

# THE GREAT CONTROVERSY COUNTDOWN



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# INTRODUCTION

God is love: for more than 160 years these three words have been the heart and soul of the Adventist message. Simple, yet powerful, they capture the central truth of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. From beginning to end, God's love encircles the salvation story and no concept is more vital to our mission and message.

Notice that the Conflict of the Ages series begins with this three word portrait:

*"God is love."* 1 John 4:16. His nature, His law, is love. It ever has been; it ever will be. . . .

The history of the great conflict between good and evil, from the time it first began in heaven to the final overthrow of rebellion and the total eradication of sin, is also a demonstration of God's unchanging love.—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 33; emphasis added.

And five volumes later it becomes the last stroke on the masterpiece:

The great controversy is ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that *God is love*.—*The Great Controversy*, p. 678; emphasis added.

It will be a glorious day, won't it? No more sin and sadness. No more death and disease. No more of anything that disquiets the human heart. But that day is yet to be realized. Jesus still waits. He's coming soon, but how soon? No one knows for sure; but of this you can be certain—the pitched battle for your soul is a zero sum struggle that God is destined to win. And He will win because love conquers all. No force in the universe can foil His love for man.

And what does that love look like? Consider these classic lines from *Steps to Christ*.

"God is love" is written upon every opening bud, upon every spire of springing grass. The

lovely birds making the air vocal with their happy songs, the delicately tinted flowers in their perfection perfuming the air, the lofty trees of the forest with their rich foliage of living green—all testify to the tender, fatherly care of our God and to His desire to make His children happy.—*Steps to Christ*, p. 10.

How privileged we are that our Father, in His great wisdom, has drawn aside history's curtain. In full color every man, woman, and child can step up and observe God's love in action. But to simply observe will not be enough because the great controversy countdown is also a call to decision. It's a call to unreservedly embrace God's love and accept Him as a personal Savior.

To this end Mrs. White counsels,

The student should learn to view the word as a whole, and to see the relation of its parts. He should gain a knowledge of its grand central theme, of God's original purpose for the world, of the rise of the great controversy, and of the work of redemption. He should understand the nature of the two principles that are contending for supremacy, and should learn to trace their working through the records of history and prophecy, to the great consummation. He should see how this controversy enters into every phase of human experience; how in every act of life he himself reveals the one or the other of the two antagonistic motives; and how, whether he will or not, he is even now deciding upon which side of the controversy he will be found.—*Education*, p. 190.

In the weeks ahead, you will encounter a God who has pulled all the stops to secure your salvation. He is ready and waiting to carry you through these last days. And right now, along with the hosts of heaven, He can't wait to welcome you home.





## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The story of the development of the Conflict of the Ages books is fascinating. It spans nearly the entire ministry of Ellen White.

### **How and When Mrs. White's Early Books Were Issued**

Through Mrs. White's seventy years of ministry, she was favored with an estimated two thousand divine revelations beginning in December of 1844 and continuing to early 1915. Her first written delineations of these visions were in letters addressed to individuals, and a few of these were published by the recipients. During the years 1849 and 1850, James White published six articles from her pen in *The Present Truth*.

In the summer of 1851, a sixty-four-page pamphlet was printed under the title *A Sketch of the Christian Experience and Views of Ellen G. White*. This first booklet contained not only her articles that had already appeared in print, but also a few chapters presenting other matters revealed to her that had not been previously published.

In 1854, a forty-eight-page supplement to *Experience and Views* was issued, which included several later revelations. In 1882, these two pamphlets were incorporated in *Early Writings* as the first two sections thereof. The next major work from her pen was the little 219-page first edition of *The Great Controversy*, also known as *Spiritual Gifts*, volume 1.

The vision of the great controversy, which was given to Mrs. White in 1858, may perhaps be reckoned the most important of her many revelations.

