

**COME  
TO THE  
MARRIAGE**

*The judgment scene teaches that man comes to judgment still defective in character because of the inherited tendencies to sin. Because of this condition he must trust in the substitutionary righteousness of Christ placed to his account at the judgment.*

*The blotting out of sin removes the inherited tendencies in order that man may live without a substitute. This work of character perfection must be done while Jesus is in the most holy place, not at the second coming.*

## Chapter 8

### THE BLOTTING OUT OF SIN

As Presented by DANIEL

In studying the Day of Atonement ceremony it can be demonstrated that this service teaches us how and when God will bring us to perfection. The finishing of the work that God started at conversion is completed in the yearly service. In the previous chapters it was discovered that conversion was a change of nature. Hereditary tendencies to evil were changed. The new heart is a change of desires. The old habits have a desire for self. Conversion changes these desires for self and gives new desires. These new desires are unselfish and create a tendency toward unselfishness.

It was discovered that these hereditary tendencies are what give a Christian a defective character. God says that we need not retain one sinful propensity. This section will attempt to demonstrate that the ministry of Christ in the most holy place finishes the removal of these sinful propensities. This work was started at conversion and will be finished at the final atonement.

**"Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed." Daniel 8:14**

The above text is a distinctive Seventh-day Adventist text. The sanctuary message is our special message to the world. This is the text and message that started our church and sets us apart. This cleansing of the sanctuary is pictured in other places besides Daniel 8:14.

**"The coming of Christ as our high priest to the most holy place, for the cleansing of the sanctuary, brought to view in Daniel 8:14; the coming of the Son of man to the Ancient of Days, as presented in Daniel 7:13; and the coming of the Lord to His temple, foretold by Malachi, are descriptions of the same event; and this is also represented by the coming of the bridegroom to the marriage, described by Christ in the parable of the ten virgins, of Matthew 25." GC 426**

**"In the parable of Matthew 22 the same figure of the marriage is introduced..." GC 428**

This is a very helpful passage because it gives us five different reference points. Daniel 8:14 can be studied and then the findings compared with each of the other texts that were mentioned. Since they are all descriptions of the same event, our conclusions should all tell the same story. As the following statement is read notice carefully what the actual cleansing of the sanctuary is. Also notice the relationship of the investigative judgment to the cleansing of the sanctuary.

**"As anciently the sins of the people were by faith placed upon the sin offering and through its blood transferred, in figure, to the earthly sanctuary, so in the new covenant the sins of the repentant are by faith placed upon Christ and transferred, in fact, to the heavenly sanctuary. And as the typical cleansing of the earthly was accomplished by the**

removal of the sins by which it had been polluted, so the actual cleansing of the heavenly is to be accomplished by the removal, or blotting out, of the sins which are there recorded. But before this can be accomplished, there must be an examination of the books of record to determine who, through repentance of sin and faith in Christ, are entitled to the benefits of His atonement. The cleansing of the sanctuary therefore involves a work of investigation - a work of judgment." GC 421, 422

From the above quote we would like to note that the cleansing of the sanctuary consists of two parts:

1. The investigative judgment.
2. The blotting out of sin.

The investigative judgment is followed by the actual cleansing of the sanctuary, or the blotting out of sin; and the blotting out of sin is a benefit to us. The blotting out of sin is the final atonement.

Let us start an illustration below to demonstrate the work done for the individual.

|            | <i>Step 1</i> | <i>Step 2</i>                                | <i>Step 3</i>       |
|------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|
|            | <b>DAILY</b>  | <b>YEARLY<br/>Cleansing of the Sanctuary</b> |                     |
| GC 421,422 |               | Investigative judgment                       | Blotting out of sin |

In reviewing the daily service, the following quotation makes it clear that the daily service does not make a full atonement. If a full atonement is made by the daily service, what need would there be for a yearly service?

