

## Printable Version of Topic

[Click here to view this topic in its original format](#)

---

### BlackSDA \_ 3ABN \_ The Dreams & Visions Concerning 3abn

---

Posted by: Barbara Kerr Aug 16 2006, 08:14 PM

---

#### The Dreams and Visions Concerning 3ABN

I, Barbara Kerr, would also like to share something with everyone that happened beginning in June of 2004 (the month Dan and Linda were divorced).

I received a phone call from a woman in her early 60's and she was in tears. She was so upset it was hard to understand her. It was the first week in June. She was so shaken and kept asking me if Linda and Danny were "okay". I was amazed that a viewer was already calling me regarding this situation, because so few people realized yet that Linda had been fired and Dan was insisting on a divorce. She said she was calling the only person she could think of that might be close enough to the Sheltons to verify her concerns. She asked me again if Danny and Linda were okay. I still wasn't sure how to answer her question. I said, "Why do you ask?" She began crying harder. She said that God had impressed her that something was terribly wrong at 3abn.

I asked her what had made her so upset and she said, "I know you're going to think I'm crazy, but God spoke to me three times in an audible voice on May 26th, (2004). Twice the voice said clearly, **'Linda left Danny. Linda left Danny.'** **Without saying anything out loud, the woman said to God, "If this is really You and not Satan, say it again."** **The voice boomed so loudly that her neighbors could have heard it. "LINDA LEFT DANNY".**

I told her that Linda had just moved out of the house and that things didn't look good and to pray hard for them. We hung up.

June 3rd, 2005, I received another call from her.

She said she had received a vision regarding 3abn and it was so horrible that she just couldn't believe it. She was in tears again. During this vision she heard a voice say, **"3ABN will be the instrument I will use to bring billions to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, but when the redeemed get to heaven and search for their 3ABN family, they will discover that they are only ashes under their feet."**

July 15th, 2005, this same woman had an identical dream two nights in a row. She called me to ask if I knew what the "phoenix" was.

In the dream these words were spoken to her: **"I will raise Linda up like the Phoenix from the ashes. She will be bigger and better than she could ever imagine. She will be surprised. It will be quick and soon. This will be with or without Danny's help. Danny cannot stop her."**

I didn't really know the answer to her question about the Phoenix. We went to the computer and did a search and discovered the poem by Hans Christian Andersen and were amazed at its content. Following is a paragraph taken from that poem.

"Beneath the tree of knowledge in the garden of paradise stood a rosebush. And here, in the first rose, a bird was born. His plumage was beautiful, his song glorious, and his flight was like the flashing of light. But when Eve plucked the fruit of the tree of knowledge, and she and Adam were driven from paradise, a spark fell from the flaming sword of the angel into the nest of the bird and set it

afire. The bird perished in the flames, but from the red egg in the nest there flew a new bird, the only one of its kind, the one solitary phoenix bird."

You can draw your own conclusions about the dreams. So far everything has come true. I believe we are seeing the fulfillment of the "phoenix" dream right now. With the use of the internet, news travels

fast these days. **I believe it's time to restore Linda to her rightful position!** The Lord did not bless this woman with 20 years of experience running a network, for her to be idle, and do nothing with her God-given talent.

**Posted by: watchbird Aug 16 2006, 08:45 PM**

I'm sorry, Barb. I don't like to be the one to "rain on your parade". But I think we are venturing on to the same Pentecostal "enchanted ground" which is held at 3ABN, and to which I object on doctrinal grounds, when we start putting emphasis on dreams and visions. And I don't think that it is our place to presume to read the mind of God as to whether Linda's "rightful position" is restoration to management of 3ABN. I have no doubt but what God wants her to use her talents and experience for His glory and in His service. But I have grave doubts about whether we should assume what that place should be.

**Posted by: Clay Aug 16 2006, 08:54 PM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 16 2006, 09:45 PM)**

I'm sorry, Barb. I don't like to be the one to "rain on your parade". But I think we are venturing on to the same Pentecostal "enchanted ground" which is held at 3ABN, and to which I object on doctrinal grounds, when we start putting emphasis on dreams and visions. And I don't think that it is our place to presume to read the mind of God as to whether Linda's "rightful position" is restoration to management of 3ABN. I have no doubt but what God wants her to use her talents and experience for His glory and in His service. But I have grave doubts about whether we should assume what that place should be.

are you suggesting that people cannot have visions? or that those visions are from God? or are you saying that since egw died no one else will have visions?

**Posted by: Uncle Sam Aug 16 2006, 08:55 PM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 16 2006, 07:45 PM)**

I'm sorry, Barb. I don't like to be the one to "rain on your parade". But I think we are venturing on to the same Pentecostal "enchanted ground" which is held at 3ABN, and to which I object on doctrinal grounds, when we start putting emphasis on dreams and visions. And I don't think that it is our place to presume to read the mind of God as to whether Linda's "rightful position" is restoration to management of 3ABN. I have no doubt but what God wants her to use her talents and experience for His glory and in His service. But I have grave doubts about whether we should assume what that place should be.

I agree, it made me question the validity of the other letter that was written.....

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 16 2006, 08:58 PM**

**QUOTE(Uncle Sam @ Aug 16 2006, 09:55 PM)**

I agree, it made me question the validity of the other letter that was written.....

why? she reported what someone told her? or are you all uncomfortable about the vision thing?  
would you have been uncomfortable when young ellen was having her visions?

You have never had a dream that was a premonition? and later that dream came true?

Where is Re' when I need her...

---

**Posted by: September Aug 16 2006, 09:06 PM**

I don't question the validity of the other letter Barb wrote...but I have to say that the post about the dreams did give me pause. I'm not saying that God doesn't give people visions, but we have no idea who that woman is--or anything about her. I also felt that the part about Linda being bigger than Danny is not consistent with what God calls His people to be--humble servants. Linda is and has always been a humble servant of God's--and I think that we need to be careful when subscribing to visions that someone has that actually sound quite prideful. Am I making any sense? Also, on a side note, a phoenix is actually a cultic symbol--and I'd have to ask my husband for more details on that--but that is a comment he made after reading the dreams post.

I also believe that for all Linda has gone through, God has a plan and a purpose for her life whose effects will be far reaching to hurting souls for Christ. It will be a ministry that only she can fulfill--just like each of us has a purpose that only we can fulfill. The journeys that we go through--the pains, the joys, etc., all make up who we are in Christ--His molding and making of us for a greater purpose. It's usually a quiet calling--an inner conviction as God speaks to us and enables us to do His bidding.

---

**Posted by: Uncle Sam Aug 16 2006, 09:07 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 16 2006, 07:58 PM)**

why? she reported what someone told her? or are you all uncomfortable about the vision thing?  
would you have been uncomfortable when young ellen was having her visions?

You have never had a dream that was a premonition? and later that dream came true?

Where is Re' when I need her...

No, I do not have a problem with "dreams/visions. Just something about this "story" made me uncomfortable. Danny said he had a dream too, why is that hard for some to believe?

I am not sure about this whole mess, I do feel better now that someone has come out and said the same things that others have said, and they have given their name. I always enjoyed Barbara Kerr and respect what she has said and it adds weight to the other things that have been shared here....

---

**Posted by: IMM Aug 16 2006, 09:08 PM**

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. Joel 2:28, 29

Repeated again in Acts 2:17, 18

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 16 2006, 09:09 PM**

**QUOTE(Uncle Sam @ Aug 16 2006, 09:07 PM)**

No, I do not have a problem with "dreams/visions. Just something about this "story" made me uncomfortable. Danny said he had a dream too, why is that hard for some to believe?

I am not sure about this whole mess, I do feel better now that someone has come out and said the same things that others have said, and they have given their name. I always enjoyed Barbara Kerr and respect what she has said and it adds weight to the other things that have been shared here....

some would say that dreams are our unconscious desires... so the issue is not the dream nor the person but the total picture..... lets not forget Joseph had dreams... and they were not humble at all.....


---

**Posted by: watchbird Aug 16 2006, 09:10 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 16 2006, 08:58 PM)**

why? she reported what someone told her? or are you all uncomfortable about the vision thing? would you have been uncomfortable when young ellen was having her visions?

You have never had a dream that was a premonition? and later that dream came true?

Where is Re! when I need her... 

I am uncomfortable with "the vision thing". I've seen too much .... read too much .... come in contact too much .... with the modern day tidal wave of spirit communications ..... both inside the church and out ..... to take the concept and practice lightly. I'm too much engrained in biblical warnings about the powers that will be allowed to Satan in "the last days" ... accompanied by the warnings of Ellen White that this will be the last great test our church will have to face ... to be comfortable with

Pentecostal flavored fascination with information gained outside our normal rational facilities. Do I believe that God occasionally does give such communications. Yes, I do. But when they are applied to others besides the one who had the experience, then I think the first thing to do is to thoroughly examine them for credibility and the way they align with scriptural communication between God and his "prophets".

I would doubtless have been "uncomfortable" with "young ellen" having her visions. Right along with the majority of the church members who observed those visions. Keep in mind that Ellen did not have any instant and wide acceptance as to the source of her visions. It was only after the passage of time .... and gradually, with experience in the the results of the visions as well as testing and comparing their content with scripture, that a few believers at a time came to have confidence that her visions were indeed from God.

**Posted by: justme Aug 16 2006, 09:13 PM**

Easy now ...

It appears that a woman told Barbara something that happened that disturbed her a great deal. How else would this woman have known about Danny kicking Linda off the premises she helped to found.

The lady went to Barb for more information. Vision, dream, premonition, does it really matter?

She was aware of something that only 3ABN-ers knew at that point.

Barb is only tellin us what the lady told her. Barb is not saying that we all should take this lady for gospel.

After all, Danny has apparently had his own hallucinations about Linda.

I expect that there are more individuals who have had "revelations" or "inspirations" about Linda. We just don't know about them yet.

**Posted by: Clay Aug 16 2006, 09:13 PM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 16 2006, 10:10 PM)**

I am uncomfortable with "the vision thing". I've seen too much .... read too much .... come in contact too much .... with the modern day tidal wave of spirit communications ..... both inside the church and out ..... to take the concept and practice lightly. I'm too much engrained in biblical warnings about the powers that will be allowed to Satan in "the last days" ... accompanied by the warnings of Ellen White that this will be the last great test our church will have to face ... to be comfortable with Pentecostal flavored fascination with information gained outside our normal rational facilities. Do I believe that God occasionally does give such communications. Yes, I do. But when they are applied to others besides the one who had the experience, then I think the first thing to do is to thoroughly examine them for credibility and the way they align with scriptural communication between God and his "prophets".

I would doubtless have been "uncomfortable" with "young ellen" having her visions. Right along with the majority of the church members who observed those visions. Keep in mind that Ellen did not have any instant and wide acceptance as to the source of her visions. It was only after the passage of time .... and gradually, with experience in the the results of the visions as well as

testing and comparing their content with scripture, that a few believers at a time came to have confidence that her visions were indeed from God.

would say you are over sensitized to the whole issue.... so anything that remotely sounds like what you have studied you react.... thus you are biased against it....

If the visions or dreams are legit time will tell....

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 16 2006, 09:24 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 16 2006, 10:54 PM)**

are you suggesting that people cannot have visions? or that those visions are from God? or are you saying that since egw died no one else will have visions?

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 16 2006, 10:58 PM)**

why? she reported what someone told her? or are you all uncomfortable about the vision thing? would you have been uncomfortable when young ellen was having her visions?

You have never had a dream that was a premonition? and later that dream came true?

Where is Re' when I need her...

Right here.

Call it what you like. If I could list folks names and contact information I would. Interestingly enough - it doesn't happen "often" and it doesn't happen "when I want it to" - but everyone of my truest, closest friends know....

**WHEN I DREAM, LISTEN AND HEAR!**

Even the BIBLE discusses how people will "see visions and dream dreams...." Now as for the dream of the woman in the letter - I refuse to be the one that states that her dream is false. Why?

Because I know me....and I don't discuss it often - but I know.

HAVE BEEN BLESSED (& I now see it as a "blessing" - didn't see it as a blessing as a child....) with the GIFT OF DREAMS.

1. Don't ask me to "dream about you"....
2. Don't ask me to "dream something for you"...
3. Don't ask me to "dream a solution for a problem"....

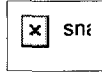
It don't work that way.... when GOD/JESUS/HOLY SPIRIT brings me a dream; I immediately know it is "special" - I write it down. I go back to it approximately a day later and then try to "interpret" it. Sometimes the interpretation comes to me immediately. Sometimes it does not. On three occasions my Mother and I had the exact same dream within a few days of each other. I write them in my journal....when I go home I would "compare" with my Mother. We have been exactly the same three times since 1996 (when I started journaling).

Now.

\*again\*

You may not see this as a "gift" or even "believe" me - I don't care...but trust.

If I tell you I had a dream, give you an interpretation - **AND IT INVOLVES YOU....** ya beddah listen!



**Posted by: watchbird Aug 16 2006, 09:28 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 16 2006, 09:13 PM)**

I would say you are over sensitized to the whole issue.... so anything that remotely sounds like what you have studied you react.... thus you are biased against it....

if the visions or dreams are legit time will tell....

It may sound like that to you..... maybe there are some things in life that one should take seriously enough to approach them with .... what's the phrase I've heard here so often? ... "a healthy skepticism".

The question about visions or dreams that are merely for the purpose of giving information to satisfy someone's curiosity or to give them a feeling of knowing the future is not whether or not they are "legit" in the sense of whether "time will tell". The facts are that they are very seductive and even addictive, and they promote a "hunger for the supernatural" which then gives opportunity for the "wrong" kind of spirits to insert ideas.

Our church has erred in its way of warning against Pentecostalism. Our conservatives, especially, will get all bent out of shape and throw tantrums that are quite literally "heard round the world" when it comes to something like lively music or a worship service that is similar in arrangement to a "Pentecostal" service. But when real Pentecostalism walks in the church, gets up in the pulpit, and is written out in officially published books .... no one bats an eye. We simply lap it up like cream and go looking for more of the same kind ..... only more spectacular than what our neighbor experienced.

**Posted by: Clay Aug 16 2006, 09:31 PM**

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 16 2006, 09:24 PM)**

Right here.

Call it what you like. If I could list folks names and contact information I would. Interestingly enough - it doesn't happen "often" and it doesn't happen "when I want it to" - but everyone of my truest, closest friends know....

**WHEN I DREAM, LISTEN AND HEAR!**

Even the BIBLE discusses how people will "see visions and dream dreams...." Now as for the dream of the woman in the letter - I refuse to be the one that states that her dream is false. Why?

Because I know me....and I don't discuss it often - but I know.

I HAVE BEEN BLESSED (& I now see it as a "blessing" - didn't see it as a blessing as a child....) with the GIFT OF DREAMS.

- 1. Don't ask me to "dream about you"....
- 2. Don't ask me to "dream something for you"...
- 3. Don't ask me to "dream a solution for a problem"....

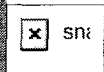
It don't work that way.... when GOD/JESUS/HOLY SPIRIT brings me a dream; I immediately know it is "special" - I write it down. I go back to it approximately a day later and then try to "interpret" it. Sometimes the interpretation comes to me immediately. Sometimes it does not. On three occassions my Mother and I had the exact same dream within a few days of each other. I write them in my journal....when I go home I would "compare" with my Mother. We have been exactly the same three times since 1996 (when I started journaling).

Now.

\*again\*

You may not see this as a "gift" or even "believe" me - I don't care...but trust.

If I tell you I had a dream, give you an interpretation - **AND IT INVOLVES YOU....** ya beddah listen!



thank you Re'..... I had a dream when my wife was pregnant.... we didn't know the gender of the baby..... the ultrasound didn't show because the baby was turned in a position where you couldn't see..... I had a dream of a little girl, head full of braids, giggling while sitting on a couch.... I told my wife... we did not get another ultrasound, but the baby was a girl..... born with a head full of hair... and eventually that hair was braided... and she often sat on the couch giggling.....

whut?

---

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 16 2006, 09:37 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 16 2006, 11:31 PM)**

thank you Re'..... I had a dream when my wife was pregnant.... we didn't know the gender of the baby..... the ultrasound didn't show because the baby was turned in a position where you couldn't see..... I had a dream of a little girl, head full of braids, giggling while sitting on a couch.... I told my wife... we did not get another ultrasound, but the baby was a girl..... born with a head full of hair... and eventually that hair was braided... and she often sat on the couch giggling.....

whut?

Got you too!

My Father dreamed of a little gurl wearing brown overalls, pigtails - and chewing on a chicken leg. He never told my Mother the details. He only told my Mother he dreamed I was a "girl".....



Later the picture was taken - when my Father wasn't home (long-haul truck driving) - I was in brown overalls, pigtails, and chewing on celery!

It began with a "C".....



...but this was actually the "proving" dream for my Father. He had several dreams before this one - but would "ignore" them ....

From this time on - (me as an "infant") he began to write down his dreams and later - (after I got older) he would "discuss them in detail" with me.....

Around the age of 5 I started having "dreams". I told my Father and he would listen very intently. I remember him listening like I was telling the "news"....I didn't understand it until I was about 10-11 years old..... I too have a "GIFT OF DREAMS".....

...and why lie? Sometimes it scares me.....




---

**Posted by: September Aug 16 2006, 09:41 PM**

deleted

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 16 2006, 09:47 PM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 16 2006, 09:28 PM)**

It may sound like that to you..... maybe there are some things in life that one should take seriously enough to approach them with .... what's the phrase I've heard here so often? ... "a healthy skepticism".

The question about visions or dreams that are merely for the purpose of giving information to satisfy someone's curiosity or to give them a feeling of knowing the future is not whether or not they are "legit" in the sense of whether "time will tell". The facts are that they are very seductive and even addictive, and they promote a "hunger for the supernatural" which then gives opportunity for the "wrong" kind of spirits to insert ideas.

Our church has erred in its way of warning against Pentecostalism. Our conservatives, especially, will get all bent out of shape and throw tantrums that are quite literally "heard round the world" when it comes to something like lively music or a worship service that is similar in arrangement to a "Pentecostal" service. But when real Pentecostalism walks in the church, gets up in the pulpit, and is written out in officially published books .... no one bats an eye. We simply lap it up like cream and go looking for more of the same kind ..... only more spectacular than what our neighbor experienced.

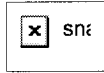
I hope you are just as skeptical when that pastor, or conference leader gets up and says, " the lord told me," or " I was impressed by the Holy Spirit to tell you," or any of those phrases that preachers use just before they "share" what the "Lord" has told them.....

like I said, you overreact... no one has mentioned doing anything you have suggested..... you see it

as a road going towards something very bad.... and it may not be that at all....

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 16 2006, 09:53 PM**

I just want people to understand and know that there are SDA's/CHRISTians that "have dreams" that are interpretable or the "Gift of Dreams" per se.... I want people to know that not everyone that "dreams DREAMS" is a fruity nut.

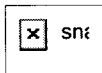


**Posted by: Hersheys99 Aug 16 2006, 09:56 PM**

**QUOTE**

I just want people to understand and know that there are SDA's/CHRISTians that "have dreams" that are interpretable or the "Gift of Dreams" per se.... I want people to know that not everyone that "dreams DREAMS" is a fruity nut.

Amen Re!!



**Posted by: alramwill Aug 16 2006, 09:59 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 16 2006, 09:47 PM)**

**I hope you are just as skeptical when that pastor, or conference leader gets up and says, "the lord told me," or "I was impressed by the Holy Spirit to tell you," or any of those phrases that preachers use just before they "share" what the "Lord" has told them.....**

like I said, you overreact... no one has mentioned doing anything you have suggested..... you see it as a road going towards something very bad.... and it may not be that at all....

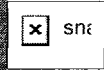
Hit the nail on the head....

**Posted by: September Aug 16 2006, 09:59 PM**

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 16 2006, 11:53 PM)**

I just want people to understand and know that there are SDA's/CHRISTians that "have dreams" that are interpretable or the "Gift of Dreams" per se.... I want people to know that not everyone

that "dreams DREAMS" is a fruity nut.



totally agree with you...and perhaps my post to Clay was making light of that so I'm going to try to remove that post...

believe that people do have dreams and that some are from God and would never want to make light of that.

---

**Posted by: watchbird Aug 16 2006, 10:06 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 16 2006, 09:47 PM) □**

I hope you are just as skeptical when that pastor, or conference leader gets up and says, "the lord told me," or "I was impressed by the Holy Spirit to tell you," or any of those phrases that preachers use just before they "share" what the "Lord" has told them.....

like I said, you overreact... no one has mentioned doing anything you have suggested..... you see it as a road going towards something very bad.... and it may not be that at all....

am indeed just as skeptical. And I've heard enough of that kind of "God talk" to last a lifetime. But I do take into consideration the rest of the context in which the phrase is used. Plenty of times it is but a manner of speaking of the way that God does work through the workings of a person's mind in what I can appropriately IMO be spoken of as "impressions from the Holy Spirit". Unfortunately, all too often ..... especially when a conference leader is trying to put a square peg in a round hole.... it is inappropriate manipulation with no "impressions" of any kind other than that there's an undesirable position to be filled.

But when it is in the context of a frankly Pentecostal church in which the members are taught to follow the leader unquestioningly whenever he claims that God is speaking to him .... then the ante goes up. Is it actually mere manipulation, or is it some "familiar spirit" that is actually talking to the person? And when the individual is not merely speaking in generalities from the pulpit, but is talking one on one and saying, "I hear God telling me right now that you are thinking such and such...." Then you better believe that the ante has gone up a great deal higher yet. And in these circumstances, in my book, accuracy is much more liable to be the sign of "communing with an evil spirit" than that it is merely manipulation..... For I simply do not believe that God works like that.

And what has been described to me as the way Danny relates to people can be described in exactly those terms. How much those practices extend to others at 3ABN, I do not know. How much they are practiced by others in our church .... I don't know that either. I won't be lured into passing judgement on any person's experience. But in general I am very convicted that entertaining any paranormal experience is a dangerous thing for a Christian to do.

---

**Posted by: Barbara Kerr Aug 16 2006, 10:36 PM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 16 2006, 10:45 PM) □**

I'm sorry, Barb. I don't like to be the one to "rain on your parade". But I think we are venturing on to the same Pentecostal "enchanted ground" which is held at 3ABN, and to which I object on doctrinal grounds, when we start putting emphasis on dreams and visions. And I don't think that it is our place to presume to read the mind of God as to whether Linda's "rightful position" is restoration to management of 3ABN. I have no doubt but what God wants her to use her talents and experience for His glory and in His service. But I have grave doubts about whether we should assume what that place should be.

Dear Watchbird,

Believe me, I have thought long and hard about posting this page. It is only here because it happened, and I think people deserve to at least read about it.

Hasn't our church always put emphasis on dreams and visions? Where would we be as a church today without Mrs. White's dreams and visions?

In Acts 2:17-18 it says, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy." NKJV

This identical passage is also found in Joel 2:28-29.

We have so many Biblical examples of how God spoke to people through dreams.

- 1) Matthew 2:13, an Angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. In chapter 27:19 Pilate's wife instructs her husband not to have anything to do with Jesus because of what she had suffered in a dream.
- 2) In Luke 24:23, the women that showed up at Jesus' tomb were there because they had seen a vision of angels who had said Jesus was alive.
- 3) In Genesis 37: 5-10, Joseph dreams about sheaves of wheat bowing down to him and about the sun, moon and stars bowing down -- and he was rebuked for his dreams.
- 4) In Numbers 12:6 it says, "Then He said, 'Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision, And I speak to him in a dream.'"
- 5) And finally in Jeremiah 23:28-29 it says, "'The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; And he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat?' says the Lord, 'Is not My word like a fire?' says the Lord, 'And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?'"

You're absolutely right about not presuming where God wants Linda right now! I was clearly too vague in my over-zealous "cheer" to help restore her to her position. Mentally I am so far beyond thinking about Linda being placed as the head of 3ABN. I have no idea what God's plans are for that ministry or whom the Lord will choose to lead it. (I actually think that Wintley Phipps is a Godly man that could steer this ministry and take over leadership tomorrow). What I desire for Linda, is to be restored to her position "publicly". It's more about her ability to work in ministry, the job she loves above all else, having her image as an adulterous woman stricken from the record in the Adventist church, so-to-speak. I'm not even sure if that's possible, but I know that it is forums like these that give a voice to those that need to be heard.

My final reason for posting the dreams about 3ABN comes from Habakkuk 2:2-3

"Write the vision, And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry." (All quotes taken from NKJV)

Watchbird, I know these types of things pull us out of our comfort zone and we have a need to make everything around us mesh with our own realities of life, love and religion.

This woman isn't flying a banner anywhere, she didn't ask for the dreams, but God chose her to give them to.

I can tell you that she is an extremely sweet, kind-hearted Seventh Day Adventist woman in her 60's, that wants nothing more than for Jesus to come quickly. She's not trying to call herself a prophet, she's not puffed up or conceited. She **IS** a humble prayer warrior that loves her Savior very much!

Your reaction to the dreams has made me ponder just what our response will be as Adventist when our sons and our daughters shall prophesy, our young men shall see visions, and our old men shall dream dreams?

Watchbird, I promise you, I am NOT trying to be "Pentecostal". I hope this helps and I'm so thankful for your honesty in your letter. You are a sweet woman.

Barbara Kerr

**Posted by: Ralph Aug 17 2006, 01:34 AM**

**QUOTE(Uncle Sam @ Aug 16 2006, 07:55 PM)**

I agree, it made me question the validity of the other letter that was written.....

It does not make me question the validity of the the first letter that Barbara wrote. That is rock solid and most of it is verifiable. So let's not let this discussion take the forefront and ignore her main message.

BUT I do question who gave the message to the woman. Maybe we will never know, as there are things that happen in the supernatural world that are beyond our understanding.

When my mother's first husband died, his mother, a wonderful Christian woman, was in the pantry. She turned around and saw her son standing in the doorway although he should have been miles away. She reached out her arms and exclaimed in her Norwegian accent, "VI ARRY". And with that "Harry" disappeared. She knew immediately that he was dead. Was the being angelic or Satanic. I have my thoughts.

One thing that concerns me. The voice said, "LINDA LEFT DANNY". That was a bald face lie unless we disregard all the evidence that has been presented so far. "Linda left Danny" -- That has been what Danny wants us to believe when in reality Danny kicked her out. So without any other hint than that one, I question the source of the information even if the woman was a Christian. (The Devil harasses Christians, too.)

Like Gamaliel, we will just have to wait and see.

**Posted by: watchbird Aug 17 2006, 01:42 AM**

**QUOTE(Barbara Kerr @ Aug 16 2006, 10:36 PM)**

Dear Watchbird,

Believe me, I have thought long and hard about posting this page. It is only here because it happened, and I think people deserve to at least read about it.

Hasn't our church always put emphasis on dreams and visions? Where would we be as a church today without Mrs. White's dreams and visions?

Thank you for your sweet spirit in writing, Barbara. I shall try to respond likewise. Has our church always put emphasis on dreams and visions?" No, it has not. In the beginning, even at the same time that James White was being appreciative of the messages God was giving through Ellen White, he cautioned against putting too much emphasis on the "gifts". What our church has always put the most emphasis on is God's word to us as recorded in scripture.

#### QUOTE

In Acts 2:17-18 it says, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy." NKJV

This identical passage is also found in Joel 2:28-29.

Be careful of your context. The Acts context is that of saying that the preaching of the apostles on the day of Pentecost was a **fulfillment** of the prophecy in Joel. And when one examines the use of the words, "visions" and "dreams", one must also recognize that they do not always have the same meaning. Yes, we speak of a hallucinatory experience as a "vision". But we also speak of someone having a "vision" of doing a certain thing, meaning only that the person had the idea and the ability to think through that idea until it became a plan. And the same with the word "dream". It can mean the brain activity that goes on while we sleep..... but it can also mean conscious thought activity in thinking about some plan or desire that one has.

#### QUOTE

We have so many Biblical examples of how God spoke to people through dreams.

- 1) Matthew 2:13, an Angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. In chapter 27:19 Pilate's wife instructs her husband not to have anything to do with Jesus because of what she had suffered in a dream.
- 2) In Luke 24:23, the women that showed up at Jesus' tomb were there because they had seen a vision of angels who had said Jesus was alive.
- 3) In Genesis 37: 5-10, Joseph dreams about sheaves of wheat bowing down to him and about the sun, moon and stars bowing down -- and he was rebuked for his dreams.
- 4) In Numbers 12:6 it says, "Then He said, 'Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision, And I speak to him in a dream.'"
- 5) And finally in Jeremiah 23:28-29 it says, "'The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; And he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat?' says the Lord, 'Is not My word like a fire?' says the Lord, 'And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?'"

So many"? How many hundred years did the writing of scripture cover? How many in any one generation had any dreams or visions that they claimed were from the Lord? How many generations were there between the dreams or visions that are recorded? As for Jeremiah, doesn't it say "The prophet who has a dream, let him tell..."? Having a dream does not make one a prophet.

**QUOTE**

You're absolutely right about not presuming where God wants Linda right now! I was clearly too vague in my over-zealous "cheer" to help restore her to her position. Mentally I am so far beyond thinking about Linda being placed as the head of 3ABN. I have no idea what God's plans are for that ministry or whom the Lord will choose to lead it. (I actually think that Wintley Phipps is a Godly man that could steer this ministry and take over leadership tomorrow). What I desire for Linda, is to be restored to her position "publicly". It's more about her ability to work in ministry, the job she loves above all else, having her image as an adulterous woman stricken from the record in the Adventist church, so-to-speak. I'm not even sure if that's possible, but I know that it is forums like these that give a voice to those that need to be heard.

I too share your dream that Linda will be completely exonerated and that the roadblocks that have been cast in her way will become but stepping stones towards a more significant ministry than what she has known up to this time. I'm glad that you're "cheer" for her restoration was in the sense of restoring her reputation and her opportunities for service. Since there are those, however, who might think in terms of putting her in what I would consider the very awkward and unenviable position of returning to 3ABN on the basis of her former joint ownership there, I think we need to be very careful how we speak in "futures"..... even of future "dreams".

**QUOTE**

My final reason for posting the dreams about 3ABN comes from Habakkuk 2:2-3  
 "Write the vision, And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry." (All quotes taken from NKJV)

Again, as I said above.... the context. Are you really raising this woman who had the dreams to the level of a prophet? Are you really attaching prophetic import to her words, all of which, in common with most psychic occurrences of this type are vague enough to lend them to multiple interpretations?

**QUOTE**

Watchbird, I know these types of things pull us out of our comfort zone and we have a need to make everything around us mesh with our own realities of life, love and religion.

You are quite right that the kind of attention you are giving to what are essentially psychic experiences, and the applications you are making of scripture in order to justify that attention is definitely "out of my comfort zone". I am comfortable with a belief system that is soundly based on scripture and in which one finds comfort in applying the promises of scripture to ones "own realities of life, love and religion." There are far too many diverse voices, all claiming a connection with some supernatural source of information, for me to be comfortable with going to any of these for my comfort.

**QUOTE**

This woman isn't flying a banner anywhere, she didn't ask for the dreams, but God chose her to give them to.

How do you know that God gave them to her? Dreams are functions of the mind. While it is true that God may speak in that method, it is also true that satan can also speak through that method, and it is equally true, and a whole lot more likely, that any given dream is the result of some natural function and is not influenced by either God nor satan.

**QUOTE**

I can tell you that she is an extremely sweet, kind-hearted Seventh Day Adventist woman in her 60's, that wants nothing more than for Jesus to come quickly. She's not trying to call herself a prophet, she's not puffed up or conceited. She **IS** a humble prayer warrior that loves her Savior very much!

One does not have to be puffed up or conceited to be mistaken about the importance of a dream, a premonition, a coincidence, or a sudden seemingly new thought that suddenly comes to one's mind.

**QUOTE**

Your reaction to the dreams has made me ponder just what our response will be as Adventist when our sons and our daughters shall prophesy, our young men shall see visions, and our old men shall dream dreams?

I hope you can understand that I am just as concerned as you may be, maybe more, about this very thing. But I am much more concerned about us thinking something is of the Lord when it is in reality something being used by satan to entice us, than vice versa.

**QUOTE**

Watchbird, I promise you, I am NOT trying to be "Pentecostal". I hope this helps and I'm so thankful for your honesty in your letter. You are a sweet woman.

Barbara Kerr

I understand. The thing is, that one does not have to "try" to be Pentecostal. One only has to associate with Pentecostals enough so that their way of interpreting and applying scripture comes to take the place of the way Adventists have generally understood and applied it. When one associates with Adventists who have already substituted Pentecostal definitions and connotations for their vocabulary, and have put an Adventist overlay on what is basically a Pentecostal way of looking at things, then it is very difficult indeed to recognize what is Pentecostal and what is not. And at the moment, things are even more complicated by the fact that for the past 30 years, concepts from Pentecostalism have been promulgated by mainline Adventism.... even showing up in such trusted places as the Sabbath School lesson quarterly and the yearly Devotional book.

For example.... the very phrase you used above, "prayer warriors", is a term that is not only straight out of Pentecostalism, but is out of a specific variety of Pentecostalism. That was an unknown phrase in my youth and young adult days. Not until the mid 1970's, when "Deliverance Ministry" teachings came into Adventism, were we introduced to the "Warrior Prayer" with all of its accompanying doctrinal underpinnings, and the term "prayer warriors" followed shortly and for at least 10 years has been a standard term in Adventism today.

---

**Posted by: Jvat Aug 17 2006, 03:31 AM**

Watchbird is a skeptic, and I suppose that it may take her a very long time to understand what some of us feel differently about. There is need to be cautious but the Scriptures also tell us that God's ways are not our ways nor His thoughts, our thoughts.

And it also tells us that you will hear a voice telling you "this is the way, walk in it." The Scriptures also speak of the gifts of the word of knowledge and the word of prophecy which we hardly hear about in SDAism today but there are some godly, very godly SDAs with these gifts whom God has used to help others.

We are told to try the spirits and see whether they be of God and to prove all things and hold fast to that which is good. Let us do just that by God's grace.



Barbara, I appreciate your attitude.

---

**Posted by: västergötland Aug 17 2006, 04:37 AM**


It appears to me, having read all the comments thus far, that the dreams are probably real but there seems to be disagreement on who the source of these dreams might be.

Watchbird, I think the aversion towards anything "extraordinary" explains the pentecostal stamp you had on Roger Morneau in another thread. I can see that having the practise of doubting any miracles not read about in the bible or in Ellens biography being from God would lead to such a result.

I find the all out denial and/or rejection of modern day prophecy strange for a denomination that counts a prophet as one of the key founders and at that have modern day prophecy as a fundamental belief (nr 18) and even calls it an identifying mark of itself. Of course one should not accept everything anyone claims to have recieved in a dream or vision or even that anything anyone acctually have recieved in a dream or a vision is from God. But there are sound guidelines for identifying a prophet from God found in the bible that ought to be used, as contrary to shouting 'wolf' at the mere mention of "I have a dream.."

...

oh, ehm,

at the mere mention of "I have a dream from God". 

Ralph made a good point conserning the contents of the messages. If the message said that linda left danny and the reality was the very opposite then that would be reason to step back and take a break.

I wonder if part of the devils plan to decieve if possible even the elect may be to make sdas so affraid of anything "pentecostal" that in hard times, God wont be able to fullfill any of his promises without being accused of being the devil. Similar to when Jesus healed a man on the sabbath and was accused of doing the healing by the power of belzebub. If a man would walk into an SDA church this next sabbath being blind and then walk out of the church seeing, lots of church members would (very likely) be freaked out and if this happened at the right/wrong(, depending on how one choose to see it) church the person/s involved in praying for the blind could be facing church dicipline (I believe, havent acctually seen this happen).

---

**Posted by: justme Aug 17 2006, 04:47 AM**

I, too noticed the "Linda left Danny" phrase, but then, how else would one say that she is gone. considering that he kicked her out of the ministry and his life. He was still where he had always been. Linda was fired because "TC1" (the chosen one) had said he doesn't want her around anymore. What else can you do when someone becomes violent and yells at you and tears doors off the hinges? You LEAVE.

---

**Posted by: Nuggie Aug 17 2006, 04:51 AM**

I consider myself a skeptic...I take everything I hear and see with two grains of salt. But, on this issue of dreaming/visions or whatever you call it, I can tell you that it's real. I get nervous when my mother calls and says she had a dream about me because she is ALWAYS right! If she tells me not to do something based on a dream she had, I listen. My aunt has the same gift. The Lord reveals things to them in dreams. I don't have that gift...but I know from first-hand life experience that some people do and, like Re says, they're not fruity nuts...well, not all of them anyway

---

**Posted by: Denny Aug 17 2006, 05:12 AM**

I have had dreams about people it happens rarely I've had impression not to go certain places -

Jul 2005 bombing I was impressed to drive to work rather than take the train I was standing at the bustop, I crossed over the road and drove when I go to work I heard that the of the two train lines I could have taken both had been bombed.....believe it or not

Kings Cross fire, late 1980's Northern line burnt to cinders many people died, this is the station I normally changed at and the line that would take me home. I felt impressed to stay on another line when I got to the station and not to get off the train. My mind actually said I feel too lazy to take the Northern line. When I go home I heard of the fire, I was very shaken cos even my mother knew the Northern line was one of my normal routes.

I believe the Holy Sprit impressed my lazy self to take the 'lazy' option on both occassions- I praise Him!

---

**Posted by: inga Aug 17 2006, 06:04 AM**

**QUOTE(Jvat @ Aug 17 2006, 04:31 AM)**

Watchbird is a skeptic, and I suppose that it may take her a very long time to understand what some of us feel differently about. There is need to be cautious but the Scriptures also tell us that God's ways are not our ways nor His thoughts, our thoughts.

It is true that God's ways are not our ways, but He acts consistent with Himself and His revelations in Scripture.

**QUOTE**

And it also tells us that you will hear a voice telling you "this is the way, walk in it." The Scriptures also speak of the gifts of the word of knowledge and the word of prophecy which we hardly hear about in SDAism today but there are some godly, very godly SDAs with these gifts whom God has used to help others.

The Lord has also revealed to us that in the end times there will be three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the

false prophet. (Rev 16:13) Adventists have long identified these as the evidence of demonic activity bringing the various religious factions of the world together through charismatic manifestations. It was many decades ago that the "tongues" manifestations sought to infiltrate the Adventist church through "friendly" means, but was largely unsuccessful. Now we see more subtle means, but the spirit is the same. This in no way casts aspersion on those who are approached by these spirits. They are usually honest, dedicated and, yes, conservative Adventists. It is thus that the spirits are most likely to be successful.

Let us consider why they would like us to believe in them. After all, most revelations, dreams and visions are quite harmless. Healings are beneficial. So where's the danger?

But what happens when we learn to depend on these revelations, dreams and visions because they have always "come true"? Are we not then ready to be deceived because we no longer question the source? When healings accompany such manifestations, we reason that surely this must be of the Lord.

Yet we are told that devils work miracles. ...

**QUOTE**

We are told to try the spirits and see whether they be of God and to prove all things and hold fast to that which is good. Let us do just that by God's grace.

Ah, yes, **that's** exactly it!

And what evidence do we have that these dreams and visions are of God?

Are they accurate, giving the correct view of the matter?

"Linda left Danny."

Is that really true. Did Linda **leave** Danny, or was she forced out?

Does God speak the truth? Do demons lie?

"3ABN will be the instrument I will use to bring billions to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, but when the redeemed get to heaven and search for their 3ABN family, they will discover that they are only ashes under their feet."

3ABN will be the instrument to bring billions to know the Lord Jesus?

