



Swallowed Up

Fred Bischoff, M.D., M.P.H.
Director, Adventist Pioneer Library
www.APLib.org

Be in Health:
Health in Light of the Gospel
series

Source of Title

- “The end is near! We have not a moment to lose! Light is to shine forth from God's people in clear, distinct rays, bringing Jesus before the churches and before the world. Our work is not to be restricted to those who already know the truth; our field is the world. The instrumentalities to be used are those souls who gladly receive the light of truth which God communicates to them.

Source of Title

- “These are God's agencies for communicating the knowledge of truth to the world. If through the grace of Christ his people will become new bottles, he will fill them with the new wine. God will give additional light, and old truths will be recovered, and replaced in the frame-work of truth; and wherever the laborers go, they will triumph.

Source of Title

- “As Christ's ambassadors, they are to search the Scriptures, to seek for the truths that have been hidden beneath the rubbish of error. And every ray of light received is to be communicated to others.
**One interest will prevail,
one subject will swallow up every other,--
Christ our righteousness.”**
{RH, December 23, 1890 par. 19} (emphases supplied throughout)

“Swallow Up”?

- What does this term “Christ our righteousness” mean?
 - Not simply an impersonal teaching (doctrine)
 - Intensely personal: **Christ** our righteousness
 - Does not mean tunnel vision or monomania
 - Speak of what happens in digestive process!

“Swallow Up”?

- Christ will personally (through the guidance of the Spirit) guide the process of thoroughly “digesting” every interest and subject
 - Careful consideration
 - Deep understanding
 - Incorporate the essential qualities
 - Dispense with nonessential or bad qualities

“Swallow Up”?

- Immerse yourself in the Word of God: all of it testifies of Jesus! (John 5:39; Luke 24:27, 44, 45)
- Claim the promise of the Spirit of the truth who will guide you into all the truth; He testifies of Jesus! (John 15:26; 16:7-15)
- The Spirit mediates to us the righteousness of Christ. (Romans 8:2-4, 10; Galatians 5:4-6)
- “Prosper and be **in health**, as your **soul prospers**”

Review & Swallow Up

- “The Truth Shall Make You Free” (#1)
 - Free from sin (John 8:34-36); from fear of death (Hebrews 2:15)
 - Free from condemnation and sin (John 8:11):
gospel and law: health possible!
 - Jesus is “the truth” (John 14:6); born to bear witness to “the truth” (18:37): He is our freeing righteousness (Romans 6:18).

Review & Swallow Up

- “Understanding the Roots of Fear” (#2)
 - No fear in Genesis 1 & 2: “very good”; Genesis 3:10 “afraid”: “I ... I ... I ... myself”: root = self focus; core and result of sin
 - His perfect love casts out fear: 1 John 4:18
 - Eve’s 3-fold deception overcome by Jesus’ 3 temptations = His victory (of faith and love) is ours: He is our righteousness

Review & Swallow Up

- “The Light of the Gospel” (#3)
 - Light is a mood adjuster; especially “the light of the glorious gospel of Christ” (2 Cor. 4:4)
 - Gospel: “Herein is love ... that He loved us, and sent His Son....” (1 John 4:10); light = giving
 - Messiah came: “the Lord our Righteousness” (Jer. 23:5, 6; 33:15, 16); “give, give”

Review & Swallow Up

- “Be in Health” (#4)
 - “In health” = “whole, sound”; in doctrine = “the truth” vs. “the lie” (John 8:44) based on self
 - “Health reform” in Adventist history: glorify God in body; part of third angel’s message
 - Christ our righteousness healing ministry (Matt. 8:16, 17) fulfills Isaiah 53:4.

Review & Swallow Up

- “Joy in the Law” (#5)
 - “Delight in the law of the Lord” (Psa. 1:2). Health principles are part of God’s law of love.
 - Cornerstone: “trust in divine power”; Jesus: “I live by the Father” (John 6:57) = our righteousness
 - Isaiah 58:8 light, health, righteousness; 13, 14 delight in Sabbath, in Lord

Review & Swallow Up

- “Our Source of Love” (#6)
 - God is our Source of love (1 John 4:10); we are the conduits (4:11); loss, sickness if deny either
 - Source of love: dependent faith (“faith in Jesus”); conduit of love: creative faith (“faith of Jesus”)
 - Christ our righteousness = He is the Source of our faith and love; we have none of ourselves.

