

The Alpha and Omega - Nader Mansour

Scribe: Richard C. Vaughn

<https://youtu.be/hlggyMdfRXs>

The subject of this study is, "The Alpha and Omega." Did you know that Christ, in the Scriptures is referred to as the Alpha and Omega? We are not going to study about Christ as such, however we are going to study about the Alpha and Omega of Heresy. We are going to be looking at some history in particular; as it pertains to what has been happening in the Adventist Church. That history is the root and foundation of a lot of the problems that exist in the church today, as far as the understanding about God and what is common today. It is very important to do a history lesson, in the light of what is happening today. And in order for it to be understood; it needs to be seen in its historical context.

There is a lot of debate and controversy of the issue about God and who God is, and the Godhead and the Trinity and all these aspects. The reason why these problems exist today is what we will explore, in the hope that it explains things, and once it explains things, hopefully it will help us to avoid this alpha and omega of deadly heresy. We are dealing with something that is quite serious.

In the Bible, Solomon tells us that history has a habit of repeating itself. Ecclesiastes 1:9 & 10: **"The thing that hath been, it [is that] which shall be; and that which is done [is] that which shall be done: and [there is] no new [thing] under the sun. (10) Is there [any] thing whereof it may be said, See, this [is] new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us."**

We know the saying that history repeats itself. Well here the wiseman Solomon is the one that said that. There are things that repeat, there is no new thing under the sun. When we see what is happening now, all we have to do is look in the past, and it will help us understand what is happening now. So, this is why we want to see why there is so much agitation and debate about this issue. You see this is not happening by accident, this is not a random occurrence, this is not some distraction that is coming at us; this has actually been prophesied.

In looking at this, we will do a fair amount of reading in the Spirit of Prophecy, to help lay the groundwork. In 1SM 200 she wrote, ***"In the book Living Temple there is presented the alpha of deadly heresies. The omega will follow, and will be received by those who are not willing to heed the warning God has given."*** {1SM 200.1}

This is where the title of this study comes from, "The Alpha and Omega of Deadly Heresies." So, we are told by Mrs. White, that the alpha of deadly heresy is contained in a book called the Living Temple, which we will look at shortly. Notice that the warning is very clear. If we do not heed the warning about the Alpha, then we are very likely to fall for the Omega of deadly heresy. Is that clear? She actually says, "The omega will follow, and will be received by those who are not willing to heed the warning God has given. Sadly, this prophecy has come to pass. It has happened. We want to see how that has happened and what led to that, and hopefully, learn about the Alpha and avoid falling for the Omega, and warn others so they can avoid falling for the Omega.

The book "Living Temple" was written by Dr. John Harvey Kellogg, a famous physician, not only in the Adventist church, but famous in medical circles in the world. Kellogg was in charge of the Battle Creek Sanitarium. Unfortunately, the Battle Creek Sanitarium had an accident and it burned to the ground in the year 1902. Thankfully no one died, but as a result of that, they needed to raise some

funds for the new building. So, Dr. Kellogg decided to write a book called "The Living Temple." This book was to be about physiology and health, and the sales of the book would generate income that would go towards the building of a new sanitarium. It was a very smart and clever idea since he was a good doctor, and many people would want to buy his book.

Unfortunately, Dr. Kellogg had adopted some theological ideas and understandings about God, that he just couldn't keep out of the book. This is the book that Sister White was referring to in the quote we just read. So, his theology and understanding that he inserted into the book was simply this; that God is not an actual person who is a physical, tangible being. Rather, that God is an essence that pervades everything. It's what the New Age people believes today. It's called pantheism, and Dr. Kellogg did that in a very clever way, that God is in every living thing. God was in the flowers and the trees and that we are all really a part of God. What he therefore had done was that he destroyed the true Bible picture that God had presented about Himself.

It was very problematic and is why we have these warnings from the Spirit of Prophecy about what he was saying and teaching. In Ministry of Healing, the servant of the Lord gives us this warning. **"The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever." Deuteronomy 29:29. The revelation of Himself that God has given in His word is for our study. This we may seek to understand. But beyond this we are not to penetrate.**" {MH 429.1} But that is exactly what Kellogg was doing. He had gone beyond and began to speculate that God was in all things, that He was an essence that pervades all things. He's not in one place more than any other place. He's everywhere equally and in everything. Obviously, that belief follows to its logical conclusion and leads to things like nature worship, because if God is in the flowers and the trees, you can worship the flowers and the trees. Or, even worshipping human beings, anything.

These are the seeds that Kellogg put into that book and that's why Mrs. White gave these warnings. In Loma Linda Messages, **"The teaching regarding God that is presented in 'Living Temple' is not such as our students need. ... Those who express such sentiments regarding Him show that they are departing from the faith.**" {LLM 253.1} That's a very serious warning, and that was written in the same year that book was published. The controversy that was happening in the early 1900's over this book, Living Temple, and what was contained in it; the view that Kellogg had about God, Mrs. White clearly said that this is very wrong. It is something that we don't need, and it is a departure from the faith. That's how serious that was.

If you are familiar with a little bit of this history, you are aware of that, but if you are not, we need to look at that background, because what happened then, helps us to understand what is going on today. That is why it is vital for us to understand what the issues really were then.

Here is another one from Special Testimonies Series B, she said referring to Kellogg, **"He has not known whither his feet were tending. But in his recent writings, his tendencies toward pantheism have been revealed."** {SpTB07 39.2} That is exactly what he was teaching in that book.

A lot of people will say that, that is correct and we don't believe that, and nobody believes that today. We are going to see if that is true or not.

