



SAVED TO SERVE
Pastor Andrew Henriques
www.prophecyagain.com

The Great Controversy, pt. 34: Spiritualism in World & Church To Counteract God's Sealing Work. SDAs Promote "True Worship Summit" with Kirk Franklin & Worldly Pastors & Musicians

1a. What is the title of chapter 34 of *The Great Controversy*? _____

1b. Can our dead speak to us? Ecclesiastes 9:5,6 _____

2. Note: A skeptic of that biblical truth may reference Hebrews 11:4 to confirm that the dead can speak to us. Read that scripture.

3. What does it mean? Revelation 14:13 _____

And when the grave receives the child of God, he being dead yet speaketh. His works do follow him. **The memory of his words of admonition and encouragement, of his steadfast adherence to the truth under all circumstances, speaks more powerfully than even his living example.** {LP 294.1}

4. Who has the Lord sent to minister unto us? Hebrews 1:14 _____

5a. What doctrine has obscured and perverted the true biblical teaching of the dead and the ministration of holy angels? Where did that false doctrine come from? _____

The ministration of holy angels, as presented in the Scriptures, is a truth most comforting and precious to every follower of Christ. **But the Bible teaching upon this point has been obscured and perverted by the errors of popular theology. The doctrine of natural immortality, first borrowed from the pagan philosophy, and in the darkness of the great apostasy incorporated into the Christian faith, has supplanted the truth, so plainly taught in Scripture, that "the dead know not anything."** Multitudes have come to believe that it is spirits of the dead who are the "ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation." And this notwithstanding the testimony of Scripture to the existence of heavenly angels, and their connection with the history of man, before the death of a human being. {GC 551.1}

5b. Note: Read Genesis 2:16,17 and Genesis 3:4,5 (1 Timothy 6:15,16). During the reign of Constantine and the nominal conversion of Constantine into Christianity, two false doctrines were incorporated into the Christian faith: Natural immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness. Read *The Great Controversy*, chapter 3 "An Era of Spiritual Darkness."

6. The doctrine of man's consciousness in death, especially the belief that spirits of the dead return to minister to the living has prepared the way for what? _____

The doctrine of man's consciousness in death, especially the belief that spirits of the dead return to minister to the living, has prepared the way for modern spiritualism. If the dead are admitted to the presence of God and holy angels, and privileged with knowledge far exceeding what they before possessed, why should they not return to the earth to enlighten and instruct the living? **If, as taught by popular theologians, spirits of the dead are hovering about their friends on earth, why should they not be permitted to communicate with them, to warn them against evil, or to comfort them in sorrow?** How can those who believe in man's consciousness in death reject what comes to them as divine light communicated by glorified spirits? **Here is a channel regarded as sacred, through which Satan works for the accomplishment of his purposes.** The fallen angels who do his bidding appear as messengers from the spirit world. While professing to bring the living into communication with the dead, the prince of evil exercises his bewitching influence upon their minds. {GC 551.2}

7a. Since it is not the dead that return to communicate with the living, who are those spirits? _____

How can those who believe in man's consciousness in death reject what comes to them as divine light communicated by glorified spirits? Here is a channel regarded as sacred, through which Satan works for the accomplishment of his purposes. **The fallen angels who do his bidding appear as messengers from the spirit world.** While professing to bring the living into communication with the dead, the prince of evil exercises his bewitching influence upon their minds. {GC 551.2}

7b. Read 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 and Revelation 16:14.

8a. What does Satan have power to do with his fallen angels, regarding the dead? _____

He has power to bring before men the appearance of their departed friends. The counterfeit is perfect; the familiar look, the words, the tone, are reproduced with marvelous distinctness. Many are comforted with the assurance that their loved ones are enjoying the bliss of heaven, and without suspicion of danger, they give ear "to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." {GC 552.1}

8b. Read 1 Samuel 28:3-19 and the following statement.

