

Response to Dwayne Lemon's 2520

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This article is a Response to an article circulated by Dwayne Lemon with *PTH Ministries* (www.pthministries.com), concerning the validity of the 2520 in scripture.

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This article is the result of evaluating, upon the request of other brethren, the article of Bro. Dwayne Lemon entitled: “*A Response to the 2520 Teaching*”.

Allow me to clarify at the outset of this document that my response to the article by Bro. Lemon is not in any way given as an assessment of brother Lemon personally. I am simply responding to the statements and claims within his article entitled: “*A Response to the 2520 Teaching*” which he has made available to the public for consideration. I would kindly ask of my brothers and sisters that as you consider the following points that you would do so prayerfully, fairly and objectively and certainly after having set aside any preconceived ideas.

Observations:

1. It has been my personal observation within Adventism as I have weighed and considered much of the material concerning the truth's given to God's people for this time, that many are never able to clear what I have come to understand as the very first hurdle; that being to address the authority, validity and purpose of the 1843 chart for Adventism today as set forth by inspiration. Invariably, they just simply go around it.
2. Those who do attempt to clear the first hurdle ALWAYS, without exception, fall embarrassingly short. The reason they fall short, it seems, is found in the obvious fact that they have not become acquainted with the undeniable evidences being presented today by many from both the inspired record and sacred history that prove and establish it as the foundation of our faith- today!
3. The authors of all of these conflicting articles, it would seem, are very sincere in most respects and appear to be convinced that their position is correct and upheld by the inspired record, myself included. But friends that's never enough to qualify one's position as truth is it? “To the **law** and to the **testimony**” is to be the standard that we employ to determine if something is truth. If we fail in this respect we have chosen some “other way” (John 10:1) to enter in and we will never arrive at the Truth! And this is paramount; because eternal life is based on our knowing Jesus- the Truth (John 17:3) rather than the **teachings of men**. This was a tremendous hurdle for Christ in His day (Matthew 5:20-45) and as we are **repeating their history** we can expect He will have the same hurdles again.

—The trials of the children of Israel, and their attitude just before **the first coming of Christ**, illustrate the position of the people of God in their experience before **the second coming of Christ**.-- R. and H., 1890, No. 7. {*Healthful Living*, 280.1}

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—Satan's snares are laid for **us** as verily as they were laid for the children of Israel just prior to their entrance into the land of Canaan. **We are repeating the history of that people.**--T., No. 31, p. 15| {*Healthful Living*, 280.2}

I would like to now address the different points presented by bro. Lemon that inspiration reveals to be erroneous. Again, this response is simply an attempt to give the evidences that reveal the truth upon these subjects in order that God's people will have a *correct* understanding of the truths for this time and thereby be better prepared for the coming crisis which will come upon most unawares!

I in no way set myself above, below or in advance of brother Lemon in presenting my findings. I simply desire for God's people to "know" Jesus- the Truth.

Point 1:

Bro. Lemon states:

"We will start by looking at a quote from Sister White in reference to the 1843-1850 Charts, as this seems to be a great reason many today acknowledge the 2520 prophecy. It is as follows:

'I saw that the old chart was directed by the Lord, and that not a figure of it should be altered except by inspiration. I saw that the figures of the chart were as God would have them, and that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none should see it till His hand was removed.'" {*Spalding Magan*, 1.3}

"Here we clearly see that the chart was not declared to be infallible, for God's Word and God's Word alone is infallible:"

Consideration 1:

Brother Lemon states, after supplying us with only one quote concerning the 1843 chart; and there are many, "*Here we **clearly see** that the chart was **not declared to be infallible***". This is a very subtle deception friends in that there is an implication here that the chart is faulty and therefore cannot be acknowledged as an inspired document that is of any value to God's people here at the end of the world as inspiration has stated that it does! We would have to reason that his above claim is founded on the words: "***a** mistake in some of the figures*".

If we were thorough students of prophecy as we are called to be (5T 708.2), we would understand that the very language of the above quote reveals "a" mistake showing it to be **singular** in nature. If we fail to see this crucial point then we will allow ourselves to be taught by others today that there are **many** errors on this chart; that "*was directed by the hand of the Lord*". Inspiration says "a" mistake- singular.

That "**singular**" mistake was simply the "fullness of time" mistake that impacted only two or "*some of the figures*". The "fullness of time" mistake was simply that the Millerites discovered that the beginning of the 2300 day prophecy did not commence on January 1 of 457 BC, but rather in the fall of that same year. Therefore, the ending of that same prophecy would have to be extended to the "fullness of time"; being 2300 days/years, to the Fall of 1844. October the 22nd to be precise.

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The reasoning behind this change is detailed by Sister White in *The Great Controversy*, page 398-399. The “*figures*” that were impacted by the “fullness of time” mistake were the prophecy’s which began before the cross and terminated in 1843. In light of this established historical fact, the only *figures* on the 1843 chart that could be impacted would be the 2520 and the 2300 day prophecy, as they only extend back before the cross and terminated at the same point in time; October 22, 1844.

“Those faithful, disappointed ones, who could not understand why their Lord did not come, were not left in darkness. Again they were led to their Bibles to search the prophetic periods. The hand of the Lord was removed from the figures, and **the** mistake was explained. They saw that the prophetic periods reached to 1844, and that **the same evidence** which they had presented to show that the prophetic periods closed in 1843, **proved that they would terminate in 1844.**” *Early Writings*, 236

NOTICE: “*The mistake*” did not alter their arguments and render them useless. In fact we discover from this quote that they didn’t even change- **they used the very same arguments!!**

“That which led to this movement was the discovery that the decree of Artaxerxes for the restoration of Jerusalem, which formed the starting point for the period of the 2300 days, went into effect in the autumn of the year 457 B.C., and not at the beginning of the year, as had been formerly believed. Reckoning from **the autumn of 457**, the 2300 years terminate in **the autumn of 1844**. (See Appendix note for page 329.) {GC 398.4}

So we may see if we will allow the Truth to speak that there was only **one** mistake that impacted **two** figures (Plural); the 2520 and the 2300.

Brother Lemon would also have us believe that the 1843 chart was “*fallible*” or flawed. Notice with me what the same Spirit that inspired all of the other prophets had to say concerning the design and creation of this chart:

“The warning has come: Nothing is to be allowed to come in that will disturb the **foundation of the faith** upon which we have been building ever since **the message** came in **1842, 1843, and 1844**. I was in this message, and **ever since I have been standing before the world, true to the light that God has given us**. We do not propose to take our feet off **the platform** on which they were placed as day by day we sought the Lord with earnest prayer, seeking for light. Do you think that I could give up the light that God has given me? **It is to be as the Rock of Ages**. It has been guiding me ever since it was given.”-- *General Conference Bulletin*, April 6, **1903** par. 35

Here we are told that the *messages* or light given from 1842-1844 were to be **the foundation** of the faith of SDA’s and that we have been building upon it ever since. Sister White stated in 1903 that she has, ever since 1844, been standing in that light or message! What message? The message that was given from 1842-44. The chart reflects the prophetic understanding and therefore the messages of the Millerites during that very time; from 1840-44!

BUT, here’s what is most significant to me and should be for you as well: this chart and the truths that it houses are marked by the Spirit of Prophecy, which is the testimony of **Christ** (Rev.

