1888— It Began Well...

The Mysterious Fate of the Loud Cry

The Landmark Statement

"The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin-pardoning Redeemer. This is the beginning of the light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth."

-Review and Herald, November 22, 1892



Born Again!

"After the meeting at Minneapolis, Dr. Kellogg was a converted man, and we all knew it. We could see the converting power of God working in his heart and life."

-General Conference Bulletin, April 6, 1903

Righteousness by Faith

"While [the believer] is justified because of the merit of Christ, he is not free to work unrighteousness. Faith works by love and purifies the soul. Faith buds and blossoms and bears a harvest of precious fruit. Where faith is, good works appear. The sick are visited, the poor are cared for, the fatherless and the widows are not neglected, the naked are clothed, the destitute are fed."

-Selected Messages, book one, 398

An Orphanage

"Dear Brethren: While in Petoskey I had some conversation with your physician-in-chief in regard to establishing a home for orphan children at Battle Creek. I said that this was just what was needed among us as a people, and that in enterprises of this kind we were far behind other denominations."

—Testimonies, vol. 8, 133

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In 1892, Mrs. Caroline Haskell came as a guest to the Sanitarium. Impressed by what she had seen, she asked Dr. Kellogg if there were any special needs toward which she might donate.

Her interest eventually led to a \$30,000 gift given as a memorial to her late husband, Frederick Haskell.

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The Haskell Home



But what's the point?

"The Lord has given us here a very precious work to do; it is not the whole of the third angel's message, but it is a part of it. You read in Isaiah 58, how we can make our light shine:

"If thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul, then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday."

"If we want the loud cry to begin, brethren, that is the place where it is going to begin. The loud cry is going to begin with our doing the things that the Lord in this chapter says come before the loud cry."

"Thy righteousness shall go before thee'—the good deeds that the Lord has been telling us we must do—'deal thy bread to the hungry,' etc.—that is the righteousness that shall go before us; that is the way our light is to shine. If we want the Lord to protect us in these times of peril that are coming upon us, we must do what the Lord says we must do; we must comply with the conditions."

"Brother Jones may be right in thinking that the time has come for the loud cry to begin; but if the loud cry has been begun by our people, it must be because we have just begun to do a little in the way of letting our light shine. But we have done so little in that way that it seems to me that before the loud cry will make any great noise in the world, we will have to let our light shine a great deal brighter than we have ever yet done, because the works come first."

"The light must shine through these 'good works,' before we can be called 'the repairers of the breach and the restorers of paths to dwell in,' for that promise comes after all of these conditions, you see."

Opinions Varied...

Voice—"The loud cry has already begun."

Dr. Kellogg—"We ought to be able to show that we are doing what the Lord says should be done first."

Voice—"It has begun."

Dr. Kellogg—"Then we shall see this work that the Lord tells us must be done, begin right away."

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What's "necessary"?

"We have long felt that there was among us a great need of an orphans' home. We have seen the widowed mother with her fatherless children working far beyond her strength in order to keep her little ones with her, and prevent them from suffering for food and clothing. Many a mother has thus died from over-exertion. And how little has been done by us as a people for this class. Have we not come far short of our duty? We are not doing as much as is done by other denominations, when in view of our faith it is right that more should be expected of us than of others."

—The Medical Missionary, June 1, 1891



"The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ."

-Review and Herald, November 22, 1892



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My book on Adventist History, *Hindsight*, should also be available through that address if you want to plug the book for me. (\$5 +s/h; free s/h on 5 or more copies)

Questions and comments are also welcome, but please don't deprive yourself of sleep or food while waiting for a reply.

