

The Sanctuary: God's Care
throughout the narrative of mankind

What is unique about Adventists?

- In terms of beliefs, it's The Sanctuary understanding



What is the 1st Sanctuary in the Bible?

- Garden of Eden!
- Gen 3:8: "Lord God *walking* in the garden"
 - Lev 26:11,12: "I will set My tabernacle among you, and ... I will *walk* among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."
- Gen 2:15: "Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden *to tend and keep it.*"
 - Num 3:6,7: "Bring the tribe of Levi near ... to do the *work* of the tabernacle."
- Gen 3:24: "So He drove out the man; and He placed *cherubim* at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life."
 - Two cherubim in the Most Holy place in The Tabernacle (Ex 25.18-22)
- God was visiting Adam and Eve in the evenings



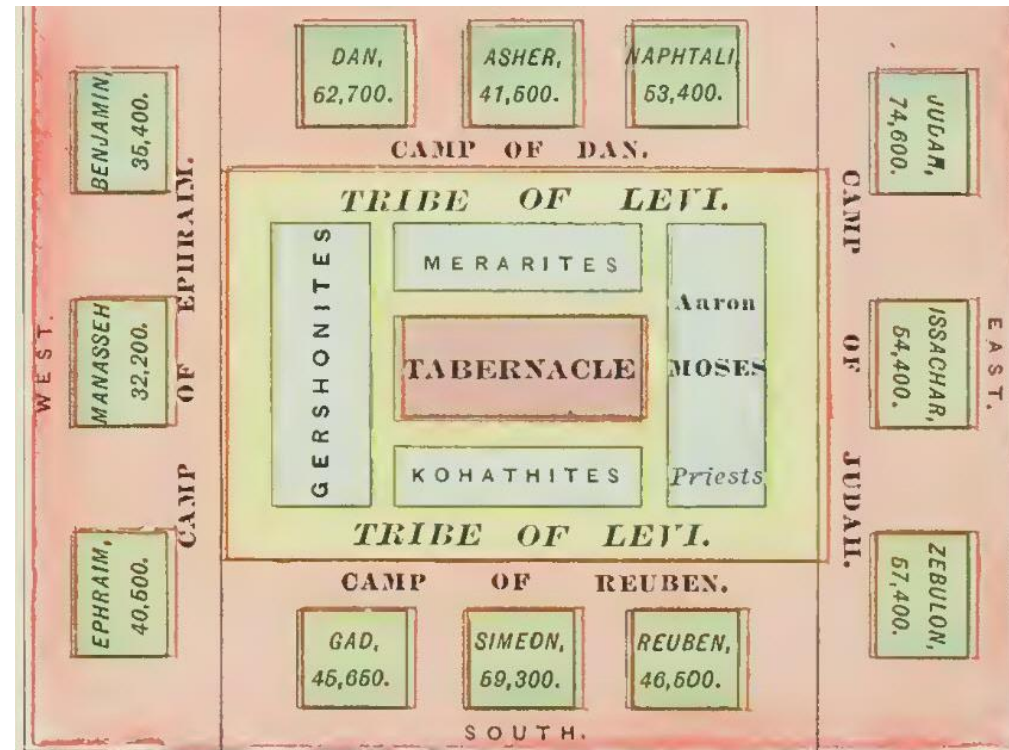
God's first intervention for the broken mankind

- Gen 3: Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, “*Where are you?*”
- So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.”
- And He said, “Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?”
- And I will put enmity
Between you and the woman,
And between your seed and her Seed;
He shall bruise your head,
And you shall bruise His heel.”
- “I will greatly multiply your sorrow
and your conception;
- “Cursed *is* the ground for your sake;