8c. The Scripture account of Saul's visit to the woman of Endor has been a source of perplexity to many students of the Bible. There are some who take the position that Samuel was actually present at the interview with Saul, but the Bible itself furnishes sufficient ground for a contrary conclusion. If, as claimed by some, Samuel was in heaven, he must have been summoned thence, either by the power of God or by that of Satan. **None can believe for a moment that Satan had power to call the holy prophet of God from heaven to honor the incantations of an abandoned woman. Nor can we conclude that God summoned him to the witch's cave; for the Lord had already refused to communicate with Saul, by dreams, by Urim, or by prophets.** 1 Samuel 28:6. **These were God's own appointed mediums of communication, and He did not pass them by to deliver the message through the agent of Satan.** {PP 683.1}

The message itself is sufficient evidence of its origin. Its object was not to lead Saul to repentance, but to urge him on to ruin; and this is not the work of God, but of Satan. Furthermore, **the act of Saul in consulting a sorceress is cited in Scripture as one reason why he was rejected by God and abandoned to destruction:** "Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the Lord, even against the word of the Lord, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to inquire of it; and inquired not of the Lord: therefore He slew him, and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse." **1 Chronicles 10:13, 14. Here it is distinctly stated that Saul inquired of the familiar spirit, not of the Lord.** He did not communicate with Samuel, the prophet of God; but through the sorceress he held intercourse with Satan. **Satan could not present the real Samuel, but he did present a counterfeit, that served his purpose of deception.** {PP 683.2}

9. What is the warning and instruction given? Isaiah 8:19,20,16 _____

10. What is one of the primary reasons for Satan communicating with the living through his fallen angels posing as dead loved ones? _____

1 Timothy 4:1; 1 John 4:1 (not only devils but human beings who are possessed by Satan) Genesis 3:1-11 _____

11. What kind of dead people will the devils personate as they communicate with the living? Why is that so? _____

When they have been led to believe that the dead actually return to communicate with them, **Satan causes those to appear who went into the grave unprepared. They claim to be happy in heaven and even to occupy exalted positions there, and thus the error is widely taught that no difference is made between the righteous and the wicked.** The pretended visitants from the world of spirits sometimes utter cautions and warnings which prove to be correct. Then, as confidence is gained, they present doctrines that directly undermine faith in the Scriptures. With an appearance of deep interest in the well-being of their friends on earth, they insinuate the most dangerous errors. **The fact that they state some truths, and are able at times to foretell future events, gives to their statements an appearance of reliability; and their false teachings are accepted by the multitudes as readily, and believed as implicitly, as if they were the most sacred truths of the Bible. The law of God is set aside, the Spirit of grace despised, the blood of the covenant counted an unholy thing. The spirits deny the deity of Christ and place even the Creator on a level with themselves. Thus under a new disguise the great rebel still carries on his warfare against God, begun in heaven and for nearly six thousand years continued upon the earth.** {GC 552.2}

12. What event sparked Modern Spiritualism? _____

Many endeavor to account for spiritual manifestations by attributing them wholly to fraud and sleight of hand on the part of the medium. But while it is true that the results of trickery have often been palmed off as genuine manifestations, there have been, also, marked exhibitions of supernatural power. **The mysterious rapping with which modern spiritualism began was not the result of human trickery or cunning, but was the direct work of evil angels, who thus introduced one of the most successful of soul-destroying delusions.** Many will be ensnared through the belief that spiritualism is a merely human imposture; **when brought face to face with manifestations which they cannot but regard as supernatural, they will be deceived, and will be led to accept them as the great power of God.** {GC 553.1}

13. When did the Mysterious Rapping take place and where did it begin? _____

In 1848, the two younger sisters – Kate (age 12) and Margaret (age 15) – were living in a house in Hydesville, New York, with their parents. Hydesville no longer exists but was a hamlet that was part of the township of Arcadia in Wayne County, New York, just outside Newark.^{[5][6]} The house had some reputation for being haunted, but it wasn't until late March that the family began to be frightened by unexplained sounds that at times sounded like knocking and at other times like the moving of furniture. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fox_sisters