19:10), as “*the Rock of Ages*”!! Now let me ask you a question: is Christ in need of change? Is He flawed? Maybe you think I’m taking liberties with that application. Notice:

“Let none seek to tear away **the foundations of our faith**,—the **foundations that were laid at the beginning of our work**, by prayerful study of the Word and by revelation. Upon these **foundations** we have been building for **more than fifty years**. Men may suppose that they have found a new way, that they can lay a stronger foundation than that which has been laid; but this is a great deception. ‘**Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid.**’ [1 Corinthians 3:11.] In the past, many have undertaken to build a new faith, to establish new principles; but how long did their building stand? It soon fell; for it was not founded upon **the Rock**.

“Did not the first disciples have to meet the sayings of men? did they not have to listen to false theories; and then, having done all, to stand firm, saying, ‘Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid’? **So we are to hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end.**” *Testimonies*, volume 8, 296–297.

Here inspiration also marks out our foundational truths as Christ: “Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid.’ [1 Corinthians 3:11.] So we now have two testimonies that the foundational truths represented upon the 1843 chart are a representation of Christ! Friends, there is no error in Christ! There was an allowed oversight in that they were not permitted to see the error on the calendar of that day, but I challenge you to find the error (SINGULAR) in their calculations. Be VERY careful how you approach the 1843 and 1850 charts as they are marked by TRUE inspiration to be Christ and upon Him we are to build!!

Consideration 2:

Bro. Lemon further states:

*“In relation to the Chart, we are told that nothing should be altered “**except by inspiration**” which shows that if the inspiration of the Holy Spirit were to reveal to man that there was something wrong with any calculation on the chart, **it could be altered.**”*

Brother Lemon then goes on to explain that there were many who were inspired whose writings were not recorded in the Bible. He then references J.N. Loughborough’s writings in an attempt to strengthen and further the idea that men other than Sis. White were inspired.

Friends, he desires to point us to other **men** as a viable source of inspiration, inspiration that he feels is qualified to alter the 1843 chart, the chart that he deems flawed or in need of correction.

And who is it that he points us to? He points us to the pioneers as candidates who are qualified to change the charts- but only “*if the inspiration of the Holy Spirit were to reveal to*” them the errors. He attempts this by quoting much from *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, pages 28-32. This is a VERY deadly position to take concerning “*inspiration*”. If brother Lemon had only read a little further he would have encountered the clearest light on what true “*inspiration*” is! Notice:

“A brother asked, ‘Sister White, do you think we must understand the **truth** for ourselves? Why can we not take the **truths** that others have gathered together, and believe them because they have investigated the subjects, and then we shall be free to go on without the taxing of the powers of the mind in the investigation of all these subjects? Do you not think that these men who have brought out the **truth** in the past were **inspired of God**?’

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“I dare not say they were not led of God, for Christ leads into all truth; but when it comes to **inspiration in the fullest sense of the word, I answer, No.** I believe that God has given them a work to do, but if they are not fully consecrated to God at all times, they **will** weave self and their peculiar traits of character into what they are doing, and **will** put **their mold upon the work**, and fashion men in religious experience **after their own pattern**. It is dangerous for us **to make flesh our arm**. We should lean upon the arm of Infinite Power. God has been revealing this to us for years. We must have living faith in our hearts and reach out for larger knowledge and more advanced light.--Review and Herald, March 25, 1890.”-- *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 34.1

Now the first question I would deem necessary to address would be: “what are the truths that they were referring to?” These would have to be the truths that were gathered and assembled on the 1843 chart as these were the truths that were unitedly taught.

Please notice that Sister White acknowledges that these men were **led** of God, but she clearly differentiates between **their** inspiration and **her** inspiration!

THEREFORE, when we are told that the figures on the chart may be altered **only** “*by inspiration*”, that would unquestionably exclude ALL of the pioneers! These men were not qualified to alter the truths on that chart. Ellen White and the Word of God are the **ONLY** two truly qualified sources who were “*inspired*”.

So let us now consider the “*inspiration*” that authorized the 1843 chart to be altered:

“I saw that **God was in the publishment of the chart by Brother Nichols [The 1850 chart]. I saw that there was a prophecy of this chart in the Bible**, and if this chart is designed for God's people, if it [is] sufficient for one it is for another, and if **one needed a new chart** painted on a larger scale, **all need it** just as much. . .

“I saw that **the charts [the 1843 and 1850] ordered by God** struck the mind favorably, even without an explanation. There is something light, lovely, and heavenly in the representation of the angels on the charts. The mind is almost imperceptibly led to God and heaven. But **the other charts** that have been gotten up disgust the mind, and cause the mind to dwell more on earth than heaven.” -- *Manuscript Releases*, volume 13, 359.

Brother Lemon upholds, as do I, that the pioneers are to continue to speak to us today:

“God has given me light regarding our periodicals. What is it?—He has said that the dead are to speak. How?—Their works shall follow them. **We are to repeat the words of the pioneers in our work**, who knew what it cost **to search for the truth** as for hidden treasure, and who labored to lay **the foundation** of our work.

“They moved forward step by step under the influence of the Spirit of God. One by one these pioneers are passing away. The word given me is, Let that which these men have written **in the past** be reproduced. . . .

“**Let the truths that are the foundation of our faith be kept before the people.** . . . We are now to understand what **the pillars** of our faith are,—the truths that have made us as a people what we are, leading us on step by step.” *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 28–29.

Brothers and sisters, we are to understand several important truths from this quote. The first of which is that the pioneers are the very ones who “*labored to lay the foundation of our work*”. Secondly, that the words of the pioneers or **truths** they discovered are to be **the foundation** that

they laid. Thirdly, that these **truths** “*have made us as a people what we are, leading us on step by step*”.

“As early as 1842 the direction given in this prophecy to ‘write the vision, and **make it plain upon tables**, that he may run that readeth it,’ had suggested to Charles Fitch the preparation of a prophetic chart [1843] to illustrate the visions of Daniel and the Revelation. The publication of this chart was regarded as **a fulfillment of the command given by Habakkuk.**” *The Great Controversy*, 392.2

Now then, when you and I look upon the 1843 and 1850 charts, we are to understand that it was God who directed their minds to these *foundational* truths and as a result they were then directed by the Lord to “Write the vision, and make *it* plain upon **tables** (plural), that he may run that readeth it.” Habakkuk 2:2. They were to place these truths upon a chart that all might “*come and see*” in fulfillment of William Miller’s dream beginning on page eighty-one of *Early Writings*.

Friends, the dead ARE to speak! Yet many today, either intentionally or unintentionally, are attempting to cover up the jewels of truth that were discovered and placed “*upon a center table*”, the 1843 chart, as the hand of the Lord had directed them to do. The Dirtbrush man, Christ, has gathered together and set out on a table for THIS final generation the very same jewels of truth but we are told that they are shining with ten times their former glory. But the only way you and I can see them is if we return to the foundations of our faith [the 1843 and ’50 charts] in heeding the counsel of Isaiah 58:12.

The foundation has **been** laid. There is **no other** foundation. But many have stepped off of the foundation/platform and declared it to be laid wrong (see: *Early Writings*, 259).

However, inspiration has marked out for us that the 1843 and 1850 charts are without doctrinal error and are in fact referenced as the “*Rock of Ages*” and the “*Foundation*”. So what do you do when confronted with this 2520 prophecy which is displayed in three locations, yes three, on **each** of these charts whereas the 2300 is only displayed ONCE?