That sounds to me like an encouragement to trust in an institution, a TV network, to get the job done. I question this for several reasons:

- 1) God has made it clear that He wants you and me to each tell someone --**not** to expect "the church" or the pastor or 3ABN to do the job for us.
- 2) This focus on a particular institution sets people up for a fall when the institution goes wrong. Perhaps this sets the "believer" up to fall for the Pentecostal metamorphosis of 3ABN. Who knows, but it surely does not "fit" with the way God usually acts.
- 3) The language is just too much like the sensational utterings of spirits we know to be false..

By contrast, the vision Ellen White had of the "finishing of the work" was one of 'the servants of God, with their faces lighted up going from door to door' -- IOW, it was **personal work**. She saw God's people meeting people face to face, not sending money to a TV network! (That does not mean that we should not also support TV programs that are truly giving God's message.)

Furthermore, there seems to be no real purpose for these dreams and visions other than to arouse/satisfy curiosity and stir up excitement. There is no biblical precedent for this. Neither is there precedent for this in the ministry of Ellen White.

There is plenty of precedent for this in psychic phenomena.

I have a friend who has the "gift" of psychic insight. He may receive dreams or visions, or simply "see" things in broad daylight. He didn't want the "gift" when he was young, but it didn't go away. He subsequently used it for good purposes. However, those who know him find that his "seeing" has around a 50% accuracy rate. Is that the Lord's best score?

I concluded that this "gift" is not of the Lord, and from his family history, I have some idea why he is thus afflicted. "The devil has desired to have thee," one could say to him, as Christ did to Peter. He has "had" much of his family in the past, and he hates to let anyone go. My friend is sincere in his love for Jesus. He has quit giving psychic readings, even though he was in financial straits and it was the easiest way to make money. I pray that some day the Lord will give him total clarity on the subject ..

"I will raise Linda up like the Phoenix from the ashes."

This does not sound like the language of God to me. He is not indebted to symbols invented by His archenemy.

Somehow this reminds me of the days of my youth when the Ouija board was popular among teenagers. I was totally naive and tried it with them at their urging. It refused to move with my fingers on it, and no one could figure out why because it "performed" so well otherwise. There have always been cliques and feuds among teenage girls, and so it was then. By the time the Ouija board told my best friends/worst enemies that they were to be "nice to me," I had figured out what made the Ouija board move, and it scared me to have it speak well of me ...

It should frighten Linda that this "I" (spirit) promises to raise her up like the Phoenix. May she be spared the entanglement that this forebodes! I pray that she may cling humbly to Jesus.

The Phoenix myth can be traced back to ancient Egypt. It is one of the sacred symbols of worship at Heliopolis, closely associated with the rising sun and the Egyptian sun-god Ra, who is a counterfeit of the true Creator God, just like Sunday is a counterfeit of the true Sabbath memorial of creation and promise of salvation.

The Phoenix symbol became absorbed into corrupt Christianity as a symbol of Christ's death and resurrection just as the day of the sun became absorbed into Christianity as the counterfeit Sabbath.

Do you **really** still wonder about the source of these dreams?

"She will be bigger and better than she could ever imagine. She will be surprised. It will be quick and soon. This will be with or without Danny's help. Danny cannot stop her."

Isn't this just the very thing that an unwary Linda might want? Isn't this the very temptation that Satan offered to Christ Himself -- if He would only bow down?! Isn't this very much akin to Lucifer's aspirations in heaven?

Beware, Linda, beware!

God does not tempt His children thus. He does not promise this kind of greatness, though the televangelists often do.

I believe that Linda was separated from 3ABN by the providence of God, though she surely did not see this at the time. But Satan does not let go easily, and he would dearly love to draw her back into the same tangled web from which she escaped.

It also seems that God allowed you, Barbara, to be separated from 3ABN so as not to be associated with the evil that goes on there. Thank God and trust Him to lead you in safe paths through His Word and that still, small voice, that is like a "voice behind you saying, 'This is the way, walk you in it,'" without the aid of dreams and visions.

**QUOTE**

Barbara, I appreciate your attitude.

I do too. And I do not question the sincerity and dedication of the woman who had these dreams, but if I could talk to her personally, I would like to warn her that she is under attack by the enemy of Christ. But if she will put her faith and trust in Him and His Word, rather than in visions and dreams, she will be safe.

Blessings,  
Inge Anderson

**Posted by: inga Aug 17 2006, 06:25 AM**

Hi Denny,

What you describe below and what similar examples which others have described in other posts is what I believe is fairly typical of how the Holy Spirit impresses people. The impressions/messages were directly for **you** and not about what was going to happen to someone else.

God has, throughout history, chosen individuals to act as His spokesmen, giving messages from Him to and about others. But in all the history of the world, there have been relatively few of these. And He **always** acts consistent with His character and previous revelations.

We are to "test the spirits," and by the tests that I applied in a previous post, the spirits who gave these dreams and visions come up wanting.

We are told that "in the last days" the path of truth will lie so close to the path of error that it will be impossible to discern between them, except by the Holy Spirit. I think this applies also to the "discerning of spirits." Our great need is a daily, living connection with Christ through the Holy Spirit. And Scriptures tell us that the Holy Spirit will not speak "of His own" but will make the words of Scriptures clear to us.

As Ellen White counseled us shortly before she died, "I recommend to you the Word of God!" We need to study and pray and cling to Christ by faith, for only thus can we walk safely ... and we will recognize the "voice behind Thee saying this is the way ..." as the voice of God instead of listening to the seductive voice of seducing spirits.

**QUOTE(Denny @ Aug 17 2006, 06:12 AM) □**

I have had dreams about people it happens rarely I've had impression not to go certain places -

Jul 2005 bombing I was impressed to drive to work rather than take the train I was standing at the bustop, I crossed over the road and drove when I go to work I heard that the of the two train lines I could have taken both had been bombed.....believe it or not

Kings Cross fire, late 1980's Northern line burnt to cinders many people died, this is the station I normally changed at and the line that would take me home. I felt impressed to stay on another line when I got to the station and not to get off the train. My mind actually said I feel too lazy to take the Northern line. When I go home I heard of the fire, I was very shaken cos even my mother knew the Northern line was one of my normal routes.

I believe the Holy Sprit impressed my lazy self to take the 'lazy' option on both occassions- I praise Him!

---

**Posted by: justme Aug 17 2006, 07:16 AM**

The Psalmist, David, says, "Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against Thee O'God". It is by the Word of God that the Heavens are made.

Was it the Ephesians whom Paul said, "They searched the scriptures daily whether these things were so."?

"Not by power, not by might, but by every Word that proceeds out of the Mouth of God."

It doesn't appear to me that Barbara is giving any special credence to this vision. It looks like she is telling the story that at least another person is quite concerned about 3ABN and is seeking more information. *That would be a frightening dream/vision for anyone to have, anyone who cares about the ministry and it's reach.*

To belabor the "vision" issue is to circumvent the issue at hand. The issue is not Danny. The issue is not 3ABN. The issue is that each one of us must go straight to the Word of God to hide it in our hearts. We must request that the Holy Spirit of God guide us into all understanding of God's will in our OWN hearts.

There are countless illustrations in the Bible that show that a closer walk with God, through Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit, where people could have taken a better course had they known God's Word better.

"To the Law and to the Testimony. If they speak not according to these, there is no light in them."

Remember that the problems is Satan, not people.

"We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities and powers, and the rulers of the darkness of the world."

So. How do we strengthen our hearts and minds against becoming mislead or mis-directed?

"MY SHEEP Know My Voice." How do His sheep know His voice? By constantly spending time listening to Him, and following what He says! If we hear a voice that tells us to go in a direction that is "not normally what HE says" it may be the voice of a "wolf in sheeps clothing".

Get to know His Written Word very well. Then get to recognize His voice by following His written word. If they match, then LIVE IT and TEST IT. IF it produces the "Fruits" of the Spirit spoken of in Galatians, then you are on the right track. Be consistent. Be faithful. Test everything you hear and see, by holding up the Word of God against it to see if it measures up to God's standards. Let other say and do as they wish. Their experience is not, and cannot, be your experience. What they do or say has nothing to do with you and your God. You must have your own experience with God to get to KNOW HIM. We don't want to hear on the last day, "Depart from Me. I never knew you!" get to know God intimately, as your best Friend and Constant Companion.

Barb is not now nor has she ever been a proponent of the Pentecostal way of life. This vision she has reported to us is part of the story of 3ABN and Danny and Linda. It is not part of the issues at hand. It is only something someone said to her that caused her to follow-up with Linda and Danny. It eventually opened more dark closets than expected.

Only God knows what He wants Linda to do. It does seem providential that God let Linda be removed from the ministry to preserve her and to protect her. As other ministries have found, loyalty to right principles has it's price, but ultimately the better reward.

How many more "victims" who were fired or driven off will have the courage to speak the truth now?

By the way, (BTW) No one would want to eat moldy bread, but that mold produces penicillin that may save a life. God can make good come out of bad. It is HIS call!

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 17 2006, 07:53 AM**

**QUOTE(September @ Aug 16 2006, 10:59 PM) □**

....I believe that people do have dreams and that some are from God and would never want to make light of that.

The dream that made many of my friends "believe" -

I dreamed we were getting ready for church. I was quite happy. Most of the time at least two friends would come to my home and "get ready" for church with me (grab a bite to eat, listen to gospel music, etc.) - Anyway - (in my dream) as we were getting ready to leave I was impressed (again-in my dream) to *pray* - now I know of many SDA's that pray every time they get into their cars. I am not one of them. Sure. I pray allot...but I just don't pray everytime I get into my car...but in my dream this time was different. We all PRAYED.

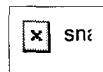
We then got into the car and took off. (In the dream) as we were driving alone - a white truck (King Cab) ran us off the road and flipped my car. No one was hurt....but I then immediately woke up.

My roomie was already up. I told her about the dream. Now she had "experienced" my dreams before - but wasn't "into" them as much as I was/understood. This time she said we gonna pray right now. We did. Later when I went to pick up two friends - I was about to "tell them" the dream. I then cut myself off. One of them was a big "skeptic" and at times would tease me about my "woo-woo dreamy-power...." Anyway.....

I cut my own self off and didn't say the dream. I just pulled over on the side of the road and we all PRAYED IN THE CAR. We started up again on the road to church. About 5 minutes into the drive a white truck (King Cab) came barreling down the road behind us. I saw him coming and got all the way over on the shoulder of the road. He still CAME VERY CLOSE TO HITTING US. So close that I believe he "bumped" my rear view window on my driver's side.... \*(I remember him "bumping" something...but this was almost 10 years ago - and one of the few dreams/interpretations/"come true's" that I didn't "write down" in my journal).

I stopped the car on the side of the road and was about to cry. My friends in the car were upset and were wondering what was wrong with me. My roomie told them of the dream. WE ALL PRAYED AGAIN.

...and I am not a fruity nut. □ I am however a person that is blessed w/ the GIFT OF DREAMS.



**Posted by: Clay Aug 17 2006, 08:16 AM**

I don't see why people are getting bent out of shape about someone sharing a dream that someone else had... we are not talking about telling the future per se, or a consistent report of "dreams," but one dream..... thus far.... and time will tell with regards to it....

Watchbird I disagree with your interpretation that the passage in Joel was fulfilled at pentecost... John the Revelator was having dreams and visions as he wrote on Patmos...and it may still happen today here and now.....

---

**Posted by: denisebyers Aug 17 2006, 08:26 AM**

---

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 16 2006, 10:31 PM) □**

thank you Re'..... I had a dream when my wife was pregnant... we didn't know the gender of the baby..... the ultrasound didn't show because the baby was turned in a position where you couldn't see..... I had a dream of a little girl, head full of braids, giggling while sitting on a couch.... I told my wife... we did not get another ultrasound, but the baby was a girl..... born with a head full of hair... and eventually that hair was braided... and she often sat on the couch giggling.....

whut?

Neat Clay! On both of my children, I was impressed if he or she was gonna be a boy or girl, then, I had a dream on what they looked like at around 3 years, and sure enough, they looked exactly like they did in the dream! I dreamed my girl looked more like her dad with his eyebrows and blonde hair, and my boy looked like me with darker blonde hair, and my dimples! I thought it was so amazing!

---

**Posted by: Denny Aug 17 2006, 09:35 AM**

Maybe some Adventist only believe in dreams and visions between the era of 0B.C and EGW's death after that God stopped using this method....unless if was for Sabbath School mission reports of headen lands..... whut? □

---

**QUOTE(västergötland @ Aug 17 2006, 11:37 AM) □**

...Watchbird, I think the aversion towards anything "extraordinary" explains the pentecostal stamp you had on Roger Morneau in another thread. I can see that having the practise of doubting any miracles not read about in the bible or in Ellens biography being from God would lead to such a result.

I find the all out denial and/or rejection of modern day prophecy strange for a denomination that counts a prophet as one of the key founders and at that have modern day prophecy as a fundamental belief (nr 18) and even calls it an identifying mark of itself. Of course one should not accept everything anyone claims to have recieved in a dream or vision or even that anything anyone acctually have recieved in a dream or a vision is from God. But there are sound guidelines for identifying a prophet from God found in the bible that ought to be used, as contrary to shouting 'wolf' at the mere mention of "I have a dream.."



...

oh, ehm,

at the mere mention of "I have a dream from God".

Ralph made a good point concerning the contents of the messages. If the message said that Linda left Danny and the reality was the very opposite then that would be reason to step back and take a break.

I wonder if part of the devil's plan to deceive if possible even the elect may be to make SDA's so afraid of anything "pentecostal" that in hard times, God won't be able to fulfill any of his promises without being accused of being the devil. Similar to when Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath and was accused of doing the healing by the power of Belzebul. If a man would walk into an SDA church this next Sabbath being blind and then walk out of the church seeing, lots of church members would (very likely) be freaked out and if this happened at the right/wrong(, depending on how one chooses to see it) church the person/s involved in praying for the blind could be facing church discipline (I believe, haven't actually seen this happen).

TA we claim God can do anything then we try to limit Him- so sad yet we say we have the truth well it's time to stop having and start practicing..... perhaps that is why some of Adventist services are so emotionally dead and very high church we are afraid of our own God given emotions, of our own shadows- we would probably have put King David out the door with his emotional self....

**QUOTE(September @ Aug 17 2006, 04:06 AM)**

I don't question the validity of the other letter Barb wrote...but I have to say that the post about the dreams did give me pause. I'm not saying that God doesn't give people visions, but we have no idea who that woman is--or anything about her. I also felt that the part about Linda being bigger than Danny is not consistent with what God calls His people to be--humble servants. Linda is and has always been a humble servant of God's--and I think that we need to be careful when subscribing to visions that someone has that actually sound quite prideful. Am I making any sense? Also, on a side note, a phoenix is actually a cultic symbol--and I'd have to ask my husband for more details on that--but that is a comment he made after reading the dreams post.

I also believe that for all Linda has gone through, God has a plan and a purpose for her life whose effects will be far reaching to hurting souls for Christ. It will be a ministry that only she can fulfill--just like each of us has a purpose that only we can fulfill. The journeys that we go through--the pains, the joys, etc., all make up who we are in Christ--His molding and making of us for a greater purpose. It's usually a quiet calling--an inner conviction as God speaks to us and enables us to do His bidding.

so how real do you think the animals were in Daniel's and John's vision think you can see them at your local zoo?

**Posted by: summertime Aug 17 2006, 09:38 AM**

You can draw your own conclusions about the dreams. So far everything has come true. I believe we are seeing the fulfillment of the "phoenix" dream right now. With the use of the internet, news travels fast these days. **I believe it's time to restore Linda to her rightful position!** The Lord did not bless this woman with 20 years of experience running a network, for her to be idle, and do nothing with her God-given talent.  
[/quote]

I want to thank Barbara for taking the time to share with us a letter which told us of her experience at 3ABN. Her letter is first hand, honest, and encouraging. The dreams of the lady is beyond my understanding although I do not discount them as being actual--just what they mean is beyond my understanding at this point. We all need to pray that the purpose of her dreams will be brought to light in the way that God would have them to be used. But I see that Barbara is right that Linda is being restored to her rightful position---a lady who will be delivered from the ugly, untruthful stories that have been told about her. Freeing her from these falsities is restoring Linda to her rightful position. She will, as the truth is told, be respected, loved and able to work for the Lord in helping others who have walked in her shoes ---she will let them know that God cares and will, in the end, redeem those who have been abused and persecuted. Whatever the Lord has in store for Linda will restore her rightful position that will eventually lead her to God's kingdom. Sometime greatness is not in the eyes of the world but in the eyes of God. The rightful position for us all is down on our knees asking God to lead us to where He would have us go.

---

**Posted by: princessdi Aug 17 2006, 09:46 AM**

Amen, amen, and amen!!!!  What is wrong with all of you who are doubting this? Every last one of you believes God used dreams and visions to communicate with His people right up to EGW and the founding of this church, and then you made doctrine from them. Do ya' think He quit after that? So Danny said He had a vision. Do we not believe that satan will also send great signs and wonders as part of our own prophecy doctrine? How mmany times have you ALL heard that satan has a counterfeit for everything God made? Just because you don't see this as a solution? Have you really asked God how He wants this to paly out, or have you just determined who it is going to be? Now, it that is too penecostal for you then I am sorry, because obviously God IS penecostal in the way He communicates to His people. If it is a choice between SDA church doctrine and God's way, you know church doctrine is just out of luck! How can you argue with scripture? God plainly says in the last days this is how he will communicate with His people. These ARE the last days people!

**QUOTE(IMM @ Aug 16 2006, 08:08 PM)**

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.  
Joel 2:28, 29

Repeated again in Acts 2:17, 18

Posted by: September Aug 17 2006, 10:35 AM

QUOTE(princessdi @ Aug 17 2006, 11:46 AM)

Amen, amen, and amen!!!!  What is wrong with all of you who are doubting this? Every last one of you believes God used dreams and visions to communicate with His people right up to EGW and the founding of this church, and then you made doctrine from them. Do ya' think He quit after that? So Danny said He had a vision. Do we not believe that satan will also send great signs and wonders as part of our own prophecy doctrine? How many times have you ALL heard that satan has a counterfeit for everything God made? Just because you don't see this as a solution? Have you really asked God how He wants this to paly out, or have you just determined who it is going to be? Now, it that is too penecostal for you then I am sorry, because obviously God IS penecostal in the way He communicates to His people. If it is a choice between SDA church doctrine and God's way, you know church doctrine is just out of luck! How can you argue with scripture? God plainly says in the last days this is how he will communicate with His people. These ARE the last days people!

I don't think the issue is whether or not the Lord gives people dreams, visions or what have you. The issue is the validity of this dream this woman had. Someone earlier broke the dream down and made some very good points. The question I have then is when God gives dreams, does He contradict His own scripture? Does He lie? See, to me the dream wreaked of pride--"I will raise Linda up as a Pheonix--nothing Danny can do can stop her, etc.," (my own paraphrase at the moment). To me that makes it sound like God is solely dependent upon 3ABN and/or Linda to bring billions to Him--which is not the case. God uses things like 3ABN, but he also uses us as individuals to proclaim the truth of a loving Saviour. And when He rises her up like a Pheonix, will that put her in a position for people to worship her? Think about it. Danny raised himself up through 3ABN. Now those around him are caling him God's annointed--the chosen one, etc., Did God raise him up to that height so that people all over the globe can think that he's the face of Adventism? I honestly believe that Danny raised himself up all by himself--he stands upon a self made pedistal and refuses to be moved. That's not a God thing folks!

I believe that God will restore Linda--that God is healing her--that God will use her in mighty ways. And her testimony will bring many to Christ because of what she's gone through--not because someone MADE her larger than life.

QUOTE

"3ABN will be the instrument I will use to bring billions to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, but when the redeemed get to heaven and search for their 3ABN family, they will discover that they are only ashes under their feet."

Honest question here: When we get to Heaven are we going to be searching for family and loved ones--or will their fate be understood before we get there? Using the 'dream's logic' above, there's going to be a bunch of saints very bewildered, sad, confused, etc., in Heaven. The Bible tells us that God will wipe all tears from our eyes--the former things are passed away and God makes all things new. I cannot imagine that God would give a vision to someone to make them think--and now many others--that those at 3ABN are going to be lost. Only God knows their fate--and yes, if Danny and others continue in their behavior, unrepentant...well, then it's still up to God. So is each of our own 'fates' if you will.

Again, the Pheonix is a pagan symbol as was already pointed out. I have a real problem believing that God would speak to someone using a metaphor like that--when it could have been said another way--consistant with scripture and truth.

I'm sure this woman is a very dedicated Christian woman--who did not ask to have this dream. But we must prove all things--hold fast to that which is true.

**Posted by: Jvat Aug 17 2006, 11:01 AM**

Well to add some fuel to the discussions. When Joshua said that the sun stood still, did it really? And yet he was mightily used of God and his record in the Scriptures is supposed to have been given to 'holy men who were moved of the Holy Ghost'. And yet that is how the story is written in the Bible. The story does not say that the earth stood still at all, although, scientifically/physically that is what really happened.

What about the case of the raven bringing food for Elijah when the raven is an unclean animal that God says touch not, taste not, handle not?

Can we ALWAYS presume to understand the way that God works? And when we are checking the Scriptures to see God's modus operandi, do we check the unusual happenings as well, like those that I have quoted above?

Again I want to reiterate that I understand the need for caution but let us not be too concrete in our thinking that we prevent God from working as He would like, as happened at the GC Session in 1888.

**Posted by: September Aug 17 2006, 11:14 AM**

I can appreciate that point about the raven feeding Elijah...but I still have to take issue with the whole dream being full of pride--placing someone in the position of being risen up...on a pedestal...so people can worship? Also the ashes under our feet in heaven part doesn't set well with me.

But I'm willing to learn and perhaps there are things I don't see about this

**Posted by: Clay Aug 17 2006, 11:34 AM**

Read Psalms and listen how David rails against his enemies.... look at Samson's final prayer... he prays to God that he get his strength back.... so he can do what? KILL those who put his eyes out..... what is that?

**Posted by: princessdi Aug 17 2006, 11:45 AM**

Let's not forget all the texts where God says how He will restore and bring down enemies of His people. He told Abraham that He will bless those who bless him(Abraham) and curse those who curse him. That is not pride, that is God. He is the only who can talk like, because He can and He just is.

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 17 2006, 09:34 AM)**

Read Psalms and listen how David rails against his enemies.... look at Samson's final prayer... he prays to God that he get his strength back.... so he can do what? KILL those who put his eyes out..... what is that?


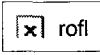
**Posted by: watchbird Aug 17 2006, 12:08 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 17 2006, 08:16 AM)**

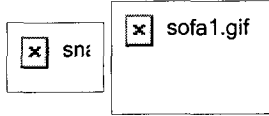
I don't see why people are getting bent out of shape about someone sharing a dream that someone else had... we are not talking about telling the future per se, or a consistent report of "dreams," but one dream..... thus far.... and time will tell with regards to it....

Watchbird I disagree with your interpretation that the passage in Joel was fulfilled at pentecost... John the Revelator was having dreams and visions as he wrote on Patmos...and it may still happen today here and now.....

Actually, what I said was that the New Testament writer said this was being fulfilled at Pentecost. I did not say that this was the only legitimate application of it.

But what is interesting as to the direction this thread has taken is that while we have been making little pious "clucking" sounds when Sister told us about the Pentecostal influences at 3ABN, giving several things as examples... and almost "with one accord the congregation said 'AMEN'"..... when I ventured to point out that "dreams and visions" were one more example of Pentecostal belief that I consider errant ..... when used as Pentecostals do .....  ..... Oops .... that seems to be one of those "sacred cows" you were saying that BSDA loves to "barbeque" ..... 



I think I'll go into "lurk mode" for a while .....



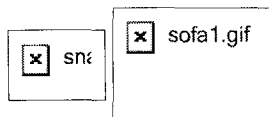
**Posted by: Clay Aug 17 2006, 12:17 PM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 17 2006, 12:08 PM)**

Actually, what I said was that the New Testament writer said this was being fulfilled at Pentecost. I did not say that this was the only legitimate application of it.

But what is interesting as to the direction this thread has taken is that while we have been making little pious "clucking" sounds when Sister told us about the Pentecostal influences at 3ABN, giving several things as examples... and almost "with one accord the congregation said 'AMEN'"..... when I ventured to point out that "dreams and visions" were one more example of Pentecostal belief that I consider errant ..... when used as Pentecostals do .....  ..... Oops .... that seems to be one of those "sacred cows" you were saying that BSDA loves to "barbeque" ..... 

I think I'll go into "lurk mode" for a while .....



just cause folks believe dreams and visions can occur don't make those folks pentecostal..... and there are plenty of cows needing to be barbequed.... i just think you are wrong in this case..... and time will tell as far as the dream shared is concerned.....

as the old saying goes.... when the only tool you have is a hammer, pretty soon everything starts looking like a nail.....

---

**Posted by: inga Aug 17 2006, 12:54 PM**

**QUOTE(Jvat @ Aug 17 2006, 12:01 PM)**

Well to add some fuel to the discussions. When Joshua said that the sun stood still, did it really? And yet he was mightily used of God and his record in the Scriptures is supposed to have been given to 'holy men who were moved of the Holy Ghost'. And yet that is how the story is written in the Bible. The story does not say that the earth stood still at all, although, scientifically/physically that is what really happened.

I have a question for you, Jvat:

When you speak of the relationship of the earth to the sun at the beginning of the day, do you say, "The sun has risen" or "The sunrise is beautiful"? Or do you say, "The earth has turned" and "The earth's turning is revealing a beautiful section of space"?

If you don't speak of the earth's turning, but the sun rising and setting, why do you expect Joshua to speak that way?  He was using ordinary speech addressing the apparent movement of the sun, just as we do today. He wasn't attempting to make a scientific statement any more than we do when we speak of sunsets.

**QUOTE**

Can we ALWAYS presume to understand the way that God works? And when we are checking the Scriptures to see God's modus operandi, do we check the unusual happenings as well, like those that I have quoted above?

God's ways are far beyond our ways, but that's really not the point. What I pointed out about the dreams presented is that they violate several principles of God's dealings with us. And, what's more, they include the very kind of things/temptations that Satan is known for. God has given us sufficient evidence in Scripture of His way of working that we need not be deceived any more than Eve needed to be deceived.

---

**Posted by: inga Aug 17 2006, 01:38 PM**

First of all, I want to thank Barbara for sharing these dreams of the woman who phoned her. They are, indeed, relevant.

However, as you folks have no doubt noted, I don't think they're "relevant" because they are necessarily from God. I think they give us a glimpse that we are dealing not with earthly powers, but with spiritual "principalities and powers."

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 17 2006, 01:17 PM)**

Just cause folks believe dreams and visions can occur don't make those folks pentecostal....

The problem is not so much **believing** in dreams and visions, but believing unconditionally that dreams are from God -- especially if they seem to predict what we want to see happen.

God gave us brains and discernment for a reason. The problem with charismatic phenomena is that they bypass our reasoning powers. And the experiences are enticing ... as was that original tree in a garden ...

**QUOTE**  
and there are plenty of cows needing to be barbequed.... i just think you are wrong in this case.... and time will tell as far as the dream shared is concerned....

Are you serious, Clay??  Are you saying that if things happen more or less as the dreams predicted, that that proves that the dreams were from God?

The prediction of the witch of Endor to Saul came true. Does that prove that God spoke through the vitch?

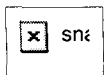
Surely we need to have a better basis for judging dreams and visions whether or not they come true.

I analyzed the dreams to indicate why I do not believe that they're the kind of dreams that God uses. Perhaps I'm wrong in my analysis. If so, please show me my error. (The dreams coming true proves nothing one way or another. Neither does the dreams not coming true. After all, we could argue that they were "conditional prophecies" from God.)

I don't know whether it's good for Linda to be reinstated at 3ABN. I don't know whether it's even good for 3ABN to continue. I **do** know that God knows, and I **do** know that He does not do anything to encourage pride and self-focus. Being in the public eye in a high position is a very dangerous place, spiritually. Few people can handle it. Maybe Linda can, after what she went through.

On the other hand, perhaps a network without "stars" -- like HopeTV -- may be better for all concerned. The trouble is that people **want** stars! They **want** human heroes. That was part of the success formula of 3ABN...

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 17 2006, 02:57 PM**



**Posted by: Clay Aug 17 2006, 03:04 PM**

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 17 2006, 02:38 PM)**

First of all, I want to thank Barbara for sharing these dreams of the woman who phoned her. They are, indeed, relevant.

However, as you folks have no doubt noted, I don't think they're "relevant" because they are necessarily from God. I think they give us a glimpse that we are dealing not with earthly powers, but with spiritual "principalities and powers."

The problem is not so much **believing** in dreams and visions, but believing unconditionally that *dreams are from God* -- especially if they seem to predict what we want to see happen.

God gave us brains and discernment for a reason. The problem with charismatic phenomena is that they bypass our reasoning powers. And the experiences are enticing ... as was that original tree in a garden ...

Are you serious, Clay??  Are you saying that if things happen more or less as the dreams predicted, that that proves that the dreams were from God?

The prediction of the witch of Endor to Saul came true. Does that prove that God spoke through the witch?

Surely we need to have a better basis for judging dreams and visions whether or not they come true.

I analyzed the dreams to indicate why I do not believe that they're the kind of dreams that God uses. Perhaps I'm wrong in my analysis. If so, please show me my error. (The dreams coming true proves nothing one way or another. Neither does the dreams not coming true. After all, we could argue that they were "conditional prophecies" from God.)

I don't know whether it's good for Linda to be reinstated at 3ABN. I don't know whether it's even good for 3ABN to continue. I **do** know that God knows, and I **do** know that He does not do anything to encourage pride and self-focus. Being in the public eye in a high position is a very dangerous place, spiritually. Few people can handle it. Maybe Linda can, after what she went through.

On the other hand, perhaps a network without "stars" -- like HopeTV -- may be better for all concerned. The trouble is that people **want** stars! They **want** human heroes. That was part of the success formula of 3ABN...

have not said that just because dreams come true they are from God, however you raise a serious point, that being is satan able to give us a "dream?" That would be a generic "us" as in christians.... the example of Saul does not count because Saul sought out a medium to speak to the dead... so that is clearly apples and oranges....

We are reluctant to admit that this issue scares us... yet at the same time we talk about the Holy Spirit living within us, speaking to us and guiding us... interesting conundrum.....

As for what God will tell us and if its consistent... God told Abraham to offer Isaac as a sacrifice, however we all know that God does not condone killing.... so then how could he ask Abraham to do something he does not condone... seems inconsistent....

As I said, time will tell.... it always does....

---

**Posted by: justme Aug 17 2006, 03:20 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 17 2006, 04:04 PM)**

I have not said that just because dreams come true they are from God, however you raise a serious point, that being is satan able to give us a "dream?" That would be a generic "us" as in christians.... the example of Saul does not count because Saul sought out a medium to speak to the dead... so that is clearly apples and oranges....

We are reluctant to admit that this issue scares us... yet at the same time we talk about the Holy Spirit living within us, speaking to us and guiding us... interesting conundrum.....

As for what God will tell us and if its consistent... God told Abraham to offer Isaac as a sacrifice,



however we all know that God does not condone killing.... so then how could he ask Abraham to do something he does not condone... seems inconsistent....

As I said, time will tell.... it always does....

Remember that Abraham was quite familiar with the voice of God. He knew it was God speaking to him. Tho' there had been no precedent for Abraham to draw upon to guide his own experience, he knew the voice of the God with Whom he held constant conversations. As Jesus said, "My sheep know my voice". That was the same God with Whom Abraham spoke long before, yes it was the One Whom we later get to know as Jesus. We CAN Know His Voice, If we learn first what HE has written and then how He wants to apply it to each life. The Bible is written for EVERYONE. Personal applications are applied individually, but they do not contradict what is written.

**Posted by: Clay Aug 17 2006, 03:27 PM**

**QUOTE(justme @ Aug 17 2006, 04:20 PM)**

Remember that Abraham was quite familiar with the voice of God. He knew it was God speaking to Him. Tho' there had been no precedent for Abraham to draw upon to guide his own experience, he knew the voice of the God with Whom he held constant conversations. As Jesus said, "My sheep know my voice". That was the same God with Whom Abraham spoke long before, yes it was the One Whom we later get to know as Jesus. We CAN Know His Voice, If we learn first what HE has written and then how He wants to apply it to each life. The Bible is written for EVERYONE. Personal applications are applied individually, but they do not contradict what is written.

Abraham was told something that contradicted the principles of God.... but because Abraham knew God's voice it was not a problem.... the bible was written for everyone? that be another thread....

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 17 2006, 03:29 PM**

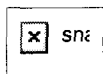
When in a "court trial" one would say that "coincidences" add up to equal evidence and a "valid" verdict.

IF the dream has too many "coincidences" and they began to add up....



One can see that the dream was also valid.

Is that wrong reasoning? I think it's *valid*....



**Posted by: Clay Aug 17 2006, 03:34 PM**

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 17 2006, 03:29 PM)**

When in a "court trial" one would say that "coincidences" add up to equal evidence and a "valid" verdict.

IF the dream has too many "coincidences" and they began to add up....

One can see that the dream was also valid.

Is that wrong reasoning? I think it's *valid*....

olks who are afraid of dreams will say, where did that dream come from, God or the devil.... and like said, is it possible for the devil to give christians dreams? If so, let's pack it up now cause we are lone for.... hellbound even....

---

**Posted by: Jvat Aug 17 2006, 03:37 PM**

Just me, hold it there, as we say over here. Just a minute. Run that by me one more time. PDR is questioning how comes God asked Abraham to do something that was contrary to his law, the ten commandments? And you tell us that Abraham knew God's voice that was why he was able to do something that seemed forbidden by God in His ten commandments? So what about others who know God's voice today and are willing to let HIM lead in what SEEMS (may not really be so) contradictory to HIS Word?

Just clarify for me, please. I am a little lost here.

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 17 2006, 03:43 PM**

**QUOTE(Jvat @ Aug 17 2006, 03:37 PM)**

Just me, hold it there, as we say over here. Just a minute. Run that by me one more time. PDR is questioning how comes God asked Abraham to do something that was contrary to his law, the ten commandments? And you tell us that Abraham knew God's voice that was why he was able to do something that seemed forbidden by God in His ten commandments? So what about others who know God's voice today and are willing to let HIM lead in what SEEMS (may not really be so) contradictory to HIS Word?

Just clarify for me, please. I am a little lost here.

okay Jvat remember though, the 10 commandments had not been given when Abraham and God were dialoguing... and "His word" is always open to interpretation....

---

**Posted by: Jvat Aug 17 2006, 03:50 PM**

Maybe we should not hijack the thread to discuss the validity of dreams and visions but instead perhaps a new thread should be started probably in the Adventist Theology section to discuss this interesting topic at length?

Inga, two points. Firstly, remember that at the time around when the Bible was first being understood, people thought that the world was flat, right? Saying that the sun stood still was not just a metaphorical statement, you know? The people at the time really believed that the sun moved, which is different from us today. Yet God through HIS Holy Spirit did not choose to correct the wrong thinking at the time. And of course people would have used the Bible then for proof of

their belief.

Is there not too much store being put in the words "Rising like a Phoenix?" Isn't perhaps that not just another way of God telling Linda that she would be vindicated and like Job would be restored a hundred fold? Who says that we really understand what the lady's dream meant? Even now we still have difficulty understanding all of Daniel's prophecies such as the 1135 days prophecy. There is not consensus on what that prophecy in Daniel really means. Correct me if I am wrong. Maybe as the unraveling of the dream will be revealed, we would better be able to understand what the dream really means for Linda.

**Posted by: watchbird Aug 17 2006, 03:58 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 17 2006, 03:34 PM)**

folks who are afraid of dreams will say, where did that dream come from, God or the devil..... and like I said, is it possible for the devil to give christians dreams? If so, let's pack it up now cause we are done for.... hellbound even....

What is the mechanism for giving someone a "dream"? Is it possible for Satan to tempt Christians? Is it possible for him to put thoughts in their minds that they did not originate themselves? (Something like having a radio receiver in your head and Satan can "broadcast" to it?

If Satan has any ability to communicate thoughts to us, then I don't see any reason why he could not also beam some of those things to us while we are sleeping. And I see no reason why him being able to do that would make anyone "hellbound".

**Posted by: Clay Aug 17 2006, 07:34 PM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 17 2006, 04:58 PM)**

What is the mechanism for giving someone a "dream"? Is it possible for Satan to tempt Christians? Is it possible for him to put thoughts in their minds that they did not originate themselves? (Something like having a radio receiver in your head and Satan can "broadcast" to it?

If Satan has any ability to communicate thoughts to us, then I don't see any reason why he could not also beam some of those things to us while we are sleeping. And I see no reason why him being able to do that would make anyone "hellbound".

those are the 64k dollar questions..... does he really put thoughts in our heads? Or does he provide a diversion that grabs our attention? and then the thoughts evolve from there? I don't know.... I would like to think that our brains are off-limits to him but he can try to attract our attention all he wants...

I say hellbound because I see patients all the time who cannot get rest from the voices they hear inside their heads, or the paranoid thoughts that are always present.... they are most miserable.....

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 17 2006, 07:50 PM**

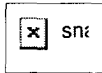
For the record...my questioning has nothin' to do with Abraham or anyone else. What my questioning has to deal with is the fact that it seems that people don't believe that CHRISTians have the GIFT OF DREAMS that can be interpreted....

That's what my comments within this thread have been speaking to. The woman that had the dream could have this GIFT and she is being torn apart when it should be just left alone.

If the dream comes true then.... it could be fact that the "GIFT OF DREAMS" was active within.

If the dream does not come true then....it could be fact that the "GIFT OF DREAMS" was not active *within*.

That's all.



---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 17 2006, 07:52 PM**

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 17 2006, 08:50 PM)**

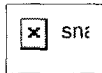
For the record...my questioning has nothin' to do with Abraham or anyone else. What my questioning has to deal with is the fact that it seems that people don't believe that CHRISTians have the GIFT OF DREAMS that can be interpreted....

That's what my comments within this thread have been speaking to. The woman that had the dream could have this GIFT and she is being torn apart when it should be just left alone.

If the dream comes true then.... it could be fact that the "GIFT OF DREAMS" was active within.

If the dream does not come true then....it could be fact that the "GIFT OF DREAMS" was not active within.

That's all.



---

understood, not trying to suggest that it is not a gift.... but then again it is apparent that not all share that opinion...

---

**Posted by: inga Aug 17 2006, 09:08 PM**

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 17 2006, 08:50 PM)**

The woman that had the dream could have this GIFT and she is being torn apart when it should be just left alone.

Re, I think you seriously misunderstood!

I have not noticed **anyone** tearing **the woman** apart!

I **have** taken the **messages/dreams** apart to examine whether or not they follow the pattern of God's communication or possibly that of another source. This is no reflection whatsoever on the woman in question any more than my being the subject of Satan's attacks is a reflection on me. (After all, Satan attacked Christ Himself. It did not make Him less our Savior or even in the slightest sinful.)

We are to **test the spirits** and not to accept any apparently supernatural experiences as though they are obviously from God. Demons can work miracles as well. (Otoh, we view something as supernatural when there are perfectly natural explanations, if we but knew them.)

I'm also wondering what you mean by "it should be just left alone."

Do you mean that we should not discuss it at all?

Or do you mean that we should just accept the dreams as being God-given?

**QUOTE**

If the dream comes true then.... it could be fact that the "GIFT OF DREAMS" was active within.

I know about psychic powers. (I mentioned a friend with such powers.) I know about the occasional dreams the presage something in the future. But I know nothing of "the gift of dreams." I'm interested in the background of this terminology because it is foreign to me and I know of no biblical basis for it. (The Bible records very few such dreams in the four thousand or so years it covers -- dreams given by God to individuals for a specific purpose, but no "gift of dreams.") But perhaps this is not the right thread for it ...

