

**One True Church Series**  
**Lesser Light Pointing to the Greater LIGHT**  
**Sermon Bible Notes by Pastor O. Cary Rodgers, Jr.**

**The moon and sun both give light. The moon is a direct reflection of the sun, the source of light. The moon is a lesser light that shines during the night sky.**

Like the ministry of John the Baptist, Ellen White's gift of prophecy was a lesser light to lead men and women to the greater light, the WORD, Jesus Christ.

“The Lord has sent His people much instruction, line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little. Little heed is given to the Bible, and the Lord has given a lesser light to lead men and women to the greater light. O, how much good might be accomplished if the books containing this light were read with a determination to carry out the principles they contain. There would be a thousandfold greater vigilance, a thousandfold more self-denial and resolute effort. And many more would now be rejoicing in the light of **present truth**.” {Ellen White, Pamphlet 164, “Words of Encouragement To Workers in The Home Missionary Field,” p. 6.1}

You will not find anywhere in Ellen White's writings in which she called for others to worship her. It is quite the opposite. She continually points others to Christ!

**What does Jesus and the Bible warn about false prophets?**

**Matthew 7:15**

**15** Beware of **false prophets**, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

**Matthew 24:11**

**11** And many false prophets shall rise, and shall **deceive many**.

**True prophets of God are totally the opposite of false prophets.**

**How do you know who is a true prophet or a false prophet?**

**Proverbs 14:15**

**15** The simple [Gk: silly / foolish] believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.

**1 John 4:1**

**1** Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many **false prophets** are gone out into the world.

**1 John 4:6**

**6** We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

**Does Ellen White's ministry pass the Biblical test of a prophet?**

**Test 1 – Visions and Dreams**

**Numbers 12:6**

6 And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, / the LORD will make myself known unto him in a **vision**, and will speak unto him in a **dream**.

PASS: From ages 17 to 87 she had approximately **2,000 visions and dreams**. Her vision's could range from less than a minute to nearly four hours.

### **Test 2 – Predictions 100% accurate**

#### **Jeremiah 28:9**

9 The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, *then* shall the prophet be known, that the LORD hath truly sent him.

#### **Deuteronomy 18:22**

22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that *is* the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, *but* the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.

PASS:

Prediction of Civil War between the north and south with the loss of many lives – 100% accurate  
Health insights on smoking and nutrition years in advance of medical establishment – 100% accurate  
Twin Towers in NYC on 9/11 – 100% accurate

Civil War: JANUARY 12, 1861, JUST THREE MONTHS TO A DAY BEFORE THE FIRST GUN WAS FIRED ON FORT SUMPTER, THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST MEETING-HOUSE IN PARKVILLE, MICH., WAS DEDICATED. AT THE CLOSE OF A DISCOURSE BY ELDER WHITE, SISTER WHITE GAVE A STIRRING EXHORTATION, AFTER WHICH SHE TOOK HER SEAT IN A CHAIR. IN THIS POSITION SHE WAS TAKEN OFF IN VISION. THE HOUSE WAS CROWDED WITH PEOPLE, AND IT WAS A MOST SOLEMN PLACE TO BE IN. AFTER COMING OUT OF THE VISION, SHE AROSE, AND LOOKING ABOUT THE HOUSE SHE SAID: "There is not a person in this house who has even dreamed of the trouble that is coming upon this land. People are making sport of the secession ordinance of South Carolina, but I have just been shown that a large number of States are going to join that State, and there will be a most terrible war. In this vision I have seen large armies of both sides gathered on the field of battle. I heard the booming of the cannon, and saw the dead and dying on every hand. Then I saw them rushing up engaged in hand-to-hand fighting [bayoneting one another]. Then I saw the field after the battle, all covered with the dead and dying. Then I was carried to prison, and saw the suffering of those in want, who were wasting away. Then I was taken to the homes of those who had lost husbands, sons, or brothers in the war. I saw there distress and anguish." Then looking slowly around the house she said:-- "There are those in this house who will lose sons in that war." {General Conference Daily Bulletin (GCDB), Remarks at Parkville, Michigan, January 31, 1893 par. 1}

9/11: On one occasion, when in New York City, I was in the night season called upon to behold buildings rising story after story toward heaven. These buildings were warranted to be fireproof, and they were erected to glorify their owners and builders. Higher and still higher these buildings rose, and in them the most costly material was used. Those to whom these buildings belonged were not asking themselves: "How can we best glorify God?" The Lord was not in their thoughts. {9T 12.1}

### **Test 3 – No breath while in vision**

#### **Daniel 10:17**

17 For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me.

PASS: F.C. Castle: "He (physican) then examined her in regard to her pulse, and also in regard to her breathing, and there was no respiration."

D.H. Lamson: "A looking-glass was brought, and one of them held it over her mouth while she talked; but very soon they gave this up, and said, 'She doesn't breathe.' "

James White: "She does not breathe. During the entire period of her continuance in vision, which has at different times ranged from fifteen minutes to three hours, there is no breath, as has been repeatedly proved by pressing upon the chest, and by closing the mouth and nostrils."

#### **Test 4 – Weak before vision, God gives supernatural strength during vision**

##### **Daniel 10:18**

18 Then there came again and touched me *one* like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me,

PASS: J. N. Loughborough: "Her condition as to breathing, loss of strength, and being made strong as the angel of God touches her, all agree perfectly with the description given by the prophet Daniel of his own experience in vision."

