



Jasper, Oregon • July 3-7, 2007

Opening Meeting, July 3, 6:45 pm
All day July 4-7

NOW HIRING

Light Bearers is accepting resumés for the position of Administrative Secretary (Job description available upon request).

Resumés may be submitted to Don Otis by email, Donald.Otis@Kellogg.com, or sent to Light Bearers Ministry, 37457 Jasper Lowell Rd., Jasper, Oregon 97438.

... *Divine Foreknowledge* continued from page 3

held accountable for their actions and called upon to repent of sin and obey the gospel (Gen. 3:11-13; Isa. 1:2-6, 16-20; Acts 3:26). While God eternally knows in advance exactly all the specific choices we will make, He does not determine those choices. God knows what we will do in every case and at the same time we are free to do otherwise than He knew we would do. But then, of course, He knew that as well. The fact that God knows what our choices will be does not dictate what our choices will be. Divine foreknowledge is not determinative, but it is exhaustive and complete.

We can be certain that God knows every detail of the future without determining it, and equally certain that we are absolutely free to do as we choose without ever catching God by surprise. What comfort we can take, then, in knowing that the great "I Am" presides over every day of our lives to make advanced provisions to meet our every need, to make a way of escape from every temptation, to insure that every opportunity imaginable will be arranged for our eternal wellbeing! He does not determine our suffering, but He does know what's coming our way as a result of our own free choices and those of others, and He is able with infinite wisdom to guide us safely through.

*All Scriptures quoted are from the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.

Events Schedule

- **June 2**
Springfield SDA Church, OR
James Rafferty—☎(541)746-8263
- **June 2-3**
Auburn Adventist Academy Graduation, WA
Ty Gibson—☎(253)939-5000
- **June 8-9**
Battle Creek Tabernacle SDA Church, MI
Herb Montgomery—☎(269)962-1228
- **June 9**
Pleasant Hill SDA Church, OR
James Rafferty—☎(541)746-1750
- **June 11-15**
Arizona Camp Meeting at Camp Yavapines
Prescott, AZ
James Rafferty—☎(480)991-6777 x129
- **June 13-16**
Montana Camp Meeting at Mount Ellis
Academy, Bozeman, MT
Ty Gibson—☎(406)587-3101
- **June 30**
Lewisburg SDA Church, WV
Herb Montgomery—☎(304)647-5925
- **July 3-7**
Light Bearers Convocation
Jasper, OR—☎(541)988-3333
- **July 16-21**
Soquel Camp Meeting—Central California
Conference, Clovis, CA
James Rafferty—☎(559)347-3189
- **July 19-28**
Redwood Camp Meeting—Northern California
Conference, Redcrest, CA
Herb Montgomery—☎(925)685-4300

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*Light Bearers is a non-profit ministry based
in the beautiful western-central part of Oregon State.
Our purpose is to help proclaim the gospel
of our Lord Jesus Christ through the spoken and published word.*

MISSION UPDATE

The Newsletter of Light Bearers Ministry



Good Tidings for Bulawayo

By James Rafferty

On May 3 Light Bearers Ministry (LBM) sent the first container of literature from its new location in Jasper, Oregon. It is great to be back in production. Undoubtedly, this is one of the most powerful containers of literature we've ever sent anywhere. This is because the contents are a combination of over 1.6 million of our printed tracts along with thousands of Bibles, Spirit of Prophecy books, children's crafts and other materials that have been trickling into LBM over the past 12 months.

In addition to the content, what makes this container even more powerful for God's work is the destination—Bulawayo, Zimbabwe and Solusi University! I was in Bulawayo and at Solusi in October of 2006 doing meetings on the three angels' messages and the New World Order.

In Bulawayo we had meetings at the public courthouse with a group of believers from various denominations.

It is here that the majority of the study guides and tracts will be used to reach out to the growing interest in Bible truth as it is understood by Seventh-day Adventists (SDA).

Of the 2,000 students that I spoke to at Solusi, somewhere between 60-80% are not SDA and most of these are Catholic. The interest kindled was intense, especially since many of them did not even own a Bible. This container to Bulawayo includes nearly 2,000 Bibles for the students at Solusi! They will be jubilant. It also contains over 12,000 copies of *The Great Controversy* (condensed version) and many thousands of our *Revelation 14* outlines on the three angels' messages, which was the theme of the week of prayer.

We here at Light Bearers thank all of you for your generous support of this work: the volunteers who helped us load the container, those who sent us literature and books, and those who gave each month to make it all

happen. We solicit your prayers for this container of precious gospel cargo as it travels over the seas to Africa and inland to its destination. Pray that angels will attend it and that every piece of truth-filled literature will shed the light of God's enduring love upon the hearts of the people of Zimbabwe.



CONSIDER THIS . . .