You first are to see that the 1843 chart was “*directed by the hand of the Lord*” and that “*the figures were as He wanted them*” (EW, 74). Friends, what does it mean that these truths on the 1843 chart were directed by the HAND of the Lord? He wanted them there! He wanted you and I to understand them and even more importantly, to understand their purpose for us here at the end of the world as we return to the foundations of our faith.

Remember that **the** error, *singular*, has already been explained. Therefore, the 2300 day prophecy as well as the 2520 prophecy remain valid and divinely established by the prophetic evidences that the pioneers were led to gather together, place upon the chart and teach the people in fulfillment of Habakkuk 2:2.

Many today will bring their mountain of evidences to prop up their erroneous conclusions, but the foundation upon which they are building is erroneous- it can only be SAND if it’s not the “*Rock of Ages*”! They first have to remove the **established** foundations authority placed upon it by the Spirit of Prophecy- Christ’s testimony (Rev. 19:10). The 2520 was placed there by God Himself yet many today set aside this fact and choose to ignore His authority in order to promulgate their own manmade theories!

Point 2:

Bro. Lemon states:

“*If the Bible actually taught a 2,520 year prophecy, it would clearly be the longest time prophecy in the bible using simple mathematics. Let’s notice first what Sister White says is the longest and last time prophecy in the Bible.*”

“The experience of the disciples who preached the "gospel of the kingdom" at the first advent of Christ, had its counterpart in the experience of those who proclaimed the message of His second advent. As the disciples went out preaching, 'The time is fulfilled, the kingdom of God is at hand,' so Miller and his associates proclaimed that the longest and last prophetic period brought to view in the Bible was about to expire, that the judgment was at hand, and the everlasting kingdom was to be ushered in." *The Great Controversy*, 351.1

Consideration 1:

As we begin to consider this quote by Sister White and its genuine implications, let us first recognize a very crucial error supposed by many: she DOES NOT say that “the longest time prophecy is the 2300 days”. It is not there. This is inferred by many who are wishing to support their erroneous view of the 2520. We will also discover that in paralleling the history of the Millerites with that of the disciples, she tells us three DISTINCT and SEPARATE things that the Millerites would proclaim. Notice them with me as found in the above quote:

1. “that the longest and last prophetic period brought to view in the Bible was about to expire,”
2. “that the judgment was at hand, and”
3. “the everlasting kingdom was to be ushered in.”

In order for us to correctly and accurately understand the three things the Millerites were to **proclaim**, let us first consider these next two quotes that will shed sufficient light that there is no need to stumble over her statement in *The Great Controversy*, 351.

“**God sent His angel** to move upon the heart of a farmer who had not believed the Bible, to lead him to search **the prophecies**. Angels of God repeatedly visited that **chosen one**, to guide his mind and open to his understanding **prophecies which had ever been dark to God's people**. The commencement of the chain of truth was given to him, and **he was led** on to search for **link after link**, until he looked with wonder and admiration upon the Word of God. He saw there **a perfect chain of truth.**” {*Early Writings*, 229.1}

First, notice that Sister White informs us that W. Miller, whose mind the angels of God led, was given the commencement of the chain of truth! So there was a “*chain of truth*” that God gave and brother Miller was given the commencement or **beginning** of it.

Now notice in the words of Miller himself what the first three links were that our Father revealed to him in this developing chain of **prophetic** truth:

“From a farther study of the Scriptures, I concluded that the seven times of Gentile supremacy must **commence** when the Jews ceased to be an independent nation at the captivity of Manasseh, which the best chronologers assigned to B. C. ⁽¹⁾ **677**; that the 2300 days **commenced** with the seventy weeks, which the best chronologers dated from B. C. ⁽²⁾ **457**; and that the 1335 days **commencing** with the taking away of the daily, and the setting up of the abomination that maketh desolate, Dan.xii.11, were to be dated from the setting up of the Papal supremacy, after the taking away of Pagan abominations, and which, according to the best historians I could consult, should be dated from about A. D. ⁽³⁾ **508**.”

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Reckoning all these prophetic periods from the several dates assigned by the best chronologers for the events from which they should evidently be reckoned, **they all would terminate together, about A. D. 1843.**”--{*Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, April 18, 1854}

Now friends, notice with me again the quote so often raised to defend the 2300 days as the longest time prophecy, because as we take a very honest look at this quote we will, as stated previously, notice that the Millerites PROCLAIMED three distinct and separate things:

1. “*that the longest and last prophetic period brought to view in the Bible was about to expire,*” (677 BC, **The 2520 prophecy - The first link**)
2. “*that the judgment was at hand, and*” (457 BC, **The 2300 day prophecy - The second link**)
3. “*the everlasting kingdom was to be ushered in.*” (508 AD, **The 1335 prophecy - The third link**)

This correct understanding and application of this quote reveals that Sister White understood the very **heart** of their message. The Millerites and Sister White ALL understood that 1. “*the longest and last prophetic period brought to view*” was the 2520, the longest time prophecy that would conclude by no later than March 21, 1843; even if everyone today is in denial of that fact—their writings uphold that fact, 2. that the 2300 days was pointing us to the “*judgment*” that was “*at hand*”, and 3. that the 1335 was an EXACT fulfillment of the third thing the Millerites were to proclaim; as they were expecting Jesus to come by the close of the Jewish Karaite year 1843 which expired on March 21, 1844.

In the following quote you will see that William Miller discovered the 2520 FIRST; which **then** led him to the understanding of the 2300 day prophecy- the second link in the chain of truth.

“During the twelve years I was a deist, I read all the histories I could find; but now I loved the Bible. It taught of Jesus! But still there was a good deal of the Bible that was dark to me. In 1818 or 19, while conversing with a friend to whom I made a visit, and who had known me and had heard me talk while I was a deist, he inquired in rather a significant manner, 'What do you think of this text, and that,' referring to the old texts I had objected to while a deist. I understood what he was about, and replied—If you will give me time, I will tell you what they mean. 'How long time do you want?' I don't know, but I will tell you, I replied, for I could not believe that God had given a revelation that could not be understood. I then resolved to study my Bible, believing I could find out what the Holy Spirit meant. But as soon as I had formed this resolution the thought came to me, 'Suppose you find a passage that you cannot understand, what will you do?' This mode of studying the Bible then came to my mind: 'I will take the words of such passages and trace them through the Bible, and find out their meaning in this way.' I had Cruden's Concordance, which I think is the best in the world, so I took that and my Bible, and set down to my desk, and read nothing else except the newspapers a little, for I was determined to know what my Bible meant. I began at Genesis and read on slowly; and when I came to a text that I could not understand, I searched through the Bible to find out what it meant. After I had gone through the Bible in this way, O, how bright and glorious the truth appeared. I found what I have been preaching to you. I was satisfied that the **seven times** terminated in 1843. **Then** I came to the 2300 days; they brought me to the same conclusion; but I had no thought of finding out when the Saviour was coming, and I could not believe it; but the light struck me so forcibly I did not know what to do.

