

Reflections on THE GREAT DELEGATOR

First Quarter 2025 Newsletter

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Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Holidays

Editor Aileen Pyburn

Layout & Design Thai Yang

Feedback

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SECRETS UNSEALED MINISTRY

Contact Information

5949 E. Clinton Ave.

Fresno, CA 93727

559.264.2300 (Intl. & USA)

888.REV.1412 (USA only)

info@secretsunsealed.org

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Dear Friends of SECRETS UNSEALED MINISTRY

Iong with the beloved apostle Paul to the Ephesians, I greet you, wishing you grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Life has been hectic at Secrets Unsealed and SUMtv. Producing weekly Sabbath sermons, Sabbath School lessons, I'd Like to Know programs, writing newsletter articles, and preparing study notes for our annual Anchor School of Theology class in English and Spanish has been challenging and rewarding. It seems that as time goes by, there are more and more programs to produce and the need for more space and personnel in which to operate.

In January of this year, Pastor Luis Fernando Manrique joined our pastoral team (see page 29). Until recently, he was pastoring in Oakland, California, but decided to join our ministry full-time. He is a man of vast theological knowledge. Join us in welcoming him to SUMtv Latino.

The Tollhouse construction project is advancing. We have purchased 630 solar panels, three wells have been drilled, architectural plans are still being fine-tuned, and the permitting process with the county is well on its way. All this takes time and significant funds and must be accomplished before the actual building can begin. In our present operating facility, we have added eight workstations for our post-production editors, giving proper space to edit programs we produce for television and social media.

I trust that you will enjoy the present newsletter article where I expound upon God's method of administrating the universe through the ministry of the angelic hosts. The complex and challenging prophecies in the early chapters of Ezekiel have much to say about the close relationship between heaven and earth!

As I conclude, I want to thank all those who believe in our mission at Secrets Unsealed. Thank you for your daily prayers and financial support. You are always in our prayers. It is our only motivation to feed the church and the world with the truth for this time. Never operating in debt, we are certain that this is God's work and with your help, He will provide the necessary means to carry it forward.

May God fill your life with His richest blessings and keep you faithful until the glorious return of our beloved Lord and Savior lesus Christ.

In His service, Pastor Stephen P. Bohr



s there anything you are doing that will make a difference now or in the future in people's lives?

I was surprised recently when someone asked me whose face was on a dime. F.D.R. (President Roosevelt) was so well known when I was young. He had power, fame, wealth and notoriety. But as the Bible says, unless our name is in the Book of Life each of our lives is "as the morning dew"..... here briefly and gone.

Secrets Unsealed Ministry is introducing and connecting people with Jesus. The last message of mercy, the 3 Angels message reminds them their Creator/Savior is soon going to ask them what they did with their gift of life He gave them. He cares for them and will help them live a life with meaning that honors their Creator, Savior.

Friends, your gifts and estate plans are an exhibit and testimony to that. Please allow us to help you come closer to Jesus as you partner with us in wise estate planning: A Will, Trust, Gift Annuity with life income. Designating a beneficiary on a Retirement Plan or Life Insurance Policy is a powerful response to

 Charity Gift Annuity Rates

 Age 60
 5.2%
 Age 80
 8.1%

 Age 65
 5.7%
 Age 85
 9.1%

 Age 70
 6.3%
 Age 90
 10.1%

 Age 75
 7.0%
 as of June 6, 2024 [Single Life]

Christ appeal as we each totally commit ourselves to doing something that will not be forgotten as Christ and His Holy Law is written in our hearts.

Need help on an IRA roll over ...? truly a smart way to give, call if you need assistance. *2*



Pastor John Bridges

Planned Giving Director jthistory58@yahoo.com 225-505-0231

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Our Vehicle Donor Support team is here to guide you every step of the way. We help you take care of the paperwork and provide you with any necessary tax documents. Vehicle donations are tax-deductible.

We accept most types of vehicles that meet the following basic requirements: Vehicle has a clear title, one piece & towable, and tow truck accessible.

> To donate your vehicle, call (855) 800-7433 or use this QR link:



My name is Tanya, and we live in The Bahamas. My mother, Madge, my brother, Pedrosa, and I watch SUMTV on YouTube. We just donated on the Secrets Unsealed website last night. We would like these funds to be used for the Secrets Unsealed Ministry Sabbath School. The Secrets Unsealed Ministry is doing a wonderful job with the blessings of Almighty God. It is so wonderful how Secrets Unsealed is on YouTube because you all are able to reach so many people. The Sabbath School is food for the soul for young believers and unbelievers, and they are able to learn about how important it is to keep the Sabbath day and how to serve God by keeping his Commandments. Keep up the good work, and we will send a donation whenever we can afford it. We will continue to pray for you all. Please tell everyone hello for us, especially Pastor Bohr, Pastor Murray, Pastor Salazar, Elder Melvin Blue, Pastor Gouveia, and also the ladies of the Sabbath School. Please tell Pastor Murray that we remember him from 3ABN and we are happy to see him at SUMtv with Pastor Bohr working hard as usual to carry out God's work. Please tell Pastor Murray that he does not look a day older and to tell his wife hello from us.

I am writing to kindly inform you that I and a few fellow youthful colleagues loved the messages contained in The Sanctuary series and The Three Angels' Messages series by Pastor Stephen Bohr and decided to reach our audiences in Uganda via Hope Channel Uganda using the free online study notes and making a discussion panel following the study notes by Pastor Bohr that we found online. We are happy to say that many souls are being blessed and the truth is being shared and our people in church in Uganda are embracing the message of the sanctuary and are thankful for the clarity.

- M.Enock, in Uganda



🗊 READER REVIEWS 🗐



Cracking The Genesis Code - PDF Download

Posted by: Jason Centracchio

These notes are such a treasure to have. The

connections that Pastor Bohr reveals are thorough and clear and presented in a way that allows the Bible to speak for itself. The fact that he and Secrets Unsealed have made these notes available to those who desire them shows his commitment to spreading the gospel and equipping the saints of God with the weapons of our warfare, so we can grow in grace and in wisdom and knowledge of our God. Thanks for these study notes, may our God richly bless this ministry.



lssues in Worship - 6 Book Special

Posted by: Holly

I purchased

these books for my son who has enjoyed them so much that he wanted to buy two more sets to give to a couple of friends that have mentored him through some tough times in his life. We would highly recommend these books for anyone who is interested in how the devil uses things to corrupt our worship of God.



