

For the Record...

“THE DEFINITIVE RESPONSE”

The Accusations

- 1. Angels are holy by nature and wise enough to govern themselves, so they don't need God's law.**
- 2. God was unfair when He exalted Jesus above Lucifer.**
- 3. The plan to create human beings was a mistake.**
- 4. God is selfish, unforgiving, and revengeful.**
- 5. God's law is defective, and needs to be changed.**
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- 7. God's law is arbitrary.**
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- 9. God is lying about all the above.**

Divine Response

“How shall the universe know that Lucifer is not a safe and just leader? To their eyes he appears right. They cannot see, as God sees, beneath the outward covering. They cannot know as God knows. Then to work to unmask him and make plain to the angelic host that his judgment is not God’s judgment, that he has made a standard of his own and exposed himself to the righteous indignation of God, would create a state of things which must be avoided.”

— Letter 16a, 1892

Divine Response

“God desired that a change take place, and that the work of Satan be brought out in its genuine aspect. But the exalted angel standing next to Christ was opposed to the Son of God. The underworking was so subtle that it could not be made to appear before the heavenly host as the thing that it really was.”

— Letter 162, 1906

“Satan could not be presented to the universe at once in his real character. His crooked course must be allowed to continue until he should reveal himself as an accuser, a deceiver, a liar, and a murderer.”

— Letter 16a, 1892

Divine Response

“Satan had disguised himself in a cloak of falsehood, and for a time it was impossible to tear off the covering, so that the hideous deformity of his character could be seen. He must be left to reveal himself in his cruel, artful, wicked works.”

— Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 4, 319

Divine Response

God's purpose [is] to place things upon an eternal basis of security. Time must be given for Satan to develop the principles which were the foundation of his government. The heavenly universe must see worked out the principles which Satan declared were superior to God's principles. God's order must be contrasted with Satan's order. The corrupting principles of Satan's rule must be revealed. The principles of righteousness expressed in God's law must be demonstrated as unchangeable, perfect, eternal.

— Review and Herald, September 7, 1897

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Divine Response

“The unfallen worlds saw that the character of God could be vindicated only through this trial and conflict of the two forces. The attributes of God must be made to appear. Of the stability of his government there must be no question.”

— Youth's Instructor, April 15, 1897

Divine Response

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— Youth's Instructor, April 15, 1897

Divine Response

“No verbal description could reveal God to the world. Through a life of purity, a life of perfect trust and submission to the will of God, a life of humiliation such as even the highest seraph in heaven would have shrunk from, God himself must be revealed to humanity.”

— Review and Herald, June 25, 1895

“He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor; Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him; And His own righteousness, it sustained Him.”

— Isaiah 59:16

Jesus' Mission

“Without the correct knowledge of God, the human family would be divested of all divine strength. With false attributes kept before the mind as belonging to God, the human family would be the dupes of satanic lies and the subjects of satanic agencies, and he could practice upon their credulity with success.”

— Manuscript 51, 1890

Jesus' Mission

Jesus came to earth “to teach men how to live a life of self-denial and self-sacrifice, and how to carry out practical religion in their daily lives.... He labored constantly for one object; all His powers were employed for the salvation of men, and every act of His life tended to that end.”

— Testimonies, vol. 4, 373

Jesus' Method

“The great object that brought Christ to the earth was to reveal the Father.”

— *Signs of the Times*, June 27, 1895

“‘God is love.’ This was the great truth that Christ came to the world to reveal.... The object of Christ’s mission to the world was to reveal the Father.”

— *Signs of the Times*, April 11, 1895

“In all His ministry, all His self-denial and self-sacrifice, Christ’s object was to reveal God to the world.”

— Letter 58, 1906

Jesus' Method

“Christ exalted the character of God, attributing to Him the praise, and giving to Him the credit, of the whole purpose of His own mission on earth—to set men right through the revelation of God....

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— *Signs of the Times*, January 20, 1890

Jesus' Method

“God... sent His Son into the world to reveal, so far as could be endured by human sight, the nature and the attributes of the invisible God.”

— Letter 250, 1903

“Christ revealed all of God that sinful human beings could bear without being destroyed.”