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Now, I thought, I must put on spurs and breeching; I will not go faster than the Bible, and I will not fall behind it. Whatever the Bible teaches I will hold on to it.” {*The Rise and Progress of Adventism*, W. Miller, RH Vol.8, April 24, 1856}

Concerning “*the longest and last prophetic period brought to view in the Bible*”, we may see and understand that Ellen White herself was VERY aware of the 2520 prophecy for several reasons:

1. The 2520 was portrayed on the 1843 chart in three different places which she says was divinely endorsed or “*directed by the hand of the Lord*”. How could she be aware of every other truth on that chart *except* the 2520? To think so is not reasoning from cause to effect.
2. She publishes the following statement in **1903**; which is WELL after the publication of James White’s 1863 chart. This is important to see because he has chosen to remove the 2520 from **his** chart in 1863 and as a result he NEVER received ANY acknowledgment by inspiration (his wife) that his chart was divinely appointed or directed by God:

“The warning has come: **Nothing** is to be allowed to come in that will disturb the **foundation of the faith** upon which we have been building ever since **the message** came in **1842, 1843, and 1844**. I was in **this message**, and ever since I have been standing before the world, true to the light that God has given us.

“We do not propose to take our feet off **the platform** on which they were placed as day by day we sought the Lord with earnest prayer, seeking for light. Do you think that I could give up **the light that God has given me? It is to be as the Rock of Ages**. It has been **guiding me ever since it was given.**” {*General Conference Bulletin*, April 6, 1903 par. 35}

Friends, the “*message*” and “*light*” that Sister White says she received in 1842, 1843 and 1844 and then states that she was still standing in in 1903 undeniably included the understanding of the 2520!! It would HAVE to. These truths, ALL of the truths received from 1842-44, were STILL guiding her in 1903 and were there again in the same fashion upon the 1850 chart!

Brothers and sisters, we cannot claim to have complete confidence in Sister White’s writings, the first test for Adventist, and then conveniently set aside **so many** clear statements. The Spirit of Truth will lead us into ALL truth but He will never force us. You need not fear! Ask Him to open to your understanding and heart what IS truth that you might stand with Christ.

Brother Lemon then offers the following quote and subsequent thought:

*“The preaching of the disciples in regard to time was based on the seventy weeks of Daniel 9. The message given by Miller and his associates announced **the termination of the 2300 days of Dan. 8:14**, of which the seventy weeks form a part. The preaching of each was based upon the fulfillment of a different portion of the same great prophetic period. {GC88 351.1}*

*“This is **clear!!!!**”*

*“The prophet **CLEARLY** states what was the longest and last prophetic time period that William Miller preached and that was the 2300 days. This is her statement as God gave it to her to say.”*

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We have already seen that this quote DOES NOT say that the longest prophecy is the 2300 days!!! I challenge you to look at it very closely! To say that “*Miller and his associates announced the termination of the 2300 days of Dan. 8:14*” is to simply reiterate her previous claim. She is underscoring for the reader that the 2300 days was the driving element; as the judgment was associated with the 2300 day prophecy. Perhaps brother Lemon will consider this additional light. Perhaps not. But you have to come to your own conclusion with the aid of the Holy Spirit.

Brother Lemon then makes another statement which begins to become the foundation upon which he is willing to build his false theory. You see, when you DO NOT clear the first hurdle properly, you are not qualified to run the remainder of the race and win!

*“the prophet clearly says the 2300 days is the **longest and last** prophetic time period in the Bible and simple math shows us that the 2520 could not be a true prophetic calculation. This point was not truly addressed at all.”*

Here is revealed why so many feel licensed to claim that the 2520 cannot therefore be a time “*prophecy*” and it is from here forward in their arguments that we see a blatant divergence from simple reasoning.

Point 3:

After concluding that the 2520 cannot be a time prophecy, much less the longest time prophecy, based predominately on the quote in *The Great Controversy* page 351, he then lists men who say that the 2300 day prophecy is the longest time prophecy. This list consisted of five men, one of which was James White.

Whether James White or any other pioneer was an advocate for or against the 2520 has absolutely **NO** bearing upon the FACT that **inspiration** has brought the 1843 and 1850 charts into existence to serve as a foundation upon which we are to remain standing! If we follow James White or any other man over Ellen White we have only followed the teachings of men whereas if we follow Ellen White we have followed a “thus saith the Lord”! AMEN?

Consideration 1:

What brother Lemon is either unaware of or not willing to factor in at this point is that October 22, 1844 was a transitional point; the transitional point of a particular phase of Christ’s work. After October 22, 1844 the “*glorious manifestation of the power of God*” ended and “*darkness and confusion have followed*”!

What I intend to show and convey here now is that after the “*glorious manifestation of the power of God*” concluded in 1844, there would follow a period of enlightenment for the faithful few that would extend to 1850 wherein Jesus would settle the “*disappointment*” issue and re-affirm the foundational truth’s they previously held and thereby give a second testimony as to what is truth upon the 1850 chart!

“The advent movement of **1840-44** was **a glorious manifestation of the power of God**; the first angel’s message was carried to every missionary station in the world, and in some countries there was the greatest religious interest which has been witnessed in any land since the Reformation of the sixteenth century; but these are to be exceeded by the mighty movement under the last warning of the third angel. {GC 611.1}

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From 1840-44 the power of God was exercised in order to accomplish a great religious awakening! There was GREAT LIGHT that was to illumine the darkened understanding of His professed people. This light was given and then concluded on October 22, 1844 with a shut door; on those who would not enter by faith.

After this we see the darkness come in but only on those who were no longer “*walking in the light*” (1 John 1:5-7) with Christ (see: Early Writings, 14). Notice the doctrinal climate after 1844:

“When **union existed, before 1844**, nearly all were united on the correct view of the ‘daily’; but in **the confusion since 1844**, other views have been embraced, and **darkness and confusion have followed.**” *Early Writings*, 74

This quote originated from an article in *The Review and Herald*, November 1, 1850. In this article Sister White was shown approximately fourteen different things that were becoming very problematic for the emerging church, directly after the passing of the time in 1844; one of which was time-setting. God, however, in His providence began to give Sister White her visions in December of 1844; just two months after the disappointment. Why? Because her visions were to bring that small company through the darkness and confusion that was prevalent after the passing of the time! They were to discover that the very truths they held before the disappointment were STILL truth.

“I do not wish to ignore or drop one link in **the chain** of evidence that was formed as, **after the passing of the time in 1844**, little companies of seekers after truth met together to study the Bible and **to ask God for light and guidance**. . . . The truth, point by point, was fastened in our minds so firmly that we could not doubt. . . . **The evidence given in our early experience has the same force that it had then. The truth is the same as it ever has been, and not a pin or a pillar can be moved from the structure of truth.** That which was sought for out of the Word in **1844, 1845, and 1846 remains the truth in every particular.**” Letter 38, 1906, pp. 1, 2. (To the Wairoonga Sanitarium Family, January 23, **1906.**) -- *Manuscript Release*, vol.1, 52.2

We are to see in this VERY clear quote that after the passing of the time God led His faithful followers to seek for what caused the disappointment in the Word of God. As they did so guess what they discovered...??? They discovered **their** mistake! AND that the **truths** they previously held were STILL TRUTH!!! That means ALL that was taught **doctrinally**, prior to the disappointment was still truth! What HAD changed however was the conclusion.

