

Lesson 42

An Impressive Dream

- Testimonies for the Church vol. 2 pages 594.1-597.2
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In this lesson we will be looking at Ellen White's dream in *Testimonies volume 2* chapter 73. She had the dream in August 1868 while in Battle Creek. The dream is about Ellen White, James White, and others traveling along an ever narrowing path to Heaven. There were hardships along the way and people left one by one, but the faithful did eventually reach the beautiful field of six-inch tall green grass. We will be applying that dream to the line of the Priests to show our experience since the Time of the End.

Testimonies vol. 2 pages 594.1-597.1

A portion begins

"While at the Battle Creek in August, 1868, I dreamed of being with a large body of people. A portion of this assembly started out prepared to journey. We had heavily loaded wagons. As we journeyed, the road seemed to ascend. On one side of this road was a deep precipice; on the other was a high, smooth, white wall, like the hard finish upon plastered rooms." 2T 594.1. In the first part of this dream, Ellen White, and a group of people left a larger group and started on a journey up a path next to a smooth white wall on a cliff, with wagons loaded with luggage. The people traveling on the path represent God's people leaving Earth and going to Heaven (or the New Earth). The gorge represents the world.

Wagons are lost

After the portion left, Ellen G. White and the others were faced with a problem. She says, "As we journeyed on, the road grew narrower and steeper. In some places it seemed so very narrow that we concluded that we could no longer travel with the loaded wagons. We then loosed them from the horses, took a portion of the luggage from the wagons and placed it upon the horses, and journeyed on horseback." *2T* 594. 2.

Luggage is lost

"As we progressed, the path still continued to grow narrow. We were obliged to press close to the wall, to save ourselves from falling off the narrow road down the steep precipice. As we did this, the luggage on the horses pressed against the wall, and caused us to sway toward the precipice. We feared that we should fall, and be dashed in pieces on the rocks. We then cut the luggage from the horses, and it fell over the precipice." 27 594.3. On their journey, they had to get rid of their luggage if they wanted to continue safely.

Horses are lost and cords are let down

"As the path grew more narrow, we decided that we could no longer go with safety on horseback, and we left the horses and went on foot, in single file, one following in the footsteps of another. At this point small cords were let down from the top of the pure white wall; these we eagerly grasped, to aid us in keeping our balance upon the path. As we traveled, the cord moved along with us." 2T 595.1. When they finally decided to get off the horses and walk, God gave them special help. He let down cords from the top of the wall they were walking next to. Once each of the people took hold of the cords they did not need to let go because the cords moved along with them as they traveled.

Shoes are lost

After they left their horses, the group faced another problem. "The path finally became so narrow that we concluded that we could travel more safely without our shoes, so we slipped them from our feet and went on some distance without them." 2T 595.1.

Stockings are lost

"Soon it was decided that we could travel more safely without our stockings; these were removed, and we journeyed on with bare feet.

"We then thought of those who had not accustomed themselves to privations and hardships. Where were such now? They were not in the company. At every change, some were left behind, and those only remained who had accustomed themselves to endure hardships. The privations of the way only made these more eager to press on to the end." 2T 595.1,2. The pathway was getting increasingly narrow and their stockings weren't affording them much traction, so they took them off and continued without them. That was when Ellen White began to notice that people were leaving- people that hadn't accustomed themselves with hardships. Only those who had continued on.

Suspending weight on the cords

"Our danger of falling from the pathway increased. We pressed close to the white wall, yet could not place our feet fully upon the path, for it was too narrow. We then suspended nearly our whole weight upon the cords, exclaiming: "We have hold from above! We have hold from above!" The same words were uttered by all the company in the narrow pathway. As we heard the sounds of mirth and revelry that seemed to come from the abyss below, we shuddered. We heard the profane oath, the vulgar jest, and low, vile songs. We heard the war song and the dance song. We heard instrumental music, and loud laughter, mingled with cursing and cries of anguish and bitter wailing, and were more anxious than ever to keep upon the narrow, difficult pathway." 2T 595.3. Ellen White said that even going barefoot was not enough: the path was too narrow. So the people began to basically hang from the cords; they were grateful for them. And the noise coming from the abyss (the world) below made them more determined to stay on the narrow path.

