

“The Gift (6): Ellen White— What Was She Really Like?”

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□ **Matthew 7:15-20**

- *Her reflection fifty years later:* “I visited . . . the spot where I met with the accident that has made me a life-long invalid. This misfortune, which for a time seemed so bitter and was so hard to bear, has proved to be a blessing in disguise. The cruel blow which blighted the joys of earth, was the means of turning my eyes to heaven. I might never have known Jesus, had not the sorrow that clouded my early years led me to seek comfort in him.” (*Review and Herald*, November 25, 1884)
- *Her conversion testimony:* “Faith now took possession of my heart. I felt an inexpressible love for God, and had the witness of His Spirit that my sins were pardoned. My views of the Father were changed. I now looked upon Him as a kind and tender parent, rather than a stern tyrant compelling men to a blind obedience. My heart went out toward Him in a deep and fervent love. . . . My heart was so filled with love to God and the peace that passeth understanding, that I loved to meditate and pray.” (*Life Sketches* 39)
- *Her first vision:* “While we were praying, the power of God came upon me as I had never felt it before. I seemed to be surrounded with light, and to be rising higher and higher from the earth. I turned to look for the advent people in the world, but could not find them, when a voice said to me, ‘Look again, and look a little higher.’ At this I raised my eyes, and saw a straight and narrow path, cast up high above the world. On this path the advent people were traveling to the city which was at the farther end of the path. They had a bright light set up behind them at the beginning of the path, which an angel told me was the ‘midnight cry.’ This light shone all along the path, and gave light for their feet, so that they might not stumble. *If they kept their eyes fixed on Jesus, who was just before them, leading them to the city, they were safe.*” (*Life Sketches* 64, emphasis supplied)
- Her seventy year life ministry appeal: If we keep our eyes _____, we are _____.

□ **Three passions that ignited Ellen White’s life and ministry:**

- #1—A passion for the _____
 - In the CD Rom collection of her writings, she writes of “Jesus” _____ times, of “Christ” _____ times, and of the “Savior” _____ times.
 - *Steps to Christ:* “You are not to look to yourself, not to let the mind dwell upon self, but look to Christ. Let the mind dwell upon His love, upon the beauty, the perfection, of His character. Christ in His self-denial, Christ in His humiliation, Christ in His purity and holiness, Christ in His matchless love—this is the subject for the soul’s contemplation. It is by loving Him, copying Him, depending wholly upon Him, that you are to be transformed into His likeness.” (70, 71)
- #2—A passion for the _____
 - “The Bible is God’s voice speaking to us, just as surely as though we could hear it with our ears. If we realized this, with what awe would we open God’s word, and with what earnestness would we search its precepts! The reading and contemplation of the Scriptures would be regarded as an audience with the Infinite One.” (6T 393)
- #3—A passion for the _____
 - “Recently in the night season I was awakened from sleep and given a view of the sufferings of Christ for men. His sacrifice, the mockery and derision He received at the hands of wicked men, His agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, His betrayal and

crucifixion—all were vividly portrayed before me. . . . As I have thought of that cup trembling in the hands of Christ; as I have realized that He might have refused to drink, and left the world to perish in its sin, I have pledged that every energy of my life should be devoted to the work of winning souls to Him.” (9T 101-103)

- No wonder Ellen White’s life and ministry were so fruitful!
 - She is considered today the _____ most translated author in history.
 - She is the most translated _____ author, male or female.
 - Her literary productions totaled approximately _____ pages, the equivalent of _____ words.
 - A decade ago _____ titles were in print bearing her name, including books that are compilations.
- As fruit of her ministry and leadership, God raised up the Seventh-day Adventist Church to become:
 - The largest Protestant _____ system in the world today.
 - The largest Protestant _____ system in the world today.
 - The largest Protestant _____ enterprise in the world today.
 - The most expansive Protestant _____ outreach in the world today, with the Seventh-day Adventist Church in more countries than any other denomination.
- I have personally tasted the fruit of this woman’s life and ministry, and am convinced beyond the shadow of a doubt that Ellen White was called, gifted and anointed by Christ with a prophetic ministry for such a time as this.

*“By their fruits you
will know them”*

fixed on Jesus; safe; Savior; 37,038; 69,277; 11,583; Word of God; salvation of the lost; third; American; 100,000; 25 million; 128; educational; health; publishing; missions