It also embraced a persistent and strongly sustained effort to wrest the leadership of this people from the General Conference Committee and place it in the hands of other men.”

1. It would contain some form of doctrinal heresy
2. It would constitute a political attempt to gain control of the church

“The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded.

Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced.

The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. - Ellen White, 1SM p. 204

a political attempt to gain control of
the church

“I have sent warnings to many physicians and ministers, and now I must warn all our churches to beware of men who are being sent out to do the work of spies in our conferences and churches... I cannot specify all now, but I saw to our churches, Beware of the representations coming from Battle Creek... Powerful agencies have been stealthily working there to sow the seeds of evil.” – Ellen White (Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 7, p. 30)

Deceptive guise and Rejection of
Spirit of Prophecy

“Letters have come to me with statements made by men who claimed to have asked Kellogg if he believes the testimonies that Sister White bears. He declares that he does, but he does not.”

– Ellen White, Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 7, 60.

"Very adroitly some have been working to make of no effect the Testimonies of warning and reproof that have stood the test for half a century. At the same time, they deny doing any such thing."

- Ellen White, Special Testimonies, Series B, No 7, p. 31.

"Before the development of recent events, the course that would be pursued by Dr. Kellogg and his associates was plainly outlined before me. He with others planned how they might gain the sympathies of the people. They would seek to give the impression that they believed all points of our faith and had confidence in the Testimonies. Thus many would be deceived, and would take their stand with those who had departed from the faith."

- Ellen G. White, Letter, 328, 1906.

"I have my work to do, to meet the misconceptions of those who suppose themselves able to say what is testimony from God and what is human production. If those who have done this work continue in this course, satanic agencies will choose for them....Those who have helped souls to feel at liberty to specify what is of God in the Testimonies and what are the uninspired words of Sister White, will find that they were helping the devil in his work of deception."

—Ellen White, Letter 28, 1906.

“The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God...There will be a hatred kindled against the testimonies that will be satanic.”

– Ellen White, 1 Selected Messages, p. 48

Attack on the Sanctuary Message

Turn of 20th Century
Sanctuary Detractors

- Dudley Canright
- JH Kellogg
- AF Ballenger

“In a representation which passed before me, I saw a certain work being done by medical missionary workers. Our ministering brethren were looking on, watching what was being done, but they did not seem to understand.

The foundation of our faith, which was established by so much prayer, such earnest searching of the Scriptures, was being taken down, pillar by pillar. Our faith was to have nothing to rest upon—the sanctuary was gone, the atonement was gone. I realized that something must be done.

The battle nearly killed me. I saw what was coming in, and I saw that our brethren were blind. They did not realize the danger. Our young people, especially, were in danger. They delighted in the beautiful representation—God in the flower, God in the leaf, God in the tree. But if God be in these things, why not worship them?

—Manuscript 46, May 18, 1904

EGW to Ballenger

“You are the one the Lord presented before me in Salamanca. Your theories, which have multitudes of fine threads, and need so many explanations, are not truth, and are not to be brought before the flock of God...Let us all cling to the established truth of the sanctuary.” – Ellen White, Manuscript 59, 1905

“This message, if accepted, would undermine the pillars of our faith... Those who try to bring in theories that would remove the pillars of our faith concerning the sanctuary...are working as blind men. They are seeking to bring in uncertainties, and to set the people of God adrift, without an anchor...Stop right where you are; for God has not given you this message to bear to the people.” Ellen White, Manuscript 62, 1905

Ellen White on Balenger's view
"These texts are true, but he has placed them where they do not belong. We have had to meet many men who have come with just such interpretations...unsettling the minds of many by their readiness to talk, and by their great array of texts, which they have misapplied to suit their own ideas." Ellen White, Manuscript 145, 1905

"The enemy will bring in false theories, such as doctrine that there is no sanctuary. This is one of the points on which there will be a departing from the faith."

– Ellen White, Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, May 25, 1905

Mysticism

“One and another come to me, asking me to explain the positions taken in Living Temple. They are inexplicable...error is made to appear as truth...in so pleasing a way that unless care is taken, many will be misled. We need not the mysticism that is in this book.” – Ellen White, Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 2, pp. 51-52

Ellen White's warning in 1903 in regards Kellogg Deception:

“The track of truth lies close beside the track of error, and both tracks may seem to be one to minds which are not worked by the Holy Spirit.”

