MY EXPECTATION

ex·pec·ta·tion (ek' spek tā shən), n.

- 1. the act or the state of expecting: to wait in expectation.
- 2. the act or state of looking forward or anticipating.
- **3.** an expectant mental attitude: *a high pitch of expectation*.
- **4.** something expected; a thing looked forward to.
- **5.** Often, **expectations.** a prospect of future good or profit: *to have great expectations*.
- **6.** the degree of probability that something will occur: *There is little expectation that he will come.*
- 7. Statistics. See mathematical expectation.
- **8.** the state of being expected: a large sum of money in expectation.

[1530–40; < L expecttin- (s. of expectti) an awaiting, equiv. to expectt(us) (ptp. of expectre to EXPECT) + -in- -ION]

- -exÅpec·taÆtion·al, adj.
- —exÅpec·taÆtion·ist, n.
- —Syn.2. expectancy, anticipation; hope, trust.

[Random House Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, 1999]

- The hope of the righteous shall be gladness: but the expectation of the wicked shall perish. [Proverbs 10:28]
- ...if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. [Matt. 24:48-51]

I saw the people of God joyful in expectation, looking for their Lord. But God designed to prove them. His hand covered a mistake in the reckoning of the prophetic periods. Those who were looking for their Lord did not discover this mistake, and the most learned men who opposed the time also failed to see it. God designed that His people should meet with a disappointment. The time passed, and those who had looked with joyful expectation for their Saviour were sad and disheartened, while those who had not loved the appearing of Jesus, but embraced the message through fear, were pleased that He did not come at the time of expectation. Their profession had not affected the heart and purified the life. [Early Writings, page 235]

My Expectation since 1988 has been the imminent second coming of Christ. While I have never set a specific date for His return, I have considered reasonable possibilities based on the unrolling of the scroll. Conditions have been right for the soon appearance of Messiah. Are the people of God to be disappointed again? Is the sadness and disheartened experience of the early Millerites to be repeated in this generation?

We have been looking with joyful expectation for the soon-coming of our Lord in the clouds of heaven. We have not dared to be among the number who said, even in their hearts, "My Lord delayeth his coming;" for upon such, a fearful woe is pronounced. [Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, July 31, 1888]

Professors of the Advent faith in our present time have not yet been affected in heart, resulting in a purification of the life. Most who claim to be waiting for the second advent of Christ are caught up with jobs, family relations, possessions, health challenges, and/or retirement. Secularism has almost entirely overcome the last generation of believers. Even among those claiming to be striving for a place among the 144,000, the urgency of the hour is not so evident.

God has revealed what is to take place in the last days, that His people may be prepared to stand against the tempest of opposition and wrath. Those who have been warned of the events before them are not to sit in calm expectation of the coming storm, comforting themselves that the Lord will shelter His faithful ones in the day of trouble. We are to be as men waiting for their Lord, not in idle expectancy, but in earnest work, with unwavering faith. It is no time now to allow our minds to be engrossed with things of minor importance. [Testimonies for the Church Volume Five, page 452]

The remnant messenger has written, "Let there be a revival of faith and power of the early church, and the spirit of persecution will be revived, and the fires of persecution will be rekindled." [*The Great Controversy,* page 48] Interestingly, "the fires of persecution [have been] rekindled" against the Creation Seventh Day Adventists, but what affect has been noted? A general atmosphere of apathy continues to pervade the camp of spiritual Israel.

The question may rightly be asked, "Why does this condition prevail if the prophecies relating to the second coming of Christ have been largely fulfilled?"

When the Thessalonian church received erroneous views concerning the coming of Christ, the apostle Paul counseled them to carefully test their hopes and anticipations by the Word of God. He cited them to prophecies revealing the events to take place before Christ should come, and showed that they had no ground to expect him in their day. "Let no man deceive you by any means," [2 THESS. 2:3] are his words of warning. Should they indulge expectations that were not sanctioned by the Scriptures, they would be led to a mistaken course of action; disappointment would expose them to the derision of unbelievers, and they would be in danger of yielding to discouragement, and would be tempted to doubt the truths essential for their salvation. The apostle's admonition to the Thessalonians contains an important lesson for those who live in the last days. Many Adventists have felt that unless they could fix their faith upon a definite time for the Lord's coming, they could not be zealous and diligent in the work of preparation. But as their hopes are again and again excited, only to be destroyed, their faith receives such a shock that it becomes well-nigh impossible for them to be impressed by the great truths of prophecy. [*The Great Controversy*, pages 456, 457]

Have the signs that point to the season of YAHSHUA's coming been indicated?

