

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

January 11, 1978

Dear Sister \_\_\_\_\_:

If a message that we do not understand should come to us in the name of the Lord, what are we admonished to do?

"...if a message comes that you do not understand, TAKE PAINS that you may hear the reasons the messenger may give, comparing scripture with scripture, that you may know whether or not it is sustained by the Word of God." – Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work, pp. 65,66.

"You, yourself, can now answer the question as to-whether you are a Davidian or still a Laodicean. If you are satisfied with yourself, with your spiritual attainments. or with your man-made gospel program, if you think that the Lord is speaking to you by whatever happens to 'click' in your mind; if you think you have ALL the Truth, and that you have need of nothing more; if you think that everyone who does not have your stamp of approval on his belief, is a false prophet; and if you are in constant fear that someone is everlastingly trying to deceive you because he teaches something NEW; if you never give it a thought that you MAY BE slamming your door against a Truth-bearer who MAY BE bringing to you the Lord's 'eyesalve,' and the 'wedding garment' – if YOU do all these or ANY part of them, then YOU must be as good a Laodicean as you can possibly be, NOT a Davidian (Branch)." – Timely Greetings, Rev. Vol. 1, No. 8, p. 28.

The time has come for us to apply these words of counsel to ourselves, not the Davidians or Seventh-day Adventists, for "judgment begins first at the house of God" (1 Pet. 4:17).

May The Branch, the Son of God, help us to pass the test that will determine our destiny, that of advancing with Truth as it unfolds!

Sincerely yours to pass the supreme test of our day,

<signed Ben L. Roden>

Ben L. Roden

BLR:pdj  
enc.

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

February 2, 1978

Dear Elder \_\_\_\_\_:

Thank you for your candid, straightforward reply to our letter! In contrast, we cannot help but wonder why the many different General Conference brethren maintain a spirit of silence and disobedience to the Bible admonition to "try the spirits," and "to take pains" to "hear the reasons the messenger may give." – Testimonies on Sabbath School Work, p. 65.

Does not the vernal equinox indicate which new moon begins the year? "The first of these festivals, the Passover, the feast of unleavened bread, occurred on Abib, the first month of the Jewish year, corresponding to the last of March and the beginning of April." – Patriarchs & Prophets, p. 537.

The Spirit of Prophecy is rich in proof and validity for Christians keeping the feast days. Take, for instance, the statement in Patriarchs & Prophets, pp. 540, 541. "Well would it be for the people of God AT THE PRESENT TIME to have a Feast of Tabernacles,—a joyous commemoration of the blessings of God to them."

" 'And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.'... Pentecost brought them the heavenly illumination... What was the result of the outpouring of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost?"—Acts of the Apostles, pp. 37, 45, 48.

If Pentecost had been nailed to the cross, as many claim, then please explain the above statement. Then, too, if Pentecost was no longer to be observed, what was Jesus doing in the heavenly sanctuary on the day of Pentecost officiating as the High Priest and pouring out the promised Spirit upon the disciples? Either Jesus was in the wrong place at the wrong time doing the wrong thing, or multitudes are in error by saying the feast days were nailed to the cross! Now surely, Jesus never sinned, so He was in the right place at the right time (day of Pentecost), and doing the right thing. Sister White says, "...But after Christ's ascension His enthronement in His mediatorial kingdom was signalized by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. On the day of Pentecost the Spirit was given." – Christ's Object Lessons, p. 120. What a strange thing for Jesus to do if the Pentecost were illegal!

"The Spirit that fell on the disciples on the day of Pentecost will fall on us."—Testimonies, vol. 8. p. 246.

At this point, one might ask, What kind of a crown did Jesus receive since He was enthroned in His "mediatorial kingdom"? Then, too, what kind of crown did Moses receive in the wilderness? Who crowned Moses? Does God have a time in His timetable for such an event, that of crowning? Did Moses and Jesus know the time for crowning? The answers to these questions should surely help one to understand more fully the crowning that took place on Pentecost, June 14, 1970, at New Mt. Carmel Center.

It is clear that Jesus sanctioned the 120 observing the day of Pentecost, since He sent them the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the time of the "daily," the third hour (Acts 2:15). Not only the 120 were sanctified on

the day of Pentecost, but in addition there were about 3,000 "that gladly received his word." Acts 2:41. God does everything according to correct time and on time!

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In 1970 why did some 2,000 General Conference ministers, as reported, pray earnestly for the Pentecost many days, and why did they pinpoint June 14, 1970 as THE DAY, which was the day of Pentecost for 1970 according to the law of Moses and the Lamb? What calendar did they use and why was it the same day as we observed the Pentecost, at which time the coronation took place at New Mt. Carmel Center in Waco? The General Conference had the date of the feast of weeks (Pentecost) figured correctly according to the Jewish calendar, but the event they anticipated was wrong.

Speaking of the General Conference brethren, you state that you are "still working half time for the General Conference and I am the editor of our \_\_\_\_\_ literature, and thus far I have not heard our leading brethren say that we ought to keep the yearly festivals of the Jews as recorded in Leviticus 23."

Of what you say, I am very well aware since the feast laws of Leviticus 23 are not a part of the Third Angel's Message in the time of the investigative Judgment for the Dead. Leviticus 23, in antitype, is for the living and not the dead. This is where the addition of the angel of Revelation 18:1 comes in with His message of the feast laws to join the Third Angel and give power and force to the message of the Investigative Judgment for the Living. Our brethren are not to be criticized for not having taught, in the past, something other than what has been the Present Truth of the Third Angel's Message which did not include the Levitical law. If they had, they would have been running ahead. However, now that the message of that mighty other Angel (Early Writings, p. 277) has arrived, the Judgment for the Living is not only going on in the books in heaven, but the Angel (Christ in the message) has come down to earth, and is judging the church (1 Pet. 4:17: Matt. 13:30: Rev. 14:14-17). Jesus taught His disciples a message to be given to the world, after the Spirit's power should come. So it is today, and we are learning stages of a fresh new message to be given to the world in the Loud Cry, when the Holy Spirit in power shall come.

Ellen G. White stated the essence of this in Great Controversy, p. 490, that, in 1844, the judgment for the dead in the Sanctuary in heaven began. We know the dead are judged by the ten commandment law. But they were looking forward to the time when the judgment for the living would start. The living in the church are judged (1 Pet. 4:17) not only by the ten commandment law in the books in heaven but the church on earth is judged by the message of the feasts or ceremonial law of the Sanctuary as well.

Why did the First-day Adventists observe the Day of Atonement in 1844 if it were nailed to the cross? Why did they use the time pointed out in the Mosaic law if it were invalid? "Different periods in the history of the church have each been marked by the development of some special truth, adapted to the necessities of God's people at that time... The Lord gives a special truth for the people in an emergency. Who dare refuse to publish it?"—The Great Controversy, p. 609. "For His church in every generation God has a special truth and a special work."—Christ's Object Lessons, p. 78.

"In like manner the types which relate to the second advent must be fulfilled AT THE TIME POINTED OUT IN THE SYMBOLIC SERVICE (feasts of Leviticus 23!). Under the Mosaic system the Cleansing of the sanctuary, or the great day of Atonement, occurred on the tenth day of the seventh Jewish month (Leviticus 16:29-34) ....So it was believed that Christ, our great High Priest, would appear to purify the earth by the destruction of sin and sinners, and to bless His waiting people with immortality. The tenth day of the seventh month, the great day of Atonement, the time of the cleansing of the sanctuary, which in the year 1844 fell upon the twenty-second of October, was regarded as the time of the Lord's coming. This was in harmony with the proofs already presented that the 2300 days would terminate in the autumn, and the conclusion seemed IRRESISTIBLE."—The Great Controversy, pp, 399,400.

Would it not seem strange for Inspiration to base an "irresistible" "conclusion" on a time which had been nailed to the cross and lost all meaning?

No, dear brother, the feast days were not nailed to the cross, but it was Jesus, the true sacrificial Lamb, Who was nailed there! The little horn power only thought to change "times and laws" – two laws with time in them. (1) In 321 A.D. he thought to change the Sabbath of the fourth commandment moral law, the seventh day of the week, to Sunday, the first day of the week. (2) This same power, the same pagan emperor Constantine who thought to change the Sabbath

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to Sunday in 321 A.D., thought to change the time of the memorial of the antitypical Passover, the Lord's Supper (the date established by the Son of God before the world began), from Abib 14 at evening to a different time of the month and year—to a pagan memorial, Easter Sunday, in honor of "the goddess of light or spring, Eostra."—National Encyclopedia, Vol. 4, p. 8. Daniel teaches this in Daniel 7:25 and 9:27. As you know, the change of the Passover was in 325 A.D. (Nat. Enc. Vol 4:8).

Ellen G. White states: "When the Savior yielded up his life on Calvary, the significance of the Passover ceased, and the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was instituted as a MEMORIAL of the same event of which the Passover had been a type."—Patriarchs & Prophets, p. 539. See Luke 22:14,19,20.

The Lord's Supper was instituted as a memorial of the same event of which the Passover (memorial of deliverance in Egypt) was a type (Lev. 23:5-8; Matt. 26:2,17-20,26-28). As the seventh-day Sabbath is a memorial of creation so the Lord's Supper (Christian Passover—1 Cor. 5:7,8) is a memorial of Recreation and Redemption. Therefore, let the Truth be established in the mouth of two or three witnesses (Matt. 18:16).

Partaking of the Lord's Supper at 11:00 a.m. is a luncheon, and therefore, not a memorial of our Savior's death and redemption any more than Sunday is the memorial of creation. Brother, when are the brethren of General Conference going to follow Present Truth rather than tradition?

This is why Paul commands: "For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us, therefore LET US KEEP THE FEAST..." 1 Cor. 5:7,8.

"At Philippi Paul tarried TO KEEP THE PASSOVER... The Philippians (GENTILE converts) were the most loving and true-hearted of the apostle's converts, and during the eight days of the feast he enjoyed peaceful and happy communion with them."—Acts of the Apostles, pp. 390,391.

Regarding the "daily" (Dan. 8:11-13), of which the Bible Commentary says, "Perhaps this is one of the passages of Scripture on which we must wait until A BETTER DAY for a FINAL ANSWER," (Vol. 4, p. 843), it is evident Jesus did not do away with the "daily," for we find 500 years later that the Catholic church took it away from the Messianic Jews and made [the] "mass" out of it. Since the "daily" means "continually" or "continual" (BC4:842), then why do some say it stopped at the cross and was nailed there? It could not be continual and cease at the cross or there would be sin and no covering as long as sin exists!!

Further, if the ceremonial law were nailed to the cross, what law was Jesus following when He presented the wave-sheaf in heaven before the Father on the morrow after the Sabbath? "Christ was the first fruits of them that slept. It was to the glory of God that the Prince of life should be the first fruits, the antitype of the wave sheaf... This very scene, the resurrection of Christ from the dead, had been celebrated in type by the Jews... So those who had been raised were to be presented to the universe as a pledge of the resurrection of all who believe in Christ..."—Selected Messages, Book 1, p. 305.

"Christ arose from the dead as the first fruits of those that slept. HE WAS THE ANTITYPE OF THE WAVE SHEAF, and His resurrection took place ON THE VERY DAY the wave sheaf was to be presented before the Lord. For more than a thousand years this symbolic ceremony had been performed... SO CHRIST THE FIRST FRUITS represented the great spiritual harvest to be gathered for the kingdom of God... As Christ

arose, He brought from the grave a multitude of captives... They ascended with Him as trophies of His victory over death and the grave."—Desire of Ages, pp. 785,786.