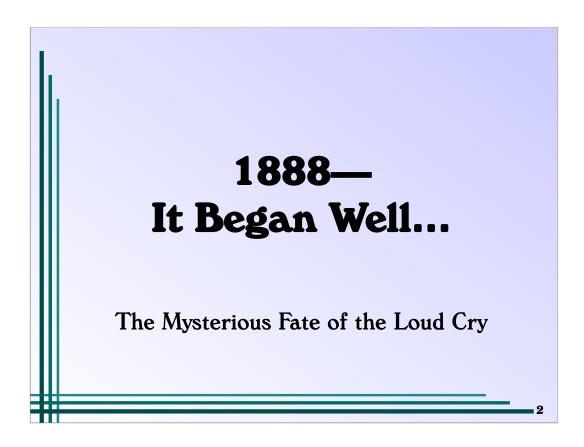
Blessings,

Dave

This first page is intentionally blacked out to provide a "blank screen" to be shown before a presentation starts.

The notes for this file are typed out in some length so that readers can more or less re-create the full message of the presentation.

Sometimes there are notes intended to be read *before* the text on the slide, though usually the notes come *after* the text. How can you know? Just look for **CLICK** in the notes. If you see the bright red word, it means that you should read the notes down that far *before* clicking to display the additional content of the slide. In such cases, when you move on from the previous slide you'll see just the heading of the new slide. That's when you read the notes. When you get to the **CLICK**, you hit the button to display the body text of the slide. Any slide with no **CLICK** in it means that you read the slide first, then read the notes, and move on.

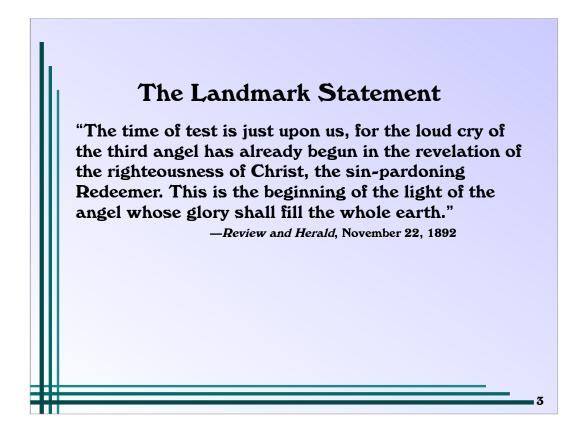


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There are many questions that come out of the 1888 era. Many of these are really interesting in terms of history, and in some cases one might say in terms of sociology. There were a great many interpersonal relationships which were subjected to some serious stress coming out of the whole post-Minneapolis sequence of events. For those of us who enjoy such things, this is interesting stuff!

But perhaps the greatest question of them all is simply, "What happened to the Loud Cry?"

Of course, the first point worth noting is that there was a loud cry at all, for something to happen to.



Just about four years after the Minneapolis conference, readers of the *Review* must have been pulled up short when they ran into this statement:

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To be sure, this wasn't the first or only indication of end time events. There had been agitation over Sunday Laws for some years, and quite a few Adventists had been arrested by the civil authorities over the last few years. No, the nearness of the end of time was not a new thought to God's people

But this was different. This wasn't just another "the world is getting terrible" sort of comment. This one talked about something happening on the side of righteousness, for a change.

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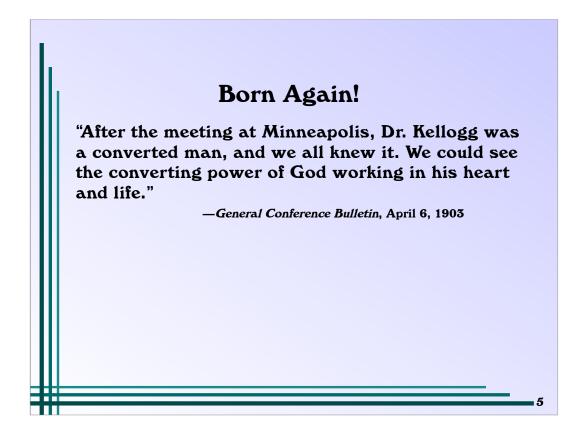


Understandably, that comment from Ellen White stirred up the pure minds of the saints back then, and it still does today.

In its simplest form, the basic question is "What happened to the Loud Cry?" And the basic answers are either "The Loud Cry is continuing today," or "Something stopped it."

So which is it?

Well, before we go there, let's look at someone who was at Minneapolis. Not only that, he was converted there!



