

American Union Newsletter

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH, REFORM MOVEMENT
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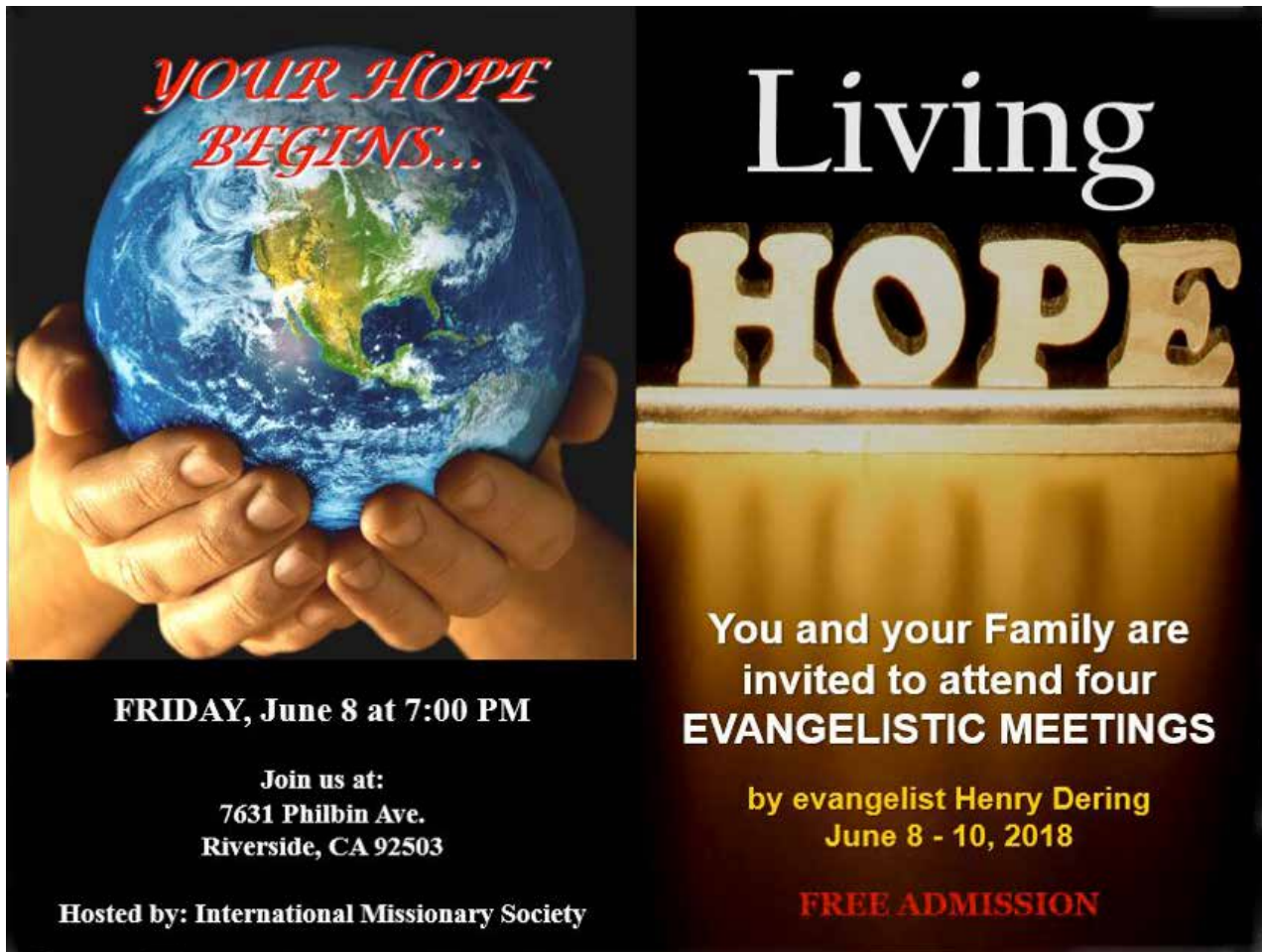
JUNE 2018

Evangelistic Meetings Invitation

Elder Henry Dering, Western Field President, Sacramento, California

Please join us for the Evangelistic Meetings coming up on June 8-10, when I travel to Riverside, California. The meetings will be held

at the Riverside local church. See the information below. Please come and join us for these messages on hope!