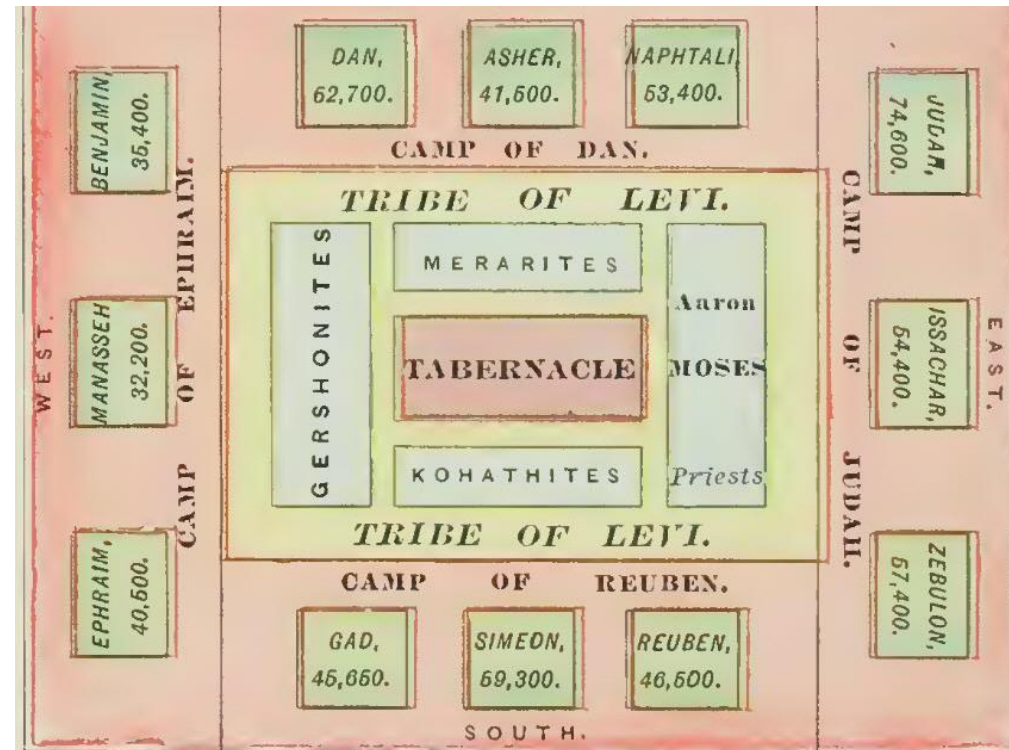
Why did God ask Moses to build a Tabernacle?

- Is 59:2: "But your *iniquities* have *separated* you from your God; And your *sins* have *hidden* His face from you, So that He will not hear."
- Ex 25:8: "And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may *dwell* among them."
- Ex 29:46: "... I *am* the LORD their God, who brought them up *out of the land of Egypt*, that I may *dwell* among them."