### **The Vision That Stopped a Funeral**

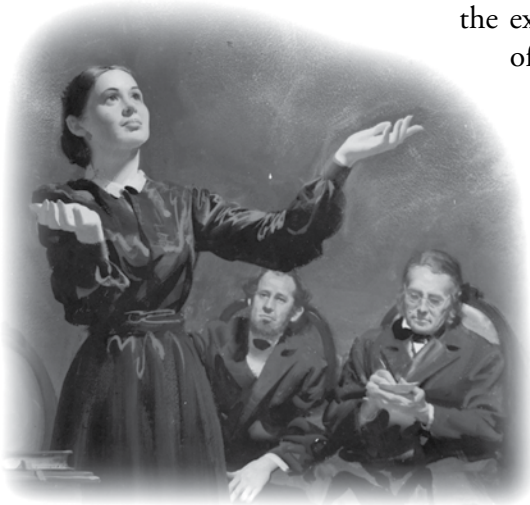
During the weekend of March 13 and 14, 1858, Elder and Mrs. James White attended meetings at Lovett's Grove, near Bowling Green, Ohio. Sunday afternoon, the fourteenth, James White conducted a funeral service in the schoolhouse where the Sabbath meetings had been held. Following her husband's discourse, Mrs. White arose and began to speak words of comfort to the mourners. While thus speaking, she was taken off into vision, and for two hours, during which time the congregation remained in the building, the Lord through divine revelation opened up to her many matters of importance to the church.

### Comprehensive Scenes Presented in This Vision

In the vision, it seemed to Ellen White that she was in heaven, where she witnessed the sin and fall of Lucifer. Then she witnessed the creation of the world, and saw our first parents in their Eden home. She saw them yield to the temptations of the serpent, whereupon they were driven from their garden home.

In quick succession the events of Bible history passed before her. She saw the experiences of the patriarchs and prophets and of the people of Israel. Then she witnessed the life and death of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Following this, she saw the disciples go forth to spread the gospel message to the ends of the earth, followed quickly by the apostasy and the Dark Ages.

Then, in vision, she saw the Reformation, wherein noble men, at the risk of their lives, stood for truth. She was brought down to our day, and then was taken on into the future to see the coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven. She witnessed the scenes of the millennium, and then she saw the earth made new and given to the saints as their eternal home. It was indeed a comprehensive vision.



### Satan's Attempt to Prevent the Writing of the Great Controversy Story

A little later Mrs. White wrote concerning this important vision:

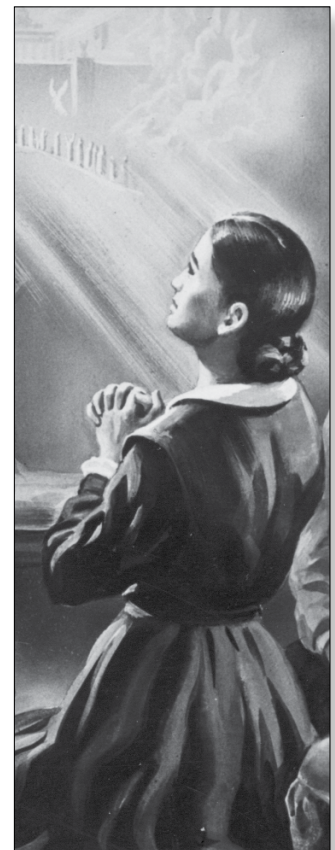
In the vision at Lovett's Grove, most of the matter which I had seen ten years before concerning the great controversy of the ages between Christ and Satan, was repeated, and I was instructed to write it out. I was shown that while I should have to contend with the powers of darkness, for Satan would make strong efforts to hinder me, yet I must put my trust in God, and angels would not leave me in the conflict.—*Life Sketches*, p. 162.

The day following the vision, James and Ellen White began their homeward journey. On the train, they reviewed their recent experiences and discussed plans for writing out the vision and for publishing that portion relating to the great controversy. This, it was decided, should be Mrs. White's first work after reaching home.

Little did they realize Satan's anger because of this revelation of his character and wiles, or the intensity of his determination to defeat the plans for writing and publishing the proposed book.