God's Prophetic Chain - PDF Download

Posted by Gisèle

A welcome change from "Sunday morning

sermons". This shows research and intelligence.

BIBLE

Remnant Study Bible, Black/Bonded with EGW comments - NKJV

Posted by: Laura Licastro

I am enjoying using this Bible very much. I like the size and all the extra tools. I was hoping for a little more commentary than there is but what there is in there is very helpful. I appreciate the other extras as well, especially the cross references. My main reason for purchasing this Bible was my other study Bible's notes and commentary were not always in accordance with Adventist teaching. Now I don't have to worry about that. I'm going to try the one year reading plan listed in the Bible. Looking forward to getting to know my new Bible even better. Thank you, Secrets Unsealed!

YOUR REVIEW HELPS OTHERS

Is there a study or book you obtained thru our ministry that has been a blessing to you? Please post your review at secretsunsealed.org.



TO PASIOR BORH: The name is Green Grittle and I've and in most of a prison in This you for intre to sous I truly thank you for intre to sous I truly secrets Unexalled weighting you and secrets them have sent me. I have been in now services for nearly 5 yrs and had give the pile and also had give the pilet and also that doe the pilet and also that doe advention Bible Commentary. It's anarchy now God transforms a persons life. Secrets Unsealed a very trout light that the Gods White the war le work in the states how much your ministry the entry how much your ministry the means to me the All in all the states how the goals with both doubt thank you so much church is the doubt thank you so much church is the states and t every hing the first time in letters OUR realationship with our creater. realationship with our creater knowing route not magine never tall. HIM. God Bless to you tall. have a BEAL INMATES

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Secrets Unsealed:

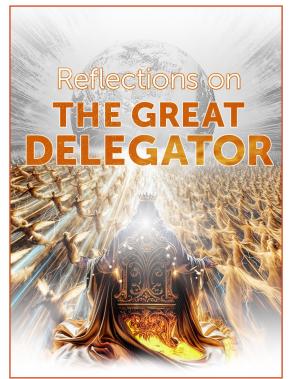
Let me begin by saying "Thank You" so much for the materials you have been sending me

upon my request! I have been drawn more and more to the Bible truths that have been revealed to me and it is such an excitement. I grew up in the Baptist church and thought for so long everything was fine. I am being led to new Bible truths.... at least new to me... such as the true 7th day Saturday Sabbath. I am also learning more about Bible Prophecy and prophecy principles. God has definitely put on my heart

to join the SDA church, I'm not sure if there are any in my area that I can begin writing. I live in Franklin, IN 46131. I'm hoping to find a church and start communication soon.

This is my first request for one of Pastor Bohr's study notes. I requested "Cracking the Genesis Code" because it's important for me to start at the beginning. My hope is that one day I can get a degree through an SDA college/ seminary and work as a minister within the SDA church. This is something God has laid on my heart and I will continue praying about. Is (there) anyone within the church or the pastoral department that I could write when I have questions about what I'm reading and learning?

Again, thank you guys so much for your love and ministry to myself and others! May the Lord Jesus bless you richly. In Christ's Love, Erick M. Kilpatrick



Introduction

In **1968**, secular writer **Erik Von Daniken** caused quite **a stir** when he published his book, *Chariots of the Gods: Unsolved Mysteries of the Past.* In his book he speculated that the prophet Ezekiel in chapter one was describing an alien aircraft or unidentified flying object (UFO/UAP). Although his book was riddled with wild speculations, it was a sensation and sold over **25 million** copies.

The bizarre prophecy in Ezekiel 1 is saturated with a complex series of symbols that, on the surface, appear impossible to decipher. So we ask, why did the Holy Spirit include this chapter in the Bible? What possible purpose does it serve? Who can understand it? Why bother to preach about it? Why not dwell rather on the simpler portraits

of Jesus in the Gospels?

The Bible provides answers to these questions. The apostle **Paul** wrote that '*all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is* **profitable** for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for *instruction in righteousness*' (1 Timothy 3:16), so God must have included this chapter in the Bible Canon for a profitable purpose. Ellen White confirmed that we must carefully study the prophecies of Isaiah 6 and Ezekiel 1 and 2:

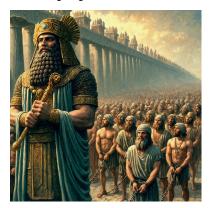
"The <u>sixth chapter</u> of Isaiah has a deep and important lesson for every one of God's workmen. Study it with humility and earnest prayer. The first and second chapters of *Ezekiel* should also be carefully studied. The wheels within wheels represented in this *symbol* was confusion to *the finite eye. But a hand of* infinite wisdom was revealed amid the wheels. Perfect order is brought out of the confusion. Every wheel works in its right place, in perfect harmony with every other part of the machinery." Ellen G. White, Christian Leadership p. 26

In order to successfully decode the meaning of the symbols in these chapters, we must <u>dig deep</u> into God's word and allow the <u>totality</u> <u>of Scripture</u> to decipher their meaning. This effort will require much prayer and time as well as a good Bible Concordance!

As we begin our study we must keep in mind that the language of this chapter is not literal. It contains a **symbolic portrayal** of how God manages and guides the complex events of human history to their intended end. The symbols have a profound meaning and when we decipher each and put them all <u>together</u>, we discern a beautiful mosaic of truth.

The Historical Context

We cannot understand the purpose of the first chapter of Ezekiel without considering its **historical context**. The first 20 chapters of the book bear a date of 592 BC. At the time, Jerusalem had already experienced two stages of captivity. In 605 BC King Nebuchadnezzar had taken Daniel and the nobility captive to Babylon along with the holy vessels of the sanctuary (Daniel 1:1, 2) and in 597 BC the prophet Ezekiel had



been exiled there as well. The theocracy seemed to be hanging by a thread and the future of Jerusalem looked bleak.