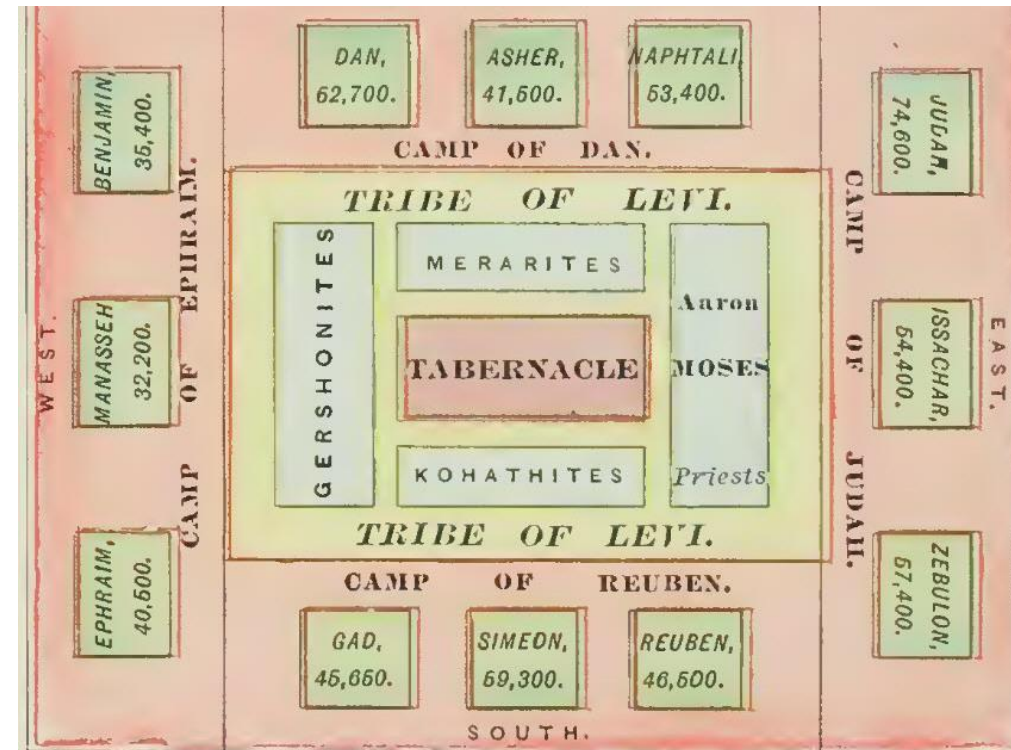
God's Love Letter to Mankind

- Ex 25:22 "And there I will *meet* with you, and I will *speak* with you from above the mercy seat..."
- God desires, through the Sanctuary, to
 - Walk among us
 - Dwell with us
 - Meet us
 - Speak with us!



What did Israelites do for vacation?

- Spend time with brothers and sisters around the temple and festivals: worships, fellowship and social service
- What would happen with Adventists if the Church would become the center of activities?
- What would happen if we would spend part of our vacation on:
 - Church camp meetings for kids
 - ADRA week community work
 - Programs for refugees



Jesus' sorrow for an end of probation

- Mt 23:37,38: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, *as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings,* but you were not willing!"
See! Your house is left to you desolate;



What's the Church's main competition?

- A bar! Because there you can say everything bad you did, and there will always be somebody to hug you.
- What would happen if our churches would be attentive to individual needs?



I drew them with
gentle cords, with
bands of

love

Hosea 11:4



**“How can I give
you up, Ephraim?
How can I hand
you over, Israel?”**

Hosea 11:8

"THE ONLY THING OF IMPORTANCE, WHEN WE DEPART,
WILL BE THE TRACES OF LOVE WE HAVE LEFT BEHIND."

- Albert Schweitzer

 WHY



Co-workers with God

- 1Co 3:9 "For we are co-workers in God's service"
- "The spirit of unselfish labor for others gives **depth, stability, and Christlike loveliness** to the character, and brings **peace and happiness** to its possessor."
- "Those who [...] devote themselves to **unselfish effort** for the good of others, are most surely **working out their own salvation.**"



Jesus and the Sanctuary

AND THE WORD
BECAME FLESH
AND DWELT AMONG US,
**AND WE BEHELD
HIS GLORY,**

THE GLORY AS OF THE ONLY
BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER,
FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH.

JOHN 1:14

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For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

- Romans 8:3-4 -



Jesus prepares a place so that He can dwell with us

*“Do not let your heart be troubled;
believe in God, believe also in Me.
² In My Father’s house are many
dwelling places; if it were not so, I
would have told you; for I go to
prepare a place for you. ³ If I go and
prepare a place for you, I will come
again and receive you to Myself, that
where I am, there you may be also.”
John 14:1-3*

Jesus in Heavenly Sanctuary

heartlight.org

Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

- Hebrews 2:18 -

Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Hebrews 7:25

Jesus in Heavenly Sanctuary

Therefore,
since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast to the faith we profess. Let us then approach God's throne of Grace with confidence so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in our time of need.

...WE HAVE CONFIDENCE TO ENTER THE MOST HOLY PLACE BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS, BY A NEW AND LIVING WAY OPENED FOR US THROUGH THE CURTAIN, THAT IS, HIS BODY...