Kellogg's book got a lot of negative publicity from Mrs. White. So, he decided to do something about that, because if you were a member in the church and you read that warning from Mrs. White;

you probably would not buy the book. Well, Kellogg decided he was going to do something about that. So, he changed or modified his view on what he was trying to say in the book. One day, he had a discussion with the General Conference president at the time, A. G. Daniels. In this discussion, Kellogg was telling him, he modified his belief, since he got so much heat from Mrs. White, so to speak, that he wanted to make it fit or work out. This conversation he had with Daniels, alarmed the General Conference president so much, that he decided to write a letter to Willie White, Ellen White's son, and express his concerns about this conversation, and what Kellogg was planning to do.

This is what Daniel's actually wrote in that letter, **"Ever since the council closed I have felt that I should write you confidentially concerning Dr. Kellogg's plans for revising and republishing "The Living Temple" He (Kellogg) said that some days before coming to the council, he had been thinking the matter over, and began to see that he had made a slight mistake in expressing his views**

He then stated that his former views regarding the trinity had stood in his way of making a clear and absolutely correct statement; but that within a short time he had come to believe in the trinity and could now see pretty clearly where all the difficulty was, and believed that he could clear the matter up satisfactorily.

He told me that he now believed in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost; and his view was that it was God the Holy Ghost, and not God the Father, that filled all space, and every living thing. He said if he believed this before writing the book, he could have expressed his views without giving the wrong impression the book now gives.

I placed before him the objections I found in the teaching, and tried to show him that the teaching was so utterly contrary to the gospel that I did not see how it could be revised by changing a few expressions."

Now that's quite a revealing letter. To summarize, Kellogg basically said, 'Okay, okay, I'm not trying to say God is in everything, okay, God the Father and God the Son, they're both in heaven; but God the Spirit is the one I am talking about, God the Holy Ghost is the one that is everywhere. And he says because I did not believe in the trinity before, I couldn't express it this way. But now that I've come to believe in the trinity, this is really what I am trying to say in the book. This should bring it into harmony with what Mrs. White says.'

This is basically the essence of his conversation with Daniels. So, Kellogg had modified his belief; he had come to believe in the trinity, according to his own admission, recorded by Daniels. He believed in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost, and he wanted to revise and republish his book, so as to incorporate this updated understanding.

Interestingly, Mrs. White makes some comments about this revised position. This is actually what she says, ***"It will be said that Living Temple has been revised. But the Lord has shown me that the writer has not changed, and that there can be no unity between him and the ministers of the gospel while he continues to cherish his present sentiments. I am bidden to lift my voice in warning to our people, saying, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked"*** (Galatians 6:7) {1SM 199.3}

So, in other words Mrs. White is saying, 'It's the same thing, it hasn't changed.' Modifying that and incorporating that, and saying God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit amounts to the same thing. The writer has not change. And she advises ministers to have nothing to do with him as he holds these present sentiments. And these present sentiments are what he expressed to Elder A. G. Daniels.

Do you see the problem here? It is actually a very serious problem. Today there are a lot of people who subscribe to the same belief that Kellogg had revised his teaching to. Sister White said he hadn't changed. In other words, it is still pantheistic. We will see how that is the case later in this study. Let's keep in mind that although he had revised things, he hadn't changed.

She told him in a letter, ***"You are not definitely clear on the personality of God, which is everything to us as a people. You have virtually destroyed the Lord God Himself."*** {Letter 300 1903} So, Kellogg's teaching destroys the personality of God. We are going to see how that happens.

This is not the only place that all this is mentioned. There's a lot of information about this. I (Nader) have just tried to pick a sample so that you can get a clear picture. Here is another quote from Selected Messages book 1, ***"In the controversy that arose among our brethren regarding the teachings of this book, those in favor of giving it a wide circulation declared: "It contains the very sentiments that Sister White has been teaching." This assertion struck right to my heart. I felt heartbroken; for I knew that this representation of the matter was not true."*** {1SM 203.1}

So, what was happening? There were people on Kellogg's side that were for the book and some were not. The people that were promoting the book said, 'You know what?' What Kellogg is teaching is exactly what Mrs. White says. So, they try to use the Spirit of Prophecy to support this teaching in the book, and obviously to support Kellogg and his revised position in what he has come to believe.

Now this whole matter of 'The Living Temple' and the whole issue, really boils down to something very specific. What Kellogg's view was regarding was the personality and presence of God, and that is what the whole controversy was about.

This is very important for us to understand, because this is the principle point of the Alpha of deadly heresies. If we neglect the warning about that, we will fall for the Omega. In order to understand the omega, we need to understand what the real issue was in the Alpha.

In his own word Kellogg summarizes this whole matter for us. One day he was complaining, and he wrote a letter to Butler. This is what he wrote, ***"As far as I can fathom, the difficulty which is found in 'The Living Temple', the whole thing can be simmered down to the question; Is the Holy Ghost a person? You say no. I had supposed the Bible said this for the reason that the personal pronoun 'he' is used in speaking of the Holy Ghost."***

Sister White uses the pronoun 'he' and has said in so many words that the Holy Ghost is the third person of the Godhead. How the Holy Ghost can be the third person and not be a person is difficult for me to see."

So according to Kellogg, the whole issue was over this belief he had about the Holy Ghost (the Holy Spirit). He believed it to be a person different to the Father and the Son, because he believed in God the Holy Ghost. Remember he said he adopted the doctrine of the trinity. He said God the Holy Ghost is everywhere. This person, not the Father and not the Son, this person, this being, this pure

spirit that pervades everything, called God the Holy Spirit. And he said to Butler, you don't say that because you say no; and that is because the church of that time believed something different. Then he uses the argument that the Bible calls it, he and Sister White calls it the third person of the Godhead. He was using statements from the Spirit of Prophecy to support His belief in God the Holy Spirit. A person besides the Father and the Son. According to his own admission, this is the whole issue that he is trying to express.