Now this raises an interesting question—How could they see that Dr. Kellogg was converted? It's not like he had been the town drunk. He had been the respected Medical Director of the Sanitarium for 12 years already. He was a church member in good and regular standing,

So what was so different after Minneapolis that everyone could see that Dr. Kellogg had been converted?

Maybe this thought from Ellen White will help us...

Righteousness by Faith

"While [the believer] is justified because of the merit of Christ, he is not free to work unrighteousness. Faith works by love and purifies the soul. Faith buds and blossoms and bears a harvest of precious fruit. Where faith is, good works appear. The sick are visited, the poor are cared for, the fatherless and the widows are not neglected, the naked are clothed, the destitute are fed."

-Selected Messages, book one, 398

True conversion, true faith, produces "precious fruit."

And that's what people could see in Dr. Kellogg's life. But Dr. Kellogg wasn't a "little idea" kind of guy. He always dreamed big, so by the fall of 1890 he was talking to Ellen White about something he felt needed to be done.

Here's what she said about it:



"Dear Brethren: While in Petoskey I had some conversation with your physician-in-chief in regard to establishing a home for orphan children at Battle Creek. I said that this was just what was needed among us as a people, and that in enterprises of this kind we were far behind other denominations."

-Testimonies, vol. 8, 133

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For the sake of keeping the story short, let's just say that there weren't a lot of people who were excited about the church's new orphanage project. At least, it's certainly fair to say that the money needed did not come rolling in at an impressive rate.

Despite at least a couple hundred Adventist orphans scattered among the churches, donations barely made a dent in the need. The companion project—a home to care for worthy, but poor and neglected, older church members—got even less.

But then the orphanage got a "shot in the arm"...

An Orphanage

In 1892, Mrs. Caroline Haskell came as a guest to the Sanitarium. Impressed by what she had seen, she asked Dr. Kellogg if there were any special needs toward which she might donate.

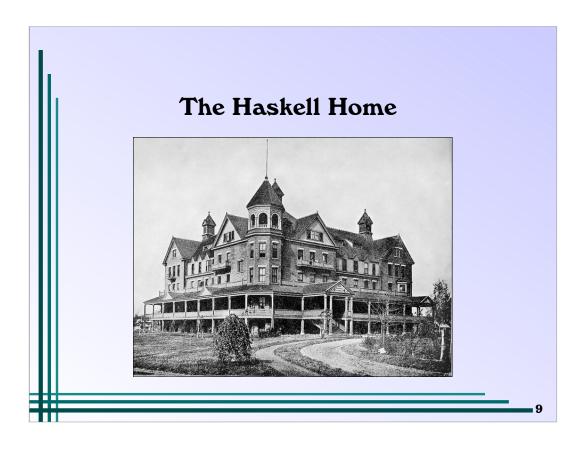
Her interest eventually led to a \$30,000 gift given as a memorial to her late husband, Frederick Haskell.

Soon approximately one hundred children were being cared for in the newly built Haskell Home for Orphaned Children.

Now, it's interesting to note that neither of the Haskells were Seventh-day Adventists. They were just what you might call "good-hearted Christian people."

Of course, Mr. Haskell had already died, leaving a substantial amount of money for his wife, but she was looking for something to do in his honor, and when she saw the needs of the little orphanage run in connection with the Sanitarium, she felt that it was the sort of thing her husband would have wanted to support. So she donated \$30,000 for the construction of a more suitable orphan home.

And just in case you don't grasp the effect of "inflation," let's see you build one of these for \$30,000!



About now you may be wondering how all this ties in with 1888 and the Loud Cry. Here's the connection:

Without going into all the whys and wherefores, suffice it to say that the 1893 General Conference session has long been considered something of a turning point in the progress of the "1888 message."

You may be familiar with A.T. Jones' "Third Angels' Message" series of studies. These have been reprinted a number of times and they're one of the most complete expositions of thought and doctrine ever given by Elder Jones. That series was given at the 1893 GC session.