Why did Christ arise on the very day of the offering of the wave sheaf, and why did He offer not only Himself but His trophies on that very day, if the ceremonial law were nailed to the cross? The simple answer is found in Jesus' statement, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to FULFIL" Matt. 5:17.

Fulfil, of course, does not mean to cease, but to carry out, to put in force!

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One question to which we would greatly appreciate having an answer from the brethren is in regard to Isaiah 66:23.

"And it shall come to pass that from ONE NEW MOON TO ANOTHER, and from ONE SABBATH TO ANOTHER, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the Lord." If, as you say, the feast days were nailed to the cross why worship the Lord on the new moon Sabbath in the new earth at all?

Since the church is not waiting until the earth made new to worship on the seventh-day Sabbath, why wait until the earth made new to worship on the new moon Sabbath? As a result of the admonition of Isaiah, the Gospel prophet, we, at New Mt. Carmel Center, observe both the seventh-day Sabbath and the new moon Sabbath.

With this blazing light of Truth from the throne of Heaven focused upon God's people, what other course is there left for us to take, brother?

"The new law has its own spirit, and its own Sacrifices, and its own FEASTS, which have taken THE PLACE OF THOSE APPOINTED IN THE LAW OF MOSES. If we would know the DAYS TO BE OBSERVED, or the regulations about them, of the spirit in which they are to be kept holy, WE MUST GO TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, NOT TO THE MOSAIC LAW."—Catholic Catechism, quoted in Signs of the Times,

Nov. 4, 1919.

Dear Elder \_\_\_\_\_, keep the Lord's feasts, not the Pope's feasts! Remember, it was time"s" and law"s" he thought to change! Dan. 7:25.

The items in the law, to which I call your attention here, show that we, as Seventh-day Adventists, heretofore, have been unable to place them, in their true perspective, under the Third Angel's Message, the Judgment for the Dead. They have become crystal clear to us now, in the light of the message of the Angel of Revelation 18:1, the message of the Investigative Judgment for the Living in the house of God (1 Pet. 4:17), and is very evidently the addition to the Third Angel spoken of by E.G. White in Early Writings, p. 277.

The message of Revelation 18 added to the Third Angel's Message, in the Loud Cry to the world will appeal to all people, especially the Jews. In Israel some of the Orthodox Rabbis have said that this message of The Branch is the greatest threat to orthodox Judaism that has come in our day. Of this we are well aware since it deals in a positive way with their land and their law. A message that does not equate explicitly to the law of Moses, in antitype, in connection with the promised land, will never have much effect upon the Jewish people.

In the time of the message of the Investigative Judgment for the Dead, in the Sanctuary above, under the Third Angel since 1844, and with the ten commandment law, we have the promise, if faithful, of eternal life

in the first resurrection (John 6:40,44,54). In the additional Angel's message, that of the Ceremonial Law of the Lamb of God, we have the promise of living forever, bypassing the grave. See John 6:47-51. With this supplementary light on the Word of God, and the plan of salvation, we are well aware why Sister White stated that this Angel (Rev. 18:1) is glorious as He descends. Read Early Writings, p. 277.

We must remember that there is no salvation in the ten commandments for all have sinned. The promise of redemption is found only in the ceremonial law for "without the shedding of blood there is no remission." Heb. 9:22. In the light of these glorious facts God's saints need to hastily begin teaching Christ in the law; not only in the law of the Creator (the ten commandments), but also to put our Saviour and Redeemer in the law of the Re-Creator, the ceremonial law, and live forever (John 6:58).

Sincerely yours to move to Jerusalem,

Ben L Roden

BLR:pdj

P.S. What calendar was used by the Millerites to compute the October 22, 1844 date? Where may we obtain a copy?

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

February 3, 1978

Dear Branch Believer:

The time has come for another step forward for Branch Believers. Therefore, all are advised to cultivate a much closer relationship with Headquarters at New Mt. Carmel Center as we all endeavor to come into the unity of faith, seeing "eye to eye" and lifting "up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing."

"And it shall come to pass, that as ye were a curse among the heathen, O house of Judah, and house of Israel; so will I save you, and ye shall be a blessing; fear not, but let your hands be strong.... These are the things that ye shall do; Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbor; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates: And let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbor; and love no false oath: for all these are things that I hate, saith the Lord. Zech. 8: 13, 16, 17.

Judah and Israel are a curse among the heathen whose captives they are away from their vineyard of Palestine (Ezek. 36:22,38). Instead of being a curse, Jehovah declares they shall return and be a blessing to Messiah and the world. The heathen even boast that the land of Palestine is theirs and that they are going to possess it. The one thing wrong with their boasting is that they have not taken God into their councils. He says: "And I will strengthen... Judah and I will save the house of Joseph, and I will bring them again to place them; for I have mercy upon them, and they shall be as though I had not cast them off: for I am the Lord their God and will hear them.... I will bring them again also out of the land of Egypt, and gather them out of Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon; and place shall not be found for them." Zech. 10:6,10.

Gilead is across the east bank and onward into Jordan. Lebanon is much farther north than Samaria, and yet there is hardly room for all the people of Israel in the Kingdom for multitude.

"I will hiss for them, and gather them; for I have redeemed them: and they shall increase as they have increased." Zech. 10:8.

Since the end is so near, and the sealing time of the 144,000 is almost over, it is very important that all keep their hearts in tune with Heaven, and their ears tuned to the "Present Truth" of "Elias" (Elijah) that restores all things (Matt. 17:11), even life without death (John 6:47,51), so that they may hear the "hiss" (not a loud noise) when the Lord shall call. This Elijah restores the law of Moses to its proper place, and turn to the fathers' hearts to their children and likewise he turns the children's hearts to their fathers (Mal. 4:4-6). Therefore, we are admonished to look for Elijah with the message of restoration rather than look for Jesus' second coming which is after the Kingdom restored." Somebody is to come in the spirit and power of Elijah..." – E.G. White, Testimonies to Ministers, p. 475, "Review & Herald, Feb. 18, 1890." "The promise... is antitypical Elijah.... and-its antitypical fulfilment is now...imminent (future from early 1950's)..." – V.T. Houteff, Jezreel Letter No. 9, p. 1, (published in early 1950's).

Branch ministers are receiving their final polishing, learning and performing the humble duties of their ministry at New Mt. Carmel Center that they may be fitted to be servants of our Most High God.

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"In the very prime of Life Moses thought himself capable of delivering the children of Israel. But Providence said: 'You are not fit for the work, come out and I will make you fit' And out Moses went... During those forty years of shepherd's life he forgot the Egyptian language, and with it the Egyptian learning. In its place, though, he learned to tend well to sheep. He therefore dismissed from his mind the idea of ever delivering the people of God from their Egyptian bondage. Then it was that God saw him strong and well able, and

commanded him to go back to Egypt and to bring out of it His groaning people." – Timely Greetings, Rev. Vol. 1, No. 7, pp. 11, 4, 5.

Whereas Moses had forty years training to become God's instrument to deliver Israel, Branch ministers and people have but a very little while to get prepared to be one of or one with the 144,000. Let us remember that a wave sheaf shall precede the 144,000 firstfruits of Rev. 14:1-5. Are you prepared to go forth Brother, Sister, if the Lord should call you tomorrow?

"...our God-given work does not consist of preaching alone, but of manual work, too. There are thousands in the world who are as anxious to preach as are the bears to fill up their stomachs after coming out of their winter hibernation, but there are few who will put their shoulders to the wheel and keep on pushing.

"What the world needs today is not preachers, but teachers who can teach with one hand and use the pick or the shovel with the other hand."--Ibid., No. 9, p. 12.

As one of the laws of life is that there shall be no improvement, no progress, no growth, except at some cost, at some premium, to something or someone, one, therefore, could little expect that the vital and salutary change, which 1978 has brought in the fiscal economy of New Mt. Carmel, would come without its price. The price which the General Office must pay for this Purchase of Progress, in addition to the growth of the work itself, is a large increase in bookkeeping and general work – a large additional draft upon the time and strength of the office workers.

Therefore, as the benefits of the new taping system accrue to the work and workers at large, the General Office is asking all believers to share the costs of this heavy bill by giving the most religious regard to the following important instruction:

Because of the steady increase in mail all questions sent to the General Office, names and addresses for our mail evangelism, and requests for literature should each be listed on a sheet of paper entirely separate from the body of the letter, so that the work here in the Office may be facilitated.

To avoid any confusion or organizational complications, the different councils are advised to disband for the present time to assure a greater degree of communion with the General Office.

No individuals or groups of individuals in the field are authorized to collect Branch tithes and offerings. Therefore, to be assured of proper credits, make out all checks and money orders payable to General Office, New Mt. Carmel Center, and not to The Branch or some individual, so that each believer may be qualified to hold a valid membership certificate, to be issued soon. A Remittance Slip is enclosed for your convenience.

Applications for membership, tithes, and offerings, all literature requests and correspondence should be addressed to the General Office, New Mt. Carmel Center, ~~Rt. 7, Box 471-B, Waco, Texas 76705~~. This address supercedes any previous one.

If all will faithfully cooperate to carry out the foregoing instruction, then they will be helping the machinery of the Lord's work to run like the "wheel within a wheel," which smooth running condition is indispensable to the success of the message.

Sincerely yours to receive the mark of the Man in  
Linen (Ezek. 9:1-4), or the seal of Rev. 3:12,

<signed Ben L. Roden and Lois I Roden>

Ben L. Roden

Lois I. Roden

BLR:LIR:pdj:enc.



**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

February 15, 1978

Dear Sister\_\_\_\_\_:

"Since the end is so near, and the sealing time of the 144,000 is almost over, it is very important that all keep their hearts in tune with Heaven, and their ears tuned to the 'Present Truth' of 'Elias' (the Elijah) that restores all things (Matt. 17:11), even life without death (John 6:47-51), SO THAT THEY MAY HEAR THE HISS (not a loud voice) when the Lord shall call." – Branch Field Letter, p. 1, Feb. 3, 1978.

"Verse 8 – I will hiss for them, and gather them; for I have redeemed them: and they shall increase as they have increased.

"The saints shall hear a CERTAIN SOUND, and by IT shall -the Lord gather them, for He has redeemed them....

"The ministers must uplift the Lord and His Truth. They must no longer preach self, or sermons to gain followers to themselves, but they must preach inspired sermons of Truth to gain converts to Christ. THEY MUST INSTRUCT THEIR CONGREGATIONS TO PRAY FOR STEADILY REVEALED TRUTH, AND TO READILY ACCEPT IT REGARDLESS THROUGH WHOM IT COMES. The ministers must ever be on guard against allowing themselves to be made idols. This they can do by no longer preaching self, but by preaching Christ. Only in this way can they avoid becoming everlasting idols laid in tombs.... it is high time for the ministers to cease taking God's place, and for the laity to cease making idols of the ministers..." – Timely Greetings, Unrevised, Vol. 1, No. 17, pp. 8, 6, 1.