Can we see that clearly? Because this is very significant, as most people do not realize this issue when it comes to the Alpha of deadly heresies. All the focus is on the pantheistic part, and we are going to see what the connection is between pantheism and what Kellogg is saying here.

First let us deal with this charge that Mrs. White is saying the same thing and we'll look at what she says in response, ***"I am compelled to speak in denial of the claim that the teachings of Living Temple can be sustained by statements from my writings. There may be in this book expressions and sentiments that are in harmony with my writings. And there may be in my writings many statements which, taken from their connection (context), and interpreted according to the mind of the writer of Living Temple, would seem to be in harmony with the teachings of this book. This may give apparent support to the assertion that the sentiments in Living Temple are in harmony with my writings. But God forbid that this sentiment should prevail."*** {1SM 203.3}

In other words, she is saying, 'I know there must be some statements that are taken out of context and are interpreted by Kellogg, to support his teaching, but that is not the case, God forbid.' Now which statement was Kellogg using to support his belief in the trinity and God the Holy Spirit? It was the statement that says the 'third person of the Godhead'. We just read that. Do you know anyone who is doing the same thing today? It's a lot of people and Mrs. White said, 'That is not what I mean. That is not what I am trying to say.' This is very interesting.

Well what did she mean and what was she trying to say? What did she mean by 'third person'? We need to touch on that as we are going into a little more detail. This is the statement Kellogg was referring to in Desire of Ages. ***"Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the Third Person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power. It is the Spirit that makes effectual what has been wrought out by the world's Redeemer. It is by the Spirit that the heart is made pure. Through the Spirit the believer becomes a partaker of the divine nature. Christ has given His Spirit as a divine power to overcome all hereditary and cultivated tendencies to evil, and to impress His own character upon His church."*** {DA 671.2}

So, from the same statement where it says, 'Third Person of the Godhead', it also says the Spirit of Christ. Christ has given His Spirit. The key here is that it says this is the only way sin can be resisted and overcome through the third Person of the Godhead. Now if we allow her to explain what she means, rather than interpreting it in our own way, it makes it plain to see. Same book, page 324, ***"The only defense against evil is the indwelling of Christ in the heart through faith in His righteousness."*** {DA 324.1}

So, in one place she says, sin can only be resisted by the third Person of the Godhead and in another, the only defense against evil is the indwelling of Christ in the heart. So, the third person of the Godhead is the indwelling Christ. That is according to her own explanation. But that is not what Kellogg

was doing. He said the third Person of the Godhead is God the Holy Spirit. Not Christ and not the Father. Do you see the problem? That is why Mrs. White says, 'when you do that, you destroy what I am trying to say. I don't mean what this writer is trying to say that I mean. Here is another one

"Christ tells us that the Holy Spirit is the Comforter, and the Comforter is the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of truth, which the Father shall send in My name." ... This refers to the omnipresence of the Spirit of Christ, called the Comforter. {14MR 179.2} So, the Comforter or the Holy Ghost or the third Person of the Godhead is the omnipresence of the Spirit of Christ. That is different to what Kellogg had come to believe and Mrs. White said there is a problem here. My writings do not support what this man is trying to say.

So, this is what she says in Battle Creek Letters, Page 103, ***"It is not safe to trust in Dr. Kellogg. I dare not do it. I have written to him much, recently, but I may have to send something soon. I have not the least confidence in his present attitude toward many things. I learn that notwithstanding all I have written regarding "The Living Temple" a book that was written under the inspiration of the arch-deceiver; notwithstanding with many plain messages that I have written in the "Review and Herald" and in letters to our brethren in responsibility, Dr. Kellogg now admits only a few of the mistakes he has made, and still supposes that in former years I taught the same errors. This reveals a blindness beyond conception."***

That is very serious. She says that Satan was inspiring Kellogg in what he was writing and teaching, and even though Kellogg changed, and he said now I believes in the trinity, God the Father and God the Son and God the God the Holy Spirit. Mrs. White said the writer has not changed. Kellogg was using the Spirit of Prophecy in trying to support his statements, as we have seen. But Ellen White said no, that is not what I mean. Now this is very serious because the same thing is happening today among us, exactly the same thing!

There are people today that are saying Mrs. White was a trinitarian and that she believed in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. That is what most people are believing today. If that were the case, then how dare she rebuke Kellogg for bringing it to light, because at the time the church did not believe that. And when the G.C. President became so alarmed about Kellogg's belief, he wrote a letter to Willie White about the problem with Kellogg. And when Kellogg was going to revise and republish, there was still the same problem. Was it God who told her to rebuke Kellogg? Of course, clearly, and if so, how could God do that and inspire her to oppose him, if Kellogg was teaching the truth when it came to what he was teaching about the trinity? Do you see the problem here that we have today? It's a very serious contradiction. In other words, if Ellen White really believed in the trinity, then that would make her a false prophet, for she was rebuking Kellogg who believed that. That is what he admitted.

We want to see from her own writings and understand this a little better. ***"Our ministers must be very careful not to enter into controversy in regard to the personality of God. This is a subject that they are not to touch. It is a mystery, and the enemy will surely lead astray those who enter into it. We know that Christ came in person to reveal God to the world. God is a person and Christ is a person. Christ is spoken of in the Word as "the brightness of His Father's glory, and the express image of His person."*** {1SAT 343.3}

What she is referring to here is all these arguments Kellogg was using in trying to explain the personality and the presence of God. So, she emphasized this, that God is a person and Christ is a

person. Kellogg would accept that, but he is talking about God the Holy Spirit, who is everywhere. This is what the issue was about. Here's another quote:

"I was forbidden to talk with Dr. Kellogg on this subject, because it is not a subject to be talked about. And I was instructed that certain sentiments in Living Temple were the Alpha of a long list of deceptive theories." {1SAT 343.4}

What she stated in Kellogg's book were the alpha of a long list of deceptive theories. Kellogg had taken it to the next level and admitted he believed in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, which is part of this long list of deceptive theories. The list continues in to today.