However, these events were merely an omen of greater problems on the horizon. God seemed to have <u>forsaken</u> the land and everything appeared to be in <u>disarray</u> and spinning out of control. It is in this historical context that God gave Ezekiel the bizarre vision of chapter one to assure His people that what appeared to be chaos and confusion, was really under His perfect control.

Chapter one begins with a description of God coming from the <u>north</u> to the Jerusalem temple in a <u>whirlwind</u> enfolded in a cloud of <u>fire</u>:



"Then I looked, and behold, a <u>whirlwind</u> was coming out of the <u>north</u>, a <u>great cloud</u> with <u>raging fire</u> engulfing itself; and <u>brightness</u> was all around it and radiating out of its midst like the color of amber, out of the midst of the <u>fire</u>". (Ezekiel 1:4)

In the Bible, God's abode is in heaven in the sides of the north (cf. Psalm 48:1, 2; Matthew 5:35; Revelation 18:1; Daniel 11:44) so we know that God was coming to the Jerusalem temple <u>from</u> <u>heaven</u>. When Lucifer aspired to usurp God's throne, he conspired to place his own throne in <u>heaven</u> in the sides of the <u>north</u>:

"How you are fallen <u>from</u> <u>heaven</u>, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! ¹³ For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend <u>into heaven</u>, I will exalt <u>my throne</u> above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the <u>north</u>; ¹⁴ I will <u>ascend</u> above the heights of the <u>clouds</u>, I will be like the Most High' (Isaiah 14:12-14).

Clouds, Wind, Fire, and Chariots

The Bible describes angels with the metaphors of <u>clouds</u>, <u>wind</u>, <u>fire</u>, and <u>chariots</u>.

"He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters, he makes the <u>clouds</u> his <u>chariot</u>; he rides on the wings of the <u>wind</u>; he makes his messengers <u>winds</u>, his ministers a flaming <u>fire</u>." (Psalm 104: 3, 4, ESV).

Thus, the scene of Ezekiel 1 symbolically portrays God coming from the heavenly Jerusalem in heaven to the earthly temple with his angels to judge His people.

Hebrews 1:7 quotes Psalm 104 and refers to these 'windy' and 'fiery' messengers or ministers as angels:

"Of the angels he says, "He makes his <u>angels</u> winds, and his <u>ministers</u> a flame of fire." ESV

In the Bible, 'clouds' serve as a metaphor for the numberless angelic hosts—ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands. Clouds of angels took Jesus to heaven at the close of His earthly ministry (Acts 1:9), and they will bring Him back at His second coming (Matthew 24:29, 30; Revelation 1:7).

The clouds of angels are also portrayed as His chariots:

"The <u>chariots</u> of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of thousands; the Lord is among them as in Sinai, in the Holy Place." (Psalm 68:17; Revelation 5:11)

And, as expected, God's **heavenly chariot** (composed of angels) has **wheels** that spin like a raging fire:

"I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. *His throne* was a fiery flame, its *wheels* a burning fire; ¹⁰ A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands *ministered to Him: ten* thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. . . I was watching in the night visions, and behold, one like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days." (Daniel 7:9, 10)

Ellen White described God's chariot/clouds transporting Jesus to the Father in the Most Holy Place in 1844 (cf. Daniel 7:9, 10):

"And I saw a <u>cloudy chariot</u>, with wheels like <u>flaming fire</u>, and <u>angels</u> were all around it as it came where Jesus was. He stepped <u>into the chariot</u> and was borne to the Holiest where the Father sat." <u>ExV</u>, p. 43.

Already the Old Testament tells us that Elijah was taken to heaven by God's fiery chariot:

"Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a <u>chariot of</u> <u>fire</u> appeared with horses of <u>fire</u>, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a <u>whirlwind</u> into <u>heaven</u>." (2 Kings 2:11)

The Negro Spiritual 'Swing Low Sweet Chariot' describes Jesus coming on His angelic chariot to take His people home. Ellen White described this living, singing, heavenly, cloudy, fiery chariot as it will travel back to heaven with the redeemed:

"On each side of the <u>cloudy</u> <u>chariot</u> are <u>wings</u>, and beneath it are <u>living wheels</u>; and as the chariot rolls upward, the <u>wheels cry</u>, "Holy," and the wings, as they move, cry, "Holy," and the retinue of <u>angels</u> cry, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty." And the redeemed shout, "Alleluia!" as the <u>chariot moves</u> onward toward the New Jerusalem." <u>GC</u>, p. 645

Four Living Creatures

The vision continues with a description of <u>four</u> living creatures who were <u>impelling</u> the wheels of God's throne on its journey to Jerusalem:

"Also from within it came the likeness of <u>four</u> living creatures. And this was their appearance: they had the likeness of a man. ⁶ Each one had four faces, and each one had four wings" (Ezekiel 1:5, 6).

The psalmist describes these living beings as cherubim who are on either side of God's throne:

"The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble! He dwells <u>between the cherubim</u>; let the earth be moved! The Lord is great in Zion, and He is high

The <u>Holman Bible</u> <u>Commentary</u> explains:

"Consistent with the idea of a cherub throne are the texts which envision God <u>dwelling</u> between, <u>enthroned</u> upon, or <u>riding upon</u> the cherubim (1 Samuel 4:4; 2 Samuel 6:2; 22:11; 2 Kings 19:15; 1 Chronicles 13:6; 28:18; Psalms 18:10; 80:1; 99:1; Isaiah 37:16)." <u>Holman Bible</u> <u>Dictionary</u>.