– Ellen White, Letter 211, 1903

“We need not the mysticism that is in this book (The Living Temple). Those who entertain these sophistries will soon find themselves in a position where the enemy can talk with them, and lead them away from God.” – Ellen White, Review and Herald, 1903

“We normally think of mysticism as associated with eastern religions, but its scope is much wider. It has turned up even in some professed Christian faiths, masquerading as Christian meditation.” – D’Augbigne, History of the Reformation, p. 103-105 (1846)

Mysticism and the Catholicism

Henry Nouwen, Catholic professor, writer and theologian in the foreword to a book on Hindu Christian spirituality:

“The author shows a wonderful openness to the gifts of Buddhism, Hinduism, and Muslim religion. He discovers their great wisdom for spiritual life of the Christian...Ryan (the author) went to India to learn from spiritual traditions other than his own. He brought home many treasures and offers them to us in the book.”

“Many Christians who take their prayer life seriously have been greatly helped by Yoga, Zen, TM and similar practices, especially where they have been initiated by reliable teachers and have a solidly developed Christian faith to find their inner form and meaning to the resulting experiences.”

– Thomas Keating and Basil Pennington (Two Catholic Monks), *Finding Grace at the Center*

“Asia, Zen, Islam, etc., all these things come together in my life. It would be madness for me to attempt to create a monastic life for myself by excluding all these.”

– Thomas Merton, Catholic Trappist Monk
(author of more than 70 books)

“I believe that by openness to Buddhism, to Hinduism, and to these great Asian (mystical) traditions, we stand a wonderful chance of learning more about the potentiality of our own Christian traditions.”

- Thomas Merton, Catholic Trappist Monk
(author of more than 70 books)

Mysticism and the Jesuits

"The Society of Jesus was established by the papacy in 1540 as a very special 'fighting unit' at the total and exclusive disposal of the Roman Pope. From their beginnings, the Jesuits were conceived in a military mode."

Malachi Martin, *The Jesuits*, p. 41

“At this time, the order of the Jesuits was created, the most cruel, unscrupulous, and powerful of all the champions of popery. Cut off from every earthly tie and human interest, dead to the claims of natural affection, reason and conscience wholly silenced... There was no crime too great for them to commit, no deception too base for them to practice, no disguise too difficult for them to assume. Vowed to perpetual poverty and humility, it was their studied aim to secure wealth and power, to be devoted to the overthrow of Protestantism, and the re-establishment of the papal supremacy...

– Ellen White, Great Controversy, 234

When appearing as members of their order, they wore a garb of sanctity, visiting prisons and hospitals, ministering to the sick and the poor, professing to have renounced the world, and bearing the sacred name of Jesus, who went about doing good. But under this blameless exterior the most criminal and deadly purposes were concealed...

– Ellen White, Great Controversy, 234

It was a fundamental principle of the order that the end justifies the means. By this code, lying, theft, perjury, assassination, were not only pardonable but commendable, when they served the interests of the church. Under various disguises the Jesuits worked their way into offices of State, climbing up to be the counselors of kings, and shaping the policy of nations.”

– Ellen White, *Great Controversy*, 234

“There was no continent the Jesuits did not reach; no known language they did not speak and study, or, in scores of cases, develop; no culture they did not penetrate no branch of learning and science they did not explore; no work in humanism, in the arts, in popular education they did not undertake and do better than anyone else.”

- Malachi Martin, *The Jesuits*, p. 27

“Needed is a modern weapon to fight this totally new warfare. Give us...a new charter like no other charter given before...Make us independent of all local authorities and directly responsible to Your Holiness...we will go anywhere at anytime at any cost to life and comfort in order to do anything...” – Malachi Martin, The Jesuits

Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuit order, stated in regards to the training of the Jesuits:

“Imbue into him spiritual forces which he would find very difficult to eliminate later”.

“Priests who joined this group underwent strenuous initiation. For weeks at a time they maintained absolute silence. Under the skilled supervision of a director they practiced a form of *mystical meditation*, until each them emerged from that weeks-long regimen as a spiritual fighter completely won over to warfare...utterly obedient servant of the pope.”

– Malachi Martin, *The Jesuits*

Loyola’s Spiritual Exercises are one of the opening steps in becoming a Jesuit. For prolonged periods, often thirty days, the initiate is required to maintain complete silence. He spends hours in mystical meditation, under the control of a director, and within a month his mind has begun to accept the concept of absolute submission.

Mysticism and Protestants

“I learned about this way of having a born-again experience from reading the Catholic mystics, especially *The Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius Loyola*...Like most Catholic mystics, he developed an intense desire to experience a ‘oneness’ with God.”
Tony Campolo, *Letters to a Young Evangelical*, p. 30

Richard Foster, Quaker Theologian

- Best known for his book
Celebration of Discipline - first
published in 1978, sold more than
two and a half million copies

Christianity Today lauded Celebration
of Discipline as one of the ten best
books of the twentieth century

In Foster's book, "Prayer: Finding
the Heart's True Home", Foster
commends the Spiritual Exercises of
Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the
Jesuit Order, as "a school of prayer
for all of us" (p. 59).