Christ has given signs of His coming. He declares that we may know when He is near, even at the doors. He says of those who see these signs, "This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled." These signs have appeared. Now we know of a surety that the Lord's coming is at hand. "Heaven and earth shall pass away," He says, "but My words shall not pass away." [...] But the day and the hour of His coming Christ has not revealed. He stated plainly to His disciples that He Himself could not make known the day or the hour of His second appearing. Had He been at liberty to reveal this, why need He have exhorted them to maintain an attitude of constant expectancy? There are those who claim to know the very day and hour of our Lord's appearing. Very earnest are they in mapping out the future. But the Lord has warned them off the ground they occupy. The exact time of the second coming of the Son of man is God's mystery [*The Desire of Ages*, page 632, 633]

There are in the world today many who close their eyes to the evidences that Christ has given to warn men of His coming. They seek to quiet all apprehension, while at the same time the signs of the end are rapidly fulfilling, and the world is hastening to the time when the Son of man shall be revealed in the clouds of heaven. Paul teaches that it is sinful to be indifferent to the signs which are to precede the second coming of Christ. Those guilty of this neglect he calls children of the night and of darkness. He encourages the vigilant and watchful with these words: "But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober." [The Acts of the Apostles, page 260]

So, if Ellen White could say, "These signs have appeared. Now we know of a surety that the Lord's coming is at hand," and that, in her day—what could possibly hinder the day of His coming? Or, what was yet to be fulfilled before the advent of Christ?

After He had given the signs of His coming, Christ said, "When ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand." "Take ye heed, watch and pray." God has always given men warning of coming judgments. Those who had faith in His message for their time, and who acted out their faith, in obedience to His commandments, escaped the judgments that fell upon the disobedient and unbelieving. The word came to Noah, "Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before Me." Noah obeyed and was saved. The message came to Lot, "Up, get you out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this city." Gen. 7:1; 19:14. Lot placed himself under the guardianship of the heavenly messengers, and was saved. So Christ's disciples were given warning of the destruction of Jerusalem. Those who watched for the sign of the coming ruin, and fled from the city, escaped the destruction. So now we are given warning of Christ's second coming and of the destruction to fall upon the world. Those who heed the warning will be saved. [*The Desire of Ages*, page 634]

There were two prophecies that had not yet been fulfilled during the ministry of the remnant messenger.

- 1. "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:" [Mal. 4:5], and
- 2. "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." [Rev. 13:16, 17]

While some Advent believers may argue that Ellen White herself satisfied the coming of EliYAH in spirit and power, it can be shown that her ministry was not the final fulfillment. At best, she was a beginning of the

fulfillment. All things pertaining to YAH's will must be restored as revealed by the Savior, "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and *restore all things*." [Matt. 17:11; emphases mine] The author of Acts enlightens us, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when *the times of refreshing* shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until *the times of restitution of all things*, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began." [Acts 3:19-21; italics supplied]

As we understand it now, "the times of refreshing" and "the times of restitution of all things" referred to above is the solemn period of the "judgment of the living" and the "restoration of all things" to be ushered in by EliYAH's last-day ministry. Ellen White never indicated that the "judgment of the living" had begun in her time. However, with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and in the spirit and power of EliYAH, we declared the beginning of the "judgment of the living" in 1988. Under the agency of EliYAH, we have seen YAH's perfect will accomplished in the restoration of "all things"—that is, a) the nature of the Godhead, b) the proper names for the Father and His Son, c) the times and manner of worship instituted by the Godhead, d) true Protestantism, e) the "sure covenant" between YAHWEH and His people, including the relevance of church membership, f) the original method of baptism, g) the holy kiss, and h) the three angels' messages in verity—"the everlasting gospel" of "victory over sin" and "the Sabbath more fully." This has resulted in a calling and gathering of the remnant 144,000 into the last visible body of commandment-keeping believers in the Christ—the Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church.

The second prophecy that had to be fulfilled before the appearing of Messiah was the formation of "the image of the beast" and enforcement of the "mark of the beast." The prophetess writes, "The Lord has shown me clearly that the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes; for it is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided." [*The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials*, page 700] It was revealed in 1991 exactly what the "image of the beast" is—the unholy union of the Seventh-day Adventist Church with the United States government, resulting in a persecuting power. God's people have been tested by this image beast since that year, and the "judgment of the living" has been progressing with the swelling of "the loud cry."

What more must be completed? How much longer must the saints wait before seeing "the sign of the Son of man" in the eastern sky?

In the prophecy of Jerusalem's destruction Christ said, "Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." This prophecy will again be fulfilled. The abounding iniquity of that day finds its counterpart in this generation. So with the prediction in regard to the preaching of the gospel. Before the fall of Jerusalem, Paul, writing by the Holy Spirit, declared that the gospel was preached to "every creature which is under heaven." Col. 1:23. So now, before the coming of the Son of man, the everlasting gospel is to be preached "to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." Rev. 14:6, 14. God "hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world." Acts 17:31. Christ tells us when that day shall be ushered in. He does not say that all the world will be converted, but that "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." By giving the gospel to the world *it is in our power to hasten our Lord's return.* We are not only to look for but to hasten the coming of the day of God. 2 Peter 3:12, margin. Had the church of Christ done her appointed work as the Lord ordained, the whole world would before this have been warned, and the Lord Jesus would have come to our earth in power and great glory. [*The Desire of Ages,* pages 633, 634; italics supplied]

Dearly beloved reader, *My Expectation* is that YAHSHUA, the Messiah, is coming very soon to take His faithful people home. Will you not join me in this "blessed hope?" You shall either hasten or hinder the second coming of Christ by your attitude and actions. "He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord [YAHSHUA]." [Rev. 22:20]

Writing from Africa Pastor "Chick" McGill July 20, 2010