---

**Posted by: husbandoftheyear Aug 17 2006, 09:15 PM**

I think we are missing the bigger picture here. Whether or not these dreams, voices, impressions were from God (as there are numerous accounts) or from man's own ambition (in which there are many more accounts), the point is we are still working on the same Linda vs. Danny struggle.

I will say that I have worked with both of them for many years and I can honestly say that one is as bad as the other - for their management skills leave much to be desired. I have witnessed underhanded dealings and poor behavior from both Linda and Dan.

I DO believe 3ABN was brought forth by God.  
I DO believe it is bringing people to Christ.

I DO NOT believe it is being managed in a christian manner.  
I DO NOT believe that Linda's return would solve many problems.

---

**Posted by: calvin Aug 17 2006, 09:19 PM**

I don't see anybody tearing this women apart either. None of us know anything about this woman. I am not going to take your word for it that you had a prophetic dream from the Lord.

---

**Posted by: Barbara Kerr Aug 17 2006, 09:56 PM**

---

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 17 2006, 02:38 PM)**

First of all, I want to thank Barbara for sharing these dreams of the woman who phoned her. They are, indeed, relevant.

However, as you folks have no doubt noted, I don't think they're "relevant" because they are necessarily from God. I think they give us a glimpse that we are dealing not with earthly powers, but with spiritual "principalities and powers."

The problem is not so much **believing** in dreams and visions, but believing unconditionally that dreams are from God -- especially if they seem to predict what we want to see happen.

God gave us brains and discernment for a reason. The problem with charismatic phenomena is that they bypass our reasoning powers. And the experiences are enticing ... as was that original tree in a garden ...

Are you serious, Clay??  Are you saying that if things happen more or less as the dreams predicted, that that proves that the dreams were from God?

I analyzed the dreams to indicate why I do not believe that they're the kind of dreams that God uses. Perhaps I'm wrong in my analysis. If so, please show me my error. (The dreams coming true proves nothing one way or another. Neither does the dreams not coming true. After all, we could argue that they were "conditional prophecies" from God.)

On the other hand, perhaps a network without "stars" -- like HopeTV -- may be better for all concerned. The trouble is that people **want** stars! They **want** human heroes. That was part of the success formula of 3ABN...

After reading through 4 pages of posts (so far) tonight, I just want to cry. My heart is heavy at the responses to what I have posted.

Please let me clarify a few things that may, or may not help some of you.

1) In our English language many words have the same meaning. For instance "Linda left Danny" does in fact have more than one meaning. Linda DID in fact, physically leave the house that week in May. (If you will refer to Dr. Abrahamsen's letter, it will give you more detail on the mental abuse Linda was living with).

Was Linda the one asking for a divorce? NO! Did she stay in that house WAYYYYYYYYY longer than I would have? YES she did. There are many different ways to *give someone the boot*.

2) I once needed a massage so I booked the service at the recommendation of a chiropractors office. After meeting the woman (who was very nice and genuinely sweet) it was obvious that she was very "new age" by the way she acted and the suggestions she made for "guided imagery", etcetera, etcetera. NOW, if this woman had said to me out of the blue, I had a dream about you and told me the exact same dreams that I had recounted here, you would have never heard about them.

I listened (to the woman that really did have the dreams) with a healthy dose of skepticism. I observed her language, her church committment and her love for serving the Lord. We have talked many times now, over the phone, off and on the last two years.

If she was anything BUT what I personally have discerned her to be, you never would have heard of these things. I was putting her through the "test the spirits" verse from the Bible myself. I realize that you have not gotten to speak to her personally, I know that many false "spirits" will present themselves in the end, and I know that no one should take anyone elses word for anything these days. But I will say that I am very choosy about my friends, and this woman has become a friend over the past year. We have prayed too many times and shed too many tears together and she has become a dear sweet friend. You can judge me if you want to, concerning picking my friends, but I

have seen her heart. And "yes" I've always been willing to go out on a limb for someone that I thought was right. Call me crazy, or call me red-headed -- can't help myself once I'm convicted about someone.

3) People keep making comments about the part where it says "She will be bigger and better than she could ever imagine" and trying to imply that God would not ever work in that fashion. Scripture says that "a small branch of my planting will become a mighty one" and "those that have mercy on them, shall lead them". The Lord WILL accomplish His work through the humble. They must be men and women of prayer, thanksgiving and praise. They must be truthful and full of mercy for others.

God knows that Linda has no desire to be made into an idol and worshipped. If we are worshipping our leaders, then "shame on us". Don't think for a minute that God WON'T have leaders. Not everyone can follow and not everyone can lead, BUT EVERYONE CAN BE USED!

4) To say that the "spirit of this woman is not from God" because the words spoken to her referred to the Phoenix (a pagan symbol) is a very limiting statement. Aren't we studying Daniel right now in our Sabbath School lessons? The VERY dream that was given to the king and then revealed to Daniel for interpretation was of a "pagan idol". Was that dream "not from God" because the symbol used wasn't a dove, or a cross, or even a church, maybe? Maybe God used something that was familiar in their time and place in history. Just a thought. What about the beasts of revelation? Dragon-like beasts with multiple heads "sounds" pentecostal by some of the standards being written out this evening.

5) What was revealed in these dreams is sad, but I know that I serve a big God, with big plans and He has a hope and a future for all of us. I hope and pray that Danny will truly humble his heart and ask forgiveness from those that he has murdered publicly. With that said, I also think that there are consequences for his actions, and it's my own personal opinion that he should be replaced by a Godly leader.

I said it last night, and I will say it again -- I think that Wintley Phipps is on that board for a reason and he truly is a man of God. His life shouts it from the highest mountain top. He is a man of much prayer, he has a humble spirit and he would never let people worship him. I've never seen him bask in any glory -- Pastor Phipps always gives the glory to God!

I'm getting tired and I need to go to bed now. I know that I haven't answered everyone's questions, but there is always tomorrow. Please be gentle with me, I may be red-headed, but I'm also extremely tender-hearted. Please pray for me that God will give me wisdom to answer each one with grace, for I would never want to hurt any precious soul.

Your Sister,  
Barbara Kerr

---

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 17 2006, 10:12 PM**

---

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 17 2006, 10:08 PM)**

Re, I think you seriously misunderstood!

I have not noticed **anyone** tearing **the woman** apart!

I **have** taken the **messages/dreams** apart to examine whether or not they follow the pattern of God's communication or possibly that of another source. This is no reflection whatsoever on the woman in question any more than my being the subject of Satan's attacks is a reflection on me. (After all, Satan attacked Christ Himself. It did not make Him less our Savior or even in the slightest sinful.)

We are to **test the spirits** and not to accept any apparently supernatural experiences as though they are obviously from God. Demons can work miracles as well. (Otoh, we view something as supernatural when there are perfectly natural explanations, if we but knew them.)

I'm also wondering what you mean by "it should be just left alone."

Do you mean that we should not discuss it at all?

Or do you mean that we should just accept the dreams as being God-given?

I know about psychic powers. (I mentioned a friend with such powers.) I know about the occasional dreams the presage something in the future. But I know nothing of "the gift of dreams." I'm interested in the background of this terminology because it is foreign to me and I know of no biblical basis for it. (The Bible records very few such dreams in the four thousand or so years it covers -- dreams given by God to individuals for a specific purpose, but no "gift of dreams.") But perhaps this is not the right thread for it ...

**QUOTE(calvin @ Aug 17 2006, 10:19 PM)**

I don't see anybody tearing this women apart either. None of us know anything about this woman. I am not going to take your word for it that you had a prophetic dream from the Lord.

didn't mean that it should be "discussed at all"...but to use the name "Pentecostalism" - (which many SDA's already view as the debil's children....), "familiar spirits", no one answering the statement about when the Pastor says, "I dreamed..." or "I was shown that I should preach...." and the straight out "unbelief" - before even the "maybe's" or "it's possibles" - is what to me seems like she is being torn up" without anyone trying to see if it was true or not....

'es...we are to "test"...but this woman is not claiming to be EG White. She had a dream about the Danny/Linda saga. When I saw....let it go.... what I mean is it does not have to be "broken down" now....why? In due time if it is truly of GOD it will prove itself.

BTW: the Phoenix is of Egyptian mythology - Not celtic...  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phoenix\\_%28mythology%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phoenix_%28mythology%29)  
<http://www.answers.com/topic/phoenix-2>

Even GOD used images in the dreams of his men....

jes fear that so many are lookin' at the fact that she had a "dream" and not the content of it to the extent that she is being shut dow.

f my wording seemed in err to any of you I do apologize (I do that too ya know!)  ..but I feel like other things have been posted about Danny and the Funky Bunch and no one has jumped it like this woman - who *seems* to be speaking something with some truth to it...

**Posted by: inga Aug 17 2006, 11:15 PM**

**QUOTE(Barbara Kerr @ Aug 17 2006, 10:56 PM)**

After reading through 4 pages of posts (so far) tonight, I just want to cry. My heart is heavy at the responses to what I have posted.



Dear, dear Barbara -- please forgive me for not communicating more clearly and sensitively!

What some of us wrote about the content of your friends dreams is absolutely **no** reflection on her character or Christian commitment. I'm sure she's a very committed Christian woman. I trust your judgment on that. (See more below.)

However, even after your explanation, I find the content of the dreams to be out of character with God's ways of dealing as I understand them. (Please understand that I also realize I may not have the correct understanding either.) As committed and dedicated Christians we are not guaranteed that Satan will leave us strictly alone and will not try to deceive us. As a matter of fact, he probably tries to deceive the sweet, trusting folks, because he figures it will more likely succeed. Thus being the object of Satan's attempt to deceive does not call anyone's character into question.

God designed that we shall be together in church relationship for the very purpose of very different personalities and temperaments associating with each other, so that the strengths of some may make up for the weaknesses of the others.

Being trusting is both a strength and a weakness. Being a bit skeptical is both a strength and a weakness. When we put the two **together** and examine things together, we are more likely able to see through the deceptions of Satan.

#### QUOTE

(snipped explanations of terms in the dream)

If she was anything BUT what I personally have discerned her to be, you never would have heard of these things. I was putting her through the "test the spirits" verse from the Bible myself. I realize that you have not gotten to speak to her personally, I know that many false "spirits" will present themselves in the end, and I know that no one should take anyone else's word for anything these days. But I will say that I am very choosy about my friends, and this woman has become a friend over the past year. We have prayed too many times and shed too many tears together and she has become a dear sweet friend. You can judge me if you want to, concerning picking my friends, but I have seen her heart. And "yes" I've always been willing to go out on a limb for someone that I thought was right. Call me crazy, or call me red-headed -- can't help myself once I'm convicted about someone.

You have tested your friend's spirit and found her to be honest, reliable, and a committed Christian, and I believe you. I do not in any way question her integrity.

I **do** however, question whether or not the dreams are from God, and I shared my analysis based on my life experience as a mature Christian. (Again, even mature Christians can be wrong. )

If she were not reliable, there would have been no sense in sharing her dreams because she could have made them up, right?

As it is, I'm glad you shared. It gives me a sense of the warfare going on in the spiritual realm. Stand is busy trying to deceive the "very elect."

#### QUOTE

4) To say that the "spirit of this woman is not from God"

I don't recall anyone saying such a thing. Certainly I didn't discuss "the spirit of this woman." I discussed the contents of the dreams she shared. That's not **her** spirit at all, but a spirit external to her -- whether it be God or Satan -- unless these are ordinary dreams arising from the subconscious, like most of our dreams.

Let's just leave the specific content of the dreams for a moment and assume that the dreams were from God.

For what purpose was **this** woman given these frightening dreams? What can she do about them? (The answer to this may affect the way I understand the issue.)

Why did God use unfamiliar language (Phoenix) when communicating with her? Does He not know what she can understand. Why did He use a symbol of a counterfeit religion when there was no context for it to make it meaningful/necessary?

Why would God point her to 3ABN as a tool to save "billions," when in previous messages He has told us that the last message of mercy to be given to the world will be a manifestation of the character of Christ in His people? (This can be demonstrated only in person, and through 3ABN the very opposite has been demonstrated on the screen.) Why did He point her to 3ABN, when in previous messages He told us that the last message would be shared in person by every individual sharing God's message with those He knows? (By the way, there is a great stirring among God's people, with many going to foreign lands to preach, thereby gaining courage to share their faith at home. Take a look at [www.sharehim.org](http://www.sharehim.org) as one example.)

Frankly, I see a problem, because the messages would appear to perpetuate the problem of Laodicea -- a church that is asleep/i.e. inactive, with members expecting the pastors/evangelists or "the church" to do the job they ought to be doing. God gave each of us a **personal** job to do. He is looking for individuals who will get **involved** in the sharing of God's last message. Of course, I could be wrong, but it is apparent that a number of other folks had the same uncomfortable feeling when they read the dreams. Not everyone can explain **why** they didn't sound right, and that's partly why I analyzed them. (I have an analytical mind (which is both a strength and a weakness).

By the way, Barbara, by what you shared, you are one who is **involved**, and I praise God for you. It almost seems as though your ministry was expanded because you no longer appear on 3ABN. You are doing more and different things. Mind you, I don't discount mass media like TV, and I think that it's a good thing -- in **addition** to face-to-face ministry, not instead of it. And 3ABN has provided us with an object lesson of what can happen when we neglect genuine face-to-face ministry and depend on mass media. In front of the camera people are essentially actors. Then, away from the camera, they slip back into a very different persona. This is **not** how a Christian should function, in my opinion. The public presentation is, ideally, an extension of the real-life ministry. And if you get back on TV, that's just the way it will be for you. ☐

---

**Posted by: Ralph Aug 18 2006, 12:34 AM**

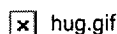
---

**QUOTE(Barbara Kerr @ Aug 17 2006, 08:56 PM) ☐**

Please be gentle with me, I may be red-headed, but I'm also extremely tender-hearted. Please pray for me that God will give me wisdom to answer each one with grace, for I would never want to hurt any precious soul.

Dear Barbara,

Rest assured that we are sensitive of your tender heart, and would not want to hurt you in any way.

 hug.gif

When it comes to what you or I write -- now that is a different thing -- and some lively discussions can result. Your post brought up a subject that had not been fully discussed so there was quite a bit

of discussion.  tableta That is the only way we have of knowing each other's thoughts on the subject. In the end, each of us has to come to a conclusion that we are comfortable with.

Please don't attach yourself so closely to what you write that when we ask hard questions, that you feel that you or your friends are personally being attacked. That is not the case.

I hope you had a good night's sleep and feel God's blessing upon you as you enter a new day.

**Posted by: Clay Aug 18 2006, 12:59 AM**

**QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Aug 17 2006, 10:15 PM)**

I think we are missing the bigger picture here. Whether or not these dreams, voices, impressions were from God (as there are numerous accounts) or from man's own ambition (in which there are many more accounts), the point is we are still working on the same Linda vs. Danny struggle.

I will say that I have worked with both of them for many years and I can honestly say that one is as bad as the other - for their management skills leave much to be desired. I have witnessed underhanded dealings and poor behavior from both Linda and Dan. As for Barbara, I worked with her on numerous occasions and will take her version of the story with a grain of salt.

I DO believe 3ABN was brought forth by God.  
I DO believe it is bringing people to Christ.

I DO NOT believe it is being managed in a christian manner.  
I DO NOT believe that Linda's return would solve many problems.

what is it that you are taking with a grain of salt?

**Posted by: Don Aug 18 2006, 04:43 AM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 16 2006, 08:45 PM)**

I'm sorry, Barb. I don't like to be the one to "rain on your parade". But I think we are venturing on to the same Pentecostal "enchanted ground" which is held at 3ABN, and to which I object on doctrinal grounds, when we start putting emphasis on dreams and visions.

It is one thing to "consider the vision". It is quite another thing to "interpret it." To report the vision is necessary for the community of faith. Now, unless a divine message explains these things, it is still time to wait and see. Those of us who believe in visions should not be upset if a skeptic should suggest we take a second look. God works through skeptics, as well.

Remember, God is in charge. He certainly wants his people to deal with injustice wherever it occurs, but sometimes it seems an impossible task. Insurmountable barriers are God's business. It is our task to do the best we can for Him.

**Posted by: Clay Aug 18 2006, 05:45 AM**

**QUOTE(Don @ Aug 18 2006, 04:43 AM) □**

It is one thing to "consider the vision". It is quite another thing to "interpret it." To report the vision is necessary for the community of faith. Now, unless a divine message explains these things, it is still time to wait and see. Those of us who believe in visions should not be upset if a skeptic should suggest we take a second look. God works through skeptics, as well.

Remember, God is in charge. He certainly wants his people to deal with injustice wherever it occurs, but sometimes it seems an impossible task. Insurmountable barriers are God's business. It is our task to do the best we can for Him.

good points Don... welcome to the forum....

---

**Posted by: saharafan Aug 18 2006, 07:44 AM**

Dear Barbara,

When I read your report of the dreams and auditions, I did have some concerns and felt somehow uneasy, for similar reason as already explained by Inga and watchbird.

We do not deny that God CAN and also DOES give dreams and visions, even today. To the contrary, I personally can attest to that; I am working with Muslims and live in a Muslim country (which is the reason why I prefer to remain anonymous), and I know that the Holy Spirit is very active in the Muslim world, there are several stories of an angel or Christ Himself appearing to spiritually sensitive and searching Muslims in dreams or visions, giving them a personal message and/or pointing them to Him, to the Bible or to where they can find the truth, or confirming a newfound faith in Christ or a new understanding of truth etc.

We do not say anything against the "spirit" of your friend or against her faith, devotion and personal relationship with Christ, not at all.

However, I do question the spirit that gave the dreams, if at all they are the result of supernatural influence (which indeed seems probable from what you have reported us).

It should, however, be noted that the information that you gave us in your report of the dreams is not really enough to come to a sound conclusion. I would leave it open, and would need a more detailed report of the whole dream and not just one or two phrases that were told to her, to really make up my mind.

If the dream should "come true", that wouldn't automatically be a proof to me that it is from God: Deuteronomy 13:1-3.

I really do wonder what would have been the sense or intention/purpose of this dream, if it came from God?

My concerns in addition to what has already been noted by others are:

1) The dream claims to come directly from God/Christ himself, who is talking audibly in the first person to her, not through an angel or so. (Did she see who was talking or only hear the voice?) The language of the message is very strong and definitive. This would lead us to assume the contents and message of the dream must be very important. It is not just a mere glimps of how one's daughter might be looking in a few years or so, kind of a spontaneous "gift" from God to comfort us or make us happy and strengthen our faith or relationship with him, as some have described their own experiences with dreams here.

2) The dreams as reported by you didn't seem to contain an order or an exhortation or a message to "do this and that", it was simply a "revelation" of things that are supposed to happen in the future. So, if we assume it comes from God, what action are we to take because of this dream?

What conclusion with practical consequences are we to draw? In what way and to what extent should we allow it to influence our actions in dealing with the moral crisis at 3ABN? What are we supposed to learn from it? In what way can it be of help for us, rather than create confusion and divisions among us?

3) If the dream was given to **comfort** and give peace of mind to people like your friend, you, Linda and her friends and others who suffered from Danny, why was it so "horrible" that it caused your friend to cry, not for joy but as I understand because of shock about the things revealed in this dream? Honestly, when I personally read your report it didn't comfort but rather trouble me, but I admit that this was only my personal impression based on what you have written.

4) "3ABN will be the instrument I will use to bring billions to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, but when the redeemed get to heaven and search for their 3ABN family, they will discover that they are only ashes under their feet." :

Although I sincerely doubt that literally "billions" (this would imply at least one third of the present world population!) will accept Jesus as their Savior as a consequence of watching 3ABN, this is my smallest problem with this prediction. It says that those billions that will be won in the future through 3ABN will not be able to find in heaven the future (!) "3ABN family" that was responsible for winning them for Christ in the first place. This implies that those that will work at 3ABN in the future, winning those billions, will be lost. (If Linda should be restored to future leadership at 3ABN this would also include her!)

My biggest question is: Why would God tell us that the "3ABN family" won't be saved, implying that they will not repent in the future? Do we have biblical examples for such a prediction under similar circumstances? What is the purpose of us knowing this today?

And, what are we now to do? Are we now supposed to support 3ABN heavily financially and with all our efforts in order that "billions get to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior"? Or, are we supposed to stop supporting them because the "3ABN family" is obviously corrupt and what they do is "horrible", and they will be lost?

5) "I will raise Linda up like the Phoenix from the ashes. She will be bigger and better than she could ever imagine. She will be surprised. It will be quick and soon. This will be with or without Danny's help. Danny cannot stop her.":

"This will be with or without Danny's help." So God knows all the other things predicted in those dreams, but he does not know what role Danny will play, whether Danny will "help" Linda in the future to get "bigger and better", or not? That at least sounds strange to me...

I don't want to hurt you with what I wrote, I just wanted to express my concerns over these dreams, as far as you have related them to us. Please forgive if my language perhaps sounds polemically sometimes, this is not with intention. Again, this partial analysis is based on the very limited information that was available to me from your first report, which certainly wasn't intended to withstand thorough investigation.

Clay,

Yes, I do believe that sometimes and under certain circumstances Satan can also give us dreams, talk to us or at least influence our thoughts, also during sleep, and this in a way that we can be tempted to believe the message or "voice" or miracle comes from God. This can even happen to godly people. There are several possibilities and reasons for it. That is why we need to carefully test the spirits, even of our own personal supernatural experiences of this kind.

---

**Posted by: summertime Aug 18 2006, 07:44 AM**

---

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 18 2006, 05:45 AM) □**

good points Don... welcome to the forum....

Barbara, first I want to say that I always looked forward to seeing you and Linda and your cooking classes. I believe that you have worked for the Lord in everything you have done. Maybe your life was spared when you were so ill so that you could tell this story. God does allow us to dream. He made us that way. -- if a person's mind is entrusted to God, then any dreams that that he may have are because of his belief in God. Do you think that the devil could enter the mind of a Christian who has hung on to God and cause him to believe a Satanic message? If my mind is stayed on God there will be no room for Satan to attack in an evil way. Get thee behind me, Satan and he goes.

Barbara has come forward as herself even though she knows that the 3ABN 'group' will try to discredit her in anyway they can. Some of you have thought it unwise to do so. Are you people trying to do the same thing? Are you playing into the hands of Danny and his henchmen? Have you ever considered the fact that nobody is trying to set Linda up as the head of 3ABN.? But, as Barbara has said, I believe that Linda will do great things in God's time and in God's way. She has not suggested that Linda manage 3ABN again--unless it is a God given appointment.

Have you lost sight of the reason that so many of you are afraid to come forward and say who and what Danny has done to you in particular? Barbara has been discredited because she has the fortitude to suggest that God's ways sometimes are not easy to understand. I don't understand every thing about all this either, but I do believe that these things have happened for a reason and that God would not allow Satan to come into the picture in a way that will do Barbara harm after all she has been through with Danny. She admits that he had her fooled for a while also-- She paid attention and saw the light and has come to give us first hand information which we have all wanted` and now we are trying to discredit what she is saying as being from the Devil? God has used people in miraculous ways--Apparently through 3ABN many people have heard the story of the 3 angels message.

When we get to heaven I understand that sins will be written in the sky to help us to understand why our loved ones are lost. But lets not think that many tears will not be shed during the 1000 years before we all finally get to the earth made new where all tears will be wiped away.

Thank you, Barbara, for trying to give first hand information that we have all asked for, and now do not even recognize it for what it is.

---

**Posted by: inga Aug 18 2006, 08:35 AM**

**QUOTE(summertime @ Aug 18 2006, 08:44 AM) □**

Barbara has been discredited because she has the fortitude to suggest that God's ways sometimes are not easy to understand.

Dear Summertime,

I always appreciate your contributions to this forum, but I believe that, in this case, what you write above demonstrates that you're not understanding what some of us have been posting. We are **not** discrediting Barbara!

No one has discredited Barbara, as far as I can tell. We all applaud her courage for coming forward. I even appreciate her sharing the dreams of the woman who is now her friend. That appreciation does not mean that I have to agree with the interpretation of the dream that Barbara, her friend and you appear to put on it.

The interpretation is in line with what many folks*hope* will happen. To my mind, it is not in line with

what God has already revealed through Scripture and the writings of Ellen White. That is not casting any aspersion on those of you who believe otherwise. I am just sticking my neck out to state my conviction, based on my experience with the Lord. You are welcome to believe differently, and you may have reason to disagree with the evidence I gave. I appreciate the attempt to deal with the evidence, even when I disagree.

I'll deal with one point now:

Several of us noted that "Linda left Danny" is misleading. Barbara pointed out that it *could* be interpreted to match the facts. Now, in my experience, God does not make misleading statements. He knows that we are but dust, and His words are usually most accurately intepreted in the most straightforward way. That's why that sentence troubles me. The most straightforward reading would indicate that Linda wilfully left Danny. The use of language the recipient of the dream did not understand is troubling along these same lines -- it's not God's usual way of working.

---

**Posted by: justme Aug 18 2006, 08:59 AM**

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 18 2006, 09:35 AM) □**

Dear Summertime,

I always appreciate your contributions to this forum, but I believe that, in this case, what you write above is quite wrong.

No one has discredited Barbara, as far as I can tell. We all applaud her courage for coming forward. I even appreciate her sharing the dreams of the woman who is now her friend. That appreciation does not mean that I have to agree with the interpretation of the dream that Barbara, her friend and you appear to put on it.

The interpretation is in line with what many folkshope will happen. To my mind, it is not in line with what God has already revealed through Scripture and the writings of Ellen White. That is not casting any aspersion on those of you who believe otherwise. I am just sticking my neck out to state my conviction, based on my experience with the Lord. You are welcome to believe differently, and you may have reason to disagree with the evidence I gave. I appreciate the attempt to deal with the evidence, even when I disagree.

I'll deal with one point now:

Several of us noted that "Linda left Danny" is misleading. Barbara pointed out that it *could* be interpreted to match the facts. Now, in my experience, God does not make misleading statements. He knows that we are but dust, and His words are usually most accurately intepreted in the most straightforward way. That's why that sentence troubles me. The most straightforward reading would indicate that Linda wilfully left Danny. The use of language the recipient of the dream did not understand is troubling along these same lines -- it's not God's usual way of working.

There is an apparent attempt on the part of some here to take word literally. Here's another experience of taking Gods' words literally. You will recall that the Apostle Paul says that if a man wants to serve God completely he will NOT GET MARRIED because his wife wants one thing from him but God want something else. Those who have taken this literally live in convents and monasteries or some such. It IS possible to take many things from God's word and not clearly understand them at first. SOme people have no problem understanding the Bible, but some do. It is not because God has worded something one way or another. We would do well to remember that we do not read the Bible in the language it was written. Nor do we have the author's available to ask questions.

About the words "Linda left Danny" ... it seems only natural that she would do so quickly when it is

made clear that it is far safer to leave than to stay and "take her chances". He made it abundantly clear that she was to leave the premises by taking away her keys and having her escorted off the grounds. Did "Danny leave Linda"? How else would it have been worded in that "vision"?

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 18 2006, 09:00 AM**

saharafan said:

**QUOTE**

Clay,

Yes, I do believe that sometimes and under certain circumstances Satan can also give us dreams, talk to us or at least influence our thoughts, also during sleep, and this in a way that we can be tempted to believe the message or "voice" or miracle comes from God. This can even happen to godly people. There are several possibilities and reasons for it. That is why we need to carefully test the spirits, even of our own personal supernatural experiences of this kind.

I tend to disagree because that would suggest that he has unrestricted access to our brains.... I think that it is possible to see things, read things, or hear things that are negative that then show up in dreams, but for the moment I disagree that satan can give us dreams.... without our cooperation I probably need to add..... while God is not bound by any restraints.....

---

**Posted by: Jvat Aug 18 2006, 09:09 AM**

I know that I have read that Satan trembles when the weakest saint gets on their knees and here I am hearing that sweet trusting christian people may be more easily fooled by Satan than others? That sounds quite baffling to me. Where does the gift of spiritual discernment that God gives to all HIS followers come in here? We are told to test and try the Spirits and we are also told that spiritual things are spiritually discerned. We are also told that for God's faithful followers, that when the enemy comes in like a flood that the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him. That to me is sure evidence that God will protect his children from delusion once they trust HIM.

Inga, I am happy that you have also stated that you could be wrong in some of your pronouncements in this thread. Thank you for that.

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 18 2006, 09:13 AM**

**QUOTE(Jvat @ Aug 18 2006, 09:09 AM)**

I know that I have read that Satan trembles when the weakest saint gets on their knees and here I am hearing that sweet trusting christian people may be more easily fooled by Satan than others? That sounds quite baffling to me. Where does the gift of spiritual discernment that God gives to all HIS followers come in here? We are told to test and try the Spirits and we are also told that spiritual things are spiritually discerned. We are also told that for God's faithful followers, that when the enemy comes in like a flood that the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him. That to me is sure evidence that God will protect his children from delusion once they trust HIM.

Inga, I am happy that you have also stated that you could be wrong in some of your pronouncements in this thread. Thank you for that.



Thanks Jvat, your comments are helping me form what I am trying to say... and you hit it on the head... some of the comments would have us believe that there is no way that we can tell the difference between what God does and what Satan does and that we are left on our own to figure it all out.... God does not leave us undefended.... and because he is our father, he protects us just as earthly parents do everything in their power to protect their children...

That text is appropriate here.... Resist the devil and he will flee....

**Posted by: inga Aug 18 2006, 10:31 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 18 2006, 10:00 AM)**

saharafan said:

I tend to disagree because that would suggest that he has unrestricted access to our brains.... I think that it is possible to see things, read things, or hear things that are negative that then show up in dreams, but for the moment I disagree that satan can give us dreams.... without our cooperation I probably need to add..... while God is not bound by any restraints.....

I don't believe he has "unrestricted access to our brains." Only God and the Holy Spirit **really** knows what we're thinking, for instance. Satan can only guess, but he's a bit smarter than our smartest psychologists and so is pretty good at guessing.

Scientists know how to stimulate certain parts of the brain to bring up memories or to generate certain impulses. I think Satan knows more. So that may explain some dreams and/or nightmares. And, of course, most dreams arise from our own subconscious.

**Posted by: inga Aug 18 2006, 10:46 AM**

**QUOTE(Jvat @ Aug 18 2006, 10:09 AM)**

I know that I have read that Satan trembles when the weakest saint gets on their knees and here I am hearing that sweet trusting christian people may be more easily fooled by Satan than others?

It was not my intent to suggest that. But certainly Satan tries his wiles on the trusting.

**QUOTE**

That sounds quite baffling to me. Where does the gift of spiritual discernment that God gives to all HIS followers come in here? We are told to test and try the Spirits and we are also told that spiritual things are spiritually discerned.

Precisely. And that is what we are attempting to do on this forum. As I suggested earlier, God asks us not to forget meeting together, and I believe it is so that we may support each other, with each making up for the weakness of the other, since we all have different minds and varying gifts.

**QUOTE**

We are also told that for God's faithful followers, that when the enemy comes in like a flood that the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him. That to me is sure evidence that God will protect his children from delusion once they trust HIM.

He will protect us with the means He has given us -- particularly His Word. Being a committed

Christian does not release us from the necessity of careful study, comparing Scripture with Scripture and then testing the "messages" that come to us. Certainly history demonstrates that many dedicated Christians have lived most or all of their lives under delusions. Those who were dedicated to Him in their hearts will be in the Kingdom, in spite of being deluded, for God remembers that we are but dust, and He knows our circumstances.



While you find my suggestion that Christians may be deceived troubling, I find your suggestion troubling. You appear to suggest that once we are committed to God and pray a prayer with certain phrases, we can be assured that any supernatural manifestations are from God. There's many a record in the history of the church to demonstrate that this is not so. (Please don't ask me to cite them because these are stories scattered throughout our books and magazines and aren't easily referenced. I'm surprised that some folks don't seem to be aware of this.

God has promised that he will not "tempt us" beyond what we are able to bear. And I believe this text is applicable to the current situation. He will not allow Satan to bring overwhelming deception on us - i.e. deception that we have **no way** of detecting. However, when His Word outlines the principles by which we may detect His voice, He expects us to believe that Word.

---

**QUOTE**


Inga, I am happy that you have also stated that you could be wrong in some of your pronouncements in this thread. Thank you for that.

 Well, I take that for granted, but it's probably not discernible in my statements, since I tend to express myself forcefully when I believe something. I think I'll have to make up a disclaimer signature -- something to the effect that I'm human and prone to err. 

---

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 18 2006, 12:05 PM**

---

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 18 2006, 10:00 AM) **

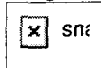
saharafan said:

I tend to disagree because that would suggest that he has unrestricted access to our brains.... I think that it is possible to see things, read things, or hear things that are negative that then show up in dreams, but for the moment I disagree that satan can give us dreams.... without our cooperation I probably need to add.... while God is not bound by any restraints....

I gotta agree with you Clay.....

If the devil had full control over our minds then all....ALL WOULD BE LOST!

Gotta "think" on this some more.... Times like these I wish my Daddy was still alive - he had so much insight into the werd of GOD.....




---

**Posted by: meadbd Aug 18 2006, 12:28 PM**

[quote name='Barbara Kerr' date='Aug 16 2006, 09:14 PM' post='145516']

---

**The Dreams and Visions Concerning 3ABN**

---

"I know you're going to think I'm crazy, but God spoke to me three times in an audible voice on May 26th, (2004). Twice the voice said clearly, 'Linda left Danny. Linda left Danny.'" **Without saying anything out loud, the woman said to God, "If this is really You and not Satan, say it again." The voice boomed so loudly that her neighbors could have heard it. "LINDA LEFT DANNY".**

=====  
**Of course the voice would repeat "LINDA LEFT DANNY".**

-----  
During this vision she heard a voice say, [b]"3ABN will be the instrument I will use to bring billions to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior,...

=====  
[b]not likely that billions(not millions) will come to Jesus Christ as their personal Savior through 3ABN or any other evangelistic endeavor...for our church now needs great revival so that the many members we do have might be converted and born again and surrender their life completely to Jesus!

The evidence that a person is born again(John 3) is that the Holy Spirit dwells within and the fruit of the Spirit is clearly seen in their life. "LOVE,JOY,PEACE,..." These are evident in the Christian.

That is, a Christian daily rejoices in their salvation and is a joyful person to be around. They tell others what great things God has done in their life! They long to see their Lord and live with Him forever!

As the Bible says, "Broad is the way that leads to destruction and MANY go in, but straight is the gate and narrow the way that leads to life and FEW there be that find it" (Matt.7:13-14).

When God has saved you, you know it and are continually praising Him! (Titus 3:4-5).

Let the redeemed of the Lord lift Him up in Praise!

Bill

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 18 2006, 12:32 PM**

---

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 18 2006, 11:46 AM)**

It was not my intent to suggest that. But certainly Satan tries his wiles on the trusting. Precisely. And that is what we are attempting to do on this forum. As I suggested earlier, God asks us not to forget meeting together, and I believe it is so that we may support each other, with each making up for the weakness of the other, since we all have different minds and varying gifts. He will protect us with the means He has given us -- particularly His Word. Being a committed Christian does not release us from the necessity of careful study, comparing Scripture with Scripture and then testing the "messages" that come to us. Certainly history demonstrates that many dedicated Christians have lived most or all of their lives under delusions. Those who were dedicated to Him in their hearts will be in the Kingdom, in spite of being deluded, for God remembers that we are but dust, and He knows our circumstances.

While you find my suggestion that Christians may be deceived troubling, I find your suggestion troubling. You appear to suggest that once we are committed to God and pray a prayer with certain phrases, we can be assured that any supernatural manifestations are from God. There's many a record in the history of the church to demonstrate that this is not so. (Please don't ask me to cite them because these are stories scattered throughout our books and magazines and aren't easily referenced. I'm surprised that some folks don't seem to be aware of this.

God has promised that he will not "tempt us" beyond what we are able to bear. And I believe this

text is applicable to the current situation. He will not allow Satan to bring overwhelming deception on us -- i.e. deception that we have **no way** of detecting. However, when His Word outlines the principles by which we may detect His voice, He expects us to believe that Word.

Well, I take that for granted, but it's probably not discernible in my statements, since I tend to express myself forcefully when I believe something. I think I'll have to make up a disclaimer signature -- something to the effect that I'm human and prone to err.

hear what you are saying but I still disagree... there are committed christians who know when God speaks to them and they are in tune with his voice... some have to be because they cannot read the bible.... so they must have a relationship with God..... the same way a child recognizes the voice of their parents is the same type of intimate relationship God wants with us... Is that possible? Yes.... Jesus said my sheep KNOW my voice... and if it is possible for humans to develop an intimate relationship with each other without reading a book about the person, what prevents us from doing the same thing with our Heavenly Father? I understand what you are saying about the bible, but my confidence is not in the bible, it is in God..... scholars know the bible, debate the bible and still have no relationship with God, so it has to be more than just "studying" the bible..... I think we have to really and I mean really trust ourselves to him... and allow him to communicate with us intimately.... it is my opinion that many are afraid of this, just as Israel was at Sinai....

---

**Posted by: princessdi Aug 18 2006, 01:13 PM**

Exactly Steve! Well said!

---

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 18 2006, 10:32 AM)**

I hear what you are saying but I still disagree... there are committed christians who know when God speaks to them and they are in tune with his voice... some have to be because they cannot read the bible.... so they must have a relationship with God..... the same way a child recognizes the voice of their parents is the same type of intimate relationship God wants with us... Is that possible? Yes.... Jesus said my sheep KNOW my voice... and if it is possible for humans to develop an intimate relationship with each other without reading a book about the person, what prevents us from doing the same thing with our Heavenly Father? I understand what you are saying about the bible, but my confidence is not in the bible, it is in God..... scholars know the bible, debate the bible and still have no relationship with God, so it has to be more than just "studying" the bible..... I think we have to really and I mean really trust ourselves to him... and allow him to communicate with us intimately.... it is my opinion that many are afraid of this, just as Israel was at Sinai....

---

**Posted by: Jvat Aug 18 2006, 01:27 PM**

Thank you Clay for your kind words.

Inga, did I say anything about praying a prayer or rather trusting God to keep HIS promise that when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him? That is a biblical promise, you know, Inga. We are told that we are given these great and exceeding precious promises that we can escape the corruption that is in the world through lust. This lust here can also be translated as pride in our context, I believe. The corruption can also be looked on as delusion, right? This is also comparing scripture with Scripture, Inga. These words are based on scripture too, Inga.

**Posted by: Jvat Aug 18 2006, 01:42 PM**

Inga and Bill, please note as well that the lady in question who had the dream did recognise that Satan may mean her harm and she asked for a confirmation that the message was indeed from God. So do u not think that God would protect His believing child or do you think that he would just leave her to the snares of the Evil One, especially after she asked for His guidance?

**Posted by: Nuggie Aug 18 2006, 01:49 PM**

I was always taught that Satan can't read our minds and doesn't know our thoughts...only God knows what we're thinking. Anybody ever heard that?  If that's true, then Satan couldn't "invade" our thoughts and dreams, right?

**Posted by: inga Aug 18 2006, 02:16 PM**

**QUOTE(Nuggie @ Aug 18 2006, 02:49 PM)**

I was always taught that Satan can't read our minds and doesn't know our thoughts...only God knows what we're thinking. Anybody ever heard that?

I believe that's true, and Ellen White confirmed it, though I don't have the reference handy.

**QUOTE**

If that's true, then Satan couldn't "invade" our thoughts and dreams, right?

