

Q & A - ^{Mr} Sister White taken from rostrum in 1888
because she stated it was time
for the latter rain

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40 years for latter rain
history of righteousness by faith - 1888 - reference
February 4, 1957

P. O. Box 362
Carlsbad, New Mexico

Dear Brother

We received your letter today. I shall deal with your first question, and the second relating to counsel regarding hospital duties on the Sabbath I shall refer to some one else in the building who is in a better position to answer than I.

You tell us that you have been working with some one who has been misled by the Shepherd's Rod teaching, and you see some spark of hope and you are trying to fan it into a flame. I think this is right although at times such efforts are fraught with disappointment. When one once becomes wrapped in the folds of the Shepherd's Rod teaching, it is very difficult to help them to see the light. Some have been helped, and some have seen the light. It is our hope and prayer that the party with whom you are working will yet see the light and take his stand again with God's remnant church.

You tell us that some one says he has copies or prints of a Review in which there is an article telling that Sister White was taken from the rostrum in 1888 because she stated that it was time for the latter rain, and we were not ready for it. And later she said that we would have to wait for forty years to receive the latter rain. This whole thing is a fabrication. There is no truth whatsoever in it. I have never heard of anything of this kind before. It is absolutely contrary to both the spirit of the handling of our workers and the spirit of the E. G. White writings. I would challenge those who have made the statement to produce some evidence. I am positive that there is absolutely none.

It is true that at the General Conference of 1901 Ellen White called for a reorganization of our denominational work, and heeding this call, the work of the General Conference was reorganized. It was one of the most remarkable cases of the immediate response to the message which came to us from Ellen White's oral testimony. I am enclosing a document telling this story and giving basic information. I do this because the year 1901 is mentioned in the story you tell us, and I know the Shepherd's Rod take Ellen White's call for a reorganization and misuse it, trying to make

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it appear that the message was never heeded and the Shepherd's Rod is the natural outgrowth of that call.

It is true that there were some workers and some of the leaders, who, when the message of righteousness by faith was presented in its broad and new emphasis in 1888, failed to see the light at that time, and Sister White had some words of reproof and counsel for them. The church as a whole accepted the message, and a great blessing resulted. This is made clear from the records of the time.

If you care to give study to this meeting, and what took place, I would direct you to the A. W. Spaulding book, Captains of the Host, pages 583 to 602. If you have further questions along the line as it relates to Ellen White's contact with the work, feel free to write again.

As I stated at the outset of the letter, we are passing the second question to one who is in a position to speak for the denomination.

With the best of wishes, I am

Sincerely your brother,

Arthur L. White, Secretary
ELLEN G. WHITE PUBLICATIONS

ALW:j
Encl.

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