The earthly <u>Ark</u> of the Covenant, symbolizing the <u>throne</u> of God, had <u>wheels</u> and is described as golden:

"Then David gave Solomon his son. . . his plan for the **golden chariot** of the cherubim that spread their wings and covered the **ark of the covenant** of the Lord." (1 Chronicles 28:11, 18)

Although the tabernacle in the wilderness had only two cherubim, the temple built by Solomon had <u>four</u> that surrounded the ark—two <u>on</u> the ark (Exodus 25:22) and two others <u>standing</u>:

"Then he set the cherubim inside the inner room; and they

stretched out the wings of the cherubim so that the wing of the one touched one wall, and the wing of the other cherub touched the other wall. And their wings touched each other in the <u>middle of the room</u>." (1 Kings 6:27-28)

"The wings of these cherubim spanned twenty cubits overall. They <u>stood on their feet</u>, and they faced inward" (2 Chronicles 3:13).

Thus there were four cherubim that surrounded God's throne. Chapters 10 and 11 will highlight this fact. However, there were also cherubim embroidered on the walls (2 Chronicles 3:7), the curtains (2 Chronicles 3:14), and the doors (1 Kings 6:35) of the sanctuary. This seems to indicate that the number four is symbolic of all the heavenly host of angels through whom God accomplishes His purposes. Ellen White understood this:

"All the furniture of the tabernacle was made of solid gold, or plated with gold. The <u>curtains</u> of the tabernacle were of a variety of colors, most beautifully arranged, and in these curtains were wrought, with threads of gold and silver, <u>cherubim</u>, which were to <u>represent the angelic</u> <u>host</u>, who are connected with the work of the heavenly sanctuary, and who <u>are</u> <u>ministering angels</u> to the saints upon the earth." <u>The</u> <u>Spirit of Prophecy</u>, vol. 1, p. 273

Four Faces

Each of the four living creatures had <u>four faces</u> and the four symbolic faces allow the living creatures to see in all directions so that nothing escapes their attention (cf. Ezekiel 7:1, 2; Luke 13:29).

"As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man, each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle" (Ezekiel 1:10).

In the Bible, the number four represents <u>universality</u>. The earth has <u>four corners</u> or directions of the compass, which include the entire world—north, south, east, and west.

"After these things I saw four *angels* standing at the *four* corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree.² Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the *four* angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." (Revelation 7:1-3).

Ellen White explained that the <u>four</u> angels symbolize all the angelic hosts who carry forward God's work on a global scale and hold total chaos in check until the sealing is over:

"John beheld four angels standing on the corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the winds should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. These <u>symbols</u> are <u>illustrative</u> of the troubles that will come upon the earth, but that the <u>angels of God</u> have been mercifully <u>holding back</u> until the servants of God should be sealed in their foreheads." <u>3MR</u>, p. 342

"<u>Angels</u> are now restraining the winds of strife, that they may not blow until the world shall be warned of its coming doom; but a storm is gathering, ready to burst upon the earth; and when God shall bid <u>His</u> <u>angels</u> loose the winds, there will be such a scene of strife as no pen can picture." <u>Education</u>, p. 179

Four Wings

Each of the living creatures had <u>four wings</u>. With two they covered the throne of God while the other two were folded over their bodies, symbolizing their awe and reverence for the One who was seated on the throne:

"Their wings were stretched upward; <u>two wings</u> of each one touched one another, and <u>two</u> covered their bodies" (Ezekiel 1:11).

Once again, Ellen White provided inspired insight:

"The ark of the earthly sanctuary was the pattern of the true ark in heaven. There, beside the heavenly ark, stand <u>living angels</u>, at either end of the ark, each with one wing <u>overshadowing</u> the mercyseat, and stretching forth on high, while the other wings are folded over their forms in token of <u>reverence and humility</u>." <u>The Spirit of Prophecy</u>, vol. 1, p. 272

The Movements of the Living Creatures

The movements of the four living creatures was directional and <u>intentional</u>. They moved <u>straight forward</u> and did not turn to the right or to the left. There were <u>no</u> <u>detours</u> or <u>delays</u> in fulfilling the mission for which God commissioned them:

"The creatures <u>did not turn</u> when they went, but each one went <u>straight forward</u>.¹² And each one went <u>straight</u> <u>forward</u>; they went wherever the spirit wanted to go, and they <u>did not turn</u> when they went." (Ezekiel 1:9, 12; cf. Luke 9; 51).

The figurative expression *'did not turn to the right or to the left'* refers to the faithfulness of the angels who immediately obey God's commands. By way of example, God admonished Israel:

"Therefore you shall be careful <u>to do</u> as the Lord your God <u>has commanded</u> you; you shall <u>not turn aside</u> to the right hand or to the left." (Deuteronomy 5:32).

Ellen White wrote about the beginning of her prophetic ministry:

"Those were troublous times. If we had not stood firmly then, we should have made shipwreck of our faith. Some said we were stubborn; but we were obliged to set our faces <u>as a flint</u>, and <u>turn not</u> to the right hand nor to the left." <u>CET</u>, p. 80

Movement in Unison in all Directions

Although the wheels seem to spin in confusion, the cherubim mobilize them in perfect order and in a <u>unified</u> <u>direction</u>:

"And the cherubim were lifted up. This was the living creature I saw by the River Chebar. ¹⁶ When the cherubim <u>went</u>, the <u>wheels went beside them</u>; and when the cherubim lifted their wings to mount up from the earth, the <u>same wheels also</u> <u>did not turn</u> from beside them" (Ezekiel 10:15-16).

The wheels were most likely spinning at <u>right angles</u> so that the chariot could <u>change</u> <u>direction</u> at an instant's notice and move anywhere to the <u>four points</u> of the compass:

"When they <u>went</u>, they went toward <u>any one of four</u> directions; they <u>did not turn</u> <u>aside</u> when they went" (Ezekiel 1:17).

To Ezekiel, the wheels appeared to be spinning out of control and in confusion, but they always moved in <u>unison</u> in a <u>common direction</u>. When two wheels moved in a certain direction, so did the other two:

"And when I looked, there were <u>four wheels</u> by the cherubim, one wheel by one cherub and another wheel by each other cherub; the wheels appeared to have the color of a beryl stone. ¹⁰ As for their appearance, all four looked alike—as it were <u>a wheel in</u> <u>the middle of a wheel</u>. ¹¹ When they went, they went toward <u>any of their four directions</u>; they did not turn aside when they went, but followed in the <u>direction the head was facing</u>. They did not turn aside when they went."