There's a difference between knowing our thoughts precisely and guessing them. And there's a difference between knowing our thoughts and suggesting thoughts to us. Just how that mechanism works, I don't know. But I don't believe that all suggestions from Satan have to be audible. Would these inaudible suggestions/temptations not be something that we understand with our minds? Would the avenue Satan uses in that case not be available to him in dreams as well?

**QUOTE**

**Posted by: Clay Aug 18 2006, 03:08 PM**

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 18 2006, 02:16 PM)**

I believe that's true, and Ellen White confirmed it, though I don't have the reference handy. There's a difference between knowing our thoughts precisely and guessing them. And there's a difference between knowing our thoughts and suggesting thoughts to us. Just how that mechanism works, I don't know. But I don't believe that all suggestions from Satan have to be audible. Would these inaudible suggestions/temptations not be something that we understand with our minds? Would the avenue Satan uses in that case not be available to him in dreams as well?

hmmmmm let me ponder that one for a bit....

**Posted by: inga Aug 18 2006, 03:44 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 18 2006, 01:32 PM) □**

I hear what you are saying but I still disagree...[

That, of course, is your privilege and mine -- to continue to listen to each other, respect each other and still disagree. I must be faithful to truth as I know it, and you must be faithful to truth as you know it. Granted, in such disagreements we can't both be "right," but our attitude towards each other is far more important than the "correctness" of our interpretation. (We are not saved by correctness of understanding.)

**QUOTE**

there are committed christians who know when God speaks to them and they are in tune with his voice... some have to be because they cannot read the bible.... so they must have a relationship with God..... the same way a child recognizes the voice of their parents is the same type of intimate relationship God wants with us... Is that possible? Yes.... Jesus said my sheep KNOW my voice... and if it is possible for humans to develop an intimate relationship with each other without reading a book about the person, what prevents us from doing the same thing with our Heavenly Father?

I agree with the principles you cite above. To those who do not have the written Word, God reveals Himself in other ways. And the written Word is certainly not His only means of communicating with even those of us who do have the written Word available.

Otoh, how do we know we have an intimate relationship with Him -- our Creator God -- if we have His Word available and ignore what it says? If that is His main chosen means of communicating objective truth, are we not responsible to allow Him to speak to us that way? If we neglect the study of the Word, comparing Scripture with Scripture, what does that say about our regard for Him? (Please note I'm referring to a principle, without reference to any individuals that have been mentioned in the discussion.)

**QUOTE**

I understand what you are saying about the bible, but my confidence is not in the bible, it is in God.....

How do you know God? How do you know that He is who He is? Why are you a Seventh-day Adventist?

I'm asking these questions to demonstrate the pivotal role of Scripture. Early in the historical record of God's people, His written Word already played a pivotal role. "Thy Word is truth," is what the psalmist wrote. And "They Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against Thee." In those days, the "Word" referred mainly to the writings of Moses.

If we conclude that in our culture we can have an "intimate relationship with God" without the Scriptures, how do we know the difference between our God and Gaia, our God and Allah, our God and a multitude of other gods worshiped in our society, either explicitly or implicitly. Are all gods the same? Does it matter what we believe? Does it matter in which god we believe? And if it matters, just how do we tell the difference? Are all believers in other gods insincere? Do they not *want* to believe in the true God?

**QUOTE**

scholars know the bible, debate the bible and still have no relationship with God, so it has to be more than just "studying" the bible..... I think we have to really and I mean really trust ourselves

to him... and allow him to communicate with us intimately

amen and AMEN! to what you write above!! Intellectual knowledge alone is not enough. We must really entrust ourselves to Him and allow Him to communicate with us intimately." However, this does not lessen the role of Scripture. In fact, I believe Scripture is foundational to such a relationship.

Our emphasis on Scripture as the foundation of experience is what sets us apart from most charismatics who believe that an "intimate relationship" and charismatic manifestations supersede Scripture. Speaking with God directly, they no longer need the Bible. (As a matter of fact, one such pastor threw his Bible on the floor and said that's how much regard he had for the Bible when my husband demonstrated that the Bible did not support part of his belief system.) Otoh, I've also known many charismatics who understand the foundational role of Scripture, knowing that every manifestation must be tested by Scripture -- and that is farther than some members of this forum appear willing to go.

#### QUOTE

... it is my opinion that many are afraid of this, just as Israel was at Sinai...

I think you're probably right.

To sum up regarding the original dreams mentioned: We must each reach our own conclusions regarding this. My conclusions in no way include anything negative about the recipient of these dreams or Barbara who shared them here. I have stated my conclusions and how I have formed my conclusion. Others may form different conclusions based on different criteria.

Adventism was founded on the bedrock of Protestantism's credo of the Bible and the Bible only as the foundation of faith and doctrine. "Prove all things" is the motto implied if not expressed. Protestantism served to stimulate independent thinking and thus led to a great revival of learning in the world. It stimulated an abundance of discoveries and inventions.

Catholicism, on the other hand, emphasized tradition as the foundation of faith and mysticism as the way of experiencing God. This implies **not** doing one's own thinking but relying on "the church" (tradition) to define one's duty and mystical and/or charismatic experience to know God. It seems to me that modern charismatics are abandoning bedrock Protestantism and going back to mysticism, with "experience" taking the place of study and reason as a means of knowing God. It's also a convenient choice for the spiritually lazy in any denomination ...

Yesterday I thought that maybe our discussion of dreams and how to interpret them didn't belong in the 3ABN section, but I've changed my mind. Pentecostal/charismatic thinking is what we've noted as being promoted by 3ABN. And small wonder, since so many of the individuals involved are either currently Pentecostal or come from a Pentecostal background.

Each denomination or group of denominations has its own culture and vocabulary. Sometimes we make fun of our Adventist expressions, but Pentecostalism also has its own culture and vocabulary. And Danny's language such as "a word from the Lord" is an example of Pentecostal language. It's certainly not Adventist, unless our ministers have been influenced by 3ABN. We've mentioned the Pentecostal influence before, and folks seemed to recognize that that wasn't a good thing. But now, when dreams seem to substantiate what folks wish would happen, I sense a different attitude ...

Perhaps we should discuss the differences and similarities between Adventism and Pentecostalism and how it applies to 3ABN and our own Christian experience. And I would suggest inviting Watchbird to start out by defining the difference the way she sees it, since she apparently has considerable background in that area.

---

**Posted by: meadbd Aug 18 2006, 04:15 PM**

And Danny's language such as "a word from the Lord" is an example of Pentecostal language

-----  
Actually, "a word(or message) from the Lord" is used in Jer.37:17 and elsewhere in the Bible. It doesn't belong to any denomination. It basically means, "What did God tell(or reveal) to you?" And He does reveal various things to each of us as we surrender ourselves to Him. Rather than comparing Pentacostalism to Adventism, let's just compare what we say and do to the Scriptures. That is the only accurate guide.

Bill

---

**Posted by: Jvat Aug 18 2006, 04:58 PM**

Bill, I am with you on that last post.

---

**Posted by: inga Aug 18 2006, 09:33 PM**

**QUOTE(meadbd @ Aug 18 2006, 05:15 PM)**

And Danny's language such as "a word from the Lord" is an example of Pentecostal language  
-----  
Actually, "a word(or message) from the Lord" is used in Jer.37:17 and elsewhere in the Bible. It doesn't belong to any denomination.

True enough. But different churches have different favorite quotes from the Bible. And I'm not aware of this being a favorite Adventist one. We can say the same thing in different ways, but I know that this is kind of a signal phrase among charismatics and, with them, refers to a specific direct revelation from the Lord which they are about to share.

**QUOTE**

It basically means, "What did God tell(or reveal) to you?" And He does reveal various things to each of us as we surrender ourselves to Him. Rather than comparing Pentacostalism to Adventism, let's just compare what we say and do to the Scriptures. That is the only accurate guide.

Again, agreed regarding the Scripture being the only accurate guide.

In the context of 3ABN, however, we've noted that there is a considerable Pentecostal influence and it is **not** all solidly Bible-based. I just used this as an example of the Pentecostal flavor of Dan's words.

---

**Posted by: inga Aug 18 2006, 11:36 PM**

**QUOTE(meadbd @ Aug 18 2006, 05:15 PM)**

And Danny's language such as "a word from the Lord" is an example of Pentecostal language  
-----  
Actually, "a word(or message) from the Lord" is used in Jer.37:17 and elsewhere in the Bible.

and

**QUOTE**



Rather than comparing Pentacostalism to Adventism, let's just compare what we say and do to the Scriptures. That is the only accurate guide.

Upon reflection, I figure that would be a good exercise to do regarding using the phrase "a word from the Lord" and related phrases ...

In Jeremiah 26.1 & 2, we read:

In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word from the LORD, saying,  
Thus saith the LORD; Stand in the court of the LORD'S house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD'S house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word."

In this case the "word from the Lord" is a direct message from God which He is commissioning His prophet to give to the people.

And in Jeremiah 37.17, we read:

"Then Zedekiah the king sent, and took him out: and the king asked him secretly in his house, and said, Is there any word from the LORD? And Jeremiah said, There is: for, said he, thou shalt be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon."

Again this refers specifically to the Lord's message to and through His chosen prophet. (These are the only instances of "a word from the Lord" in the KJV.)

So, if we are to follow the usage of Scripture, "a word from the Lord" refers specifically to messages from God to and through His chosen prophet.

The question to consider is whether we are willing to accept Danny Shelton as God's chosen prophet. His associates call him "chosen," and He says He has "a word from the Lord." (They've been wise enough not to call him a "prophet" outright.)

Dan Shelton's associates also say he is "anointed."

In the Bible, parts of the sanctuary and its symbolic furniture were "anointed." Later chosen kings were "anointed" (e.g. Saul, David and many others specifically called by God) and called "anointed of the Lord." In one text (Psalm 105:115) "mine anointed" may refer to the whole nation of Israel or to just the kings or prophets. "The Lord's anointed" is used only in reference to kings. And a number of references make clear that the Messiah was specially anointed of the Lord. The anointing of the sanctuary, which symbolized His work, is a foreshadowing of this anointing.

Of course, there is also the common usage of anointing oneself, apparently equivalent to taking a shower and putting on aftershave.

The question is, in which way, if any, are we willing to accept Dan Shelton as "anointed." Is he really "the Lord's anointed" as his associates call him? Is he a king or prophet or Messiah?

If I remember correctly, David Koresh also had definite ideas regarding being "chosen" ...

**Posted by: Clay Aug 18 2006, 11:44 PM**

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 18 2006, 10:33 PM) □**

True enough. But different churches have different favorite quotes from the Bible. And I'm not aware of this being a favorite Adventist one. We can say the same thing in different ways, but I know that this is kind of a signal phrase among charismatics and, with them, refers to a specific direct revelation from the Lord which they are about to share.

Again, agreed regarding the Scripture being the only accurate guide.

In the context of 3ABN, however, we've noted that there is a considerable Pentecostal influence and it is **not** all solidly Bible-based. I just used this as an example of the Pentecostal flavor of Dan's words.

he phrase " a word from the lord" is used quite often in black churches and black sda churches.... again I think because some of you all have been sensitized to what is happening at 3abn, everything is getting painted with the same brush... however that particular phrase has been used by preachers and laity alike for as long as I can remember.... additionally it was not unusual for a sister or a brother to start "shouting" in the midst of a good sermon, or song....

as for things being biblical based, there is no blueprint given in the bible as to how certain things should happen... i.e. church services for example..... so there will be considerable differences in a worship experience..... in fact I could take you to a service here locally that you may just run from the building if you think that those things you mentioned are pentecostal in nature....

---

**Posted by: inga Aug 19 2006, 01:46 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 19 2006, 12:44 AM)**

the phrase " a word from the lord" is used quite often in black churches and black sda churches....

Well, Danny's not noted for his promotion of black culture, is he?

**QUOTE**

again I think because some of you all have been sensitized to what is happening at 3abn, everything is getting painted with the same brush... however that particular phrase has been used by preachers and laity alike for as long as I can remember.... additionally it was not unusual for a sister or a brother to start "shouting" in the midst of a good sermon, or song....

Yes, I'm aware of the difference in black Christian (not just Adventist) culture. When my hubby was at Andrews University, he preached at a little black Baptist church once in a while. He used to really enjoy it because the folks were to down-to-earth and .. well, uninhibited.  Because the black conferences have so long been separated from white conferences -- and not just because the white folks wanted it!! -- they have developed a different culture. And, yes, it is much closer to the Pentecostal culture. But there is a big difference between such cultural accoutrements as enthusiastic swaying, clapping, shouting (Amen, Brother!! Right on, Brother!! Hallelujah!! Praise the Lord!!) and seriously making claims that put one on the level of a prophet. It's the context that makes the difference, and the context of Danny's expression gives the expression a totally different meaning than it would have as used by black folks in a black church. While I have thoroughly appreciated the times we have worshiped in black churches, the message was always thoroughly Adventist, not Pentecostal. No claims of special gifts from the Lord, no claims of special status or Messianism. Your experience may differ, and if you are experiencing such things in your churches as Danny puts out, then I would be concerned about your churches as well.

**QUOTE**

as for things being biblical based, there is no blueprint given in the bible as to how certain things should happen... i.e. church services for example..... so there will be considerable differences in a worship experience.....

Now you're preaching my sermon!  (In our local church we have some folks who think anything older is better, that contemporary music is of the devil, that any movement while singing is evil, etc.

etc. So, as music coordinator, I've been using that argument quite bit.

**QUOTE**

in fact I could take you to a service here locally that you may just run from the building if you think that those things you mentioned are pentecostal in nature....

Do they [x] too? Do they [x] ? [x] h

How'd we get to this point in the discussion anyway? [x] Oh, yeah ... I mentioned an impression gained from Danny's way of talking ... Quite possibly the same words from a black preacher said in typical black-preacher style, wouldn't have given me the same impression ... Context, context, it's all about the context ...

As it is, it was just an impression and probably not worth defending. But when Bill said we should stick to the Bible, I couldn't resist. [x]

Man, you make me yearn for a little import of that black culture into our church. We sure could use something to stir up the saints! (Even the young woman who leads the songs in contemporary praise services stands like a statue when she sings. [x] And it was suggested that if I had to move to keep time with the music, why didn't I stand behind the pulpit where it couldn't be seen? I kid you not!

[x] rofl )

PS My original version of this message didn't go through because of "too many emoticons"! ?? (I need one now! This sounds like a board version of our local-church body movement police. Ah .. emoticon, emoticon, I need an emoticon!! )

**Posted by: Clay Aug 19 2006, 05:41 AM**

thanks for the clarification and the tangent which I think needed to be explored some... it is about context and point of reference and perhaps given the influence at 3abn from those from a *pentecostal background* are enough to give one pause... the reality may be before we rush to judgment about dreams that people share with us that we try to identify the context and not just assume the worst....

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 19 2006, 08:01 AM**

[x] snr

**Posted by: saharafan Aug 19 2006, 08:08 AM**

**CAN SATAN READ OUR MINDS?**

This is what Ellen White says about it:

**QUOTE**

Satan has his evil angels around us; and though they cannot read men's thoughts, they closely watch their words and actions. Satan takes advantage of the weakness and defects of character that are thus revealed, and presses his temptations where there is least power of resistance. He makes evil suggestions, and inspires worldly thoughts, knowing that he can thus bring the soul into condemnation and bondage. {GW92 417.3}

did NOT suggest that the enemy has "unrestricted access" to our minds, neither that he is "in control". Certainly he doesn't. In modern language I would say, he has **no "read access"** but does have limited or **restricted "write access"** to certain files or folders, to certain parts of our mind. That is part of our fallen human nature, the sinful nature that we are born in, if you want. Maybe he knows our "public key" and thus can send us messages, but he usually doesn't have the "private key" or also decrypt our thoughts. Maybe he uses biological ways yet unknown to us as Inge has suggested. Certainly, God is in control of his "access rights", especially if we allow Him to be the "Administrator", and He doesn't give him all the access, control and rights that he wants.

If our "firewall" is enforced and strong (our personal relationship with Christ, who in turn protects us with His Holy Spirit, and sanctifies us closing "ports") and our "anti-virus protection" activated and up to date (our knowledge of, and dependence on the Word of God we use to test everything that comes in or goes out), he certainly cannot break in (hack) and hijack our system, nor read any documents. But there might still be some SPAM messages getting through... And we need to be careful not to believe them and be deceived. We need to use our brain as the SPAM filter, and I think the Scriptures should also be used for providing the defining criterions for this SPAM filter.

However, if we forget to activate or update the anti-virus protection (the Holy Scriptures, testing by it everything that comes in) and forget to search the whole hard disk for viruses from time to time, than we are in danger of viruses, trojans etc. (false teachings, evil spirits...) to infect us and spread in the system; they can also infect other systems in the network (the church) if they are not well protected, too.

And I am afraid this is exactly what is happening in pentecostal and charismatic groups.

During certain spiritualistic activities Satan might gain some read access, and even "unrestricted access" and "full control" over the mind. If such activities have happened in the past, or have been performed by one's parents or grandparents, he might have more rights on our system as usual. Only God can restrict him then.

Other related quotes from sister White:

#### QUOTE

We must know what is written in order that we may not be defeated by the sophistry and enchantments of Satan. The wily foe will work upon our minds in such a way that he will lead us to follow in the way he has gone, and cause us to dream of greatness, worldly honor, and distinction. {ST, September 18, 1893 par. 6}

Satan Seeks to Control Children's Minds.--Parents, you know something of the inducements by which Satan tries to lead your children into folly. He is working with all his powers to lead them astray. With a determination that many do not dream of he is seeking to gain control of their minds and to make the commandments of God of no effect in their lives.--MS 93, 1909. {1MCP 170.2}

If Satan can tempt us by subtle deceptions of false teachings, and even by strong supernatural deceptions approaching us from the outside (e.g. Satan appearing as an angel of God in the temptations of Jesus in Matthew 4; dead loved ones appearing to us and offering to help and guide us; Satan appearing as the returning Christ; appearances of Mary), deceptions that can ONLY be discovered as such if tested by the Word of God, what would be the difference if a deception comes from the "inside", through ideas, impressions, and ... dreams? As long as we have the Holy Scriptures available to test their truth, authenticity and credibility, God might allow Satan to use this kind of

temptation, too. That's my opinion.

---

**Posted by: sonshineonme Aug 19 2006, 09:59 AM**

**QUOTE(saharafan @ Aug 19 2006, 07:08 AM) □**

**CAN SATAN READ OUR MINDS?**

This is what Ellen White says about it:

I did NOT suggest that the enemy has "unrestricted access" to our minds, neither that he is "in control". Certainly he doesn't. In modern language I would say, he has **no "read access"** but does have limited or **restricted "write access"** to certain files or folders, to certain parts of our mind. That is part of our fallen human nature, the sinfull nature that we are born in, if you want. Maybe he knows our "public key" and thus can send us messages, but he usually doesn't have the "private key" to also decrypt our thoughts. Maybe he uses biological ways yet unknown to us as Inge has suggested. Certainly, God is in control of his "access rights", especially if we allow Him to be the "Administrator", and He doesn't give him all the access, control and rights that he wants.

If our "firewall" is enforced and strong (our personal relationship with Christ, who in turn protects us with His Holy Spirit, and sanctifies us closing "ports") and our "anti-virus protection" activated and up to date (our knowledge of, and dependence on the Word of God we use to test everything that comes in or goes out), he certainly cannot break in (hack) and hijack our system, nor read any documents. But there might still be some SPAM messages getting through... And we need to be carefull not to believe them and be deceived. We need to use our brain as the SPAM filter, and I think the Scriptures should also be used for providing the defining criterions for this SPAM filter.

However, if we forget to activate or update the anti-virus protection (the Holy Scriptures, testing by it everything that comes in) and forget to search the whole hard disk for viruses from time to time, than we are in danger of viruses, troyans etc. (false teachings, evil spirits...) to infect us and spread in the system; they can also infect other systems in the network (the church) if they are not well protected, too.

And I am afraid this is exactly what is happening in pentecostal and charismatic groups.

During certain spiritualistic activities Satan might gain some read access, and even "unrestricted access" and "full control" over the mind. If such activities have happened in the past, or have been performed by one's parents or grandparents, he might have more rights on our system as usual. Only God can restrict him then.

Other related quotes from sister White:

If Satan can tempt us by subtile deceptions of false teachings, and even by strong supernatural deceptions approaching us from the outside (e.g. Satan appearing as an angel of God in the temptations of Jesus in Matthew 4; dead loved ones appearing to us and offering to help and guide us; Satan appearing as the returning Christ; appearances of Mary), deceptions that can ONLY be discovered as such if tested by the Word of God, what would be the difference if a deception comes from the "inside", through ideas, impressions, and ... dreams? Als long as we have the Holy Scriptures available to test their truth, authenticity and credibility, God might allow Satan to use this kind of temptation, too. That's my opinion.

---

Being the computer/technology nerd-ess that I am, I liked this analogy and explanation. Very good. Carry on. □

Posted by: saharafan Aug 19 2006, 12:04 PM

**"DREAMS & VISIONS" : Some selected quotations from sister White.**

*(Note of explanation: I don't want to suggest that I believe that the friend of sister Barbara is a false prophet, this is not at all true! I love and respect her as my sister in the Lord, and I would love to get to know her personally, learn more about her experience and fellowship with her. I am also not really 100 % convinced that her dreams and auditions are NOT from the Lord, and I want to be careful. However, based on the information available in Barbara's first posting, it seems to me personally as very likely that her friend has been deceived. But that little information that sister Barbara told us is NOT really enough for me to come to a final conclusion for myself, without knowing the sister, and the whole situation and context. As of now, I therefore don't ascribe any importance to these revelations at all, I don't want to be influenced by them in any way. The following quotations from Ellen White only serve the single purpose to show that this possibility exists, that Satan CAN give dreams to upright and godly Christians; at least, sister White does NOT criticize the character, life or faith of those believers that have received visions or dreams and that she referred to in those statements; however, she warns them (and us) not to follow those dreams and revelations, since they didn't come from God. Emphasis in the quotations is mine.)*

**QUOTE**

I have no hesitancy in saying that Anna's visions are not of God. The dreams that the members of your family have had are a deception of Satan. ... {1888 697.2}

Satan saw that he could work upon your fruitful imagination, and lead you, with others, into his net. ... On page 8 you present Anna's vision in regard to a certain woman as a confirmation of your theory that probation would end in October, 1884. ... In the next paragraph you give Anna's dream in regard to her father. Neither has this any weight, nor the dream your wife has had. They are all false. {1888 697.3}

Many times I have been sent to different places with the message, "I have a work for you to do in that place; I will be with you." When the occasion came, the Lord gave me a message for those who were having false dreams and visions, and in the strength of Christ I bore my testimony at the Lord's bidding. . . . {Mar 155.1}

During the past forty-five years, I have had to meet persons claiming to have from God messages of reproof to others. This phase of religious fanaticism has sprung up again and again since 1844. Satan has worked in many ways to establish error. Some things spoken in these visions came to pass; but many things--in regard to the time of Christ's coming, the end of probation, and the events to take place--proved utterly false. . . . {Mar 155.2}

**"Take heed therefore how ye hear" (Luke 8:18), is an admonition of Christ. . . . Examine closely, "prove all things" (1 Thess. 5:21).** . . . This is the counsel of God; shall we heed it? {Mar 155.3}

**There will be false dreams and false visions, which have some truth, but lead away from the original faith. The Lord has given men a rule by which to detect them: "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isa. 8:20).** {Mar 192.4}

As we near the end of time, falsehood will be so mingled with truth, that only those who have the guidance of the Holy Spirit will be able to distinguish truth from error. We need to make every effort to keep the way of the Lord. We must in no case turn from His guidance to put our trust in man. . . . **Those who are guided by the Word of the Lord will discern with certainty between falsehood and truth, between sin and righteousness.** {Mar 192.5}

The multitude of dreams arise from the common things of life, with which the Spirit of God has nothing to do. **There are also false dreams, as well as false visions, which are inspired by the spirit of Satan.** But dreams from the Lord are classed in the word of God with visions and are

as truly the fruits of the spirit of prophecy as visions. {1T 569.2}

**Satan would like nothing better than to call minds away from the word, to look for and expect something outside of the word to make them feel. They should not have their attention called to dreams or visions.** {HM, December 1, 1894 par. 7}

*Please read also SELECTED MESSAGES Book 2 Chapter 11, and perhaps other chapters like 5, 8, 9, 10 etc.*

**As a consequence, it is NOT enough to simply examine the character, lifestyle and acts, the "fruits" of the person receiving a dream or vision, or a "message from God", and her confession and practice of her faith; it is equally important to evaluate and examine the message given itself, the contents of the dream or vision, based on the Bible.**

If this test should fail, it is the *message* that has to be rejected and not the person receiving it who has simply been a victim of another satanic attack of deception. But without a sound application of this test, no message should be accepted as coming from God and acted upon; this would be very dangerous.

Hope this helps.

**Posted by: summertime Aug 19 2006, 01:11 PM**

I'll deal with one point now:

Several of us noted that "Linda left Danny" is misleading. Barbara pointed out that it *could* be interpreted to match the facts. Now, in my experience, God does not make misleading statements. He knows that we are but dust, and His words are usually most accurately interpreted in the most straightforward way. That's why that sentence troubles me. The most straightforward reading would indicate that Linda wilfully left Danny. The use of language the recipient of the dream did not understand is troubling along these same lines -- it's not God's usual way of working.

[/quote] Hi, Inga. I appreciated the way in which you explained your posting to me. I do not know the lady in question, but I will tell you that I had a friend who was badly mistreated and abused and her husband put her in a financially embarrassing position. Eventually he put her in the position where she had no choice but to leave him and go to live with her parents. Yes, she left him. Why is it so bad for the lady to say that she was impressed 3 times that Linda had left Danny. She was forced to leave---so then we make it possible for Dr. Thompson and Danny and John L. to say that he had the right to divorce her and marry his sweetheart because of abandonment by Linda.

Does that mean that the lady could not have had such an experience.? And that maybe it may have been a Pentecostal experience? Danny was sitting around on the set at campmeeting singing the song he had written about being alone around that same month. He even had me feeling sorry for him for a while. Right here in my own home I was asking' "Where is Linda?" And while this was going on I had people in my own church who had gone to campmeeting at 3ABN telling everyone that Linda had run away with a Doctor from Nova Scotia. For a while I believed it and I could not figure out why Linda would have done such a thing. Now we know the truth. Danny's new wife was probably there at 3ABN campmeeting while he was crying and praising God for being with him while he was 'all alone'.

Now, we are talking about visions and dreams. For twenty years we have been listening to and believed that Danny had a vision (or a dream) (I think now I have heard it changed to an

impression) and that he was to build a network for God. I am not going to say that it was and is not true. Like many other people I am afraid of stepping on the cause of God because 3ABN has become worldwide. So I will not say that 3ABN was not originated in a plan by God. OK. But, is it true that the stories that he told of miracles which were counterfeit were the beginning of the money pouring in to start and build up that network? If this is true, and I think that it was, then, according to a lot of posters on this forum, the whole experience that Danny had in vision of building a station, was a Pentecostal experience and just where does that lead us? Did God speak to him or didn't He? .Are we dealing with a whole Pentecostal experience here? I am holding my breath to hear what will come next.

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 19 2006, 03:26 PM**

okay but let's also be honest..... SHE SHOULD HAVE LEFT him..... yeah, I said it... the more I read about this dude, I am amazed that she stayed as long as she did.... again she should have left him....

now whut?

---

**Posted by: summertime Aug 19 2006, 03:32 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 19 2006, 03:26 PM)**

okay but let's also be honest..... SHE SHOULD HAVE LEFT him..... yeah, I said it... the more I read about this dude, I am amazed that she stayed as long as she did.... again she should have left him....

now whut?

Yes, Clay--she should have left him--probably a long time ago. The more we hear, the more we know that she should have left him long before she did. She tried to stick with her position as VP for the sake of 3ABN viewers, when she should have given it up for the sake of herself and her children.

---

**Posted by: inga Aug 20 2006, 10:39 AM**

Thank you so much for this post, Saharafan.

You effectively expressed my thoughts on the matter, including that there is not quite enough evidence to reach a final conclusion on the dreams that Barbara shared. I agree it is best just not to place too much importanc on them.

**QUOTE(saharafan @ Aug 19 2006, 01:04 PM)**

**"DREAMS & VISIONS" : Some selected quotations from sister White.**

*(Note of explanation: I don't want to suggest that I believe that the friend of sister Barbara is a false prophet, this is not at all true! I love and respect her as my sister in the Lord, and I would love to get to know her personally, learn more about her experience and fellowship with her. I am also not really 100 % convinced that her dreams and auditions are NOT from the Lord, and I want to be careful. However, based on the information available in Barbara's first posting, it seems to me personally as very likely that her friend has been deceived. But that little information that sister*



*Barbara told us is NOT really enough for me to come to a final conclusion for myself, without knowing the sister, and the whole situation and context. As of now, I therefore don't ascribe any importance to these revelations at all, I don't want to be influenced by them in any way. The following quotations from Ellen White only serve the single purpose to show that this possibility exists, that Satan CAN give dreams to upright and godly Christians; at least, sister White does NOT criticize the character, life or faith of those believers that have received visions or dreams and that she referred to in those statements; however, she warns them (and us) not to follow those dreams and revelations, since they didn't come from God. Emphasis in the quotations is mine.) Please read also SELECTED MESSAGES Book 2 Chapter 11, and perhaps other chapters like 5, 8, 9, 10 etc.*

**As a consequence, it is NOT enough to simply examine the charakter, lifestile and acts, the "fruits" of the person receiving a dream or vision, or a "message from God", and her confession and practice of her faith; it is equally important to evaluate and examine the message given itself, the contents of the dream or vision, based on the Bible.**

If this test should fail, it is the *message* that has to be rejected and not the person receiving it who has simply been a victim of another satanic attack of deception. But without a sound application of this test, no message should be accepted as coming from God and acted upon; this would be very dangeous.

Hope this helps.

**Posted by: Clay Aug 20 2006, 10:43 AM**

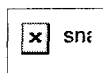
can anyone give an example of a false dream or visions.... a legitimate one I mean? I understand what egw wrote, but then again she had visions didn't she.... some of what she saw is not consistent with the bible so then they were also false is that what you are comfortable saying?

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 20 2006, 10:45 AM**

Just a quick statement - and I'll go back into lerk mode on this thread....

Does anyone now see why I said this woman/her statements/her "dream" was getting "cut up"???

If not...then carry on! If so..then still....carry on!



**Posted by: inga Aug 20 2006, 11:47 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 20 2006, 11:43 AM)**

can anyone give an example of a false dream or visions.... a legitimate one I mean? I understand what egw wrote, but then again she had visions didn't she.... some of what she saw is not consistent with the bible so then they were also false is that what you are comfortable saying?

'ou say that some of what Ellen White saw "is not consistent with the Bible?"

'ou must know some things I haven't run across in the last 50 years. (And, yes, I'm familiar with the

anti-Ellen sites out there ... just haven't visited them lately.)

My point re the original dreams shared was not that they were **necessarily** false, but that by all indicators I know, they are not consistent with God's messages. My further concern is that we not accept anything of supernatural character to be of God just because we deem the person(s) involved to be sincere Christians.

The only thing anywhere near similar in Ellen White's visions was the "shut door" vision. I don't doubt her vision and it's being from God. However, I believe the original *interpretation* of the vision was not altogether accurate. And Ellen and the church revised their view of what the vision meant. She did not claim to be infallible, after all.

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 20 2006, 11:50 AM**

**QUOTE(Inga @ Aug 20 2006, 01:47 PM)**

You say that some of what Ellen White saw "is not consistent with the Bible?"

You must know some things I haven't run across in the last 50 years. (And, yes, I'm familiar with the anti-Ellen sites out there ... just haven't visited them lately.)

My point re the original dreams shared was not that they were **necessarily** false, but that by all indicators I know, they are not consistent with God's messages. My further concern is that we not accept anything of supernatural character to be of God just because we deem the person(s) involved to be sincere Christians.

The only thing anywhere near similar in Ellen White's visions was the "shut door" vision. I don't doubt her vision and it's being from God. However, I believe the original *interpretation* of the vision was not altogether accurate. And Ellen and the church revised their view of what the vision meant. She did not claim to be infallible, after all.

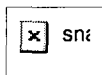
Had to come in on this just to say this little thang...then for real - back in lurk mode on this thread....

The fact that my roomie (after working in the AD EG White Archives for one year) found several "pictures/drawings" of EG White "visions/dreams" - (such as her "Vision of Jesus") says a whole lot to me....

I personally don't think that a "vision of Jesus" has been given to anyone living during this time...so a picture would not be drawn and used as an example of "what we think he looks like"....

JMO!

Fa real - back on lurk mode.....



**Posted by: saharafan Aug 21 2006, 09:08 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 20 2006, 04:43 PM)**

can anyone give an example of a false dream or visions.... a legitimate one I mean? I understand what egw wrote, but then again she had visions didn't she.... some of what she saw is not consistent with the bible so then they were also false is that what you are comfortable saying?

Clay,

would be very interested to learn more about those "inconsistencies" that you found comparing Ellen White's writings with the Bible. Actually, so far I personally didn't find any seeming contradictions etc. that couldn't be resolved.

I am quite sure, for any kind or type of seeming contradiction or inconsistency between her writings and the Bible, I could show you a similar one within the Bible, between different authors of the Bible.

This whole question of inconsistencies within or between inspired books all finally comes down to two issues:

- 1) How divine inspiration really and actually works;
- 2) And the question, or principles, of hermeneutics, of interpretation, taking into consideration the original languages, and especially the textual, historical, cultural, and religious contexts.

But I would suggest, if you want to discuss this subject, to do that in another forum, not in this one about 3ABN.

There are several good books dealing with these two issues as well as books responding to questions and often made claims to that kind of inconsistencies concerning Ellen White that you mentioned. If you want to have some recommendations, feel free to contact me. You should also find some good information on some websites like <http://www.whiteestate.org/issues/issues.asp>; <http://www.ellenwhitedefend.com>; <http://www.ellengwhite.info>

Concerning your other question, just go to Google and type in "Jeanine Sautron". She's one of the most striking examples of a recipient of "false dreams and visions" within our Adventist church of the last 20 years. She was an Adventist lady living in France who claimed to be the successor of Ellen White (as many others did before her) and supposedly received many visions. She had a lot of supporters and followers and did a lot of time-setting. She finally was disfellowshipped. Another example would be that famous guy from Waco, Texas.

However, there are plenty of additional lesser known examples. I would recommend you to take a look at the following website: <http://www.ellenwhitedefend.com/Another-Prophet.htm>

By the way, the GC receives every year plenty of reports of "visions and dreams" of Adventists who sincerely believe that God gave them a message for the church. I am not sure which department takes care of that and examines those claims but I would guess either the Biblical Research Institute or the White Estate or the Ministerial Association should at least know about it.

Last year there was the story of Soo that made the round, the Laotian sister who claims that she was miraculously healed of cancer and received several visions of an angel who gave her messages for several leading Adventist evangelists as well as unclear prophecy of future events. She predicted that the whole world will be reached with the gospel, the Sunday Law will come 'after 2005' and Christ will come soon". Now, I honestly am not really sure what to think about her visions. I certainly do not doubt her love for the Savior and her Christian character. But I can imagine that Satan, the enemy of the true Spirit of Prophecy, is just trying to imitate this gift as much as possible, "revealing" messages that either just repeat already well known Bible truths, or are not immediately and easily discerned as not being from God. By this, he wants to discredit and render non-effective any true prophetic gift like the testimonies of sister White as well as any possible future true prophets or "true" visions and dreams that God might want to send us, including the final fulfillment of Joel 2:28-29.

I also want to recommend you to read the very interesting article by J. R. Spangler, "The Gift of Prophecy and 'Thought Voices,'" in *Ministry* magazine from June 1986; if you have already the DJVU browser plugin installed you can access it directly from: <http://www.adventistarchives.org/docs/MIN/MIN1986-06/index.djvu> If not, this link will lead you to the site where you can download the plugin and also access the Ministry issue: [http://www.adventistarchives.org/doc\\_info.asp?DocID=6658](http://www.adventistarchives.org/doc_info.asp?DocID=6658)

I am just briefly quoting two of his findings:

**QUOTE**

**The phenomenon confronting the church**

The current spate of messages seems to be characterized by the following:

1. The individuals I am acquainted with who have been connected with this phenomenon are not wild-eyed fanatics. This may not be true of all who claim to be messengers, but those whom I know are sincere, dedicated Christians.
2. The purported messages come via three major methods of communication: dreams, visions, and "thought voices." (Some claim to have received a message on only one occasion; others claim multiple communications.)

...

By the way, in those quotations of Ellen White on "dreams & visions" that I posted before, there was a reference to "Anna Phillips" who had received visions that Ellen White declared as "false". Elder Spangler in his article states the following about her:

**QUOTE**

The above quotations dealt with the Anna Phillips problem. Anna Phillips was sincerely misguided into believing she was having visions from God. Fortunately, when she received Ellen White's counsel, she accepted it, and her supposed visions immediately stopped. She became a faithful Bible worker and served the church well for many years.

---

**Posted by: awesumtenor Aug 21 2006, 09:57 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 19 2006, 05:26 PM)**

okay but let's also be honest.... SHE SHOULD HAVE LEFT him..... yeah, I said it... the more I read about this dude, I am amazed that she stayed as long as she did.... again she should have left him....

now whut?

Not as easy as it looks from our perspective... Danny being the megalomaniac and manipulator that he is would use fear and guilt and any other tool at his disposal to build a prison around Linda's mind where she couldn't walk away... it's like the experiments zoologists do with animals. put an animal in a cage and over time the idea of the limitation presented by the cage gets to the animal such that if the walls were removed, for a time the animal would continue to pace within the bounds of what used to be the cage and go no further.

In His service,  
Mr. J

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 21 2006, 01:23 PM**

**QUOTE(awesumtenor @ Aug 21 2006, 10:57 AM)**

Not as easy as it looks from our perspective... Danny being the megalomaniac and manipulator that he is would use fear and guilt and any other tool at his disposal to build a prison around Linda's mind where she couldn't walk away... it's like the experiments zoologists do with animals. put an animal in a cage and over time the idea of the limitation presented by the cage gets to the animal such that if the walls were removed, for a time the animal would continue to pace within the bounds of what used to be the cage and go no further.

In His service,  
Mr. J

*i know it is easier said than done.... and had he not thrown her out she would more than likely still be there.... my point was simply after all we have read about him..... she should have left that dude in the dust years ago.....*

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 21 2006, 01:46 PM**

**QUOTE(saharafan @ Aug 21 2006, 09:08 AM)**

Clay,

I would be very interested to learn more about those "inconsistencies" that you found comparing Ellen White's writings with the Bible. Actually, so far I personally didn't find any seeming contradictions etc. that couldn't be resolved.

I am quite sure, for any kind or type of seeming contradiction or inconsistency between her writings and the Bible, I could show you a similar one within the Bible, between different authors of the Bible.

In the creation narrative, in the story of the crucifixion egw fills in the blanks where the bible is silent....

The bible does not mention anything about angels visiting Adam and Eve and telling them about Lucifer and to be wary... the bible says nothing about demons in human form taunting Jesus during the crucifixion.....

---

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 21 2006, 04:07 PM**

**QUOTE(saharafan @ Aug 21 2006, 11:08 AM)**

Clay,

I would be very interested to learn more about those "inconsistencies" that you found comparing Ellen White's writings with the Bible. Actually, so far I personally didn't find any seeming contradictions etc. that couldn't be resolved.

I am quite sure, for any kind or type of seeming contradiction or inconsistency between her writings and the Bible, I could show you a similar one within the Bible, between different authors of the Bible.