Arriving at Jackson, Michigan, en route to Battle Creek, they visited friends at the home of Daniel R. Palmer. At this time Mrs. White was in usual health, and the following experience, as given in her own words, came as a complete surprise:

As I was conversing with Sister Palmer, my tongue refused to utter what I wished to say, and seemed large and numb. A strange, cold sensation struck my heart, passed over my head, and down my right side. For a time I was insensible, but was aroused by the voice of earnest prayer. I





tried to use my left limbs, but they were perfectly useless.—*Life Sketches*, p. 162.

Realizing that this was the third shock of paralysis she had experienced, for a time Mrs. White lost hope of recovery; but in response to continued earnest prayers of the brethren, her strength was partially restored and she was able to continue the journey home. While suffering intensely from the effects of this stroke, she began to delineate the scenes of the great controversy as they had been revealed to her. Of this she wrote,

At first I could write but one page a day, and then rest three days; but as I progressed, my strength increased. The numbness in my head did not seem to becloud my mind, and before I closed that work [“*Spiritual Gifts*,” vol. 1] the effect of the shock had entirely left me.—*Life Sketches*, p. 163.

When completing her work on the manuscript of the book in June 1858, Mrs. White received light on the strange experience at the home of Brother Palmer:

I was shown in vision that in the sudden attack at Jackson, Satan intended to take my life, in order to hinder the work I was about to write; but angels of God were sent to my rescue.—*Life Sketches*, p. 163.

### **Publishing the Great Controversy Story**

In September of that same year, an announcement was made that *Spiritual Gifts—The Great Controversy Between Christ and His Angels and Satan and His Angels* was ready for distribution. Its 219 pages only briefly touched the high points of the conflict story. This first “digest form” of the great controversy story is available to all, in facsimile form in *Spiritual Gifts*, volume 1, and also in the third section of the book *Early Writings*.

In the years following, great panoramic views were given to Mrs. White, presenting in fuller detail various phases of the controversy.

As years passed, the number of believers rapidly increased, and there was need for more books. The brethren called for republication of the little *Spiritual Gifts* volume, which they had learned to





love; but Mrs. White felt that she could not consent to this. Since its publication, she had been favored with further revelations, in which the views had been repeated in more detail; so she pleaded for the time and opportunity to present the subjects more completely. Definite plans were laid for a series of four volumes, of about four hundred pages each, to present a fuller account of the great conflict, from its inception to its close. This series was given the general title of *The Spirit of Prophecy*, and the books were published at intervals between 1870 and 1884. These were the forerunners of the present five-volume Conflict of the Ages series.

The last and fourth volume of *The Spirit of Prophecy* also carries the title of *The Great Controversy*. In world history this is the period of the Christian era, from the close of the Bible record to the new earth. The burden of fully presenting this important subject rested heavily on Mrs. White, of which she wrote in a letter to Elder Uriah Smith on February 19, 1884:

I write from fifteen to twenty pages each day. It is now eleven o'clock, and I have written fourteen pages of manuscript for Volume Four. . . .

As I write upon my book I feel intensely moved. I want to get it out as soon as possible, for our people need it so much. I shall complete it next month if the Lord gives me health as He has done. I have been unable to sleep nights, thinking of the important things to take place. Three hours' sleep and sometimes five, is the most I get. My mind is stirred so deeply I cannot rest. Write, write, write, I feel that I must, and not delay.

Great things are before us, and we want to call the people from their indifference, to get ready for that day. Things that are eternal crowd upon my vision day and night. The things that are temporal fade from my sight.—Letter 11a, 1884 (published in *Selected Messages*, bk. 3, pp. 109, 110).

In 1883, while writing the later chapters for *The Great Controversy*, which was to appear in print in 1884, Mrs. White was stricken with a strange and unexplainable illness. No form of treatment brought relief. Her writing was laid aside. She was now critically ill and was failing rapidly. At that time it seemed that her life would soon close at her home in Healdsburg, California. She felt a great desire to meet just once more with the people gathered on the nearby campground. We will let her tell of this experience, beginning with the time she reached the place of meeting:

A sofa had been placed on the platform in the large tent. Here I lay down, thinking I would deliver my farewell address. My face was as the face of one dead, without a particle of color.