HEBREWS 10:19,20

LET US DRAW NEAR with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with

PURE WATER



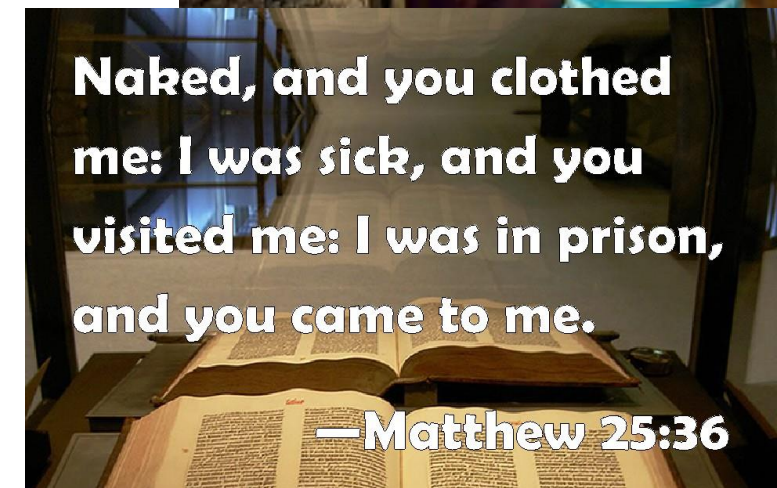
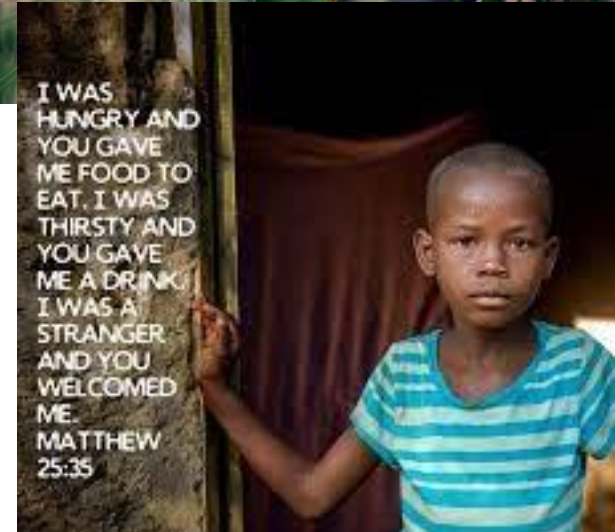
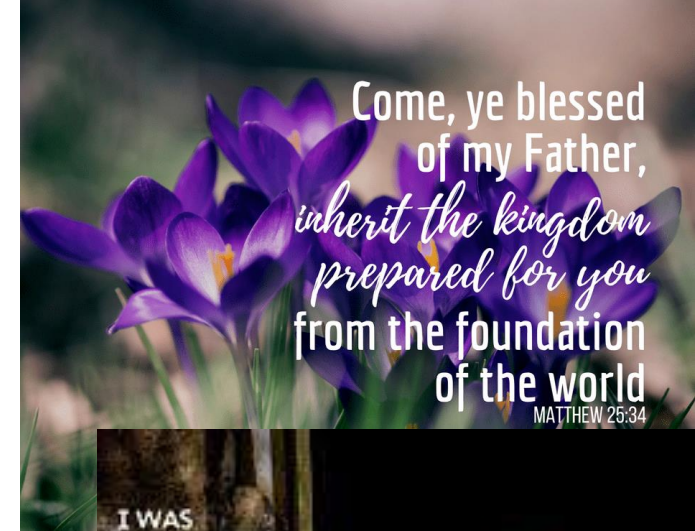
Practical implications of our Sanctuary understanding

- God is *not* an abstract Being watching us from a safe distance
- He actively engages in the Mankind Narrative and in our personal lives
- Jesus did not only die for us, He daily intercedes in our favor in Heavenly sanctuary
- "His work as our high priest in judgement makes application of the benefits of his sacrifice"



The Second Coming of Christ and The Final Judgment (Mt 24-25)

- v3: what is the sign of your coming?
- Jesus speaks a bit about the signs, but speaks much more about how to wait for his return:
 - The Parable of 10 Virgins: Be ready
 - The Parable of 10 Talents: Use our talents for God's service
 - The final judgement is the culmination:
Based on serving the community (v45)
- When we take care of poor, we demonstrate the values of the kingdom that will come



