

Under the Influence of Satan

The Extent of the Danger

“The third angel’s message, in the place of swelling into a loud cry, is being smothered.”

—Manuscript 177, 1899

From Cause to Effect

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From Cause to Effect

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From Cause to Effect

“The Lord has sent you warnings, but you have not heeded them....

“The deceptive power of the enemy has led you to leave God’s banner trailing in the dust while Dr. Kellogg has committed himself as working ‘undenominationally’ in a work which has taken the money from a people who are decidedly a denominational people....

From Cause to Effect

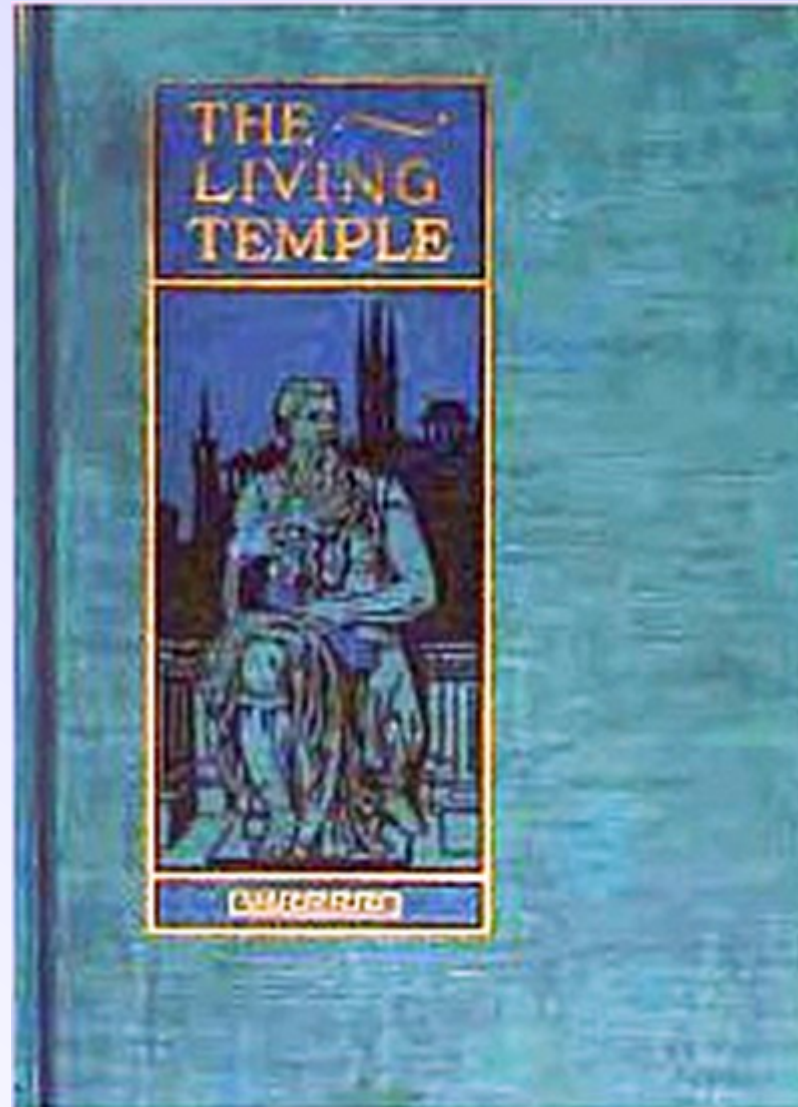
“The work has been hindered, the cause of God should have a different showing, far different, and who is to blame for this hindrance? You give heed to men not of our faith. You delight to show what you have done, and by a free use of money that was not yours to handle, in a way that God has not appointed.”

— Manuscript Releases, vol. 4, 429–432

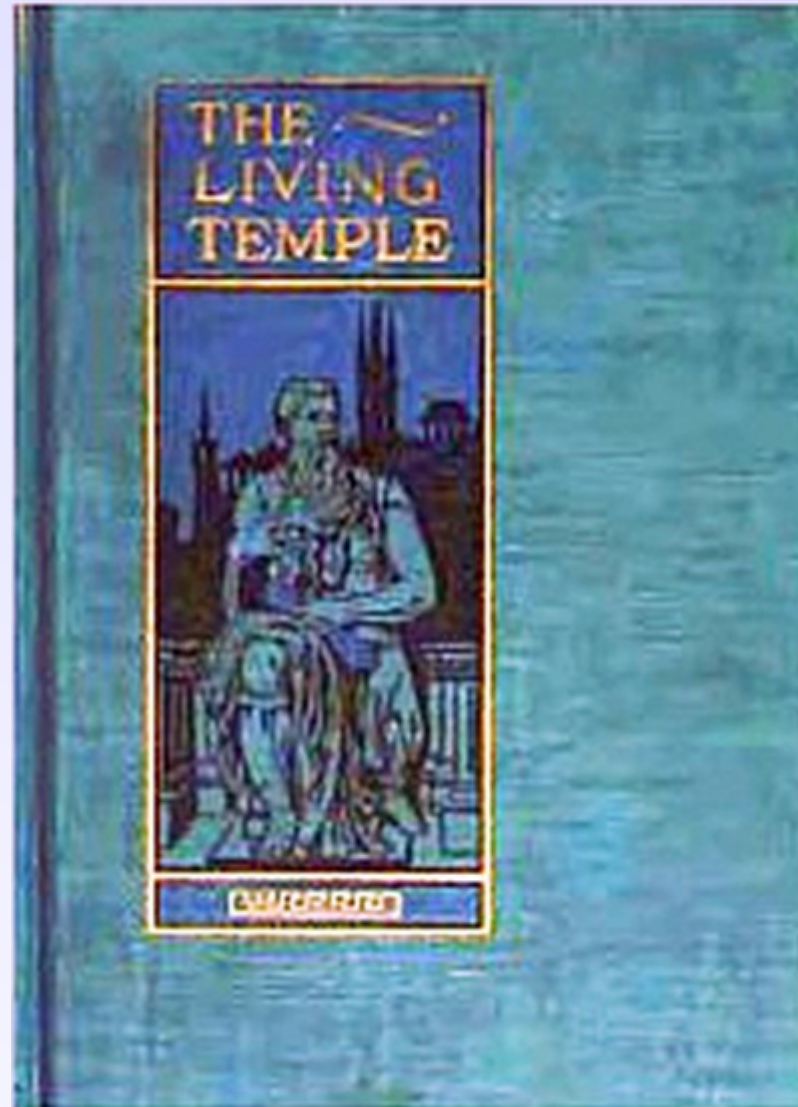
From Cause to Effect



From Cause to Effect



From Cause to Effect



From Cause to Effect

“God does not endorse the efforts put forth by different ones to make the work of Dr. Kellogg as hard as possible, in order to build themselves up. God gave the light on health reform, and those who rejected it, rejected God. One and another who knew better, said that it all came from Dr. Kellogg, and they made war upon him. This had a bad influence on the doctor. He put on the coat of irritation and retaliation. God did not want him to stand in a position of warfare, and he does not want you to stand there.”

— *General Conference Bulletin*, April 6, 1903

Alpha and Omega

“*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.”

— *Selected Messages*, Book 1, 203

“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.”