So, what did the church at that time believe about the Holy Spirit? Here are some quotations from some of the pioneers.

"The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God; it is also the Spirit of Christ." {U. Smith, GC Daily Bulletin Vol. 4, March 14, 1891, pp. 146, 147}

"Here we find that the Holy Spirit is both the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ." {E. J. Waggoner, Christ and His Righteousness, p.23. 1890}

"We learn from this language that when we speak of the Spirit of God we are really speaking of His presence and power." {J. N. Loughborough, Review and Herald, September 20, 1898}

So, all these brethren were in agreement in their understanding and their teaching that the Holy Spirit is not some other person besides the Father and the Son. It's the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ. It is really the personality and presence of God and Christ as we shall see.

Now this teaching is not something they came up with, because it is what the Scripture say and what the Spirit of Prophecy teaches. ***"The Divine Spirit which the world's Redeemer promised to send, is the presence and power of God."*** {Signs of the Times, November 23, 1891}

Kellogg was teaching that the presence and power of God was another person called God the Holy Spirit. His presence is in everything and is everywhere. Mrs. White said that is an alpha of a long list of deadly heresies. It's pantheistic teaching. This is where the confusion was as far as Kellogg was concerned.

So, if we were to ask the question, 'If God gives us His Holy Spirit, is He giving us Himself or someone else? What would the right answer be? How would Kellogg answer? He would say another person called God the Holy Spirit. But this is what Mrs. White says, ***"In giving us His Spirit, God is giving us Himself, making Himself a fountain of Divine influences, to give life and health to the world."*** {Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 7, p. 273}

What was happening was, Kellogg was causing a separation between God and His Spirit. Rather than acknowledge that God was His own Person, His own presence, His own power, he said no, no, it is another person. That's what he said to Butler, was the whole issue when it came to "The Living Temple".

Here is another one, ***"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing; the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. Christ is not here referring to his doctrine, but to his person, the divinity of his character."*** {Review and Herald, April 5, 1906, par. 12} This is

a very significant statement. She is saying, when the Lord was talking about His Spirit, He was not talking about His teaching or doctrine, He was talking about His Person, the Divinity of His character.

There is a lot of discussion today, some saying the Holy Spirit is a person or it is not a person. The issue is this, the Holy Spirit is a Person. The question is, is it a different person to the Father and the Son, or is it Their own person? The Holy Spirit is not someone else and that is the problem where Kellogg was going. She said my writings do not support this. There are those who would then say, 'But you said third person of the Godhead. Well we read what that meant. This study lays a foundation to help us understand why we have a problem today.

Here is another quote from Desire of Ages, ***“While Jesus ministers in the sanctuary above, He is still by His Spirit the minister of the church on earth. He is withdrawn from the eye of sense, but His parting promise is fulfilled, “Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.” Matthew 28:20.”*** {DA 166.2}

According to this statement, how many ministers are there? Only One, Jesus Christ. He's ministering on, how many fronts? Two fronts. In heaven and on earth, and how He would do it on earth, is by His Spirit. Kellogg would say, no, no, His Spirit on earth is called God the Holy Spirit. That would produce how many ministers, or intercessors? Two, Christ and God the Holy Spirit.

The Bible tells us in 1 Timothy 2:5, ***“For [there is] one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;”*** According to the Bible there is only One mediator, Christ, His very own Person. This is how He fulfills His promise to be with His people to the end of the world. Kellogg was teaching different.

Mrs. White says, 'Those who do not heed the warning of the alpha, will receive the omega of heresy. A lot of people today believe as Kellogg did.

Note – In the video at 32:20, Nader then shows a video clip of David Asscherick explaining two intercessors, Christ and the person of another spirit. After the clip Nader asks how many intercessors according to this preacher? Two. Do you think that that is a problem? It's a major problem. When you believe as Kellogg did, it forces you to believe there is more than one intercessor (mediator). That Christ is not enough. That's not too far from the Catholics who have numerous intercessors. Mary the mother of Jesus and dead people who are their saints. Anything or any person who comes between us and Christ is a very serious problem. Here is another SOP quote:

“Christ declared that after his ascension, he would send to his church, as his crowning gift, the Comforter, who was to take his place. This Comforter is the Holy Spirit, -- the soul of his life, the efficacy of his church, the light and life of the world. With his Spirit, Christ sends a reconciling influence and a power that takes away sin.” {Review and Herald, May 19, 1904, par. 1}

Question: Is the soul of the life of Jesus a different person to Him? That's impossible. This is what she calls the third Person of the Godhead, according to her own explanation. Here is another,

“The Holy Spirit is constantly at work, teaching, reminding, testifying, coming to the soul as a divine Comforter, convincing of sin as an appointed judge and guide. Christ was the Spirit of Truth.” {Southern Watchman October 28, 1898, par.1} Praise the Lord, Christ has not left us and sent someone else. Christ is the 'Spirit of Truth'.

