

Dear Bro. Himes, I must confess I am pained at heart, to see the battle we are now in, we are now after having silenced our common enemy, the opposers of the cause, who are now acting a wiser part of valour than formerly, by leaving the ground, and cease to contend with us, retreating behind their own dignity, "For he who fights, and runs away,

"Will live to fight another day." Hudibras

That we should now turn our weapons against each other, every paper which has come into my hands recently is full of fight, and that too against our friends. Oh! My God, is there too many adventurists in our ranks, must half or two thirds of this little band be killed off? God forbid. How can I bear to see such havoc among the dear souls who love and look for Christ. Stop, I beg of you stop. The dear Editors can do much in stopping this seeming controversy, and everlasting controversy too, which can never in this world be settled to the satisfaction of all parties, you are the organs through whom we communicate our thoughts one to another. Our true situation actually calls for an interchange of thought and opinion, the lambs want milk. Many of us, and in this case, I know I ought to say we may write some foolish things of which by and by we may be ashamed. Very well you suppress it, that is your duty, and when by and by comes, and we see our folly, which we most assuredly shall in nine cases out of ten if we have eyes. We shall then love our Editors better and better. Let nothing personal go into your papers in a hurry. Let no piece write with a spirit to find fault with any brother find a corner there.

A Three years address, to those who believe

in the second advent of Jesus Christ.

Brethren, The Roman 1843 is fast, and our hopes are not realized, shall we give up the ship? No. No, we think I hear responding from every one on board. But why not the land lubber says our reasoning has run out? And you see that yonder ships on our lee are now feasting and drinking rejoicing at the failure of our log book. Yes, yes says the pilot. They have kept no reasoning, and they desire no port, therefore, are they scoffing, they do not see the signs of land which is puffing our noble ship on every wave, they heed not the land breeze which make our sails fill, and gives hope to the sailor's breast that he will soon be anchored in the broad bay of the new heavens, and the new earth. We do not yet believe our reasoning has run out, It takes all of 457 and 1843 to make 2300, and must of course run as far into 44 as it began in the year 457 before Christ. Why should we give up our good ship "second advent," and return unto the old fables, and traditions of men, they have deceived us long enough, by their promises to convert the world, and the world has waxed worse and worse. "Give us money," say they, "and we will convert all men to the protestant faith." But what is the result, we can all see, the sects are becoming more proud and haughty, tyrannical and overbearing, see their missionary rooms are palaces for nabobs, their meeting houses are cushioned, and carpeted, as lounging places for the rich, the poor are shut out.

6. I think I am prepared to view the worlds better, and am confident I cannot view more if time should last. Brethren we cannot be far from right. The oath of Jesus Christ has proclaimed the end, the time, times and a half have been fulfilled but you are a doubt, the seven times must be filled up this year. The 2300 days will be completed at the ^{end} of this Jewish year. The 2000 years of Roman supremacy will end this year. The seventh trump must begin to sound this year, and the mystery of God will be finished. "time shall be no longer." Soon, Daniel will stand in his lot, the saints will inherit the new heavens and new earth. The voice from the throne will declare, "Behold I make all things new," and then ~~the~~ heavens and earth shall ring with the loud response "it is done." The question arises in our minds, shall we be there? I answer, if we have believed the record God has given of his Son, and if that faith has purified our hearts, and made us love his word, his law, and practice his commands, then have we evidence, that Jesus Christ is formed within the hope of glory. What need we more to wait for his Son to be revealed from heaven, to look and watch for his return, to love, and hope, and pray thy kingdom come? By faith we do enjoy all that we have and are, and this our substance, until we enter to the world to ~~the~~ come, and in fruition swallowed up in joy eternal, shall bask in glory with our God and savior while endless eyes roll the stream along, of the unmeasured sea of boundless eternity. Why should we shrink at what we suffer here, it is a mote a moiety of being, a shadow of a branch, a wind that wafts us onward