— *Selected Messages*, Book 1, 200

The Warning

“As I am shown these special things of Satan’s science, and how he deceived the holy angels, I am afraid of the men who have entered into the study of the science that Satan carried into the warfare in heaven. Oh, how I have longed to be where I should not be compelled to see the same science practiced on this earth by medical practitioners.”

— *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 11, 212

The Warning

“Be cautious in regard to what you read and how you hear. Take not a particle of interest in spiritualistic theories. Satan is waiting to steal a march upon every one who allows himself to be deceived by his hypnotism. He begins to exert his power over them just as soon as they begin to investigate his theories.”

—Letter 123, 1904

The Warning

“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.”

— Fundamentals of Christian Education, 93

Echoes of Lucifer

“This whole matter has been presented to me. You have worked as Lucifer worked in the heavenly courts to persuade his associates to unite with him. The enemy has used his arts upon your mind. Your boasted study of science and your assertion that you had obtained something excellent have deceived the men connected with you, and they have refused to listen to the warnings sent to keep them from listening to your false representations.”

— *Battle Creek Letters*, 120

A Glimpse of the Battle

Remember this?

“God calls for far more tact, more wise generalship, than has yet been given Him by His human agents. There is need of sharp, sanctified thinking, and keen work to counteract the ingenious plans of Satan.”

— *Youth's Instructor*, May 24, 1894

A Glimpse of the Battle

In late August, 1903, the Doctor dictated a letter to his long-time friend and co-worker, Dr. David Paulson. Kellogg was clearly feeling that his decision to re-open Battle Creek (against Ellen White's counsel) was going to precipitate a rupture between the medical work and the General Conference. This letter has a distinctly militant tone, making it a fascinating read. Unfortunately, it runs to nine typewritten pages; all we can include are the barest of selections:

A Glimpse of the Battle

“We are getting into strange times. It looks as though a line of battle was being formed.... The Conference men are determined to run the Sanitarium and the medical missionary work.... The devil will tempt some of our doctors who are ambitious for place and professional opportunities to join hands with these men....

“I understood you over the telephone that you had “crossed the Rubicon.” I think Jones and Waggoner have done the same, and Magan and Sutherland....

A Glimpse of the Battle

“We have a truth which.... appeals to men and women more powerfully than any prophetic argument or any of the old doctrines which have so long been taught. These newer truths which have come to us have more converting power in them... than all the doctrines which have been preached during the last forty years put together.... The living temple gospel renders useless a whole lot of their old flint muskets and their stale ammunition....

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Multitudes of heathen believe in an ever present God, in God working in the living things about us. The eyes of Christians have been blinded to this fact by false philosophy.... [and this is] far more pernicious and injurious as to consequences than Sunday-keeping or belief in the immortality of the soul....

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I hope you will have a good time in Illinois and in Kansas. The principal thing is to get acquainted with a lot of young people. Do not forget to get the names of all the young people. A good way to get hold of the names is to tell them that we have some interesting literature we want to send them. Try to get some plan organized for selling the *Living Temple*.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

The combined protest of Ellen White and denominational leaders managed to temporarily block Kellogg's plan for the College. But by 1905, Kellogg was desperate for student workers in the Sanitarium. He began advertising the establishment of the "Battle Creek Schools," a grandiose "university" to operate in conjunction with the Sanitarium. The sales pitch indicated that students could choose from: "Professional, Scientific, Literary, Biblical, Technical, Industrial. Forty courses leading to diplomas and degrees." And, of course, they could pay their expenses by working in the San.

A Glimpse of the Battle

In many ways it was a great opportunity for a young man or woman... provided one was willing to ignore Ellen White's counsel to avoid the faith-destroying influences then so prevalent at the Sanitarium and Battle Creek in general. It was a straight forward contest: Kellogg was trying to get Adventist youth to Battle Creek, and Ellen White was warning them to stay away.

And that's why Kellogg needed to discredit Ellen White.

A Glimpse of the Battle

But how do you discredit the Spirit of Prophecy? Attack its source of credibility. That would be God, and the whole concept of inspiration. That's what gave Ellen White credibility and influence with church members. Cut inspiration out of the picture, and she's just another old woman as far as authority goes.

No... wait. That's too much. No one with any personal experience would go for that. Kellogg needed to dial it back a bit, but how?

A Glimpse of the Battle

Simple. Just say that *sometimes* her ideas came from God, and *sometimes* she was influenced by what someone else wrote or said to her. That's all it takes. Plant that idea in people's thinking, and they'll surely find some part of the Spirit of Prophecy to apply it to! Of course, Dr. Kellogg wanted it to apply to the whole thing about Battle Creek and the Sanitarium being off track. With that out of the way, the cheap labor tap would flow again!

A Glimpse of the Battle

Writing to W.C. White shortly after getting home from a trip to Europe, the General Conference president [A.G. Daniells] told how “one of the leading brethren in Ireland” had heard from Dr. Kellogg that “Testimonies... were sent out with Sister White’s stamp upon them, which she herself never saw,” and that the Doctor had once forced a confession from Willie that “he and her assistants had made up a testimony and signed her name, and sent it to Dr. Kellogg.”

Daniells continued:

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I find that the air is full of doubts and questionings regarding the Spirit of prophecy. I believe that it is our duty to rise up and meet this evil thing and give our people that which will undeceive them and give them assurance. I am persuaded that the war that is to be waged against the Spirit of prophecy is to come from within and not outside of our own denomination.

“Now I know where this evil work originates: in every instance almost I have been able to trace it to one place. Letters and statements are continually going out calculated to arouse suspicion and bring unbelief and rejection. This work is going on all the time, and is reaching out to the ends of the earth.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

Daniells wanted something done, had wanted it for months, but Ellen White urged discretion in dealing with the Doctor. She did more than that, of course, and she wasn't blind to what was going on. In fact, she was keeping a close eye on many details of the devil's effort.

When the "Battle Creek Schools" issue started heating up again, Elder Daniells was getting desperate:

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I have good reason to believe [these “Battle Creek schools”] are designed for a great drag-net with which to catch our young people. The thing is already beginning to work, and unless something decided is done to counteract the movement, we shall lose hundreds of the very flower of our young people....

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I believe that our whole denomination must be more clearly and fully informed of this dangerous movement at Battle Creek. The Lord has given you [Ellen White] volumes of instruction. What has come to me has informed and aroused me regarding the crisis we are in. I feel sure that if our brethren and sisters knew the facts one half as fully as they have been revealed to you, they would stand as one man against this evil thing. But as it is at present, thousands know but little about it. We say nothing, or speak with whispered breath; and all the while the enemy is at work gaining sympathy, influence, and souls.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I confess to you that this is the greatest sorrow of my life. I have no desire to make war on Dr. Kellogg. I do not care what fame he gets, nor how many worldly people go to Battle Creek; but it breaks my heart to see our young people go there, to be poisoned against the ministry that brought their parents into the truth, and against the message for which their parents have stood and sacrificed so loyally. No one need say that they are not thus influenced. I know better. When a father tells me that his son has become an infidel at Battle Creek, and declines to recommend him to his Conference for an honorable medical position, I know there is more than imagination on my part regarding the character of the influence there.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I seriously fear that for some months we have been losing ground in this controversy. While we have been silent, they have been aggressive; their efforts have not been open and frank. They are moving under cover, and are gaining ground....