Kellogg came to the conclusion, no, no, this is God the Holy Spirit. Mrs. White said this is the Alpha of a long list of heresies. That belief is going to lead you into dangerous paths. We need to look at some of the dangerous paths this could lead us to, then we will appreciate what the problem is really like. Here is another quote:

“... there are two spirits in the world, -- the Spirit of God and the spirit of Satan. We are not left to be guided by uncertainty of feelings, nor by the deceptive spirit of error.” {Signs of the Times, November 24, 1887, par. 7} Two spirits in the world, the Spirit of God and the spirit of Satan. Question: Is the spirit of Satan a different person to Satan? Of course not. Why do we then say it is a different person than God when we speak of the Spirit of God? But today people are saying the Spirit of God is someone other than God, it is God the Holy Spirit. That is very inconsistent. Here is another one,

“The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ, which is sent to all men to give them sufficiency, that through His grace we might be complete in Him.” {14MR 84} You see when we look at the entire writings of Ellen White, rather than looking at one statement, which she says can be taken out of its context and interpreted in a way to suit certain teachings. If we look at everything she says, and this is not everything, it is just a sample, but it is clear enough. Why don't they quote these statements when they talk about the Holy Spirit? They just camp on the 'third person of the Godhead'. It's like that was the only statement she wrote on the topic. That is what Kellogg was doing to teach what he was teaching. There is more:

“The Holy Spirit is the Comforter, as the personal presence of Christ to the soul.” {The Home Missionary, November 1, 1893, par. 28} So this begs the question, “Who is your Comforter? Well it depends what theology of God you believe. If you believe the truth, it would obviously be Christ. If you believe as Kellogg; who would be your comforter? Someone other than Christ called God the Holy Spirit. Sadly, that is what most people believe today. Mrs. White was not confused as to who the Comforter is. She wrote,

“There is no comforter like Christ, so tender and so true.” {RH, October 26, 1897, par. 15}

“The Savior is our Comforter. This I have proved Him to be.” {8MR 49} She is not talking about some theory; she is talking about experience. She proved Him to be that Comforter.

“As by faith we look to Jesus, our faith pierces the shadow, and we adore God for His wondrous love in giving Jesus the Comforter.” {19MR 296, 297} Today that is not a common expression that is used, 'Jesus the Comforter'. All the credit of Jesus being the Comforter goes to someone else. Someone called God, the Holy Spirit. That is both sad and very dangerous, because when you think about it, Christ came to this earth as a man. He went through trials and temptations and experiences, and He finally died on the cross on our behalf. He did all this so that He could leave and send someone else? What good is that? What benefit is there in Christ obtaining all this experience, then leaving us and sending someone else, that never experienced humanity, never experienced temptation, never overcame sin and never dealt with Satan, as Christ did as a man. Do you see the problem here? We have adopted a theology today that has removed Christ from us practically; and given us someone else. It is important that when we are looking at this theory and what supports it; are there verses and quotations that support that argument? No! Practically, what does it look like in our practical experience? Who do we have today as our Comforter? Is it Christ or is it someone else? That's the question and the answer is very clear as we see in this next statement.

“The reason why the churches are weak and sickly and ready to die, is that the enemy has brought influences of a discouraging nature to bear upon trembling souls. He has sought to shut Jesus from their view as the Comforter, as one who reproves, who warns, who admonishes them, saying, “This is the way, walk ye in it.”” {RH August 26, 1890, par.10}

How has Satan shut Jesus from our view as the Comforter? By giving us another, different comforter than Christ. Someone called God the Holy Spirit. Now it doesn't matter what name or title you give to this comforter, if it's anyone besides Christ Himself, there is a real serious problem. We just read the reason why the churches are weak and sickly and ready to die. It's because Satan has shut Jesus from our view as the Comforter.

There are people who say Christ is ministering in the sanctuary above and that is true, but when you ask, who is their comforter? They say God the Holy Spirit is our comforter here. THAT IS TRAGIC. And yet that is so common. When you bring the truth to people's attention, they think it is really dangerous. They say woe, woe, woe, be careful brother. The fact is, that is how Satan has been so very successful.

One of the arguments people use is, they'll say, 'you are talking about the Holy Spirit, and you say it is not God the Holy Spirit which we are saying it is. You better be careful, because you know the unpardonable sin, and if you reject the Holy Spirit as God the Holy Spirit, then you might just be committing the unpardonable sin. A lot of people believe that.

Well, let us ask this question: Is the unpardonable sin. rejecting the Holy Spirit as a person? Is it believing that it is the personal presence and Spirit of Christ, Christ's very own Person? Is that the unpardonable sin? NOT AT ALL. Let us read from the Spirit of Prophecy as to what the unpardonable sin is:

“The sin of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit does not lie in any sudden word or deed; it is the firm, determined resistance of truth and evidence (MS 30, 1890).” {5BC 1093.1}

It has nothing to do with rejecting “God the Holy Spirit” or saying something about the trinity. It has nothing to do with that. It is the firm, determined resistance of truth and evidence. This study is sharing a lot of truth and evidence. How we respond to the truth and evidence presented would tell us if we need to be concerned about whether we may be in danger of committing such sin.

Here is another, ***“No one needs look upon the sin against the Holy Ghost as something mysterious and indefinable. The sin against the Holy Ghost is the sin of persistent refusal to respond to the invitation to repent.”*** {FLB 56.8}

So, people who try to use scare tactics by making you think your position could be bordering on the unpardonable sin do not know what they are talking about. Here is what she goes on to say,

“Those who seek to remove the old landmarks are not holding fast; they are not remembering how they received and heard. Those who try to bring in theories that would remove the pillars of our faith concerning the sanctuary or concerning the personality of God or of Christ, are working as blind men. They are seeking to bring in uncertainties and to set the people of God adrift without an anchor.” {MR 760 9.5} Now, who was doing that? Kellogg, especially on the point of the personality of God or Christ. She said this is no less important than the doctrine of

the sanctuary. She refers to that as the pillars of our faith. So, Kellogg was playing with and changing a pillar of our faith. They still do that because they are not remembering how God has led us.