FRIDAY, June 8 at 7:00 PM

Join us at:
7631 Philbin Ave.
Riverside, CA 92503

Hosted by: International Missionary Society

Living HOPE

You and your Family are invited to attend four **EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS**

by evangelist **Henry Dering**
June 8 - 10, 2018

FREE ADMISSION

EVANGELISTIC MEETING PROGRAM

FRIDAY, June 8 at 7:00 PM

Armageddon:

Cosmic Battle of the Ages



SATURDAY, June 9 at 11:00 AM

God is our Rescuer



SATURDAY, June 9 at 3:00 PM

Is Heaven for Real?



**SUNDAY, June 10
at 7:00 PM**

Warning: Iceberg Ahead

Evangelist Meetings Highlights

Athai Finch, American Union Newsletter Editor, Valencia, California

Greetings in the name of the Lord to all our brothers and sisters in Christ. I hope you are doing well in health and happiness. Special greetings from the local church in Los Angeles. As presented in the May *Newsletter*, Elder Henry Dering held evangelistic meetings on May 18-20 in Los Angeles, California, at the Huntington Park church. The meetings were messages about hope, prophecy, and how Satan deceives many.

Below are the topics of the messages that were given, along with a summary for each presentation. I pray that you will be blessed spiritually by the information presented here, as we were by the knowledge we received about future events. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the Friday evening meeting. However, please read the highlights from the other meetings that were all an encouragement to hang on to our faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour!

Sabbath, May 19

The regular 11:00 a.m. service on the Sabbath served as the second of the evangelistic meetings. The title was ***“Who Is the Antichrist?”*** Elder Dering presented slides in PowerPoint showing some amazing things that the Holy Scriptures reveal about the antichrist. “So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.” Revelation 17:3.

The apostle John’s vision of this woman and a scarlet colored beast points to what power? Biblical prophecy and history reveal that the “woman” in this verse represents a religious power. In Revelation 17:4, it is written, “And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication.” The question is, What do these verses represent that is so powerful as to become the antichrist, and how did this happen?

There are parallels between Daniel 7 and Revelation 13. These two chapters show various characteristics of the antichristian power. “And the woman



which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.” Revelation 17:18. As mentioned above, this beast has seven heads, “And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.” Revelation 17:9. History tells us that during the 9th-8th centuries B.C., Rome was located on seven hills.

The woman in Revelation 17:4 is arrayed in purple and scarlet color. Purple and red are royal colors used by the Catholic Church. It is decked with “gold” and “pearls” and is very wealthy. The Catholic Church has many gold statues and crowns decorated with jewels. “The Vatican’s cashflow is in the hundreds of millions a year, individual holdings in the Vatican Bank total perhaps \$15 billion, property held by the Vatican may be worth over a billion dollars, and the church owns the largest store of the world’s most priceless art.” –www.univverse.org/politics/how-much-wealth-does-the-vatican-control/. One of the Catholic Church’s sacred vessels is a gold cup, which Revelation also mentions.

The antichrist is this wealthy “woman,” or church, headed by the pope. It opposes the remnant of God’s faithful people.



May God bless all of us to study the prophecies that God has given us in the most ancient book in history, the holy Bible, His true word.

Sabbath afternoon meeting

After we enjoyed our weekly Sabbath potluck, Elder Dering presented another study, titled ***“How to Identify a True Prophet.”*** The holy word of God gives a warning to everyone: “And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.” Matthew 24:11. Have false prophets deceived people? Yes, they have—in history and also in this modern day. Many false prophets have led poor souls to death through cults. Nostradamus, Jeane Dixon, and Edgar Cayce were a few of the false prophets who were popular in the last century. In fact, Elder Dering mentioned that Jeane Dixon was accurate in her predictions about 30-60 percent of the time. Now, if we turn to the holy word of God, not the word of man, we find Moses, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, John the Baptist, Paul, and Jesus Christ were all correct 100 percent of the time, for they were faithful to the one true God of heaven and were informed by the Holy Spirit.

Elder Dering mentioned something that will always stay in my mind: “If these fortune tellers whom

people spend so much money on were accurate in their predictions about the future, why have none of them ever won a lottery and become wealthy by predicting the winning number?” They are false prophets. Such people are not real and should be avoided at all costs. Follow Jesus. He will show you the way to the truth, what will happen in the future, and what is required of His true followers.

John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus’ first advent, so we can ask, “Who will prepare the way for Jesus’ second coming?” Elder Dering made a very good point that during the time if Eli, no prophecy or vision was given. “And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision.” 1 Samuel 3:1. Why was there no vision during this time? It was because Eli did not do as God commanded. He did not firmly lead God’s children to follow His instructions. The people strayed from God’s commandments and precepts. It was through Samuel that God’s people returned to Him, and then prophecy was restored.