“They press their warfare untiringly in all directions. Everywhere we go we run onto it. Now and then some one sends us letters or copies of letters sent out from Battle Creek, which are absolutely untrue, and altogether deceiving and undermining in their character. And from all sources we learn of our young people going there.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“These things force the issue upon us. The Spirit of Prophecy has warned our young people not to go to Battle Creek. Dr. Kellogg has determined that they shall go there, and they are going. For one, I feel that this denomination ought to rise up in the name of God, and stop this thing.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

To Elder Daniells' letter, Ellen White responded:

“I have light from the Lord that at this time we must act with great caution; for the enemy is watching our every movement. At times I have been ready to take steps that would be called aggressive.... I would read over the letters containing warning and caution that I have had from the Lord for several in Battle Creek. At times I have felt that I must print all the warnings given me for Dr. Kellogg....”

A Glimpse of the Battle

“But I have not yet done this because I have been impressed to wait. If I should make a strong move in this direction, the battle would be on. Those who are opposing the light God has given would feel that they had been attacked and would claim that they were compelled to make moves that otherwise they would not have made. And it would take much of our time to meet the issue.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Let us hold on patiently for a little while, and let the elements break forth that are struggling into life. Let not too many articles be published in the *Review and Herald* that are of a character to stir up strife....”

A Glimpse of the Battle

Hold it! What kind of a war is this? The enemy is killing us; our church members don't even know what's going on! And we're supposed to wait?

Welcome to the *polemos*. There's a reason for reading *Patriarchs and Prophets* and *Great Controversy*. And there was a good reason for waiting:

A Glimpse of the Battle

Ellen White wrote:

“Some who have been deceived by men in responsible places will repent and be converted. And in all our dealings with them, we must remember that none of those who are in the depth of Satan’s snare know that they are there.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

Later, she would describe that time period:

“Long ago, some thought that the time had come when we must take decided action to break the spell [but] in the visions of the night, I was in an assembly of the physicians, and I saw the work that was being planned. Then I said to my son, “I must get everything in readiness; for soon we shall see the necessity of having the armor on, ready for action. In that meeting many things were said which I can and must meet. I must now work.” And we did work.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

“We had to move, and yet we had to wait until those in error thought they could carry things against the ministers and churches. I was shown their course of action and had everything in readiness for such a movement and labored to defeat their deep-laid plot.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

Events of late December, 1905, constitute the tipping point of Dr. Kellogg's opposition to Ellen White, the General Conference, and God's work in general. It was then that the credibility of the rebellion was—if not completely, then at least irrecoverably—broken. Oddly, this story is almost unknown. It certainly deserves as much interest as the “iceberg vision” of 1903, and arguably more.

W.C. White sets the scene for us in a letter to Elder Irwin:

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Elder Daniels tells me of a telegram from Mother asking him to wait in Battle Creek until manuscripts arrived which were mailed December twenty-first.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

Now we switch to Elder Daniells' account of the events that followed.

“Yesterday morning I came early to the [Dime Tabernacle] office to see if the communication had arrived from Sister White; I was disappointed that it had not come. A few minutes later one of the Doctors from the Sanitarium called to see me. He said that he was in great perplexity of mind; he had been brought up from a child to look upon every message from Sister White as having emanated from the Lord; he said that now he was so bewildered and confused by all he had heard, that he hardly knew what to think nor what course to pursue.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“He stated that the night before he with a large company of men, including Judge Arthur, Professor Nicola, Dr. C.C. Nicola, Dr. Rand, Hiland Butler, and many of the heads of the departments in the Sanitarium, had sat from five o’clock until eleven o’clock listening to Dr. Kellogg outline the recent controversy from his standpoint. He said that the Doctor assured them that he believed in the Spirit of Prophecy, and believed that Sister White is a good woman and that she had been inspired of the Lord.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“But he went on then to establish by many infallible proofs the fact that all of the communications which were sent out, could not be relied upon as coming from the Lord.

“Now,” said this Doctor, “I want, if possible, that you shall make it plain to me what messages we are to understand [are] from the Lord, and which ones emanate from men who are influencing Sister White; in other words, tell me how to know the difference between the Testimonies that the Lord sends and those which are prompted by reports sent to Sister White.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

“While we were talking, someone came to the door and handed me the large envelope containing the Testimonies I had been looking for. This Doctor saw me receive this bundle of Testimonies. When he asked me to tell him how to decide which Testimonies were genuine and which were spurious, I told him that I was unable to give him any light whatever on this point. I told him that to me they were all genuine, and I knew of no means by which he could distinguish the true from the false; that to me they were either all from the Lord or from the Devil.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Then I called his attention to this envelope containing the Testimonies that had been handed in while we were talking. “Now,” said I, “Doctor, we will open this envelope, and you shall be the first one to look upon these Testimonies; take them, look them over, and tell me whether they are genuine or spurious—whether they were given to her by the Lord, or by some man.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

“He took them and looked at the titles, the dates, and the signatures, and handing them over he said to me, “Well, I can not tell you whether these are from the Lord or from man; whether they are reliable or unreliable.” “It looks to me,” said he, “that it is a question of faith on my part as to whether Sister White is a servant of God or a wicked pretender.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Well,” said I, “you are just as able to tell me who inspired these communications as I am to tell you; you have seen them first; you know just as much about them as I do; I can not give you the slightest information that you do not possess. Now,” said I, “the only ground for me to occupy is absolute confidence that God is revealing to His servant that which the church needs to understand, and that every single communication which she sends out, emanates from God and not from man.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

This was not Dr. Kellogg, of course, but one of the doctors from the Sanitarium. With a positive result like that to start off the campaign, Elder Daniells prepared for the main battle, the reading of the Testimonies in the Dime Tabernacle that evening.

His account continues:

A Glimpse of the Battle

“The people had heard that the communications were coming from Sister White, and were all anxious to hear them. At 7:30 the Tabernacle was filled—the auditorium, the vestries, and the gallery. I did not see Dr. Kellogg, but I saw W.K. Kellogg, Dr. Paulson, and Elder Jones, Elder Taylor, and other leading men. We first had a very earnest season of prayer; then.... I read the telegram that I had received from Sister White, and proceeded to read the communications. I read both of them without a comment.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“The people listened with breathless interest, and the power and authority of the living God accompanied the message. There was a deep hush and a solemn silence that I have seldom witnessed in a congregation. It seemed to me as I read that I never felt the burning power of words reaching my own soul as these.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“When I had finished, it was nine o’clock, but I told the congregation that it was my impression that we ought to pray—that we ought to resort to earnest prayer, and invited those who felt the same way to retire to the north vestry where we could engage in prayer together. Such a great crowd remained that we changed from the vestry to the auditorium. I think the auditorium must have been two thirds full. We did not spend time to talk, but got down on our knees at once and united in earnest prayer to God.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“We prayed that our eyes might be opened that we might see things as God sees them. We prayed that Dr. Kellogg and his associates and all the helpers might be led to receive and obey the solemn messages that had come to us. The Spirit of the Lord was present. At ten o’clock we closed the service and quietly retired.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I should have said that when the general meeting closed, three men who had been in the meeting [with Dr. Kellogg] the night before from five to eleven o’clock, came forward and told me that the meeting held the previous night had been clearly described by the testimony I had read entitled, “The Result of a Failure to Heed God’s Warnings,” and they said if there had been a doubt in their minds regarding the source of the Testimonies, it would have been swept away by their own statements in the Testimonies.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I have talked with a number who were in the meeting, and I can but believe that Sister White was stirred up by the Lord on the very day that she caused this message to be written and posted to us for the purpose of getting it into our hands on the very day that it arrived.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“It is profoundly impressive to look at the facts. The message was written in her diary January 1, 1904, almost two years ago. Thursday morning, December 21, 1905, she was roused to have that message copied from her diary and posted to Battle Creek. The work was done, and the telegram sent at 11 o’clock that night. Monday night, December 25, a private meeting was held with the leading men in a room in the College. This meeting was of such a nature that a number have told me that if they had not been well grounded, they would have been turned away entirely from the Testimonies. One said that he would be driven into infidelity if he believed the things the Doctor related to them....”