"At the time Jerusalem that now is (1946), falls (1948), the Lord's feet shall stand upon the Mount of Olives (1977) and there make a very great valley; that is, remove the obstacles and hindrances, and thus prepare the land for the returning of His people.' THEN it is that the prophecy of Zechariah 10:8 – that the Lord shall 'HISS' for His people – will have met its fulfillment." – Ibid., No. 19, p. 4.

Evidently, only those who "hear a CERTAIN SOUND (HISS)" will be gathered!

Are you either instructing or being instructed to pray for "steadily revealed truth" and are you ready to accept truth "regardless through whom it comes"? Are you ceasing to make or be made an idol-minister?

May The Branch help each of us to recognize the "hiss" the Lord sends!

Sincerely yours to have ears that hear,

<signed Ben L. Roden>

Ben L. Roden

BLR:pdj  
enc.

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

March 8, 1978

Dear Sister \_\_\_\_\_ :

"The dispensation in which we are now living is to be, to those that ASK, the dispensation of the Holy Spirit. Ask for His blessing. It is time we were more intense in our devotion. To us is committed the arduous, but happy, glorious work of revealing Christ (The Branch) to those who are in darkness. We are called to proclaim the special truths for this time. For all this the outpouring of the Spirit is essential. We should pray for it. The Lord expects us to ask Him. We have not been wholehearted in this work.... What we need is the quickening influence of the Holy Spirit of God ..... It is the time of the (pre) latter rain, when the Lord will give largely of His Spirit (Matt. 10:5,6,7; John 20:22). Be fervent in prayer, and watch in the Spirit." – Testimonies to Ministers, p. 512.

Sincerely yours to pray for the pre-Pentecostal power,

<signed Ben L. Roden>

Ben L. Roden

BLR:pdj  
enc.

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

May 5, 1978

Dear Sister\_\_\_\_\_:

"The cold of winter was past... and all nature rejoiced in the freshness and beauty of the springtime. The grass was green on the hills and valleys, and wild-flowers everywhere brightened the fields. The moon, now approaching the full, made the evenings delightful. It was the season so beautifully pictured by the sacred singer: – 'The winter is past, The rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; The time of the singing of birds is come, And the voice of the turtle is heard in our land; The fig-tree ripeneth her green figs, And the vines are in blossom. They give forth their fragrance.'

"Throughout the land, bands of pilgrims were making their way toward Jerusalem .... Nature's gladness awakened joy in the hearts of Israel, and gratitude to the Giver of all good. The grand Hebrew psalms were chanted, exalting the glory and majesty of Jehovah....

"All the houses in Jerusalem were thrown open to the pilgrims, and rooms were furnished free....

"On the fourteenth day of the month, at even, the Passover was celebrated, its solemn, impressive ceremonies commemorating the deliverance from bondage in Egypt, and pointing forward to the sacrifice that should deliver from the bondage of sin.... the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was instituted as a memorial of the same event of which the Passover had been a type.

"The Passover was followed by the seven days' feast of unleavened bread.... On the second day of the feast, the first-fruits of the year's harvest were presented before God." – Patriarchs & Prophets, pp. 537,538,539.

Praise The Branch for the most blessed Passover season we have ever experienced! After a record-breaking cold winter, the beauty of nature enhanced the Passover with beautiful wild-flowers and delightful evenings here at New Mt. Carmel Center, where pilgrims from far and near gathered in "Jerusalem" to worship the Mighty God of Israel.

On Sunday morning a goodly number were waved before the Lord for the first time, and all rejoiced in the evidence of progress in the Branch work since the last Passover.

Visiting brothers and sisters came from Israel, Canada, California, New York, Florida, Arizona, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Washington. Several are making New Mt. Carmel their permanent home. Sister Feliz, originally from the Dominican Republic, will be doing Spanish translation, and Brother Marote (here with Sister Marote and their two children) is in the Dairy and Publishing Depts. Sister Dracy, from Israel, will be helping out in Publishing Dept. We are happy to have them join the Branch family!

We have been away from Headquarters since just before Purim, and returned to observe Passover. The ministry of the Latter Rain was initiated officially in California during our stay there (see Shepherd's Rod, Vol. 2, pp. 296, 297). The cassette tapes of this ministry are now available from the Office. Please designate on the tithe slips when your offering is for the Latter Rain ministry tapes.

Campmeeting time is almost here once again, and we are preparing special tracts about the Holy Spirit for our brethren. Please join with us in earnest prayer for not only those of us here at New Mt. Carmel, but for our Davidian and Adventist brethren as well that the "glory" that is now being "imparted to the angel" of

Revelation 18:1 (Early Writings, p. 277) may be comprehended and joyfully embraced by all God's dear children. May God help us as we walk the "last mile of the road" home!

Sincerely yours to "hear the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride."

<signed Ben L. Roden and Lois I Roden>

Ben L. Roden

Lois I. Roden

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**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

May 25, 1978

Dear Sister\_\_\_\_\_:

That all Branch believers in the field may share in the Truths discussed daily at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the classroom of the Seminary Sessions conducted by Sister Lois I. Roden, excerpts will be included with tithe receipt letters from the Correspondence Dept. Please reserve these letters to be bound in volumes for reference in future seminars to be held in your area.

"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." Rom. 1:20.

This Scripture is one of the most important in the entire Bible for it gives us the key that opens to us the mystery of the Godhead, even the Trinity, of which Paul wrote, "Behold, I show you a mystery (about the Holy Spirit); We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed (when we understand and accept the revealed mystery of the Spirit)." – I Cor. 15:51.

"The earth, the sea, and the sky are full of truth. They are our teachers. Nature utters her voice in lessons of HEAVENLY wisdom and ETERNAL truth." – Christ's Object Lessons, p. 107.

"But their testimony can be understood only through the aid of the divine Teacher.... Only by the aid of that Spirit... of that Word... of that 'true Light... can the testimony of science be rightly understood." – Education, p. 134. "The nature of the Holy Spirit is a mystery" – Acts of the Apostle. p. 52.

"The invisible things of Him since the creation of the world are... perceived through the things that are made, even His everlasting POWER and DIVINITY." – Education, p. 134.

In the most noble of God's creation, Adam and Eve, we find the secret of the Godhead which has been a mystery but which is now being unveiled for the first time since man fell into sin.

"Adam was to carry on his work of replenishing the earth with saints (which is in reality an extension of creation itself) WITH THE AID OF THE TRINITY.... It was the duty of Adam AND EVE to replenish the earth with saints and to bare rule (two rulers) over all the earth. 'Obviously this work (the type) has not yet been finished (antitype), for not all on earth is yet under subjection to man (and "Eve") as God intended." – Symbolic Code, Vol. 11, No. 6, pp. 12,13,11.

"Adam was to carry on his work... with the aid of the Trinity" Expressed another way in language that explains the Trinity, Inspiration declares "And if the only thing which he (Adam) was commanded to conquer was the earth, by replenishing and subduing it, then what else in the field of symbolism can the 'bow,' the instrument to conquer with, logically represent but Eve? ... The rider's crown and his bow call to mind the OFFICE which man first filled the instant God said, Let US make man in OUR image...." – Tract No. 15, pp. 41,40. Inspiration makes clear that which has been a mystery! Adam's crown (showing him King) and his bow (Eve-Queen) "call to mind, the OFFICE" "filled" by God at creation. One Office, but in two equal parts. King Adam and Queen Eve. "And they shall be ONE flesh.' – Gen. 2:24. "Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh." – Matt. 19:6.

"Obviously... (their) work has not yet been finished." – Symbolic Code, Vol. 11, No. 6, p. 11. Who is the antitypical Adam and Eve that Inspiration declares will finish our first parents' work?

Sincerely yours to be co-laborers with today's Adam and Eve.

<signed Ben L. Roden> <signed Lois I Roden>

Ben L. Roden

Lois I. Roden

BLR:LIR:pdj:enc.

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

July 10, 1978

Dear Sister\_\_\_\_\_:

"Let praise and thanksgiving be expressed in song. When tempted, instead of giving utterance to our feelings, let us by faith lift up a song of thanksgiving to God." – Evangelism, p. 499.

The following paragraphs constitute the letter which we send to those newly interested in the Branch message. We thought that you would enjoy receiving a copy! -----

Praise the Lord that the light of the Mighty Angel of Revelation 18:1 is shining upon us to prepare us for the time of trouble just ahead! Sister Ellen G. White, inspired messenger of the Third Angel, was shown that "The work of this angel (Rev. 18:1) comes in at the right time to JOIN IN the last great work of the third angel's message as it swells into a loud cry. And the people of God are thus prepared to stand in the hour of temptation, which they are soon to meet." – Early Writings, p. 277.

We are very pleased to write you, and to encourage you to cherish-the spirit of investigation, which is the true spirit of Christianity. Sister White counselled that "if a message comes that you do not understand, take pains that you may hear the reasons the messenger may give..." – Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work, p. 65.

Your name and address is on our mailing list, and you have been receiving The Branch Sabbath School Lessons and other timely truth publications. Please do not hesitate to write should questions arise from your prayerful and careful study of The Branch message, which is the message of Revelation 18:1, of which Sister White said "seemed to be an ADDITION TO the third message." – Early Writings, p. 277.

Yes, the additional message is here and it is preparing us to "stand in the hour of temptation" which the signs all show is right upon us!

As you may know, the Lord sent the Mighty Angel of Revelation 18:1 to the Seventh-day Adventist church in 1888 to prepare Adventists for the time of trouble that would have developed as a result of the first national Sunday law ever introduced into the American Congress; it was introduced on May 21, 1888. In the fall of 1888 the message of Revelation 18:1 was presented to the General Conference Session at Minneapolis, Minnesota by Elders Waggoner and Jones, who were endorsed by Sister White as being sent of God to finish the work, and to instruct Adventists what to do and where to go to be saved, which understanding would have come had the message fully developed.

But here we are 88 years later! What happened to the national Sunday law? What happened to the message of Revelation 18:1?

The first national Sunday law ever to be introduced into the American Congress was not adopted by Congress. Sunday legislation on a national level was forgotten!

"Inspiration declares that Tyrus was forgotten seventy years, but after seventy years she shall sing as a harlot. 'And it shall come to pass after seventy years that the Lord will visit Tyre, and she shall turn to her hire, and shall commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth.' Isa. 23:17.... Tyrus.... the beginning of this future religio-political trade system.

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When the Lord pours out His judgments upon the disobedient among His professed people, the kings of the earth will know about it and they will be clothed with trembling and astonishment. They will come to realize that if God deals so severely with the sinners in His church, their punishment will be far greater. So they tremble and are astonished because fear has seized them... So the nations in their perplexity are organized into a religio-political system which is Babylon the great. Rev. 17.... Sr. White wrote to the General Conference that in two years they would have been in the Kingdom (it would have sprouted in the wilderness, Hosea 2:14)." – Tyre and Zidon, pp.3,4.

1888 plus two years to accept Rev. 18:1 message – 1890 + 70 years Tyrus forgotten = 1960: when America elected her first Catholic president or the beginning of the end of the U.S. democracy and the beginning of religio-political 'image of the beast' followed by the Supreme Court decision in 1961 that Sunday laws are constitutional. 1960 signaled the end of the lamb-like phase of the U.S.A. and the beginning of the dragon-like phase (Rev. 13:11).