The cords increase in size

The group had been holding on to the small cords from the beginning, but help was on the way. "Much of the time we were compelled to suspend our whole weight upon the cords, which increased in size as we progressed." 2T 595.3. The cords started getting bigger as the path got narrower to give them more to hold on to. So far this journey had been pain (physical pain) free, but this was about to change. "I noticed that the beautiful white wall was stained with blood. It caused a feeling of regret to see the wall thus stained. This feeling, however, lasted but for a moment, as I soon thought that it was all as it should be. Those who are following after will know that others have passed the narrow, difficult way before them, and will conclude that if others were able to pursue their onward course, they can do the same. And as the blood shall be pressed from their aching feet, they will not faint with discouragement; but, seeing the blood upon the wall, they will know that others have endured the same pain." 2T 596.1.

The chasm

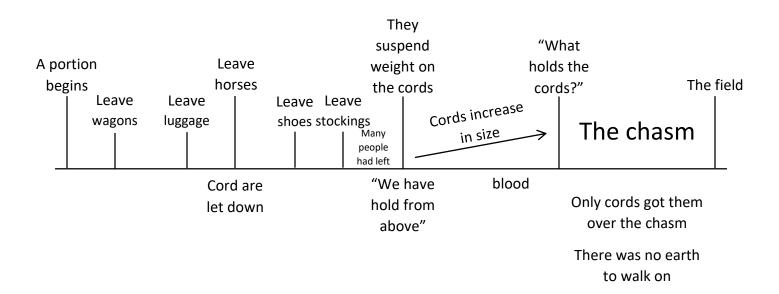
"At length we came to a large chasm, at which our path ended. There was nothing now to guide the feet, nothing upon which to rest them. Our whole reliance must be upon the cords, which had increased in size, until they were as large as our bodies. Here we were for a time thrown into perplexity and distress. We inquired in fearful whispers, 'To what is the cord attached?' My husband was just before me. Large drops of sweat were falling from his brow, the veins in his neck and temples were increased to double their usual size, and suppressed, agonizing groans came from his lips. The sweat was dropping from my face, and I felt such anguish as I had never felt before. A fearful struggle was before us. Should we fail here, all the difficulties of our journey had been experienced for naught.

"Before us, on the other side of the chasm, was a beautiful field of green grass, about six inches high. I could not see the sun, but bright, soft beams of light, resembling fine gold and silver, were resting upon this field. Nothing I had seen upon earth could compare in beauty and glory with this field. But could we succeed in reaching it? was the anxious inquiry. Should the cord break, we must perish.

"Again, in whispered anguish, the words were breathed, 'What holds the cord?' For a moment we hesitated to venture. Then we exclaimed: 'Our only hope is to trust wholly to the cord. It has been our dependence all the difficult way. It will not fail us now.' Still we were hesitating and distressed. The words were then spoken: 'God holds the cord. We need not fear.' These words were repeated by those behind us, accompanied with: 'He will not fail us now. He has brought us thus far in safety.'" 2T 596.2,3. When Ellen White and the others arrived at the chasm, they began to question what the cords were attached to. They had never questioned before but they did now because they had to fully depend on them. There would be no Earth (earthly support) beneath their feet anymore. The cord was now the size of them, and it would be the only thing that could get them across to the field.

The field

"Before us, on the other side of the chasm, was a beautiful field of green grass, about six inches high. I could not see the sun, but bright, soft beams of light, resembling fine gold and silver, were resting upon this field. Nothing I had seen upon earth could compare in beauty and glory with this field." 2T 596.3. This description of the field represents Heaven (or the New Earth); it is the end of their journey. After they wrestled at the edge of the chasm they decided to trust the cords and swing over into "Heaven". "My husband then swung himself over the fearful abyss into the beautiful field beyond. I immediately followed. And oh, what a sense of relief and gratitude to God we felt! I heard voices raised in triumphant praise to God. I was happy, perfectly happy." 2T 597.1.