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Early the next morning after this meeting was held, the message was in our hands, and in twenty-four hours after these misleading, bewildering, confusing representations were made to a few men privately, they were openly exposed to nearly two thousand people.

A Glimpse of the Battle

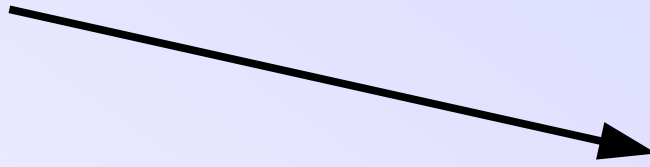
“Men may say what they like; I believe we have a living God—the author of such co-incidences as these. I am deeply impressed. The authority and power of the Infinite One came to us last night. Victory has been given to this cause, and it will be worked out now in the Lord’s own way. I believe that the fear and restraint that has been upon many, has been broken, and that now they will stand calmly and fearlessly without wavering in defense of the truth of God.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I wish you were here to see and feel what we are seeing and experiencing. I am amply repaid for all the anxiety and perplexity through which I have passed during these fierce struggles. I know that God is rewarding us for our pledge of unswerving loyalty to the Spirit of prophecy as well as all the rest of this message. I shall now work harder than ever to enlighten minds regarding the false reports that have been poured into their ears for the purpose of destroying the authority of the Testimonies of God’s Spirit.”

The Warning

Lucifer's Rebellion



Christ's Response



**The "Good Kellogg"
(Beginning of Loud Cry)**

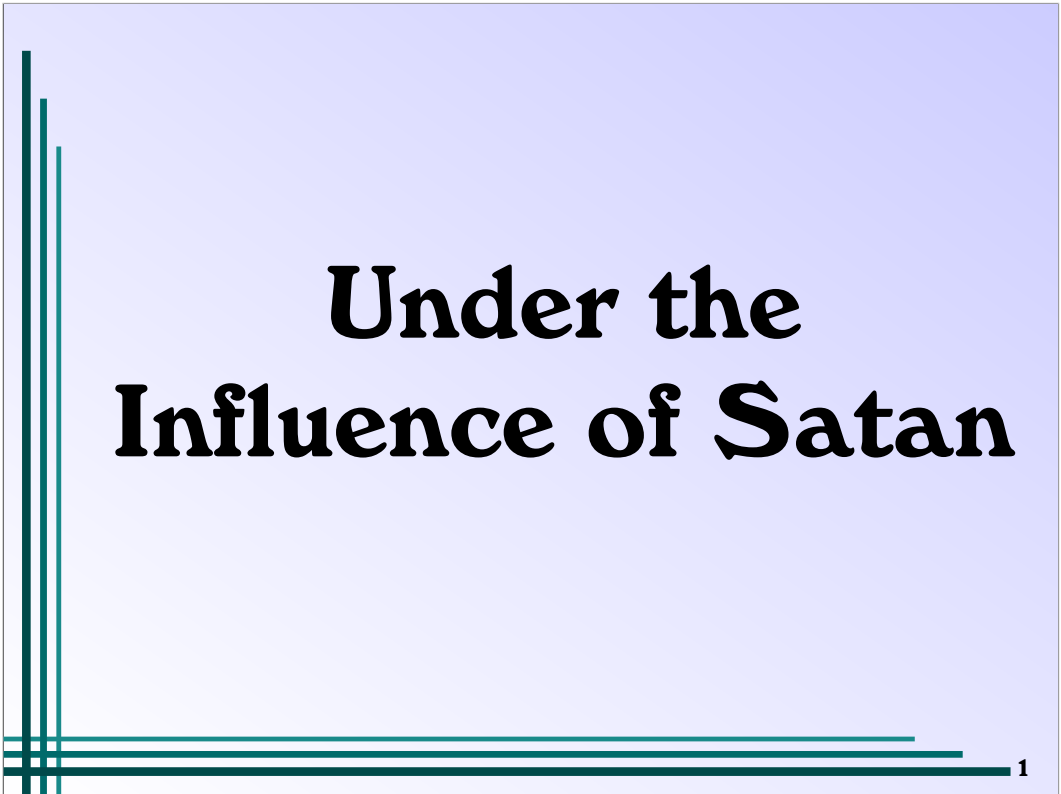


**The Loud Cry
(Final Refutation)**

**The "Bad Kellogg"
(Alpha Apostasy)**



The Omega Apostasy



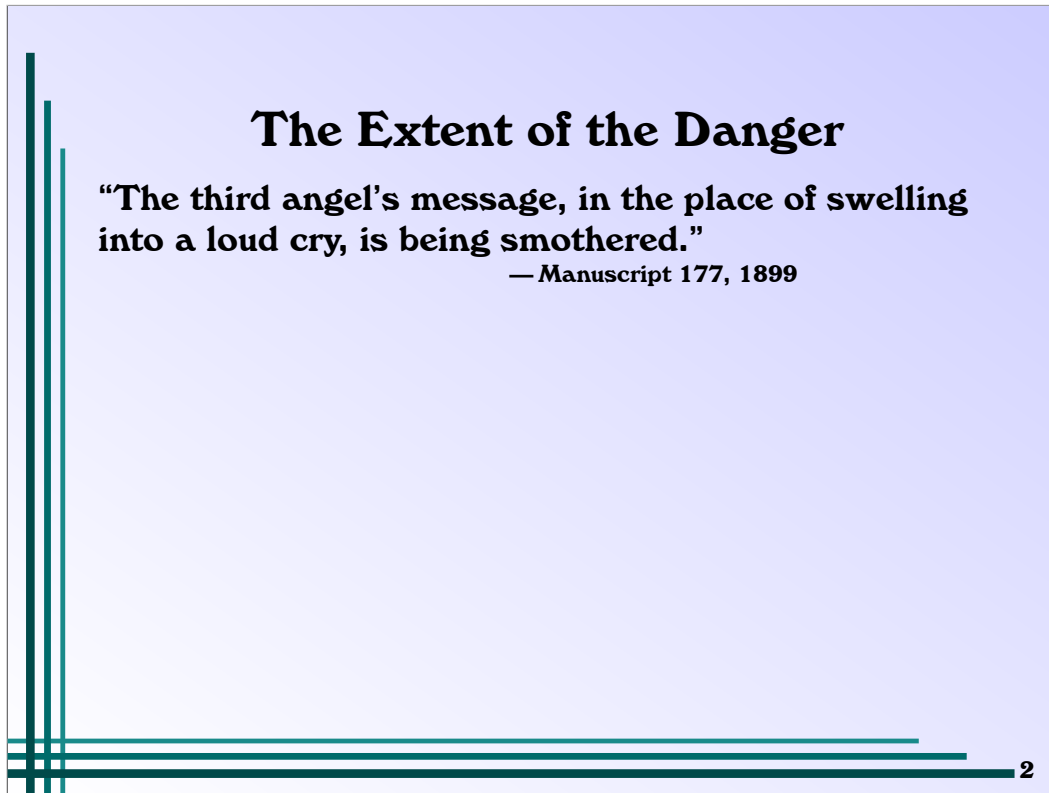
Under the Influence of Satan

1

Our last presentation dealt with the “Good Kellogg.” Unfortunately, that isn’t the end of the doctor’s story. We need, now, to consider the sequel, the account of the “Bad Kellogg.”