The problem today is that it has expanded way beyond what Kellogg was teaching. We need to look at the pillars of our faith in this regard, because there is not only confusion about the Holy Spirit, but there is confusion about Jesus Christ Himself. Let us look briefly about the pillars and what the pioneers had said.

“The Father was greater than the Son in that he was first. The Son was equal with the Father in that he had received all things from the Father.” {J.S. White, Review and Herald, January 4, 1881} That is one of the pillars of the faith in understanding who God was. There are people saying that James White, before he died, became a trinitarian. He died in 1881, the same year he made the above statement, which is what he believed, and he never became a trinitarian. This is what James White believed about the Son of God, that the Son was truly begotten, and the Father is the source of all things and Christ received all things from the Father.

Here is another one from J. N. Loughborough in an article about Objections to the Trinity, ***“1. It is contrary to common sense. 2. It is contrary to Scripture. 3. Its origin is Pagan and fabulous (meaning fable). (1) It is not very consonant (meaning consistent) with common sense to talk of three being one, and one being three. Or as some express it, as calling God “the Triune God,” or “the three-one-God.” If Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are each God, it would be three Gods; for three time one is not one but is three.”*** {J. N. Loughborough, Review and Herald, November 5, 1861}

But that is what Kellogg was teaching, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost. Three Gods. You can do all kinds of cartwheels to make the three into one, it still ends up three being three. No matter how many philosophical arguments you come up with to make it one, it's still three.

Here is another one from E. J. Waggoner about the Son of God. ***“The angels are sons of God, as was Adam ... by creation; Christians are the sons of God by adoption (Rom. 8:14, 15), but Christ is the Son of God by birth. ... and so Christ is the “express image” of the Father’s person.”*** {E. J. Waggoner, Christ and His Righteousness, p. 12, 1890} Mrs. White wrote a statement five years later and notice the similarity.

““God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son” -- not by creation as were the angels, not a son by adoption as is the forgiven sinner, but a Son begotten in the express image of the Father’s person...” {E. G. White, Signs of the Times, May 30, 1895} Now as you compare those two statements, they are saying the same thing.

Today, a lot of people would have a problem with what Waggoner said. But others say Mrs. White did not have a problem and she basically quoted him five years later. In her statement she makes it very clear, that there is a distinction between Christ being begotten and the angels who were created.

People say today, that when you guys are saying begotten, that it means created. No! According to the Spirit of Prophecy they do not mean the same thing. So, no one should be confused over the issue as it is very simple. Created and begotten are two different things. Angels are created, Jesus was begotten. It is heresy to put Jesus in the category of angels. If a person says created and begotten are the same thing, they are bearing false witness.

Now here is another statement and look at the foundation as it helps us to appreciate what the issues are. ***“Angels were expelled from heaven because they would not work in harmony with God. They fell from their high estate because they wanted to be exalted. They had come to exalt themselves, and they forgot that their beauty of person and of character came from the Lord Jesus. This fact the [fallen] angels would obscure, that Christ was the begotten Son of God, and they came to consider that they were not to consult Christ.”*** {This Day With God, p. 128.2}

This was in heaven, before the fallen angels were cast out. The issue of contentment, according to this statement, was that the angels had a problem with the fact that Christ was the begotten Son. It says this is a fact here. It doesn't say it's a title; it doesn't say it's a prophecy; it doesn't say it's a role play, it says it's a fact! It is Satan that has a problem with the only begotten Son, and he tries to hide that fact. And anyone who tries to hide that fact today, must be inspired by the same source. Right! That is a very serious statement, but it is a very serious thing to deny the Sonship of Christ.

So, we need to ask this question: Did Ellen White teach a trinity or tri-theism? Tri-theism is basically a variation of the trinity as it believes in three gods whereas others say, no, there is just one god made up of three persons. More or less, it is the same thing as they both deny the Sonship of Christ and they both create another person called, God the Holy Spirit. Was Ellen White teaching that because a lot of people today believe she was. Let us look at this next quote:

“From eternity there was a complete unity between the Father and the Son. They were two, yet a little short of being identical: two in individuality, yet one in spirit, and heart, and character.” {YI, December 16, 1897} Father and Son, yet they were one in Spirit.

Here is another one, ***“Christ the Word, the only begotten of God, was one with the eternal Father, -- one in nature, in character, and in purpose, -- the only being in all the universe that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of God.”*** {GC 493.1} There is no other being that can enter into the counsels of God. So, what about God the Holy Spirit? Well if he is a being, or another person to the Father and the Son as many people believe, how does that work that he can't enter into the counsels of God? That is because there is no such being. There is no such person called god the holy spirit. It is Christ and the Father and Their personal presence.

Here is another one, ***“The Father and the Son alone are to be exalted.”*** {YI, July 7, 1898, par. 2} If you exalt anyone else, is that dangerous? But what do you do with god the holy spirit? If he is God, why can he not be exalted? We just read only the Father and the Son are to be exalted. But if he were another god then he should be exalted. That would be an insult to God.

Here is more, ***“God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God. To Christ has been given an exalted position. He has been made equal with the Father. All the counsels of God are open to the Son.”*** {8T 268.3} How many trinitarians believe that? Not one! No trinitarian believes Christ was given equality with the Father. Christ has that equality based on His divine birth. He is begotten of the Father. He inherited that. Nobody believes that today. But Ellen White believed it, she wrote God is the Father of Christ, Christ is the Son of God. It is that simple.

Here is another one, ***“The only being who was one with God, lived the law in humanity, descended to the lowly life of a common laborer, and toiled at the carpenter's bench with his earthly parent.”*** {ST, October 14, 1897, par.3} That is speaking about Christ as the only Being who was one with God. There is no other being in the universe who is one with God. So, how does god the

holy spirit fit into that. It doesn't fit and that is why Ellen White said my writings do not support that position.