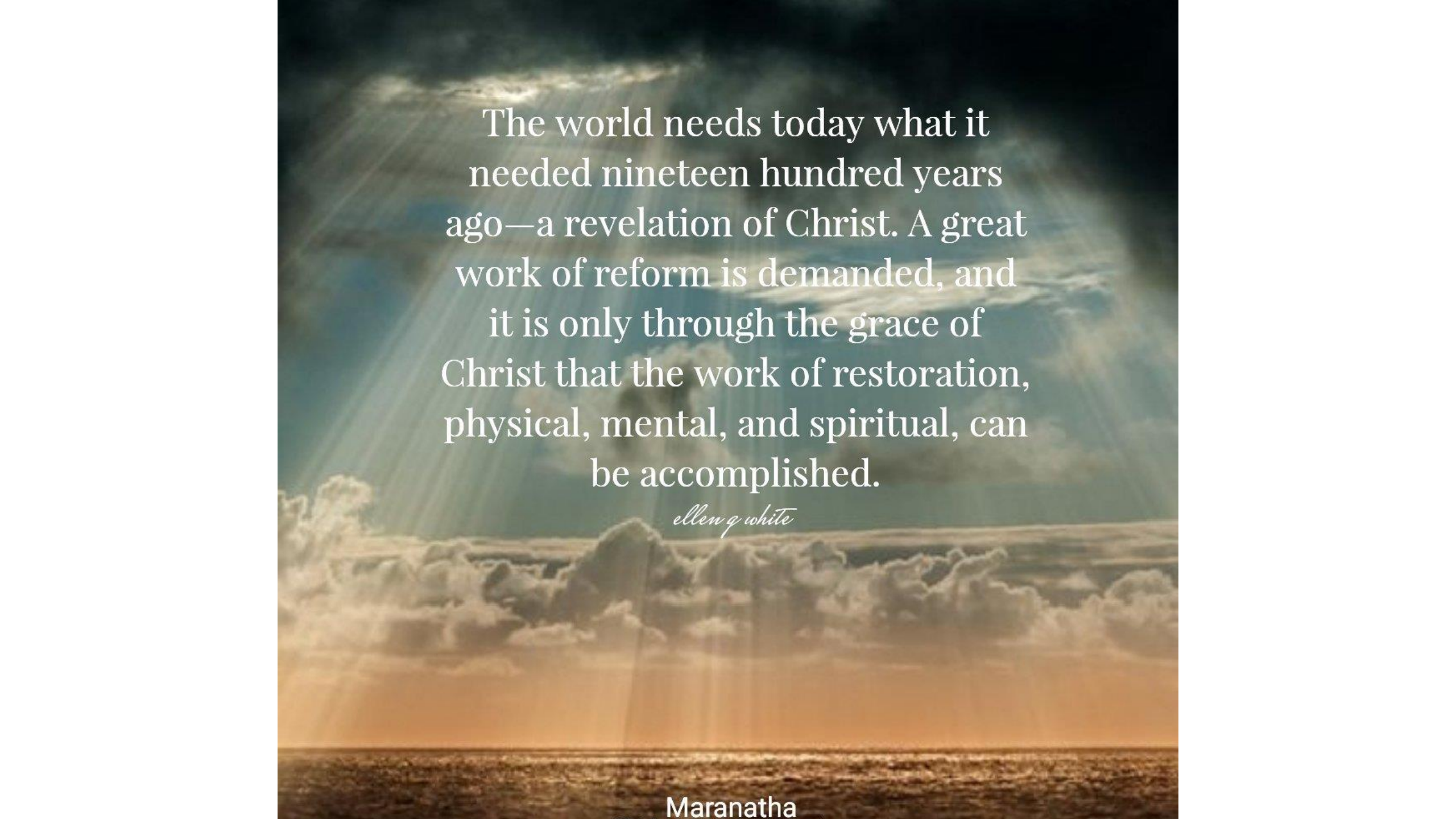
Jesus' service in the Heaven has implications on us

- Sometimes (rightly) the church has been accused of not caring about "earthly" problems but only about the heaven



“What you do in the present—by painting, preaching, singing, sewing, praying, teaching, building hospitals, digging wells, campaigning for justice, writing poems, caring for the needy, loving your neighbor as yourself—will last into God’s future. These activities are not simply ways of making the present life a little less beastly, a little more bearable, until the day when we leave it behind altogether. They are part of what we may call building for God’s kingdom.”

~ N. T. WRIGHT

A dramatic sky with sunbeams breaking through dark clouds over a landscape. The sunbeams are prominent, creating a sense of divine light and hope. The clouds are dark and heavy, contrasting with the bright light of the sunbeams. The overall mood is one of awe and inspiration.

The world needs today what it
needed nineteen hundred years
ago—a revelation of Christ. A great
work of reform is demanded, and
it is only through the grace of
Christ that the work of restoration,
physical, mental, and spiritual, can
be accomplished.

