



BIBLE EXPLORATIONS
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Bible Explorations Newsletter

June-July 2025 Issue

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Time is passing by and the end of this earth is coming upon us. Will you be one happy to see the King in the clouds or one that will run to the rocks!? I pray we are ALL looking up and excited for what is soon coming. Our Father sent His Precious Son to die for ALL of us. Let's continue to share these messages with the world! I feel it is our job. Our Father and His Son want us to be the light in the dark world...share, share, share!

Bible Explorations will soon be spreading the message even more. Please keep this ministry in prayer that God's will be done in all we do! This newsletter is June and July as we are going to be looking for a place we can have camps, study and workshops, gardening, helping others and teaching and learning! Lots of exciting things on the horizon and we will keep you updated. We need to let everyone know not to be afraid. Not to worry! He is with us and He will save us if we give ourselves completely to Him. Trust Him!

Elder John VanDenburgh once said: We believe this is more than a private ministry reaching the world with present truth; it's a weapon in the hands of Yahweh to equip pastors, businessmen and women, warriors of today like Joseph, Moses, and Paul, and people who want to grow further into the depths of God's Word.

A DAILY EXPERIENCE IN CONVERSION

For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

[2 Corinthians 4:16.](#)



Genuine conversion is needed, not once in years, but daily. This conversion brings man into a new relation with God. Old things, his natural passions and hereditary and cultivated tendencies to wrong, pass away, and he is renewed and sanctified. But this work must be continual; for as long as Satan exists, he will make an effort to carry on his work. He who strives to serve God will encounter a strong undercurrent of wrong. His heart needs to be barricaded by constant watchfulness and prayer, or else the embankment will give way; and like a millstream, the undercurrent of wrong will sweep away the safeguard. No renewed heart can be kept in a condition of sweetness without the daily application of the salt of the Word. Divine grace must be received daily, or no man will stay converted....

Test and trial will come to every soul that loves God. The Lord does not work a miracle to prevent this ordeal of trial, to shield His people from the temptations of the enemy.... Characters are to be developed that will decide the fitness of the human family for the heavenly home—characters that will stand through the pressure of unfavorable circumstances in private and public life, and that will, under the severest temptations, through the grace of God grow brave and true, be firm as a rock to principle, and come forth from the fiery ordeal, of more value than the golden wedge of Ophir. God will endorse, with His own superscription, as His elect, those who possess such characters....

The Lord accepts no half-hearted service. He demands the whole man. Religion is to be brought into every phase of life, carried into labor of every kind. The whole being is to be under God's control. We must not think that we can take supervision of our own thoughts. They must be brought into captivity to Christ. Self cannot manage self; it is not sufficient for the work.... God alone can make and keep us loyal. (*Ellen G. White, The Review & Herald, Sept 14, 1897*)

CONVOCATIONS

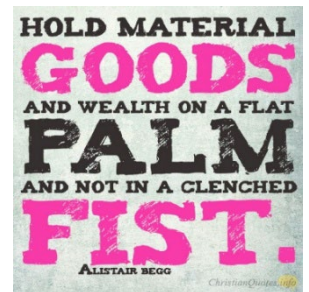
Ellen G. White

God gave direction to the Israelites to assemble before Him at set periods, in the place which He should choose, and observe special days wherein no unnecessary work was to be done, but the time was to be devoted to a consideration of the blessings which He had bestowed upon them. At these special seasons they were to bring gifts, freewill offerings, and thank offerings unto the Lord, according as He had blessed them. The manservant and maidservant, the stranger, the fatherless and widow, were directed to rejoice that God had by His own wonderful power brought them from servile bondage to the enjoyment of freedom. And they were commanded not to appear before the Lord empty. They were to bring tokens of their gratitude to God for His continual mercies and blessings bestowed upon them. These offerings were varied according to the estimate which the donors placed upon the blessings they were privileged to enjoy. Thus the characters of the people were plainly developed. Those who placed a high value upon the blessings which God bestowed upon them brought

offerings in accordance with their appreciation of these blessings. Those whose moral powers were stupefied and benumbed by selfishness and idolatrous love of the favors received, rather than inspired by fervent love for their bountiful Benefactor, brought meager offerings. Thus their hearts were revealed. Besides these special religious feast days of gladness and rejoicing, the yearly Passover was to be commemorated by the Jewish nation. The Lord covenanted that if they were faithful in the observance of His requirements, He would bless them in all their increase and in all the work of their hands.