"Because of their unbelief manifested in the rejection of the message sent to prepare them for the heavenly Canaan, the Lord had to alter His purpose and turn the Advent people back into the wilderness of sin till they learn the lesson of faith... It is very evident that the rejection of God's special message in 1888, which resulted in the altering of His purpose to take His people directly into the promised land marked the beginning of a spiritual retreat toward the world or Egypt... 'The influence that grew out of the resistance of light and truth at Minneapolis, tended to make of none effect the light which God had given to His people through the 'Testimonies,' General Conference Bulletin, Feb. 28, 1893." – Forty Years in the Wilderness, by Elder Taylor G. Bunch, pp. 16,18,19. (Elder Bunch, now deceased, was a high-ranking Adventist minister and author.)

"If the people had gone to work... after 1888... world warned in TWO YEARS... Lord would have come."  
– General Conference Special, 1892, by E.G. White.

Because the leadership of the Adventist church did not accept the message of Revelation 18:1, God did not allow the Sunday legislation to mature lest His people be completely overwhelmed because they did not accept the "covering" offered by the message of Revelation 18:1. So history records the withdrawal of both the on-rushing dragon-like phase of America which finds her making herself over into a church-state combined government, and the withdrawal of the Revelation 18:1 message.

Elder Daniells, one-time president of the General Conference, and friend of Sister White, states in his book, Christ Our Righteousness, pp. 23,47,49: "In 1888 there came to the Seventh-day Adventist church a very definite awakening message... All these long years they have held a firm conviction, and cherished a fond hope, that someday this message would be given great prominence among us... The message has never been received, nor proclaimed, nor given free course as it should have been in order to convey to the church the measureless blessings that were wrapped within it... Is it not time that fresh light should come to the people of God?"

In 1888 the American Sabbath Union was organized in Washington, D.C. with a membership of about eight Protestant denominations. Its purpose was to use the influence of the churches to back the state and national Sunday laws, and it was also responsible for the persecution of Seventh-day Adventists.

We have given you a brief outline of the setting in 1888. There was a message from God. There was the first national Sunday law introduced in Congress May 21, 1888.

Forces at work in America in 1888 hoped to set up a "theocracy" or church-state government. For example, The Women's Christian Temperance Union called directly for a Christian theocracy. They were zealously fanatical in their desire to bring this about, as published accounts reveal!

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As Seventh-day Adventists we know that this "theocracy" is defined in the Bible as the dragon-like phase of America, the "mark of the beast" or the "image beast" (Rev. 13:11). This began with the introduction in the American Congress of the first national Sunday law, May 21, 1888. A few months later in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the General Conference Session was held, and at this Session the message of Revelation 18:1 was presented by Elders Waggoner and Jones, which message was to prepare the Adventists for the time of Jacob's trouble that would develop from persecution over the Sabbath. But since the leading brethren did not accept this message, God in His great mercy did not allow the Sunday law to become legal.

Today the same factors are on the scene! In 1961 America declared Sunday laws constitutional. In 1975 President Ford signed the Energy Bill into law which contains a provision for a civil Sunday law in time of energy crisis, and also for rationing. The Lord has in His great love sent the message of Revelation 18:1 again to prepare the church for the crisis that will develop this time, as we may even now see taking place!

The Lord's Day Alliance, formerly the American Sabbath Union, has reformed and revitalized itself for a hard push in bringing about Sunday sacredness. Dr. Lindsell, whom we quote in the "Energy Crisis" tract that you have received, has more recently written in the May 7, 1976 issue of Christianity Today that "It is highly unlikely that it (proper use of Sunday) will be accomplished by voluntary action by the citizenry generally. Therefore the only way to accomplish the objective is by FORCE OF LEGISLATIVE FIAT (law) through the duly elected officials-of the people." Dr. Mayberry, Executive Director of the Alliance, has stated that "Governor Jimmy Carter is a personal friend of mine, and I am sure he is broad enough to want a day of rest for all people."

The message of Revelation 18:1 is going around the world to Seventh-day Adventists, but it is at the present time mainly concentrated here in America where the Sunday persecution will begin. The message has revealed where God wants His people to go for a refuge in the "great and dreadful day of the Lord." Read Ezek. 36:24-38; Isa. 2:1,5; 11:10-16; Jer. 30:3,24. We are sending you some literature on these and other prophecies for your careful and prayerful study. As the "mark of the beast" goes world-wide, the message of Revelation 18:2 will also go world-wide in great power and will finally give the cry the Revelation 18:4.

We are praising the Lord that this wonderful message of which the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy prophesied has come, and is preparing a place of safety for God's people. Seventh-day Adventists around the world are rejoicing in the message of The Branch! Both laity and ministry alike are turning to The Branch for information regarding these things of which we have written, and many feel that the leading ministers in the church are keeping vital information from them concerning the Sunday sacredness movement as well as those things taking place within the government.

"There will be those among us who will always want to control the work of God, to dictate even what movements shall be made when the work goes forward under the direction of the angel who JOINS THE THIRD ANGEL in the message to be given to the world." – Testimonies to Ministers, p. 300.



"Hence the MOVEMENT (Rev. 18:1) symbolized by the angel coming down from heaven, lightening the earth with his glory .. In connection with his MESSAGE... These announcements, UNITING WITH THE THIRD ANGEL'S MESSAGE, constitute the final warning to be given to the inhabitants of the earth." – Great Controversy, p. 604.

You are greatly privileged to come to the knowledge of the Mighty Angel of Revelation 18:1. It is the "extra oil" (Matt. 25:1-3); it is the "goodly pearl" (Matt. 13:45,46); it is the "leaven" in the three measures of meal (Matt. 13:33); it is the "hidden treasure" (Matt. 13:44); it is the "Bread of Heaven" (John 6:28-51)!

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How thankful we are to live in this wonderful age, even the age of the restoration of all things! The Lord has raised-up the promised Elijah (Matt. 17:11; Ma!. 4:5) to restore "ALL THINGS," even the Kingdom of God on earth before Jesus comes the second time, and life without death (1 Cor. 15:51; John 6:50,58)!

Under the message of the Third Angel we understand Christ's mediation of His blood in the MOST HOLY PLACE of the Heavenly Sanctuary on the Day of Atonement (Lev. 23:26-32) since 1844 for the righteous dead. Since 1955 Christ is revealed to us by Inspiration as mediating His blood once a year on the Day of Atonement as well as daily (Daniel 8:11.14) at the time of the morning sacrifice and at the time of the evening sacrifice (nine o'clock and three o'clock) in the Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary. Under separate cover we are sending you a copy of the "Daily" which will explain this more fully. We should like to hear from you regarding this beautiful truth!

"The significance of the Jewish economy is not yet fully understood. Truths vast and profound are shadowed forth in its rites and symbols." – Christ's Object Lessons, p. 13, by Ellen G. White.

The Lord has given the "command" that our brethren should move from Takoma Park, Washington, D.C. to Jerusalem for the "mark of the beast" will not allow them to keep the Sabbath in America or buy and sell, which is a necessity in giving the gospel. Sister White was given the prophecy that "If after a time the Lord says move away from Washington, WE MUST MOVE... however inconvenient and inconsistent such a command may seem." – Review & Herald, August 11, 1903.

That prophecy is being fulfilled as The Branch message continues to warn the brethren to move to the land of the covenant promise made to Abraham, and his seed, which covenant was ratified or made possible by the death of our Savior.

God's promise: "Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of 'your inheritance.'" Psalms 105:11. Of this promise, Sister White says, "Not by any temporary failure of Israel... will the plan of the ages for the redemption of mankind be frustrated ...the purposes of Jehovah were nevertheless to move steadily forward to their complete fulfillment... TO THEM (S.D.A.) will be fulfilled ALL THE COVENANT PROMISES MADE BY JEHOVAH TO HIS ANCIENT PEOPLE." – Prophets and Kings, (The Captivity and Restoration of Israel), pp. 705,706,714.

Yes, The Branch message has come in fulfillment of prophecy, and is the Mighty Angel of Revelation 18:1, the "special message." It is now proclaiming to God's dear Sabbathkeeping people to GO YE OUT (Matt. 25:6) of the land of the two-horned beast (and all other nations that unite with her) that is making an image (Sunday laws for a civil-religio state) and return to the land of Abraham, the land of the covenant promise (Gal. 3:20).

"Zechariah's vision of Joshua and the Angel (The Branch) applies with PECULIAR FORCE to the experience of God's people in the closing up of the great day of atonement (judgment for the living in Laodicea)." – Testimony for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 472, by E.G. White. The work of Christ as man's intercessor is presented in that beautiful prophecy of Zechariah concerning Him 'whose name is the Branch.'" – The Great Controversy, p. 415.

We would be pleased to hear from you!

May The Branch our Lord (Isa. 11:1; Zech. 3:8; 6:12; Isa. 4:2; Jer. 23:5,6; 33:15,16) help you to anoint your eyes with the precious "eyesalve" of truth now being dispensed from New Mt. Carmel Center, Waco, Texas.

Sincerely yours to see the Glory of the Mighty Angel,

<signed Ben L. Roden>

Ben L. Roden

BLR:pdj  
Enc.

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

July 21, 1978

Dear Sister\_\_\_\_\_:

Branch workers have just returned from Campmeetings in Kansas, Nebraska, Ohio, and New Mexico with very encouraging reports!

Sister Roden was able to speak personally with the President of the Ohio Conference and the visiting evangelist who promised to study the message of Present Truth.

Brother Roden, George, and Carmen had a very rewarding conversation with President Carter at Fort Hood, Texas, recently, at which time he was handed a letter of invitation to help build the Temple in Jerusalem (Ezekiel 40-44), a house of prayer for all peoples (Matt. 21:13).

We are more and more aware of the fact that Adventist ministers are looking for the power of the Spirit to finish the work, as are we, which certainly gives us common ground upon which to seek unity. Yes, God has promised that the Angel will join the Third Angel, and we claim that wonderful promise. We can begin to see it happening!

Several Branch brethren have written to the Office with questions regarding the message of the Holy Spirit. We are happy to write you that a tract, "The Two Turtle Doves," has been mailed to you which should answer the questions. "The Daily, Part 2" has also been sent to you; you have no doubt received both of these tracts by this time! "The Two Turtle Doves" tract shows what the glory is, and "The Daily, Part 2" tract tells how to get it! Put the two together and you have ELIJAH. The mystery of which Paul spoke (1 Cor. 15:51) is now being unveiled before our astonished eyes! Are you catching the vision, dear one?

May our praises be to the Father, Holy Spirit, and Son for Their wonderful revelations to us!

Sincerely yours to understand and see the glory,

<signed Ben L. Roden> <signed Lois I Roden>

Ben L. Roden  
Enc.

Lois I. Roden

BLR:LIR:pdj:enc.

P.S. We are looking forward to seeing you the latter part of August, God willing. We are mailing 2 more charts to all there. Please advise us of arrangements. Sr. R.

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

August 17, 1978

Dear Sister \_\_\_\_\_:

"Throw a pebble into the lake, and a wave is formed, and another and another; and as they increase, the circle widens, until it reaches the very shore. So with our influence. Beyond our knowledge or control it tells upon others in blessing or cursing." – Christ's Object Lessons, p. 340.

"The children love it (The Branch message) so much that they have already begun to labor for their parents. Parents are laboring for their household as never before. They see if they do not show a loving and kind spirit now in this bundling time, they may lose their loved ones forever." – Seven Letters to DSDA, p. 66.

