



JEFFREY ROSARIO
speaker

ABDICATE YOUR THRONE

ON PAGE 141 of the book *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, Ellen White reminds us that we are all engaged in a fierce spiritual battle. In fact, it is “the greatest battle that was ever fought by man.” Yet it does not involve military weapons or threats from foreign enemies, it involves “the surrender of self to the will of God, the yielding of the heart to the sovereignty of love.” The reason this is such an intense battle is because the human heart

lusts for independence from God (Romans 8:7). To surrender, or yield, runs contrary to our natural inclinations. We instinctively kick back against any possibility of becoming subject or servant to power other than our own. We want control of our own lives; we want to be seated,

unchallenged, on the throne of our own hearts.

But one of the fascinating paradoxes of Scripture is that when we surrender our hearts to the sovereignty of God’s love, we actually begin to experience true freedom. Yes, following Jesus calls for complete surrender to His will. It requires the power hungry sinner to become a servant. Yet by becoming His servants we are liberated from the bondage we initially feared.

When you give up control of your life and surrender to Jesus, you are, in a sense, actually taking control. Why? Because we are utterly incapable of achieving the very things we were created to long for: meaning, self-less love, true satisfaction, a clear conscience, etc. Our independent hearts are constantly seeking for these things but can never truly lay hold of them. These are the very things that Jesus’ rulership achieves. All the vital components of life’s true essence are found in the person

of Christ. So in this sense, by abdicating your throne, or control of your life, you are actually guaranteeing the very things your essence needs to exist meaningfully.

This is precisely why Jesus promises “if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed” (John 8:36), and at the same time invites us to “become slaves of God” (Romans 6:22). But don’t miss this point: we are not free *in spite* of the fact that we are slaves of Christ. We are free *because* we are slaves of Christ!

No wonder the apostles seem to brag about being bondservants of Jesus as they introduced themselves (Romans 1:1; James 1:1; 2 Peter 1:1; Jude 1). To them, being slaves of Jesus is the equivalent to being truly free. They were overwhelmed by the sovereignty of God’s love and were compelled with the reality that only as they abdicated their thrones could they begin to truly live as they were created to.





JAMES RAFFERTY
co-director

SETTING PRISONERS FREE

IN 2014 GOD blessed Light Bearers Ministry in a number of ways, one of which was the ability to send out an extra container of literature above our budgeted 11. Each container is filled with millions of tracts that make a huge impact in the world field. Here is a report we received from Kenya and the prison ministry of The King’s Messengers.

THE WONDERS OF GOD!

The King’s Messengers are a group of about 20 Adventist singers who organized into ministry in Nairobi, Kenya in 1991. From 2004, the Kenya government allowed limited

access to prisons, which before was prohibited. The King’s Messengers quickly utilized the opportunity, spreading the message through music and the Word.

Lack of Bibles and evangelistic literature was the major handicap in reaching 100,000 inmates, until the Lord answered our prayers and Light Bearers Ministry (LBM) sent a container of literature in 2014.

Excited prisoners have discovered good news in the readings and the literature is resulting in hundreds accepting Christ and being baptized. We greatly thank Light Bearers Ministry and their sponsors for the

literature and at the expiry of the quantities; we hope to approach them again.

THE CHALLENGES:

1. HIGH MINISTRY COST involved, especially transport hire cost to reach various and far prisons scattered across the country.

“In every effort such as you are now making, much more good would result from your labors if you had appropriate reading matter ready for circulation. Tracts upon the important points of truth for the present time should be handed out freely to all who will accept them. You are to sow beside all waters.”

Ellen White, *Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White*, p. 225

“God has placed at the command of His people advantages in the press, which, combined with other agencies, will be successful in extending the knowledge of the truth. Tracts, papers, and books, as the case demands, should be circulated in all the cities and villages in the land. Here is missionary work for all.”

Ellen White, *Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White*, p. 226

“You are not as a people doing one twentieth part of what might be done in spreading the knowledge of the truth. Very much more can be accomplished by the living preacher with the circulation of papers and tracts than by the preaching of the word alone without the publications. The press is a powerful instrumentality which God has ordained to be combined with the energies of the living preacher to bring the truth before all nations, kindreds, tongues, and peoples. Many minds can be reached in no other way.”

Ellen White, *Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White*, p. 226



OVER ONE THOUSAND PRISONERS BAPTIZED SINCE MAY 2014

2. ABILITY TO TAKE MESSAGE to all inmates in the scattered 100 prisons across the country.

3. NO LITERATURE TO LEAVE. The thousands of inmates have been relying on the word we preach and literature received from the union or conferences.

WHEN GOD CAME IN:

God heard our prayer in a big way!

A) LIGHT BEARERS MINISTRY from the United States heard our plea and sent to us in Mombasa, Kenya a full container load of 2 million pieces of literature for our ministry, free of charge!

B) The need to carry this abundant literature to the various prisons brought God's second miracle. The Lord used Pastor and Mrs. Ben Boggess to secure for us a Nissan transport vehicle.

C) With the untrained chaplains being a major problem as the

inmates studied the Daniel and Revelation series, God's third miracle was in the air. God sent Pastor and Mrs. Boggess to come and conduct an intensive three week effort and two weeks of training for 100 chaplains from the prisons and armed forces.

RESULT: The result of the combined efforts has been an unprecedented action in many prisons which has seen multiple baptisms across the country since May 2014, resulting in over one thousand prisoners being baptized.

APPRECIATION:

We wish to thank LIGHT BEARERS very much for the timely action of sending the literature and for their trust in us to deliver it (glory goes to God). We are happy to announce that way over one million pieces of literature have been placed in

the hands of tens of thousands of inmates, as well as public evangelistic efforts that have left many convicted by their reading. With prisoners confined to the prisons their 'idle time' has been occupied in reading and producing very touching testimonies.

We shall continue to do our best, God willing, to ensure the message reaches the people.

God bless you abundantly,
Benson Ochieng Obolla
NAIROBI – KENYA

This is one of a number of reports we will be sharing every quarter that show the powerful influence of gospel literature in the lives of people around the world. Thank you for your prayers and support.

COME SEE US!

MARCH 7

Cascade Adventist Church
Bend, OR
www.cascadesda.org / 541.749.9005
James Rafferty

MARCH 14

Simi Valley Adventist Church
Simi Valley, CA
www.simiadventist.org / 805.526.0141
James Rafferty

MARCH 19-21

ASI SW Chapter Rally
Cleburne First Adventist Church
Cleburne, TX
www.asisw.org / 817.295.0476
Ty Gibson

MARCH 21

Cascade Adventist Church
Bend, OR
www.cascadesda.org / 541.749.9005
James Rafferty

MARCH 26-28

ASI Mid-America Convention
Kansas City, KS
www.asimidamerica.org
Ty Gibson

MARCH 27-29

Oregon Prayer Conference
Rockaway Beach, OR
<http://glnr.in/or-2015-prayer> /
503.850.3500
Jeffrey Rosario


LIGHT BEARERS



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