God requires no less of His people in these last days, in sacrifices and offerings, than He did of the Jewish nation. Those whom He has blessed with a competency, and even the widow and the fatherless, should not be unmindful of His blessings. Especially should those whom God has prospered render to Him the things that are His. They should appear before Him with a spirit of self-sacrifice and bring their offerings in accordance with the blessings which He has bestowed upon them. But many whom God prospers manifest base ingratitude to Him. If His blessings rest upon them, and He increases their substance, they make these bounties as cords to bind them to the love of their possessions; they allow worldly business to take possession of their affections and their entire being, and neglect devotion and religious privileges. They cannot afford to leave their business cares and come before God even once a year. They turn the blessings of God into a curse. They serve their own temporal interests to the neglect of God's requirements.

Men who possess thousands remain at home year after year, engrossed in their worldly cares and interests, and feeling that they cannot afford to make the small sacrifice of attending the yearly gatherings to worship God. He has blessed them in basket and in store, and surrounded them with His benefits on the right hand and on the left, yet they withhold from Him the small offerings He has required of them. They love to serve themselves. Their souls will be like the unrefreshed



desert without the dew or rain of heaven. The Lord has brought to them the precious blessing of His grace. He has delivered them from the slavery of sin and the bondage of error, and has opened to their darkened understandings the glorious light of present truth. And shall these evidences of God's love and mercy call forth no gratitude in return? Will those who profess to believe that the end of all things is at hand be blind to their own spiritual interest and live for this world and this life alone? Do they expect that their eternal interest will take care of itself? Spiritual strength will not come without an effort on their part.

Many who profess to be looking for the appearing of our Lord are anxious, burdened seekers for worldly gain. They are blind to their eternal interest. They labor for that which satisfieth not. They spend their money for that which is not bread. They strive to content themselves with the treasures they have laid up on the earth, which must perish. And they neglect the preparation for eternity, which should be the first and only real work of life.

Let all who possibly can, attend these yearly gatherings. All should feel that God requires this of them. If they do not avail themselves of the privileges which He has provided that they may become strong in Him and in the power of His grace, they will grow weaker and weaker, and have less and less desire to consecrate all to God. Come, brethren and sisters, to these sacred convocation meetings, to find Jesus. He will come up to the feast. He will be present, and He will do for you that which you most need to have done. Your farms should not be considered of greater value than the higher interests of the soul. All the treasures which you possess, be they ever so valuable, would not be rich enough to buy you peace and hope, which would be infinite gain, if it cost you all you have and the toils and sufferings of a lifetime. A strong, clear sense of eternal things, and a heart willing to yield all to Christ, are blessings of more value than all the riches and pleasures and glories of this world.

These camp meetings are of importance. They cost something. The servants of God are wearing out their lives to help the people, while many of them appear as if they did not want help. For fear of losing a little

of this world's gain, some let these precious privileges come and go as though they were of but little importance. Let all who profess to believe the truth respect every privilege that God offers them to obtain clearer views of His truth, of His requirements, and of the necessary preparation for His coming. A calm, cheerful, obedient trust in God is what He requires.



You need not weary yourselves with busy anxieties and needless cares. Work on for the day, faithfully doing the work which God's providence assigns you, and He will have a care for you. Jesus will deepen and widen your blessings. You must make efforts if you have salvation at last. Come to these meetings prepared to work. Leave your home cares, and come to find Jesus, and He will be found of you. Come with your offerings as God has blessed you. Show your gratitude to your Creator, the Giver of all your benefits, by a freewill offering.