This whole question of inconsistencies within or between inspired books all finally comes down to two issues:

1) How divine inspiration really and actually works;

2) And the question, or principles, of hermeneutics, of interpretation, taking into consideration the original languages, and especially the textual, historical, cultural, and religious contexts.

now I said I was "lurkin"...but here I go again.

There are "many" inconsistencies! One of the Biggest "inconsistencies" that I can think of is the EG White definition of:

1 - "amalgamation of man and beast" (the discussion of a man/beast that walks the face of the earth. This has been loosely interpreted to be the "African-American/Black" race by many. I just find this a not mess as no animal and man can lie together and "procreate".....)

Next we have.....

2 - The EG White quote/"misquote" that speaks of Vegetarian/Vegans having a "higher spirituality" than that of Meat Eaters.

Oh...and.....

3 - The fact that "black pepper" doesn't "digest" and can form a ball in the stomach? Jethro Klauss also said this - I should have a tumor the size of a small nation if this is so.....

Wow...fa real - (seriously!) Back in lurk mode....




---

**Posted by: Ralph Aug 21 2006, 04:58 PM**

---

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 19 2006, 03:26 PM)**

okay but let's also be honest..... SHE SHOULD HAVE LEFT him.... yeah, I said it... the more I read about this dude, I am amazed that she stayed as long as she did.... again she should have left him....

People who are in a healthy relationship have difficulty in wrapping their minds around the thought that any woman would stay in an abusive home.

BUT for the woman who is in this kind of a home, it is far different. We call it "Battered Wife Syndrome" -- and that doesn't necessarily mean that the woman has been physically battered. But psychologically, her value of herself is lowered. She is not sure of herself and often believes the negative things that her husband has pounded into her over the years. A woman who comes from a well-to-do home has a far harder time of leaving than a woman who lives in a chicken coop.

Think of all that Linda had to lose if she left. -- her husband, her home, the work that she loved and the knowledge that family members (and friends from around the world) may not believe her. That is tough. Probably only women who have gone through such an experience have the slightest idea of what I am talking about.

I have seen women go back time after time, and it makes me so frustrated although I intellectually understand why they do it. Fortunately for Linda, there was no coming back.

---

**Posted by: inga Aug 21 2006, 06:56 PM**

---

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 21 2006, 05:07 PM)**

I now I said I was "lurkin"...but here I go again.  
 <snip>  
 3 - The fact that "black pepper" doesn't "digest" and can form a ball in the stomach? Jethro Klauss also said this - I should have a tumor the size of a small nation if this is so.....

rofl That's as creative as some of the stories Dan puts out!

I've not run across that one by the Ellen I've read. Perhaps you can supply the source?

(All I've read is that pepper and other strong spices inflame the delicate linings of the stomach and desensitize the taste buds so that one is unable to appreciate more delicate flavors -- the latter not difficult to verify by casual observation.)

**Posted by: saharafan Aug 22 2006, 05:23 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 21 2006, 07:46 PM)**

In the creation narrative, in the story of the crucifixion egw fills in the blanks where the bible is silent....

The bible does not mention anything about angels visiting Adam and Eve and telling them about Lucifer and to be wary... the bible says nothing about demons in human form taunting Jesus during the crucifixion.....

To be honest, I wouldn't consider those examples that you mentioned as "inconsistencies". You said it perfectly yourself, she "fills in the blanks where the Bible is silent". I don't have any problem with this statement, actually I would be very surprised if a true prophet would NOT give some new additional information that cannot be found in the Bible but doesn't contradict any biblical principles and statements. Everything else would just be a mere repetition of the biblical text and message, and for that we don't need a prophet.

If God gave Ellen very detailed visions about the creation and even what happened before the creation in heaven, of the fall, the flood, the whole story of redemption etc. etc., and also about the various scenes and events of the life of Christ, including certainly the cruxifixion, I am not surprised that she wrote down what she saw in vision. And she claims to have received such visions.

She received over 2000 (two thousand) visions and dreams during her live and some of them took several hours. So I would expect to find in her writings some additional information even about biblical stories and events that will help the true believers during the end time crisis and for the world evangelisation. And her books have definitely had (and still have) a major impact on many souls who accept(ed) Christ or devellope(d) a much deeper personal relationship with Him because they read "Desire of Ages" etc.

This could also be described with the term "progressive revelation". In the Bible you also find John in his Gospel reporting many deeds and sayings of Christ which cannot be found in the synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Marc, Luke). And John wrote several decades after the other three writers, at a time when very few people were still alive who knew Jesus personally. Christians at his time needed important information that was not provided by the other books already existing at that time. So he "fills in the blanks where the other Gospel writers are silent".

Paul even claims, he has received his Gospel in vision directly from Christ himself. Galatians 1:11-12. He is not depending on the apostels and desciples of Jesus for his teachings, he was taught by Christ

personally in visions. In some of his letters we find very valuable information which would not be available to us if we had only the four Gospels.

However, I certainly would have a problem if Ellen White would say something which would clearly contradict the Bible, but until now I couldn't find anything like that in her writings.

By the way, sister White was often asked for her opinion concerning various topics, including explanation of certain Bible texts and difficult theological questions, and many times she clearly responded, "I have received no information from God about this matter." She did not phantasize and invent stories. If you find in her writings descriptions of historical and especially biblical events that give more information than the original sources (e.g. the Bible), than you can be sure she has received this additional information from God, either directly in vision, or through divine guidance when using other writings. (Sometimes, like in Desire of Ages and Acts of the Apostels, she partly used also material from other contemporary Christian authors, but not without qualification; the Holy Spirit guided her like He guided Luke (Luke 1:1-4) in the choice of what material to use and what not. You can also assume that she has actually seen in vision much of what is described in that material that she copied from those other authors.) That's why you can trust her writings. 2. Timothy 3:16-17 and 2. Peter 1:19-21 can certainly also be applied to her writings.

Actually, in those two examples that you mentioned (creation story, cruxifixion), the way she described those events sounds quite logical to me. Any way, I am thankful for this additional information on those events that helps me to understand God, His character, the story of redemption, the sacrifice of Jesus and the spiritual war in this world much better and deeper, and I praise God for that.

---

**Posted by: saharafan Aug 22 2006, 06:04 AM**

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 21 2006, 10:07 PM) □**

I now I said I was "lurkin"...but here I go again.

There are "many" inconsistencies! One of the Biggest "inconsistencies" that I can think of is the EG White definition of:

1 - "amalgamation of man and beast" (the discussion of a man/beast that walks the face of the earth. This has been loosely interpreted to be the "African-American/Black" race by many. I just find this a hot mess as no animal and man can lie together and "procreate".....)

Next we have.....

2 - The EG White quote/"misquote" that speaks of Vegetarian/Vegans having a "higher spirituality" than that of Meat Eaters.

Oh...and.....

3 - The fact that "black pepper" doesn't "digest" and can form a ball in the stomach? Jethro Klauss also said this - I should have a tumor the size of a small nation if this is so.....

Now...fa real - (seriously!) Back in lurk mode....



Dear Princess

In these three "inconsistencies" that you mentioned, I cannot see any real inconsistency with the Bible, all three don't have anything to do with the Bible, only with your own personal perception, preference and prejudice.



1) Concerning the "Amalgamation" issue: Please read the statements on the following website: <http://www.whiteestate.org/issues/faq-unus.html#unusual-section-c1> or even better explained and more in dept: <http://www.whiteestate.org/issues/amalg.html>  
 In short: It has nothing to do with amalgamation *between* man and beast, but "amalgamation of man and [of] beast". Before the flood, the "amalgamation of man" that she most probably refers to was the mingling in unholy marriages of the "sons of God" with the "daughters of man" (Genesis 6:1-2), the intermarriages of the children of Seth with those of Cain. This is the most probable and reasonable explanation of her first statement.  
 Her second "amalgamation of man and [of] beast" statement (there are only two), about "amalgamation" taking place after the flood until today, refers most probably and even more clearly in a similar sense to the "amalgamation" through marriages between persons of different human races (which, by the way, is not considered a sin in that second statement, contrary to the first one where it referred to marriages between believers and unbelievers resulting in apostasy and sin), and "amalgamation" among different species of animals.

Certainly, it is also possible to understand these two references in a different, much more problematic way, but the same principles that we use for interpreting the Scripture should also be used when interpreting other extra-canonical inspired writings like those of Ellen White. We need to interpret "problematic" passages, whether in the Bible or in Ellen White's writings, in the light of, and in harmony with, other related passages on the same basic subject that are clear and more easily understood, and also with logical reasoning where applicable.

Otherwise, you could find similar difficult statements in the Bible, a famous one for example, related to those amalgamation statements from sister White, the reference to the "sons of God" marrying the "daughters of men"; many evangelicals still believe this is about angels marrying human women. Or take Jesus' statement to the thief on the cross in Luke 23:43, "Today you will be with me in paradise"; Paul's difficult statements concerning the law and the Sabbath in Galatians 3:24-25; Colossians 2:14-16 etc. All these texts have several ways how they can be interpreted and understood, and it depends on our hermeneutic principles AND on our willingness to approach the text neutrally but with the desire to harmonize seeming contradictions with other clear passages on the same subject, if this is possible without twisting and squeezing the text. Our approach to the writings of Ellen White should be the same.

By the way, if that picture you use in this forum is an accurate picture of yourself, maybe your problem is perhaps that you yourself are a product of an "amalgamation of man and beast"?

2) and 3) I would need to know the exact reference to those statements you indicated that bother you so much. It would be difficult for me to deal with them without being able to read what she actually said, within its context. Also, I am not a medical doctor or nutritionist, who could certainly illuminate us on those statements, especially concerning the "pepper".  
 However, I think that your real problem simply is that you just love to eat pepper and meat (as Ellen White herself did by the way, as it was really difficult for her to give it up after she had received the health reform vision!). But I can comfort you, you are not alone; all throughout history many people were upset when prophets of God called upon them to give up certain things or sins they loved and to undergo reformation... Many prophets even died an early death because of that.

---

**Posted by: Denny Aug 22 2006, 06:13 AM**

"Her second "amalgamation of man and [of] beast" statement (there are only two), about "amalgamation" taking place after the flood until today, refers most probably and even more clearly in a similar sense to the "amalgamation" through marriages between persons of different human races (which, by the way, is not considered a sin in that second statement, contrary to the first one where it referred to marriages between believers and unbelievers resulting in apostasy and sin), and "amalgamation" among different species of animals."

There are no 'different human races'. Such thinking keeps the R word alive and happy

---

**Posted by: justme Aug 22 2006, 06:56 AM**

Am I missing something?  
Does this belong in a NEW Topic?

1. What is the "R" and what does all this have to do with the "Dreams" or "Visions", or "Nightmares" at 3ABN? Not saying it doesn't belong here, just need help understanding ..
  2. Is someone suggestion that there is some "inter-marriage" or "inner- marriage" going on at the compound?
  2. According to the story of "The Contributor" are we to understand that "The Contributor" is insisting to the church president that the world church remain "closely-linked" to "the evangelist" or lose those millions of dollars?
  3. I guess that the loss of millions of dollars for the world missions would create some questions about the evangelist. maybe it's time ... to stand up and be counted ...
- 

**Posted by: Clay Aug 22 2006, 07:51 AM**

**QUOTE(saharafan @ Aug 22 2006, 06:23 AM)**

To be honest, I wouldn't consider those examples that you mentioned as "inconsistencies". You said it perfectly yourself, she "fills in the blanks where the Bible is silent". I don't have any problem with this statement, actually I would be very surprised if a true prophet would NOT give some new additional information that cannot be found in the Bible but doesn't contradict any biblical principles and statements. Everything else would just be a mere repetition of the biblical text and message, and for that we don't need a prophet.  
snip.....

you are comfortable with that.... I am not.... in essence her words then become equal to the bible... and in adventism that has happened.... the story of the fall is told from the perspective of egw and not of the bible... that was/is my point....

---

**Posted by: Hersheys99 Aug 22 2006, 08:51 AM**

**QUOTE**

People who are in a healthy relationship have difficulty in wrapping their minds around the thought that any woman would stay in an abusive home.

BUT for the woman who is in this kind of a home, it is far different. We call it "Battered Wife Syndrome" -- and that doesn't necessarily mean that the woman has been physically battered. But psychologically, her value of herself is lowered. She is not sure of herself and often believes the negative things that her husband has pounded into her over the years. A woman who comes from a well-to-do home has a far harder time of leaving than a woman who lives in a chicken coop.

Think of all that Linda had to lose if she left. -- her husband, her home, the work that she loved and the knowledge that family members (and friends from around the world) may not believe her.

That is tough. Probably only women who have gone through such an experience have the slightest idea of what I am talking about.

I have seen women go back time after time, and it makes me so frustrated although I intellectually understand why they do it. Fortunately for Linda, there was no coming back.

EXACTLY until you have been in that type of relationship you have no clue how hard it is to finally leave. I was in one in my first marriage which lasted for 11 years---10 TOO LONG! I left at least 3 times I can remember before finally making it a final break & it took someone else to give me the courage that I could do it. The sad thing is that if you don't get counseling which I didn't you have a tendency to get back into that same kind of relationship maybe not as bad as the one before or in the same areas but it happens. It really stinks too & then you start it all over again. Maybe it will go longer & you think you have found the "right" one this time but unless you get HELP the cycle starts all over again.

**Posted by: meadbd Aug 22 2006, 09:44 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 22 2006, 08:51 AM)**

you are comfortable with that.... I am not.... in essence her words then become equal to the bible... and in adventism that has happened.... the story of the fall is told from the perspective of egw and not of the bible... that was/is my point....

=====  
 For the Christian the Bible is the final (or only) authority! But for many Adventists, this is clearly NOT the case.

Bill

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 22 2006, 11:03 AM**

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 21 2006, 08:56 PM)**

rofl That's as creative as some of the stories Dan puts out!   
 I've not run across that one by the Ellen I've read. Perhaps you can supply the source?


(All I've read is that pepper and other strong spices inflamme the delicate linings of the stomach and desensitize the taste buds so that one is unable to appreciate more delicate flavors -- the latter not difficult to verify by casual observation.)

will search. I may be wrong - (and can admit if I am wrong) but I will search for my source....

BTW: Inga - That statement about "pepper" that you made is actually wrong. The stomach contains ACID. How would something that actually "breaks down pepper" - not "inflamm the delicate linings of the stomach"...more than the ACID that/which sits there continually? Mind you ACID (when thrown up-[Bulimics]) burns the esophagus and rots the teeth - however pepper doesn't burn the esophagus

and rot the teeth when eaten & swallowed w/ food.

I'm sure you can see where (by deduction) this makes no sense. 


**QUOTE(saharafan @ Aug 22 2006, 08:04 AM)** 

Dear Princess

In these three "inconsistencies" that you mentioned, I cannot see any real inconsistency with the Bible, all three don't have anything to do with the Bible, only with your own personal perception, preference and prejudice.

The "inconsistency" that I spoke of pertaining to "spirituality and diet" is in direct conflict with the Bible. Of course many don't want to see it or discuss it (as two previous threads have shown) - and this statement is also in direct conflict w/ the life that JESUS himself led.


As for the consistency w/ "amalgamation" - Denny broke that down below.....

**QUOTE(Denny @ Aug 22 2006, 08:13 AM)** 

"Her second "amalgamation of man and [of] beast" statement (there are only two), about "amalgamation" taking place after the flood until today, refers most probably and even more clearly in a similar sense to the "amalgamation" through marriages between persons of different human races (which, by the way, is not considered a sin in that second statement, contrary to the first one where it referred to marriages between believers and unbelievers resulting in apostasy and sin), and "amalgamation" among different species of animals."

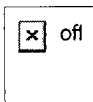
There are no 'different human races'. Such thinking keeps the R word alive and happy

I was going to say it - but you beat me to it...

**QUOTE(justme @ Aug 22 2006, 08:56 AM)** 

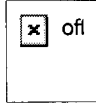
Am I missing something?  
Does this belong in a NEW Topic?

1. What is the "R" and what does all this have to do with the "Dreams" or "Visions", or "Nightmares" at 3ABN? Not saying it doesn't belong here, just need help understanding ..
2. Is someone suggestion that there is some "inter-marriage" or "inner- marriage" going on at the compound?
2. According to the story of "The Contributor" are we to understand that "The Contributor" is insisting to the church president that the world church remain "closely-linked" to "the evangelist" or lose those millions of dollars?
3. I guess that the loss of millions of dollars for the world missions would create some questions about the evangelist. maybe it's time ... to stand up and be counted ...

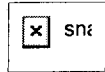


Actually you are right JustMe - the topic kinda went off when folks started discussing the dream/vision and how EGW had dreams and the conflict between EGW and thus it has went a bit off....

New topic? Yeah - I agree...but it has been discussed I believe....  
As for the what the "R" is - it's stands for "Racist"/"Racism"

Sorry - we are a bit  of - but all that aside.... there are "inconsistencies" within EGW's writings with the BIBLE and even with HERSELF.

Okay....  
Lurking again....



**Posted by: msraccoon Aug 22 2006, 02:08 PM**


Yes 'justme' and 'PrincessDrRe'. This thread has gotten so off topic(s) from the original letter from Barbara Kerr. I noticed this awhile back. I was hoping to hear more discussion on her comments. I am still contemplating a reply to it.

I was elated at Barbara's first letter, now pinned, about Linda. However this one has given me pause and I have now have mixed feelings about Barbara's credibility.

Can we get back to topic?

msraccoon

**Posted by: inga Aug 22 2006, 02:26 PM**

Thanks, Saharafan, for this excellent explanation. 

And, Clay, I have no problem with accepting a prophet as having the same kind of inspiration as those prophets who went before as well as the same authority -- **after the prophet has been tested and proven to be a genuine prophet who speaks in harmony with all God revealed before.** That, of course, would put Ellen White in a similar category as the Bible **and it would also mean that we would study the Bible more than her writings, because that's what she counseled us to do.** Ellen clearly instructed that we were not to use her writings as "authority," and she continually points her hearers and readers back to the Scriptures.

Of course, if you believe that the gift of prophecy stopped when the biblical canon was complete, you cannot accept Ellen White as a prophet and therefore cannot accept her authority.

By the way, I agree that her writings have been abused/misused. However, that is not her fault, but the fault of those who love to use her writings for their own purposes -- usually of "correcting" others, a practice she specifically condemned.

I have found that her writings have helped me appreciate the Bible more, and they have given me a clearer picture of Jesus and thus made it easier for me to develop a relationship with Him. I have had the experience of lending out such books as *Steps to Christ* and *Desire of Ages* to those not of our faith and have them conclude that "that woman must have been inspired."

I find it sad when some of our own people miss the blessings God intended us to have by giving us very personal and specific counsel through His gift of prophecy in the person of Ellen White. But it really mystifies me when those who will not accept Ellen as a true prophet of God are quite willing to accept visions and dreams currently related by various individuals as revelations from

God. How does that compute?

Most of this topic is relevant to the original post because it deals with genuine vs. counterfeit revelations from God.

**QUOTE(saharafan @ Aug 22 2006, 07:04 AM)**

Dear Princess

In these three "inconsistencies" that you mentioned, I cannot see any real inconsistency with the Bible, all three don't have anything to do with the Bible, only with your own personal perception, preference and prejudice.

1) Concerning the "Amalgamation" issue: Please read the statements on the following website: <http://www.whiteestate.org/issues/faq-unus.html#unusual-section-c1> or even better explained and more in dept: <http://www.whiteestate.org/issues/amalg.html> In short: It has nothing to do with amalgamation *between* man and beast, but "amalgamation of man and [of] beast". Before the flood, the "amalgamation of man" that she most probably refers to was the mingling in unholy marriages of the "sons of God" with the "daughters of man" (Genesis 6:1-2), the intermarriages of the children of Seth with those of Cain. This is the most probable and reasonable explanation of her first statement.

Her second "amalgamation of man and [of] beast" statement (there are only two), about "amalgamation" taking place after the flood until today, refers most probably and even more clearly in a similar sense to the "amalgamation" through marriages between persons of different human races (which, by the way, is not considered a sin in that second statement, contrary to the first one where it referred to marriages between believers and unbelievers resulting in apostasy and sin), and "amalgamation" among different species of animals.

Certainly, it is also possible to understand these two references in a different, much more problematic way, but the same principles that we use for interpreting the Scripture should also be used when interpreting other extra-canonical inspired writings like those of Ellen White. We need to interpret "problematic" passages, whether in the Bible or in Ellen White's writings, in the light of, and in harmony with, other related passages on the same basic subject that are clear and more easily understood, and also with logical reasoning where applicable.

Otherwise, you could find similar difficult statements in the Bible, a famous one for example, related to those amalgamation statements from sister White, the reference to the "sons of God" marrying the "daughters of men"; many evangelicals still believe this is about angels marrying human women. Or take Jesus' statement to the thief on the cross in Luke 23:43, "Today you will be with me in paradise"; Paul's difficult statements concerning the law and the Sabbath in Galatians 3:24-25; Colossians 2:14-16 etc. All these texts have several ways how they can be interpreted and understood, and it depends on our hermeneutic principles AND on our willingness to approach the text neutrally but with the desire to harmonize seeming contradictions with other clear passages on the same subject, if this is possible without twisting and squeezing the text. Our approach to the writings of Ellen White should be the same.

By the way, if that picture you use in this forum is an accurate picture of yourself, maybe your problem is perhaps that you yourself are a product of an "amalgamation of man and beast"?

2) and 3) I would need to know the exact reference to those statements you indicated that bother you so much. It would be difficult for me to deal with them without being able to read what she actually said, within its context. Also, I am not a medical doctor or nutritionist, who could certainly illuminate us on those statements, especially concerning the "pepper".

However, I think that your real problem simply is that you just love to eat pepper and meat (as Ellen White herself did by the way, and it was really difficult for her to give it up after she had received the health reform vision!). But I can comfort you, you are not alone; all throughout history many people were upset when prophets of God called upon them to give up certain things or sins they loved and to undergo reformation... Many prophets even died an early death because of that.



**Posted by: justme Aug 22 2006, 05:00 PM**

**QUOTE(msraccoon @ Aug 22 2006, 04:08 PM)**

Yes 'justme' and 'PrincessDrRe'. This thread has gotten so off topic(s) from the original letter from Barbara Kerr. I noticed this awhile back. I was hoping to hear more discussion on her comments. I am still contemplating a reply to it.

I was elated at Barbara's first letter, now pinned, about Linda. However this one has given me pause and I have now have mixed feelings about Barbara's credibility.

Can we get back to topic?

msraccoon

Thanks, "PrincessDrRe" and "msraccoon",

The second "Barbara" letter. Here is an example of how we **selectively**[i][u] believe. The first letter "Pinned" by Barbara bears witness to much of what is already known about the compound and its inhabitants.

The second letter was related to her by another individual. That makes it "second hand". The first, "Pinned", letter is a first-hand experience. When we hear something that may please us we tend easily to accept it even if the content is sad. If we hear something of "what???" was that about? we tend to raise an eyebrow. It is as we should do.

Barbara's credibility should not be questioned for passing along the "DREAM/VISION?" letter any more than the rest of the "posters"'s credibility.

We trust first hand reports more than second hand and we think nothing of it. We question the validity of the "DreamVision", not that it was passed along. It really does fit into this issue of what is going on at 3ABN and what the future may hold.

Has anyone else had a dream of what might become of Danny or 3ABN? or was it more of a nightmare?

**Posted by: västergötland Aug 22 2006, 05:19 PM**

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 22 2006, 06:03 PM)**

BTW: Inga - That statement about "pepper" that you made is actually wrong. The stomach contains ACID. How would something that actually "breaks down pepper" - not "inflammes the delicate linings of the stomach"...more than the ACID that/which sits there continually? Mind you ACID (when thrown up-[Bulimics]) burns the esophagus and rots the teeth - however pepper doesn't burn the esophagus and rot the teeth when eaten & swallowed w/ food.

I'm sure you can see where (by deduction) this makes no sense.

The stomach dealing with acid while not dealing with other some other substances is comparable with a fur coat being great to wear when in a snowfall but quite useless if fighting a fire in a house.

---

**Posted by: beartrap Aug 22 2006, 05:36 PM**

---

**QUOTE(msraccoon @ Aug 22 2006, 03:08 PM)**

Yes 'justme' and 'PrincessDrRe'. This thread has gotten so off topic(s) from the original letter from Barbara Kerr. I noticed this awhile back. I was hoping to hear more discussion on her comments. I am still contemplating a reply to it.

I was elated at Barbara's first letter, now pinned, about Linda. However this one has given me pause and I have now have mixed feelings about Barbara's credibility.

Can we get back to topic?

msraccoon

---

Whether it is something just being passed along, or whether it reflects her theological beliefs, Barbara's "Dreams & Visions Concerning 3ABN" post has nothing to do with her credibility as a witness. *What happened, happened, she witnessed it, and thats all there is to it.*

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 22 2006, 07:11 PM**

---

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 22 2006, 03:26 PM)**

Thanks, Saharafan, for this excellent explanation.

And, Clay, I have no problem with accepting a prophet as having the same kind of inspiration as those prophets who went before as well as the same authority -- **after the prophet has been tested and proven to be a genuine prophet who speaks in harmony with all God revealed before.** That, of course, would put Ellen White in a similar categor as the Bible **and it would also mean that we would study the Bible more than her writings, because that's what she counseled us to do.** Ellen clearly instructed that we were not to use her writings as "authority," and she continually points her hearers and readers back to the Scriptures.

Of course, if you believe that the gift of prophecy stopped when the biblical canon was complete, you cannot accept Ellen White as a prophet and therefore cannot accept her authority.

By the way, I agree that her writings have been abused/misused. However, that is not her fault, but the fault of those who love to use her writings for their own purposes -- usually of "correcting" others, a practice she specifically condemned.

I have found that her writings have helped me appreciate the Bible more, and they have given me a clearer picture of Jesus and thus made it easier for me to develop a relationship with Him. I have had the experience of lending out such books as *Steps to Christ* and *Desire of Ages* to those not of our faith and have them conclude that "that woman must have been inspired."

I find it sad when some of our own people miss the blessings God intended us to have by giving us very personal and specific counsel through His gift of prophecy in the person of Ellen White. But it



really mystifies me when those who will not accept Ellen as a true prophet of God are quite willing to accept visions and dreams currently related by various individuals as revelations from God. How does that compute?

Most of this topic is relevant to the original post because it deals with genuine vs. counterfeit revelations from God.

here is one authority, that would be God... not the bible, not egw, not the church...

**Posted by: saharafan Aug 22 2006, 07:34 PM**

**QUOTE(beartrap @ Aug 22 2006, 11:36 PM)**

Whether it is something just being passed along, or whether it reflects her theological beliefs, Barbara's "Dreams & Visions Concerning 3ABN" post has nothing to do with her credibility as a witness. What happened, happened, she witnessed it, and thats all there is to it.

What was expressed by beartrap and others is definitely true; we need to make a difference between her witnessing her own personal factual experiences with 3ABN in her pinned letter and her reporting the dreams of her friend. Her "credibility" certainly is not at all touched by her statements about those dreams. I want to add that I really appreciate that she wrote that letter and was even willing to identify and expose herself by doing so. That propably took a lot of courage, and this should be recognized. I also am thankful for her reporting that dream although I personally don't agree with her interpretation of it.

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 22 2006, 07:47 PM**

**QUOTE(västergötland @ Aug 22 2006, 06:19 PM)**

The stomach dealing with acid while not dealing with other some other substances is comparable with a fur coat being great to wear when in a snowfall but quite useless if fighting a fire in a house.

don't think you're seeing what I'm saying..... I get what you're saying...but I've been told - this is



**Posted by: inga Aug 23 2006, 12:01 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 22 2006, 08:11 PM)**

there is one authority, that would be God... not the bible, not egw, not the church...

how do you recognize that it is **God** speaking?

I know that the work of the Holy Spirit has been mentioned, but the question remains: How do you know of the Holy Spirit?

Is **all** "spirituality" (i.e. Hinduism, Vodooism, Scientology, Mormonism, Islam, Shintoism, etc.) a way of experiencing/hearing God?

Does the Holy Spirit ever contradict what has been revealed and recorded in the Scriptures?

**Posted by: inga Aug 23 2006, 12:27 AM**

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 22 2006, 12:03 PM)**

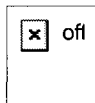
BTW: Inga - That statement about "pepper" that you made is actually wrong. The stomach contains ACID. How would something that actually "breaks down pepper" - not "inflammate the delicate linings of the stomach"...more than the ACID that/which sits there continually?

H'mm, DrRe, are you also working on a PhD in Physiology that you write with such authority on the subject? (I.e. why should I believe you rather than Ellen White?)

**Posted by: Johann Aug 23 2006, 06:49 AM**

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 23 2006, 08:27 AM)**

H'mm, DrRe, are you also working on a PhD in Physiology that you write with such authority on the subject? (I.e. why should I believe you rather than Ellen White?)



**Posted by: saharafan Aug 23 2006, 07:42 AM**

I intend this to be hopefully my last "off-topic post" on this forum on the subject of Ellen White and the Spirit of Prophecy. I do not want to try to convince anybody of my viewpoint, but I do want to explain myself in order not to be misunderstood.

I am quoting the Fundamental Belief #18, "The Gift of Prophecy", of the SDA church from <http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental/index.html> Emphasis added is mine.

**QUOTE**

**18. The Gift of Prophecy:**

One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is prophecy. This gift is an identifying mark of the remnant church and was manifested in the ministry of Ellen. G. White. As the Lord's messenger, **her writings are a continuing and authoritative source of truth** which provide for the church comfort, guidance, instruction, and correction. **They also make clear that the Bible is the standard by which all teaching and experience must be tested.** (Joel 2:28, 29; Acts 2:14-

21; Heb. 1:1-3; Rev. 12:17; 19:10.)


honestly feel a little bit sorry that I feel the need to defend my believe in the validity and "biblical correctness" of this fundamental believe of my church on this "Black SDA" Website to other Adventists. Let me say that every and any authority that I or the official SDA church attribute to Ellen White and/or her writings is solely based on and derived from the Bible and the Bible alone. I believe that her writings are a continuing and authoritative source of truth" simply **because the Bible instructs me to do so.**

also see no contradiction at all in her "version" of the story of the Fall of Adam and Eve and the one found in Genesis 3, but rather a harmonic blending, by the way. But that is, admittedly, my personal viewpoint.

I am somehow surprised, however, that some dear Adventist brothers or sisters who take issue with his fundamental believe and have a problem to accept her visions and dreams as genuinely from God and her writings as inspired and an "authoritative source of truth" without pointing out which biblical test of the true prophetic gift she fails to pass, are at the same time readily willing to accept unqualifiedly a second-hand report on another woman's visions or dreams without putting her message to the same biblical test. This I am not able to understand, honestly.

Again, certainly the Bible is the prime and original authority, and every authority given to other extra-biblical sources claiming inspiration must definitely be derived from the Bible, and the Bible only. But since the Bible itself attributes authority to extra-biblical true prophets and prophecy, and even predicts that the "Testimony of Jesus" or the "Spirit of Prophecy" will again be given to Christ's true church in the end-time (Revelation 12 etc.), I feel biblically justified to attribute the same kind of authority that the Bible has to me also to the message of this biblically predicted "Spirit of Prophecy" once it has been thoroughly examined and biblically vindicated: **DIVINE AUTHORITY.**

The reason I posted those quotes from sister White's writings about "visions & dreams" was because I thought that we can learn a lot more from her referenes to this issue simply because she often had to deal with it, than from the rather few and not-so-clear biblical references, although some certainly do exist. It was an attempt to help us to understand better the issues involved and the danger of accepting and following false dreams or messages from evil spirits, and the importance and need to put those dreams and messages to the biblical test. And I thought since it would be mainly SDA's who would read it, this wouldn't be a problem. Ellen White's writings should never be used to "proof" anything in any discussion with persons who are not really convinced of her inspiration and have not fully accepted her writings as an "authoritative source of truth" but still have doubts about her.

By the way, although I am personally a vegetarian by choice, I do love to eat cheese and spicy hot foods (including black pepper) and even chocolate from time to time, although sister Withe clearly discourages the consumption of these. However, I don't have a problem with her because of her advice that these things are not healthy for our bodies and should better not be consumed. I do believe that she is right with this. I see the problem rather with me and my present personal attitude towards these "foods". Therefore the inconsistency here is not between her writings and the Bible but between her "inspired and authoritative" recommendations and my lifestyle. So I am not "holier" than anyone of you. However, at the same time I also wouldn't say that I am "living in sin" because of this. But I still have the hope and the aim that one day I will get rid of those things... 

I do want to appologize for using the term "human races" for referring to different ethnicities; English is not my mother tongue and I was not aware that this term might possibly hurt somebody, and justifiably so, who has either suffered personally because of his or her ethnic origin, or who feels it to be very inappropriate considering the unimaginable harm that has been done during the last several centuries to African peoples and other "races" because of the evil mindset and worldview that is or has been often connected with this term. Let me say that, being myself of European descent, several of my closest and best friends are black Africans (given the fact that I live in Africa) and that I don't feel in any way superior or better than they. So please feel free to replace this term with "ethnic people groups" or whatever else you deem appropriate.

I will no further contribute to this discussion on Ellen White's writings.

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 23 2006, 07:47 AM**

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 23 2006, 12:01 AM)**

How do you recognize that it is **God** speaking?

I know that the work of the Holy Spirit has been mentioned, but the question remains: How do you know of the Holy Spirit?

Is **all** "spirituality" (i.e. Hinduism, Voodooism, Scientology, Mormonism, Islam, Shintoism, etc.) a way of experiencing/hearing God?

Does the Holy Spirit ever contradict what has been revealed and recorded in the Scriptures?

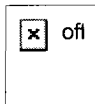
How do I recognize my wife when I call her on the phone? I know her voice and she knows mine..... how? because we have a relationship..... How do I know the holy spirit? He has a voice too that I recognize....

---

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 23 2006, 07:47 AM**

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 23 2006, 01:27 AM)**

H'mm, DrRe, are you also working on a PhD in Physiology that you write with such authority on the subject? (I.e. why should I believe you rather than Ellen White?)



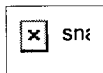
- but also did an "extensive" study of my Advisor's Dissertation on the topic. If anywhere

near AU stop in the Education & Counseling Department (@ Bell Hall) - I will be there nightly during the week finishing up my coursework.

We can go over the "dissertation" and the research - that shows the "inconsistencies" - with her writings in regards to the BIBLE and also herself. However statements like this *normally* come from those that have only read the "circulating" books and not her archived work.

BOT!

Still lurkin'....




---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 23 2006, 07:51 AM**

**QUOTE(saharafan @ Aug 23 2006, 07:42 AM)**

I intend this to be hopefully my last "off-topic post" on this forum on the subject of Ellen White and the Spirit of Prophecy. I do not want to try to convince anybody of my viewpoint, but I do want to explain myself in order not to be misunderstood.

I am quoting the Fundamental Belief #18, "The Gift of Prophecy", of the SDA church from <http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental/index.html> Emphasis added is mine.

I honestly feel a little bit sorry that I feel the need to defend my believe in the validity and "biblical correctnes" of this fundamental believe of my church on this "Black **SDA**" Website to other Adventists. Let me say that every and any authority that I or the official SDA church attribute to Ellen White and/or her writings is solely based on and derived from the Bible and the Bible alone. I believe that "her writings are a continuing and authoritative source of truth" simply **because the Bible instructs me to do so.**

I also see no contradiction at all in her "version" of the story of the Fall of Adam and Eve and the one found in Genesis 3, but rather a harmonic blending, by the way. But that is, admittedly, my personal viewpoint.


I am somehow surprised, however, that some dear Adventist brothers or sisters who take issue with this fundamental believe and have a problem to accept her visions and dreams as genuinely from God and her writings as inspired and an "authoritative source of truth" without pointing out which biblical test of the true prophetic gift she fails to pass, are at the same time readily willing to accept unqualifiedly a second-hand report on another woman's visions or dreams without putting her message to the same biblical test. This I am not able to understand, honestly.

Again, certainly the Bible is the prime and original authority, and every authority given to other extra-biblical sources claiming inspiration must definitely be derived from the Bible, and the Bible only. But since the Bible itself attributes authority to extra-biblical true prophets and prophecy, and even predicts that the "Testimony of Jesus" or the "Spirit of Prophecy" will again be given to Christ's true church in the end-time (Revelation 12 etc.), I feel biblically justified to attribute the same kind of authority that the Bible has to me also to the message of this biblically predicted "Spirit of Prophecy" once it has been thoroughly examined and biblically vindicated: **DIVINE AUTHORITY.**

The reason I posted those quotes from sister White's writings about "visions & dreams" was because I thought that we can learn a lot more from her refereces to this issue simply because she often had to deal with it, than from the rather few and not-so-clear biblical references, although some certainly do exist. It was an attempt to help us to understand better the issues involved and the danger of accepting and following false dreams or messages from evil spirits, and the importance and need to put those dreams and messages to the biblical test. And I thought since it would be mainly SDA's who would read it, this wouldn't be a problem. Ellen White's writings should never be used to "proof" anything in any discussion with persons who are not really convinced of her inspiration and have not fully accepted her writings as an "authoritative source of truth" but still have doubts about her.

snip...

thanks for sharing your views, and you can continue discussing the as long as there is interest.... not everyone will agree with you and not everyone must agree... in the end egw is not the savior and it is not necessary to believe "in her" to be saved.... not all adventists believe the same thing as you know so you don't have to look at it as defending your beliefs as much as sharing where you are in your christian walk....

As for the 28 fundamentals.... if they work for you, thats cool... 

let me add you don't do everything the bible instructs you to do.... the bible says sabbathbreakers should be put to death.... the bible says to stone to death rebellious children.... you don't obey those

directives because what?

---

**Posted by: Barbara Kerr Aug 24 2006, 07:53 PM**

**QUOTE(justme @ Aug 22 2006, 06:00 PM)**

Thanks, "PrincessDrRe" and "msracoon",

The second "Barbara" letter. Here is an example of how we **selectively**[i][u] believe. The first letter "Pinned" by Barbara bears witness to much of what is already known about the compound and it's inhabitants.

The second letter was related to her by another individual. That makes it "second hand". The first, "Pinned", letter is a first-hand experience. When we hear something that may please us we tend easily to accept it even if the content is sad. If we hear something of "what???" was that about? we tend to raise an eyebrow. It is as we should do.

Barbara's credibility should not be questioned for passing along the "DREAM/VISION?" letter any more than the rest of the "posters"'s credibility.

We trust first hand reports more than second hand and we think nothing of it. We question the validity of the "DreamVision", not that it was passed along. It really does fit into this issue of what is going on at 3ABN and what the future may hold.

Has anyone else had a dream of what might become of Danny or 3ABN? or was it more of a nightmare?

Hi Everyone,

Thank you JustMe and all of you for being so gracious in your replies to the letter that I posted. As I have read back through your responses this past week I have seen that you have had quite the "lively" conversation. WOW. I had no idea that all of this conversation would be generated from the dreams.

Someone posted a bunch of questions way back on one of the first few pages asking why would these dreams even be published? What was the purpose? Was there an interpretation?

I have been thinking a lot about those questions, and want to say that God has NOT revealed to me any special interpretation, but if I was a guessing woman, and having been personally in the middle of the 3abn "mess", I'm guessing that the purpose of the dreams being posted really has absolutely nothing to do with "us" (those that are not the 3abn family).

When a person builds themselves a castle and then surrounds it with guards so that no one can approach TC1 (the chosen one), this post may have happened for the soul purpose of trying to send out a wake up call to those that are so busy working FOR God that they don't seem to have time to listen TO God. God always gives us EVERY opportunity to turn our lives around and make things right. Danny is no different -- but will he actually listen??? I hope so.

Thanks again for the stimulating conversation and for the sweet emails you have sent.  I have enjoyed reading every one of them.