Review & Swallow Up

- “Avoiding Counterfeits” (#7)
 - Make decisions based on principles: they lead feelings; following feelings leads into counterfeits
 - Understand physiology; recognized the sin that dwells in you, need for the Spirit (Rom. 7:17-8:11)
 - Christ our righteousness is our defense against counterfeit philosophies (Eph. 4:17-25)

Christ Our Righteousness

- Consider some elements of this beautiful truth about Jesus in relation to us
 - Illustrated from statements from our history

Christ Our Righteousness

- The law and the gospel going hand in hand (*1888*, pp. 166.1; 217.3)
 - Law: every form from moral to natural
 - Gospel: faith of Jesus: forgiving, motivating

Christ Our Righteousness

- The Laodicean message (1888, page 1052.2)
 - “white raiment” for our nakedness (Rev. 3:17, 18)
 - without Jesus, we are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked, *and we don't know it*

Christ Our Righteousness

- The third angel's message in verity (*RH*, April 1, 1890, paragraphs 8-10)
 - “The commandments of God and the faith of Jesus” (Rev. 14:12)
 - Can't fully proclaim the third angel's message without receiving the Laodicean message with its “white raiment”

Christ Our Righteousness

- “Every truly converted soul will be **intensely desirous** to bring others from the darkness of error into the marvelous light of the **righteousness of Jesus Christ**. The great outpouring of the Spirit of God, which lightens the whole earth with his glory, will not come until we have an enlightened people, that know by experience what it means to be laborers together with God. When we have entire, whole-hearted consecration to the service of Christ, God will recognize the fact by an outpouring of his Spirit without measure....” (RH, July 21, 1896 par. 2)

Christ Our Righteousness

- “The character of Christianity is **intensely practical**. It adapts itself to **every circumstance** of actual life, and fits in with **everyday trials** in sympathy, and carries with it the divine credentials. Great truths are brought into immediate contact with that which are regarded by finite man as ‘**little things**.’ On one side is supplied **the motive** for purity and holiness, while on the other is furnished the grand, noble, principles for the regulation of the conduct and the well balanced character of a Christian.” {19MR 91.2}

Examples of Swallow Up

- Examples of how practical: “every circumstance” and “everyday trials”
 - “every phase of human experience”; “in every act of life” (Ed 190.2)
 - “the principles which exalt a people ... woven into the work” (GCB April 3, 1901, par. 1-3)

Examples of Swallow Up

- Examples of how practical: “every circumstance” and “everyday trials”
 - a physician who who had not learned his own inherent worthlessness, nor physiology (20MR 117.2-4)
 - administrators who were exercising attitudes of “rule, rule” (TM 363.1)
 - “every detail of life” (1888 1065.3)

“Something Better”

- “Has the truth as it is in Jesus been received into the heart? Have the mind of God and His ways become our mind and our ways? Is the law of God our standard? If it is, its principles will be wrought out in our life. Wherever **the love of Jesus reigns** there is peace **with God**, joy **in God**; and the love and joy are reflected **to others**. We cannot afford to be deceived by a semblance, a form.

“Something Better”

- “The truth of the Bible may be read, and we may think that a form of words will accomplish that which only the Spirit of God can accomplish by its converting, transforming power. We may hold certain points of truth firmly and yet refuse to let in any **fresh rays of light** which God may send to show us **the beauty of the truth.**”

“Something Better”

- “It is dangerous for us to take a step in uncertainty. We should not reject or oppose the views of our fellow laborers because they do not agree with our ideas until we have used every means in our power to find out whether or not they are truth, comparing scripture with scripture.” {1888 171.2}

Glory of the Lord

- “Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and **the glory of the LORD** is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and **his glory** shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.” (Isa. 60:1-3)

Glory of the Lord

- “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God;

Glory of the Lord

- “to comfort all that mourn; to appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them **beauty** for ashes, the **oil of joy** for mourning, the **garment of praise** for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called **trees of righteousness**, the planting of the LORD, that **he might be glorified.**” (Isa. 61:1-3)

Our Righteousness

- Compare two Messianic passages of Jeremiah, promises for us today.

Our Righteousness

- “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby **he** shall be called, **THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**” (Jeremiah 23:5, 6)

Our Righteousness

- “In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith **she** shall be called, **The LORD our righteousness.**” (Jer. 33:15, 16)

Our Righteousness

- Prepare for the wedding, when His name and our name will be the same—
The LORD our righteousness!