Application: The Priests' Line

1989

Testimonies volume 2 594.1 can be placed at 1989. In 2T 594.1, Ellen G. White has a dream. In the dream there is a body of people, and a portion begins a journey. The body is the SDA church. From the SDA church, a portion begins a journey, this portion represents the Priests, who leave the church to begin a journey. This part of the dream is identical to Daniel 2. In Daniel 2, there is a mountain and a stone. The mountain represents the SDA church and the stone represents the Priests and Levites. The stone is separated from the mountain at the Sunday Law which is the end of the Levite's harvest. You should see a discrepancy, the stone is the Priests and Levites but the portion was just the Priests. This isn't a problem, the Priests separate before the Levites, it's a process. The dream is just showing part one of the process- the Priests being separated. Part 2, which is the Levites being separated, is mentioned in Daniel 2, but not this dream. So in the first part of the dream, the stone begins to separate from the mountain when a portion, the Priests, leave the body of people, the SDA church, to begin a journey. When do the Priests begin their journey? At 1989. Therefore, the portion leaves the body of people at 1989.

1991

The first thing that the travelers had to let go of was the loaded wagons. We can place this at the Increase of Knowledge after the Time of the End- 1991. This was when the Movement (whatever size it was back then) began to get rid of the false doctrines of Adventism.

1996

The next step in the dream is losing the luggage. That typifies 1996. We can compare luggage or baggage to false teachings or sin. In 1996, this Movement left behind its luggage. This is luggage from Adventism or the original group in the dream. The portion who travel up the path leave for their journey with that luggage. In 1996, they leave it behind: this Movement left behind Adventism's false ideas of the end of the world in 1996. That was the formalization of our message on the Time of the End and Daniel II:40. From the Seven Steps of Salvation model, the period from 1989 to 2001 is the time of repentance and confession. So, we can see that in 1996 this Movement is also leaving behind the sins of the Seventh-day Adventist church. Those sins are wrong understandings of prophecy. We can see that false doctrines are left behind, by this Movement, in 1996, like the luggage in the dream.

2001

When the group loses their horses and the cords are let down is 2001. In 2T 595.1, the path the Movement travels on becomes too narrow and they have to leave the horses and go on foot. At this time cords are let down over the wall, which the people hold on to keep their balance as they travel. These cords are parable methodology. 2001 was the unsealing of the SL on the 144,000's line, and we couldn't begin learning properly about the SL without correct methodology- this is one reason why parables were unsealed in 2001. Therefore, in 2001 the cords or parables were let down. Another point to mention is that they don't switch from cord to cord and we don't switch from one type of methodology to another, the methodology we start with is the one we still have now- parables. So, the point when the group loses the horses and gets the cords is 2001- when we begin to stop using the incorrect methodology and begin to hold on to the cords or parables.

2009

Ellen White and the group found that the path became too narrow to wear shoes and safely travel. Their shoes were now too wide to wear on the path so they took them off and continued with only stockings. We place this at 2009- the Increase of Knowledge in the 2001 to 2014 dispensation. Shoes are what cover feet and feet can represent a message (Isaiah 52:7). In 2009, a message was uncovered. That message is what allowed them to move forward and helped them throughout the rest of their journey. That message was the 2520.

2012

After the shoes comes the stockings. In 2012, this Movement symbolically took off its stockings. In the dream the people took off the stockings (long socks), so they could better grip the path and not fall off. In 2012, timesetting was opened up- the stockings came off this Movement. Timesetting helps this Movement stay on the path, like in the dream.

2014

The next point after the group lose their stockings is when they have to suspend their weight on the cords. In the dream, the path became so narrow that their feet couldn't even fit fully on the path. They then had to suspend nearly their whole weight on the cords. At what waymark do we have to trust almost completely the lines? 2014. 2014 was the test on timesetting- whether you believed in it or not. This Movement was tested if they would believe completely in the lines or not. In 2014, we had to suspend nearly our whole weight on the lines because of timesetting.

2014-2019

At one point, the cords began to increase in size. They grew bigger and bigger until they were the size of their bodies. We place this increase from 2014 to 2019. We know the Increase of Knowledge can be a point-2016- but we can also make it a period beginning in 2014 and continuing to increase until 2019. The cords growing in size can represent knowledge increasing. What knowledge increased in that dispensation? Parables. The cords can represent parables.