Full of Eyes

The **bodies** of the living creatures, the **wheels** and the **rims** of the chariot were **full of eyes**:

"And their <u>whole body</u>, with their back, their hands, their wings, and the <u>wheels</u> that the four had, were <u>full of eyes</u> all around. . . As for their <u>rims</u>, they were so high they were awesome; and their <u>rims</u> were <u>full of eyes</u>, all around the four of them." (Ezekiel 10:12; 1:18).

From the very beginning, eyes symbolize wisdom. Thus, the serpent told <u>Eve</u> that if she ate the forbidden fruit, her <u>eyes</u> would be opened, and she would be <u>wise</u>. Needless to say, the serpent was not referring to Eve's physical eyes because she undoubtedly had perfect vision.

In <u>Ephesians 1:18</u>, the apostle referred to the '*eyes*

of understanding', and when <u>Paul</u> had his Damascus Road experience, God commissioned him to <u>open</u> <u>the eyes</u> of the Gentiles, that is, their understanding (Acts 26:18). It is no coincidence that the large-eyed <u>owl</u>, is a symbol of wisdom. The symbolic meaning of the eyes in Ezekiel 1 is clear. The living creatures manage the 'wheels' of history with perfect wisdom.

Lightning Speed

In Ezekiel, the living creatures moved back and forth with **lightning speed**:

"And the living creatures ran <u>back and forth</u>, in appearance like a <u>flash of lightning</u>." (Ezekiel 1:12-14).

Ellen White explained that the flashes of lightning represent the speed with which the angelic hosts fulfill their God-given missions:

"In the presence chamber of the King of kings they wait—'angels that excel in strength,' 'ministers of His, that do His pleasure,' 'hearkening unto the voice of His word.' Psalm 103:19-21; Revelation



5:11. Ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands, were the heavenly messengers beheld by the prophet Daniel. The apostle Paul declared them 'an innumerable company.' Daniel 7:10; Hebrews 12:22. As God's messengers they go forth, like 'the appearance of a flash of lightning,' (<u>Ezekiel 1:14</u>), so <u>dazzling their glory</u>, and <u>so</u> <u>swift</u> their flight." <u>GC</u>, p. 512

Angels Mobilize the Wheels

In Ezekiel's vision, the four living creatures mobilize the wheels of God's symbolic chariot:

"Now as I looked at the living creatures, behold, <u>a wheel</u> was on the earth beside each living creature with its four faces. ¹⁶ The appearance of the <u>wheels</u> and their workings was like the color of beryl, and all four had the <u>same likeness</u>. The appearance of their workings was, as it were, <u>a wheel in the</u> <u>middle of a wheel</u>" (Ezekiel 1:15-16).

As we shall shortly see, the movement of the wheels represents the complex flow of <u>world history</u>. God wisely and expeditiously guides the seemingly confusing movements of history through the instrumentality of His heavenly messengers.

The Hands Under the Wings

However, the living creatures <u>did not decide</u> on their own in which direction to move. The hands of a man clothed in <u>linen guided</u> (symbolizing Christ) their movements:

"The <u>hands of a man</u> were under their wings on their <u>four</u> <u>sides</u>; and each of the four had faces and wings... The cherubim appeared to have the form of <u>a man's hand</u> under their wings... Each one had four faces and each one four wings, and the likeness of the <u>hands of a man</u> was under *their wings*" (*Ezekiel* 1:8; 10:8, 21).

The work of the living creatures was guided **by the Spirit**. Actually, the entire vision describes **three divine persons**. The first is the Father who is seated on a high and lofty throne above all. The second is the man clothed in linen whose hands are under the wings, and the third is **the Spirit** that guided the living creatures. Thus, all heaven was involved in the story:

"And each one went straight forward; they went wherever the *spirit wanted to go*, and they did not turn when they went...²⁰ Wherever the spirit wanted to go, they went, because there **the spirit went**; and the wheels were lifted together with them, for the *spirit* of the living creatures was in the wheels. ²¹ When those went, these went; when those **stood**, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up together with them, for the *spirit* of the living creatures was in the wheels" (Ezekiel 1:12, 20-21).

The Sapphire Throne Above the Firmament

The firmament was above the heads of the living creatures, and above the firmament stood a sapphire throne with God the Father sitting on it:

"And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a *man* high above it. 27 Also from the appearance of His waist and upward I saw, as it were, the color of *amber* with the appearance of fire all around within it [reminiscent of the Father in Daniel 7:9, 10]; and from the appearance of His waist and downward I saw, as *it were, the appearance of <i>fire* with brightness all around" (Ezekiel 1:26-27).

"The likeness of the <u>firmament</u> above the heads of the living creatures was like the color of an awesome crystal, stretched out over their heads. . . When they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of many waters, like the <u>voice of the Almighty</u>, a tumult like the noise of <u>an</u> <u>army</u>; and when they stood still, they let down their wings. A <u>voice came</u> from <u>above the</u> <u>firmament</u> that was over their heads; whenever they stood, they let down their wings" (Ezekiel 1:22, 24, 25).

From the throne, the living creatures receive <u>their orders</u> from the Almighty—God the Father:

"And the sound of the wings of the cherubim was heard even in the outer court, like the voice of Almighty God when <u>He speaks</u>" (Ezekiel 10:5).

The Rainbow above the Throne

Above the throne was a rainbow representing the mingling of God's **mercy** and **justice**. In history all God's works reveal these traits of character:

"Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy"

day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the *glory of the LORD*" (Ezekiel 1:28).