After a few testimonies had been borne, I asked Willie to help me to arise to my feet, and let me lean on him. There I stood, and began to tell the people that this was probably the last time they would ever hear my voice in camp-meeting. But after speaking a few words, I felt the Spirit and power of God thrilling through every nerve of my body. Those who saw me said that the blood could be seen as it put color in my lips and reached my forehead. My flesh took on its natural appearance. One of the citizens of Healdsburg, in great surprise, turned to one of his neighbors and exclaimed, "A miracle is being wrought in sight of this whole congregation!" I could not understand why all were looking so intently at me, some even rising to their feet. The Spirit of the Lord had rested upon me, and I had been healed. . . . During the remainder of the

camp-meeting, I spoke several times.—*Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, February 7, 1907.

Again the attack of the enemy was thwarted and Mrs. White was able to continue and finish her work on *The Great Controversy* chapters.

In the fall of 1884, the book was ready for distribution. The price was set at \$1.00, thus harmonizing with the first three books of the series. The distribution of Seventh-day Adventist books to the world through colporteurs had begun only three years earlier, and it was soon discovered that *The Great Controversy* could be sold to those not of our faith. So the publishers took the plates and printed an illustrated subscription edition to sell at \$1.50. During the first four years of publication, ten editions of this book, totaling not less than fifty thousand copies were printed and sold.

### Mrs. White's Visit to Europe and the Great Controversy Story

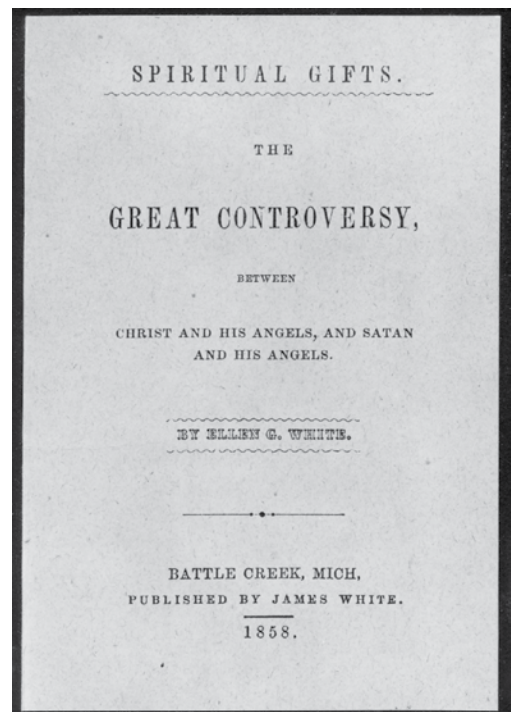
From 1885 to 1887, Mrs. White was in Europe. Her contacts with European people and her visits to some of the historic places, brought vividly to her mind many scenes previously shown to her in vision—some of them two or three times, others many times. Many of the historic places she clearly recognized as having been shown to her in vision, and she was familiar with the events that had transpired there. Thus, when plans were discussed for publishing *The Great Controversy* in the principal languages of Europe, she decided to enlarge the book. She was then able, in preparing the manuscript for the larger book and for translation, to write more fully and more graphically regarding some important events.

While engaged in the work of preparing the larger book for the world as well as for the church, there developed in Mrs. White's mind and in the minds of those associated with her the plan for five large Conflict of the Ages books, spanning the controversy story from its inception to its close. These would be books suitable for door-to-door sales to the general public by our colporteurs. Mrs. White never lost sight of this objective, though the work took much longer than she had anticipated. The new, enlarged *The Great Controversy* came from our presses in 1888, and was enthusiastically received. Many printings were made, and hundreds of thousands of copies were sold.

Because the printing plates for the book had become badly worn, it was necessary in 1911 to reset *The Great Controversy*. When this was done, it was reillustrated, references to historical quotations were inserted, and, in a few instances, clearer historical citations were substituted and modifications made to forms of expression that might give unintended offense—all with the express approval of the author. On July 25, 1911, soon after receiving copies of the new edition of the book, Mrs. White wrote of her satisfaction regarding it:

The book *Great Controversy* I appreciate above silver or gold, and I greatly desire that it shall come before the people. While writing the manuscript of *Great Controversy*, I was often conscious of the presence of the angels of God. And many times the scenes about which I was writing were presented to me anew in visions of the night, so that they were fresh and vivid in my mind. . . .