While this story is incredibly sad, it is instructive, and a part of the sacred history preserved for our benefit.

We begin with the circumstances that the devil created to attack Dr. Kellogg at his weakest point, and then used to kill him. Yes, remember, we are in a war.



This was written May 10, 1899. And the title of the manuscript?

“The Medical Missionary Work.”

By that time, the one doing the worst smothering was J.H. Kellogg, by the distortion of the medical missionary work. Instead of using it to serve as the “right hand” of the message, he was largely jettisoning the message in favor of a watered down “Christian humanitarianism.”

But it had started with the rejection of “the Lord’s physician” years earlier...

From Cause to Effect

“I have light from the Lord that Dr. Kellogg needs to be guarded. He is leaving a wrong impression on minds. He has made a mistake in supposing that the medical missionary work has an importance above every other work. Medical missionary work has its place; but it has been made disproportionately important.

3

Later that same year, Ellen White wrote of her concern that Dr. Kellogg was going too far.

CLICK for text:

Considering the lack of sympathy he had received from the saints, it's easy to see how he might step over the line from simply “not connecting” medical missionary work with opposing ministers, to assuming that the ministry as a whole wasn't of much account. The distinction here is that the ministers *performance* of their work may not have been great, but the work itself was still essential. What was needed was better performance, not less importance being attached to the work.

Unfortunately, the result of the past was making itself felt—

From Cause to Effect

“I have light from the Lord that Dr. Kellogg needs to be guarded. He is leaving a wrong impression on minds. He has made a mistake in supposing that the medical missionary work has an importance above every other work. Medical missionary work has its place; but it has been made disproportionately important. **Had Dr. Kellogg’s brethren stood with him in the first of his experience in connection with health reform, the present condition of things would not now exist.**”

— Manuscript 177, 1899

This was written in 1899, but it would be inaccurate to think that Kellogg wasn’t warned about “exalting” the medical work above the ministry before this.

From Cause to Effect

“The Lord has sent you warnings, but you have not heeded them....

“The deceptive power of the enemy has led you to leave God’s banner trailing in the dust while Dr. Kellogg has committed himself as working ‘undenominational’ in a work which has taken the money from a people who are decidedly a denominational people....

1900

As opposition to Kellogg’s work continued year after year, it gave the devil opportunity to tempt him to impatience and pride. The Lord sent warnings and reproofs through Ellen White, but the doctor listened less and less.

CLICK for text:

Basically, since he found it so hard to work with the church, he put less effort into the evangelistic aspect of his work, and spent more time and money on helping people with their health. This made him feel good (helping people does make you feel good, you know), but it wasn’t blessing the people beyond the physical level, and it wasn’t the work God intended.

From Cause to Effect

“The work has been hindered, the cause of God should have a different showing, far different, and who is to blame for this hindrance? You give heed to men not of our faith. You delight to show what you have done, and by a free use of money that was not yours to handle, in a way that God has not appointed.”

— Manuscript Releases, vol. 4, 429-432

Unfortunately, little changed on either side of this situation in the next couple years.

Then, in 1902 the Sanitarium burned down

CLICK for picture:

From Cause to Effect



7

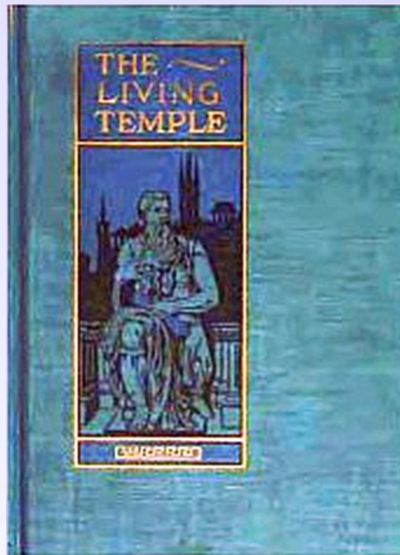
Dr. Kellogg now had opportunity to move the Sanitarium out of Battle Creek, and split it up into five or even ten smaller institutions. This is the kind of thing the Spirit of Prophecy had been promoting for all the large institutions at church headquarters. It would have given a chance to make the medical missionary work far more effective in soul winning, and spread the influence of the Lord's work over a much wider area.

Sadly, Dr. Kellogg chose to rebuild in Battle Creek.

Not only did he decide to rebuild, he determined to build bigger, better, and generally fancier. That would take money, so he proposed a plan for fund raising.

He had recently written a book...

From Cause to Effect



8

...which he was willing to donate to the fund raising project. If the Review and Herald would print the book for free, and church members would sell the book without taking a commission, all the profits could go to rebuilding the Sanitarium!

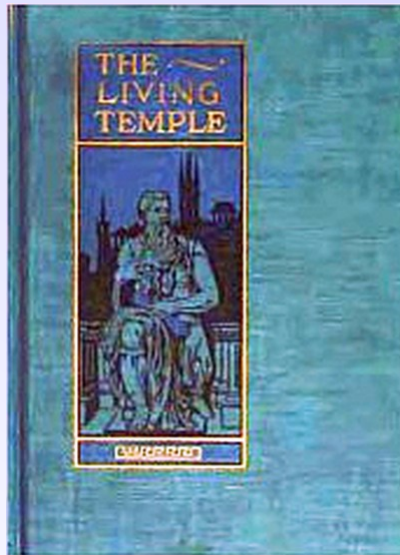
If Kellogg had been honest with the details of his building plans, and honest with the details of the book, things might have turned out differently.

But instead he misled the General Conference officers about the size and expense of the new sanitarium, and put elements of pantheism in his book.

Pantheism is the belief that God is in everything, from rocks to air to bunny rabbits, dolphins, mosquitoes, and people.

Notes continue on next page

From Cause to Effect



9

Pantheism has always been an integral part of Hinduism, but in recent decades it has been modernized, and adapted somewhat sloppily into many of the new, poorly defined, “spiritual” concepts that have been displacing more “traditional” religions.

Much of its popularity is due to the idea that everyone is God. Clearly, if I am God, I have no need to listen to anyone else telling me what I should or shouldn't do. I become the final authority. I can do whatever I want!

One of the most remarkable aspects of Kellogg's story is Ellen White's determined effort to save the man. At the General Conference session of 1903, more than a year after he had written this book, she made her strongest public effort to defend him and the work God had given him. Her goal was to restore the unity of the the evangelistic work and the medical missionary work.