Let none who are able come empty-handed. "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, Volume 2, pp. 2T 573.1-576.2.

WE MUST STAY FOCUSED **Elder John VanDenburgh/Ellen White**

The real issue will be the laws of man versus the laws of God. Read very closely the following: "The time is coming when we cannot sell at any price. The decree will soon go forth prohibiting man to buy or sell of any man save him that hath the mark of the beast. We came near having this realized in California a short time since; but this was only the threatening of the blowing of the four winds. As yet they are held by the four angels. We are not just ready. There is a work yet to be done, and then the angels will be bidden to let go, and the four winds will blow upon the earth. That will be a decisive time for God's children, a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation. Now is our opportunity to work. *ST 712*. Decisive time? Perhaps for the sealing of that special group we all want to be a part of.

THE WORLD IS WATCHING

God's commandment-keeping people are described by the prophet as "men wondered at." We are to be a people distinct from the world. The eyes of the world are upon us, and we are observed by many of whom we have no knowledge. There are those who know something of the doctrines we claim to believe, and they are noting the effect of our faith upon our characters. They are waiting to see what kind of influence we exert, and how we carry ourselves before a faithless world. The angels of heaven are looking upon us. "We are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men" (1 Corinthians 4:9).—The Review and Herald, June 18, 1889.

THE DISCIPLINE OF TRIAL

Elder John VanDenburgh/Ellen G. White

To live such a life, to exert such an influence, costs at every step, effort, self-sacrifice, discipline. It is because they don't understand this that many are so easily discouraged in the Christian life. Many who sincerely consecrate their lives themselves, as never before, confronted by obstacles and beset by trials and perplexities. They pray for Christ-likeness of character, for fitness for the Lord's work, and they are placed in circumstances that seem to call forth all the evil of their nature. Faults are revealed, of which they did not even suspect their existence. Like Israel of old, they question, "If God is leading us why do all these things come upon us?" It is because God is leading them that these things come upon them. Trials and obstacles are the Lord's chosen methods of discipline and His appointed conditions of success. . . . In His providence He brings these persons into different positions and varied circumstances that they may discover in their character the effects which have been concealed from their own knowledge. He gives them opportunity to correct these defects, and to fit themselves for His service. MH 470,471.

Continuing on with the same ideology:

We do not always consider that the sanctification we so earnestly desire and for which we pray earnestly is brought about through the truth and, by the providence of God, in a manner we least expect. When we look for joy, behold there is sorrow. When

we expect peace, we frequently have distrust and doubt, because we find ourselves plunged into trials we cannot avoid. In these trials we are having the answers to our prayers. In order for us to be purified, the fire of affliction must kindle upon us and our will must be brought into conformity to the will of God. God sees it best to put us under a course of discipline which is essential for us before we are fit for the blessing we crave. Perfection of character can be attained only through labor, conflict, and self-denial.

He brings us into positions which are the most trying to reveal to us what is in hearts. To further the development of Christian graces He will place us in circumstances which will demand increased exertion on our part to keep our faith in lively exercise. **OHC 313**

These principles seen above are both encouraging and discouraging. Discouraging because no one likes trials, especially difficult trials, myself included.

Encouraging because it gives a reason to maintain our faith no matter what the trial and then to walk closer with our Saviour.

Of course every trial does not come from the same source, but many of them do and I would pray my way through them, handle them with His grace and become all He wants me to be.

A MESSAGE FOR US



We are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. Prophecies are fulfilling. Strange and eventful history is being recorded in the books of heaven--events which it was declared should shortly precede the great day of God. Everything in the world is in an unsettled state. The nations are angry, and great preparations for war are being made. Nation is plotting against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. The great day of God is hastening greatly. But although the nations are mustering their forces for war and bloodshed, the command to the angels is still in force, that they hold the four winds until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads—*Selected Messages, book 1, pp. 221, 222.*

Are you receiving the seal of God in your forehead? What is going on that helps you to think so? Are you preparing for the “overwhelming surprise?” Are you satisfied that it is coming your way?