O, let us pray that our influence may be a blessing as we go forth with the most marvelous message of all time!

May The Branch bless you as you faithfully bring your means to His Storehouse and as you seek to make your influence a blessing upon others around you.

Sincerely yours to cherish the Truth as never before,

<signed Ben L. Roden>

Ben L. Roden

BLR:pdj  
enc.

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

August 17, 1978

Dear Sister\_\_\_\_\_:

Praise the Heavenly Trinity that we have the great privilege of being a part of great effort to break the pattern that has prevailed for centuries, that of the church failing to advance with the light and the ministry in the forefront in rejecting a new message!

We are rejoicing that The Branch believers, in the main, are manifesting a fine spirit of investigation toward the teaching about the Holy Spirit!

Your fine spirit of investigation is greatly encouraging to us here at New Mt. Carmel Center; and, as some say, it is time that Branch believers should have "some sense" and investigate a message that sounds strange. After all, we have the example of Laodicea and Davidia within our own lifetime to show us the folly of closing one's ears to a messenger of the Lord. Yes, it is definite time that we learn the lessons that the church has never learned in all ages past! And, praise the Lord, it appears that the lessons are being learned!

Although we deeply regret the present position of some, we pray for the them that they will stepback onto the platform of truth. A new article is being published regarding those who step off the platform to examine it. Thank God that some step back on and continue in the truth to the Kingdom. Read Early Writings, pp. 258-261.

A Branch believer wrote us from England that they had heard on a television program that the Hebrew translation of The Holy Spirit is feminine! Any information about the Holy Spirit Branch believers may be able to contribute to the Office is greatly appreciated!

It is our prayer for you and yours and all Branch believers that our families may be reunited in the truth of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Sincerely yours to cherish the Truth as never before,

<signed Ben L. Roden>

Ben L. Roden

BLR:pdj:enc.

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

September 1, 1978

Dear Sister\_\_\_\_\_:

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Sincerely yours to cherish the Truth as never before,

<signed Ben L. Roden>

Ben L. Roden

BLR:pdj:enc.

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

September 29, 1978

Dear Sister \_\_\_\_\_:

Praise the Heavenly Trinity that we have the great privilege of being a part of great effort to break the pattern that has prevailed for centuries, that of the church failing to advance with the light and the ministry in the forefront in rejecting a new message!

We are rejoicing that The Branch believers, in the main, are manifesting a fine spirit of investigation toward the teaching about the Holy Spirit!

Your fine spirit of investigation is greatly encouraging to us here at New Mt. Carmel Center; and, as some say, it is time that Branch believers should have "some sense" and investigate a message that sounds strange. After all, we have the example of Laodicea and Davidia within our own lifetime to show us the folly of closing one's ears to a messenger of the Lord. Yes, it is definite time that we learn the lessons that the church has never learned in all ages past! And, praise the Lord, it appears that the lessons are being learned!

Although we deeply regret the present position of some, we pray for the them that they will step back onto the platform of truth. A new article is being published regarding those who step off the platform to examine it. Thank God that some step back on and continue in the truth to the Kingdom. Read Early Writings, pp. 258-261.

A Branch believer wrote us from England that they had heard on a television program that the Hebrew translation of The Holy Spirit is feminine! Any information about the Holy Spirit Branch believers may be able to contribute to the Office is greatly appreciated!

If you will re-read the letter you received signed by both Sister Roden and myself which brings together Romans 1:20, a key scripture, and other references about Adam and Eve, you will see the secret of the Godhead. As in Jesus' day, so today! "Even Seventh-day Adventists (and Branch believers) are in danger of closing their eyes to truth as it is in Jesus, because it contradicts something which they have taken for granted as truth but which the Holy Spirit teaches is not truth. Let all be very modest, and seek most earnestly to put self out of the question, and to exalt Jesus .... But let us follow the history of the men whom the Jewish priests and rulers thought so dangerous, because they were bringing in NEW and STRANGE teaching on almost every theological subject." – Testimonies to Ministers, pp. 70,71.

The Jews thought it was blasphemous for Jesus to say He was the Son of God; so today, some think it is blasphemous to say the Holy Spirit is "She." Whereas the Jews could not see that God has a Son, today some cannot see that Jesus has a Mother, even an Heavenly One! But the truth is that it is so simple that especially children can see there is always a mother in the structure which already has a father and son, even, on a human basis! Therefore, the human family illustrates the Heavenly Family as Rom. 1:20 says!

In a restudy of The Daily, Nos. 1 and 2, you will again notice that the daily mediation of blood by the priest is a type of the mediation of Christ, The Branch, today in the heavenly sanctuary in our behalf. And The Branch uses HIS OWN BLOOD, which, Sister White says, flows "forth afresh" as the result of "penitential prayer" (P.P. 411)! Jesus took the unfermented grape juice and the unleavened bread and instituted them as symbols of His blood and body (1 Cor. 11:24,25).

Whether it be at Passover when the symbols of the Lord's body are used, or at the "daily" when The Branch's blood flows "forth afresh" in the heavenly sanctuary ("And what was done in type in the ministration of the earthly sanctuary is done in REALITY in the ministration of the heavenly sanctuary." – Great Controversy, p.420), the symbols today are the same, and we may expect in the not too distant future to partake daily of the emblems.

It is really very simple! Just as the people in the type approached God through the spilt blood of the sacrifice, so we are to approach God through the emblems of His body which were given to replace the sacrifice. God has not revealed when we are to partake of the emblems daily, but we do know that they are to be partaken of daily soon.

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"Broadly speaking, the law of Moses consists of three parts. The first is the Ceremonial law, the law of the temple – the sacrificial law. This law, of course, we today must not observe, EXCEPT IN ANTITYPE (the emblems, etc.).... if we should now observe the TYPICAL sacrificial law and system, we should thereby demonstrate unbelief in Christ." – Timely Greetings, Vol. 2, No. 37, pp. 14,15.

"While our High Priest was offering 'Daily' in heaven, the Apostles were offering 'daily' in the temple on earth (Acts 3:1) the emblems of Broken body and spilt blood, the bread and wine (Acts 2:46) from house to house.

"God had commanded Moses to offer a daily burnt offering, morning and evening sacrifice, a lamb of the first year, with the promise that throughout Israel's generations He would sanctify the tabernacle, the priest, and the congregation of Israel with His presence, in an ordinance forever (Ex. 29:38-46). The disciples of Jesus carried out God's command to Israel by offering the emblems of the antitypical Lamb at the sacred hours of prayer (9 and 3 o'clock), the condition on which the 120 received the glory of God on the day of Pentecost (Ex. 29:38-46). The little horn... took away the 'daily' from the Christians in 538 A.D. .... According to the type, this service must be restored before the 144,000 stand on Mt. Sion with the Lamb." – Seven Letters to Florence Houteff, p. 97.

Are you preparing to partake of the daily emblems? Do you realize the seriousness of a daily partaking? These are questions that we should all ask ourselves!

Praise the Lord, the Righteous Branch, for the wonderful truths which He has revealed in the "Seven Letters to Florence Houteff," which we have been restudying recently in our daily worship services!

In these letters the honest seeker for Truth will find that which will seal him for eternity and prepare him to stand boldly and fearlessly for Truth though the enemy's onslaughts intensify!

We should delight to share some of the gems of Truth with you from the "Seven Letters," and would encourage you to restudy them in their entirety at your leisure. In sharing the following excerpts and in your own personal study, the evidence is clear and strong that the harvest, the judgment of the living, the separation, the marking; the revival and reformation, the purification, all synonymous terms, began October 20, 1955. The enemy would obliterate this truth, so we must reaffirm it in our minds!

"The beginning of the harvest (Joel 2:24-27 – Investigative Judgment for the Living)... BEGAN IN THE AUTUMN OF THE YEAR, Atonement, 1955, after the spring in which Brother Victor T. Houteff died. AT THAT TIME the 'latter rain' of Joel 2:23 CEASED. The Spirit of prophecy which had been giving light on the latter rain of Truth became quiescent. As stated: 'we now know through prophecy that the latter rain has temporarily stopped....' – The Symbolic Code, Vol. 11, No. 1, p. 14... The light to be revealed now is on the harvest message for the living by The Branch through antitypical Joshua in the atonement for the living.... The harvest, the investigative judgment for the living.... is therefore brought by Elijah (the master antitype).... This message, keeping the feasts and performing our vows IS THE INVESTIGATIVE JUDGMENT FOR

THE LIVING.... Yes, everyone can PLAINLY see that the Lord Himself is the only one that can proclaim the day that Ezekiel 9 is to start. He set aside centuries ago the tenth day of the seventh month, or October 20, 1955, for the BEGINNING DATE of the Judgment of the Living (Ezekiel 9) ....

This is a very serious matter, for we have come to the very last message (the Harvest of the Living, Rev. 14:16-20) for the church.... there is no stammering or maybe-so in the Branch letters. Nothing but POSITIVE TRUTH is taught...." – Seven Letters to Davidia, pp. 89,90,99,102,103,119.

Sincerely yours to know and understand that the Harvest started October 20, 1955,

<signed Ben L. Roden>

Ben L. Roden BLR:pdj

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

October 10,1978

Dear Sister \_\_\_\_\_:

Thank you kindly for your patience in awaiting the tapes you requested from "Living Waters"!

We have been on a tour of the southern and eastern states for several months holding seminars on the Holy Spirit, and have just returned to the Office.

This note is being hastened to you that you may know we received your request and will be mailing you at least one tape soon.

Thank you for your forbearance, and most of all your prayers!

As many have asked, yes, freewill donations may be sent to help cover the cost of producing the tapes. Thank you!

You will be pleased to know that our tour was successful! Praise the Lord that Branch believers, as well as Seventh-day Adventists and Davidians, are opening their minds and hearts to the very Present Truth revelations about the Holy Spirit!

May The Holy Spirit, as Jesus promised, lead you into all Truth!

Sincerely yours to be teachable,

<signed Lois I. Roden>

Lois I. Roden LIR:pdj



[First field letter after the passing of Benjamin Roden, October 22, 1978]

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

Dear Kingdom-bound Saint:

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath appointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; to appoint unto them that MOURN IN ZION, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of JOY for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations." – Isaiah 61:1-4.

Praise be to the Heavenly Father, Holy Spirit, and Messiah the Son for their precious gift of JOY in this our time of mourning for Brother Benjamin L. Roden who passed to his rest October 22, 1978, between two Sabbaths just as did our Lord Jesus Christ.

To give you JOY in this time of mourning, please read the following references that you may understand what is taking place here at The Branch Headquarters: Leviticus 14:1-7; Zechariah 13:7; 1 Kings 1:1; 2:1,10; 1:32-35; 2:39,45,46; 1 Chronicles 28.

New Mt. Carmel Center has been solemnized by the rapid movements taking place in The Branch, and our counsel to the field is to be prepared for even more solemn events. All dissension is to be put aside and each believer is to stand in his lot for service, putting away all strivings for first place in leadership, but willing to uphold his brother and sister in God's service. Equality of position is to be restored as in Eden. The women as well as the men who qualify for leadership are to be placed in responsible positions of service without respect to the personality or gender.

The Branch work is so great that every man, woman, and child will need to take his place in giving the message of the Holy Spirit to the Advent movement.

Let us press forward to the Kingdom of Peace, that we may be "trees of righteousness," and that we may "build the old wastes" to the glory of the Heavenly Triune!