"I saw that the mysterious knocking in New York and other places was the power of Satan, and that such things would be more and more common, clothed in a religious garb so as to lull the deceived to greater security and to draw the minds of God's people, if possible, to those things and cause them to doubt the teaching and power of the Holy Ghost." **This view was given in 1849, nearly five years since. Then spirit manifestations were mostly confined to the city of Rochester, known as the "Rochester knockings." Since that time the heresy has spread beyond the expectations of anyone.** {EW 86.3} August 24, 1850, I saw that the "mysterious rapping" was the power of Satan; some of it was directly from him, and some indirectly, through his agents, but it all proceeded from Satan. {EW 59.1}

14a. What was Satan attempting to counteract by allowing the Mysterious Rapping, Modern Spiritualism, to rise? _____

Satan is now using every device in this sealing time to keep the minds of God's people from the present truth and to cause them to waver. I saw a covering that God was drawing over His people to protect them in the time of trouble...Satan knew this, and he was at work in mighty power to keep the minds of as many people as he possibly could wavering and unsettled on the truth. **I saw that the mysterious knocking in New York and other places was the power of Satan, and that such things would be more and more common, clothed in a religious garb so as to lull the deceived to greater security and to draw the minds of God's people,** if possible, to those things and cause them to doubt the teachings and power of the Holy Ghost. {EW 43.3}

14b. Read and meditate upon this showdown. Satan used sorcery to hinder people from receiving the present truth that Philip was preaching. Acts 8:5-11 and Isaiah 8:16, 19,20.

15a. What warning is given to God's commandment-keeping people? _____

I saw that the saints must get a thorough understanding of present truth, which they will be obliged to maintain from the Scriptures. **They must understand the state of the dead; for the spirits of devils will yet appear to them, professing to be beloved friends and relatives, who will declare to them that the Sabbath has been changed, also other unscriptural doctrines.** They will do all in their power to excite sympathy and will work miracles before them to confirm what they declare. **The people of God must be prepared to withstand these spirits with the Bible truth that the dead know not anything, and that they who appear to them are the spirits of devils.** Our minds must not be taken up with things around us, but must be occupied with the present truth and a preparation to give a reason of our hope with meekness and fear. **We must seek wisdom from on high that we may stand in this day of error and delusion.** {EW 87.2}

15b. Note: Satan had the boldness to appear to Jesus in the form of an angel of light in the wilderness. See Matthew 4:1-11; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15

16a. The following points confirm that Modern Spiritualism which began in the 1840s to hinder the beginning work of the seal of God's people will increase in these last days, as the sealing of God's people is closing.

I saw that soon it would be considered blasphemy to speak against the rapping, and that it would spread more and more, **that Satan's power would increase and some of his devoted followers would have power to work miracles and even to bring down fire from heaven in the sight of men.** {EW 59.2}

16b. Meditate upon Revelation 13:13,14 and 15-17 and write your thoughts _____

16c. I was shown that by the rapping and mesmerism these modern magicians would yet account for all the miracles wrought by our Lord Jesus Christ, and that many would believe that all the mighty works of the Son of God when on earth were accomplished by this same power. **I was pointed back to the time of Moses and saw the signs and wonders which God wrought through him before Pharaoh, most of which were imitated by the magicians of Egypt; and that just before the final deliverance of the saints, God would work powerfully for His people, and these modern magicians would be permitted to imitate the work of God.** {EW 59.2}

17. Meditate upon Exodus 8:1-19 and write your thoughts _____

18a. How will Satan and his agents work just before the second coming of Jesus? 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 _____

18b. **I saw the rapidity with which this delusion was spreading. A train of cars was shown me, going with the speed of lightning.** The angel bade me look carefully. I fixed my eyes upon the train. **It seemed that the whole world was on board.** Then he showed me the conductor, a fair, stately person, whom all the passengers looked up to and revered. I was perplexed and asked my attending angel who it was. He said, **"It is Satan. He is the conductor, in the form of an angel of light. He has taken the world captive. They are given over to strong delusions, to believe a lie that they may be damned.** His agent, the highest in order next to him, is the engineer, and others of his agents are employed in different offices as he may need them, **and they are all going with lightning speed to perdition."** **I asked the angel if there were none left. He bade me look in the opposite direction, and I saw a little company traveling a narrow pathway.** All seemed to be firmly united by the truth. {EW 263.1} {EW 263.2}