Continue notes on next page:



The tone of the General Conference that year was largely set by Ellen White's statement less than three months before that the Loud Cry had already begun.

It's not hard to see how that would create some excitement. But in the middle of all this was one cautionary voice. One speaker who seemed to be walking a different path. I don't think he could be described as doubting the Spirit of Prophecy, but it must have sounded that way to some of the delegates.

It was Dr. Kellogg, and though he certainly came to doubt and oppose Ellen White in later years, in 1893 that was not the case. Here's what he had to say:

"The Lord has given us here a very precious work to do; it is not the whole of the third angel's message, but it is a part of it. You read in Isaiah 58, how we can make our light shine:

"If thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul, then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday."

"If we want the loud cry to begin, brethren, that is the place where it is going to begin. The loud cry is going to begin with our doing the things that the Lord in this chapter says come before the loud cry."

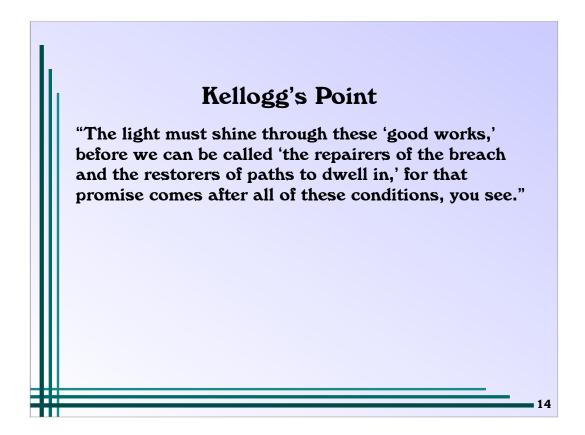
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"Brother Jones may be right in thinking that the time has come for the loud cry to begin; but if the loud cry has been begun by our people, it must be because we have just begun to do a little in the way of letting our light shine. But we have done so little in that way that it seems to me that before the loud cry will make any great noise in the world, we will have to let our light shine a great deal brighter than we have ever yet done, because the works come first."

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Now bear in mind that my brief summary of Kellogg's message hasn't included the Bible verses and Spirit of Prophecy quotations that he used to make his case.

And there were a lot of them, because both of those sources have a great deal to say about being kind to people, helping them with their practical needs, and caring for them when they are sick or disadvantaged.

His presentation is, at the very least, rather sobering.

But it wasn't in line with everyone else at the Conference, and that fact wasn't lost on the congregation. Twice in one talk the Doctor was challenged from the floor:

Opinions Varied...

Voice—"The loud cry has already begun."

Dr. Kellogg—"We ought to be able to show that we are doing what the Lord says should be done first."

Voice—"It has begun."

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Kellogg's "other people" is a reference first of all to Mrs. Haskell, and then to the work of other denominations. Kellogg had previously quoted Ellen White making the same point:

What's "necessary"?

"We have long felt that there was among us a great need of an orphans' home. We have seen the widowed mother with her fatherless children working far beyond her strength in order to keep her little ones with her, and prevent them from suffering for food and clothing. Many a mother has thus died from over-exertion. And how little has been done by us as a people for this class. Have we not come far short of our duty? We are not doing as much as is done by other denominations, when in view of our faith it is right that more should be expected of us than of others."

-The Medical Missionary, June 1, 1891

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Kellogg's underlying point is pretty simple: If the Lord has asked us to do something, does it make sense to believe that the Great Controversy will be finished without that thing being done?

Does the Lord ask us to do things that are "good," but not "necessary"?

Kellogg said, "no." What do you think?

But, back to the mystery of what happened to the Loud Cry. Several generations of Seventh-day Adventists have sought a theological answer to that question.

But what if the answer is a matter of applied theology? Continue notes on next page:



What if the answer is simply that we haven't shown the world what God is like because we haven't lived the way Jesus lived?

And just as a final observation, have you ever noticed that Ellen White did *not* say that the Loud Cry had begun in the "proclamation" of the righteousness of Christ?

Click

"The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ."

—Review and Herald, November 22, 1892

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