For the transition period that we are now in, please send all tithes and offerings to Living Waters, ~~P.O. Box 4666, Waco, Texas 76795~~. Thank you for your cooperation!

Sincerely yours to press forward,

<signed Lois I. Roden>

Lois I. Roden LIR:pdj:enc.  
President

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

November 10, 1978

Dear Sister \_\_\_\_\_:

We are truly comforted in our bereavement by your warm condolences, along with the many others from believers and friends.

"The oil of joy for mourning" to "them that mourn in Zion" (Isa. 61:3) is a precious promise from the Lord sustaining us at this time of sorrow.

Our faith is in the Lord's promise that soon "many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake... to everlasting life." Dan. 12:2. "Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel." – Ezek. 37:12.

"Your work, my work, will not cease with this life. For a little while we may rest in the grave, but, when the call comes, we shall, IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD, TAKE UP OUR WORK ONCE MORE." – Ellen G. White, Testimonies, vol. 7, p. 17.

Like David of old, Brother Roden had a dream of building the Temple in Jerusalem, a place of worship and prayer for all peoples (Ezekiel 40-45), and we are dedicated to the accomplishment of his dream.

"And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left, of all the nations which came against Jerusalem, shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts.... And the Lord will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defense." – Zech. 14:16, Isa. 4:5.

Let us pray for one another that one day soon we shall worship in the glorious Temple in Jerusalem!

May The Heavenly Family of God bless and keep you!

Sincerely yours to build the Temple,

<signed (Mrs.) Lois I. Roden & Family>

(Mrs.) Lois I. Roden & Family

LIR:pdj

November 27, 1978

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

Dear Kingdom-bound Saint:

As the children of Israel mourned forty days for King' David and Jacob, New Mt. Carmel Center is mourning forty days for our beloved leader, Brother Roden, since his death Sunday. October 22, 1978, between the Seventh-day Sabbath and the last Sabbath of the week of the Feast of Tabernacles. The end of forty days from October 22 brings us to December 1, to the New Moon Sabbath. Then ten days brings us to December 10, a counterpart of the days following the Passover season and an antitype of the Ceremonial Pentecost – ONE of the TIMES of refreshing (Acts 3:19) for the people of God.

Therefore, let God's people observe these times and their significance following Feast of Tabernacles (1978) – fifty days, that by following on earth that which is done in Heaven, we may receive at this time our portion of the power of the Spirit and continuing receiving "Day by Day," "Week by Week," "Month by Month," and "Year by Year;" so that, at last, we shall be completely filled with the truth and power of the Holy Ghost.

"Just as the Spirit of Prophecy declares that 'the whole system of types and symbols was a compacted prophecy of the gospel, a presentation in which were bound up the promises of redemption. (The Acts of the Apostles, p. 14), just so the plan of salvation is unfolded not only in the testimonies of the prophets and in the parables of Christ but also in the TYPES and SYMBOLS of the earthly sanctuary. In addition to this, the experiences of the people in the typical period 'happened unto them,' we are told, 'for ensamples: and THEY ARE WRITTEN FOR OUR ADMONITION UPON WHOM THE ENDS OF THE WORLD ARE COME.' 1 Cor. 10:11. So we are logically bound at the very outset to attend to God's instruction to Moses:" – Tract No. 3, p. 72.

"The Wave-Sheaf, Wave-Loaves, and the Feast of Tabernacles.

"Illustrating our salvation in completeness, the harvest rites of the ceremonial system must therefore corroborate both the testimonies of the prophets and the parables concerning the harvest, for all are inextricably bound up together. The ceremonies of the first and the second fruits of grain must accordingly unfold the truth concerning the first and second fruits of humanity." – Ibid., p.75

"...in like fashion the sacred feasts of one season match the sacred feasts of another season: the tenth day of the first month, the separation of the unblemished lamb from the flock (Ex. 12:3), CORRESPONDING TO the tenth day of the seventh month, the work of Atonement, the separation of the righteous from the unrighteous, signifying in both EVENTS a day of judgment... the sixteenth of the first month, the day Christ was crucified, corresponding to the sixteenth of the seventh month, the day He was baptized, showing that His watery grave foreshadowed His grave in the tomb; the eighteenth day of the first month, the resurrection, corresponding to the eighteenth day of the seventh month, the first day of the wilderness temptation; His forty days of victorious ministry to His disciples, corresponding to His forty days of victorious conflict with Satan; and His disciples' preaching the gospel after the Pentecost, corresponding to His preaching the gospel after the wilderness temptation." – Tract No. 3, p. 13; see Chart on p. 12.

That is, the forty days of the first month corresponds to the forty days of the seventh month, typifying the baptism by fire and of the Holy Ghost.

Brother Roden taught us from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy through Ellen G. White and V.T. Houteff that the Feasts of the Lord are to be kept in ANTITYPE to show, by our works, our faith in the plan of redemption and that the gospel of Christ sheds light upon the whole Jewish economy.

"Broadly speaking, the law of Moses consists of three parts. The first is the Ceremonial law, the law of the temple – the sacrificial law. This law, of course, we today must not observe, EXCEPT in ANTITYPE..." – Timely Greetings, Vol. 2, Unrevised No. 37, pp. 14,15.

"We should therefore understand the signs of the times, perform our vows unto God, KEEP OUR SOLEMN FEASTS, and do everything in God's order so as to be found righteous, READY to escape the doom of the wicked, and TO MARCH ON TO THE KINGDOM." – Ibid., Vol. 1, Un. No. 24, p. 11.

"Here you see that the announcement of this long-expected event is to be made by someone's publications. Moreover, he publishes peace and thus announces the restoration of the Kingdom. This is the ONLY peace that the world can have. There is to be no other. Those who KEEP GOD'S SOLEMN FEASTS and perform their vows shall have this peace. None others shall." – Ibid.. Vol. 2, Unrevised No. 42, p. 41.

"All the ceremonies of the Jewish law were PROPHETIC, typical of MYSTERIES in the plan of redemption." – Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, E.G. White Comments, Vol. 7-A, p. 319.

"As the wave-sheaf and the wave-loaves are typical, then also the Feast of Tabernacles must be typical....

"The Feast of Tabernacles was not only commemorative, but typical... (It) pointed forward to the great day of final ingathering, when the Lord of the harvest SHALL send forth His reapers to gather the tares in bundles for the fire, and to gather the wheat into His garner. At that time the wicked will all be destroyed.' – Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 541....

"I saw the saints,' says the servant of the Lord in describing this celebration (Feast of Tabernacles), 'leaving the cities and villages, and associating together in companies, and living in the most solitary places. Angels provided them food and water, while the wicked were suffering from hunger and thirst.' – Early Writings, p. 282." – Tract No. 3. pp. 81. 82.

God's people are at this time to consider the days following the Feast of Tabernacles in every company throughout the land that they may receive the "hidden manna," their portion of the Holy Spirit.

"The 40 days (Acts 1:3,9) from the resurrection to the ascension are consequently typical of the period from 1844 to the fulfillment of the marking and slaying as recorded in Ezekiel 9 and Revelation 7:3-8; 14:1-5 respectively, and in Testimonies to Ministers, p. 445, Testimonies, Vol. 3, p. 266, also Early Writings, pp. 270-273." – Ibid., p. 86.

The feast of one season matches the feast of another season: therefore, we have a counterpart (1978) reflected in the fall of the year by the Feast of Tabernacles, and the days following-the final harvest rite.

In The Daily, Numbers 1 and 2, the observance of the sacred worship hours (9 & 3) was instituted into the remnant church by Brother Ben Roden, signifying the return of the glory (Holy Spirit) to the Assemblies of Israel.

"The one lamb thou shalt offer in the morning; and the other lamb thou shalt offer at even: And with the one lamb a tenth deal of flour mingled with the fourth part of an hin of beaten oil; and the fourth part of an hin of wine for a drink offering. And the other lamb thou shalt offer at even, and shalt do thereto according to the meat offering of the morning, and according to the drink offering thereof, for a sweet savor, an offering made by fire unto the Lord. This shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the Lord: where I will meet you, to speak there unto thee. And there I will meet with the children of Israel, and the tabernacle shall be sanctified by my glory. And I will sanctify the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar: I will sanctify also both Aaron and his sons, to minister to me in the priest's office. And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will be their God. And

they shall know that I am the Lord their God, that brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them: I am the Lord their God." – Exodus 29:39-46.

Therefore, we conclude the observance by Branch believers of the feasts instituted by Brother Roden and as pointed out in the Sanctuary service brought the measure of the Holy Spirit in 1977

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to prepare us for the reception of the truth first, about the power of the Spirit's return to the church in three parts, wave-sheaf, wave-loaves, and Feast of Tabernacles.

"Second, it purports itself to be the first of the first fruits of the living, the vanguard from among the present-day descendants of those Jews who composed the early Christian church. With the emergence of this VANGUARD and its army, the first fruits, from which are elected the 12,000 out of each of the twelve tribes of Jacob, 'the 144,000' (Rev. 14:1; 7:2-8) who stand on Mount Zion with the Lamb (Rev. 14:1; 7:2-8), the reign of antitypical David begins." – Leviticus, p. 3.

The Total Harvest is represented by the vanguard wave-sheaf, the wave-loaves and Feast of Tabernacles.

"It is the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, which Jesus said He would send into the world, that changes our character into the image of Christ; and when this is accomplished, we reflect, as in a mirror, the glory of the Lord. That is, the character of the one Who thus beholds Christ is so like His, that one looking at him sees Christ's own character shining out as from a mirror. IMPERCEPTIBLY to ourselves we are changed DAY by DAY from our own ways and will into the ways and will of Christ, into the loveliness of His character. Thus we grow up into Christ, and unconsciously reflect His image." – Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, Ellen G. White Comments, Vol. 7-A, p. 321.

"POWER TO CONQUER DAY BY DAY. – All who will can be overcomers. Let us strive earnestly to reach the standard set before us. Christ knows our weakness, and to Him we can go DAILY for help. It is not necessary for us to gain strength a month ahead. We are to conquer from DAY to DAY (MS 28, 1886).

"THE SECRET OF OVERCOMING SIN. – WE BECOME OVERCOMERS BY HELPING OTHERS TO OVERCOME, BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB AND THE WORD OF OUR TESTIMONY. The keeping of the commandments of God will yield in us an obedient spirit, and the service that is the offspring of such a spirit, God can accept (Letter 236. 1908)." – Ibid., p. 418.

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times (the holy feasts of the Lord) of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." – Acts 3:19.

"For in that day every man shall cast away his idols (especially those that speak).... THEN shall the Assyrian fall with the sword.... and his princes shall be afraid of the ENSIGN, saith the Lord, whose fire is in Zion, and his furnace in Jerusalem." – Isaiah 31:7,8,9.

It would be well to remember that the Seventh-day Adventists are spiritual Assyria, ten tribes (Branch Letter No. 4, p. 2).

Brother Roden, Sister Roden, and George appeared at Autumn Council, October 16, 1978, to distribute The Daily. No. 2, The Dove, Part 1, and the Chart on the message of JONAH to the ten tribes, Seventh-day Adventists, at Takoma Park, Maryland, Washington, D.C., and had a warm and rewarding experience with many of the Brethren from the world field.