"As the bow in the cloud is formed by the union of the sunlight and the shower, so the rainbow encircling the throne represents the combined power of mercy and justice. It is **not justice alone** that is to be maintained; for this would eclipse the glory of the rainbow of promise above the throne; men could see only the penalty of the law. <u>Were</u> there no justice, no penalty, there would be no stability to the government of God. It is the *mingling* of judgment and mercy that makes salvation complete. It is the **blending** of the two that leads us, as we view the world's Redeemer, and the law of Jehovah, to exclaim, *"Thy gentleness hath made me* great." <u>RH</u>, December 13, 1892, par. 7



The Chain of Command

This vision of Ezekiel describes a <u>chain of command.</u>

God's administration and management of world events is undoubtedly complex and challenging. If managing our daily affairs is complex, we cannot even imagine what it is like for God to manage all the play and counter play of human affairs. Yet God, from His calm and serene eternity, guides the events of history with precision and order. Thus, although the events in Chaldea appeared to be out of control, the Father, son and Holy Spirit, through the ministration of the angels, had everything under control:

"Then the <u>Spirit took me</u> up and brought me in <u>a vision</u> by the <u>Spirit of God</u> into Chaldea, to those in captivity. And the vision that I had seen went up from me. ²⁵ So I spoke to those in captivity of all the things the LORD had shown me" (Ezekiel 11:24, 25).

Ellen White provided insight into how the Holy Spirit, through the ministry of the angelic hosts, guides the events of history:

"The wheel like complications that appeared to the prophet to be involved in such confusion were under the guidance of an infinite hand. The Spirit of God, revealed to him as moving and directing these *wheels*, brought harmony out of confusion; so the whole world was under His control. Myriads of glorified beings [the angels] were ready at His word to overrule the power and policy of evil men, and bring good to *His* faithful ones." <u>5T</u>, p. 752

Ellen White explained that the Holy Spirit accomplishes His work through the ministration of the angels:

"Through the <u>ministry of</u> <u>the angels</u>, the <u>Holy Spirit</u> <u>is enabled</u> to work upon the mind and heart of the human agent, and draw him to Christ, who has paid the ransom money for his soul, that the sinner may be rescued from the slavery of sin and Satan." <u>YI</u>, July 5, 1894.

God guides world events through the instrumentality of the heavenly hosts: "The tireless vigilance of the heavenly messengers, their unceasing employment in their ministry in connection with the beings of earth, shows us how God's hand is guiding the wheel within a wheel." <u>SDABC</u>, vol. 4, p. 1161:

"There were wheels within wheels in an arrangement <u>so complicated</u> that at first sight they appeared to Ezekiel to be all in confusion. But when they moved, it was with <u>beautiful exactness</u> and in <u>perfect harmony</u>. <u>Heavenly</u> <u>beings were impelling these</u> <u>wheels</u>, and, above all, upon the glorious sapphire throne, was the <u>Eternal One</u> [God the Father]; while round about

the throne was the encircling rainbow, emblem of grace and love." <u>5T,</u> p. 751:

God, the Great Delegator

Although God the Father sits on His throne as King of the universe, He operates a representative style of governance (cf. Job 1, 2). He is the great delegator. The book of Revelation describes God's <u>chain of command</u>:

"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show *His servants*—things which must shortly take place. ... the Spirit speaks to the churches. . . And He sent and signified it by *His angel* to His servant John, John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come. and from the seven Spirits who *are before His throne*, ⁵ *and* from *Jesus Christ*, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. . . He who has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches" (Revelation 1:1, 4-5, 10, 2:7).

These verses describe God's chain of command. The Father imparts the message to the Son, the Son to the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit to the angel, the angel to John, John to God's servants, and God's servants to the world.

Ellen White vividly describes the relationship between God and the angels and the meaning of Ezekiel's vision:

"Upon the banks of the river Chebar, Ezekiel beheld a whirlwind seeming to come from the north, "a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the color of amber." A *number* of wheels, intersecting one another, were **moved** by four living beings. High above all these 'was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it.' 'And there *appeared in the cherubims* the form of a man's hand under their wings.' Ezekiel 1:4, 26, 10:8. The wheels were so *complicated* in arrangement that at first sight they appeared to be in *confusion*; but they moved in perfect harmony. Heavenly beings, sustained and guided by the hand beneath the wings of the cherubim, were **impelling** these wheels: above them. upon the sapphire throne, was the Eternal One; and round about the throne a rainbow, the emblem of divine mercy.

As the wheellike complications were under the guidance of the <u>hand</u> beneath the wings of the cherubim, so the <u>complicated</u> <u>play of human events</u> is under divine control. Amidst the <u>strife</u> <u>and tumult of nations</u>, He that sitteth above the cherubim <u>still</u> <u>guides the affairs</u> of the earth. <u>Education</u>, pp. 177, 178

What About Today?

As in Ezekiel's day, everything today seems to be in **disarray** and falling apart. Fear, uncertainty, apprehension, and anxiety grip humanity. Wars, rumors of wars, social unrest, political strife, pandemics, earthquakes, tornadoes, threats of an economic collapse, conflagrations, crime, a reversal of gender distinctions, and God's plan for marriage seem to rule the day. But God is seated on the throne, and nothing escapes His attention. He is in control and will have the last word:

"The Bible shows us God in His high and holy place, not in a <u>state of inactivity</u>, not in silence and solitude, but <u>surrounded</u> by ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of holy beings, all waiting to do His will. Through these <u>messengers</u> He is in active communication with <u>every</u> part of His dominion. By <u>His Spirit</u> He is everywhere present. Through the agency of <u>His Spirit and His angels</u>, He ministers to the children of men.