Clue: “Christians should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an overwhelming surprise, and this preparation they should make by diligently studying the Word of God and striving to conform their lives to its precepts.” Prophets and Kings, page 626 (c. 1914).

Please help us continue to spread the Word of God to the world. Those who would be faithful must hear His call.

PILLARS OF OUR FAITH **Ellen G. White**

[Written on the train en route to Lynn, Massachusetts, December, 1890. Appeared in Notebook Leaflets, The Church, No. 4.]

During the past fifty years of my life, I have had precious opportunities to obtain an experience. I have had an experience in the first, second, and third angels' messages. The angels are represented as flying in the midst of heaven, proclaiming to the world a message of warning, and having a direct bearing upon the people living in the last days of this earth's history. No one hears the voice of these angels, for they are a symbol to represent the people of God who are working in harmony with the universe of heaven. Men and women, enlightened by the Spirit of God and sanctified through the truth, proclaim the three messages in their order.

I have acted a part in this solemn work. Nearly all my Christian experience is interwoven with it. There are those now living who have an experience similar to my own. They have recognized the truth unfolding for this time; they have kept in step with the great Leader, the Captain of the Lord's host.

In the proclamation of the messages, every specification of prophecy has been fulfilled. Those who were privileged to act a part in proclaiming these messages have gained an experience which is of the highest value to them; and now when we are amid the perils of these last days, when voices will be heard on

every side saying, “Here is Christ,” “Here is truth,” while the burden of many is to unsettle the foundation of our faith which has led us from the churches and from the world to stand as a peculiar people in the world, like John our testimony will be borne:

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; ... that which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us” (1 John 1:1-3).

I testify the things which I have seen, the things which I have heard, the things which my hands have handled of the Word of life. And this testimony I know to be of the Father and the Son. We have seen and do testify that the power of the Holy Ghost has accompanied the presentation of the truth, warning with pen and voice, and giving the messages in their order. To deny this work would be to deny the Holy Ghost, and would place us in that company who have departed from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits.

Confidence Assailed

The enemy will set everything in operation to uproot the confidence of the believers in the pillars of our faith in the messages of the past, which have placed us upon the elevated platform of eternal truth, and which have established and given character to the work. The Lord God of Israel has led out His people, unfolding to them truth of heavenly origin. His voice has been heard, and is still heard, saying, “Go forward from strength to strength, from grace to grace, from glory to glory.” The work is strengthening and broadening, for the Lord God of Israel is the defense of His people.



Those who have a hold of the truth theoretically, with their finger tips as it were, who have not brought its principles into the inner sanctuary of the soul, but have kept the vital truth in the outer court, will see nothing sacred in the past history of this people which has made them what they are, and has established

them as earnest, determined, missionary workers in the world.

The truth for this time is precious, but those whose hearts have not been broken by falling on the rock Christ Jesus, will not see and understand what is truth. They will accept that which pleases their ideas, and will begin to manufacture another foundation than that which is laid. They will flatter their own vanity and esteem, thinking that they are capable of removing the pillars of our faith, and replacing them with pillars they have devised.

This will continue to be as long as time shall last. Anyone who has been a close student of the Bible will see and understand the solemn position of those who are living in the closing scenes of this earth's history. They will feel their own inefficiency and weakness, and will make it their first business to have not merely a form of Godliness, but a vital connection with God. They will not dare to rest until Christ is formed within, the hope of glory. Self will die; pride will be expelled from the soul, and they will have the meekness and gentleness of Christ. *2SM 387.1-389.1 Manuscript 28, 1890.*



VISIONS IN STRANGE PLACES Stories of my grandmother (E.G. White)

Soon after Ellen Harmon received her call to special service, she started late one afternoon in a small sailboat with some of her young friends to visit a family on an island in the bay near Fairhaven, Massachusetts. Suddenly a storm came up, and rain fell in torrents. Waves swept over the deck, drenching the passengers. Lightning flashed, and howling winds ripped the sails.