We rejoice that we have come to the third phase of the setting up of the Kingdom under antitypical Solomon which culminates in God's people standing on Mt. Zion (Rev. 14:1) with the Lamb! Hallelujah!!

Again, as Joseph proclaimed forty days of mourning for Jacob, so today we are mourning for Brother Roden. Let us mourn by repenting and turning away from idolatry, even our habits, theories, practices, and private ideas!

May The Branch, Holy Spirit of Messiah, bless and keep you for Her glorious Kingdom under Solomon's reign!

Sincerely yours to claim Their promises for this hour,

<signed Lois I. Roden>

(Mrs.) Lois I. Roden LIR:pdj:enc.

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

November 30, 1978

"Because the bone of contention among the angry nations of today is the WORLD'S MARKETS, and because the churches are threatened by the totalitarian governments, and thus urged to press together to preserve Christianity, the fact is thereby evidenced that the time is nigh for the arrival of the predicted world-wide religious-political-commercial empire, the supposed remedy for the world's ills." – The World Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow, p. 53.

There are a number of seemingly well-documented sources today who are bringing to light the vast power of the Rockefeller family (who are manipulating oil and gas "shortages") and its battle with the powerful European Rothchilds over the world's economic market and resulting world control!

How thankful we are that the Lord has promised that He will provide a king, a shepherd for the flock, to replace all the greedy shepherds (Ezek. 34:20-24); 37:16-28; Hosea 3:5; Jer. 23:5,6; 33:15,16)!

Are you looking for the promised latter day David? Is it not a stupendous thought that the dream of all the prophets, the hope of the ages, even the restoration of the Promised Land with a righteous king is about to be realized?

Would you like to live and never die? Jesus declared that Elijah would come and "restore ALL things" (Matt. 17:11), which would include life without death as God originally created man. Just think, life without death! Are you ready to live and never die? Read 1 Cor. 15:51 and John 60:50,51.

Elijah is here to give you this gift. God asks that you "Remember ye the law of Moses...with the statutes and judgments" (Mal. 4:4), for to "Fear God, and keep His commandments: this is the whole duty of man." Eccl. 12:13.

"Think not," Jesus declared, "that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil (carry out). For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." Matt. 5:17,18.

We are praising the Lord that He has provided us with food, "meat in due season," that never perishes that we may send it to you, even the message of the promised Elijah who is now here dispensing the precious "butter" and "honey" without cost.

It is our prayer that as you live for Him from day to day, choosing the good and refusing the evil (which is only possible as you "eat" the "butter" and "honey" (Isa. 7:15,21,22) or PRESENT TRUTH OF THE BRANCH), that you will be ready to move to the Promised Land when Elijah gives the call for you to return seeking the Lord your God and David your king (Hosea 3:5)!

Sincerely yours to pray for the peace of Jerusalem,

Ben L. Roden (1902–1978)

BLR:pdj:enc.

P.S. We thought you would enjoy this! Corres. Secy.

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

December 8, 1978

Praise the Lord that the light of the Mighty Angel of Revelation 18:1 is shining upon us to prepare us for the time of trouble just ahead! Sister Ellen G. White, inspired messenger of the Third Angel, was shown that "The work of this angel (Rev. 18:1) comes in at the right time to JOIN IN the last great work of the third angel's message as it swells into a loud cry. And the people of God are thus prepared to stand in the hour of temptation, which they are soon to meet." – Early Writings, p. 277.

We are very pleased to write you, and commend you on your fine spirit of investigation, which is the true spirit of Christianity. Sister White counselled that "if a message comes that you do not understand, take pains that you may hear the reasons the messenger may give..." – Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work, p. 65.

Your name and address have been placed on our mailing list that you may receive The Branch Sabbath School Lessons and other timely truth publications. Please do not hesitate to write should questions arise from your prayerful and careful study of The Branch message, which is the message of Revelation 18:1, of which Sister White said "seemed to be an ADDITION TO the third message." – Early Writings, p. 277.

Yes, the additional message is here and it is preparing us to "stand in the hour of temptation" which the signs all show is right upon us!

As you may know, the Lord sent the Mighty Angel of Revelation 18:1 to the Seventh-day Adventist church in 1888 to prepare Adventists for the time of trouble that would have developed as a result of the first national Sunday law ever introduced into the American Congress; it was introduced on May 21, 1888. In the fall of 1888 the message of Revelation 18:1 was presented to the General Conference Session at Minneapolis, Minnesota by Elders Waggoner and Jones, who were endorsed by Sister White as being sent of God to finish the work, and to instruct Adventists what to do and where to go to be saved, which understanding would have come had the message fully developed.

But here we are 88 years later! What happened to the national Sunday law? What happened to the message of Revelation 18:1?

The first national Sunday law ever to be introduced into the American Congress was not adopted by Congress. Sunday legislation on a national level was forgotten!

"Inspiration declares that Tyrus was forgotten seventy years, but after seventy years she shall sing as a harlot. 'And it shall come to pass after seventy years that the Lord will visit Tyre, and she shall turn to her hire, and shall commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth.' Isa. 23:17.... Tyrus.... the beginning of this future religio-political trade system.

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When the Lord pours out His judgments upon the disobedient among His professed people, the kings of the earth will know about it and they will be clothed with trembling and astonishment. They will come to realize that if God deals so severely with the sinners in His church, their punishment will be far greater. So they tremble and are astonished because fear has seized them... So the nations in their perplexity are organized into a religio-political system which is Babylon the great. Rev. 17.... Sr. White wrote to the General Conference that in two years they would have been in the Kingdom (it would have sprouted in the wilderness, Hosea 2:14)." – Tyre and Zidon, pp.3,4.

1888 plus two years to accept Rev. 18:1 message – 1890 + 70 years Tyrus forgotten = 1960: when America elected her first Catholic president or the beginning of the end of the U.S. democracy and the beginning of religio-political 'image of the beast' followed by the Supreme Court decision in 1961 that Sunday laws are constitutional. 1960 signaled the end of the lamb-like phase of the U.S.A. and the beginning of the dragon-like phase (Rev. 13:11).

"Because of their unbelief manifested in the rejection of the message sent to prepare them for the heavenly Canaan, the Lord had to alter His purpose and turn the Advent people back into the wilderness of sin till they learn the lesson of faith... It is very evident that the rejection of God's special message in 1888, which resulted in the altering of His purpose to take His people directly into the promised land marked the beginning of a spiritual retreat toward the world or Egypt... 'The influence that grew out of the resistance of light and truth at Minneapolis, tended to make of none effect the light which God had given to His people through the 'Testimonies,' General Conference Bulletin, Feb. 28, 1893." – Forty Years in the Wilderness, by Elder Taylor G. Bunch, pp. 16,18,19. (Elder Bunch, now deceased, was a high-ranking Adventist minister and author.)

" 'If the people had gone to work... after 1888... world warned in TWO YEARS... Lord would have come.'"  
– General Conference Bulletin, 1892, by E.G. White.

Because the leadership of the Adventist church did not accept the message of Revelation 18:1, God did not allow the Sunday legislation to mature lest His people be completely overwhelmed because they did not accept the "covering" offered by the message of Revelation 18:1. So history records the withdrawal of both the on-rushing dragon-like phase of America which finds her making herself over into a church-state combined government, and the withdrawal of the Revelation 18:1 message.

Elder Daniells, one-time president of the General Conference, and friend of Sister White, states in his book, Christ Our Righteousness, pp. 23,47,49: "In 1888 there came to the Seventh-day Adventist church a very definite awakening message... All these long years they have held a firm conviction, and cherished a fond hope, that someday this message would be given great prominence among us... The message has never been received, nor proclaimed, nor given free course as it should have been in order to convey to the church the measureless blessings that were wrapped within it... Is it not time that fresh light should come to the people of God?"



In 1888 the American Sabbath Union was organized in Washington, D.C. with a membership of about eight Protestant denominations. Its purpose was to use the influence of the churches to back the state and national Sunday laws, and it was also responsible for the persecution of Seventh-day Adventists.

We have given you a brief outline of the setting in 1888. There was a message from God. There was the first national Sunday law introduced in Congress May 21, 1888.

Forces at work in America in 1888 hoped to set up a "theocracy" or church-state government. For example, The Women's Christian Temperance Union called directly for a Christian theocracy. They were zealously fanatical in their desire to bring this about, as published accounts reveal!

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As Seventh-day Adventists we know that this "theocracy" is defined in the Bible as the dragon-like phase of America, the "mark of the beast" or the "image beast" (Rev. 13:11). This began with the introduction in the American Congress of the first national Sunday law, May 21, 1888. A few months later in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the General Conference Session was held, and at this Session the message of Revelation 18:1 was presented by Elders Waggoner and Jones, which message was to prepare the Adventists for the time of Jacob's trouble that would develop from persecution over the Sabbath. But since the leading brethren did not accept this message, God in His great mercy did not allow the Sunday law to become legal.

Today the same factors are on the scene! In 1961 America declared Sunday laws constitutional. In 1975 President Ford signed the Energy Bill into law which contains a provision for a civil Sunday law in time of energy crisis, and also for rationing. The Lord has in His great love sent the message of Revelation 18:1 again to prepare the church for the crisis that will develop this time, as we may even now see taking place!

The Lord's Day Alliance, formerly the American Sabbath Union, has reformed and revitalized itself for a hard push in bringing about Sunday sacredness. Dr. Lindsell, whom we quote in the "Energy Crisis" tract that you have received, has more recently written in the May 7, 1976 issue of Christianity Today that "It is highly unlikely that it (proper use of Sunday) will be accomplished by voluntary action by the citizenry generally. Therefore the only way to accomplish the objective is by FORCE OF LEGISLATIVE FIAT (law) through the duly elected officials of the people." Dr. Mayberry, Executive Director of the Alliance, has stated that "Governor Jimmy Carter is a personal friend of mine, and I am sure he is broad enough to want a day of rest for all people."

The message of Revelation 18:1 is going around the world to Seventh-day Adventists, but it is at the present time mainly concentrated here in America where the Sunday persecution will begin. The message has revealed where God wants His people to go for a refuge in the "great and dreadful day of the Lord." Read Ezek. 36:24-38; Isa. 2:1,5; 11:10-16; Jer. 30:3,24. We are sending you some literature on these and other prophecies for your careful and prayerful study. As the "mark of the beast" goes world-wide, the message of Revelation 18:2 will also go world-wide in great power and will finally give the cry of Revelation 18:4.

We are praising the Lord that this wonderful message of which the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy prophesied has come, and is preparing a place of safety for God's people. Seventh-day Adventists around the world are rejoicing in the message of The Branch! Both laity and ministry alike are turning to The Branch for information regarding these things of which we have written, and many feel that the leading ministers in the church are keeping vital information from them concerning the Sunday sacredness movement as well as those things taking place within the government.

"There will be those among us who will always want to control the work of God, to dictate even what movements shall be made when the work goes forward under the direction of the angel who JOINS THE THIRD ANGEL in the message to be given to the world." – Testimonies to Ministers, p. 300.

"Hence the MOVEMENT (Rev. 18:1) symbolized by the angel coming down from heaven, lightening the earth with his glory... In connection with his MESSAGE... These announcements, UNITING WITH THE

THIRD ANGEL'S MESSAGE, constitute the final warning to be given to the inhabitants of the earth." – Great Controversy, p. 604.