Here is another one, ***“Let them be thankful to God for his manifold mercies and be kind to one another. They have one God and one Savior; and one Spirit—the Spirit of Christ—is to bring unity into their ranks.”*** {9T 189.3} Here is the real heavenly trio people speak about. The Father, the Son and the Spirit, the Spirit of Christ. There are a few statements that people like to camp on, because they like what they are able to make them say. And they ignore all the rest of these statements. It is so important to read the context of every statement. We need to be consistent. Here is a very important, prophecy statement,

“The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization. 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 (1853 onward) 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. Their foundation would be built on the sand, and storm and tempest would sweep away the structure.” {1SM 204.2}

She said the enemy was planning a change in our religion of Seventh-day Adventists. What is the quickest way to change a religion? It is to change Gods. If you change the God you worship, you just changed your religion. If you want to make it deceptive, just keep calling it the same name. That's exactly what has happened. She said it would be promoted in books of a new order. One of these books of a new order is “The Living Temple.”

She wrote, ***“Living Temple contains the alpha of these theories. I knew that the omega would follow in a little while; and I trembled for our people.”*** {1SM 203.2} Now we understand the warning about the Alpha. And now we can understand what the Omega is about.

Some of the additional books of a new order are these, “The Coming of the Comforter” by Leroy E. Froom; or “Questions on Doctrine”; or “The Trinity” by three Andrews University professors. These books all contain the same teaching that Kellogg had revised his “living Temple” to, “God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit.” They use Kellogg's same reasoning in taking a statement from the Spirit of Prophecy, ‘the third person of the Godhead’, to support the teaching of the trinity.

Here is a statement from Leroy E. Froom's book, “The Coming of the Comforter.” ***“May I state that my book, The Coming of the Comforter was the result of a series of studies that I gave in 1927-28 to ministerial institutes throughout North America. You cannot imagine how I was pummeled by some of the old timers because I pressed on the personality of the Holy Spirit as the Third Person of the Godhead. Some men denied that ... still deny it. But the book has come to be generally accepted as standard ...”*** {Leroy Froom to Dr. Otto H. Christenson, October 27, 1960}

That was in 1960 and Mrs. White had said the Omega would follow and I tremble for our people. Kellogg would have been very happy with this book. Kellogg had said, "... the whole thing can be simmered down to ... Mrs. White said the Holy Ghost is the third person of the Godhead." They match up.

This is the warning we looked at earlier. **"In the book Living Temple there is presented the alpha of deadly heresies. The omega will follow, and will be received by those who are not willing to heed the warning God has given."** {1SM 200.1}"

This prophecy has been fulfilled in our day and is why there is so much controversy and issues over this particular topic. It is because the majority of the people have not heeded the warning given by God in the Alpha.

At this point in the video, 55:44, Nader plays a video clip of David Asscherick, who is explaining the same three different gods of the trinity as three separate persons. Preachers and teachers in the church today are preaching the same trinity error of three gods that Kellogg had come to conclude. There is real danger today. Nader continues to show more examples that prove Mrs. White's prophecy has real fulfillment. At 56:56 the video clip of Stephen Bohr begins. He attempts to say the Bible proves one God, but three persons. At 57:19, Stephen Bohr again is saying that Mrs. White makes it clear that the Holy Spirit is a person also as God and Christ are persons. (His position of course is from the trinity view) He sees the Holy Spirit not as that of the Spirit of Christ, but someone else. The next clip begins at 57:40; of Doug Batchelor stating that God is composed of three persons, God the Father, God the Son and God the Spirit. Kellogg's Alpha position exactly. When Kellogg wanted to revise his book to the three God trinity statement, Mrs. White said the writer has not changed. And of course, Kellogg's view was this third God, called God the Holy Spirit, an essence that pervades everything. It is still pantheism.

At exactly 59:00, Nader plays David Asscherick again, where he tries to explain that the Holy Spirit is a person who has no physicality. Absolute confusion. This god the holy spirit, according to David is another being apart from God and Christ who has no connection to a physical body.

At 59:42 Nader plays another video clip of an elderly speaker that I (scribe) am not familiar with. He states that the Holy Spirit, third person of the Godhead, has a mind that fills all space and eternity. He's not talking about God or the Son, He's talking about a third being that has a mind that fills all space and eternity. That is pantheistic! Do you see the connection here? Kellogg would say that is exactly what I was trying to say in my book. Mrs. White says the writer has not changed.

Nader continues with the same video clip of the same person at 1:00:40 stating the Holy Spirit is a divine person that doesn't have a body like us. The Holy Spirit is on the other side of the universe and he is here in this church today.

We have seen that the Spirit of Christ is the Comforter, and that is who the Holy Ghost is, not someone else. Mrs. White said I tremble for our people, when she saw this Omega of deadly heresy. Now it's gone way beyond what Kellogg was teaching. The tables have turned. What Kellogg was teaching at the time was the minority and included he and his group. The majority of the church was safe because, the warnings of Mrs. White saved the majority of the church from that error. Now it is so common and prevalent that the majority believe it, and only a minority believe the truth that was believed by the church in Ellen White's time.

When we try to say something about it, everyone freaks out and says, "Are you trying to say the Holy Spirit is not a person like the Father and the Son? That's the unpardonable sin, they say. And that belief leads to the false conclusions.

At 1:02:12 shows the main website for the SDA Church, on the page saying Trinity. It states, "There are three parts to God, but there is still just one God."

Then it lists, "God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit." Who would have said Amen to this? Kellogg! Now it is published as a fundamental belief of the church. It never used to be when Ellen White sent warnings to Kellogg. Satan has been very successful!