“**The Lord showed me** that he, James, must take the testimonies that the leading Adventists published in ‘44, and republish them and **make them ashamed**. He is now doing that work. --Letter 8, **1850**, p. 1. (To Arabella Hastings, August 4, 1850.) {5MR 202.2}

They discovered the sanctuary issue and had to change their bottom line conclusion. And as evidence of this, please notice that the very same truths on the 1843 chart appear on the 1850 chart that was also endorsed by inspiration! Do you know what that means? You and I are given two tables of **testimony** as to what constituted **the foundational truth of Adventism!**

Now wouldn't it seem reasonable to conclude that IF there WERE any errors on the 1843 chart beyond the '43/'44 issue, that they would all be corrected before being placed upon the 1850 chart that God brought into existence?

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If you look at the 1850 chart you will discover some incredible things. You will see that they corrected 1843 and put 1844. You will also see that they have included a pictorial explanation of the “*sanctuary*” that was to be cleansed; they have slightly altered the arrangement of some of the artwork but the 2520 is STILL THERE in THREE places as before whereas the 2300 appears **still** only once! WOW!

Remember, we discussed earlier that the '43 chart could ONLY be changed by inspiration!

“**God showed me** the necessity of getting out a **chart**. **I saw it was needed** and that the **truth made plain upon tables** would affect much and would cause souls to come to the knowledge of the truth...

Here we are told that the 1850 chart “*was needed*” and that those truths “*would cause souls to come to the knowledge of truth*”!!

“On our return to Brother Nichol’s, **the Lord gave me a vision and showed me that the truth must be made plain upon tables** (*plural*), and it would cause many to decide for the truth by the third angel’s message with **the two former** being made **plain upon tables.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 5, 201–203.

The Lord **showed** Sister White- that’s as “*inspired*” as it gets wouldn’t you agree? Notice that it references “*the two former (Angels) being made plain upon tables*”. This reference is made because they realized that the first and second angel’s messages were made plain upon the first table- the 1843 chart. This is to simply state that the history of the 1st and 2nd Angel’s messages time period is represented upon the 1843 chart.

It was after the passing of the time that they discovered that there was to be an application of the third and so they included this understanding on the 1850 chart by way of including a drawing of the three angels separately.

“**The [1850] chart** is being executed in Boston. **God is in it.**

“Brother Nichols has the charge of it.” --*Manuscript Releases*, volume 15, 213.

“I saw that **God was in the publishment of the chart by Brother Nichols [The 1850 chart]**. I saw that **there was a prophecy of this chart in the Bible**, and if this chart is designed for God’s people, if it [is] sufficient for one it is for another, and if one needed a new chart painted on a larger scale, all need it just as much. . . .

“I saw that **the charts [the 1843 and the 1850] ordered by God** struck the mind favorably, even without an explanation. There is something light, lovely, and heavenly in the representation of the angels on the charts. The mind is almost imperceptibly led to God and heaven. But **the other charts** that have been gotten up disgust the mind, and cause the mind to dwell more on earth than heaven.” --*Manuscript Releases*, volume 13, 359.

Without any great effort on our part we may resolutely conclude that the 1843 and 1850 charts are giving testimony to the expressed will of our Father. Inspiration marks them as being brought into existence, not by man, but as a direct commission of our Father; because they “*would cause many to decide for the truth*”.

Point 4:

Brother Lemon states:

*“I am now going to demonstrate that because Sister White endorses something does not mean that everything **in it or on it** is to be taken as inspiration”.*

Consideration 1:

Brother Lemon, after this statement, quotes several SOP quotes of Sister White where she is endorsing the book of Uriah Smith. Upon doing this he then takes the liberty to conclude that because Sister White endorsed the book of Uriah Smith that held error, we should see that there could be error on a chart she has endorsed as of God!

1. Problem one: There is a VERY important difference between the book of Uriah Smith and the 1843 chart! The book by Smith she never claimed was “*directed by the hand of the Lord*”!! It is simply the best, even today, compilation of historical events which validate the fulfillment of prophecy.
2. Problem two: Smith’s book has never been anything but recommended as “*the helping hand of God*”. This doesn’t in ANY way imply *perfection*. Note that it has never been compared to “*the Rock of Ages*” as has the 1843 chart has!
3. But the biggest hurdle to tackle is this: The 1843 chart was DIRECTED BY the HAND of the LORD!!!! and was referenced as “*The Rock of Ages*”. How can you compare Uriah Smith’s book to Christ?

Others have stated like things in saying that because Sister White also endorsed men like Miller, and U. Smith and they were faulty that we may expect that the same is true of the charts but these men have something the charts do not have... the right to choose! The charts are the product of men inspired and **led of God**. Once a document is completed it can only be changed by man. But these men have the ability to change and go against previously established light... a chart does not! It simply keeps teaching what it has ever taught until man decides to change it.

The book of U. Smith has NEVER received the endorsements that the 1843 and ’50 charts have. Not even close! She was VERY specific in regard to the charts.

Brother Lemon would teach us that the chart was faulty and in need of changing. He would think to accomplish this by comparing it to the book of Uriah Smith’s which ONLY received approval and recommendation for use in setting limited light before God’s people. Because he has already revealed that he does not understand the term “*inspiration*” correctly we may expect these erroneous conclusions which prove nothing.

Because bro. Lemon has not reasoned from cause to effect in many different instances, he does not understand who **only** IS inspired. His reasoning is confusing. He would suggest that James White was qualified to change the chart. He would have us understand that his inspiration was superior to God’s servant; Ellen White. He would also have us to believe that when Christ said the 1843 chart was not to be altered except by inspiration, He meant James also. Notice again who is TRULY qualified to inspire:

“A brother asked, ‘Sister White, do you think we must understand the truth for ourselves? Why can we not take the truths that others have gathered together, and believe them because they have investigated the subjects, and then we shall be free to go on without the taxing of the powers of the mind in the investigation of all these subjects? Do you not think that these men who have brought out the truth in the past were **inspired of God?**’ {CW 33.3}

“I dare not say they were not led of God, for Christ leads into all truth; but when it comes to **inspiration in the fullest sense of the word, I answer, No.** I believe that God has given them a work to do, but if they are not fully consecrated to God at all times, they will weave self and their peculiar traits of character into what they are doing, and will put their mold upon the work, and fashion men in religious experience after their own pattern. It is dangerous for us to make flesh our arm. We should lean upon the arm of Infinite Power. God has been revealing this to us for years. We must have living faith in our hearts and reach out for larger knowledge and more advanced light.--Review and Herald, March 25, 1890”. -- *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 34.1 }

Friends, it should be very clear to us by now that inspiration comes only from above and that Sister White was inspired in the FULLEST sense of the word; not James or any of the other pioneers for that matter. Notice that her statement is to reflect upon her husband as well. So if you put your confidence in the choices of James over Ellen then you have made a decision to put confidence in the arm of flesh and you are opposing clear counsel.

If you are willing to stand with James’ decision to remove the 2520 when he developed his own chart without having received any inspiration from heaven to do so then you are following man and not Christ, the TRUTH! You are revealing that you don’t honestly love the truth and therefore you are setting yourself up to believe a lie (2 Thess. 2:10-11).

Some have reasoned that because Sister White did not correct James for removing the 2520 when he produced his 1863 chart, she was thereby endorsing it. Friends, this is blind abandonment of sound reasoning. Here’s why.

If we use that reasoning, then we would have to conclude that Sister White did not believe that the Holy Spirit was an actual person of the Godhead! Yet you and I know she wrote extensively on this subject to the contrary (See: *Evangelism*, 616-617). Why do I say this? Because James White wrote contrary to our established understanding of the personage of the Holy Spirit... and Sister White never spoke out against it, WHY NOT?? Well, if we employ the above reasoning then we would have to naturally conclude that she supported his convictions, right? But we know better.