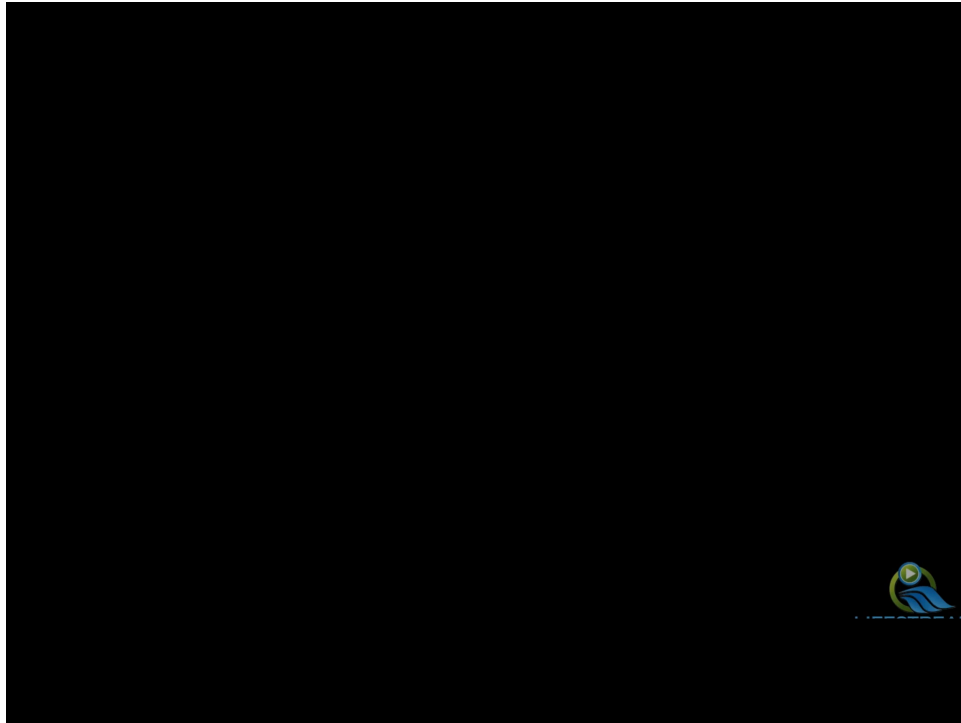
“In your imagination allow your spiritual body, shining with light, to rise out of your physical body. Look back so that you can see yourself lying in the grass and reassure your body that you will return momentarily. Imagine your spiritual self, alive and vibrant, rising up through the clouds and into the stratosphere. . . Listen quietly, anticipating the unanticipated. Note carefully any instruction given.” Richard Foster, Celebration of Discipline, p. 27-28 (1978 Edition)

“Let’s play a little game. Since we know that Jesus is always with us, let’s imagine that he is sitting over in the chair across from us. He is waiting patiently for us to centre our attention on him. When we see him, we start thinking more about His love than how sick Julie is. He smiles, gets up, and comes over to us. Then, let’s put both our hands on Julie and when we do, Jesus will put His hands on top of ours. We’ll watch the light from Jesus flow into your little sister and make her well.” Richard Foster, Celebration of Discipline, p. 173

Leonard Sweet, who was listed as one of the top 10 influential Christians of 2010, states:

“Mysticism, once cast to the sidelines of Christian tradition is now situated in postmodernist culture near the center...In the words of the greatest theologians of the twentieth century, Jesuit philosopher of religion/dogmatist Karl Rahner, ‘The Christian of tomorrow will be a mystic, one who has experienced something, or he will be nothing.’” – Leonard Sweet, *Quantum Spirituality*, p. 10

Testimony of a former mystic who converted to Adventism. Clip from video streamed on the Adventist Review TV website:



Revelation 16:13-14

“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon (Satan), out of the mouth of the beast (Papacy), and out of the mouth of the false prophet (Apostate Protestantism). For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to *gather* them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.”

“Why I am a missional, evangelical, post/protestant, liberal/conservative, mystical/poetic, biblical, charismatic/contemplative, fundamentalist/Calvinist, Anabaptist/Anglican, Methodist, Catholic, green, incarnational, depressed- yet hopeful, emergent, unfinished Christian. A confession and manifesto from a senior leader in the emerging church movement.” – Brian McLaren’s book cover, *Generous Orthodoxy*

Emergent Church Leader Brian McLaren

“Then I must add, though, that I don’t believe making disciples must equal making adherents to the Christian religion. It may be advisable in many (not all!) circumstances to help people become followers of Jesus and remain within their Buddhist, Hindu, or Jewish contexts.” – Brian McLaren, *A Generous Orthodoxy*, p. 260

“The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power (the Papacy)

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...