Above the distractions of the earth He sits <u>enthroned</u>; all things are <u>open to His divine</u> <u>survey</u>; and from His <u>great</u> <u>and calm eternity</u> He <u>orders</u> that which <u>His providence</u> sees best." <u>MH</u>, p. 417

At a time when the world seems to be <u>spinning out</u> <u>of control</u>, God sits on the throne and, from His serene eternity, fulfills the purposes of His will:

"In the annals of human history the growth of nations, the rise and fall of empires, appear as dependent on the will and prowess of man. The shaping of events seems, to a great degree, to be determined by his power, ambition, or caprice. But in the word of God the curtain is drawn aside, and we behold, behind, above, and through all the play and counterplay of human interests and power and passions, the agencies of the all-merciful One, silently, patiently working out the counsels of His own will." <u>Education</u>, p. 173

A Practical Example:The Centurion of Capernaum

Ellen White wrote this remarkable statement about the relationship between Christ's miracles and the ministration of angels:

"The angels of God are ever moving up and down from earth to Heaven, and from Heaven to earth. <u>All</u> the miracles of Christ performed for the afflicted and suffering were, by the <u>power of God</u>, through the <u>ministration of</u> <u>angels</u>. . . <u>All</u> the blessings from God to man are <u>through the</u> <u>ministration of holy angels</u>." <u>The Spirit of Prophecy</u>, vol. 2, p. 67

Ellen White's assessment is confirmed by the experience of the centurion of Capernaum:

"Now when Iesus had entered *Capernaum, a centurion came* to Him, pleading with Him, ⁶ saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." 7 And *Jesus said to him, "I will come* and heal him." ⁸ The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹ For I also am a man under authority, *having* soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he *comes*; and to my servant, '*Do* this,' and he does it." 10 When *Iesus heard it. He marveled.* and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!" (Matthew 8:5-10).

The pagan Roman centurion understood how the process worked. Ellen White explained what the centurion meant:

"As I represent the power of Rome, and <u>my soldiers</u> recognize <u>my authority</u> <u>as supreme</u>, so dost Thou represent the power of the <u>Infinite God</u>, and all created



things obey Thy word. Thou canst command the disease to depart, and it shall obey Thee. Thou canst summon <u>Thy</u> <u>heavenly messengers</u>, and <u>they</u> <u>shall impart healing virtue</u>. Speak but the word, and my servant shall be healed." (<u>DA</u>, p. 316).

Jesus's miracles were not performed by abracadabra. Ellen White stated that Christ could have commanded the stone to move from the entrance to Lazarus's tomb. But how?

"Christ could have commanded the stone to remove, and it would have <u>obeyed His voice</u>. He could have <u>bidden the angels</u> who were close by His side <u>to do</u> <u>this</u>. At His bidding, <u>invisible</u> <u>hands</u> would have removed the stone." <u>DA</u>, p. 535

Having interpreted the individual symbols in the first chapter of Ezekiel, we are now ready to pull all the symbols together. The wheels of God's chariot represent the complex events of world history. The angels obey the commands of the Father and are guided by the hands of Christ under their wings. They move in perfect unity in all directions; nothing escapes their attention, and they fulfill their mission with lightning speed

and wisdom. Thus, it is by the numberless host of angels that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit accomplish their work, and all the hosts of heaven are at our disposal to guide our lives in the paths of righteousness in the midst of the storms of life. 🥕

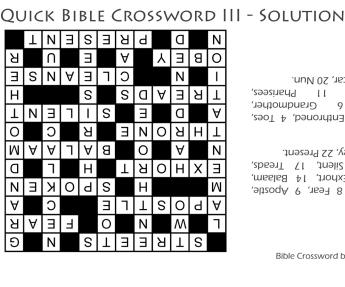


Pastor Stephen Bohr

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19 Cleanse, 21 Obey, 22 Present. 15 Throne, 16 Silent, 17 Treads, 10 Spoken, 12 Exhort, 14 Balaam, Across: 1 Streets, 8 Fear, 9 Apostle,



e are thrilled to introduce the newest addition to our team, who is no stranger to SUMtv Latino. Pastor Manrique is an internationally renowned speaker, teacher, motivator, and author from Colombia, with a heart for family counseling, professional development, and spiritual leadership.

With a Bachelor's in Education, a Master's in Theology, and doctoral studies completed at Andrews University, Pastor Manrique brings over two decades of expertise and a passion for transforming lives. He has served in various roles. including school principal, university professor, and Conference President. His impactful teachings have reached over 500,000 individuals across 60 cities globally, from Australia to Venezuela, including Chile, Colombia, Spain, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, the Dominican Republic, and the United States.

In addition to his extensive speaking and teaching experience, Pastor Manrique has authored numerous articles and given



Pastor Luis Fernando Manrique

over 1,000 lectures on radio and television, and in diverse settings such as universities, churches, and community organizations.

As he and his family transition to Fresno County, California, we feel incredibly blessed to welcome him to SUMtv Latino. His commitment to personal spiritual growth and development, plus his love and passion for upholding all of the Seventh-day Adventist Church doctrines, we know that he will continue to be a great blessing to our viewers and our Secrets Unsealed team.

Once you see his programs, you will agree that he was made for TV and for this time in earth's history. *2*



In today's rapidly changing world, the landscape of communication and connection has undergone a seismic shift. For the younger generation, digital platforms are not just tools, it's their world. These platforms serve as arenas for sharing ideas, forming relationships, and exploring faith. As we, the stewards of God's work, seek to inspire and guide the next generation, it becomes imperative to understand the importance of meeting them where they are.



I had the privilege of speaking at the Media Evangelism Workshop at GYC in Columbus, Ohio. It was heartening to see the room quickly fill up with eager young people. Their enthusiasm

and desire to be involved were a testament to the untapped potential in the younger generation. Media platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, facebook, and even TikTok are not merely entertainment hubs. They are powerful tools for sharing the timeless message of hope and salvation. The Apostle Paul exemplified the importance of adapting our methods without compromising our message. In 1 Corinthians 9:22, he wrote, "I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings." Today, utilizing media platforms is our way of becoming all things to all people.

However, reaching young people is not just about speaking their language; it's about empowering them to take up the mantle of ministry. Many young Christians have the creativity, passion, and technical skills needed to engage their peers, but they often lack the resources, encouragement, or mentorship to step forward. This is where the older generation plays

a vital role. They have the wisdom of years and the richness of experience. These are treasures that can deeply enrich and guide the ministry efforts of young people. By offering support, be it through mentorship, prayer, or financial resources, you can help equip young individuals to use media effectively for God's glory. Ellen G. White reminds us, 'With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world!' (Messages to Young People, p. 7.3)

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By spporting young people, we align with this vision and equip them to be effective messengers of the Gospel. When they know they have the backing of their elders, they are emboldened to step into leadership roles, confident that they are not alone in their mission. Let us not forget the urgency of this work. The Great Commission calls us to "go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19), and this includes reaching every generation. With youth increasingly influenced by secular ideologies, the need to provide a solid, faith-filled alternative has

never been greater. Media is a tool to build bridges, to bring light into the digital spaces that so often seem overshadowed by despair and distraction.