There is a tremendous lesson for all of us to see in this set of circumstances. When Christ reveals to us light or truth we are to live up to or **believe** that light before we can expect to receive any greater light; correct? When we see Jesus before Pilate in John 18:37 he admits that he is the King of the Jews when questioned, but in chapter 19:9 we see something noteworthy. Pilate is asking the same question again, even though he has been previously told the answer and Jesus refuses to answer him. He has already been told the truth but he does not **believe!**

Notice as well that Christ, through the SOP gave us the right answer concerning the “daily” but many have refused to accept and believe the light given therefore they will not receive greater light and more importantly- Christ has remained silent; waiting for you and I to receive the first testimony given!

“Then I saw in relation to the ‘Daily,’ that the word ‘sacrifice’ was supplied by man’s wisdom, and does not belong to the text; and that **the Lord gave the correct view of it to those who gave the judgment hour cry.** When union existed, before 1844, nearly all were united on the correct view of the “Daily;” but since 1844, in the confusion, other views have been embraced, and darkness and confusion has followed.” {RH, November 1, 1850 par. 11 }

It's a very simple straightforward statement. Can't be made ANY clearer than that, but MANY are refusing the light given in the testimony of Christ!

Point 5:

Brother Lemon, in an effort to convince you and I that the 2520 is not present truth today, is instead pointing us to the 2300 day prophecy as sufficient to qualify as present truth; the only truth we need here at the end of the world!

He states:

“There are some who think that the only way we can truly understand our History and how the Lord has led us, is through an understanding of the 2520. Is this true?”

*‘I saw the necessity of the messengers, especially, watching and checking all fanaticism wherever they might see it rise. **Satan is pressing in on every side**, and unless we watch for him, and have our eyes open to his devices and snares, and have on the whole armor of God, the fiery darts of the wicked will hit us. There are many precious truths contained in the Word of God, but it is "**present truth**" that the flock needs now.*

*‘I have seen the danger of the messengers **running off from the important points of present truth, to dwell upon subjects that are not calculated to unite the flock and sanctify the soul.** Satan will here take every possible advantage to injure the cause.*

*‘But such subjects as the **sanctuary, in connection with the 2300 days, the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, are perfectly calculated to explain the past Advent movement and show what our present position is, establish the faith of the doubting, and give certainty to the glorious future.** These, I have frequently seen, were the **principal subjects on which the messengers should dwell.**’ {EW 63.0}*

*“This is such CLEAR LANGUAGE, there is no **mentioning** or **inferring** to the 2520, yet we are told that we can get a “**perfect**” understanding of the “**past**” Advent Movement and understand our “**present**” position and the “**glorious future**” through an understanding of the **2300 days.**”*

First of all, the quote that Bro. Lemon here references was written prior to August, 1850 in a booklet produced by James White entitled “A Sketch of the Christian Experience and Views of Ellen G. White”. This is very important to understand because in THAT history, just after the disappointment and during the time when Jesus was then opening His word to them to reveal what the “sanctuary” truly was, the correct understanding of the 2300 days WAS present truth. And it undeniably gives us understanding today as it is FOUNDATIONAL to Adventism!!!! It's ironic that this truth is embraced while the 2520 is set aside; even though it was neighbor to the 2300 days on the same chart that was “directed by the hand of the Lord”!

Friends, can you see what is happening? Just as the majority of Protestantism are embracing only nine of the commandments while rejecting the very truth that above all others will be their test; Adventism today is doing the very same thing. They will embrace only the truth's that men say are valid and ignore the clearest light that inspiration could give. They pick and choose which truth's upon the 1843 chart **they** will embrace; EVEN THOUGH we are told that the chart they reside upon was “directed by the hand of the Lord” and “nothing” was to be altered!

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And that the servant of God was STILL standing in them in 1903. They are not willing to see that the 2520 is also “FOUNDATIONAL”!

Concerning the 2300 being “*present truth*”, it would appear that bro. Lemon doesn’t realize that **each** generation will receive “*present truth*”. Truth is progressive! “But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth **more and more** unto the perfect day.” (Proverbs 4:18)

“The great error with churches in all ages has been to reach a certain point in their understanding of Bible truth and there stop. There they anchored. They ceased to ‘Go forward,’ as much as to say, ‘We have all-sufficient light. We need no more.’ And they refuse light.” {1888 *Materials*, 826.2}

Was the 2300 day prophecy present truth in 1888? No way! It was then righteousness by faith! Yes the 2300 day prophecy was “FOUNDATIONAL still, but it was not then considered present truth! Does the 2300 day prophecy still serve a purpose today? You bet! It, like the 2520, is a foundational truth that was taught and preached right alongside of the 2300 day prophecy. As we return to the “foundations” today (Isa. 58:12) we are to recognize where the teachings of men are contradicting the foundational truths upon the charts that are to never change and we are to re-align ourselves with the truth; the Rock of Ages! But Jeremiah warns us that Adventism at the end of the world will **not** walk in the old paths; the good way (Jer. 6:16)!

The 2520 is lifted up before God’s people today to serve as a prophetic marker signifying the impending shut door or close of probation for His people at the Sunday law testing time! Why do I say this? The word “*seven*” as found in Leviticus 26; where William Miller points us to in order to substantiate his claim, is the very same “*seven*” that is employed in Genesis 7:2 where we see the animals getting on the ark by “*sevens*” (*plural*) as a visual warning of the impending shut door or “close of probation”. Likewise, in the history of Belshazzar, we see that the handwriting on the wall was “*mene mene tekel upharsin*”. These words are also representative of weights that were employed in that history. These weights total 2520 gerahs!

Therefore the four words represented:

Mena:.....50 shekels

Mena:.....50 shekels

Tekel:.....1 shekel

Upharsin: 25 shekels

=126 shekels x 20 gerahs= 2520

Note: Each shekel can be divided into smaller units just as pounds can be divided into ounces. Because one shekel was equal to 20 gerahs we multiply 126 shekels times 20 gerahs and come up with **2520** gerahs.

We are licensed to consider these words as weights because the very language of the warning is that they had been “*weighed*” in the balances and had been found wanting.

God employed the 2520 or “*seven times*” to **warn** both Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar of an impending judgment against them if they did not humble themselves and repent. Belshazzar, like his grandfather Nebuchadnezzar, did not heed the warning even though he was an eyewitness to the *seven times* punishment poured out upon his grandfather for lifting himself up (Dan. 5:22). Belshazzar was therefore destroyed that very night!

The 2520 is simply a prophetic marker and/or tool that God employs today that you and I might be **warned** of an impending close of probation at the Sunday law for all of Adventism! Can you begin to see why Satan would go to such lengths to shut away this light?