From Cause to Effect

“God does not endorse the efforts put forth by different ones to make the work of Dr. Kellogg as hard as possible, in order to build themselves up. God gave the light on health reform, and those who rejected it, rejected God. One and another who knew better, said that it all came from Dr. Kellogg, and they made war upon him. This had a bad influence on the doctor. He put on the coat of irritation and retaliation. God did not want him to stand in a position of warfare, and he does not want you to stand there.”

— General Conference Bulletin, April 6, 1903

Stop and think about this: She was defending a pantheist! But not defending pantheism. In fact, that subject was never publicly mentioned at the 1903 General Conference session. She would address that a few months later, of course, but first importance was the man's soul.

Unfortunately, the doctor did not respond to her efforts.

When the time did come to address pantheism, Ellen White was clear as to its dangers. One particular phrasing she used in this regard is of special interest.

Alpha and Omega

“*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.”

— *Selected Messages*, Book 1, 203

“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.”

— *Selected Messages*, Book 1, 200

The alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet, and the omega is the last. This imagery was used by the Lord to give us warning of an apostasy—similar to that of the early 1900s—that we may expect in the last days.

Ellen White used the idea of the alpha and omega in her descriptions and comments about Kellogg’s book a number of times. Three, in particular, link the two terms closely together.

CLICK for two items

The Warning

“As I am shown these special things of Satan’s science, and how he deceived the holy angels, I am afraid of the men who have entered into the study of the science that Satan carried into the warfare in heaven. Oh, how I have longed to be where I should not be compelled to see the same science practiced on this earth by medical practitioners.”

— Manuscript Releases, vol. 11, 212

The Warning

“Be cautious in regard to what you read and how you hear. Take not a particle of interest in spiritualistic theories. Satan is waiting to steal a march upon every one who allows himself to be deceived by his hypnotism. He begins to exert his power over them just as soon as they begin to investigate his theories.”

— Letter 123, 1904

The Warning

“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.”

— Fundamentals of Christian Education, 93

Today, of course, we might justly include every modern media format, for the devil has certainly been diligent to use them all for his corrupt purposes.

Simply staying away from garbage seems like it should be easy, but the devil has ways of dealing with that.

In the world of academia, this notion that there could be information that must be avoided is anathema! Human pride wants to master every challenge, and to think that there is a demonic power to fear is absolute heresy!

Echoes of Lucifer

“This whole matter has been presented to me. You have worked as Lucifer worked in the heavenly courts to persuade his associates to unite with him. The enemy has used his arts upon your mind. Your boasted study of science and your assertion that you had obtained something excellent have deceived the men connected with you, and they have refused to listen to the warnings sent to keep them from listening to your false representations.”

— Battle Creek Letters, 120

A Glimpse of the Battle

Remember this?

“God calls for far more tact, more wise generalship, than has yet been given Him by His human agents. There is need of sharp, sanctified thinking, and keen work to counteract the ingenious plans of Satan.”

— Youth's Instructor, May 24, 1894

CLICK for text:

In presentations like this, I often try to go into some detail on the methods—the Tactics—used by Kellogg (prompted by the devil) in his attack on the church. It's interesting stuff.

This time, though, I want to illustrate this idea of active, intelligent, work against the “ingenious plans of Satan.”

To do that, I'm just going to tell you one key part of the story, but in much greater detail than I would normally try.

A Glimpse of the Battle

In late August, 1903, the Doctor dictated a letter to his long-time friend and co-worker, Dr. David Paulson. Kellogg was clearly feeling that his decision to re-open Battle Creek (against Ellen White's counsel) was going to precipitate a rupture between the medical work and the General Conference. This letter has a distinctly militant tone, making it a fascinating read. Unfortunately, it runs to nine typewritten pages; all we can include are the barest of selections:

I spent some time trying to put that together from scratch, but finally decided to just go with the way I wrote it up in my book. I seldom like to just read to a congregation, but I think this part of the story is perhaps sufficiently interesting to let me get away with that approach.

So please settle back a bit, or follow along, with Uncle Dave's Story Hour.

CLICK for text:

A Glimpse of the Battle

“We are getting into strange times. It looks as though a line of battle was being formed.... The Conference men are determined to run the Sanitarium and the medical missionary work.... The devil will tempt some of our doctors who are ambitious for place and professional opportunities to join hands with these men....

“I understood you over the telephone that you had “crossed the Rubicon.” I think Jones and Waggoner have done the same, and Magan and Sutherland....

A Glimpse of the Battle

“We have a truth which.... appeals to men and women more powerfully than any prophetic argument or any of the old doctrines which have so long been taught. These newer truths which have come to us have more converting power in them... than all the doctrines which have been preached during the last forty years put together.... The living temple gospel renders useless a whole lot of their old flint muskets and their stale ammunition....

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Multitudes of heathen believe in an ever present God, in God working in the living things about us. The eyes of Christians have been blinded to this fact by false philosophy... [and this is] far more pernicious and injurious as to consequences than Sunday-keeping or belief in the immortality of the soul....

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I hope you will have a good time in Illinois and in Kansas. The principal thing is to get acquainted with a lot of young people. Do not forget to get the names of all the young people. A good way to get hold of the names is to tell them that we have some interesting literature we want to send them. Try to get some plan organized for selling the *Living Temple*.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

The combined protest of Ellen White and denominational leaders managed to temporarily block Kellogg's plan for the College. But by 1905, Kellogg was desperate for student workers in the Sanitarium. He began advertising the establishment of the "Battle Creek Schools," a grandiose "university" to operate in conjunction with the Sanitarium. The sales pitch indicated that students could choose from: "Professional, Scientific, Literary, Biblical, Technical, Industrial. Forty courses leading to diplomas and degrees." And, of course, they could pay their expenses by working in the San.

A Glimpse of the Battle

In many ways it was a great opportunity for a young man or woman... provided one was willing to ignore Ellen White's counsel to avoid the faith-destroying influences then so prevalent at the Sanitarium and Battle Creek in general. It was a straight forward contest: Kellogg was trying to get Adventist youth to Battle Creek, and Ellen White was warning them to stay away.

And that's why Kellogg needed to discredit Ellen White.

A Glimpse of the Battle

But how do you discredit the Spirit of Prophecy? Attack its source of credibility. That would be God, and the whole concept of inspiration. That's what gave Ellen White credibility and influence with church members. Cut inspiration out of the picture, and she's just another old woman as far as authority goes.

No... wait. That's too much. No one with any personal experience would go for that. Kellogg needed to dial it back a bit, but how?

A Glimpse of the Battle

Simple. Just say that *sometimes* her ideas came from God, and *sometimes* she was influenced by what someone else wrote or said to her. That's all it takes. Plant that idea in people's thinking, and they'll surely find some part of the Spirit of Prophecy to apply it to! Of course, Dr. Kellogg wanted it to apply to the whole thing about Battle Creek and the Sanitarium being off track. With that out of the way, the cheap labor tap would flow again!

A Glimpse of the Battle

Writing to W.C. White shortly after getting home from a trip to Europe, the General Conference president [A.G. Daniells] told how “one of the leading brethren in Ireland” had heard from Dr. Kellogg that “Testimonies... were sent out with Sister White’s stamp upon them, which she herself never saw,” and that the Doctor had once forced a confession from Willie that “he and her assistants had made up a testimony and signed her name, and sent it to Dr. Kellogg.”