You might be asking yourself, "How can I make a difference?" Begin with prayer. Lifting up the next generation to rise courageously in their faith. Your financial contributions can help produce impactful, faith-centered content that speaks directly to young hearts. Additionally, your mentorship can provide guidance and inspiration, grounding young leaders in Christ as they step boldly into the digital mission field.

Together, we can ensure that the message of God's love reaches far and wide, crossing barriers of age, culture, and technology. Let us embrace the opportunity to invest in the young people God is raising up. By supporting them, we fulfill our role in advancing His kingdom and inspiring a new generation to finish the work that has been entrusted to us. The future of this mission depends on the seeds we plant today. *20*

Bruce Fernandez Secrets Unsealed, Social Media Director

Health Matters

In 1871, Ellen White wrote of health reform in marked language: "It is as closely connected with the third angel's message as the hand is with the body."¹ Thankfully, she further clarified, explaining that disobedience to the Ten Commandments has been the cause of all the diseases that have cursed humanity and that the third angel of Revelation 14 is God's warning to the world to return to His law.

It was through intemperate appetite that Adam and Eve fell. In Counsels on Diet and Foods, Ellen White connects the sin of indulging in a depraved appetite with violating the law of God. The purpose of the Adventist Health Message (AHM) was to help us see this connection and choose to live in harmony with the natural laws God set in motion at creation. God designed these messages to turn men and women from health-destroying habits so that they could become sanctified and refined, discerning sacred truth and becoming fit for heaven. Consequently, sharing these health messages that accompany the warning of the third angel prepares people for the coming of Christ. In Romans 12:1, the apostle Paul makes this point, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."

One of the far-reaching effects of sin was the loss of self-control and surrendering the whole being to evil. Ellen White taught that self-mastery, the need for purity, and freedom from every depraving appetite and bad habit are duties of those enlisted in His service. In light of our current times, we would do well to understand and apply the inspired



1-3 Footnote references removed due to limited space, they are available upon request: info@secretsunsealed.org

counsels in the AHM. Following are some of the health categories addressed in the writings of Ellen White:

1. Care of health is a religious duty, though we don't earn anything toward eternal life by following health principles.

2. The cause of disease is a violation of God's health laws.

3. Intemperance was condemned on many fronts (Alcohol, tea, coffee, tobacco, highly spiced/rich foods, overwork, intemperate sexual relationships).

4. Vegetarianism was revealed for the first time as the ideal diet, comprised of fruits, vegetables, and plain whole-grain bread.

5. Proper dietary habits (control of appetite) were promoted, such as avoiding food between meals and overeating.

6. The power of the will and controlling the imagination soothes the nerves and can be a potent means of resisting and overcoming diseases of mind and body.

7. Natural remedies should be used in healing.

8. Personal cleanliness is an obligation of all professing Christians and is placed on the level of "purity of heart." 9. Environmental uncleanliness that tends to disease should be addressed (e.g., remove decaying refuse or vegetation, shade trees, and shrubbery close to the house; build houses on high dry ground away from settling of water).

10. We must continually educate the people on health. It is a sacred duty to attend to our health and arouse others to their duty.²

What will be the result when God's people embrace the counsels on health? "When the third angel's message is received in its fullness, health reform will be given its place in the councils of the conference, in the work of the church, in the home, at the table, and in all the household arrangements. Then, the right arm will serve and protect the body"³. Ready to dust off those "red books"? Imagine the blessings that could follow! *>*

Jeanne Wheaton

M.S., R.D.N.



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Across

QUICK BIBLE CROSSWORD I

- 1 Place where the hypocrites give alms (7)
- 8 Awe (4)
- 9 Last supper guest (7)
- 10 Uttered (6)
- 12 Encourage (6)
- 14 Rider of a speaking donkey (6)
- 15 King's chair (6)
- 16 Still (6)
- 17 What a winepress operator does (6)
- 19 Purge of sins (7)
- 21 Do as directed (4)
- 22 Gift (7)

Down

- 2 Number of angels sent to Sodom (3)
- 3 Provided with power and authority (9)
- 4 One of the giants had twelve of these (4)
- 5 Jewellery (8)
- 6 Lois' relation to Timothy (11)
- 7 A cry of sorrow (11)
- 11 Sect condemned by Jesus (9)
- 13 This happened to Pharaoh's heart (8)
- 18 Mark (4)
- 20 Joshua's father (3)



Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries (ASI) is all about sharing Christ in the marketplace and supporting the global mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Secrets Unsealed has been a member since 2009. Every year we attend the international convention. Anywhere from 4,000 to 6,000+ people attend from around

the world. ASI promotes a Christ-centered lifestyle, manifested by a commitment to be in daily partnership with God. ASI members seek to experience God's love in their own lives and share that love with the people they encounter in their everyday work and activities—hence ASI's motto, Sharing Christ in the Marketplace. Furthermore, ASI is committed to supporting the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its various outreach programs; which include health, education, evangelism, community services, family concerns and special projects. This unique and diverse group of members ranges from business owners to individual professionals to supporting ministries. In short, ASI members are Adventists from every walk of life. ASI and its members will be known for their unswerving honesty in business principles and practices, unflagging participation in the various ministries of the Church, unwavering positiveness toward Church leadership, unhesitating provision for the needs of others, and untiring focus on the Christ they represent in the marketplace.



Outpost Centers International (OCI) – Secrets Unsealed became a member of OCI in 2024. OCI networks and nurtures hundreds of Adventist-supporting ministries around the world. These ministries represent a significant portion of the organized gospel outreach conducted by the laity of the Seventh-day Adventist Church worldwide.

BETTER THAN SILVER OR GOLD



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