Hugs,  
Barbara Kerr

---

**Posted by: Barbara Kerr Aug 24 2006, 08:12 PM**

---

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 23 2006, 08:47 AM)**

How do I recognize my wife when I call her on the phone? I know her voice and she knows mine..... how? because we have a relationship..... How do I know the holy spirit? He has a voice too that I recognize....

Hi Clay,

You truly hit the nail on the head. It's easy to spend time learning about God without spending time "with" God. I promise you I recognize my best friends voice everytime I hear it. Why? Because we have spent hours and hours and hours talking over the past 14 years. And we have the phone bills to prove it!  rofl

I am not embarrassed or ashamed to tell everyone that it is my practice to ask God to "speak" to me from His word EVERY morning before I begin reading my Bible. I never used to do that, but it has become one of the most precious parts of my daily devotional time. If you don't think that God will speak to you, just pray for the Holy Spirit to lead you and try it.

The other thing that I never used to do that is really cool, is to ask God to wake you up in the morning when He wants to spend time with you. You will find yourself awake at least an hour before you usually get up. No alarm clocks needed. I love this time with God. I crave it now and I can't live with out it.

I'm not ashamed or embarrassed to shout from the highest mountain top that I recognize the voice of God when He speaks to me. There is a huge difference between God's voice in my ear, and the voice of the evil one. People can debate it forever -- but just like a picture is like a thousand words, ..... this is something that is necessary to experience on your own. If you are not sure whos voice is speaking to you, then I encourage you to go to your knees for answers. Put out your fleece if necessary. God will answer.

Warmly,  
Barbara Kerr

---

**Posted by: Fran Aug 24 2006, 08:17 PM**

---

**QUOTE(Barbara Kerr @ Aug 24 2006, 09:12 PM)**

Hi Clay,

You truly hit the nail on the head. It's easy to spend time learning about God without spending time "with" God. I promise you I recognize my best friends voice everytime I hear it. Why? Because we have spent hours and hours and hours talking over the past 14 years. And we have the phone bills to prove it!  rofl

I am not embarrassed or ashamed to tell everyone that it is my practice to ask God to "speak" to me from His word EVERY morning before I begin reading my Bible. I never used to do that, but it has become one of the most precious parts of my daily devotional time. If you don't think that God will speak to you, just pray for the Holy Spirit to lead you and try it.

The other thing that I never used to do that is really cool, is to ask God to wake you up in the morning when He wants to spend time with you. You will find yourself awake at least an hour before you usually get up. No alarm clocks needed. I love this time with God. I crave it now and I

can't live with out it.

I'm not ashamed or embarrassed to shout from the highest mountain top that I recognize the voice of God when He speaks to me. There is a huge difference between God's voice in my ear, and the voice of the evil one. People can debate it forever -- but just like a picture is like a thousand words, ..... this is something that is necessary to experience on your own. If you are not sure whos voice is speaking to you, then I encourage you to go to your knees for answers. Put out your fleece if necessary. God will answer.

Warmly,  
Barbara Kerr

Thank you Barbara! This is so true!

---

**Posted by: inga Aug 24 2006, 08:37 PM**

Barbara, thanks for your lovely post sharing your experience.

Yes, God speaks to us individually when we spend time **with Him**. My question was actually intended to demonstrate that our knowledge of God and Who He is and Who the Holy Spirit is is *founded in Scripture* -- at least in a society where the Scriptures are readily available. God's written Word is His chief intended means of communicating with us because it is the only *objective* standard we have to recognize whether the voice we hear is His or simply our own thoughts or even (God forbid) that of the great deceiver.

I previously asked on what basis we believe that we hear the voice of the Creator and that our hearing is better than those who hear Allah or the voice of their personal spirit or any of the multitude of voices in this world. Again, I had hoped to draw attention to the primacy of the Scriptures.

Clay mentioned that he recognizes the voice of the Holy Spirit the way he recognizes the voice of his wife. What he omitted to mention was that he actually **saw** his wife when he got acquainted with her. He spent time with her **physically**, he works with her, plays with her, etc. When we speak of knowing the Holy Spirit we do not have the same advantage as when we speak of knowing our spouses. We do not **see** the Holy Spirit or **touch** Him physically (thinking of the sight-impaired), so we must learn to recognize Him by other means. When we recognize our spouse's voice over the phone it is because we have heard them in person while seeing them, and their voice is the same as what we have come to know. Similarly, the voice of the Spirit speaks in the same manner as He has spoken in the past, and the Scriptures demonstrate what He has said in the past. In othe words, we get to know Him through the Scriptures and thus learn to recognize His voice when He speaks to us in other ways.

Without any objective check of the "voice" we hear, we cannot know whose voice it is. There are **many** sincere folks who hear "the Holy Spirit" say things quite contrary to the Scriptures, and I believe they are not hearing **the** Holy Spirit.


Again, thank you Barbara for your practical sharing of how we may hear the Holy Spirit and know that He's the One speaking.

---

**QUOTE(Barbara Kerr @ Aug 24 2006, 09:12 PM)**

Hi Clay,  
You truly hit the nail on the head. It's easy to spend time learning about God without spending time "with" God. I promise you I recognize my best friends voice everytime I hear it. Why? Because we



have spent hours and hours and hours talking over the past 14 years. And we have the phone bills to prove it! 

I am not embarrassed or ashamed to tell everyone that it is my practice to ask God to "speak" to me from His word EVERY morning before I begin reading my Bible. I never used to do that, but it has become one of the most precious parts of my daily devotional time. If you don't think that God will speak to you, just pray for the Holy Spirit to lead you and try it.

The other thing that I never used to do that is really cool, is to ask God to wake you up in the morning when He wants to spend time with you. You will find yourself awake at least an hour before you usually get up. No alarm clocks needed. I love this time with God. I crave it now and I can't live without it.


I'm not ashamed or embarrassed to shout from the highest mountain top that I recognize the voice of God when He speaks to me. There is a huge difference between God's voice in my ear, and the voice of the evil one. People can debate it forever -- but just like a picture is like a thousand words, ..... this is something that is necessary to experience on your own. If you are not sure whos voice is speaking to you, then I encourage you to go to your knees for answers. Put out your fleece if necessary. God will answer.


Warmly,  
Barbara Kerr

---

**Posted by: Barbara Kerr Aug 24 2006, 10:16 PM**

---

**QUOTE(inga @ Aug 24 2006, 09:37 PM)** 

Barbara, thanks for your lovely post sharing your experience. 

Yes, God speaks to us individually when we spend time **with Him**. My question was actually intended to demonstrate that our knowledge of God and Who He is and Who the Holy Spirit is is founded in Scripture -- at least in a society where the Scriptures are readily available. God's written Word is His chief intended means of communicating with us because it is the only *objective* standard we have to recognize whether the voice we hear is His or simply our own thoughts or even (God forbid) that of the great deceiver.

I previously asked on what basis we believe that we hear the voice of the Creator and that our hearing is better than those who hear Allah or the voice of their personal spirit or any of the multitude of voices in this world. Again, I had hoped to draw attention to the primacy of the Scriptures.

Clay mentioned that he recognizes the voice of the Holy Spirit the way he recognizes the voice of his wife. What he omitted to mention was that he actually **saw** his wife when he got acquainted with her. He spent time with her **physically**, he works with her, plays with her, etc. When we speak of knowing the Holy Spirit we do not have the same advantage as when we speak of knowing our spouses. We do not **see** the Holy Spirit or **touch** Him physical (thinking of the sight-impaired), so we must learn to recognize Him by other means. When we recognize our spouse's voice over the phone it is because we have heard them in person while seeing them, and their voice is the same as what we have come to know. Similarly, the voice of the Spirit speaks in the same manner as He has spoken in the past, and the Scriptures demonstrate what He has said in the past. In other words, we get to know Him through the Scriptures and thus learn to recognize His voice when He speaks to us in other ways.

Without any objective check of the "voice" we hear, we cannot know whose voice it is. There are **many** sincere folks who hear "the Holy Spirit" say things quite contrary to the Scriptures, and I believe they are not hearing **the** Holy Spirit.

Again, thank you Barbara for your practical sharing of how we may hear the Holy Spirit and know that He's the One speaking.

Hi Inga,

I always enjoy reading your comments and I do hear what you are asking.

I totally agree that there are many sincere folks who hear "the Holy Spirit" say things that are quite contrary to the Scriptures, and I too believe they are not hearing **the** Holy Spirit.

It has to do with how we are raised. One of my close friends was raised by a practicing witch. As a child she learned how to "use the gifts that she had been given by the spirits". She also became accustomed to speaking a language that belonged in spirit worship. She grew up using her "special gifts" and speaking this language.

Did my friend think she was living a good life and would be rewarded with something great like being re-incarnated as something really cool the "next time around"? Absolutely!

After her mother became a born again SDA Christian, she began praying for her daughter to come to know Christ. The daughter began to attend church (but not an sda church). She joined a pentecostal church. She abruptly stopped going one day after she was given the "gift of speaking in tongues" and realized that the language they spoke was EXACTLY the same as that spoken during her days as a practicing witch!

I am thrilled to say that she is a vibrant and "on-fire" SDA Christian today, using her experiences to help educate the public on the differences between the Lord and the deceptions of the evil one. Her name is Stephanie Armstrong, and she has a wonderful ministry.

Inga, a big part of the answer to your question is that I personally have accepted the Bible as my "home plate". Once a person accepts the Bible, and the Bible alone, as their compass then they can make statements *in faith* (as I did in the previous post) about knowing the voice of the Holy Spirit. I'm sure that the people that become accustomed to listening to the voice of the evil one also know his voice. Each one may believe that the other is deceived, but that is where study comes in. We have to know what we believe and why, (I'm speaking to myself here too) and then we have to find a comfort level with it.

With as much spiritualism as there is in today's world, we need to fervently pray for one another, our marriages, our children and our extended families. If the evil one is doubling and tripling his forces to break up families, then isn't it time we double and triple our prayer time? Just a thought.

Barbara Kerr

---

**Posted by: Ralph Aug 25 2006, 10:20 AM**

---

**QUOTE(Barbara Kerr @ Aug 24 2006, 10:16 PM)**

After her mother became a born again SDA Christian, she began praying for her daughter to come

to know Christ. The daughter began to attend church (but not an sda church). She joined a pentecostal church. She abruptly stopped going one day after she was given the "gift of speaking in tongues" and realized that the language they spoke was EXACTLY the same as that spoken during her days as a practicing witch!

Thanks for the insightful post, Barbara. That answered a big question for me. I am wondering how much the Pentecostal background of some key figures has infiltrated 3ABN.

---

**Posted by: saharafan Aug 26 2006, 09:57 PM**

---

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 23 2006, 01:47 PM)**

How do I recognize my wife when I call her on the phone? I know her voice and she knows mine..... how? because we have a relationship..... How do I know the holy spirit? He has a voice too that I recognize....

The point is that you are **used** to the **physical** voice of your wife. You have past experience of her talking to you, and you listening to her (and that's great because wives appreciate that when their husbands take time to listen to them...). In the past you could **know** without any doubt that it is really the person that is now your wife that is talking because you actually **saw** her talking to you, and more than once I assume. **And** you have good reason to assume there is only one person in the world that speaks exactly like her. **That** is why you **know** and recognize her voice now, even if you don't see her talking to you because you look into a different direction, have your eyes closed, or you talk together on the phone.

Similarly, **IF you would be a genuine "true" prophet of God**, verified and validated by the Bible, **and** therefore you would be used/acustomed to/experienced with receiving genuine visions and dreams from God in the past that have already been thoroughly examined according to biblical standards and past the test, **then** I would accept if you said you know the physical voice of God/the Holy Spirit and you recognize Him speaking; **then** I would believe you if you said that you have received a vision from God and Jesus Himself told you this and that.

However, **this is simply not the usual way God communicates with us**, and therefore we need to be very careful with such kind of unusual, supernatural "revelations of God". We really need to verify His voice or message by the secure and authentic "standard means of communication" of God that cannot be falsified to deceive us, the only really dependable source of God's communication to us, the Bible (and I would even add, the writings of Ellen White, but let's forget that for now). That is where we can get used to **HOW** God is talking to us.

When God speaks to us (even individually) in an unusual way, a way that we (as community of believers, as "church") are not used to, it is very dangerous to simply assume, "that must be God speaking". We really need to check, to second guess and to verify with the only really dependable and generally agreed-upon source of God's communication to us (the Bible), at least until we (as a church) are used to this new way of Him communicating with us. We need to be especially carefull if this new and unusual way of God speaking to us can be easily falsified by the enemy to deceive us, which clearly is the case with "visions and deams", "thought voices", and emotional impressions on our mind; too many examples of "false visions" and "false dreams" are happening today and have always happened. Somewhere here on BSDA I read that Danny Shelton also is receiving "visions and dreams"! So if God really communicates directly with him like He does with a prophet, we should have more respect of him, shouldn't we?

remember, once I talked with Mormon evangelists, and I asked them two questions:

"1) Why are you sure that Joseph Smith is a true prophet of God?"

"2) How can **I** be sure that he is a true prophet of God?"

The response was quite simple: "Just pray and ask God that He will tell you." They told me that Joseph Smith himself after receiving his first vision or revelation was very stunned and didn't know, does this come from God or not; but instead of searching in the Bible for the answer to this question, what he did was, as they said, he ran into the woods and started praying, praying, praying, asking God to tell him whether that revelation comes from Him; he prayed for a long time until finally in that prayer "God" gave him the assurance that this vision is from HIM. It obviously was an emotional "assurance", a feeling, an impression.

Both Mormon evangelists told me they themselves have done and experienced exactly the same thing; they prayed until God "showed" them in their prayer that the revelations of Joseph Smith, and thus the Book of Mormon are really from God. They invited me and tried to encourage me to do the same, praying "until God gives me assurance/shows me that Joseph Smith is a true prophet and the Book of Mormon is His authentic and true revelation."

I tried to get them to the point to understand the need to verify each new revelation with the previous well recognized ones (in this case the Bible), and that there is no need to ask God in prayer for confirmation if the new revelation doesn't agree with the Bible in the first place; that this is even very dangerous; but it was completely in vain. The reason was, **they have already had a personal emotional experience of "God" giving them the assurance in prayer that Joseph Smith is a true prophet, and this emotional experience was indisputable and became the highest unquestionable authority, thus taking the place the Bible only should have.**

**That is why it is so important that all our spiritual experiences are to be judged by the Bible!**

By the way, this way of praying for assurance until God gives it to you that those Mormons were talking about is quite similar to the way Pentecostals are praying for the "gift of tongues"; they often also pray and pray and pray, sometimes for hours, with all their emotional power, asking God repeatedly to give them this "gift of tongues", often repeating the same phrase again and again like a mantra, until finally they "receive" it for the first time. Then they are "baptized by the Spirit", but in my conviction not by the biblical authentic Spirit of God.

Once they have had this experience, it becomes most of the time really difficult to argue with them on anything doctrinal based on the Bible because usually **their emotional "spiritual" experience replaces the role of the Bible as the supreme Judge of all doctrine and religious experience.**

The Holy Spirit certainly **can** give us "impressions" and **can** "speak" to our consciousness. However, these are both **not** "clear and secure" channels of communication where we could have assurance that the impression or thought really comes from God and is uncorrupted, undefiled and authentic. So we should never base moral and doctrinal decisions on that basis, including the acceptance of religious experiences like visions and dreams etc. as authentic and genuinely from God.

By the way, I believe that that Joel 2:28-29 prophecy that states that "your old men shall dream dreams and your young men shall see visions" will have its final and major fulfillment still in the future, at a time when we will be in real need of this kind of direct communication from God because of the circumstances of severe persecution and suffering in the end-time/time of trouble. **There is simply no need for God to communicate in this direct way with us today, as long as the Bible and the writings of the "Spirit of Prophecy" (Ellen Withe) are fully sufficient for us.** In the future, God might possibly raise one or more other prophet(s) for us and probably will give us those "visions and dreams" referred to in Joel 2, **when He deems it to be necessary because of the circumstances of the time.** Once the end-time persecution fully sets in, and even more in the "time of trouble", we might be in need of additional advice specific to the situation, of what to do, how to escape locally the persecutors, how to behave in specific situations, how to respond when questioned etc.; desperately needed information and advice that cannot be found in the Bible or the writings of EGW in sufficient detail. Then will come the need for those divine visions for direct guidance and encouragement. But today, at a time where the Bible is still sufficient for us and where the enemy of our souls gives so many false visions and dreams etc. even to professedly sincere Christians, not only that there is no need for it, it would also just create confusion because of those false counterfeit visions and dreams. Therefore I think that today God only rarely gives authentic

visions and dreams, especially to true Christians who have already the Bible to know the truth and decide on what to do (He prefers to give "wisdom" to those who seek the answers to their questions in the Bible). It would have to be a special situation that would vindicate the need of such a divine communication. In the past, God sent prophets mostly in times of great distress for His people, when there was the need for guidance in the actual situation. God doesn't give "visions & dreams", or the "gift of prophecy", just to satisfy our curiosity or our desire for religious/emotional "spiritual" experiences. (He might sometimes give a dream to new believers or to truth-seekers to guide them towards Him or the Bible or to confirm new found faith in Him or certain doctrines etc., on an individual basis, though.) In addition, **we only should expect God to communicate directly in a supernatural way with us if we previously have already fully accepted all His previous revelations in the Bible and the writings of Ellen White and are following through with the teachings of those divinely inspired books.**

I would really be interested to learn more about that "pentecostal" influence at 3ABN, and about "visions and dreams" by its leaders like Danny. I would appreciate a sound report or thorough analysis of pentecostal doctrine, ideology and theology personally held and directly or indirectly taught by them on air. I think this is a very important and critical point that should not be underestimated. If this is true, 3ABN can become a major tool for Satan to infiltrate our church, deceive many Adventists and finally get them to accept those pentecostal concepts, if 3ABN should go on with this present leadership and continue to grow in influence and number of viewers.

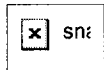
---

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 26 2006, 10:32 PM**

Out of Lurk....

Do you also use your post/words to judge others....OTHER THAN Barbara Kerr?

Back to Lurk....




---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 27 2006, 01:15 AM**

**QUOTE**

we only should expect God to communicate directly in a supernatural way with us if we previously have already fully accepted all His previous revelations in the Bible and the writings of Ellen White and are following through with the teachings of those divinely inspired books.

Ummmmmm NO..... I disagree.... and the more you write the more I will disagree... there are many who have never picked up a bible and they know God's voice..... and many more who will never read anything written by egw and they also know God's voice.....

You cannot dictate how God will reveal himself to his creation.... and to say that he won't communicate in a particular way limits him.....

Once again.... I do not use the bible to verify my relationship with God.... the relationship came first, the bible gives me examples of how God has interacted with humans, but let's be clear, I prefer trusting and communicating with God here and now as opposed to spending countless hours reading the bible..... In fact the bible tells us that Jesus spent hours praying, praying is communicating with God, as opposed to studying scripture.....

Jesus words are as true now as then.... you search the scriptures because in them you THINK you have eternal life, but they testify of me....

In fact saharafan, I disagree with the whole premise of your recent comment..... that all spiritual experiences be judged via the bible? I think you have placed too much on the bible..... anything spiritual must be judged by the Holy Spirit..... He does communicate with us.... or don't you believe that?

---

**Posted by: watchbird Aug 27 2006, 03:55 AM**

---

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 27 2006, 01:15 AM)**

Ummmmmm NO..... I disagree.... and the more you write the more I will disagree... there are many who have never picked up a bible and they know God's voice..... and many more who will never read anything written by egw and they also know God's voice.....

While this is true to some extent..... it is true mostly of those who have no opportunity to have access the a bible. And there is also a great deal of difference between knowing God's voice because of great familiarity with Him through personal contact with others who know God voice and/or by recognizing a "different" voice than that which they have normally lived with in their minds.

---

**QUOTE**

You cannot dictate how God will reveal himself to his creation.... and to say that he won't communicate in a particular way limits him.....

Agreed. From what we can observe of how God reveals Himself, I think we can be safe in making the generalization that God meets people where they are.... and that may be in what seems to be "supernatural" ways..... including "dreams and visions" as well as other strange (to us) ways "signs and miracles" typical of their own belief system..... or that may be in wholly "natural" ways..... that is to say through the cognitive faculties of their minds, observing what is and reasoning from that to the existence of a "Creator God", and from that to a sense of what that God wants for and from us humans. (And as I write, I am thinking specifically of the experience of a young man whom our missionary to the Pnong people of Cambodia has been telling us about, and I put "Creator God" in quotes because this is the words that the Pnong people retain in their vocabulary for the dim sense of a God who is different from the evil spirits whom they actively worship.)

But having said that, I also firmly believe that we can and should make another generalization which is as Saharafan has indicated..... that wherever there is access to scripture, God always points people to that and the Holy Spirit speaks to us first and foremost through what has already been revealed and written down in Scripture. In other words, when possible, God moves people from where they were and directs them to a body of believers, and to his written scripture. (Witness the experiences of Saul/Paul, where God met him in what was to him a dramatic and unmistakable "supernatural" manner, but then led him directly to the church group in Damascus, then out to the "wilderness" for a period of years in which he presumeably received more supernatural encounters with God, but then back to the church headquarters in Jerusalem, where he submitted himself to the church leaders and in his preaching which primarily was built upon and sent people to the scriptures of his day..... so they could test his words by the scriptures they already had.

---

**QUOTE**

Once again.... I do not use the bible to verify my relationship with God... the relationship came first, the bible gives me examples of how God has interacted with humans, but let's be clear, I prefer trusting and communicating with God here and now as opposed to spending countless hours

reading the bible..... In fact the bible tells us that Jesus spent hours praying, praying is communicating with God, as opposed to studying scripture.....

Surely you are not suggesting that Jesus had not already studied scripture so thoroughly that he understood it better than the learned men of the day (witness his visit to the Temple school when he was but 12 years old) and had memorized it so well that its words were woven into his speech so accurately that we can look back at the scriptures he had available to him and figure out what text he was quoting.

So I cannot take your words seriously when you say "the relationship came first". I find that a very difficult statement to accept as truth. Now if you say that it is the most important thing to you NOW when compared to "countless hours reading the Bible" ..... that I would find easy to believe..... but you give too much evidence in the way you approach life that the principles of scripture are so interwoven in your own mind that you do use those to judge both yourself and others and the experiences you have with them. This is, IMO, as it should be. The Psalmist says, "Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against Thee".

**QUOTE**

Jesus words are as true now as then.... you search the scriptures because in them you THINK you have eternal life, but they testify of me....

Context please ..... this was directed towards the Jewish scholars who were searching scriptures for the purpose of sustaining their supremacy with the people. This is not suggesting that we, who do not have the human incarnation of God in our midst, should not search the scriptures to find how they testify of Christ.

**QUOTE**

In fact saharafan, I disagree with the whole premise of your recent comment..... that all spiritual experiences be judged via the bible? I think you have placed too much on the bible..... anything spiritual must be judged by the Holy Spirit..... He does communicate with us.... or don't you believe that?

Clay, you set up an unnecessary and unfair dichotomy here. Yes, of course, we who emphasize the primacy of scripture as the place we must go to judge our experiences ..... especially those which seem to be from some "supernatural" source..... ALSO believe that the Holy Spirit does communicate with us. But to put our experience above what is written is to walk on very dangerous ground ..... and that ground will get more and more dangerous ..... according to the predictions of increased permission being given to Satan to do "signs and miracles" which will look so "good" and so "genuine" that it will be difficult, even impossible, to tell their origin other than whether or not they speak "according to this word" which has already been written and preserved for our instruction.

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 27 2006, 05:22 AM**

Children have relationships with God.... long before they understand the bible or what is contained therein... How does God reveal himself to a child? It is not through the written word.... My relationship with God started when I was a child long before I was able to understand the bible, yet I understood Him as he revealed himself to me... as a child I became attuned to his voice, his leading, his way, pick a phrase if you will.... so I can say with certainty that God can and does communicate with us without the aid of "the bible."

The bible gives a story of a man who walked with God, and his walk was so close that God took him and he was never seen again.... That man had no bible, BUT he definitely had God.....

So I say again... the relationship is first and foremost, the everything else has its place....

Your mileage may vary...

---

**Posted by: meadbd Aug 27 2006, 10:02 AM**

In fact saharafan, I disagree with the whole premise of your recent comment..... that all spiritual experiences be judged via the bible? I think you have placed too much on the bible..... anything spiritual must be judged by the Holy Spirit..... He does communicate with us.... or don't you believe that?

=====  
If you don't judge all spiritual experiences by the Bible, to what do you judge them?

You say, "by the Holy Spirit". But it is by comparing what the S(s)pirit tells us to the Bible that we know just what spirit is impressing us. For the Christian, the Bible is the sole authority in all spiritual matters. Without the Bible we have very little knowledge of what God wants us to do in our life. Our sinful condition and our need of a Savior is clear to us ONLY from the Bible. Yes, nature tells us that God created all the beauty we see around us (Rom. 1) but nature does not tell us of our need for redemption and reformation. As was stated, it is very dangerous to trust our feelings without checking them against the Bible. As Jesus said of the Holy Spirit, "He will testify of Me".

-----  
And what do you know about Jesus if not from the Bible?...Nothing.

Without God's Holy Word as our guide we have no anchor-no reference-no absolute to pattern our life.

-----  
Praise His Name that He has given us His Word to live by!

---

**Posted by: husbandoftheyear Aug 27 2006, 01:50 PM**

**QUOTE(saharafan @ Aug 26 2006, 10:57 PM)**   
**In addition, we only should expect God to communicate directly in a supernatural way with us if we previously have already fully accepted all His previous revelations in the Bible and the writings of Ellen White and are following through with the teachings of those divinely inspired books.**

I must disagree on the whole account, but since Clay has brought up other points, I'll only add one.

Many Christian people have never even heard of Ellen White. Are you saying that the only people found worthy of divine communication are SDAs?

---

**Posted by: saharafan Aug 27 2006, 02:15 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 27 2006, 11:22 AM)**   
Children have relationships with God.... long before they understand the bible or what is contained ..



therein... How does God reveal himself to a child? It is not through the written word.... My relationship with God started when I was a child long before I was able to understand the bible, yet I understood Him as he revealed himself to me... as I child I become attuned to his voice, his leading, his way, pick a phrase if you will.... so I can say with certainty that God can and does communicate with us without the aid of "the bible."

The bible gives a story of a man who walked with God, and his walk was so close that God took him and he was never seen again.... That man had no bible, BUT he definitely had God.....

So I say again... the relationship is first and foremost, the everything else has its place....

Your mileage may vary...

Dear Clay,

Apparently you were blessed to have had godly parents who taught you biblical principles from childhood on, told you "Bible stories" and taught you how to pray and have a living intimate personal relationship with God, even before you could read the Bible - I was not that privileged. So this seems to be where you come from. Let me explain where I come from so that you can see that much of our different perceptions obviously is due to "where we each come from".

My parents have always been and are still convinced atheists/agnostics. I got to know Jesus primarily through the Bible when I was a teenager. There was no clear supernatural event leading to my conversion, besides perhaps God arranging "coincidences" so that I would meet an SDA pastor by surprise, who impressed me a lot with his character, and later on Jesus speaking to my heart and touching it **through the Bible**. (This is how I personally experience(d) God speaking to me, and therefore the Bible is also the basis for my personal relationship with him, which is entertained through Bible study and, certainly, prayer.)

At the time when I studied the Bible with this pastor, I also got to know some evangelical friends, church leaders and theologians, who sincerely challenged this Adventist interpretation of the Bible that I was studying with this pastor. They thoroughly challenged my newly accepted beliefs concerning the state of the dead, the Sabbath, the Law, Sanctuary doctrine and pre-advent Judgement, Ellen White etc. God didn't give me a dream or vision to resolve those challenging questions. (I didn't ask Him for one, that's right.) So what I did, I studied the Bible for myself independently (but under prayer) and I left on those subjects, comparing the arguments of both sides, looking for the answer, searching for "truth". I am thankful for this experience because this routed me deeply in the biblical basis of our doctrine and gave me a hunger to know more which finally led me to study Theology at our Adventist seminary in Austria. Again, the Bible was the center of my Christian life and experience.

Not long after this experience and my baptism, there was another young man studying with us and visiting our Adventist youth program. But after some time he was led away by a pentecostal friend of his. From then on, whenever he came to our youth meetings, he always wanted to introduce us to his new-found pentecostal beliefs and experiences. I liked him and felt sorry for him and wanted to help him. So I accepted his invitation to visit with him some deeply pentecostal churches. (I was the only one of our youth group willing to do this.) It was a very decisive experience for me, and a dangerous one too, I admit. This is where I got introduced to charismatic and pentecostal doctrine and worship in the first place, which in turn led me to read several books about this phenomenon and study the Bible about the "Gift of Tongues" etc. I will relate the most striking experience I had, at a special "healing seminar" this friend had invited me to where an American preacher taught a large audience how to do miracles and how to heal the sick through prayer. The preacher was more than obese, I guess he had at least about 200 kg of bodyweight. When he walked, it looked very funny. He was extremely proud and presumptuous in the way and manner he was talking. He emphasized signs and wonders and "speaking in tongues". Among other things, he told us that one day he was very heartsick, the doctors told him he would die very soon, they can't do anything. But God healed him miraculously and the doctors were more than surprised and when they checked his heart they found that it was "the healthiest and strongest heart they have ever seen". How that relates to his body weight and obviously unchanged lifestyle I don't know. He also claimed to have raised a dead child; a car accident in front of him happened, a child was overrun by a big truck, the head of the child came under the tires and was completely smashed. Then he arrived at the scene, stopped, and resurrected that child

through prayer, the head and the whole body was miraculously made whole, there was no wound or injury left on that child. The seminar attendance was in awe, hanging on his lips and they believed unquestioningly every single word he said. Yes, he taught them how to heal, calling volunteers and sick people to come forward, and instructing the volunteers to lay hands on and heal the physically sick "in the name of Jesus", and most of the time it worked, they were healed right in front of us; if it didn't work, the spiritual attitude of the volunteer was the problem, we were told. During the time they prayed for the sick, the congregation prayed too, most of them speaking in "tongues". It was an extremely powerful and power-filled emotional atmosphere in that room, I could even say I felt a spiritual presence that was even difficult for me to resist. But I felt this spiritual presence as something very strange and dangerous to me. (I certainly prayed too, silently for protection.) This miracle preacher-healer claimed that God speaks directly to him, that he often hears the voice of the Holy Spirit telling him what to do or giving him messages for other people or churches, and that he has a special connection and place with God. He might also have mentioned that he receives visions & dreams, I don't remember that particular detail. Once, he literally said the following, I won't forget that, pointing to his stomach: "Some people think that I am thick; but that's not true! I am not thick, I am pregnant! I am pregnant with the Trinity! I am pregnant with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit! They are all present here in my stomach...". Everyone in that church found that funny and was laughing, except me, I was deeply shocked. I couldn't convince this friend who invited me there that this is not the authentic Holy Spirit of the Bible doing those miracles through this presumptuous and blasphemous preacher. His personal "experience of the Holy Spirit in him" was more important than any argument from Scripture. And this was not my only experience with Pentecostals, including pastors, so far. Every time it was the same, although they used the Bible in their sermons (usually in a very superficial way) and confessed to belief in it, it had no real authority over their experiences, nor over their doctrine and teaching, because, as a pastor told me once, "the Holy Spirit would show me if I should be wrong". They also feel safe from being deceived by Satan because, as I experienced in one of their "Bible study groups", they address Satan directly in their prayers, condemning him (something that even Jesus refused to do), and commanding him to leave them alone and flee them, actually laughing at him because he is a loser and has now power over them...

During those teenage years I also had two friends who were devoted disciples of Rudolph Steiner and his "Anthroposophy", a German off-shoot of Madame Blavatsky's Theosophy. I had a lot of discussions with them too and wanted to help them see the truth in the Bible instead of in their (occult) spiritual exercises and experiences, and Steiner's teachings. Didn't work either.

You see, that is where I come from and why I am so careful and emphatic about the Bible as **the** basis of our faith, experience, and relationship with God, and easily alarmed when someone plays down its importance and role.

By the way, the first one of the 28 SDA Fundamental Beliefs states clearly that "The Holy Scriptures are... the test of experience...". The book "Seventh-day Adventists believe..." says on pp. 13-14: "Finally, the Scriptures retain authority even over the gifts that come from the Holy Spirit, including guidance through the gift of prophecy or speaking in tongues... The gifts of the Spirit do not supercede the Bible; indeed, they must be tested by the Bible, and if not in accord with it, they must be discarded as not genuine. [Isa. 8:20 quoted]"

However, when teaching or preaching, I do always emphasize the importance of, and the need for, our personal intimate relationship with God as the most important thing for each one of us, and this relationship is based on both, Bible and Prayer. That's why my second most important topic usually is the Bible, which will lead us to Jesus and into that close relationship. Prayer is equally important for this relationship, that's true, but the Bible is the basis of knowing God, Who he is, How he is, Where to find him, How to get to know him, and What he wants for me and from me. And without knowing this I cannot have a true relationship with the one true God, the God of the Bible.

Nevertheless, I acknowledge that some people are more sensitive to impressions by the (true) Holy Spirit on their minds than others. And I do agree that prayer should not be one-way communication but we should also listen to God "talking to us" during prayer, impressing our minds with certain things or thoughts, thus having true communion with Him.

I remember for example pastor Kurt Hasel in a seminar about Prayer telling that he has the good

habitude not only to ask God in prayer about important decisions but then to wait (sometimes for weeks and longer) until he receives a response from God what decision to take by clearly impressing his mind in a way that he is convinced without doubt that this is God's voice. By experience and with the time he has learned to "know the voice of God" and discern it from his own thoughts. I accept that. But 1) This kind of communication is only private and individual, only concerning himself or perhaps his immediate family that he has responsibility for; he doesn't become a "prophet", doesn't have "visions and dreams" and doesn't receive messages for others, or revelations about others. 2) As far as I know him, he would certainly agree with me that the Bible is also the basis and supreme judge for his own faith and experience, and whenever the Bible (or EGW) give clear counsel on something, he accepts this counsel first and doesn't need to ask God about it. I repeat what I said in my former post: No moral and doctrinal decisions should be made based on these impressions by the Spirit without thoroughly consulting the Bible about the issue. 3) He said that it took some time for him to get used to God's voice and be able to discern it clearly; this personal way of experiencing God is based on a life experience of a close walk with God **based on the Bible and a faith and life deeply rooted in Scripture.**

(Other people here have already mentioned their past experiences of feeling sudden strong impressions they believed came from God and when following them they were either protected from serious harm, or God could use them in a mighty way as witnesses for persons they would not have met otherwise etc. I have no problem with that, either.)

On the other side, in Barbara Kerr's brief first post she told us that her friend, when suddenly hearing that voice "Linda left Danny", was not at all sure if this voice would come from God. She seems not to be used to "hearing God's voice" in this described way. Or perhaps this voice was of a different kind, or from a different source???

---

**Posted by: saharafan Aug 27 2006, 02:42 PM**

**QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Aug 27 2006, 07:50 PM)**

I must disagree on the whole account, but since Clay has brought up other points, I'll only add one.

Many Christian people have never even heard of Ellen White. Are you saying that the only people found worthy of divine communication are SDAs?

No, definitely not; I said "WE" and "US", referring to us personally who have access to the Bible and to the writings of Ellen White, and confess to believe in them. It is true that I referred to Seventh-day Adventist here, as far as Ellen White's writings are concerned; you could apply the statement also to Christians in general as far as the Bible only is concerned. But I do believe that the SDA church is God's special end-time remnant body of believers as of today. And by "communicate directly in a supernatural way", I meant visions and dreams, or typical prophetic messages, that concern others, a group of believers (not personal issues of the recipient), as a fulfillment of Joel 2:28-29, and in reference to additional truth that is not already contained in the Bible.

But you can also interpret my statement in the following way: Before God will give us (=humanity) additional knowledge by supernatural means that supercedes the one revealed in the Bible and the writings of EGW, we have to accept and live out (put into practice) that what He has already revealed to us in the past.

I admit that this statement wasn't very clear and can easily be misunderstood.

---

**Posted by: brownnectar Aug 27 2006, 03:04 PM**

That was a wonderful testimony Sahara. It also was packed with a lot of truth. It gave me some things to think about. Thank You!

**Posted by: calvin Aug 27 2006, 04:05 PM**

Saharafan, thank you for sharing this testimony. The last few posts by you and Watchbird have been very inspiring for me to read. What you have presented makes any argument for a diminished importance of the Bible in the lives of Christians weak in comparison.

**Posted by: Clay Aug 27 2006, 06:39 PM**

**QUOTE(calvin @ Aug 27 2006, 05:05 PM)**

Saharafan, thank you for sharing this testimony. The last few posts by you and Watchbird have been very inspiring for me to read. What you have presented makes any argument for a diminished importance of the Bible in the lives of Christians weak in comparison.

no one has suggested that the bible have diminished importance.... however I am saying that there are those who can becoming overly dependent on the bible that they miss interacting with the God that the bible points a believer too..... I am also saying that there are those who when it comes to the bible are scholars, and can run circles around the average church member, yet they don't necessarily have a relationship with God....

people's experiences may vary...

**Posted by: Vada Aug 28 2006, 09:35 PM**



**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 28 2006, 10:39 AM)**

no one has suggested that the bible have diminished importance.... however I am saying that there are those who can becoming overly dependent on the bible that they miss interacting with the God that the bible points a believer too..... I am also saying that there are those who when it comes to the bible are scholars, and can run circles around the average church member, yet they don't necessarily have a relationship with God....

people's experiences may vary...

Greetings to our brothers and sisters in America and from wherever else. We discovered bsda only about a month ago. This is my first appearance here.

I appreciate your explanation above, Clay, and the general direction of the discussion concerning dreams, visions, and how God communicates to us. I have lived through an experience of my own, but what I want to say here this time is perhaps more just the outcome of that experience. I have had no special dreams or visions, I assuredly lay no claims to being a prophet, I have never knowingly seen or spoken with an angel. I serve a living God who—as for you—comforts me with His

presence, covers me with His blood, speaks to me through nature, through "revelation", through providential happenings, and by His influence upon my heart. I know the importance of continually touching base with my Lord in prayer and Bible study, and of exchanging with fellow believers.

**"The Face of Adventism."** I speak to the claim that Danny is "the face of Adventism"—or on the other hand to the protest that he is not that face. It is my belief that either way the claim falls short of the truth. 3ABN sold a husband-wife team to the world as "the face of Adventism." That team was Danny and Linda together. (Probably that has been said before. I just can't remember.) No doubt to thousands if not millions of viewers around the globe, Danny and Linda were "televangelists" viewed and loved as Mr and Mrs Three Angels Messages, or Mr and Mrs Seventh-day Adventist. Then suddenly Linda was no more. Even though our Thiacom 3 satellite dish linking us to 3ABN was only installed on 12 November 2003, we saw enough to cause us to ask questions. 3ABN maybe underestimated the strength of the feelings that would arise in the minds and hearts of viewers as a result of the divorce and Linda's being so decisively separated from 3ABN.

To have gone as big as 3ABN has gone, and to present on it as Mr and Mrs Seventh-day Adventist, is an extremely serious position to take under God before the world. It is certain He loves. It is certain also He will not be mocked.

We know Brandy is a precious child of God, too. But there is a painful situation that has not yet worked itself through. Our earnest prayers are that our Lord will judge all things and all persons concerned with the right blend of justice and mercy in each instance, for His name and work's sake.

My personal opinion is that it would be good if when all the dust is settled, we still have 3ABN as well as Hope, and other radio and TV stations too. History has proved over and again that "independent ministry" OR official church organization, conservative or liberal or whatever, NO mere mortal or committee of mere mortals is able to handle too much power.