I regard this new edition with great satisfaction.—Letter 56, 1911 (published in *Selected Messages*, bk. 3, p. 123).



*The Great Controversy*, which came from the press in 1911, is the book which is so well known today.

### Background of *Patriarchs and Prophets*, First Volume of the Conflict Series

After the closing scenes of the great conflict had been more fully presented in 1888 for the use of both Seventh-day Adventists and the world at large, Mrs. White's mind turned back to the beginning of the conflict; and the story of the early ages was rewritten and published in *Patriarchs and Prophets*, making a companion book for *The Great Controversy*. Mrs. White's work on this volume, which appeared in 1890, was done in her home in Healdsburg, California. Elder Uriah Smith, then editor of the *Review and Herald*, was asked to write the introduction to this first volume of what was to become a five-volume series. There he presented a well-written introduction to the gift of prophecy as manifest in Mrs. E. G. White's literary productions.

### The Writing of *The Desire of Ages*

All through the years it was Mrs. White's desire to deal fully with the life of Christ, His teachings, and His sacrifice for us. That which she had written during the 1870s on this phase of the conflict, and which was published in volumes 1 and 2 of *The Spirit of Prophecy* and in a number of pamphlets, later seemed to her to be inadequate. Therefore when her work on *Patriarchs and Prophets* was finished, her thoughts turned to the preparation of a more comprehensive treatise on the life of our Lord. For this work, she carried a great burden, and in her letters are many references to her hope of being able soon to get the book under way.

When she went to Australia in the autumn of 1891, it was her expectation that the long-hoped-for book on the life of Christ could soon be prepared; and during the years 1892 to 1898, she spent much time in writing chapters for this book. A glimpse of the intensity under which she worked while preparing copy for *The Desire of Ages* is given in a letter written in 1892 to Elder O. A. Olsen, then president of the General Conference:

I walk with trembling before God. I know not how to speak or trace with pen the large subjects of the atoning sacrifice. I know not how to present subjects in the living power in which they stand before me. I tremble for fear lest I shall belittle the great plan of salvation by cheap words. I bow my soul in awe and reverence before God, and say, "Who is sufficient for these things?"—Letter 40, 1892 (published in *Selected Messages*, bk. 3, p. 115).

It is well known that many of the world's masterpieces of literature—poetry and gospel hymns—have been fashioned on the anvil of pain; and so it was with parts of Mrs. White's writing on the life and ministry of Jesus. Some of the choicest passages in *The Desire of Ages* came from her pen during the eleven months she was confined to her room, suffering constant pain from inflammatory rheumatism. Perhaps the secret of the book's appeal is that "in the pulpit and in private, by voice and pen, . . . the life of Christ" was her favorite theme.—Letter 46a, 1894 (published in *Selected Messages*, bk. 3, p. 118).

In the preparation of the copy for *The Desire of Ages*—as for other later publications—Mrs. White did not write the book straight through, chapter by chapter, in the order in which it finally appeared in printed form. This was not necessary, for during the preceding thirty-five years she had written many



hundreds of pages on this theme, much of which had already been published in one form or another. She instructed those who were employed as her helpers to gather out from her published books, articles, letters, and manuscripts whatever they could find on the subject. With this backlog of material in hand she wrote many additional articles as the experiences of Christ's life were opened anew to her. When these newly written passages, together with what she had written in former years, were grouped in their natural order, she again studied the story in its sequence, and sometimes added connecting events.



Her writings on the life and teachings of our Savior were found to be so voluminous that they could not all be contained in one book. Therefore some materials that could not be included in *The Desire of Ages* were used in *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, *Christ's Object Lessons*, and a portion of *The Ministry of Healing*.