Daniells continued:

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I find that the air is full of doubts and questionings regarding the Spirit of prophecy. I believe that it is our duty to rise up and meet this evil thing and give our people that which will undeceive them and give them assurance. I am persuaded that the war that is to be waged against the Spirit of prophecy is to come from within and not outside of our own denomination.

“Now I know where this evil work originates: in every instance almost I have been able to trace it to one place. Letters and statements are continually going out calculated to arouse suspicion and bring unbelief and rejection. This work is going on all the time, and is reaching out to the ends of the earth.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

Daniells wanted something done, had wanted it for months, but Ellen White urged discretion in dealing with the Doctor. She did more than that, of course, and she wasn't blind to what was going on. In fact, she was keeping a close eye on many details of the devil's effort.

When the "Battle Creek Schools" issue started heating up again, Elder Daniells was getting desperate:

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I have good reason to believe [these “Battle Creek schools”] are designed for a great drag-net with which to catch our young people. The thing is already beginning to work, and unless something decided is done to counteract the movement, we shall lose hundreds of the very flower of our young people....

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I believe that our whole denomination must be more clearly and fully informed of this dangerous movement at Battle Creek. The Lord has given you [Ellen White] volumes of instruction. What has come to me has informed and aroused me regarding the crisis we are in. I feel sure that if our brethren and sisters knew the facts one half as fully as they have been revealed to you, they would stand as one man against this evil thing. But as it is at present, thousands know but little about it. We say nothing, or speak with whispered breath; and all the while the enemy is at work gaining sympathy, influence, and souls.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I confess to you that this is the greatest sorrow of my life. I have no desire to make war on Dr. Kellogg. I do not care what fame he gets, nor how many worldly people go to Battle Creek; but it breaks my heart to see our young people go there, to be poisoned against the ministry that brought their parents into the truth, and against the message for which their parents have stood and sacrificed so loyally. No one need say that they are not thus influenced. I know better. When a father tells me that his son has become an infidel at Battle Creek, and declines to recommend him to his Conference for an honorable medical position, I know there is more than imagination on my part regarding the character of the influence there._____

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I seriously fear that for some months we have been losing ground in this controversy. While we have been silent, they have been aggressive; their efforts have not been open and frank. They are moving under cover, and are gaining ground....

“They press their warfare untiringly in all directions. Everywhere we go we run onto it. Now and then some one sends us letters or copies of letters sent out from Battle Creek, which are absolutely untrue, and altogether deceiving and undermining in their character. And from all sources we learn of our young people going there.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“These things force the issue upon us. The Spirit of Prophecy has warned our young people not to go to Battle Creek. Dr. Kellogg has determined that they shall go there, and they are going. For one, I feel that this denomination ought to rise up in the name of God, and stop this thing.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

To Elder Daniells' letter, Ellen White responded:

"I have light from the Lord that at this time we must act with great caution; for the enemy is watching our every movement. At times I have been ready to take steps that would be called aggressive.... I would read over the letters containing warning and caution that I have had from the Lord for several in Battle Creek. At times I have felt that I must print all the warnings given me for Dr. Kellogg...."

A Glimpse of the Battle

“But I have not yet done this because I have been impressed to wait. If I should make a strong move in this direction, the battle would be on. Those who are opposing the light God has given would feel that they had been attacked and would claim that they were compelled to make moves that otherwise they would not have made. And it would take much of our time to meet the issue.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Let us hold on patiently for a little while, and let the elements break forth that are struggling into life. Let not too many articles be published in the *Review and Herald* that are of a character to stir up strife....”

A Glimpse of the Battle

Hold it! What kind of a war is this? The enemy is killing us; our church members don't even know what's going on! And we're supposed to wait?

Welcome to the *polemos*. There's a reason for reading *Patriarchs and Prophets* and *Great Controversy*. And there was a good reason for waiting:

A Glimpse of the Battle

Ellen White wrote:

“Some who have been deceived by men in responsible places will repent and be converted. And in all our dealings with them, we must remember that none of those who are in the depth of Satan’s snare know that they are there.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

Later, she would describe that time period:

“Long ago, some thought that the time had come when we must take decided action to break the spell [but] in the visions of the night, I was in an assembly of the physicians, and I saw the work that was being planned. Then I said to my son, “I must get everything in readiness; for soon we shall see the necessity of having the armor on, ready for action. In that meeting many things were said which I can and must meet. I must now work.” And we did work.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

“We had to move, and yet we had to wait until those in error thought they could carry things against the ministers and churches. I was shown their course of action and had everything in readiness for such a movement and labored to defeat their deep-laid plot.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

Events of late December, 1905, constitute the tipping point of Dr. Kellogg's opposition to Ellen White, the General Conference, and God's work in general. It was then that the credibility of the rebellion was—if not completely, then at least irrecoverably—broken. Oddly, this story is almost unknown. It certainly deserves as much interest as the "iceberg vision" of 1903, and arguably more.

W.C. White sets the scene for us in a letter to Elder Irwin:

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Elder Daniels tells me of a telegram from Mother asking him to wait in Battle Creek until manuscripts arrived which were mailed December twenty-first.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

Now we switch to Elder Daniells' account of the events that followed.

"Yesterday morning I came early to the [Dime Tabernacle] office to see if the communication had arrived from Sister White; I was disappointed that it had not come. A few minutes later one of the Doctors from the Sanitarium called to see me. He said that he was in great perplexity of mind; he had been brought up from a child to look upon every message from Sister White as having emanated from the Lord; he said that now he was so bewildered and confused by all he had heard, that he hardly knew what to think nor what course to pursue.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“He stated that the night before he with a large company of men, including Judge Arthur, Professor Nicola, Dr. C.C. Nicola, Dr. Rand, Hiland Butler, and many of the heads of the departments in the Sanitarium, had sat from five o'clock until eleven o'clock listening to Dr. Kellogg outline the recent controversy from his standpoint. He said that the Doctor assured them that he believed in the Spirit of Prophecy, and believed that Sister White is a good woman and that she had been inspired of the Lord.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“But he went on then to establish by many infallible proofs the fact that all of the communications which were sent out, could not be relied upon as coming from the Lord.

“Now,” said this Doctor, “I want, if possible, that you shall make it plain to me what messages we are to understand [are] from the Lord, and which ones emanate from men who are influencing Sister White; in other words, tell me how to know the difference between the Testimonies that the Lord sends and those which are prompted by reports sent to Sister White.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

“While we were talking, someone came to the door and handed me the large envelope containing the Testimonies I had been looking for. This Doctor saw me receive this bundle of Testimonies. When he asked me to tell him how to decide which Testimonies were genuine and which were spurious, I told him that I was unable to give him any light whatever on this point. I told him that to me they were all genuine, and I knew of no means by which he could distinguish the true from the false; that to me they were either all from the Lord or from the Devil.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Then I called his attention to this envelope containing the Testimonies that had been handed in while we were talking. “Now,” said I, “Doctor, we will open this envelope, and you shall be the first one to look upon these Testimonies; take them, look them over, and tell me whether they are genuine or spurious—whether they were given to her by the Lord, or by some man.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

“He took them and looked at the titles, the dates, and the signatures, and handing them over he said to me, “Well, I can not tell you whether these are from the Lord or from man; whether they are reliable or unreliable.” “It looks to me,” said he, “that it is a question of faith on my part as to whether Sister White is a servant of God or a wicked pretender.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Well,” said I, “you are just as able to tell me who inspired these communications as I am to tell you; you have seen them first; you know just as much about them as I do; I can not give you the slightest information that you do not possess. Now,” said I, “the only ground for me to occupy is absolute confidence that God is revealing to His servant that which the church needs to understand, and that every single communication which she sends out, emanates from God and not from man.”