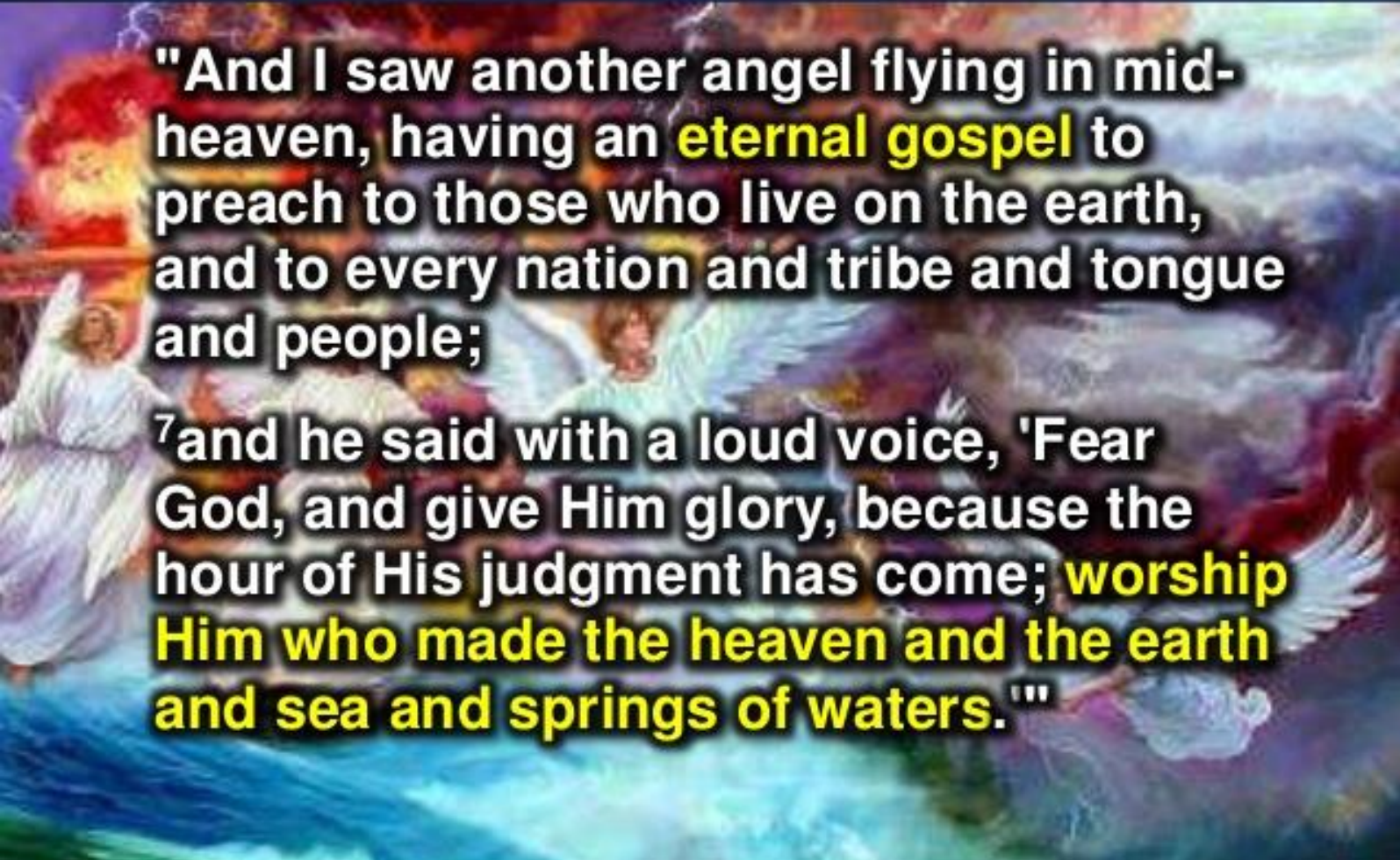
ellen g white

Maranatha

Sanctuary & The Three Angels' Message

389

Revelation 14:6-7 NAU

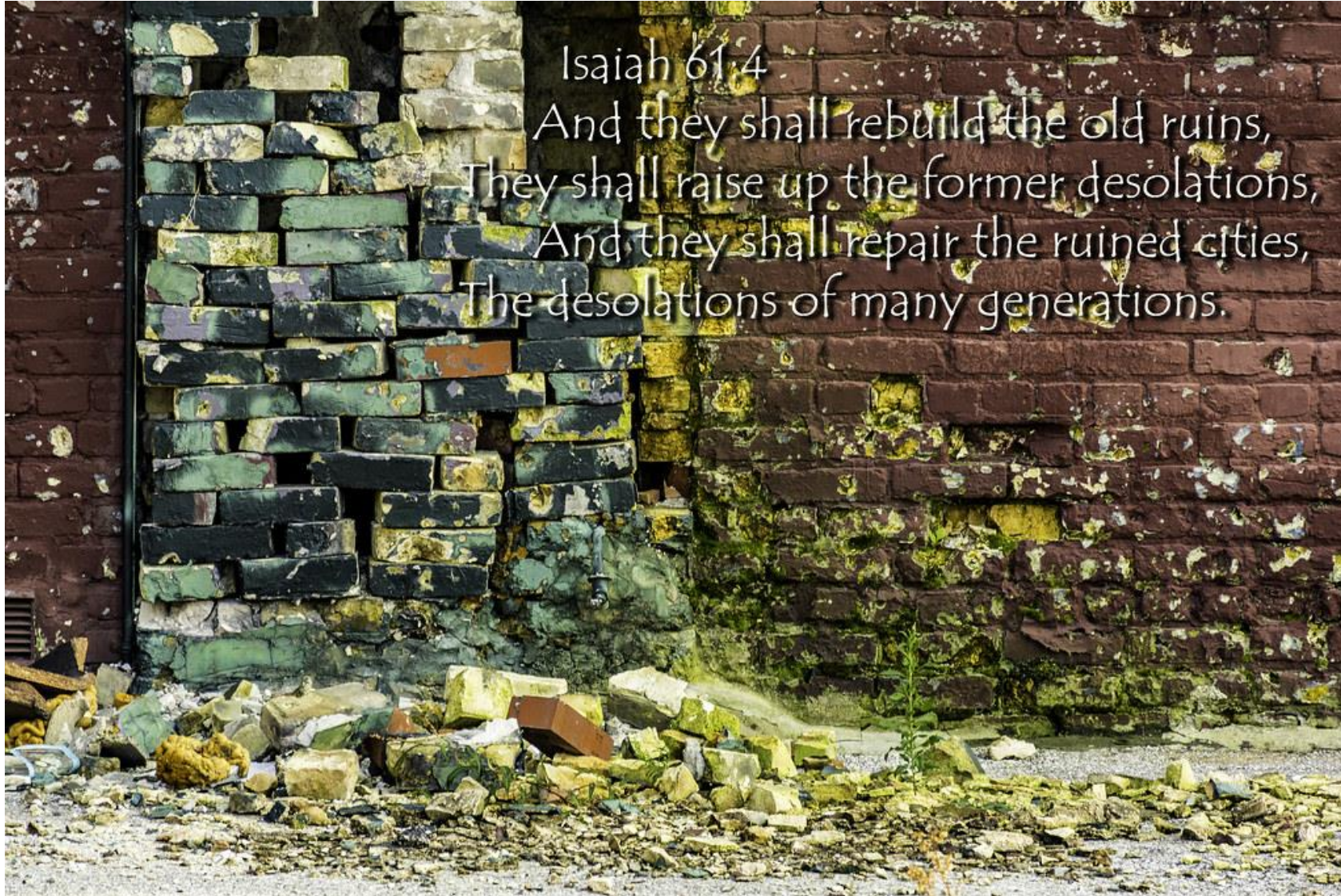


"And I saw another angel flying in mid-heaven, having an **eternal gospel** to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people;

⁷and he said with a loud voice, 'Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; **worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters.**'"

"It is the darkness of misapprehension of God that is enshrouding the world. **Men are losing their knowledge of His character.** It has been **misunderstood** and **misinterpreted**. At this time a message from God is to be proclaimed, a message illuminating in its influence and saving in its power. His character is to be made known. Into the darkness of the world is to be shed the light of His glory, the light of His goodness, mercy, and truth... **The last rays of merciful light, the last message of mercy to be given to the world, is a revelation of His character of love.** The children of God are to manifest His glory. In their own life and character they are to reveal what the grace of God has done for them. The light of the Sun of Righteousness is to shine forth in good works—in words of truth and deeds of holiness." {Christ's Object Lessons, p. 415}

What can we become?



Isaiah 61:4

And they shall rebuild the old ruins,
They shall raise up the former desolations,
And they shall repair the ruined cities,
The desolations of many generations.