### **The Conflict of the Ages Series Completed**

Though the outstanding features of the great conflict were covered in *Patriarchs and Prophets*, *The Desire of Ages*, and *The Great Controversy*, two wide gaps still remained in the portrayal of the conflict between good and evil from the Fall to the final restoration. One of these periods reached from the death of King David to the birth of Christ, the other covered the first century of the Christian church. When other labors permitted, Mrs. White and her literary assistants enthusiastically undertook the task of gathering and preparing matter for two more volumes to complete the series. As in the case of *The Desire of Ages*, hundreds of pages were already in print in earlier books and periodical articles, which covered portions of these periods. Also, many chapters and portions of chapters could be drawn from the files of unpublished manuscripts. Then much new material was written by Mrs. White, specifically for the work being prepared.

In 1911, *The Acts of the Apostles* came from the press and was heartily welcomed. *Prophets and Kings* followed soon after Mrs. White's death.

As we review Mrs. White's experiences while writing the scenes that she had been shown in many visions, we are impressed by the certain evidences of God's guiding hand. Surely the five books of the Conflict of the Ages series contain the most precious light that has yet shone upon this last generation, outside of the Bible.





# THE ORIGIN OF SIN

## PART 1

### Lucifer, the Archdeceiver

PATRIARCHS AND PROPHETS

The gospel—the good news of how God plans to save humanity from the consequences of sin—is best understood by tracing the implications of the great controversy between God and Satan (as God has revealed it to us). Further, only by seeing the big picture of how sin developed and why God allowed sinners to continue their rebellion will we understand the cause of suffering and when it will end. Until we see the issues in the great controversy, we will not have a clue as to what kind of people will be redeemed from this rebellious planet. These study guides will help us to not only capture the excitement of this cosmic conflict, but also to realize that daily devotions are themselves part of the conflict.

#### INSPIRATION

“From the opening of the great controversy it has been Satan’s purpose to misrepresent God’s character and to excite rebellion against His law, and this work appears to be crowned with success. The multitudes give ear to Satan’s deceptions and set themselves against God. But amid the working of evil, God’s purposes move steadily forward to their accomplishment; to all created intelligences He is making manifest His justice and benevolence.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 338.

1. **What was the root cause of Lucifer’s rebellion?**  
PP 35–37, 39
-



- a. What was Lucifer's relationship to the other angels and to Jesus?  
PP 35, 36 (See also *Selected Messages*, bk. 1, p. 341; *Early Writings*, p. 145.)
- 
- b. What seemed to prompt Lucifer's hatred of Christ?  
PP 37, 38, 40
- 
- c. What were some of Lucifer's early thoughts regarding the laws of God?  
PP 37, 69
- 
- d. Why did Lucifer propose changes in God's government?  
PP 38
- 
- e. What methods did Lucifer use to further his rebellion among the angels?  
PP 37, 40, 41
- 

### REFLECTION

- Would I be able to love if I were forced to?
- Which is more desirable—a world of smiling, kind, never offensive robots, or a world of people who have the freedom to love?
- Do you think that God's gift of freedom to all His created beings was worth the cost of suffering to God as well as to everyone else on planet Earth?

## 2. How did God respond to Lucifer's rebellion before it became an open conflict? PP 36, 39

- a. What was the big issue that troubled Lucifer most? PP 36–38
- 
- b. How much time do you think God took as He patiently explained the truth, pleading with Lucifer to see the "light"? PP 39
-

c. In what way did Lucifer misinterpret the patience of God? PP 39

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d. Why didn't God destroy Lucifer and save the angels and the rest of the universe from all the troubles that his rebellion has caused? PP 41

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e. Why couldn't God use the same methods Lucifer was using in his rebellion? PP 42

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### REFLECTION

- Have I ever thought of God as being severe, exacting, or arbitrary?
- Have I ever used any of the methods of Satan to get my own way, such as casting doubt on straightforward statements in the Bible or in the writings of Ellen White?
- Or, by quietly fomenting divisions within my family or church to get my own way?
- Or, by not telling the whole truth, which would have cleared someone from unfair accusation?
- Or, by covering up my jealousy by emphasizing that I have "rights," and so on?

**3. Why did God make it possible for created beings to rebel? PP 42, 43**

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**4. In the emerging great controversy, what charges did Lucifer bring against God? PP 40, 69, 70**

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### INSPIRATION

“God was represented as severe, exacting, revengeful, and arbitrary. He was pictured as one who could take pleasure in the sufferings of his creatures. The very attributes that belonged to the character of Satan, the evil one represented as belonging to the character of God.”—*Signs of the Times*, January 20, 1890.

