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Welcome to LATE - L.A.T.E - Living At The End — for we are **late** into the prophetic timeline of earth's history and you and I must know how to live successfully and to be an effective witness for present truth in these perilous times. In this SWM Radio program we use the Word of God and the Spirit of Prophecy to answer pertinent questions posed to God's remnant people in order to provide the spiritual and physical tools we need for daily living and consecration to God at the end of time.

In each program, we have a Time of the End Feature and a Healthful Living Feature. Then we will provide answers to the questions posed and recommend some Take Away Tips from our discussions for Living at the End. This is your host Brother Nanton. Let us pray.

TIME OF THE END FEATURE – Changing Standards, Principles and Doctrines

Satan's Influence

The longing to conform to worldly practices and customs exists among the professed people of God. Many urge that by uniting with worldlings and conforming to their customs, they may exert a stronger influence over the ungodly. But all who pursue this course thereby separate from the Source of their strength. **PP 607**

Satan's Council

Ellen White records the words of Satan at a council he held with his evil angels.

Those of this class who are apt and intelligent will serve as decoys to draw others into our snares. Many will not fear their influence, because they profess the same faith. We will thus lead them to conclude that the requirements of Christ are less strict than they once believed and that by conforming to the world they would exert a greater influence with worldlings. Thus they will separate from Christ; then they will have no strength to resist our power, and ere long they will be ready to ridicule their former zeal and devotion, and we shall secure them in our ranks at last. **TM 474**

Changing Standards Result

The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among SDAs, and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reformation. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath of course would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which without God, is worthless. **1SM 204, 205**

Those who trust in their intelligence Satan will make believe they can correct the Scriptures. You are going to meet infidelity in high places. **UL 101 (The Upward Look)**

One after another of the old standard bearers had fallen, and some had become wearied of the oft-repeated truths. They desired a new phase of doctrine, more pleasing to many minds. They thought they needed a wonderful change. **7BC 958, MS 34, 1905**

Apostasy in High Places

Frequent will be the apostasies of men who have occupied responsible positions. **RH 9/11/1888**

Those who have been regarded as worthy and righteous, prove to be ringleaders in apostasy. **5T 212**

Ministers who have preached the truth with zeal and earnestness may apostatize and join the ranks of our enemies, but does this turn the truth of God into a lie? The faith and feelings of men may change, but the truth of God, NEVER. **4T 595**

One man with careless ideas, may do more in letting down the standard than ten men with all their efforts can do to counteract and stay the demoralizing influence. This easy going, convenient religion is a cheap affair, unacknowledged of God. **Counsel to Physicians and Medical Students 15**

Christian Standards

The Christian standard is high and exalted, but alas, the professed followers of Christ lower it to the very dust. **4T 37**

Satan will insinuate himself by little wedges, which widen as they make a place for themselves. The specious devices of Satan will be bought into the special work of God at this time. **2SM 21**

Jesus would not follow any custom that would require Him to depart from the will of God. **FE 439**
(Fundamentals of Education)

As Christians, we cannot honor a custom which is not approved of heaven. **RH 12 15 1885**

We are not to inquire what is the custom of the world? We are to read His Word and obey it, not swerving one jot or tittle from its requirements. **RH 10/1/1895**

Our only safety is to stand as God's peculiar people. We must not yield one inch to the customs and fashions of this degenerate age, but stand in moral independence. **5T 78**

We believe it wrong to differ from others unless it be necessary to differ in order to be right. **RH 4/14/1868**

Healthful Living Feature – God's Property

The living organism is God's property. It belongs to Him by creation and redemption; and by a misuse of any of our powers we rob God of the honor due to Him. **Letter 73a, 1896**

God desires us to reach the standard of perfection made possible for us by the gift of Christ. In His written Word and in the great book of nature, He has revealed the principles of life. It is our work to obtain a knowledge of these principles, and by obedience to cooperate with Him in restoring health to the body as well as the soul. **MH 114, 115 1905**

A failure to care for the living machinery is an insult to God. There are divinely appointed rules which if observed will keep human beings from disease and premature death. **Letter 120, 1901**

One reason we do not enjoy more of the blessing of the Lord is, we do not heed the light which He has been pleased to give us in regard to the laws of life and health. **RH 5/8/1883**

What the Work is Not to Be

God is as truly the author of physical laws as He is the author of the moral law. His law is written with His own finger upon every nerve, every muscle, every faculty, which has been entrusted to man. **COL 347, 348 (1900)**

It is truly a sin to violate the laws of our being as it is to break the ten commandments. To do either is to break God's laws. Those who transgress the law of God in their physical organism, will be inclined to violate the law of God spoken from Sinai. **CTBH 53 (Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene 1900)**

Questions

- 1 What longing exists among God's professed people, how is it justified and what is the result?

Answer: There is a longing among God's professed people to conform to worldly customs and practices justified on the grounds that that it will allow greater influence on the ungodly; but the pursuit of such an endeavor will cause a separation from the divine Source of strength.

- 2 How does Satan secure the result of this longing existing among God's professed people?

Answer: Satan instructs his fallen angels to select the smartest and most influential leaders/pastors in the faith and deceive them into believing that conforming to the world would bring the church greater influence in the world and thus separate them from Christ and take them into his own power.

- 3 Having secured the result of this longing, how does Satan capitalize on it to weaken God's professed people and church?

Answer: Having separated God's professed people from their source of strength Satan proceeds to reform the church from within discarding ancient truths, accounting fundamental principles as error, establishing a new organization, writing books of a new order and introducing a system of intellectual philosophy.

- 4 What does Satan do with church leaders who trust in their own intelligence?

Answer: He allows them to become wearied with oft-repeated truths; when the old stalwarts die off they desire new doctrines more pleasing to many; they believe they can correct the Scriptures; and they become the ringleaders of apostasy.

- 5 What are Christians supposed to do regarding the standards of the church?

Answer: They must read and obey the Word in every requirement; not yield one inch to worldly customs and stand in moral independence.

- 6 Why is my body God's property and what responsibility must I assume when I understand this?

Answer: My body is God's by creation and redemption therefore I am required to know, understand and obey the principles He has laid out for me in His Word and the great book of nature to restore physical and spiritual health and prevent disease and premature death.

- 7 What consequences do I incur when I disobey the natural laws of health provided by my creator?

Answer: I rob God of the honor due to Him if I misuse the powers of my body; I insult him if I fail to care for the living machinery He has provided; and I will enjoy less than the blessings He has in store for me if I do not heed the light He has given.

Take Away Tips

- Satan has recognized the longing God's professed people have for the customs and practices of the world and capitalized on it by convincing church leaders to embrace such customs and practices to increase their worldly influence, then using the resulting separation from God to enter in and restructure the church from within.

- Apostasy will be led by those influential leaders who trust to their own intelligence and position rather than trust in God, their true source of strength.
- God's people must not follow any standard that departs from the Will of God or that is not fully compatible with the requirements of the Word of God; and we must not yield one inch to worldly customs but stand as a peculiar people in moral independence.
- God is my creator and redeemer therefore my body is His and if I don't learn, understand and obey the principles He has provided to keep it in optimum physical and spiritual health then I dishonor and insult Him and am as guilty of sin as if I had broken any of the ten commandments.