

HEALING STREAM MINISTRIES presents...

THE UNDILUTED, FULL STRENGTH, THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES
with enough power to...

- **cleansing from all sin**
- **set us free from all bondage**
- **break all the power of the enemy over us**
- **restore us to total spiritual health**
- **develop immunity to all last-day deceptions**

47 – Your Great Disappointment

In the 1840s a group of sincere, Bible-believing Christians looked forward to the second coming of Jesus. They expected the personal appearing of Jesus to occur on October 22, 1844, but on the morning of October 23 they were still here. Jesus had not come! Instead of dining at heaven's banquet table with Jesus in person, they now faced the contemptuous remarks of friends and neighbors who said, "*I see that you are still here!*" What a disappointment! Disappointment with the Bible, disappointment with themselves and, worst of all, disappointment with God. Why had He let them down?

Many of these disappointed believers 'threw out the baby with the bath water' and gave up all faith. But a small group of believers started studying with renewed interest Scripture passages in Revelation 10 and Revelation 14:6-12. They started to see that God had used this disappointment for two purposes: (1) To stretch them through Bible study to accept Bible truths long hidden, and (2) to share these truths with the world, particularly the three angels' messages. The worldwide expansion of the Seventh-day Adventist church was birthed through disappointment, Bible study and the three angels' messages.

What is your personal great disappointment? with God? with others? Have you noticed that often our severest disappointments come not from non-Christians, but from fellow-Christians who have let us down? Or even from a church that lets you down? In my work as a pastor, I have met many believers who in their disappointment ask questions such as –

- Why do I have so little joy in my life?
- Why do I have so little assurance of salvation?
- Why do I live with fear of end-time events?
- Why do I hear so many success stories about overseas missions but so little is happening in my own church and or even my own life?
- Why do I experience disappointment with God, my own church, others and even myself?

Just as the three angels' messages gave hope to a group of disappointed believers some 162 years ago, is it possible that these messages can give you a sense of God's direction for your own life? Perhaps these messages contain something to help you in your own current "great" disappointment – whatever that may be. May I encourage you to a renewed experiential study of the three angels' messages – not just as messages to warn others about upcoming end-time events, but as God's medicine for your own

life! Read these messages again, with the Bible as its own interpreter, and you will find renewed hope.

Some years ago I wrote the following affirmation or 'creed' on how to live the three angels' messages. When you live these messages, you will also be able to give these messages – not just as warnings for others, but as a personal living testimony of what Jesus has done for you.

**Because of Christ's death on Calvary's cross,
I am a new creation of infinite worth. I am deeply
loved, completely forgiven, and totally accepted by God.
As I fear Him I overcome fears of failure, fears of the
judgment, fears of rejection and feelings of inadequacy.
Because God is my Creator I will worship and serve
Him with my praises as I depend on His sufficiency
for my every need. I believe that He is most
glorified in me when I am most satisfied in Him.**

**Because of the everlasting gospel, I am absolutely
secure in my identity as a precious child of God. I will,
therefore, not seek to find love in all the wrong places [Babylon]
by depending on possessions, people, position and power to
fill my empty places and fix my broken parts. I believe
that Jesus will heal my broken heart and set me free
from the bondage of bitterness and unforgiveness as
I choose to forgive others as God has forgiven me.**

**I will not look to any idol [beast] to solve my problems, overcome
hardships or to alleviate pain. Because I serve a great and mighty God
and nothing is too difficult for Him, I will let go of all my attempts of control
lest I use the methods of the beast to do the work of the Lamb. Because Jesus
is my sovereign Creator and King, who works all things together for good
to those who love Him, I will exercise the patience of the saints and
patience with the saints as I accept difficult situations without giving
God a deadline to remove them. I will keep the commandments
of God, not in order to earn salvation, but to protect the salvation
He has already given me. Because of Christ's redemption
on Calvary's cross, I now confess that my salvation is not
based on my performance of the terms of a contract, but
rests on fully trusting in Christ's covenant faithfulness.
*"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!"***