“I Am” means an eternal presence; the past, present, and future are alike to God. He sees the most remote events of past history, and the far distant future with as clear a vision as we do those things that are transpiring daily. We know not what is before us, and if we did, it would not contribute to our eternal welfare. God gives us an opportunity to exercise faith and trust in the great “I AM.”

Ellen G. White,
Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, Vol. 1, p. 1099

If you have given yourself to God, to do His work, you have no need to be anxious for tomorrow. He whose servant you are, knows the end from the beginning. The events of tomorrow, which are hidden from your view, are open to the eyes of Him who is omnipotent.

Ellen G. White,
Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, p. 100

It was Christ's work to soften hard hearts. But if men resisted the work of Christ, the sure result would be that their hearts would become hardened.

Christ quoted a prophecy which more than a thousand years before had predicted what

God's foreknowledge had seen would be. The prophecies do not shape the characters of the men who fulfill them. Men act out their own free will, either in accordance with a character placed under the molding of God or a character placed under the harsh rule of Satan.

Ellen G. White,
Review and Herald,
November 13, 1900

The plan for our redemption was not an afterthought, a plan formulated after the fall of Adam. It was a revelation of “the mystery which hath been kept in silence through times eternal.” Rom. 16:25, R.V. It was an unfolding of the principles that from eternal ages have been the foundation of God's throne. From the beginning, God and Christ knew of the apostasy of Satan, and of the fall of man through the deceptive power of the apostate. God did not ordain that sin should exist, but He foresaw its existence, and made provision to meet the terrible emergency. So great was His love for the world, that He covenanted to give His only-begotten Son, “that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16.

Ellen G. White,
The Desire of Ages, p. 22

DIVINE FOREKNOWLEDGE & HUMAN FREEDOM

BY TY GIBSON & JAMES RAFFERTY

One of the most profound realities of the divine nature is the fact that God, as the Creator of all things, exists distinct from and outside of all He has made. Paul states, “By Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist” (Col. 1:16-17*). And John says, “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made” (Jn. 1:3). There are only two basic categories to reality: (1) God and (2) all things made, and God is not in the made category.

If we draw a circle that represents the entire created universe and ask, *Where is God in that circle?*, there is a sense in which the answer is, *Nowhere*. This is due to the simple fact that God is not part of creation. He is above, beyond and before all things made, and therefore cannot be conceived of as a created being. God is the uncreated, self-existent, eternal One. As such, God is completely distinct from all created things. He is outside of matter, outside of space and outside of time, for these are all things He has

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made. Conversely, God is not imprisoned outside of His creation either. He can and does freely interact with and within creation. While He is not present *in* creation in a pantheistic sense, as part of creation, He is omnipresent *to* all of creation. There is a sense in which God is everywhere in His creation while distinct from it. David questioned, “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?” (Ps. 139:7). He concluded that the answer is, *Nowhere* (verses 8-12). God is everywhere all the time.

Like space and matter, time is a created reality. Therefore the Bible can speak of a region of reality “before time began” (Tit. 1:2). There was an eternity past, before creation, when there was no such thing as time. Time was made by God in relation to space as a linear arrow of succession within which created beings could exist and relate to God and one another. God Himself is not locked in time, but is master over it. Therefore, the Bible teaches us that God is omniscient, all-knowing, concerning all

events that occur in time. Even though it is beyond human comprehension due to the fact that we are created beings and therefore cannot fully grasp the realities of divinity (Isa. 40:28; Deut. 29:29), it is the clear testimony of Scripture that God knows all things before they occur. His eyes traverse all time. The future is as open to God's omniscient vision as is the past. Isaiah declared of history, “Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done” (Isa. 46:9-10). And David spoke of God's omniscience regarding each individual: “With your own eyes you saw my body being formed. Even before I was born, you had written in your book everything I would do” (Ps. 139:16, CEV).

Bible prophecy is the clearest evidence of this sublime truth. From Genesis to Revelation the Word of God is full of prophetic declarations of very specific and detailed events that God foretold in

advance through the prophets. The rise and fall of nations was foretold as well as the precise actions of individuals.

The obvious and immediate question that arises in relation to God's foreknowledge is this: If God knows all events before they occur, are all things therefore predetermined? In other words, does God know the future because He has set the future to occur just as He wants it to? Even more specific and personal, Does the fact that God knows everything you and I will ever do negate our freedom to do as we choose? Are divine foreknowledge and human freewill compatible or mutually exclusive? Are we really free?

As truly as the Bible teaches that God is omniscient, the Bible also teaches that we are free moral agents who decide our course of action and eternal destiny (Gen. 2:16-17; Matt. 23:37; Heb. 13:20-21; Jam. 1:14-15; 4:7-8; Matt. 6:10; 7:21; 2 Pet. 3:5). The clearest evidence of this truth is the fact that throughout Scripture human beings are

continued on page 4. . .