Let our strife for mastery, serve to draw us from the blessed hope. Neither ought we to be so tenacious of our views, as not to be willing that others may give theirs when brotherly love and kind language is used. We are all I hope in search after light, and this is praise worthy. Then let us comfort and console each other, rather than to sit and perplex. It would be remarkable if there were no discordant views among us, for there is no sect or church under the whole heaven, where men enjoy religious freedom or liberty, but there will be various opinions, and our great men, leaders, and religious demagogues have long since discovered, and therefore come creeds, Bishops and Popes. We must then, either let our brethren have the freedom of thought, opinion and speech, or we must resort to creeds and formulas. Bishops and Popes, or at least to councils convened and governed by the popular will of the corrupted community. I see no other alternative while we are in this state of things, we have to let the light of God's ^{word} shine in the darkness, or we must establish a light of our own, which will only make darkness more visible and wastefully draws men in perdition. God have mercy on us, and send Jesus Christ who is our light to restore all things. Do I beseech of you my brother, let all speak, that use proper and affectionate language, and especially those who pretend to have bible for what they believe, have we not blamed the sects and churches, for shutting their eyes, ears, doors, pulpits and presses against this light. And shall we become as one of them?

Hampton March 27. 1832

Dear Bro and Sister,

I have seated myself to write a few lines to you to inform you that, God in infinite mercy is sparing some of our lives, while he is taking some of our dear relatives to himself. Electa Nobles my Wifes sister died in Nov^r last, Paulina Bosworth our Sister died on the 25th of instant March and was buried yesterday, she has been sick a long time. and finally died with the dropsy in the head. Electa died with the influenza. so you see we are all going to our long home, and soon it will be said of us they are gone to their final home. and shortly too we shall all meet in the world of spirits. Oh! how swift - surely, we have our work done, and will do. "For the night cometh wherein no man can work". The rest of our friends are all well, as comon except Bellone she is very unwell, and I am verry confident she will never be any better, Mothers health is better this winter, than it has been for some time since, they all join in sending their love to you, and to all that may enquire, in especial manner Emily the old maid. I have nothing more of Deaths to relate to you. but I expect that we shall soon have a great many more, for if I am correct we must soon expect pestilence, War, and famine to fill up the measure of the wrath of God on an ungodly world. Soon my dear Bro & Sister we may expect that the Prince of peace, Immanuel will stand up, which standeth for the children of thy people, and "there will be a time of trouble such as there never was even to that same time". Danl. 12: 1st I wish you would write as soon as you receive this. we are anxious to hear from you, and your family. How Don grows, & Wm if he is alive, and the rest of your children if you have any more. Tell us whether Emily has got married or not? whether she has become established in the doctrines of the gospel or not? Tell us if Mr. French has taken wife yet or not? where he lives, where Amos Bean is, Seymour Riasford how he gets along in the world. I think you told us that May and Eliza were married and Henny A. Smith can she make a pudding yet? let us hear from Anira, Matilda, Sally R. Sally N. Almudia. I feel anxious to hear from Deacon Abbott and his family. Give my love and respects to all of the above

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named persons, and all others who may enquire for our welfare. You will please to remember me in a particular manner to your friend Sister Tell Anna she must write to me in a special manner how the Baptist Church prospers in your place, and who preaches with them now. Tell Anna to hold on by faith and obedience (a few years more) to the Lord Jesus Christ, and her faith will be swallowed up in fruition, and her obedience ^{will} reward. I told you Anna, when you was here that Christ would come in the year A. D. 1843.

I now tell you that I am more and more, convinced of its truth. I have lectured on it, in a number of places this winter and many people believe that the calculation is right some are afraid of it and others will not believe. But among them all it makes a great deal of talk some say Edg^r Miller is crazy, others that he is a fool: and ~~they~~ neither of them are wide from the truth. But Br Joseph and Sister Anna will say we wish Mr Bill would let that subject alone. We do not want to hear so much about Christ's second coming, the end of the world, the judgment day, and the destruction of the wicked, he knows no more about it than the man in the moon: and so say I. But the Bible tells us, and we shall see that will never fail. You will see within a few weeks some numbers in the N. Telegraph in a few weeks signed W. M. read and then judge. if it is not printed in the paper, I will send you it, in pamphlet form I think it will be printed at any rate.