Fast forward to the Advent Movement after 1844. The gift of prophecy was returned when faithful people accepted and upheld God’s holy Sabbath. Elder Dering stated, “In every time period, God has had faithful people to give light to His children.” Why? To prepare His people for Jesus’ second coming. God chose Sister Ellen G. White to write many testimonies concerning things that would come to pass. She was a faithful servant. She was not the first one, for God called two others, Hazen Foss and William Foy. But they refused to give the message of hope to God’s people, so He gave Sister White visions of hope for the future to prepare the way for Jesus’ coming.

How do we know that she was a true prophet? To find out, we must apply the tests presented in the Holy Scriptures. “The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the Lord hath truly sent him.” Jeremiah 28:9. (1) **Prophetic accuracy!** “If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them.” Deuteronomy 13:1, 2. God instructs and warns His people not to follow other gods but



to follow only the true God. (2) **Biblical Faithfulness.** (3) **Exalting Jesus.** “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God.” 1 John 4:1, 2. Sister White exalted Jesus. In all her writings, she emphasizes the importance of following Jesus and Jesus only as our Leader and greatest Example.

She was also accurate in describing all her visions. She kept God’s commandments and the faith of Jesus. Revelation 14:12. She was a modern-day prophet; and although she died more than 100 years ago, her testimonies, health advice, and instructions can be seen to come from heaven to prepare God’s children for Jesus’ soon coming.

Sunday, May 20

The final evangelistic meeting on Sunday morning was titled, “*The Greatest Criminal in History.*” The great adversary, named Satan/Lucifer, deceives many by leading people to apparently do people good. For example, there was a world-famous criminal and drug lord named Emilio Escobar. He made billions of dollars in drug dealing and smuggling drugs into the United States. It is said that he gave money for the poor, donated money to churches and hospitals, established food programs, and did other great things. He was even called “Robin Hood.” But was this a good man? Many people followed him and believed him to be a good man; but the reality is that this “Robin Hood” murdered thousands of innocent people. He was a wolf in sheep’s clothing.

“And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.” Revelation 12:9. In His holy word, God does not leave His children to guess why there is so much evil and corruption in this world. He provides the answer: Satan caused all the evil and corruption by enticing people to follow him.

If God created everything and so can also destroy everything, one may wonder why He does not get rid of Satan immediately, once and for all. “Sin is an intruder, for whose presence no reason can be

given. It is mysterious, unaccountable; to excuse it is to defend it. Could excuse for it be found, or cause be shown for its existence, it would cease to be sin.” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 492. It is a mystery as to how and why the door to sin is open and continues today. In time, God will end all evil and the one who brought it into the universe and into this world. But the Bible gives a clear explanation how He will do this and how important to Him it is for every being to be free to follow Him out of love, not out of manipulation or force.

Lucifer made the decision to let jealousy and envy enter his heart, and one third of the angels in heaven followed him in this. The Scriptures say about him: “For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north.” Isaiah 14:13.

Satan was a beautiful angel; in fact the Bible speaks of Lucifer as once the very highest, most beautiful of all the angels. “Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou was created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the mountain of God;... Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.” Ezekiel 28:13-15. He and the other angels were cast out of heaven. He deceived Eve; and Adam chose to rebel against God, bringing evil, sorrow, and death to mankind, which we are surrounded with on this earth. Everyone is encouraged to study Revelation 12, where the heavenly Father tells what happened with Lucifer and the other angels who turned against God.

We are all created with a free will, so each of us is given the opportunity to choose God out of love, not fear or force. The Creator and Sustainer of the universe constantly proves how much He loves us and in His holy word answers the question of where deceit, pain, hurt, anger, and death come from. He will fill us with His love and blessing when we choose to be loyal to Him with all our hearts and follow Him faithfully. His great love will protect us from being deceived when we call on Him for help!

“Rooted in Health”

Athai Finch, American Union Newsletter Editor, Valencia, California



Would you like a buttery spread on your toast? We all know the negative effects of a dairy diet versus a vegan diet. If one does not know about the risk factors of eating a dairy diet, it is recommended that he do some research on the Internet or in health books by Sister Ellen G. White, as well as in books on health from the International Missionary Society, Seventh-day

Adventist Church, Movement. This makes it possible for one to build a strong foundation of genuine health knowledge.

Butter comes from milk, and even alternative choices for butter sold in stores can contain harmful ingredients. The Internet and Instagram are major resources for recipes and ideas for healthful diet choices.