- Ellen White, Great Controversy, p. 588

“A theology of mysticism provides some hope for common ground between Christianity and Islam. Both religions have within their histories examples of ecstatic-union with God.” – Tony Campolo, Speaking My Mind, p. 149-150

Ted Wilson's Sabbath sermon given at
GC on July 2010

Don't reach out to movements or megachurch centers outside the Seventh-day Adventist Church which promise you spiritual success based on faulty theology. Stay away from non-biblical spiritual disciplines or methods of spiritual formation that are rooted in mysticism such as contemplative prayer, centering prayer, and the emerging church movement in which they are promoted.

Look within the Seventh-day Adventist Church to humble pastors, evangelists, Biblical scholars, leaders, and departmental directors who can provide evangelistic methods and programs that are based on solid Biblical principles and the Great Controversy theme.

Contemplative prayer
Lectio divina – repeating a word or sound
over and over again until it becomes
meaningless and the mind shuts down
Labyrinth walking
Focusing on one's breath
Visualized mental image
Emptying the mind in search of spiritual
enlightenment

“The quiet repetition of a single word can
help us to descend with the mind into the
heart...This way of simple prayer...opens
us to God's active presence.”

– Henry Nouwen, *The Way of the Heart*

“All of creation is made alive with the holy breath of the Creator. Breathing Yahweh breath is breathing the holy breath of life. Yahweh...our breathing and heartbeat are in tune with the name. Breath in ‘Yah’ and breathe out ‘weh’...I guarantee you will relax.” – Leonard Sweet, *I am a Follower*, 233

Don't Read Questionable Literature

“Suffer not yourselves to open the lids of a book that is questionable. There is a hellish fascination in the literature of Satan. It is the powerful battery by which he tears down a simple religious faith. Never feel that you are strong enough to read infidel books; for they contain a poison like that of asps. They can do you no good, and will assuredly do you harm. In reading them, you are inhaling the miasmas of hell.”

– Ellen White, *Fundamentals of Education*, p. 93

“Why should we wade through the mass of error contained in the works of pagans and infidels, for the sake of a few intellectual truths, when all truth is at our command? There is a reason why these men sometimes display remarkable wisdom. Satan himself was educated in the heavenly courts, and he has a knowledge of good as well as of evil. He mingles the precious with the vile, and this is what gives him power to deceive.” – Ellen White, 8T, 306

False Revival

“The things you have described . . . the Lord has shown me would take place just before the close of probation. Every uncouth thing will be demonstrated. There will be shouting, with drums, music, and dancing. The senses of rational beings will become so confused that they cannot be trusted to make right decisions. And this is called the moving of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit never reveals itself in such methods, in such a bedlam of noise. This is an invention of Satan to cover up his ingenious methods for making of none effect the pure, sincere, elevating, ennobling, sanctifying truth for this time. . . .

A bedlam of noise shocks the senses and perverts that which if conducted aright might be a blessing. The powers of Satanic agencies blend with the din and noise, to have a carnival, and this is termed the Holy Spirit's working. . . . Those participating in the supposed revival receive impressions which lead them adrift. They cannot tell what they formerly knew regarding Bible principles. No encouragement should be given to this kind of worship.”
– Ellen White, Marantha, p. 235

Our Response

Ellen White's plea to Dr. Kellogg

“And you may depend on this: a mother could not hold more firmly to a child that she dearly loves than I shall hold to you...I pray for you constantly, in prayer and at family worship. Sometimes I am awakened in the night, and rising I walk in the room, praying, ‘O Lord, hold Dr. Kellogg fast. Do not let him go.’” – Ellen White, Battle Creek Letters, p. 64

“I love Dr. Kellogg. He may be lost. I hope and pray not. If he is lost, let him go with you brethren standing by with your hands on his shoulders trying to save him.” - Ellen White

“Now is the time for God's people to show themselves true to principle. When the religion of Christ is most held in contempt, when His law is most despised, then should our zeal be the warmest and our courage and firmness the most unflinching. To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few—this will be our test. At this time we must gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their cowardice, and loyalty from their treason.” - Ellen White 5T 136.2

“The church,” Ellen White wrote, “may appear as about to fall, but it does not fall.”

Ellen G. White, Selected Messages (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1958, 1980), book 2, p. 380.

“Satan will cast all the reproach possible upon the chosen ones whom he cannot deceive and delude with his satanic inventions and falsehoods. But will Christ, our representative and head, close His heart, or withdraw His hand, or falsify His promise? No; never, never.”

Ellen G. White, Maranatha (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1976), p. 203.

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