— Manuscript 124, 1903

“Christ.... is the perfect representation of the Father. His life of sinlessness, lived on this earth in human nature, is a complete refutation of Satan's charge against the character of God.”

—*Bible Training School*, October 1, 1902

Jesus' Method

“Had God the Father come to our world and dwelt among us, veiling His glory and humbling Himself, that humanity might look upon Him, the history that we have of the life of Christ would not have been changed in unfolding its record of His own condescending grace. In every act of Jesus, in every lesson of His instruction, we are to see and hear and recognize God. In sight, in hearing, in effect, it is the voice and movements of the Father.”

— Letter 83, 1895

“He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’”

— John 14:9

Jesus' Method

“Jesus could not express in words to the understanding of man the love of the Father; he could only say, ‘God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’

Jesus' Method

“Jesus could not express in words to the understanding of man the love of the Father; he could only say, ‘God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’ **But he did express the love of God in his actions.**”

— *Signs of the Times*, November 28, 1892

“**The Saviour of the world devoted more time and labor to healing the afflicted of their maladies than to preaching.**”

— *Testimonies*, vol. 4, 225

Jesus' Method

“Christ came to this world for no other purpose than to display the glory of God, that man might be uplifted by its restoring power.”

— Letter 87, 1896

“Christ revealed God to His disciples in a way that performed in their hearts a special work, such as He has long been urging us to allow Him to do in our hearts.”

— Manuscript 124, 1903

Jesus' Method

“Had Christ unmasked Judas, this would have been urged as a reason for the betrayal. And though charged with being a thief, Judas would have gained sympathy, even among the disciples. The Saviour reproached him not, and thus avoided giving him an excuse for his treachery.”

— Desire of Ages, 563

“Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees.”

— Matthew 16:6

Jesus' Method

[Christ's] life of sinlessness, lived on this earth in human nature, is a complete refutation of Satan's charge against the character of God."

— Letter 1, 1902

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Our Substitute and Surety

SURETY, n.

- 1. Certainty; indubitableness.**
- 2. Security; safety.**
- 3. Foundation of stability; support.**
- 4. Evidence; ratification; confirmation.**
- 5. Security against loss or damage; security for payment.**
- 6. In law, one that is bound with and for another.**
- 7. A hostage.**

Our Substitute and Surety

“‘God with us’ is the surety of our deliverance from sin, the assurance of our power to obey the law of heaven.”

— Desire of Ages, 24

“The Redeemer of the world in the wilderness of temptation fought the battle upon the point of appetite in our behalf. As our surety He overcame, thus making it possible for man to overcome in His name.”

— Review and Herald, April 19, 1887

Our Substitute and Surety

“Christ came to our world as man’s surety, preparing the way for him to gain the victory by giving him moral power.”

— Signs of the Times, May 27, 1897

“Christ came to our world to be man’s surety, to overcome in his behalf, to live for him a sinless life, that in His power they might obtain the victory over sin.”

— Signs of the Times, August 26, 1903

Our Substitute and Surety

“Every eye in the unfallen universe is bent upon those who profess to be Christ’s followers. Here, in this atom of a world, an earnest warfare is going on—a battle in which Christ, our substitute and surety, has engaged in our behalf, and conquered.

Our Substitute and Surety

“Every eye in the unfallen universe is bent upon those who profess to be Christ’s followers. Here, in this atom of a world, an earnest warfare is going on—a battle in which Christ, our substitute and surety, has engaged in our behalf, and conquered. Now we, Christ’s purchased possession, must become soldiers of his cross, and conquer in our own behalf, on our own account, through the power and wisdom given us from above. The influence of the cross of Calvary is to vanquish every earthly and spiritual evil power; and we need to know the plan of the battle, that we may work in harmony with Christ.”

— *Review and Herald*, September 29, 1891

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

“Pray as did Moses, ‘Lord, reveal to me Thy glory.’ A revelation of the goodness, the tenderness, and love of Jesus toward fallen man will cause self to sink into nothingness, and will exalt Jesus. Lift Him up, the Man of Calvary; talk of Jesus and His matchless love. There is where many who present the truth fail. They talk doctrines, but do not dwell upon the matchless, forbearing love of Jesus.”

— Letter 6b, 1890