**A Symbolic Message.** Marriage and divorce are major biblical symbols telling how God relates to His church at any given time. When a marriage is given prominence, as was Danny and Linda's, it grants a special opportunity to God to speak a message symbolically. It also grants the devil a chance to defile that symbol. But God always has the last say. He can be counted upon to marvelously work all things together for the good of those whom He loves. "For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth." 2 Cor 13:8. I believe God has allowed the prominence given Danny and Linda's marriage and divorce, to help shape a parable to speak a most urgent message to the church and the world.

**Parallel and Complementary Story From Australia.** In the 1980's a great tragedy in Australia threw Pastor Michael Chamberlain and his wife Lindy into the glare of publicity, as Pr and Mrs Seventh-day Adventist. So far as I am able to understand the facts of the still unfolding saga of Danny and Linda's divorce and subsequent happenings at and revelations concerning 3ABN and the church, I cannot help but see some striking parallels with Australia's Chamberlain drama. I believe America's Danny and Linda story is complementary to Australia's Michael and Lindy drama.

I have, by the way, written a book on the Chamberlain drama, entitled, *ROCK OF AGES: The Azaria Chamberlain Story Parallels*.

A different set of circumstances propelled Michael and Lindy Chamberlain into place as Pr and Mrs Seventh-day Adventist of Australia. 17 August 1980, just after the famous 11-15 August 1980 Glacier View meetings in USA, baby daughter Azaria was killed by a dingo at Ayers Rock (now Uluru), an awe-inspiring rock-mountain in Central Australia, where the family had gone for a brief holiday break. Ayers Rock is a geographic icon of Australia, a monolith surrounded by vast red desert plains, a place of quiet mystery and great symbolic significance. Local Aborigines have their legends about creation. They believe their dead ancestors live in Uluru, and are waiting to emerge. The whole scene prompts questions about origins, time and eternity.

Michael and Lindy's story became known as Australia's "trial of the century", "the worst miscarriage of justice in the history of the nation", "a defining moment in Australian history", and a "top of the

tree media event.”

The twentieth anniversary of the birth and death of Azaria occurred right in the middle of the 100 days Olympic Torch Run of the year 2000, which run commenced in high ceremony at Ayers Rock, when the Olympic flame arrived there from Olympia in Greece. City newspapers noted the anniversary of Azaria's birth and death, with some big re-appraisals of this famous trial. At the Sydney Olympics of that year, the world hailed the new millennium.

It is not an insignificant thing to say that America's Mr and Mrs Seventh-day Adventist drama, with a different emphasis, seems to be playing out a complementary role to Australia's Pr and Mrs Seventh-day Adventist of the 1980's. But the Danny-Lindy-3ABN saga is more in-house, - at least at the moment.

Do an internet search on the words such as "lindy chamberlain parallels" and you will find numerous stories and causes claiming to hold similarities to the Chamberlain drama. This drama is often quoted in our country as THE example of a judicial mistake, THE trial proving a whole country can nail the guilty tag upon somebody and be wrong. But I believe the parallel of parallels can best be recognized by Seventh-day Adventists. When all the elements of the Chamberlain drama are identified it is Adventists of all Christians who have the history and light to see the parallels and pointers to endtime Bible prophecy. They are the ones best placed to decode when those elements are explained as Bible symbols. What unravels is a message of momentous import. I believe God has over-ruled Satan and designed happenings to tell this symbolic message. He has also led me on quite a journey to discover these parallels. Others have apparently seen glimpses of their existence, and before me.

The elements of the Lindy Chamberlain trial parallel and point to the ending elements of the prophetic allegory of Revelation 12, which tells the story of the drama of the ages, the great controversy between Christ and Satan, good and evil. Here the stage is set for the final crisis described in Revelation 13 and 14.

It is one thing to see a story having a parallel here and there to a Bible prophecy. It is another when one stumbles over these parallels at every turn, and providences bearing relation to the parallel being studied happen every time, and every occasion I make a move to tell this parallels story, more awesome providences occur. Studying these parallels has been a thrilling but sobering experience that has brought Bible symbols and Revelation 12 alive for me. I can't believe this experience was meant for me alone.

In the 1980's newspapers everywhere said that Azaria (a feminine form of Azariah, meaning "blessed of God") meant "sacrifice in the wilderness." They confused it with Azazel the scapegoat. At Ayres Rock, where baby Azaria was killed and taken by a dingo, there is a legend of dingo called Kulpunya who is an evil spirit of death. The media sought to clear the dingo's name and declare Michael and Lindy to be the most evil couple in Australia's history. It is possible that in the 1980's Australia's frantic search through the Bible to find a story which might d--- the Chamberlains was based upon the recognition some had of parallels with the prophetic allegory of Revelation 12, where an evil red dragon seeks to devour the newborn baby of an innocent woman clothed with the sun. Some big churches do not see this woman as a mere symbol. Religious prejudice could not allow that a woman from the little-known Seventh-day Adventist Church could before the nation assume a symbolic role parallel to the Revelation 12 woman. If people did not think such thoughts, it is certain Satan would have seen the symbolism.

It is interesting that John Bryson's book, *Evil Angels*—which is the classic work upon which the award-winning film by this name is based—makes only two mentions of the words "evil angels" in the body of the book. John Bryson is not an Adventist, yet both of these mentions come in relation to the warfare of evil angels against the Seventh-day Adventist church and Ellen White. See John Bryson, *Evil Angels*, pages 9 and 254. Furthermore, the cover of the first edition of this book shows a picture of a black shadow of an evil-looking dingo cast over red desert soil. Together with words reminding of baby Azaria Chamberlain's death at Ayers Rock in central Australia, 17 August 1980, and appealing Lindy's innocence in regard to the judgment of murder, Bible students could not escape seeing something of the parallels with Revelation 12.

The history described in Revelation 12 is that which, if understood, will save from deception in the last terrible conflict of this world, as prophesied and described in Revelation 13 and 14. "Three Angels Broadcasting Network" is named after the last message of mercy to be given this world, that found in Revelation 14:6-12. Revelation 12 sets the stage for the telling of the three angels' messages.

If non-Adventists have sensed something of a supernatural presence in the Chamberlain drama pointing to Revelation 12, how much better equipped are Seventh-day Adventists to see those pointers, since in their history is the living out of the sweet-in-the-mouth, bitter-in-the-belly experience prophesied in Revelation 10, and producing a people who studied out the sanctuary doctrine! How much more culpable are Seventh-day Adventists if they miss hearing the message of Providence in a happening! I reject the charge that to make such statements gives evidence of a problem with ego. The Seventh-day Adventist movement HAS been entrusted by God with much light. To say that does not mean we are unaware that there are outstanding Christians scattered through the Sunday-keeping churches, and many such persons are even way ahead on SOME areas of truth, ministry and witness. God will help us to fully recognize each other at the last.

Michael and Lindy Chamberlain, family, friends, eye witnesses and those involved were given a trial by fire, kangaroo court and almost every other kind of court of the nation. Their case was front page news in city newspapers for a decade. The impact upon the Seventh-day Adventist Church was huge, in ways both good and bad. Voices from the church and the secular world often endeavoured to shut down the public debate. (We're hearing some of those same reasons being given to try and shut down the bsda discussion on the 3ABN crisis.) But it was like trying to stop a feeding frenzy. (May there be no elements of "feeding frenzy" here.) Sometimes Michael and Lindy tried to help by hiding from the public eye and just going quiet. They were inevitably forced to surface again. Too many other people and issues were involved. Many eye witnesses supportive of the Chamberlain version of the facts were also being widely and falsely implicated as liars. Pressing questions were being raised by honest people from all walks of society, all churches, in places high and low. How could a justice system get it so wrong? (Again, we see shades of this scenario on this bsda site.)

I remember Michael Chamberlain once being asked by a TV reporter about the continuing crusade to clear the Chamberlain name. He replied to the effect, "Innocence is very important to innocent people." If Linda has not committed adultery, as evidence on bsda and elsewhere suggests, she does indeed deserve to have the guilty tag removed from her head. It is clear that as in the whole great controversy between Christ and Satan, God permits lesser dramas to play out as a means in itself of arresting attention, provoking enquiry, and leading minds out of darkness into the light. We can know He is never asleep at the switch and is in ultimate control of whatever transpires.

Those who do not seriously believe that Seventh-day Adventism is the remnant movement of the book of Revelation, called to "prophesy again" concerning the subject of the sanctuary and the investigative judgment, commissioned to preach the three angels' messages to the world in preparation for Jesus' second advent, blessed with a prophet to the Bible's 2300 day prophecy, cannot understand. "It will be impossible for them to exercise the faith which is essential at this time, or to occupy the position which God designs them to fill. ... It is of the utmost importance that all should thoroughly investigate these subjects ..." *The Great Controversy*, pp. 488, 489.

In order to arouse enquiry and prompt such an investigation—where truth is searched out as for the pearl of great price—we can expect that the Master Teacher will intervene and speak to us by means of His best teaching methods. What are these methods? The method to which I refer is the only one in the here and now to which full justice is done to our Living God. It is where the message from nature, revelation, providence and the impressions of the Holy Spirit all coincide. They all speak as one. Then the message of the resulting parable or object lesson can have authority. It needs with joy to be heard, believed, obeyed—and shared—and the life-giving latter rain showers proceeding from God's throne can come to water.

**Christ's Teaching Methods.** Just before 586 BC when God withdrew from Jerusalem and Solomon's temple, and inspired holy men to prophesy their destruction, He commanded Ezekiel, already in captivity in Babylon, to act out a parable as a sign. Ezekiel's wife was "the desire of his eyes" as Solomon's magnificent temple was the desire of Israel's eyes. God said He was going to let Ezekiel's apparently beautiful and much-loved wife die, and he, Ezekiel, was not to engage in the

customary mourning rituals. She was, in fact, to function as a symbol of Solomon's temple in which the Jews gloried. When the people enquired why Ezekiel was not weeping and mourning, he did as God instructed him and said to the effect, "Like my wife, Jerusalem and its temple are the desire of your eyes, the joy and pride of your lives, and a symbol of the bride of the one true God. As my wife has died, Jerusalem and its temple are going to be destroyed. As I, Ezekiel have not mourned for my wife, you must not weep for the temple and Jerusalem. God, who is greater than the temple, desires rather that you weep for your sins which have separated you from Him, and are the reason for all the desolation that has come upon Israel, Judah, Jerusalem and the temple." As a sign that this was a parable from God, Ezekiel's muteness at the time was cured when a messenger brought him news of the temple's destruction. (See Eze 24:15-27)

What an unpopular, negative message Ezekiel was called to preach! Jerusalem, the temple and church structure were going to be destroyed! And what a heart-wrenching method of speaking that message, - choking back the grief and tears at the death of his cherished wife, and refraining from the customary mourning rituals! But apparently Ezekiel's strange actions did have the desired effect of awakening the hoped-for spirit of inquiry.

The Linda-Danny-3ABN story would be based upon a different husband-wife illustration, but may it also do a work as a parable to awaken the spirit of inquiry.

In Bible times Christ the Master Teacher and Scriptwriter often taught salvation truths by means of parables and allegories, some acted (as in the sanctuary services), some based upon literal happenings, some given to prophets in dreams and visions, some based even upon fictitious stories such as that of the rich man and Lazarus. We have been much blessed as Elder Stephen Bohr has shown on 3ABN and Hope TV that the stories in the book of Genesis and elsewhere in the Old Testament, have a double function, one to record a literal happening in history, another to act as a drama symbolizing and prophesying a greater fulfillment in the future.

Stories functioning as parables are in fact one of Christ's best teaching methods. They are based upon the well-recognized teaching maxim, "Proceed from the known to the unknown." I believe the Master Teacher is not going to cease using parables as a teaching device in the endtimes, just when we most need to hear His voice. **It is not only living prophets that can confirm a drama as sent of God. The words of dead prophets can do the same, as associated with living providences and the convicting power of the Holy Ghost.**

**What a means of communicating a message: to allow people to be obsessed with a drama in their own experience, then shape that drama to point to an already proven prophecy of the Bible!**

"Turn, O backsliding children, saith the LORD: for I am married unto you..." Jer 3:14. "For thy Maker is thine husband: the LORD of hosts is his name..." Isa 54:5. We must be in that new Jerusalem said to be "prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Rev 21:2.

"A person who is entrusted with the pastoral office of the Word must be able to stand before a congregation and represent that Word rightly. To sabotage this trust is destructive of ministry and of the pastoral office. The ministry of a person is always representative and symbolic; and the pastor of a Christian congregation represents the headship and fatherhood of God." (1 Cor. 4:14, 15; 1 Thess. 2:11; Eph. 5:1; 1 Tim. 3:5)." Dr C. Raymond Holmes, *The Tip of an Iceberg: Biblical Authority, Biblical Interpretation, and the Ordination of Women in Ministry*, Adventists Affirm and POINTER Publications, 1994, pp. 41, 42. And a wife symbolizes the church (Eph 5:21-33), of which the husband symbolizes the head. Each is committed to the other in deepest, self-sacrificing love. There are serious and solemn implications here. I believe these implications are being sensed at the moment by many 3ABN viewers and supporters, who love God with all their hearts, and are jealousy for the honour and prosperity of God's cause.

**Divorce and Death, Symbols of the Close of Probation.** Again, I believe Providence is shaping a symbolic message by means of the Danny and Linda Shelton story, just as He did in the Michael and Lindy Chamberlain story. Adventism no doubt would be more receptive to this statement if it were not for the ugly divorce at the end of each story, especially, it



seems, the Danny and Linda divorce. But Adventism should remember that divorce is one symbol of the close of probation, and this decisive moment in history is fast bearing down upon the world and the church. Christ, who is always "greater than the temple" (Matt 12:6), can be expected at this crisis hour to use every conceivable teaching device to warn of the need to get ready for this event, when Christ will finish His work as High Priest, the work of evangelism will be over, and so every last earthly church structure will become redundant in God's plan. Pray we do not run ahead of God's leading here. Neither must we lag behind. Are we prepared theologically, philosophically, psychologically and in practice for this great moment in history? It's coming, right after the loud cry!

Yes, I believe we need to look at these two stories as parables, even part of the same parable: Mr and Mrs Seventh-day Adventist in USA, and Mr and Mrs Seventh-day Adventist in Australia in the 1980's (the reverberations of this story continue). It is a serious thing to be used as a symbol in God's plan. Moses was kept out of the earthly promised land for striking the rock, and twice, and so violating God's rock symbol of Christ who was rent only once for our salvation. For a person to be used as a symbol does not lock them into a destiny, by the way. In Daniel 1 and 2 Nebuchadnezzar was a symbol of Babylon. "Thou art this head of gold." He later came to his senses and in Daniel 4 changed to become a symbol of those in the book of Revelation who come out of Babylon and are saved for God's eternal kingdom. EVERY person, by one set of actions, can be used to symbolize something on the side of right, and by another set of actions, something on the side of wrong.

#### QUOTE

### God Speaks, But Those Without Faith Do Not Hear.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ... But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he who comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him." Hebrews 11:1-6.

"Through nature and revelation, through His providence, and by the influence of His Spirit, God speaks to us." *Steps to Christ*, p. 93.

"The prince of teachers, He [Jesus] sought access to the people by the pathway of their most familiar associations. He presented the truth in such a way that ever after it was to His hearers intertwined with the most hallowed recollections and sympathies. He taught in a way that made them feel the completeness of His identification with their interests and happiness." *Ministry of Healing*, pp. 23, 24.

"Jesus desired to awaken inquiry [He STILL so desires] ... Christ had truths to present which the people were unprepared to accept or even to understand. For this reason ... He taught them in parables. By connecting His teaching with the scenes of life, experience, or nature, He secured their attention and impressed their hearts." Comment on Matthew 13:13-15, *Christ's Object Lessons*, pp. 20, 21.

"If any man have an ear, let him hear." Revelation 13:6.

Did you know, America, that the wonderful book, *Christ's Object Lessons*, was written in Australia?

### The Lindy Chamberlain Trial of Australia. Parallels to Revelation 12.

I'm sure the thought never entered the heads of either Michael or Lindy in 1980 when they drove to Ayers Rock, but the journey into Australia's desert interior is in this country often thought upon as a journey to find spiritual meaning and truth. The Chamberlains left for Ayers Rock from their home in north-west Queensland right in the middle of the 11-15 August 1980 Glacier View meetings in USA, where world leaders of the SDA church met to consider a response to Dr Ford's claim that Adventism's doctrine of the investigative judgment was not biblical. Michael, as probably a majority of his colleagues in Australia at the time, regarded Dr Ford as his greatest teacher and supported his stand at Glacier View.

As mentioned, the great significance of linking the Danny and Linda "trial" with the Chamberlain drama in Australia, is that the elements of the latter story parallel the ending elements of the prophetic allegory of Revelation 12 and the ending elements of the parallel prophecies of Daniel, which are in fact alluded to in the seventh trumpet, the verses immediately preceding Revelation 12. (Rev 11:14-19; 10:7) (You can download a brief summary of these parallels by going to my website <http://www.rockofagesparallels.org>, and click "Parallels Chart." Hopefully one day someone with expertise will help us to put up a more professional-looking website.) (The relevant ending elements of Daniel's visions are: the triumph of God's rock-mountain kingdom as in Daniel 2; judgment in favour of the innocent, as in Daniel 7; the two atonement time prophecies in Daniel 8 and 9, and as symbolized in the sanctuary services by the application of blood to the mercy seat of the Ark of the Covenant; the warfare by and defeat of the king of the north, as in Daniel 11:45.) The Ark of the Covenant symbol in an "opened" sanctuary in heaven introduces Revelation 12. (See my entries in the "The Ark of the Covenant" in "Enter Forums", on msdaol)

The Chamberlain drama symbolically points to endtime Bible prophecies of "stupendous" importance to the church, the nations and the world. I submit that the still-unfolding Danny-Linda-3ABN saga is also much more than a mere piece of history.

See also the four part series of articles by Gary Krause, "The Lindy Chamberlain Story", *Review*, July 2 to 23, 1987, and an editorial by William Johnsson, *Review*, July 30, 1987.

**The Chamberlain Divorce Issue.** Michael and Lindy Chamberlain divorced in 1990. The divorce was noted by the media, but though a special disappointment to the church, was not the issue which brought Michael and Lindy into the public eye. Both are remarried, to my knowledge (we have little to no contact), happily so. What is past is past, and the statement below is all that needs to be said here. Michael resigned from the ministry of the SDA Church some time after the 1982 Darwin trial. He now has a Ph.D. and is a sociologist and teacher. See his website <http://www.michaelchamberlain.com.au>. I do not share some of his theological or philosophical views, but whatever any resulting tensions, we cannot forget what he has endured, and the fellowship in Darwin during the trial and visits to the hospital and gaol. We have had almost no contact for years, but still remember him with Christian regard. We all need to pray for each other.

### **Statement on "Divorce" Copied From "Rumours and Facts" Section on Lindy Chamberlain-Creighton's Website**

#### **QUOTE**

#### **That death of her baby and trauma of the case caused Lindy's divorce**

Lindy has stated publicly that the reasons for her divorce existed before the loss of Azaria. The fight to clear their names kept Lindy and Michael together, fighting for a common cause.

Whether they were best friends or not, Lindy did not wish to be divorced, but she felt compelled to do so for the sake of her children. She believes that anyone, and anything, can be forgiven and does not wish any individual ill. She feels that nothing good can come of speaking about the details publicly, but no-one who is fully aware of the reasons for her divorce find fault with her choice, even those with the most stringent religious views. Today, we are a very close knit unit and I am proud to count Aidan, Reagan, & Kahlia as family and best friends. (From <http://www.lindychamberlain.com> in "Rumours and Facts." I hope you don't mind my copying this, Lindy.)

**Statement by Lindy Chamberlain-Creighton on Case for Parallels Between Her Story and Revelation 12.** End 2005 I asked Lindy for a statement in regard to the case for the parallels between her story and Revelation 12. You can see it at my website. (I requested a statement also from Michael, but he declined to provide one.

Publicly, because of the divorce and the new marriages, the Chamberlain story now is largely seen just as Lindy's story.)

**QUOTE**

"I know that Vada has spent much time and thought over this, but Vada's theory is one that can neither be proved nor disproved by the Bible, in my view. As my case is a public one, members of the public are free to draw any conclusion they choose, without consulting me or seeking my permission. I believe that this should be kept in mind – together with much prayer – by anyone studying Vada's materials." Statement by Lindy Chamberlain-Creighton, 1 December 2005.

I appreciate Lindy's carefully worded comment. Just remember she is a well known public identity in Australia and must choose her words with great caution. She has been caused to suffer much. Even the existence of God cannot be proved or disproved by the Bible. Christianity is based upon faith, and "without faith it is impossible to please God." It is always for us to carefully assess the evidence, prayerfully and humbly compare fact and faith with Scripture, watch the workings of providence, listen for God's voice speaking to our hearts, and know that an understanding of one truth cannot come until we have taken the step of obedient faith on a previously revealed truth. I on my part must shout from the roof tops that though I am fallible in the process of extrapolating upon a parallel, I know the parallels of which I speak are there, and I would certainly be dishonouring my Lord if I did not say so. I am not the only one to see this case, though I do not know anyone who has studied the parallels as extensively as I have.

**QUOTE**

"The Revelation was not written without tears; neither without tears will it be understood." - Benson.

**QUOTE**

"New opinions are always suspected, and usually opposed, without any other reason but because they are not already common." John Locke, Essay on Human Understanding.

---

**Posted by: husbandoftheyear Aug 28 2006, 09:44 PM**

Whew - that was a lot of information at once!



---

**Posted by: Voktar of Zargon Aug 29 2006, 06:01 AM**

**QUOTE(calvin @ Aug 27 2006, 06:05 PM)**

Saharafan, thank you for sharing this testimony. The last few posts by you and Watchbird have been very inspiring for me to read. What you have presented makes any argument for a diminished importance of the Bible in the lives of Christians weak in comparison.

Appreciate your input Boss. Saharafan had some definitely good things to say. I know it may sound like heresy these days but another advantage God has given us is "pastor/teachers" to help prevent us from being tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine. Not that we place implicit confidence in what they have to say. We are enjoined to put their counsel through the Biblical sieve just like the Bereans did with Paul. I too had some similar experiences to Saharafan, but before I was a Christian and before I was an Adventist. I've experienced "The Dragon, the Beast, and the False Prophet, from the inside. "Sola Scriptura" is the answer man.

---

**Posted by: Voktar of Zargon Aug 29 2006, 06:51 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 27 2006, 08:39 PM)**

no one has suggested that the bible have diminished importance.... however I am saying that there are those who can becoming overly dependent on the bible that they miss interacting with the God that the bible points a believer too..... I am also saying that there are those who when it comes to the bible are scholars, and can run circles around the average church member, yet they don't necessarily have a relationship with God....

people's experiences may vary...

Clay, You have really brought up some excellent principles that challenge us to a more intimate relationship with God. The scribes had the old testament memorized and crucified Jesus! On the other hand the lost of Matthew 7 experienced much supernatural phenomenon in "The name of the Lord" and didn't know Jesus either. We experience God and His will through a variety of means. One of those means is His Word. The Protestant Reformation bogged down for hundreds of years by exalting the Word of God yet forgetting the God of the Word. On the other hand many protestant movements were led astray by "diminishing" the importance of the Word and instead placing experience over this objective standard. One case in point would be the Quakers. They placed an inordinate importance on the "inner light" to the neglect of Scripture. In one case a number of Quakers actually thought God was telling them to run naked in the streets. I have to confess that your statement on post 84 of this thread "I understand what you are saying about the bible, but my confidence is not in the bible, my confidence is in God...." would on the surface lead one to think that a diminished Bible is implied. I don't think it is an either or issue. But if one means of God's revelation to the human race is to be emphasized above all others (not to their neglect) it should be the Bible. Otherwise we need to give up the motto "Sola Scriptura."

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 29 2006, 08:48 AM**

**QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ Aug 29 2006, 06:51 AM) □**

Clay, You have really brought up some excellent principles that challenge us to a more intimate relationship with God. The scribes had the old testament memorized and crucified Jesus! On the other hand the lost of Matthew 7 experienced much supernatural phenomenon in "The name of the Lord" and didn't know Jesus either. We experience God and His will through a variety of means. One of those means is His Word.

The Protestant Reformation bogged down for hundreds of years by exalting the Word of God yet forgetting the God of the Word. On the other hand many protestant movements were led astray by "diminishing" the importance of the Word and instead placing experience over this objective standard. One case in point would be the Quakers. They placed an inordinate importance on the "inner light" to the neglect of Scripture. In one case a number of Quakers actually thought God was telling them to run naked in the streets.

I have to confess that your statement on post 84 of this thread "I understand what you are saying about the bible, but my confidence is not in the bible, my confidence is in God...." would on the surface lead one to think that a diminished Bible is implied.

I don't think it is an either or issue. But if one means of God's revelation to the human race is to be emphasized above all others (not to their neglect) it should be the Bible. Otherwise we need to give up the motto "Sola Scriptura."

Welcome to the forum.... the motto "Sola Scriptura" has been given up long ago... for adventists it has become the bible and the writings of egw... check your 28 fundamentals.....

I do not place my confidence in the bible, neither do I think it is the main way God reveals himself to us.....

I find it unbelievable that humans can meet, interact, get to know really well, and marry a person and in some cases stay married for decades, without ever reading a book about that person.... Kids don't read books about their parents to understand and have close relationships with them (when it happens that is).... yet there are those who believe that a great and all powerful Creator is limited to a book in His revelation to humankind. That somehow he cannot reveal himself and have an intimate relationship with us other than by us studying a book about him.....

I reject that picture cause it is wrong.... btjm...

---

**Posted by: västergötland Aug 29 2006, 09:25 AM**

Jhn 20:25The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

Jhn 20:26And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: [then] came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace [be] unto you.

Jhn 20:27Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust [it] into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

Jhn 20:28And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

Jhn 20:29Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed [are] they that have not seen, and [yet] have believed.

Like this diciple, many find it easier to believe in what they(we?) have seen.

---

**Posted by: howdy Aug 29 2006, 11:10 AM**

**QUOTE(Jvat @ Aug 17 2006, 12:01 PM)**

Well to add some fuel to the discussions. When Joshua said that the sun stood still, did it really? And yet he was mightily used of God and his record in the Scriptures is supposed to have been given to 'holy men who were moved of the Holy Ghost'. And yet that is how the story is written in the Bible. The story does not say that the earth stood still at all, although, scientifically/physically that is what really happened.

What about the case of the raven bringing food for Elijah when the raven is an unclean animal that God says touch not, taste not, handle not?

Can we ALWAYS presume to understand the way that God works? And when we are checking the Scriptures to see God's modus operandi, do we check the unusual happenings as well, like those that I have quoted above?

Again I want to reiterate that I understand the need for caution but let us not be too concrete in our thinking that we prevent God from working as He would like, as happened at the GC Session in 1888.

Does anyone really think that the earth stopped turning? Imagine the results of such a happening. All Joshua wanted was some more light and he got it. I dont believe the earth stopped turning.

howdy

**Posted by: Green Cochoa Aug 29 2006, 11:27 AM**

This discussion has certainly wandered, but I want to add a short story to the concept of dreams and visions. First, God is not the author of confusion, but of power, love, and a sound mind.

I will never forget an experience I had while in high school. An issue of prime importance to me had been gnawing at my mind for a long time, and while the entire school was camped near the ocean during a special field trip, I had extra time to reflect upon it. It was a private matter, and I don't remember discussing it with anyone, though I may have shared it with my best friend and prayer partner of that year, in which case we would have prayed about it together.

I was in a cabin with three other guys, and awoke early in the morning before it was light. My pocket Bible was too small to read by the light of the street lamp outside the window, but with deep thoughts on my mind, and not wishing to waken the others by turning on the light, I could only kneel there on my bunk and pray. It may have been half an hour, or so, in prayer with God, before I fell asleep again. As I slept, I began to dream. It was an ordinary dream. It was the kind of dream with the usual nonsense of dreams. But, into this "ordinary" dream, stepped my angel! I could not see the angel in the dream, and never saw even so much as a silhouette, but it was the most unusual experience I have had in a dream. I just KNEW my angel was there! The dream sort of just went on hold in the angel's presence, as the angel approached me from behind. As the angel began to write upon my back, I became aware of having on a coat which I presumed I needed to remove so the angel's finger could be better felt, and so I struggled with it, but the angel did not wait for me to remove it, nor did I miss receiving the message with it on, but felt clearly the impressions upon my back.

When the angel had finished, I awoke, and it was still early. I lay awake thinking about it, and wondering whether I could have just dreamed such a thing, or if it was real--and if it was real, was it possible for the devil to give me such a dream? I was confused, because 1) I had never had such a thing happen to me before, 2) I had never actually "seen" the angel--so how did I know

there was one?, 3) the dream had begun as plain and insignificant as any ordinary dream, and 4) the message was one of hope that the desire of my heart would be granted--so how did I know that I wasn't just trying to comfort myself? Perhaps I was a skeptic, a pessimist, or just lacking in faith. But I simply couldn't seem to believe with certainty that it was a message from God. Why should He pay any attention to sorry me?

The infinite God we serve knows our frame. He remembers that we are dust, and treats us with utmost tenderness and mercy. In my case, He anticipated my confusion, and gave me a second message that same morning, as only God can do. For worship that morning, the principal of the school gave a message about DREAMS and how God can and will use them to guide us at times! He had no knowledge of my experience, as I had not shared it with anyone. And he probably to this day has no idea of how his message encouraged a feeble-in-faith student that morning.

If it is God who gives the dream, it will be God who gives certainty to it. Confusion does not come from God. Many years passed following that dream before its message reached fulfillment. It did, however, come true, in God's timing. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

"Ask, and you will receive.  
Seek, and you will find.  
Knock, and the door will be opened unto you."

---

**Posted by: meadbd Aug 29 2006, 12:10 PM**

Welcome to the forum.... the motto "Sola Scriptura" has been given up long ago... for adventists it has become the bible and the writings of egw... check your 28 fundamentals.....

=====  
"Seventh-day Adventists Believe...27"(page 227)

\*\*\*\*\*  
"THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY AND THE BIBLE  
-----

The writings of Ellen White are not a substitute for Scripture. They cannot be placed on the same level. The Holy Scriptures stand alone, the unique standard by which her and all other writings must be judged and to which they must be subject. "

=====  
Now that is a true statement.

Bill

---

**Posted by: princessdi Aug 29 2006, 12:35 PM**

Yes, that is what it states, but to often it is not put into practice.

**QUOTE(meadbd @ Aug 29 2006, 11:10 AM) □**

Welcome to the forum.... the motto "Sola Scriptura" has been given up long ago... for adventists it has become the bible and the writings of egw... check your 28 fundamentals.....

=====  
"Seventh-day Adventists Believe...27"(page 227)

\*\*\*\*\*  
"THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY AND THE BIBLE  
-----

The writings of Ellen White are not a substitute for Scripture. They cannot be placed on the same

level. The Holy Scriptures stand alone, the unique standard by which her and all other writings must be judged and to which they must be subject. "

=====

Now that is a true statement.

Bill

**Posted by: Voktar of Zargon Aug 29 2006, 01:14 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 29 2006, 09:48 AM)**

Welcome to the forum.... the motto "Sola Scriptura" has been given up long ago... for adventists it has become the bible and the writings of egw... check your 28 fundamentals.....

I do not place my confidence in the bible, neither do I think it is the main way God reveals himself to us.....

I find it unbelievable that humans can meet, interact, get to know really well, and marry a person and in some cases stay married for decades, without ever reading a book about that person.... Kids *don't read books about their parents to understand and have close relationships with them (when it happens that is)....* yet there are those who believe that a great and all powerful Creator is limited to a book in His revelation to humankind. That somehow he cannot reveal himself and have an intimate relationship with us other than by us studying a book about him.....

I reject that picture cause it is wrong.... btjm...

Communication is such an imperfect thing. I'm afraid you reject a picture I never painted. I never said that God was limited to the Bible, nor that He cannot reveal Himself in ways other than the Bible. God revealed Himself to me in a variety of ways before I was ever a Christian or had ever read the Bible – and still does.

I love my wife. However, I don't think it would please her if I didn't read a love letter from her or said that I didn't trust it's message, even though her signature was all over it. I checked my copy of the 27 fundamentals (don't have the 28 yet) and on page 227 it says, "Seventh-day Adventists fully support the Reformation principle of sola scriptura, The Bible as its own interpreter and the Bible alone as the basis of all doctrines." When and how did God tell you not to have confidence in the Bible? Did God reveal to you that it would be good for us all to do likewise or is this revelation just for you?

**Posted by: Clay Aug 29 2006, 03:01 PM**

**QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ Aug 29 2006, 01:14 PM)**

Communication is such an imperfect thing. I'm afraid you reject a picture I never painted. I never said that God was limited to the Bible, nor that He cannot reveal Himself in ways other than the Bible. God revealed Himself to me in a variety of ways before I was ever a Christian or had ever



read the Bible – and still does.

I love my wife. However, I don't think it would please her if I didn't read a love letter from her or said that I didn't trust it's message, even though her signature was all over it.

I checked my copy of the 27 fundamentals (don't have the 28 yet) and on page 227 it says, "Seventh-day Adventists fully support the Reformation principle of sola scriptura, The Bible as its own interpreter and the Bible alone as the basis of all doctrines."

When and how did God tell you not to have confidence in the Bible? Did God reveal to you that it would be good for us all to do likewise or is this revelation just for you?

did not suggest that you painted the picture, simply that it existed.... Page 227 of the 28 fundies hats scary.....

God wants me to have confidence in Him..... period.... whatever God tells you or impresses you to do, it would be best for you to do that..... If he has not impressed you to do anything, that to would be between you and God...

---

**Posted by: Denny Aug 30 2006, 06:43 AM**

Abraham knew God voice he even obeyed the command to sacrifice his son, ok there was no written 10 commandments then but I am sure they was some moral code around about killing people but he still went ahead cos **He knew God's voice**

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 30 2006, 06:46 AM**

**QUOTE(Denny @ Aug 30 2006, 07:43 AM)**

Abraham knew God voice he even obeyed the command to sacrifice his son, ok there was no written 10 commandments then but I am sure they was some moral code around about killing people but he still went ahead cos **He knew God's voice**

some folks feel uncomfortable with that concept Denny.... there are even some who would suggest that the only way you would know God's voice is that it agrees with what the bible says.....

---

**Posted by: Hersheys99 Aug 30 2006, 08:46 AM**

**QUOTE**

**QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ Aug 29 2006, 01:14 PM) \***

Communication is such an imperfect thing. I'm afraid you reject a picture I never painted. I never said that God was limited to the Bible, nor that He cannot reveal Himself in ways other than the Bible. God revealed Himself to me in a variety of ways before I was ever a Christian or had ever read the Bible – and still does.

I love my wife. However, I don't think it would please her if I didn't read a love letter from her or said that I didn't trust it's message, even though her signature was all over it.

I checked my copy of the 27 fundamentals (don't have the 28 yet) and on page 227 it says, "Seventh-day Adventists fully support the Reformation principle of sola scriptura, The Bible as its

own interpreter and the Bible alone as the basis of all doctrines."  
 When and how did God tell you not to have confidence in the Bible? Did God reveal to you that it would be good for us all to do likewise or is this revelation just for you?

The problem I have with that statement is that it comes across as saying to me that unless I read my Bible then I can't know God!! Sorry that ain't right anyway you cut it. Yes I believe in the Bible & I do read it BUT I don't have to read it to have a personal relationship with God & to know what he wants. Maybe that is why he made us with a conscience & he can put those things in our minds that he wants us to know/hear.

**Posted by: Barbara Kerr Aug 30 2006, 12:40 PM**

**QUOTE(Hersheys99 @ Aug 30 2006, 09:46 AM) □**

The problem I have with that statement is that it comes across as saying to me that unless I read my Bible then I can't know God!! Sorry that ain't right anyway you cut it. Yes I believe in the Bible & I do read it BUT I don't have to read it to have a personal relationship with God & to know what he wants. Maybe that is why he made us with a conscience & he can put those things in our minds that he wants us to know/hear.

Hi Hershey,

Hmmm.....I'm not sure I can agree with that statement. I firmly believe that we need to be using our Bibles as our "swords of the Spirit" (Eph.6:17) in order to protect ourselves from things like compromise and false truths. I also believe that Satan is happy when we don't spend time daily in the scriptures. We are much easier to deceive when we leave ourselves unprotected in this way.

If we don't know the scriptures, the "things" being put into our minds may not be coming from God. So it's really a circle of spending time in prayer, reading our Bibles, serving others and then reading supplemental Christian books. I know for me personally, when I miss out on my prayer and/or Bible time, my whole day just seems to go awry.

I do believe there are people that have never read a Bible and still they know God. The mission field is full of stories like that. There are also mentally handicapped folk that have not been able to read Bibles, but God draws them to His bosom.

**Posted by: Clay Aug 30 2006, 12:45 PM**

**QUOTE(Barbara Kerr @ Aug 30 2006, 01:40 PM) □**

Hi Hershey,

Hmmm.....I'm not sure I can agree with that statement. I firmly believe that we need to be using our Bibles as our "swords of the Spirit" (Eph.6:17) in order to protect ourselves from things like compromise and false truths. I also believe that Satan is happy when we don't spend time daily in the Scriptures. We are much easier to deceive when we leave ourselves unprotected in this way.

If we don't know the scriptures, the "things" being put into our minds may not be coming from God. So it's really a circle of spending time in prayer, reading our Bibles, serving others and then reading

supplemental Christian books. I know for me personally, when I miss out on my prayer and/or Bible time, my whole day just seems to go awry.

I do believe there are people that have never read a Bible and still they know God. The mission field is full of stories like that. There are also mentally handicapped folk that have not been able to read Bibles, but God draws them to His bossom.

ceived how? suppose it was God's design that this particular day goes awry? How do you know its not a teachable moment? The bible is good but it cannot replace communicating with God.... likewise the bible has no advice or recommendations on what you as a parent should do if your child is strung out on crack, or in an abusive relationship, or is pregnant out of wedlock.....

---

**Posted by: Hersheys99 Aug 30 2006, 12:49 PM**

**QUOTE**

I do believe there are people that have never read a Bible and still they know God. The mission field is full of stories like that. There are also mentally handicapped folk that have not been able to read Bibles, but God draws them to His bossom.

Hi Barbara

See that is where I don't get it. These people can still know God but if we have access to a Bible we can't know God without reading it. Sounds double standard to me.

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 30 2006, 12:56 PM**

**QUOTE(Hersheys99 @ Aug 30 2006, 01:49 PM)**

Hi Barbara

See that is where I don't get it. These people can still know God but if we have access to a Bible we can't know God without reading it. Sounds double standard to me.

Abraham had no bible, Noah had no bible, Cain, and Abel had no bible, the generations of people between Adam and Abraham had no bible.... the population that existed outside of Israel had no bible or the writings of Moses, yet I am positive that God revealed and had relationship with those people...

We have a bible and it is an aid, but it is NOT God, it may give some insight into how God interacts with humans, but it is not God..... nor is it a magical talisman..... some seem to believe it is....

---

**Posted by: Barbara Kerr Aug 30 2006, 01:38 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 30 2006, 01:45 PM)**

deceived how? suppose it was God's design that this particular day goes awry? How do you know its not a teachable moment? The bible is good but it cannot replace communicating with God.... likewise the bible has no advice or recommendations on what you as a parent should do if your child is strung out on crack, or in an abusive relationship, or is pregnant out of wedlock.....

Good point Clay,

just find that most of my "teachable" moments happened because I separated myself from God. I'm not splitting hairs here, I do understand what your saying.