You are greatly privileged to come to the knowledge of the Mighty Angel of Revelation 18:1. It is the "extra oil" (Matt. 25:1-3); it is the "goodly pearl" (Matt. 13:45,46); it is the "leaven" in the three measures of meal (Matt. 13:33); it is the "hidden treasure" (Matt. 13:44); it is the "Bread of Heaven" (John 6:28-51)!

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How thankful we are to live in this wonderful age, even the age of the restoration of all things! The Lord has raised-up the promised Elijah (Matt. 17:11; Mal. 4:5) to restore "ALL THINGS," even the Kingdom of God on earth before Jesus comes the second time, and life without death (1 Cor. 15:51; John 6:50,58)!

Under the message of the Third Angel we understand Christ's mediation of His blood in the MOST HOLY PLACE of the Heavenly Sanctuary on the Day of Atonement (Lev. 23:26-32) since 1844 for the righteous dead. Since 1955 Christ is revealed to us by Inspiration as mediating His blood once a year on the Day of Atonement as well as daily (Daniel 8:11-14) at the time of the morning sacrifice and at the time of the evening sacrifice (nine o'clock and three o'clock) in the Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary. Under separate cover we are sending you a copy of the "Daily" which will explain this more fully. We should like to hear from you regarding this beautiful truth!

"The significance of the Jewish economy is not yet fully understood. Truths vast and profound are shadowed forth in its rites and symbols." – Christ's Object Lessons, p. 13, by Ellen G. White.

The Lord has given the "command" that our brethren should move from Takoma Park, Washington, D.C. to Jerusalem for the "mark of the beast" will not allow them to keep the Sabbath in America or buy and sell, which is a necessity in giving the gospel. Sister White was given the prophecy that "If after a time the Lord says move away from Washington, WE MUST MOVE... however inconvenient and inconsistent such a command may seem." – Review & Herald, August 11, 1903.

That prophecy is being fulfilled as The Branch message continues to warn the brethren to move to the land of the covenant promise made to Abraham, and his seed, which covenant was ratified or made possible by the death of our Savior.

God's promise: "Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of 'your inheritance.'" Psalms 105:11. Of this promise, Sister White says, "Not by any temporary failure of Israel... will the plan of the ages for the redemption of mankind be frustrated...the purposes of Jehovah were nevertheless to move steadily forward to their complete fulfillment... TO THEM (S.D.A.) will be fulfilled ALL THE COVENANT PROMISES MADE BY JEHOVAH TO HIS ANCIENT PEOPLE." – Prophets and Kings, (The Captivity and Restoration of Israel), pp. 705,706,714.

Yes, The Branch message has come in fulfillment of prophecy, and is the Mighty Angel of Revelation 18:1, the "special message." It is now proclaiming to God's dear Sabbathkeeping people to GO YE OUT (Matt. 25:6) of the land of the two-horned beast (and all other nations that unite with her) that is making an image (Sunday laws for a civil-religio state) and return to the land of Abraham, the land of the covenant promise (Gal. 3:20).

"Zechariah's vision of Joshua and the Angel (The Branch) applies with PECULIAR FORCE to the experience of God's people in the closing up of the great day of atonement (judgment for the living in Laodicea)." – Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 472, by E.G. White. The work of Christ as man's intercessor is presented in that beautiful prophecy of Zechariah concerning Him 'whose name is the Branch.' " – The Great Controversy, p. 415.

We would be pleased to hear from you!

May The Branch our Lord (Isa. 11:1; Zech. 3:8; 6:12; Isa. 4:2; Jer. 23:5,6; 33:15,16) help you to anoint your eyes with the precious "eyesalve" of truth now being dispensed from New Mt. Carmel Center, Waco, Texas.

Sincerely yours to see the Glory of the Mighty Angel,

Ben L. Roden (1902-1978)

BLR:pdj:enc.

P.S. We thought you would enjoy this!

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

December 15, 1978

Dear Kingdom-bound Saint:

Praise the Lord that "we have the message of Elijah and ALSO the message of Jonah"! --Symbolic Code, Vol. 11, No. 8, p. 11.

"The whole story of Jonah's experience, you see, is more than a record of what happened to him. It is a picture of the experience of God's ever-living church."--Ibid., p. 12.

So what has been just a favorite story of many children, is in reality a type of the church's experience in our day!

There are some very important facts about Jonah, or "dove," and the Holy Spirit which are coming to our attention. Here are some of them for your enjoyment. Perhaps you can find other interesting points and send them to us!

The Jewish Encyclopedia, under "Dove," says the Hebrew word for dove is "yonah" or Jonah! It says that there are seven varieties of doves in Israel. Under "Jonah" it says that the book of Jonah is read annually for the afternoon service of Yom Kippur, and that it is considered by theologians as the "most noble book in the Old Testament," "the deepest and grandest," and that it shows "the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind, and it is a constant rebuke to our pretensions, our narrow judgment, and our divisions."

Comments on Genesis 1:2, the Talmud, Vol. 8, p. 2, under Hag. 15a, p. 92, says "the spirit of God . . . . dove."

New Testament Apocrypha, p. 160, "The understanding of the Holy Spirit as a female is also Jewish or Semitic."

May The Heavenly Branch Family bless your continued study of Them!

Sincerely yours to grow in truth and grace,

Correspondence Secretary  
pdj:enc

**GENERAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRANCH DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

December 15, 1978

A PROPHETIC VIEW  
OF THE  
WAVE-SHEAF, WAVE-LOAVES, FEAST OF TABERNACLES

"Illustrating our salvation in completeness, the harvest rites of the ceremonial system must therefore corroborate both the testimonies of the prophets and the parables concerning the harvest, for all are inextricably bound up together. The ceremonies of the first and second fruits of grain must accordingly unfold the truth concerning the first and second fruits of humanity."—Tract No. 3, p. 75.

"AS THE WAVE-SHEAF AND THE WAVE-LOAVES ARE TYPICAL, THEN ALSO THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES MUST BE TYPICAL."—Ibid., p. 81.

TYPICAL OF WHAT?

Answer: Typical of the TIMES OF REFRESHING (Acts 3:19) from the presence of the Lord.

"Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the Lord thy God in the PLACE which he shall choose; in the FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD, and in the FEAST OF WEEKS, and in the FEAST OF TABERNACLES: and they shall not appear before the Lord empty." Deut 16:16.

"ALL THE CEREMONIES OF THE JEWISH LAW WERE PROPHETIC."—S.D.A. Bible Commentary, Vol. 7-A, p. 319.

(1) WAVE-SHEAF IN TYPE-Prophetic TIME of the POWER of the Spirit which Christ, the Wave-Sheaf, received on the 16th day of the 7th month (27 A D, and that He and the WAVE-SHEAF received on the 18thday of the 1st month (Passover) at the resurrection (31 A.D.).

(2) WAVE-LOAVES IN TYPE-Prophetic TIME of the POWER of the Spirit which fell on part (the 12) of the Wave-Loaves (120) on the 18th day of the 1st month, and on the Day of Pentecost in the 3rd month.

(3) Feast of Tabernacles-Prophetic TIME of the POWER of the HOLY SPIRIT which fell upon Jesus, the Wave-Sheaf, the first of the first-fruit offering, on the 16th day of the 7th month, 27 A.D.. Pointing forward to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Wave-Loaves on the day of Pentecost--the second of the first-fruit offering.

Note: The rest of the WAVE-SHEAF who were raised 3 1/2 years later with Jesus received the POWER of the Spirit at Passover on the 18th day of the FIRST month when the prototypical Wave-Sheaf was glorified and the 12 received their PRE-Pentecostal outpouring before the 50th day of Pentecost when they, with the 120, received the fullness of the Holy Spirit in power. The PROPHECY of the Feast of Tabernacles (15th day of the 7th month) and PASSOVER (15th day of the 1st month) bring to view THE WAVE-SHEAF, an unnumbered multitude (Desire of Ages, p. 786:1). The PROPHECY of Pentecost brings to view the 144,000, two wave-loaves, a numbered company.

Christ, The Branch, and the HOLY SPIRIT, The Branch, bring forth the truth of the wave-sheaf. The wave-sheaf was made manifest and glorified by Christ and the Holy Spirit. Peter, one of the first fruit, wave-loaves, and spokesman for the 120, gathered 3,000 on the Day of Pentecost and for nearly 3 1/2 years thereafter, daily, such as should be saved-the second fruits to the church until the end of the 7 years to 34 A.D. At the Feast of Tabernacles at the end of the 7 years in 34 A.D., Stephen, filled with the Holy Ghost, died AFTER THE FINAL SEALING of the 120, and, thereafter, Paul took the message to the Gentiles under the power of the Spirit. This is the picture of the Harvest in type, which pointed out the TIMES OF REFRESHING during a 7 year period of the ministry of the Holy Spirit to the Jewish nation. Likewise, we might expect a Revelation of Truth in the Harvest period in the END of the world (Matt. 13:39) to inform us when to expect the manifestation of God's SPIRIT upon His CHURCH according to the prophecies, the types and ceremonies, Wave-Sheaf, Wave-Loaves, and Feast of Tabernacles, of the Earthly Sanctuary, after the pattern of the Heavenly (Exodus 25:9,40), AS IN THE TYPE OF THE 7 YEAR HARVEST PERIOD in Jesus' day.

"The Hebrews were FOREVER to keep holy, (1) not A seventh, but THE seventh, day of each week, the Sabbath; (2) the days from the fifteenth to the twenty-first day of the first month, the Passover week; (3) the fiftieth day after the sheaf of the first fruits was offered, the Pentecost; (4) the tenth day of the seventh month, the Atonement; (5) the days from the fifteenth to the twenty-first day of the same month, the Feast of Tabernacles; and (6) the feasts of the new moons."—Answerer Book No. 3, p. 9.

Thus the descendants of those early Christian Jews today are privileged to observe the same Harvest Rites. "Your obeying 'ALL THE COMMANDMENTS, AND THE STATUTES, AND THE JUDGMENTS' of the moral, law of Moses, you see, is your evidence that you have been BORN AGAIN, that you have been endowed with POWER from above, that you are enabled to CHOOSE THE GOOD AND TO REFUSE THE EVIL, that you are the children of God. KEEPING THE COMMANDMENTS AND THE STATUTES IN THE LORD, then, is the LIGHT AND SHIELD OF YOUR LIFE. It is the outward SIGN that by the life of Christ you have OVERCOME the Enemy of your soul and body--This SYSTEM OF WORSHIP, therefore, is truly the Righteousness by FAITH that brings the RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST IN THE PEOPLE OF GOD."—Timely Greetings, Vol. 2, No. 37, p. 24.

Conclusively, therefore: "Yes, be convinced of the truth which I have tried to present to you, for it is your LIFE, your prosperity, your health and happiness, your eternity."—Ibid., p. 25.

LET US NO LONGER RESIST THE IMPARTATION OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The question NOW is, How long will the Branches, Davidians, and Seventh-day Adventists resist the promise of the Holy Spirit at these TIMES of refreshing from the presence of the Lord when our sins are blotted out (Acts 3:19)?

Sincerely yours to receive the Holy Spirit's impartation at the TIMES pointed out in the Symbolic Service,

Lois I. Roden

LIR:pdj:enc.

P.S. We are preparing a chart to illustrate this letter, and it will be sent with the Sabbath School Lessons very shortly.