A Glimpse of the Battle

This was not Dr. Kellogg, of course, but one of the doctors from the Sanitarium. With a positive result like that to start off the campaign, Elder Daniells prepared for the main battle, the reading of the Testimonies in the Dime Tabernacle that evening.

His account continues:

A Glimpse of the Battle

“The people had heard that the communications were coming from Sister White, and were all anxious to hear them. At 7:30 the Tabernacle was filled—the auditorium, the vestries, and the gallery. I did not see Dr. Kellogg, but I saw W.K. Kellogg, Dr. Paulson, and Elder Jones, Elder Taylor, and other leading men. We first had a very earnest season of prayer; then.... I read the telegram that I had received from Sister White, and proceeded to read the communications. I read both of them without a comment.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“The people listened with breathless interest, and the power and authority of the living God accompanied the message. There was a deep hush and a solemn silence that I have seldom witnessed in a congregation. It seemed to me as I read that I never felt the burning power of words reaching my own soul as these.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“When I had finished, it was nine o’clock, but I told the congregation that it was my impression that we ought to pray—that we ought to resort to earnest prayer, and invited those who felt the same way to retire to the north vestry where we could engage in prayer together. Such a great crowd remained that we changed from the vestry to the auditorium. I think the auditorium must have been two thirds full. We did not spend time to talk, but got down on our knees at once and united in earnest prayer to God.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“We prayed that our eyes might be opened that we might see things as God sees them. We prayed that Dr. Kellogg and his associates and all the helpers might be led to receive and obey the solemn messages that had come to us. The Spirit of the Lord was present. At ten o’clock we closed the service and quietly retired.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I should have said that when the general meeting closed, three men who had been in the meeting [with Dr. Kellogg] the night before from five to eleven o’clock, came forward and told me that the meeting held the previous night had been clearly described by the testimony I had read entitled, “The Result of a Failure to Heed God’s Warnings,” and they said if there had been a doubt in their minds regarding the source of the Testimonies, it would have been swept away by their own statements in the Testimonies.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I have talked with a number who were in the meeting, and I can but believe that Sister White was stirred up by the Lord on the very day that she caused this message to be written and posted to us for the purpose of getting it into our hands on the very day that it arrived.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“It is profoundly impressive to look at the facts. The message was written in her diary January 1, 1904, almost two years ago. Thursday morning, December 21, 1905, she was roused to have that message copied from her diary and posted to Battle Greek. The work was done, and the telegram sent at 11 o'clock that night. Monday night, December 25, a private meeting was held with the leading men in a room in the College. This meeting was of such a nature that a number have told me that if they had not been well grounded, they would have been turned away entirely from the Testimonies. One said that he would be driven into infidelity if he believed the things the Doctor related to them....

A Glimpse of the Battle

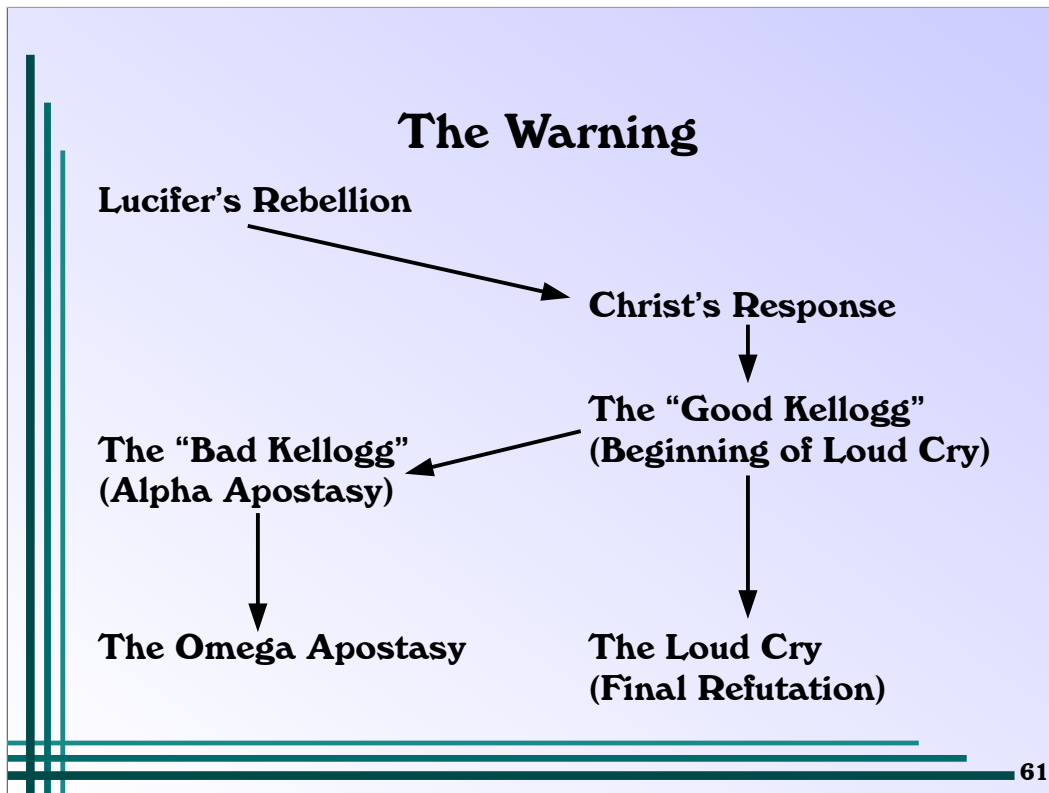
“Early the next morning after this meeting was held, the message was in our hands, and in twenty-four hours after these misleading, bewildering, confusing representations were made to a few men privately, they were openly exposed to nearly two thousand people.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“Men may say what they like; I believe we have a living God—the author of such co-incidences as these. I am deeply impressed. The authority and power of the Infinite One came to us last night. Victory has been given to this cause, and it will be worked out now in the Lord’s own way. I believe that the fear and restraint that has been upon many, has been broken, and that now they will stand calmly and fearlessly without wavering in defense of the truth of God.

A Glimpse of the Battle

“I wish you were here to see and feel what we are seeing and experiencing. I am amply repaid for all the anxiety and perplexity through which I have passed during these fierce struggles. I know that God is rewarding us for our pledge of unswerving loyalty to the Spirit of prophecy as well as all the rest of this message. I shall now work harder than ever to enlighten minds regarding the false reports that have been poured into their ears for the purpose of destroying the authority of the Testimonies of God’s Spirit.”



Through the lessons of past history, the Lord has provided a series of parallel illustrations designed to teach us what is coming.

We've looked briefly at the record of the first four...

CLICK for four items

And yet two more remain.

CLICK for two items

We'll be looking at these in our final meeting.



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