"Important truths concerning the atonement were taught the people by this yearly service. In the sin offerings presented during the year, a substitute had been accepted in the sinner's stead; but the blood of the victim had not made full atonement for the sin. It had only provided a means by which the sin was transferred to the sanctuary." PP 355, 356

"Man may grow up into Christ, his living head. It is not the work of a moment, but that of a lifetime. By growing daily in the divine life, he will not attain to the full stature of a perfect man in Christ until his probation ceases." 4T 367

These quotations may be added to the following illustration. The steps show the order of sequence for the individual.

The symbolism of the sanctuary taught that the daily service does not make a full atonement. One can understand that the symbolism employed refers to the Christian walk because it also states that by growing daily the Christian will not attain to perfection until his probation ceases. That would be when his name comes up in judgment.

**"Now he (Satan in the investigative judgment) points to the record of their lives, to the defects of character,. . ." GC 484**

|            | <i>Step 1</i>                                                  | <i>Step 2</i>                                                    | <i>Step 3</i>       |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
|            | <b>DAILY</b>                                                   | <b>YEARLY<br/>Cleansing of the Sanctuary</b>                     |                     |
| GC 421,422 |                                                                | Investigative judgment                                           | Blotting out of sin |
| PP 355,356 | Righteous by substitution<br>Did NOT make full atone-<br>ment. |                                                                  |                     |
| 4T 367     | Daily growth did not<br>attain to perfection.                  |                                                                  |                     |
| GC 483,484 |                                                                | Satan points to the<br>defective character - to<br>their record. |                     |

As we summarize the above, it is clear that the daily service does not make a full atonement. It does not bring to perfection. Therefore it is logical that Satan, in the investigative judgment for the individual, can point to the defective character of that individual. It clearly states in 4T 367 that, "He will not attain to the full statue of a perfect man in Christ until his probation ceases." Man's probation ceases when his name comes up in judgment and Satan points to his defective character. What makes his character defective? The previous statement in GC 483, 484 states that Satan points to the record of their lives. Notice the same idea below. The daily service did not remove the sin. It is important to remember that the record book is a perfect photograph of character. The sin on record tells us it remains in man as well. The confessed sins cleanses us from the guilt, but the defect remains. It is because of this defectiveness that man needs a mediator.

**"As Christ at His ascension appeared in the presence of God to plead His blood in behalf of penitent believers, so the priest in the daily ministration sprinkled the blood of the sacrifice in the holy place in the sinner's behalf.**

**"The blood of Christ, while it was to release the repentant sinner from the condemnation of the law, was not to**

**cancel the sin; it would stand on record in the sanctuary until the final atonement; so in type the blood of the sin offering removed the sin from the penitent, but it rested in the sanctuary until the Day of Atonement." PP 357**

From the above quotation the reason why the daily service did not make a full atonement may be seen. The sinner was released from the condemnation or guilt of sin but the sin was not cancelled; it stood on record in the sanctuary until the final atonement. The record of sin is a perfect photograph of the individual's character. The record is not the actual sin, it is only a record. The actual sin is in the individual himself. This is made very plain by these following quotes.

**"Will you consider that the harboring of a polluted thought, the formation of a bad, selfish habit, which debases your own soul and ruins others, is a blot upon that record that will one day appear against you? Can you afford this?" RH 11/04/1884**

**"But suffer not a blot to tarnish your Christian character. Never, never for the sake of gain stamp your life record in heaven, which is viewed by all the angelic host, and by your self-denying Redeemer, with avarice, penuriousness, selfishness, or false dealing." 2T 72**

The sin that stood on record in the heavenly sanctuary is referred to as blots. Notice carefully that the blots were the formation of bad selfish habits. These habits are polluted thought patterns that compose character. Man can overcome the habitual thought patterns, but they still remain. They remain in the individual and on the record books. These blots or habit patterns are what give the tendency to sin. If man is to have perfection of character, the blots must be removed.