19. In what segments of society has spiritualism entered to deceive people? Revelation 12:9 _____

The claim that men can hold intercourse with evil spirits is regarded as a fable of the Dark Ages. **But spiritualism, which numbers its converts by hundreds of thousands, yea, by millions, which has made its way into scientific circles, which has invaded churches, and has found favor in legislative bodies, and even in the courts of kings--** this mammoth deception is but a revival, in a new disguise, of the witchcraft condemned and prohibited of old. {GC 556.2}

20a. What does spiritualism teach? _____

Satan beguiles men now as he beguiled Eve in Eden by flattery, by kindling a desire to obtain forbidden knowledge, by exciting ambition for self-exaltation. It was cherishing these evils that caused his fall, and through them he aims to compass the ruin of men. **"Ye shall be as gods," he declares, "knowing good and evil."** Genesis 3:5. **Spiritualism teaches "that man is the creature of progression; that it is his destiny from his birth to progress, even to eternity, toward the Godhead." And again: "Each mind will judge itself and not another." "The judgment will be right, because it is the judgment of self. . . . The throne is within you."** Said a spiritualistic teacher, as the "spiritual consciousness" awoke within him: "My fellow men, all were unfallen demigods." And another declares: "Any just and perfect being is Christ." {GC 554.1}

20b. Even in its present form, so far from being more worthy of toleration than formerly, it [spiritualism] is really a more dangerous, because a more subtle, deception. While it formerly denounced Christ and the Bible, it now professes to accept both. **But the Bible is interpreted in a manner that is pleasing to the unrenewed heart, while its solemn and vital truths are made of no effect. Love is dwelt upon as the chief attribute of God, but it is degraded to a weak sentimentalism, making little distinction between good and evil. God's justice, His denunciations of sin, the requirements of His holy law, are all kept out of sight.** The people are taught to regard the Decalogue as a dead letter. Pleasing, bewitching fables captivate the senses and lead men to reject the Bible as the foundation of their faith. Christ is as verily denied as before; but Satan has so blinded the eyes of the people that the deception is not discerned. {GC 558.1}

21. How may we also discern the pleasing fables of spiritualism? Isaiah 5:20; Genesis 2:16,17 and Genesis 3:4. _____

22. What was allowed in Israel on the banks of Jordan, just before Israel crossed over into Canaan? 1 Corinthians 10:6,11 and 20,21; Psalm 106:26-30; Numbers 25:1-3,4-18; _____

23. True Worship Summit... True Worship Summit is an Annual European Conference set to make its debut in London in March 2018. Confirmed guests include Kirk Franklin, Donald Lawrence, Marvin Sapp, Kierra Sheard, Israel Houghton and Kim Burrell who will join Bazil Meade, Noel Robinson, Mark Beswick and Muiyiwa to host Europe's first ever Gospel Conference of it's kind. The purpose of the summit is to celebrate gospel music and the impact it has had throughout the world whilst empowering, educating and equipping those with an aspiration to further their music ministry. The summit aims to highlight the inspirational power of gospel music whilst also teaching that worship is not simply a 'style of Christian & Gospel Music', but a way of life. The True Worship Summit will also provide essential insights into the latest branding and marketing strategies to enable attendees to take their music ministry to the next level and ultimately advance their careers. Further details and how to obtain tickets **Click here.** <http://adventist.org.uk/events/2017/sec/true-worship-summit>

24. Satan has long been preparing for his final effort to deceive the world. The foundation of his work was laid by the assurance given to Eve in Eden: "Ye shall not surely die." "In the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3:4, 5. **Little by little he has prepared the way for his masterpiece of deception in the development of spiritualism.** He has not yet reached the full accomplishment of his designs; **but it will be reached in the last remnant of time.** Says the prophet: "I saw three unclean spirits like frogs; . . . they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." Revelation 16:13, 14. Except those who are kept by the power of God, through faith in His word, the whole world will be swept into the ranks of this delusion. **The people are fast being lulled to a fatal security, to be awakened only by the outpouring of the wrath of God.** {GC 561.2}