The small craft was tossed about like a cork. It would rise on the crest of a wave, then slide down into the trench, nearly capsizing. Mr. Gurney, who was managing the boat, tried to cast anchor, but the anchor dragged. The rudder broke loose and was swept away. Everyone aboard realized the danger of being dashed on the rocks along the island shore. Darkness fell.

As Ellen knelt on the deck floor to ask God for protection, the scene of terror faded from her sight. She saw standing by her side the angel who had appeared to her several times in vision. Never did she forget his words spoken to her that night: "Sooner would every drop of water in the ocean be dried up than for you to perish, for your work has only begun."

Ellen at once called out to her companions, "You need not be afraid! Angels are all around us. We are perfectly safe. The storm cannot hurt us!" The frail craft continued to rise and fall on the waves, but the angel's words had dispelled fear from every heart. Soon a joyful cry came from the captain, "The anchor holds!" Then through the darkness they saw a glimmer of light from one of the two houses on the island. The family had retired, but one of the children had heard Mr. Gurney's cry for help. Soon the father came out in a rowboat and took all the passengers ashore.

They were unacquainted with the family they had reached, and in the morning they went on to the other home. Thus two homes instead of one were blessed by their visit.

At one time Captain Bates was riding with James and Ellen White and another Adventist minister in a two-seated market wagon behind a partly broken colt. Grandpa White was expert at the art of breaking and managing horses. He was confident that he could control the young horse, although it had the reputation of being vicious. Shortly before, this horse had caused a serious accident.

While Grandpa White held a taut rein and gave all his attention to driving, Mrs. White talked with their companions about a Bible subject. Suddenly she was taken into vision. The moment she gave the shout of "Glory," the horse stopped, dropped his head, and stood perfectly still. Mrs. White rose from her seat and, looking upward, stepped over the front of the wagon down to the shafts and the wagon step, and to the ground. While lowering herself, she laid her hand firmly on the colt's haunches.

In alarm Captain Bates called out, "That colt will kick her to death!"

“The Lord has the colt in charge now; I don’t wish to interfere,” James White replied. Under ordinary conditions the colt would have kicked furiously the instant anything touched his flanks. But now he stood as gentle as an old horse. He continued to stand quietly while Mrs. White climbed a six-foot embankment to a grassy spot by the roadside. There she walked back and forth, describing aloud the beauties of the new earth.

Then, with her eyes still directed upward and paying no attention to where she was stepping, she came safely down the bank, mounted the wagon step, laid her hand on the colt’s rump, and lifted herself into the wagon again. As soon as she sat down, she came out of vision. At that instant the horse, without any indication from the driver, started up and went quietly on his way.

While Mrs. White was out of the wagon, her husband tested the horse to prove, if possible, to the other ministers that it was being controlled by a supernatural power. First he touched the horse lightly with the whip, but he did not stir. At other times he would have responded with a kick. Then Grandpa White struck him quite a blow, then a harder, and still a harder one. The colt paid no attention whatever, but stood perfectly still. The same Power that produced the vision had, for the time being, subdued the colt.

Reverently Elder Bates said, “This is a solemn place.” He related the experience to John Loughborough, who has preserved it in his book *The Great Second Advent Movement*.

Ellen’s longest recorded vision lasted about four hours; some lasted only a few moments. My father, William Clarence White, tells about one which he witnessed at a Minnesota camp meeting in 1870 during a prayer period in which both his father and mother joined. After offering a few sentences of prayer, Mrs. White stopped speaking, and there was silence for about half a minute. My father, who was then a boy of sixteen, later told us the story:

“I was kneeling with the congregation and turned to see what was the occasion for the silence. Just then she burst forth in prayer. Her voice was melodious

and triumphant, and the remainder of her prayer greatly moved the people present. Many things relating to the work of the ministers were laid out before her. Following the camp meeting, father and mother found retirement at the home of one of our brethren, where mother wrote diligently for about two weeks in recording what had been shown her during that half-minute pause in her prayer.”

