

My Hands

Recently, I was presenting on the Law of God, and employed an illustration that was actually new to me. I looked at my hands and saw ten useful digits that represented to me the Ten Commandments of YAHWEH. I then said, “Every time you wake up in the morning and see your hands, you can remember God’s Ten Commandments that He gave to us for our protection from sin.” That opened up a whole new aspect for me. Yes, my hands are precious, as I do those things that please my Father in Heaven, keeping His commandments. My hands are a blessing given to me by YAHWEH. They are associated with righteousness as indicated in 2 Samuel 22:21, “[YAHWEH] rewarded me according to my righteousness: according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me.” [see also, Psa. 18:20, 24] “Who shall ascend into the hill of [YAHWEH]? or who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.” [Psa. 24:3, 4] With David I can say, “My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes.” “I stretch forth my hands unto thee: my soul thirsteth after thee, as a thirsty land.” [Psa. 119:48; 143:6]

When Christ left the world he committed a work into our hands. While here he himself carried his work forward; but when he ascended to heaven his followers were left to take it up where he left it. Others took up the work where the disciples left it; and so it has been carried on until now we have the work to do in our time. And as Jesus ascended, and the clouds received him out of the sight of his disciples, who were attempting to catch the last glimpse of him, he said, “Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.” Thus we have a life companion. We do not have to walk alone. We can carry all our sorrows and griefs, troubles and trials, afflictions and cares, and pour them into the ear that is open to hear, of One who is pleading before the Father the merits of his own blood. He is pleading his wounds—“My hands, My hands! I have graven thee upon the palms of My hands.” He offers the wounded hands to God, and his petitions are heard, and swift angels are sent to minister to fallen man, to lift up and to sustain. [Ellen G. White, *Sabbath Review and Advent Herald*, Jan. 4, 1887]

On May 25, 2010, a contempt hearing was convened before Magistrate Judge Bryant at the Federal Building in Jackson, TN. Lucan Chartier, acting pastor for the Guys CSDA Church, was required to answer questions and give a testimony of his faith for one and three quarters hours. “Swift angels [were] sent to minister to [Lucan Chartier], to lift up and to sustain.” As a note of review, in February, the court order to take down the Guys, TN church signs had been enforced by a sign company, hired by the Plaintiff General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and supervised by a constable to insure full compliance.

“In March, the [CSDA] church in Guys put the signs back up despite court orders. [Lucan] Chartier said it is because God told him to. He said, ‘I have no option except to continue doing what my religion dictates.’ An attorney believes both Chartier and the church’s pastor, Walter McGill, could face fines or time in prison for refusing to answer questions and deliberately disobeying court orders. Attorneys representing the international Seventh-day Adventist organization refused to talk on camera today about the proceedings but did say off camera that ***now the case is in the hands of the court.***” [Mallory Cooke, WBBJ TV-7 News, Jackson, TN; May 25, 2010; emphases and brackets added]

A few Scriptures may be applicable here. “The fool foldeth his hands together, and eateth his own flesh.” [Eccl. 4:5] “Render unto them a recompense, O LORD, according to the work of their hands.” [Lam. 3:64] “Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.” [Matt. 26:45]

It has been my contention from the beginning that if the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists were being led by the Spirit of YAH, they would never have initiated the trademark lawsuit against me and my congregation. It was obvious to me that the Seventh-day Adventist organization was leaning on the arm of flesh instead of placing the matter in the Hands of YAHWEH. Now the truth is published for all to read, as spoken by the General Conference attorney to ABC TV reporter Mallory Cooke, "...***now the case is in the hands of the court.***" [ibid] The General Conference has officially stated that they are not relying on God's power, but the "strong arm of civil power." It is the "hands of Caesar" that offer them hope for victory, and they effectively testify, "We have no king but Caesar."

My hands have been called to obey God before men. The hands of Lucan Chartier have obeyed God rather than men. We have nothing to do with the "hands of Caesar." For Creation Seventh Day Adventists, this case is in the Hands of YAHWEH, our faithful Father. We have nothing to fear, for we know who holds today and tomorrow. "And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit..." [Luke 23:46]

In the trial of YAHSUA before Pilate, we read some very revealing words: "Pilate therefore said to Him, 'You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?' Jesus answered, 'You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me up to you has the greater sin.'" [John 19:10, 11] The court has no authority at all except what has been given from above. It is the General Conference that "has the greater sin." "When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it." [Matt. 27:24]

Had the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists repented of their many prosecutions of fellow-believers; had they humbled themselves before the high and holy Almighty One, there would never have been a Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church. Our existence is tied to the fall of the once-favored SDA Church. We were obliged to obey the Revelation 18 heavenly call: "Come out of her, My people." And Paul wrote to Timothy, "I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting." [1 Tim. 2:8] This is what we have set our hands to do, and have been doing since our birth in 1991.

The news media intimates that we are "on the wrong side of the law." It is the law of YAH that has been "made void." We are, in fact, on the *right* side of YAH's law. We raise holy hands to heaven, praising our Savior for having given us "the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name." [Rev. 15:2] "Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces." [Dan. 2:34]

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." [Rev. 20:4]

Remember: "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." [Heb. 10:31]

Writing from Africa
Pastor "Chick" McGill
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