James White: "Immediately on entering vision, her muscles become rigid, and joints fixed, so far as any external force can influence them. At the same time her movements and gestures, which are frequent, are free and graceful, and cannot be hindered nor controlled by the strongest person."

#### **Test 5 – 100% in agreement with the Bible and the Law of God (10 Commandments)**

##### **Isaiah 8:20**

20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, *it is* because *there is* no light in them.

##### **Deuteronomy 13:1 - 3**

1 If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder,  
 2 And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them;  
 3 Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

PASS: "In His word, God has committed to men the knowledge necessary for salvation. The Holy Scriptures are to be accepted as an authoritative, infallible revelation of His will. They are the standard of character, the revealer of doctrines, and the test of experience. "Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness; that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16, 17, R.V.). "Yet the fact that God has revealed His will to men through His Word, has not rendered needless the continued presence and guiding of the Holy Spirit. On the contrary, the Spirit was promised by our Saviour, to open the Word to His servants, to illuminate and apply its teachings. And since it was the Spirit of God that inspired the Bible, it is impossible that the teaching of the Spirit should ever be contrary to that of the Word. **"The Spirit was not given--nor can it ever**

**be bestowed--to supersede the Bible**; for the Scriptures explicitly state that the Word of God is the standard by which all teaching and experience must be tested. . . ." {Ellen White, Great Controversy, Introduction, p. vii.4}

### **Test 6 – Confess the divinity of Christ**

#### **1 John 4:2, 3**

2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

“Christ's humanity was united with divinity; He was fitted for the conflict by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. And He came to make us partakers of the divine nature. So long as we are united to Him by faith, sin has no more dominion over us. God reaches for the hand of faith in us to direct it to lay fast hold upon the divinity of Christ, that we may attain to perfection of character. {DA 123.3}

Another dangerous error, is the doctrine that denies the divinity of Christ, claiming that he had no existence before his advent to this world. This theory is received with favor by a large class who profess to believe the Bible; yet it directly contradicts the plainest statements of our Saviour concerning his relationship with the Father, his divine character, and his pre-existence. {GC88 524.2}

### **Test 7 – Must Pass “fruit” inspection**

#### **Ephesians 5:9, 10**

9 (For the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)

10 Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

#### **Galatians 5:22, 23**

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

PASS: “She showed no spiritual pride and she sought no filthy lucre. She lived the life and did the work of a worthy prophetess, the most admirable of the American succession.” New York Independent August 23, 1915

"Mrs. White was a remarkable woman in many ways. She was deeply religious, and none who knew her intimately had any doubt, as to her sincerity." Editorial, Detroit "News-Tribune," July 25,1915.

### **Where there others who were given the gift of prophecy in the Seventh-day Movement?**

#### **Pre-Great Disappointment (A few years before 1844)**

**William Ellis Foy** (1818–1893) was an African American from Massachusetts, a Freewill Baptist minister and preacher in the Millerite (Advent) movement, who receive four visions from 1842 to 1844.

A common theme of his visions was the Second Coming. They inspired many people through the Great Disappointment when Jesus did not return as they had expected. Ellen White supported his visions. They also concerned the judgment, and rewards for the righteous.

He claimed visions in January and February 1842, told in his autobiographical *The Christian Experience of William E. Foy*, published 1845. They were similar to those experienced by Ellen White.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prophecy\\_in\\_the\\_Seventh-day\\_Adventist\\_Church#cite\\_note-19](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prophecy_in_the_Seventh-day_Adventist_Church#cite_note-19)

William Foy's brief prophetic ministry shared the Second Coming message to many African Americans. He had no other visions after 1844 but continued his work as a minister.

### **Foy Confirmed Ellen White's First Vision**

A few weeks later, shortly after her first vision in December 1844, Foy was present in a meeting held near Cape Elizabeth, Maine, during which she spoke of her first vision. He got excited during her presentation and confirmed that he had the same vision! He praised God!

### **Hazen Foss**

Hazen Foss : the brother in law of Ellen White received visions before her, but refused to share them. He rejected the gift of prophecy. After his rejection he felt that the Holy Spirit totally left him. God told him, the He would use the "weakest of the weak." Later he attended a meeting in which Ellen White was sharing her vision. He recognized it. It was the same one he had. He left the meeting. Later lost total interest in the work of God.

Even though Foss rejected, a timid teenager accepted the call and God use Ellen White's ministry in a powerful way!

### **The Gift of Prophecy that continues to GIVE!**

Even after Ellen White's death in 1915 this gift of prophecy is still giving. The Bible topics and prophetic end-time revelation are still relevant for today! Read and study for yourself! You will be amazed and grow deeper in your understanding of the Word and relationship with Jesus.

"We call upon you to take your stand on the Lord's side, and act your part as a loyal subject of the kingdom. Acknowledge the gift that has been placed in the church for the guidance of God's people in the closing days of earth's history. From the beginning the church of God has had the gift of prophecy in her midst as a living voice to counsel, admonish, and instruct.

We have now come to the last days of the work of the third angel's message, when Satan will work with increasing power because he knows that his time is short. At the same time there will come to us through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, diversities of operations in the outpouring of the Spirit. This is the time of the latter rain." - Letter 230, 1908. {Selective Messages Book 3, p. 83.2}

### **What is the condition of true prosperity for those on the Mountain Of Truth?**

#### **2 Chronicles 20:20**

20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

Answer: 1. Believe in the God = established 2. Believe God's true prophets = prosperity

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