Point 6:

Brother Lemon follows up this argument by again pointing us to Sister White's endorsement of Uriah Smith's book and then includes this quote concerning J.N. Loughborough's book:

*“The record of the experience through which the people of God passed in the early history of our work must be **republished**. Many of those who have since come into the truth are ignorant of the way in which the Lord wrought. The experience of **William Miller and his associates**, of Captain Joseph Bates, and of other pioneers in the Advent message, should be kept before our people. **Elder Loughborough's book should receive attention**. Our leading men should see what can be done for the **circulation of this book**.” {17MR 344.4}*

He then follows with this statement:

*“This was written in 1905, and Sister White was referring to the book **“The Great Second Advent Movement, it's Rise and Progress”** by **J.N. Loughborough**. This is a most excellent book!!!!!! Interestingly enough while this book gives an incredible account about William Miller and his associates and their teachings on the 2300 days prophecy, **he never mentions once in the entire book the 2520 prophecy**. Yet this book is endorsed like Uriah's Smith to give an accurate account of our past movement and more specifically the 2300 days prophecy. I would also recommend **J.N. Andrews** book **“The judgement, it's events and their order”** it is a most phenomenal explanation of the 2300 day prophecy using total scripture.”*

First be aware that this quote was not written in 1905 but rather in 1903. It was in 1905 that the book of Loughborough's was revised. But, if you are paying attention, you by now should be able to recognize one obvious condition in bro. Lemons reasoning: the only evidence that bro. Lemon offers you and I as to why the 2520 doesn't really exist as a valid time prophecy is because of a book that sister White endorses as being useful to God's people that happens to never mention the 2520 in it. That is NOT sound reasoning or an example of reasoning from cause to effect!

PLEASE NOTICE that in NONE of these statements where she is endorsing the authors' books does she in ANY WAY make the claims that are made concerning the 1843 and '50 charts. This is a dead end argument that proves absolutely NOTHING but instead reveals the shallow approach to understand what the truth for this time is and to become acquainted with the evidences presented by those defending the 2520!

Friends, this may seem a harsh claim, but please realize that souls are being turned away from the very light that God has chosen to employ that is to point us to our great need to put away sin and REPENT that our sins may be blotted out in the times of the refreshing (Acts 3:19)! Friend, that's going on RIGHT NOW!!!

Point 7:

Please notice bro. Lemons next point:

“One of the greatest reasons for individuals to advocate the 2520 is what appears to be it's accurate line up of prophetic events and the dates to go along with it. How accurate are these?”

“They gather together a mass of Scripture, and pile it as proof around their asserted theories. This has been done over and over again during the past fifty years.”
{CW 32}

*“Here, there were individuals who tried to disrupt the present light of the movement by compiling scripture upon scripture to prove their points. While I do not ascribe this direct quote to the 2520 movement, **there is a powerful principle that we must pay attention to.** “Just because many scriptures are used to make a point and they seem to “add up” does not automatically mean they are right.*

“Plausibility does not automatically mean reality. Simply because dates add up does not mean they are to be received as Prophetic Inspiration. The Bible is clear that there is a way that seems right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. Proverbs 14:12/16:25. There are scriptures that are hard to be understood and can be wrested. 2nd Peter 3:16”

Brother Lemon is here reminding us that men may “pile up scripture”, but that is not sufficient evidence that they are correct in their conclusions. I agree. So then my immediate question for bro. Lemon is this: has he ever considered or handled ANY or ALL of the scriptural evidences that bro. Miller set forth to PROVE the validity of the 2520 FROM SCRIPTURE as there was no Sister White to comment back then? I’m convinced that he has never considered the biblical PROOF that Miller, whom the prophet of the Lord makes very clear was led by His angel and other angels, put forth as evidence which Christendom at that time was incapable of countering theologically and as a result many were led to embrace his conclusion!!!

*“God sent **His angel** to move upon the heart of a farmer who had not believed the Bible, **to lead him** to search the prophecies. Angels of God repeatedly visited that chosen one, to guide his mind and open to his understanding prophecies which had ever been dark to God's people. The commencement of the chain of truth was given to him, and **he was led** on to search for link after link, until he looked with wonder and admiration upon the Word of God. He saw there a perfect chain of truth.” {Early Writings, 229.1}*

VERY IMPORTANT!!!! HOW TO REASON FROM CAUSE TO EFFECT!!!!

1. Sister White endorsed the 1843 and 1850 charts as being brought into existence by the “*hand of the Lord*” and that **nothing** was to be altered... NOTHING; except by inspiration. We have shown that bro. Lemon harbors ERRONEOUS convictions without evidence when he expresses that the arm of flesh is qualified to change the chart.
2. The 2520 is drawn upon the 1843 chart in three places whereas the 2300 day prophecy is shown only once. The 2520 is present truth. “**All** the messages given from **1840-1844** are to **be made forcible now, for there are many people who have lost their bearings.** The messages are to go to all of the churches.” -- *Manuscript Release Vol. 21, 437.1*
3. There were over three-hundred charts printed and employed by Millerite preachers teaching from the same truths.

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4. Not only did Sister White endorse the truths upon the charts, of which the 2520 is included among, but she also reveals that the prophetic evidences that Miller set forth were the result of God's angel and other angels leading his mind.
5. Therefore the VERY FIRST OBSTACLE for bro. Lemon is to refute the Biblical evidences that Miller, led by God's angels, set forth as the reason for the 2520 being considered a VALID time prophecy; but he has apparently not attempted to tackle that as of yet. Instead, to cover this shortcoming, he would rather point us to quotes that are not implying what **he** is.
6. He now has the responsibility of showing that Miller's arguments for the 2520 are invalid at a scriptural level; because he was led to his conclusions with scripture alone.
7. Bro. Lemon repeatedly points us to Sister White's statements that are wrested to say what he desires them to say but I have not seen ANY SCRIPTURAL evidence to support his erroneous conclusions. Why is that? Shouldn't there be plenty of Biblical evidence to support his theory IF IT IS TRUTH???

Brother Lemon quotes Sister White and then extracts things that are NOT THERE! He reaches past the OBVIOUS and CLEAR statements to hone in on an obscure and erroneous conclusion; all in an effort to set unmistakable darkness before God's people. He is not exercising sound reasoning in his conclusions. Allow me to give you an example of how bro. Lemon is not reasoning from cause to effect:

He states that the angel of God or "God's angel" in Early Writings, 229 that led William Miller could not have been Gabriel as implied in the following quote from "*Desire of Ages*", 99:

"The words of the angel, 'I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God,' show that he holds a position of high honor in the heavenly courts. When he came with a message to Daniel, he said, 'There is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael [Christ] your Prince.' Daniel 10:21. Of **Gabriel** the Saviour speaks in the Revelation, saying that 'He sent and signified it by **His angel** unto His servant John.' Revelation 1:1."

PLEASE take notice of his reasoning:

*"This statement could not be true. If it was Gabriel that came to William Miller as the writer here proposes and brought forth revelations to him **in the same vain as Daniel and John**, then we must conclude that William Miller had the **Spirit or Gift of Prophecy**. For Revelation 1:1 & 2. Directly connected with the "Revelations" that Gabriel brought, the Bible Calls it the Testimony of Jesus which is the **Spirit of Prophecy**, which is given to the Prophets. **Revelation 12:17/19:10/22:9**"*

Bro. Lemon here concludes that because William Miller was led to the prophecies by Gabriel that he by default was to receive the Spirit of Prophecy! Wow! First of all he is ADDING implications not suggested by the statement. The quote SIMPLY says "*God sent His **angel** to **move upon the heart** of a farmer who had not believed the Bible, **to lead him to search** the prophecies.*" This is a very obvious example of how bro. Lemon wrests the SOP quotes; by implying something that is not there or inferred by the one using it.

