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D. FILE 51^d

RE MS., "CAPTIVITY AND RESTORATION OF ISRAEL"

Sanitarium, Calif., January 5, 1915.

Elder W.C. White
Takoma Park,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Elder White:

You may be surprised and disappointed to learn that I have not yet completed the six chapters of the O.T. History MS. that were lacking when you left.

Of the six chapters to be completed, three were the Jeremiah portion. These three are now four full chapters, with a fifth and last well under way; the titles of the Jeremiah portion are--

Jeremiah
Approaching Doom
The Last King of Judah
Carried Captive into Babylon
Light through Darkness

Inasmuch as four of these are completed and the fifth well under way, it is my hope to finish the last one within three days, and thus close up the Jeremiah story.

Of the other three unfinished chapters at the time of your departure, one was on the prophecies concerning the Restoration; another on Malachi; the third on Messianic prophecies-- the closing chapter of the book.

The chapter entitled "Prophecies Concerning the Restoration" is not absolutely essential, and may be omitted entirely; but we should like to include it. Since you left, I have done it twice over. A further review of other portions of the book

have seemed to make necessary another trial at this chapter, and I expect to do my part on it after finishing Jeremiah. Thus the chapter may be finished by the time this letter reaches you, but it is probable that I will be still at it then.

One of the weak portions of the MS. was the gap between Solomon's death and the appearance of Elijah--covered by three chapters on the Rending of the Kingdom, Rehoboam, and National Apostasy. A careful review of this portion with Sister White, and an examination of the Scriptures involved, and discussion of them with her, and a search in MS. files, has made possible the strengthening of all three chapters to an extent that we once dared not hoped for; and today I am doing my final work on the third of the three.

Today also marks the beginning of the final review of the Elijah portion with Sister White. We read over and discussed one chapter this forenoon; we expect to read over and discuss the second chapter this afternoon; and by the end of the week the six Elijah chapters will have been finally prepared for examination by you and by our brethren to whom the MS. in its entirety is to be submitted when copied.

The Daniel portion has also passed under careful review by Sister White, and I have practically completed my work on that.

The Nehemiah story has also been gone over by your Mother and myself once more, in the same manner. I have a little work to do on the last two chapters of that portion.

Not until your Mother and I go over the chapters on the return of the Exiles and do our final work on those, can I hope to perfect the last two chapters of the book--Malachi, and Messianic Prophecies, on both of which considerable work has already been done, (but which are still very unsatisfactory)

Thus you may count roughly on there being two chapters unfinished, at the time this letter reaches you--the last two of the book. I regret much my inability to do these before going over with your Mother once more the story of the Return of the Exiles; but I have advanced as far as I can in shaping those last two chapters, until I get more help from her and from the file. <

When other more important work on the MS. has been closed, it is my hope to strengthen, if possible, two of the chapters in the Elisha portion, and to give a final reading to the chapters on the life of Solomon--chapters that were done first of all.

This outline of uncompleted work may seem formidable to you, if not appalling; but to us it is most encouraging; for that which needs to be done at the present stage of the work takes comparatively little time. By the time of your return we hope to be able to tell an altogether different story from that which you have just read concerning unfinished work. We feel as if we are reaping now the fruit of months of toil; and ^{as} we progress, we take heart, and thank God for the privilege that is ours.

Mrs. Morton will do but little of the copying on the chapters. Of this I will tell you more when you return. When Miss Steward completes her work of verification, she will copy some chapters. I am holding to my former policy of not asking Dore for any of his time before he completes his work on "Gospel Workers," MS., and from all I can observe this will mean that I should not ask him to do any copying prior to your return. As yet I have taken during your absence not more than two days of his time for general consultation on C.T. History MSS.

> It is largely because of this final and, it seems to me, most valuable collaboration with Sister White, on chapters already

prepared but in need of further strengthening and unifying, that I have thus far withheld from Mrs. Morton chapters for duplication, and it is possible--probable, in fact--that when you return you will find that only a comparatively small portion of the entire MS. has been duplicated for distribution to friends to whom we wish to send it for examination. The copies of the entire MS. that I hoped to have ready by January 1, 1915, can not very well be made ready before March 1 of this year; but that which will be copied by that time will include matter we should have disliked to see left out of a more hastily prepared volume.

It has been our dream to prepare two more Isaiah chapters, if time permits after all the other work is completed. But this can be determined by circumstances later on, and has no vital bearing on the preparation of a MS. complete in all essential parts.

E > I think this will give you some idea of how my work is slowly progressing. I would it were farther along; but I am daily thanking God for what He has been enabling Sister to do to help and to make possible that which at times has seemed impossible. Her insistence on bringing in the Scriptures--and particularly those Scriptures that inspire faith and hope--has proved a constant inspiration to me, and has, I believe, given life to chapters that otherwise might have been dull and spiritless. <

With love,

Yours truly

Clarence C. Crisler.