2019

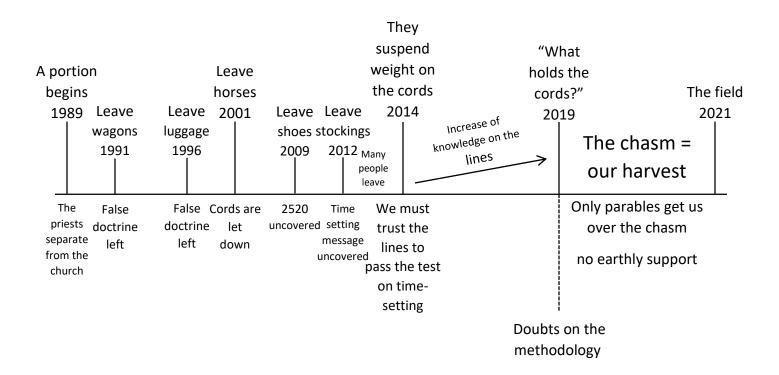
The close of probation is the chasm at the end of the path in the dream. At the chasm Ellen G. White says, "My husband was just before me. Large drops of sweat were falling from his brow, the veins in his neck and temples were increased to double their usual size, and suppressed, agonizing groans came from his lips. The sweat was dropping from my face, and I felt such anguish as I had never felt before. A fearful struggle was before us. Should we fail here, all the difficulties of our journey had been experienced for naught." *2T* 596.2. This parallels Christ in Gethsemane. About Christ, the Bible says that, "And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground." Luke 22:44. The experience at the chasm and in Gethsemane are the same. Gethsemane is 2019 on our line. We know this because Gethsemane is in the time period of the Cross and the Cross is 2019. At the chasm, the people on the path became perplexed and doubtful. They knew that they could only get over the abyss with the cords, but then they began to question: "What holds the cords?" they had never asked that question before. This experience parallels this Movement's experience beginning in 2019 (specifically November 9th). People in this Movement are perplexed and some are doubting or disbelieving the reform lines- which are the cords.

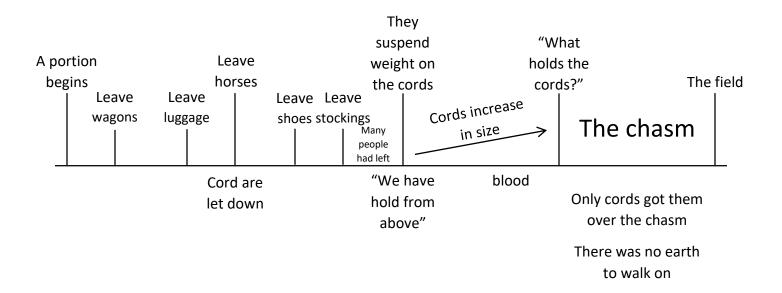
2019-2021

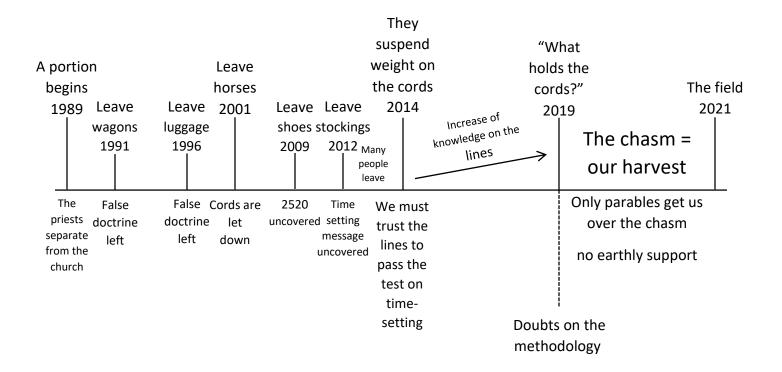
The second to last point in Ellen G. White's dream is the chasm. The path is earthly support, so when the Movement got to 2019, and saw that afterward there was no path, it began to question the methodology. When is all earthly support cut off, which in the dream, was when there was no path to walk on? The Time of Trouble. 2019-2021, which is our harvest, is a fractal of the Time of Trouble, so that is how we know that the chasm is our harvest. This line of the dream tells us exactly where we are right now- we are swinging from 2019, or the path, over the chasm. In the dream, the only thing that got the group over the chasm was the cords. Right now, we must trust the parable methodology because it is the only thing that can get us over chasm, which is our harvest.

2021

Those that remained until the end arrived at the field of grass. Their trials on Earth were over and they'd made it to Heaven. The field of grass represented Heaven (we can connect it to Ellen White's other visions of Heaven when she talks about the grass blowing in the wind- *CET* 62.3). On the line of the Priests, the group would reach the other side of the chasm in 2021. 2021 is the Priests' Second Coming so that's when we'd symbolically go to Heaven, or reach the field.







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