Anyone who has an Instagram account can go to the page “Rooted in Health,” brought to you by the Pablo Hunger family. For example, there is a recipe for an alternate “butter” spread for toast. Go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4O9SHZ9ak-vA&feature=youtu.be>. In case you want to just have the recipe, here it is.

Ingredients

3/4 cup organic soymilk
 1 tbs. soy lecithin granules
 1/2 tsp. salt
 1 cup melted coconut oil (refined or unrefined, depending on whether or not you want a coconuty taste)



Preparation

Blend together the soymilk, soy lecithin granules, and salt. Add the melted coconut oil and blend again for about 30 seconds. Pour into containers and refrigerate overnight.

This easy vegan “butter” is a healthier than any store-bought product and tastes great! Use in place of butter on bread or anywhere else you wish.

Thank you, Rooted In Health, for giving this yummy recipe to our readers. I personally tried it and enjoyed it very much.



Updated, Revised Know Your Bible Course

Larry Watts, Publishing Manager, Denver, Colorado

Religious Liberty Publishing Assn. has updated and redesigned the *Know Your Bible Course*. It contains 25 lessons on basic Bible teachings and comes with the Questionnaires booklet. Following are the contents:

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The price for the full course is \$17.75, with full-color illustrations. There are quantity discounts available in the Store at www.sda1888.org. The price per course for black-and-white inside illustrations is \$8.95 per course, and quantity discounts are also available for this.

We have already made a wonderful experience with this. A young man in prison ordered the course, and it was sent to him on April 26. Just three weeks later, we received his completed Questionnaires booklet with excellent answers!

God bless all who purchase this and other literature to reach out to searching souls.

Western Field Conference Updates

Sandra Nelson, Western Field Family Leader, Sacramento, California

Make your plans as soon as possible to attend this year's Western Field Conference! It will be held in a new place, and there will be many wonderful new memories made. Here are some additional details to help you with your plans.

The main conference will begin on Thursday, August 16, 2018—with worship at 7:00 a.m. and breakfast at 8:00 a.m.

The Western Field Delegates' Meetings will take place on the previous day—Wednesday, August 15, 2018, beginning at 9:00 a.m. **Check-in for the delegates is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 14.**

If you are a delegate, please fill out the Reservations Form and write the word "Delegate" next to your name on your Form. (The church will pay for your first meal and your first night's lodging at the camp-style rate.) Delegates should plan for 5 nights of lodging and 14 meals (starting with dinner on Tuesday evening, August 15, at 5:30 p.m., and ending with breakfast on Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m.).

If you are not a delegate, **check-in time is 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 15.** The package you

select on the Reservations Form will cover 4 nights of lodging and 11 meals (beginning with dinner on Wednesday evening at 5:30 p.m. and ending with breakfast on Sunday at 8:00 a.m.). **Check-out time is 11:00 a.m. on August 19, 2018.**

If you are flying to the conference for the public meetings, plan to arrive on Wednesday, August 15. Please take the tram MAX Red Line from the Portland International Airport station to the Gateway/NE 99th Ave. TC station (14 minutes). Then take the MAX Blue Line to the Cleveland Avenue Station (25 minutes). When you arrive at the Cleveland Avenue Station, please call 916-212-6468, and we will let you know when someone will pick you up.

You will find all the information concerning lodging and the Reservations Form in the May 2018 *American Union Newsletter*. It can be found under the Publications tab on the American Union website, www.sda1888.org. Scroll down and double click on the PDF file. Please be sure to print the Reservations Form, complete it (one Form per accommodation), and mail it with payment no later than July 15, 2018.

2018 Calendar

- June 8-10: Evangelistic Meetings: Riverside church, Riverside, California
- June 16, 17: Campaign of Love, Providence, Rhode Island
- June 27-July 1, 2018: Western Field Family Department, Missionary Department, and Youth Department Retreat, Apserkaha Park, Oregon
- July 26: Southeastern Field Delegates' meetings, Tampa, Florida
- July 27-29: Southeastern Field Conference, Tampa, Florida
- August 15: Western Field Delegates' Meetings, Camp Kuratli, Portland, Oregon
- August 16-19: Western Field Conference, Camp Kuratli, Portland, Oregon

The *American Union Newsletter* is the official organ of the Seventh-day Adventist Church Reform Movement, American Union. It is published monthly, is complimentary for members and friends, and carries items of interest submitted by believers. We reserve the right to make changes as necessary and to refuse to print certain items.

To submit news, send your item in an email to atramirez829@gmail.com.