I want to know if Atwood is a universalist, y^t and if so whether he can tell me who there be that are partakers of the second death - and what the second death is. You will find the description of them in Rev. 20 Chapt^r and Verse of 21st Chapt^r. Be sure you are not deceived Mr Joseph for the time is shortly coming that will try every mans work whether it be good or evil: and if you love the Lord Jesus show your love by believing his word, and being reconciled to his word and will. How little love to Christ do we show when we are unreconciled to his justice, his word, or the righteous judgment of God on the final impenitent.

Yes W^r: it is not contrary to the carnal mind of man
 to be happy if we can be happy in our own way;
 neither should we be very angry with God if he
 made all others so; if we thought that was the
 only hope for us. But if the Universalist could
 contrive any plan, that would be plausible
 to save themselves, and condemn the Calvinist
 or those who preach endless misery, their actions
^{show that} ~~show~~ they would do it quickly. Or why do they
 rail at those Christians who preach as Christ did,
 "Except a man is born again he can not see the
 kingdom of God." "And these shall go away into ever-
 -lasting punishment." Why do they oppose those meet-
 -ings where souls are brought to cry out as in the
 days of the Apostles, "Men and Brethren what shall
 we do to be saved." Did you ever hear such a
 cry in a Universal meeting, where Brethren and
 Sisters were all together in prayer with one ac-
 -cord praying, and agonizing for the souls of their
 brethren according to the flesh? NO! Do you think
 they are fools W^r Bill, you know they do not
 believe in Damnation, they preach all men
 will be saved. Ah, ha! what fools the Apostles
 were; if they had preached thus, they would
 saved many a bitter cry. and Father Paul might
 have saved himself many a bitter groan for
 to save his kinsmen according to the flesh, even
 so much as to wish himself accused from
 Christ for their sakes; I really wish (if it is true
 that all men will be saved) that Paul had
 known it before he made that expression:
 or that he might save "some" — when he might
 have said that he had the promise of God that
 "all" would be saved. Paul must have been
 as crazy as W^r Bill. Oh, how many long arguments
 it would have saved, how many twisting of
 teeth, and windings and turnings. if Paul, Peter,
 John, Matthew, Mark, Luke, Jude, and even
 Christ had not said any thing about two classes
 of mankind in a future state, & nothing about
 punishment being everlasting. but the Universalist
 it is wiser than all these now a days, for
 they do not preach so now. do they (Joseph)

You must not fail to write to me as soon as you receive this, and give us a good long family letter. Eleanor as at my house on a visit now, and wishes to be remembered to you all, Bellona wishes the same, We have an Anna here, Mother Miller every time she comes to my house, makes George dress up in Bellona's clothes and says, Amakus come bodily, so we can see you Anna any time. It is true he looks, speaks, and acts like Anna. I must come to a close by subscribing myself
 your friend and Brother
 Joseph and Anna Atwood
 Mrs Miller

Jan 16 1843
 At 7 1/2

Joseph Atwood Esq
 Bolton Lower Canada

via Derby Ct



Low Hampton Oct. 31. 1846

Dear Bro. Wiggins, your letter of Sept. 3^d came here in my absence from home. I have been a tour of 8 weeks into Cambridge East, and arrived home on the 29th inst. This is my apology for not answering your letter sooner. Your letter asks for mine opinion whether, the sun has been darkened and the moon turned to blood &c? You may be aware that Adventists have two ways of explaining these passages. One figurative, the other literal, my opinion is that it is to be understood in a figurative sense. The sun means the bible which is our moral light. The moon means the church which receives her light from the bible, and which ought to set her light on a candlestick to give light in this night of moral darkness, the sun being darkened, means the same the same as the two witnesses clothed in sackcloth 1260 years by the civil and ecclesiastical power of Papacy during the dark ages as it is called, which ended some where in the beginning of this century, and that sign was completed. The moon turning to blood, was fulfilled by the persecution of the church the same time by the same power, more than 53 millions suffering martyrdom in 1260 years. The stars falling was the ministers falling into the errors of Papacy and abominations of the whole earth deceiving the people by fables and false doctrine. if it is figurative then the signs are completed without a shadow of a doubt. But if we are to understand them literal then the dark day in 1780 was a literal fulfillment, at the same time the moon became as blood and gave no light at the set its full. The stars fell in 1833, as many can testify. And when these events happened the general impression was they were signs of the judgment day. Strong circumstantial evidence that they were true signs.