I think Psalm is full of advice for people in the above listed problems. You just have to find it. (I love David -- he is my favorite Bible character)

---

**Posted by: Clay Aug 30 2006, 01:43 PM**

**QUOTE(Barbara Kerr @ Aug 30 2006, 01:38 PM) □**

Good point Clay,

I just find that most of my "teachable" moments happened because I separated myself from God. I'm not splitting hairs here, I do understand what your saying.

I think Psalm is full of advice for people in the above listed problems. You just have to find it. (I love David -- he is my favorite Bible character)

Good... and we are probably on the same page in a general sense, I was just wondering or thinking out loud if you will....

---

**Posted by: Barbara Kerr Aug 30 2006, 01:57 PM**

**QUOTE(Hersheys99 @ Aug 30 2006, 01:49 PM) □**

Hi Barbara

See that is where I don't get it. These people can still know God but if we have access to a Bible we can't know God without reading it. Sounds double standard to me.

I think with the millions of people out there, and EVERY ONE OF THEM is at a different place spiritually, it is impossible for everyone to understand or agree on what connects them to God.

When I was in my 20's my devotional time was practically nil. I took my Bible to church, but I rarely read it. It was boring to me. I had a very strong faith and I prayed often, but it was nothing compared to the experience I have today.

God was with me then and He loved me just as much as He loves me now. Do I think that God is always moving us in the direction that He wants His children to go? Absolutely. Would I want to go backwards to the relationship I had with Him then? No way. Does God want me to grow even more from where I am today? Sure He does.

So there isn't an answer that everyone will agree upon. Every person is at a different place in their Christian walk based on their personal experiences. It's okay! Those that rely heavily upon the Bible do so for a reason based upon their experiences. Those that rely heavily on prayer without the Bible do so for a reason, ALSO based on their experiences. And those of us that rely heavily on prayer AND the Bible do so because they can't imagine life any other way.

It doesn't make one wrong and the other right. It makes us human instead of machines. I don't know about you, but I like being a little bit different than everyone else. God made us this way. PTL I just love Him so much!

**Posted by: Lucyladye Aug 30 2006, 02:19 PM**

My sentiments exacty!

**Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Aug 30 2006, 10:30 PM**

Ephesians 6:10-18 says "10Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. "

I love this message to the Ephesians! My own personal opinion on the discussion about the importance of scripture and reading the Bible is that without a thorough knowledge of what is in there, we will be too easily fooled by the devil's schemes. The patriarchs, etc had the Word directly from God through the spoken words of prophets and angels. While our verbal communication with God - our prayer lives - are oh, so very important, the Word is where we truly learn the character of God...the Truth. Otherwise, we are in danger of interpreting God and His truth by our own fallible parameters.

Just my humble opinion.

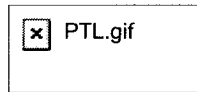
**Posted by: Barbara Kerr Aug 31 2006, 03:52 PM**

**QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Aug 31 2006, 12:30 AM)**

I love this message to the Ephesians! My own personal opinion on the discussion about the importance of scripture and reading the Bible is that without a thorough knowledge of what is in there, we will be too easily fooled by the devil's schemes. The patriarchs, etc had the Word directly from God through the spoken words of prophets and angels. While our verbal communication with God - our prayer lives - are oh, so very important, the Word is where we truly learn the character of God...the Truth. Otherwise, we are in danger of interpreting God and His truth by our own fallible parameters.

Just my humble opinion.

Amen sister!




---

**Posted by: Voktar of Zargon Sep 1 2006, 03:59 PM**

"Thy testimonies are my meditation."

"Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it."

"Thy testimonies are wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them. The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding to the simple."

"Unless thy law had been my delights, I should have perished in mine affliction. I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me."

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

"Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way."

"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word."

"Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee."

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

- Psalm 119:99; Psalm 119:140; Psalm 119:129,130; Psalm 119:92,93; Psalm 119:105; Psalm 119:104; Psalm 119:9; Psalm 119:11; Isaiah 8:20

"It is the first and highest duty of every rational being to learn from the Scriptures what is truth, and then to walk in the light and encourage others to follow his example." - GC 598

"None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict." - GC 593

---

**Posted by: Clay Sep 1 2006, 05:29 PM**

those who stand in the last days will be fortified by the Holy Spirit..... in this world there are people who know TONS more about the bible that most christians will ever know... biblical language scholars who can dissect and parse texts and be correct.... the average person who THINKS they are studying the bible and is "fortified" will be toast..... except those who have been transformed by the Holy Spirit.....

Additionally, I don't think its gonna be a pop quiz to see how much you know or don't know.... its gonna be about who you know and believe in.....

I'm done.....

**Posted by: Voktar of Zargon Sep 1 2006, 06:41 PM**

"God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." - John 4:24

"Sanctify them through thy truth, Thy Word is truth." - John 17:17

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." - Ephesians 6:17

**Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Sep 1 2006, 06:47 PM**

**QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ Sep 1 2006, 01:59 PM) □**

"Thy testimonies are my meditation."

"Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it."

"Thy testimonies are wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them. The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding to the simple."

"Unless thy law had been my delights, I should have perished in mine affliction. I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me."

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

"Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way."

"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word."

"Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee."

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

- Psalm 119:99; Psalm 119:140; Psalm 119:129,130; Psalm 119:92,93; Psalm 119:105; Psalm 119:104; Psalm 119:9; Psalm 119:11; Isaiah 8:20

"It is the first and highest duty of every rational being to learn from the Scriptures what is truth, and then to walk in the light and encourage others to follow his example." - GC 598

"None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict." - GC 593

VoZ:

Amen, Amen and AMEN!

**QUOTE(Clay @ Sep 1 2006, 03:29 PM) □**

those who stand in the last days will be fortified by the Holy Spirit..... in this world there are people who know TONS more about the bible that most christians will ever know... biblical language scholars who can dissect and parse texts and be correct.... the average person who THINKS they are studying the bible and is "fortified" will be toast..... except those who have been transformed by the Holy Spirit....

Additionally, I don't think its gonna be a pop quiz to see how much you know or don't know.... its gonna be about who you know and believe in.....

I'm done.....

AMEN Brother Clay!

**Posted by: inga Sep 1 2006, 06:48 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Sep 1 2006, 06:29 PM)**

those who stand in the last days will be fortified by the Holy Spirit..... in this world there are people who know TONS more about the bible that most christians will ever know... biblical language scholars who can dissect and parse texts and be correct... the average person who THINKS they are studying the bible and is "fortified" will be toast..... except those who have been transformed by the Holy Spirit.....

Additionally, I don't think its gonna be a pop quiz to see how much you know or don't know.... its gonna be about who you know and believe in.....

I'm done.....

Clay, somehow you've established a false dichotomy between the Bible and the Holy Spirit.

The Bible was **inspired** by the Holy Spirit. Holy men of God wrote as they were moved by the Spirit. The reason the Bible is "living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword" is that it is also **nterpreted** by the Holy Spirit to the Spirit-led reader. Thus the Word of God is continually **alive**. The same Bible passage can speak in different ways at different times to the Spirit-led reader.

Now, Clay, you may be "done" denying our view of things, but **please tell us how you see the Bible. What is its role in the believer's life**. What you have written sounds as though the Bible is just an adjunct -- unnecessary to the Spirit-led individual. (As you have surmised, I disagree.) I think it would be helpful if you would lay out your view in a single post. (So far, you've just disagreed with what some of us have written, rather than laying out your view.)

**Posted by: Clay Sep 1 2006, 07:22 PM**

**QUOTE(inga @ Sep 1 2006, 07:48 PM)**

Clay, somehow you've established a false dichotomy between the Bible and the Holy Spirit.

The Bible was **inspired** by the Holy Spirit. Holy men of God wrote as they were moved by the Spirit. The reason the Bible is "living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword" is that it is also **nterpreted** by the Holy Spirit to the Spirit-led reader. Thus the Word of God is continually **alive**. The same Bible passage can speak in different ways at different times to the Spirit-led reader.

Now, Clay, you may be "done" denying our view of things, but **please tell us how you see the Bible. What is its role in the believer's life**. What you have written sounds as though the Bible is just an adjunct -- unnecessary to the Spirit-led individual. (As you have surmised, I disagree.) I think it would be helpful if you would lay out your view in a single post. (So far, you've just



(disagreed with what some of us have written, rather than laying out your view.)

have not established anything, what I have done was put the bible in its proper place.... it is a vehicle that can lead people to Christ if we allow it too..... it has no magical powers and is not necessarily correct.... though it has what is needed for us to understand that God wants to have an intimate relationship with us.....

your mileage may vary as some have some apprehension about being "led" by the spirit, even though we say that's what we want.....

---

**Posted by: Clay Sep 1 2006, 07:35 PM**

of course my point of reference may be different.... I see those slaves who couldnt read, who actually were told wrong stuff (from the bible) by their masters, developing a hope in Christ that was unshakable..... they had no bible..... I have already mentioned those who lived, who had relationship with God and never laid eyes on the bible..... I am thinking about all those believers who believed even though they had no bible because it was not written in their language but in Latin and locked away....so you cannot convince me that the bible is the end all when throughout history people have been without it.....

---

**Posted by: rwelchcrs Sep 1 2006, 07:56 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Sep 1 2006, 08:22 PM)**

i have not established anything, what I have done was put the bible in its proper place.... it is a vehicle that can lead people to Christ if we allow it too..... it has no magical powers and is not necessarily correct.... though it has what is needed for us to understand that God wants to have an intimate relationship with us.....

your mileage may vary as some have some apprehension about being "led" by the spirit, even though we say that's what we want.....

Could you expand on this a bit? Exactly what do you mean by "is not necessarily correct"?

---

**Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Sep 1 2006, 08:11 PM**

Without the Word how can we test the spirits to make sure we are allowing the correct One to empower us?

If the Bible "is not necessarily correct" I'm afraid we're all in deep do-do.

1 Corinthians 1:18, 19

18For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

---

**Posted by: inga Sep 1 2006, 08:21 PM**

Clay, thanks for the reply, but you are still only **responding to/arguing with** things we have said, rather than laying out your views clearly.

A bit of interlining follows ...

**QUOTE(Clay @ Sep 1 2006, 08:22 PM)**

i have not established anything, what I have done was put the bible in its proper place.... it is a vehicle that can lead people to Christ if we allow it too..... it has no magical powers and is not necessarily correct....

You say the Bible **can** lead people to Christ, and it is **not necessarily correct**. Can this not be said of thousands of other books as well?

**QUOTE**

though it has what is needed for us to understand that God wants to have an intimate relationship with us.....

Again, don't many other books serve the purpose of telling us that God wants to have an intimate relationship with us?

As a matter of fact, you say so on this board, so folks could just come here instead of reading the Bible?

**QUOTE**

your mileage may vary as some have some apprehension about being "led" by the spirit, even though we say that's what we want.....

of course my point of reference may be different.... I see those slaves who couldnt read, who actually were told wrong stuff (from the bible) by their masters, developing a hope in Christ that was unshakable..... they had no bible..... I have already mentioned those who lived, who had relationship with God and never laid eyes on the bible..... I am thinking about all those believers who believed even though they had no bible because it was not written in their language but in Latin and locked away....so you cannot convince me that the bible is the end all when throughout history people have been without it.....

I have followed this thread but have not seen anyone mention that the Bible is "the end all." I have personally mentioned that for those of us who call ourselves Christians today and have the Bible at our finger tips, it is foundational to our relationship with God, though He also speaks to us in other ways.

Others have mentioned that it is like a touchstone that lets us know which spirit is speaking to us.

As for the personal relationship -- how would you feel if you labored over a love letter or a love song for your wife, and she refused to read it or listen to it, demanding you speak to her in other ways instead? Would that demonstrate love or a "personal relationship" on her part?

Of course, our relationship with God is on a different plane. Christ said "the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." (see the gospel of John) How do you interpret that statement?

Others have posted texts that demonstrate the value God places on His Word. What does it say of our "personal relationship" when we demand He speak to us in other ways, while we ignore His Word?

My question to you was in reference to how you see the Bible in relation to our situation here and now. Anything else is pretty theoretical anyway, and I'll happily leave God to figure out how to

communicate with those who don't have the written Word. I know He's capable of it and does it all the time.

---

**Posted by: Voktar of Zargon Sep 1 2006, 08:31 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Sep 1 2006, 09:35 PM)**

of course my point of reference may be different.... I see those slaves who couldnt read, who actually were told wrong stuff (from the bible) by their masters, developing a hope in Christ that was unshakable..... they had no bible..... I have already mentioned those who lived, who had relationship with God and never laid eyes on the bible..... I am thinking about all those believers who believed even though they had no bible because it was not written in their language but in Latin and locked away....so you cannot convince me that the bible is the end all when throughout history people have been without it.....

Perhaps you forget that the believers in the dark ages (not having access to the locked away Bible) worshipped more often than not in ignorance. They worshipped in superstition, they worshipped idols, they lived in spiritual bondage and slavery to blasphemous overlords whose power over them was finally broken through the enlightenment that came to them from reading the Holy Scriptures in their own tongue. The Bible you "put in its proper place" was bought by Protestant blood. Did they die in vain?

Is it possible that you were hit over the head in your formative years by one too many Biblical hypocrites?

---

**Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Sep 1 2006, 08:39 PM**

**QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ Sep 1 2006, 05:41 PM)**

"God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." - John 4:24

"Sanctify them through thy truth, Thy Word is truth." - John 17:17

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." - Ephesians 6:17

Ephesians 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

The Word of God is where we find our armor!

---

**Posted by: seeshell Sep 1 2006, 08:49 PM**

I'm with this...

**QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ Sep 1 2006, 09:31 PM)**

Perhaps you forget that the believers in the dark ages (not having access to the locked away Bible) worshipped more often than not in ignorance. They worshipped in superstition, they worshipped idols, they lived in spiritual bondage and slavery to blasphemous overlords whose power over them was finally broken through the enlightenment that came to them from reading the Holy Scriptures in their own tongue. The Bible you "put in its proper place" was bought by Protestant blood. Did they die in vain?

Is it possible that you were hit over the head in your formative years by one too many Biblical hypocrites?

**Posted by: Clay Sep 2 2006, 12:04 AM**

**QUOTE**

As for the personal relationship -- how would you feel if you labored over a love letter or a love song for your wife, and she refused to read it or listen to it, demanding you speak to her in other ways instead? Would that demonstrate love or a "personal relationship" on her part?

my love letters to my wife are snapshots, I would be more concerned if instead of wanting to talk to me she wanted to read those letters... and lets be clear, God did not write one word of the bible...

**QUOTE**

Of course, our relationship with God is on a different plane. Christ said "the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." (see the gospel of John) How do you interpret that statement?

those words were not the bible... not as we have it here and now...what is the word of God? Anything that God communicates with us, and it is not limited to the bible....

**QUOTE**

Others have posted texts that demonstrate the value God places on His Word. What does it say of our "personal relationship" when we demand He speak to us in other ways, while we ignore His Word?

His word was NOT the bible as we have it.... in spite of you all suggesting that it is....

**QUOTE**

My question to you was in reference to how you see the Bible in relation to our situation here and now. Anything else is pretty theoretical anyway, and I'll happily leave God to figure out how to communicate with those who don't have the written Word. I know He's capable of it and does it all the time.

The bible is a tool, and gives us insight into how God has interacted with people.... it cannot replace relationship, but for some it may aid in that relationship....

---

**Posted by: Clay Sep 2 2006, 02:37 AM**

**QUOTE(rwelchcrs @ Sep 1 2006, 08:56 PM)**

Could you expand on this a bit? Exactly what do you mean by "is not necessarily correct"?

it was written by men... men who were inspired but men.... and since man is not perfect, that imperfection is reflected in the bible.... the bible is not infallible for if it were we would not allow women to speak in church, neither would we allow women to teach men, we would stone rebellious children, we would kill sabbath breakers and lastly we would believe that the sun stood still when we now know it was the earth that stood still...

**QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Sep 1 2006, 09:11 PM)**

Without the Word how can we test the spirits to make sure we are allowing the correct One to empower us?

If the Bible "is not necessarily correct" I'm afraid we're all in deep do-do.

1 Corinthians 1:18, 19

18For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

you said it I didn't..... but then again I do not share your view....

---

**Posted by: Brother Sam Sep 2 2006, 08:37 AM**

Clay

You can clearly see the Bible books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are written by four different authors covering the same period in history. Yet, you need to read all four books to get the total picture. I believe that because they were different personalities, they saw things differently.

The Bible is a translation, so many times we don't get the complete meaning of the text, as written originally, as the translation will reflect the thoughts and understanding of that particular translator. There are words in the original that cannot be communicated properly in English. You can see the personality of the author coming through the works they wrote, such as Paul. In some places the Bible appears to contradict itself - yet I don't believe God contradicts anything - but is man's lack of historical knowledge or the wisdom to put on paper exactly what God has laid down for us in His original written Word.

I will later post my thoughts regarding Danny's continual need to surround himself with "Pentacostal and Charasmatic" people.

---

**Posted by: Clay Sep 3 2006, 09:14 AM**

thread was split, those comments dealing with the black/white issue in the church has been

moved to a new thread in the Your Local Church section.....

here is the link.....

<http://www.blacksda.com/forums/index.php?showtopic=10728>

---

**Posted by: Voktar of Zargon Sep 3 2006, 09:30 AM**

Thanks for splitting the new thread.

I think that my last post belongs here though since its main theme was on topic. Can you please move it back to this thread?

---

**Posted by: Clay Sep 3 2006, 10:42 AM**

**QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ Sep 3 2006, 10:30 AM)**

Thanks for splitting the new thread.

I think that my last post belongs here though since its main theme was on topic. Can you please move it back to this thread?

i could....

V of Z said.....

**QUOTE**

Let me follow this logic:

A: Because Adventist are sinners who still sin.

B: The Bible is a faulty revelation.

Next step on slippery slope:

A: Because the majority of the world is going to hell in a handbasket.

B: God is either a liar or doesn't exist

Flip side of the logic:

A: The South African Conferences united.

B: Therefore the Bible is a true revelation.

---

**Posted by: simplysaved Sep 3 2006, 11:03 AM**

I hear ya...

**QUOTE(Voktar of Zargon @ Sep 1 2006, 08:31 PM)**

Perhaps you forget that the believers in the dark ages (not having access to the locked away Bible) worshipped more often than not in ignorance. They worshipped in superstition, they worshipped idols, they lived in spiritual bondage and slavery to blasphemous overlords whose power over them was finally broken through the enlightenment that came to them from reading the Holy Scriptures in their own tongue. The Bible you "put in its proper place" was bought by Protestant blood. Did they die in vain?

Is it possible that you were hit over the head in your formative years by one too many Biblical hypocrites?

---

**Posted by: Voktar of Zargon Sep 3 2006, 08:28 PM**

**QUOTE(seeshell @ Sep 1 2006, 10:49 PM)**

I'm with this...

Thanks seeshell.

**QUOTE(simplysaved @ Sep 3 2006, 01:03 PM)**

I hear ya...

Thanks Simply Saved.

---

**Posted by: Voktar of Zargon Sep 3 2006, 08:38 PM**

What I also meant to say was that Adventists trace their Spiritual Forefathers back to the "Church in the Wilderness" spoken of in Revelation chapter 12. The primary example of that church is considered to be the Waldensians of the Alps. These faithful Christians preserved the primitive Christian faith because of their reverence for and preservation of the Scriptures. Once again, they did so at hazard of their lives. Many of them paid dearly for their Biblical faith with martyrdom. If the Bible is a dead letter or mute point, why does the Devil hate it so much?

---

**Posted by: Voktar of Zargon Sep 3 2006, 08:52 PM**

Clay,

I meant to have your quote included in my "logic" statements. So I include that now:

Let me ask this, if the bible is the transforming power that some of you believe it to be, why with all the bible studying adventists that go to church every sabbath, do we remain segregated by color in North America? It seems to me if the bible is what you say it is, that it would have impacted that simple issue..... Seems like if the bible is transforming we would not be segregating

ourselves by color and culture.....

Let me follow this logic:

A: Because Adventist are sinners who still sin.

B: The Bible is a faulty revelation.

Next step on slippery slope:

A: Because the majority of the world is going to hell in a handbasket.

B: God is either a liar or doesn't exist

Flip side of the logic:

A: The South African Conferences united.

B: Therefore the Bible is a true revelation.

And finally your response:

no that is not the logic at all..... here is the logic that some have presented....

- 1. The bible is the Word of God that should be studied and followed implicitly by all believers....
- 2. It is the authority by which we as adventist's live our lives....
- 3. We study the bible and implement its principles and allow its precepts to transform our lives....

.....:YET:.....


We still are segregated by color in the NAD, and white flight still occurs in our churches...

consequently how much do you really believe points 1 thru 3?

That is what I am pointing out....

---

**Posted by: Clay Sep 4 2006, 12:22 AM**

my bad.... 

---

**Posted by: Sapphire Sep 7 2006, 06:37 PM**

---

**QUOTE(Barbara Kerr @ Aug 30 2006, 02:57 PM)**

I think with the millions of people out there, and EVERY ONE OF THEM is at a different place spiritually, it is impossible for everyone to understand or agree on what connects them to God.

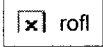


When I was in my 20's my devotional time was practically nil. I took my Bible to church, but I rarely read it. It was boring to me. I had a very strong faith and I prayed often, but it was nothing compared to the experience I have today.

God was with me then and He loved me just as much as He loves me now. Do I think that God is always moving us in the direction that He wants His children to go? Absolutely. Would I want to go backwards to the relationship I had with Him then? No way. Does God want me to grow even more from where I am today? Sure He does.

So there isn't an answer that everyone will agree upon. Every person is at a different place in their Christian walk based on their personal experiences. It's okay! Those that rely heavily upon the Bible do so for a reason based upon their experiences. Those that rely heavily on prayer without the Bible do so for a reason, ALSO based on their experiences. And those of us that rely heavily on prayer AND the Bible do so because they can't imagine life any other way.

It doesn't make one wrong and the other right. It makes us human instead of machines. I don't know about you, but I like being a little bit different than everyone else. God made us this way. PTL I just love Him so much!

completely agree. We need to remember that every person has experienced different "things" in his or her life and it all affects where we come from spiritually. I also think some of it is just semantics. It's kind've funny how we are all trying so hard to get everyone else to see the Bible and prayer and God, just the way we do. 

This is good. Very therapeutic. 

---

**Posted by: Green Cochoa Sep 8 2006, 08:30 AM**

---

**QUOTE**

and lets be clear, God did not write one word of the bible....

Well, actually, that wasn't fully clear. So, let's be more clear! If you meant that God didn't print our modern Bibles, nor translate them from the original tongues...hmm....I suppose you could consider yourself correct on a technicality--but I would still have to disagree. That would be like saying God didn't create my baby, I did! But David, in the psalms, speaks clearly of God creating him in his mother's womb, and most of us to this day marvel at the miracle of life.

God wrote MANY words of the Bible. The entire 10 Commandments were written by His own finger in solid rock--twice. If I recall, that amounts to about 280 words in the English translation. Then, in Daniel, His finger wrote several words again--right into the wall. So, again, we could say you are technically correct since it is true that God did not write JUST one word, but many in the Bible!

Or, have I misunderstood your intended meaning and ought to be asking instead, "Which word of the bible did God NOT write?"

All scripture is given by inspiration of God..." 2 Tim. 3:16

It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. " Mt. 4:4

**Posted by: Clay Sep 8 2006, 08:40 AM**

**QUOTE(Green Cochoa @ Sep 8 2006, 08:30 AM) □**

Well, actually, that wasn't fully clear. So, let's be more clear! If you meant that God didn't print our modern Bibles, nor translate them from the original tongues...hmm...I suppose you could consider yourself correct on a technicality--but I would still have to disagree. That would be like saying God didn't create my baby, I did! But David, in the psalms, speaks clearly of God creating him in his mother's womb, and most of us to this day marvel at the miracle of life.

God wrote MANY words of the Bible. The entire 10 Commandments were written by His own finger in solid rock--twice. If I recall, that amounts to about 280 words in the English translation. Then, in Daniel, His finger wrote several words again--right into the wall. So, again, we could say you are technically correct since it is true that God did not write JUST one word, but many in the Bible!

Or, have I misunderstood your intended meaning and ought to be asking instead, "Which word of the Bible did God NOT write?"

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God..." 2 Tim. 3:16

"It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. " Mt. 4:4

the examples you gave were not "The Bible." In fact at the time that they were written there was no bible, and no plans to compile one, additionally we believe via faith that those things that have been attributed to God were recorded accurately....

When Paul wrote those words he was referring to the OT, since there was no NT. Likewise when Jesus said what he said, the assumption is that he was referring to scripture, i.e. the OT.

I submit to you that Jesus said he is the Word, and he being God also came (to earth) through God, so it well could be that he was referring to himself.... That man is sustained only through Christ himself....

**Posted by: Green Cochoa Sep 8 2006, 09:14 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Sep 8 2006, 08:40 AM) □**

the examples you gave were not "The Bible." In fact at the time that they were written there was no bible, and no plans to compile one, additionally we believe via faith that those things that have been attributed to God were recorded accurately....

When Paul wrote those words he was referring to the OT, since there was no NT. Likewise when Jesus said what he said, the assumption is that he was referring to scripture, i.e. the OT.

I submit to you that Jesus said he is the Word, and he being God also came (to earth) through God, so it well could be that he was referring to himself.... That man is sustained only through Christ himself....

This is why I used the example of the creation of a baby. Just as the genetics and accompanying

spark of life have been passed down through many generations, so has God's Word passed down through those same generations. God's Word, beginning with His famous "Breath of Life", has never been lost nor erased from the memories of all of mankind since the creation. While it is true that the Bible is just one form of this Word, it certainly is one of the most concrete forms in modern times. In ancient times, you must remember that our ancestors were superior to us in health, memory, and vitality, living nearly an entire millennium. If we were to assume that God, having spoken to Adam, spoke no more to mankind until the Decalogue was given (which isn't true, of course), we could still trace a possible path of telling/retelling God's Word to Adam's descendants of only SIX steps. (Only three steps reaches Abraham, well over 2000 years after creation.)

When Paul wrote those words, he was referring to God's Word, not the OT. As I understand the statement, the definition of "scripture" is any document inspired by God. "For prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." Prophecy here is a synonym to scripture, but is not limited to written work. In other words, when God has inspired it, it's special.

You speak of man being sustained only through Christ Himself, but you seem to be implying that it is NOT through the Bible. Yet the Bible says, "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." Jn. 6:63 Evidently, then, those words, recorded by the disciples for posterity, will sustain us.

**Posted by: Clay Sep 8 2006, 09:19 AM**

God's word is not limited to "the bible" is my point....

**Posted by: Green Cochoa Sep 8 2006, 09:44 AM**

I certainly agree that God's word is not limited to the Holy Bible, nor even to written work, nor even to words themselves. So, perhaps this has just been a discussion of two sides to the same coin!

Now, here's a separate realization that took some time to dawn on my mind, but...consider these facts if you will:

1. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God."
2. Moses, David, Isaiah, Matthew, John, Paul, etc. etc. wrote scripture under God's inspiration.
3. The "spirit of prophecy" referred to in Revelation, refers to God's spirit who inspires these prophets.
4. "For prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."
5. Now...are you ready for some more scripture?
6. Each of these "prophets" were sinners like us--but followed God and spoke His truth under inspiration.
7. Ellen White wrote under inspiration, occasionally with the wording dictated by an angel, similar to John on Patmos.

You make the call.

God bless!

**Posted by: Clay Sep 8 2006, 10:33 AM**

**QUOTE(Green Cochoa @ Sep 8 2006, 10:44 AM)**

I certainly agree that God's word is not limited to the Holy Bible, nor even to written work, nor even to words themselves. So, perhaps this has just been a discussion of two sides to the same coin!

Now, here's a separate realization that took some time to dawn on my mind, but...consider these facts if you will:

1. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God."
2. Moses, David, Isaiah, Matthew, John, Paul, etc. etc. wrote scripture under God's inspiration.
3. The "spirit of prophecy" referred to in Revelation, refers to God's spirit who inspires these prophets.
4. "For prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."
5. Now...are you ready for some more scripture?
6. Each of these "prophets" were sinners like us--but followed God and spoke His truth under inspiration.
7. Ellen White wrote under inspiration, occasionally with the wording dictated by an angel, similar to John on Patmos.

You make the call.

God bless!

no call to make...

---

**Posted by: Daffodil Mar 5 2007, 09:04 AM**

---

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 18 2006, 12:32 PM)**

I hear what you are saying but I still disagree... there are committed christians who know when God speaks to them and they are in tune with his voice... some have to be because they cannot read the bible.... so they must have a relationship with God..... the same way a child recognizes the voice of their parents is the same type of intimate relationship God wants with us... Is that possible? Yes.... Jesus said my sheep KNOW my voice... and if it is possible for humans to develop an intimate relationship with each other without reading a book about the person, what prevents us from doing the same thing with our Heavenly Father? I understand what you are saying about the bible, but my confidence is not in the bible, it is in God..... scholars know the bible, debate the bible and still have no relationship with God, so it has to be more than just "studying" the bible..... I think we have to really and I mean really trust ourselves to him... and allow him to communicate with us intimately.... it is my opinion that many are afraid of this, just as Israel was at Sinai....

To make the statement "my confidence is not in the Bible, it is in God" is a pretty shaky ground to stand on. The Lord wants us to fortify our minds with his word so that we will not be deceived by the devil. Your statement sounds an awful lot like you run on feelings and thats the last thing we want to do. Of course we are suppose to depend 100% on God, that's not in question, but, to not have confidence in scripture is another thing. Sure, I know some words aren't translated well, but, thats where comparing scripture with scripture comes in, going from verse to verse.

Sincerely,  
Dawn

---

**Posted by: Clay Mar 5 2007, 09:09 AM**

---

**QUOTE(Daffodil @ Mar 5 2007, 09:04 AM)**

To make the statement "my confidence is not in the Bible, it is in God" is a pretty shaky ground to stand on. The Lord wants us to fortify our minds with his word so that we will not be deceived by the devil. Your statement sounds an awful lot like you run on feelings and thats the last thing we want to do. Of course we are suppose to depend 100% on God, that's not in question, but, to not have confidence in scripture is another thing. Sure, I know some words aren't translated well, but, thats where comparing scripture with scripture comes in, going from verse to verse.

Sincerely,  
Dawn

and I have not asked you to stand where I stand.... you follow God as He leads you and I will do the same.... As Jesus told Peter when Peter asked what John would be doing....John 21:22 Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me."

So my sister, you follow him.... and let him deal with me....

---

**Posted by: Daffodil Mar 5 2007, 09:19 AM**

---

**QUOTE(Clay @ Mar 5 2007, 09:09 AM)**

and I have not asked you to stand where I stand.... you follow God as He leads you and I will do the same.... As Jesus told Peter when Peter asked what John would be doing....John 21:22 Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me."

So my sister, you follow him.... and let him deal with me....

I am sorry Clay, I did not mean to offend, just what you wrote struck me as alarming! Just giving my humble opinion.

Sincerely,  
Dawn

---

**Posted by: Clay Mar 5 2007, 09:22 AM**

---

**QUOTE(Daffodil @ Mar 5 2007, 09:19 AM)**

I am sorry Clay, I did not mean to offend, just what you wrote struck me as alarming! Just giving my humble opinion.

Sincerely,  
Dawn

appreciate your concern Dawn, and I am not offended... but remember my sister, we each have to follow as he leads... and trust me, he will lead if we allow....

**Posted by: watchbird Mar 5 2007, 10:13 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Mar 5 2007, 10:22 AM)**

I appreciate your concern Dawn, and I am not offended... but remember my sister, we each have to follow as he leads... and trust me, he will lead if we allow....

The problem you are not recognizing, Clay, is that if there is no agreed upon objective authority by which to test Who we are following, then it forever remains a question of "he said/she said" or "my opinion vs your opinion". And the sad facts are that the woods are full of a variety of people who follow what they claim is God's individual leading.... some of which are plainly following only their own imaginations or gods of their own creation or ... even more dangerous ... "satan as an angel of light".

By their fruits ye shall know them requires that we have a consensual agreement as to what kind of "fruit" is indicative of what. You have no authority such that there is any reason for us to "trust" you when you assure us that "he will lead if we allow". Nor is God the ONLY god who is plenty willing to lead if we allow".


**Posted by: Clay Mar 5 2007, 10:20 AM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Mar 5 2007, 10:13 AM)**

The problem you are not recognizing, Clay, is that if there is no agreed upon objective authority by which to test Who we are following, then it forever remains a question of "he said/she said" or "my opinion vs your opinion". And the sad facts are that the woods are full of a variety of people who follow what they claim is God's individual leading.... some of which are plainly following only their own imaginations or gods of their own creation or ... even more dangerous ... "satan as an angel of light".

By their fruits ye shall know them requires that we have a consensual agreement as to what kind of "fruit" is indicative of what. You have no authority such that there is any reason for us to "trust" you when you assure us that "he will lead if we allow". Nor is God the ONLY god who is plenty willing to "lead if we allow".

That question is there even when there is an "objective" source... last time I looked, not all agree with concepts presented in the bible.... IN the U.S. over 38k different denominations supposedly following the same bible.... and let's not talk about the diversity of opinion within our own church....

I am not asking anyone to follow me.... and if folks cannot discern his voice or the path he would have them be on.... ummm I don't know what to tell them.... as for the fruit thing.... are we to be fruit inspectors? I don't know... I suppose we are to be when it comes to following people, but Jesus tells us to follow him I thought.... 

---

**Posted by: Lee Mar 5 2007, 12:28 PM**

Dawn is correct--we follow God through His Holy Word--the Bible.

---

**Posted by: Johann Mar 5 2007, 12:32 PM**

---

**QUOTE(Clay @ Mar 5 2007, 06:20 PM)**

that question is there even when there is an "objective" source... last time I looked, not all agree with concepts presented in the bible.... IN the U.S. over 38k different denominations supposedly following the same bible.... and let's not talk about the diversity of opinion within our own church.....

I am not asking anyone to follow me.... and if folks cannot discern his voice or the path he would have them be on.... ummm I don't know what to tell them.... as for the fruit thing.... are we to be fruit inspectors? I don't know... I suppose we are to be when it comes to following people, but Jesus tells us to follow him I thought....

You are stating that you are following your own convictions without forcing anyone else to follow exatly in your footsteps, but to follow Jesus?

---

**Posted by: Clay Mar 5 2007, 12:47 PM**

---

**QUOTE(Johann @ Mar 5 2007, 12:32 PM)**

You are stating that you are following your own convictions without forcing anyone else to follow exatly in your footsteps, but to follow Jesus?

yep....

---

**QUOTE(Lee @ Mar 5 2007, 12:28 PM)**

Dawn is correct--we follow God through His Holy Word--the Bible.

nope....

---

**Posted by: Richard Sherwin Mar 5 2007, 05:15 PM**

And after saying that you still defend Danny?

---


**QUOTE(Lee @ Mar 5 2007, 01:28 PM)**

Dawn is correct--we follow God through His Holy Word--the Bible.

**Posted by: Daffodil Mar 6 2007, 09:01 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Mar 5 2007, 10:20 AM)**

that question is there even when there is an "objective" source... last time I looked, not all agree with concepts presented in the bible.... IN the U.S. over 38k different denominations supposedly following the same bible.... and let's not talk about the diversity of opinion within our own church.....

I am not asking anyone to follow me.... and if folks cannot discern his voice or the path he would have them be on.... ummm I don't know what to tell them.... as for the fruit thing.... are we to be fruit inspectors? I don't know... I suppose we are to be when it comes to following people, but Jesus tells us to follow him I thought.... 

Clay,

Sure we are to be fruit inspectors, but, we are not to judge a persons soul. I agree that we are to follow Jesus. Jesus also tells us in His holy word to "study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2Tim. 2:15

What about the verse in John 1:14 that states "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotton of the Father,) full of grace and truth." Jesus is the Word, Jesus when He walked on earth quoted scripture, so obviously He had confidence in what He wrote.

"I am not asking anyone to follow me"

Of course you are not, but, people will read your words and I am sure like anybody you give counsel. My question would be how do you give counsel to someone if you hold no confidence in the inspired Word. As christians we either build people up for Christ or bring them down, we also wouldn't want to be a stumbling block for a weaker brother or sister.

Sincerely,  
Dawn

**Posted by: Clay Mar 6 2007, 12:24 PM**

**QUOTE(Daffodil @ Mar 6 2007, 09:01 AM)**

Clay,

Sure we are to be fruit inspectors, but, we are not to judge a persons soul. I agree that we are to follow Jesus. Jesus also tells us in His holy word to "study to shew thyself approved unto God, a



workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."2Tim. 2:15

have never seen a person attempt to inspect the life of another without also judging them.... it sounds good but most of us cannot separate one from the other..... as for the text... when it was written the NT did not yet exist, so to what "word of truth" was the writer referring?

**QUOTE**

]What about the verse in John 1:14 that states "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

Jesus is the Word, Jesus when He walked on earth quoted scripture, so obviously He had confidence in what He wrote.

Jesus didn't write anything... Jesus God, was a spirit who became flesh and walked among men.... he quoted scripture that the Jews were familiar with.... He also told those same Jews..... you search the scriptures for in them you **think** you have eternal life, but they testify of me..... in essence the Jews were studying the scriptures and ignoring that Jesus the savior of the world was in their midst... They ejected Jesus in favor of the scriptures....

**QUOTE**

"I am not asking anyone to follow me"

Of course you are not, but, people will read your words and I am sure like anybody you give counsel. My question would be how do you give counsel to someone if you hold no confidence in the inspired Word. As Christians we either build people up for Christ or bring them down, we also wouldn't want to be a stumbling block for a weaker brother or sister.

Sincerely,  
Dawn

Ummm actually I avoid giving counsel, religious or otherwise. Now I can share with people my experience, letting them know that my experience may not be their experience.... It is my belief that God will reveal himself to people in his own way, and through prayer people can learn to hear his voice... He is not limited to the bible, never has been..... as for a weaker brother or sister, there comes a time when folks must stand without looking at us but focus on Christ.... if in fact that is who they say they are following....

**Posted by: Bystander Mar 6 2007, 01:40 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Mar 6 2007, 12:24 PM)**

I have never seen a person attempt to inspect the life of another without also judging them....

Exactly, great point. You confirm what others have denied on this board. While inspecting, and speculating (without all the evidence, of course) one comes to a conclusion in their own mind, and then judge the person on the conclusions they have come to. Not biblical. No siree

**Posted by: LaurenceD Mar 6 2007, 02:11 PM**

One point you seem to keep forgetting, Bystander: one needn't use anything more than Occam's Razor here to arrive at a reasonable conclusion. I'm not sure you understand the first rule of knowledge in this court of public opinion. There is no other court that matters. The damage has been done. You're losing, big time, yet you keep using desperate terms like "proof," but unable to demonstrate what you're saying, and as such, you're not saying anything at all.

No offense, but you remind me of a Chihuahua barking at its own shadow.

---

**Posted by: Clay Mar 6 2007, 02:15 PM**

**QUOTE(Bystander @ Mar 6 2007, 01:40 PM)**

Exactly, great point. You confirm what others have denied on this board. While inspecting, and speculating (without all the evidence, of course) one comes to a conclusion in their own mind, and then judge the person on the conclusions they have come to. Not biblical. No siree

you have compared apples and potatoes.... but I expected as much..... from a bystander that is....

---

**Posted by: seraph|m Mar 7 2007, 09:17 AM**

---



---

Powered by Invision Power Board (<http://www.invisionboard.com>)  
© Invision Power Services (<http://www.invisionpower.com>)