**"In the great day of final award, the dead are to be 'judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.' Rev 20:12. Then by virtue of the atoning blood of Christ, the sins of all the truly penitent will be blotted from the books of heaven. Thus the sanctuary will be freed, or cleansed, from the record of sin. In the type, this great work of atonement, or blotting out of sins, was represented by the services on the Day of Atonement -- the cleansing of the earthly sanctuary, which was accomplished by the removal, by virtue of the blood of the sin offering, of the sins by which it had been polluted.**

**"As in the final atonement the sins of the truly penitent are to be blotted from the records of heaven, no more to be remembered or come into mind, so in the type they were borne away into the wilderness, forever separated from the congregation." PP 357, 358**

"The righteous will not cease their earnest agonizing cries for deliverance. They cannot bring to mind any particular sins, but in their whole life they can see but little good. Their sins had gone beforehand to judgment, and pardon had been written. Their sins had been borne away into the land of forgetfulness, and they could not bring them to remembrance." 3 SG 135

Also notice that this blotting out of sin is called, "This great work of atonement, or blotting out of sin..."

The above statements clearly say that the blots are removed from our mind as well as the record books. They are borne away into the land of forgetfulness.

|              | <i>Step 1</i>                                                                                                       | <i>Step 2</i>                                                     | <i>Step 3</i>                                  |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
|              | DAILY                                                                                                               | YEARLY<br>Cleansing of the Sanctuary                              |                                                |
| GC 421,422   | Righteous by substitution<br>Did NOT make full atone-<br>ment.<br><br>Daily growth did not<br>attain to perfection. | Investigative judgment                                            | Blotting out of sin                            |
| PP 355,356   |                                                                                                                     |                                                                   |                                                |
| 4T 367       |                                                                                                                     |                                                                   |                                                |
| GC 483,484   |                                                                                                                     | Satan points to the<br>defective characters - to<br>their record. |                                                |
| PP 357       |                                                                                                                     | Sin stood on record until<br>the final atonement                  |                                                |
| RH 11/4/1884 |                                                                                                                     | Blots on record (habits,<br>tendencies)                           |                                                |
| PP 357,358   |                                                                                                                     |                                                                   | Final atonement<br>No more to be<br>remembered |
| 3SG 135      |                                                                                                                     |                                                                   | Borne into land of<br>forgetfulness            |

When step 3 is finished we are prepared to live without a mediator. Righteousness by substitution is no longer available.

Previous studies have shown that the blots were defects, and that the hereditary tendencies to sin were part of the character. If they are part of the character then they must

be removed if one is to have a perfect character. It also has been shown that the blots were selfish habitual thought patterns. These old habits, which form character, give us a tendency to wrong.

**"Old habits, hereditary tendencies to wrong, will strive for the mastery,..." AA 477**

If the blots are old habits that give a tendency to sin, then a blotting out of sin would remove the hereditary tendencies to sin. At conversion God gives new desires. A new character, made up of habitual thought patterns with a desire for unselfishness, is formed. This gives new tendencies. But the old habits with a desire for self are still there. God gives victory over them, but because they remain, man still has selfish tendencies to battle with. This inherited selfishness is being cut away during the Christian walk. The blotting out of sin is the finishing of this work of conversion. The same concept may be observed from the following aspect.

**"The result of the eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil is manifest in every man's experience. There is in his nature a bent to evil, a force which unaided, he cannot resist." Ed 29**

A knowledge of evil gave man a bent to sin. A bent to sin is by definition the same as the hereditary tendencies to sin. In the final atonement, our sins are borne away into the land of forgetfulness, no more to be remembered or come into mind. The expression, 'borne away into the land of forgetfulness', is another way of saying that man forgets sin. If knowing evil gave man a bent to sin, than forgetting evil would do the opposite - remove the bent to sin. Therefore the hereditary tendencies would be no more. The term 'final atonement', suggest perfection. The last work of perfecting character is the removal of the hereditary tendencies from the Christian's character and this would restore man to the perfection that Adam had before he fell. Removing the sinful propensities would cause us to have reached a condition described in the statements below.

**"Those only who through faith in Christ obey all of God's commandments will reach the condition of sinlessness in which Adam lived before his transgression. They testify to their love of Christ by obeying all of His precepts." 6BC 1118**

**"We need not retain one sinful propensity. . . As we partake of the divine nature, hereditary and cultivated tendencies to wrong are cut away from the character,..." 7BC 943**

Therefore our natures would be pure and holy as it pertains to character. Our physical natures remain unholy until the second advent.