Now notice his further reasoning. This gets interesting:

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“It is a fact that the Spirit of Prophecy was not active during the time of William Millers Preaching. For to have the Spirit of Prophecy you must also have THE LAW!!!! Notice:

*Prov. 29:18 ¶ Where there is no **vision**, the people perish: but he that keepeth **the law**, happy is he.*

*Lam. 2:9 Her gates are sunk into the ground; he hath destroyed and broken her bars: her king and her princes are among the Gentiles: the **law is no more**; her prophets also find **no vision** from the LORD.”*

Brother Lemon would have us believe “that the Spirit of Prophecy was not active during the time of William Millers preaching” because they didn’t have “the Law”.

Friends, when did Sister White have her first vision? December 1844!!! And WHEN did she discover the Sabbath? Well AFTER December 1844!!! Maybe the next thing he would ask us to consider is that she wasn’t really inspired until they officially embraced the Sabbath?

Also, his scripture quotes in NO WAY say that you have to have the law in order to have the Spirit of Prophecy! The verse simply says that if you DO have the law you are “happy”!

This was his conclusion that he always feels is “clearly” visible:

“Clearly we can see that the Spirit of Prophecy which Revelation 1:1 & 2 is where we find the working of Gabriel to bring the “visions” to God’s Prophets could not even take place until once again the people were honoring God’s Holy Law. As we all know William Miller (though ignorantly) did not honor God’s Law.”

Friends this is just yet more evidence that bro. Lemon has not responded to the challenge to rightly divide the word of God nor to reason from cause to effect. If we are to take these conclusions seriously we are entitled to REAL evidence and not the suppositions and the haphazard assembling of and interpretation of SOP quotes in order to prop up his erroneous position.

Bro. Lemon states:

“We should not make Brother Miller more than what he was. A sincere student of the scripture, who burned with a love for God and His truth and shared it relentlessly with everyone he could come in contact with.”

Friends, he clearly ignores the PLAIN utterances of God’s Spirit. William Miller was MORE than just another passionate farmer as bro. Lemon would suggest:

*“God sent **His angel** to move upon the heart of a farmer who had not believed the Bible, to lead him to search the prophecies. Angels of God repeatedly visited **that chosen one**, to guide his mind and open to his understanding prophecies which had ever been dark to God's people. The commencement of the chain of truth was given to him, and he was led on to search for link after link, until he looked with wonder and admiration upon the Word of God. He saw there a perfect chain of truth.” {Early Writings, 229.1}*

Point 7:

Bro. Lemon concludes:

“In summary, based on the several references from both the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, I am convinced there is no substantiation for a 2,520 year prophecy in Leviticus 26.”

I marvel that he can make this claim when he has not addressed ONE **biblical** argument concerning the 2520 as set forth by the man whose mind was led by Gabriel!!!! What kind of darkness is that?

“I conclude by reminding us that we are called to ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the Latter rain Zechariah 10:1, and the rain is clearly represented by the Holy Spirit, Isaiah 44:3, and we are promised that we can receive Him if we ask Luke 11:13.”

In his final thought he reveals that he is not aware of WHAT the latter rain is. He feels that it is simply the Holy Spirit. But what does God say? He tells us that the latter rain is messages attended by the **power** of his Holy Spirit:

(Deuteronomy 32:1-2) Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. My **doctrine** shall drop as the **rain**, my **speech** shall distil as the **dew**, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass:

(Isa 55:10) For **as the rain cometh down**, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: **So shall my word be** that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

“To John [the revelator] were opened scenes of deep and thrilling interest in the experience of the church. He saw the position, dangers, conflicts, and final deliverance of the people of God. He records **the closing messages which are to ripen the harvest of the earth**, either as sheaves for the heavenly garner or as fagots for the fires of destruction. Subjects of vast importance were revealed to him, especially for the last church, that those who should turn from error to truth might be instructed concerning the perils and conflicts before them. **None need be in darkness in regard to what is coming upon the earth.**”-- GC 341

“The anointed ones standing by the Lord of the whole earth, have the position once given to Satan as covering cherub. By the holy beings surrounding his throne, the Lord keeps up **a constant communication** with the inhabitants of the earth.

“The golden oil represents the grace with which God keeps the lamps of believers supplied, that they shall not flicker and go out. Were it not that this holy oil is poured from heaven **in the messages of God's Spirit**, the agencies of evil would have entire control over men. **“God is dishonored when we do not receive the communications which he sends us. Thus we refuse the golden oil** which he would pour into our souls to be communicated to those in darkness.

-Children of Light-

“When the call shall come, ‘Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him,’ those who have not received the **holy oil**, who have not cherished **the grace** of Christ in their hearts, will find, like the foolish virgins, that they are not ready to meet their Lord. They have not, in themselves, the power to obtain the oil, and their lives are wrecked.”
{*Review and Herald, July 20, 1897 par. 7*}

Dear reader, please believe me when I say that I have nothing personally against the brother who wrote the original document now under consideration. I do not wish to convey in the process of responding to this article that I do. We **must** realize that here at the end of the world Jesus gives us a very clear warning: “take heed that ye be not deceived” (Luke 21:8). Why is this relevant to us today? Because in John 17:3 we discover that eternal life is contingent upon us “knowing Jesus Christ” who is the Word; or Truth!

We must discover for ourselves what IS truth or we are LOST! When considering the subject of the 2520 we have to look at the clearest testimony given and prayerfully trust that the Spirit of Truth will steer us clear of any and all deceptions that the enemy may place in our pathway.

“The word of God is plain to all who study it with a prayerful heart. Every **truly honest soul will** come to the light of truth. ‘Light is sown for the righteous.’ Psalm 97:11. And no church can advance in holiness unless its members are earnestly seeking for truth as for hid treasure. {GC 521.3}

There have been plenty of evidences set forth at this point to completely remove the erroneous foundation upon which the writer of the original document had been building. We need not walk in darkness! We are called to walk in the light!

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But **if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.** (1John 1:5-7)

Friends, light is ever advancing; growing brighter and brighter, and if we are not walking in the light as Jesus is in the light, then we ARE walking in darkness AND the blood of Jesus does NOT cleanse us from all unrighteousness! I’d say that was a pretty hard but important statement!

It is my intention to send this article to the author of the document; brother Dwayne Lemon and pray that he will consider the facts presented here and I invite you to do the same as Christ has commanded us to be individual students of prophecy! I do not set these truths before you without inviting you to test what I have concluded as well.

“Whatever may be man's intellectual advancement, let him not for a moment think that there is no need of **thorough and continuous searching of the Scriptures for greater light.** As a people, we are called individually to be students of prophecy. We must watch with earnestness that we may discern **any ray of light** which God shall present to us. We are to catch the first gleamings of truth; and **through prayerful study**, clearer light may be obtained, **which can be brought before others.**” -- {*Counsels to Writers and Editors, 41.1*}

His warmest blessings,

Wesley E. Smith Jr.

Update:

When I initially wrote this article on the 12th of February, 2012, I felt that it would be only proper to allow Brother Lemon an opportunity to defend his position and so I forwarded a copy of what you hold in your hands to him. His initial response to me was not very kind but after a brief dialogue by email, he became civil and friendly. He then assured me that he would write a response shortly and so I withheld this document from the public and those who had requested that I write it until I had had an opportunity to consider his remarks and further evidences. After approximately 3-4 months and not having received a response, I sent the article out.

As of now, January 2014, I still have not received a response to this article by Brother Lemon as he promised me that he would.