TABERNACLES, YOUR PORTION

Words from BE, VanDenburgh and Mrs. White

Feast of Tabernacles is October 7 through 14, 2025. We pray we will have a place of our own for all to come and join so we don’t have to rent a camp site! All will be welcome! We know many miss Terra Bella and the wonderful times we shared there! We would love to again have these reunions (and more!) soon! Your support is appreciated, both financially and in prayers. God can work when we pray and ask for His will and guidance! Study His word and pray daily!



“Check to see all that heaven has done for you. I know we cannot match that, but we can give enough to show our utmost appreciation. Tabernacles is a right time for you. What you do with it is your business, what we do with it is to promote heaven's business on earth. That's not a cliché.”

“Those who placed a high value upon the blessings which God bestowed upon them brought offerings in accordance with their appreciation of these blessings.” “God requires no less from His people in these last days, in sacrifices and offerings, than He did of the Jewish nation. Those whom He hath blessed with competency, and even the widow and the fatherless, should not be unmindful of His blessings. Especially should those whom God has prospered render to Him the things that are His.” TM. 574



We will continue to keep you updated on all Bible Explorations is doing! Thank you! With Yahweh we will prevail.

VEGAN RECIPE CORNER

WHITE BEAN PESTO SALAD

This White Bean Pesto salad is ready in only minutes, making it the perfect veggie-packed (but also filling) meal!

Author: Caitlin Shoemaker
Prep Time: 5 Minutes
Yield: Serves 2



Ingredients

2 15.5-ounce cans white beans, drained and rinsed (I used Great Northern)
8 ounces cherry tomatoes, cut in half
1/2 English cucumber, diced
1/2 cup kalamata olives, cut in half
2/3 cup store-bought pesto (or make my Nut-Free Vegan Pesto) (See below):

Instructions

Toss: add the beans, tomatoes, cucumber, olives, and pesto to a large bowl. Mix well until everything is evenly coated in pesto. Season with salt and pepper to taste, if desired.

Serve: serve immediately or let chill in the fridge for at least 15 minutes to allow the flavors to mingle before serving.

NUT-FREE VEGAN PESTO

Ingredients:

1/3 cup (48 g) pumpkin seeds or pepitas
3 cloves of garlic
Juice of 1 lemon*
3 tablespoons nutritional yeast
2 ounces (55 g) fresh basil, de-stemmed (about 2 cups)
1/2 teaspoon red chili flakes (*optional*)
1/2 teaspoon salt, or to taste
1/2 cup (120 ml) high-quality extra virgin olive oil

Instructions

Blend: add the pumpkin seeds, garlic, lemon juice, nutritional yeast, basil, chili flakes if using, and salt to a food processor. Close the lid and begin to process, then use the opening in the device to slowly pour in the olive oil. Process for at least 60-90 seconds, or until the pumpkin seeds are finely chopped and have softened slightly.

Store & Serve: season with additional salt or red pepper flakes, if desired. Use immediately, or transfer to a

container with a tight-fitting lid. Store in the fridge for up to 7 days, or in the freezer for up to 2 months.

Please check out the Bible Explorations YouTube channel and be sure to **SHARE AND SUBSCRIBE!** Share with your family and friends! BibleExplorations.com/yt is the link! LOTS of great information in all these studies!

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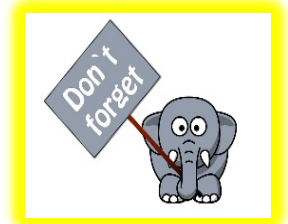


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FEAST OF TABERNACLES for **2025** is **October 7 through 14, 2025**. **Pentecost** is **June 3, 2025**, **Trumpets** is **September 23, 2025**, and **Day of Atonement** is **October 2, 2025**. We will keep you updated on what is happening and where! Join us on our **Facebook Group: Bible Explorations – BETV!**



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

A person whose mind is quiet and satisfied in God is in the pathway to health. E.G. White

A Christian reveals true humility by showing the gentleness of Christ, by being always ready to help others, by speaking kind words and performing unselfish acts, which elevate and ennoble the most sacred message that has come to our world. E.G. White