“By His life and His death, Christ proved that God’s justice did not destroy His mercy, but that sin could be forgiven, and that the law is righteous, and can be perfectly obeyed. Satan’s charges were refuted. God had given man unmistakable evidence of His love.”—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 762; see also p. 25.

- 5. What one response from His created beings did God prize most and for which He was willing to pay the cost of the rebellion?** PP 36, 42

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### INSPIRATION

“God desires from all His creatures the service of love—homage that springs from an intelligent appreciation of His character.”—*The Great Controversy*, p. 493.

- 6. How far reaching are the issues in the great controversy?** PP 68, 78

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- a. What do you think is involved in vindicating God throughout the intelligent universe?  
PP 68, 69

---

- b. How do humans participate in the vindication of God’s maligned character? Revelation 15:3; PP 79

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### INSPIRATION

“Through the plan of salvation, a larger purpose is to be wrought out even than the salvation of man and the redemption of the earth. Through the revelation of the character of God in Christ, the beneficence of the divine government would be manifested before the universe, the charge of Satan refuted, the nature and result of sin made plain, and the perpetuity of the law fully demonstrated.”  
—*Signs of the Times*, December 22, 1914.

“The central theme of the Bible, the theme about which every other in the whole book clusters, is the redemption plan, the restoration in the human soul of the image of God. From the first intimation of hope in the sentence pronounced in Eden to that last glorious promise of the Revelation, ‘They shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads’ (Revelation 22:4), the burden of every book and every passage of the Bible is the unfolding of this wondrous theme,—man’s uplifting,—the power of God, ‘which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.’ 1 Corinthians 15:57.

“He who grasps this thought has before him an infinite field of study. He has the key that will unlock to him the whole treasure house of God’s word.”  
—*Education*, pp. 125, 126.

#### 7. What was Lucifer’s (now Satan’s) strategy to lead Adam and Eve into rebellion?

PP 52, 54

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- a. Why was it necessary for God to place angels and humans in a probationary period? How does freedom of the will affect your answer?

PP 52, 53

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- b. How does even a person’s first sin damage him or her permanently—unless God is permitted to begin the work of restoration?

PP 53, 61

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- c. When we say that “the broken law of God demanded the life of the sinner,” are we thinking in terms of consequences or punishment? PP 63

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## REFLECTION

- Do we not hear the same insinuations today, such as getting the yoke of obedience (legalism) off our backs is the way to liberation and “true” gospel freedom?

## INSPIRATION

“Satan represented to the holy pair that they would be gainers by breaking the law of God. Do we not today hear similar reasoning? Many talk of the narrowness of those who obey God’s commandments, while they themselves claim to have broader ideas and to enjoy greater liberty. What is this but an echo of the voice from Eden, ‘In the day ye eat thereof’—transgress the divine requirement—‘ye shall be as gods’?”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 55.

### 8. What was God’s double solution to the sin problem? PP 64

- a. What would be included in Christ’s new role as the sinner’s Mediator? PP 64, 65, 67

- i. What kind of human being would Jesus become? PP 64, 65

- ii. What was Christ’s primary role as a human being? PP 64

- iii. What kind of death would Christ die? PP 64

- b. How did God introduce the gospel to Adam and Eve? PP 66

- i. What gave the first couple hope and caused Satan to have his first worry? PP 66

- ii. Yet, after some thought, what gave Satan some hope? PP 66
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**9. Why was the sacrificial system devised by God? PP 68**

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- a. Why was it necessary that God's character should ultimately become vindicated? PP 68
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- b. What was one of the charges against God that Jesus destroyed by His life and death? PP 70
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### REFLECTION

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- After Jesus died on the cross, was further vindication of God needed to settle the great controversy?
- What if Satan boasted that Jesus, being God, could keep His own laws, but created beings couldn't?
- And if they tried, would they be burdened with the yoke of bondage, known as legalism?
- How would God answer that?