At 1:02:53 Nader plays a short clip of Elder Ted Wilson, General Conference President, stating the following, **"Let me be also indicate that God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, all participated in the literal creation of this world. They are the Godhead. Three in one, and they have existed since eternity and they will exist throughout eternity. They are omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent and everlasting. Three distinct eternal persons, one God, our Almighty God."** That was a very large audience of people saying Amen.

This is a very serious and scary tragedy that we are in and are witnessing. The video clips were to show how common this is. Preachers and pastors and leaders have a great influence over people and people believe what they hear. This is not a case of a theory or a different view, this affects our worship, this affects our prayer, this affects our practical walk with the Lord.

Who else worships the same thing? The Roman Catholic Church and in their **Catechism of the Catholic Church,**

253 The Trinity is One. We do not confess three Gods, but one God in three persons, the "consubstantial Trinity".

266 Now this is the Catholic faith: We worship one God in the Trinity and the Trinity in unity, without either confusing the persons or dividing the substance; for the person of the Father is one, the Son's another, the Holy Spirit's another; but the Godhead of the Father, Son, Holy Spirit is one, their glory equal, their majesty co-eternal.

One God, three persons, that's who they worship. We are not supposed to be worshipping the same god as Rome. The devil has been so successful that today most people do not have a problem with that. That is the reason for this historical analysis, so that we can see why Mrs. White said I tremble for our people. It is no light thing to change gods. It's not some theological position that changed. Changing gods changes your entire religion. Even if you call it the same thing, it's still different.

Now a lot of people have said the Omega of Apostasy is this or that, it's the new theology, it's the music, it's the standards, it's women's ordination, etc. Whatever heresy they don't like, they say that's the omega of apostasy. But the Omega has to do with the Alpha; they're linked. The following is from Mrs. White's diary in 1904, the same period that all this stuff with Kellogg was going on,

"We are now to be on guard, and not be drawn away by the all-important message given of God for this time. Satan is not ignorant of the result of trying to define God and Jesus Christ in a spiritualistic way that sets God and Christ as a non-entity. The moments occupied in this kind of science are, in the place of preparing the way of the Lord, making a way for Satan to come in and confuse the minds with mysticisms of his own devising. Although they are dressed

up in angel robes they have made our God and our Christ a non-entity. Why?—because Satan sees the minds are all fitted for his working. Men have lost tract of Christ and the Lord God, and have been obtaining an experience that is Omega to one of the most subtle delusions that will ever captivate the minds of men. We are forbidden to ... set the imagination in a train of conjecture.”—Diary, #48 pp. 153, 163 Aug. 25 and Aug. 28, 1904

That's what Kellogg was doing, conjecturing. Well he modified that and said, no, no, well okay, God is a person, Christ is a person, they are in heaven, but the Spirit is this other person called God the Holy Spirit.

Mrs. White says this is mysticism, the writer has not changed. It still essentially destroys God and Christ. When Mrs. White said in this writing, defining God and Christ in a spiritualistic way, she doesn't mean spiritualism as communing with the dead. She means when you spiritualize something that God wants you to take literally. For example: When the people believed that Jesus was going to come in 1844, and He didn't come, some people said, 'Well you know what? He came, we just can't see Him'. So, they had spiritualized the event.

Today what is happening is a lot of people have spiritualized the fact that God is the Father of Christ and Christ is the begotten Son of God. They say that this is not real, the Father is not really a Father and the begotten Son is not really a true begotten Son. They have spiritualized that relationship. It's not real, it's not literal. It has been spiritualized. It amounts to the same thing. Mrs. White says the impact of these things that were happening in Kellogg's days, affects the experience of people. And she says this affect that you can obtain an experience is Omega to one of the most subtle delusions that will ever captivate the minds of men. This is a deadly heresy. In other words, this belief is going to impact your world and affect your experience. When you misunderstand God this way, it will impact your experience, resulting in the Omega. That is what she is saying, and today that is what is happening. We have taken it beyond, way beyond what Kellogg has done.

This is recognized by everyone; that your concept of God will impact your worship, your prayers and your walk with Him. Here is a sample of that and this is a very true statement. At this point in the video, 1:08:58, it is Doug Bachelor saying, ***“Now why is this all important? Your worship of God, your trust in God, your acceptance of God, is going to be influenced by your concept of God. Having a wrong concept of God is going to corrupt or affect or influence how you view Him as Savior. ... If you do not know who He is, if you do not have a basic concept of who God is, you can't give Him the worship that is due His name.”*** That is very true. Your concept of God will affect your worship and your response to God.

The issue or controversy in these last days is over worship. Do you understand now why Satan has caused all this confusion and why Mrs. White has given all these warnings? Why Satan has tried, time and again, to bring in the same heresy into the church? Well today he has the majority as we have seen.

Mrs. White said, ***“Be not deceived; many will depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. We have now before us the alpha of this danger. The omega will be of a most startling nature.”*** {1SM 197} Where it will affect your experience with false ideas about God.

Now here are some startling examples of the fulfillment of this prophecy. It is the next logical level of what Kellogg was teaching. The video clip begins at 1:10:24. It is Stephen Bohr declaring that we have three Almighty Gods working with the utmost power. This statement of Pastor Bohr destroys the meaning of Almighty. God the Father is the one true Almighty God. This is the conclusion that you come to when you believe these things. This is so sad because a lot of these people are doing many good works, but the concept of God that is being taught, affects the worship of people.

At 1:11:26, another video clip, of an influential pastor encouraging the people to pray to God the Holy Spirit. This is the logical conclusion to a false idea of God. It will affect your worship, it will affect your experience, it will affect your prayer. People follow the examples set by these pastors and preachers. This is the logical result of the teaching, that so many believe in today, God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. If the Holy Spirit really was a third God; then sure, why don't you pray to him? That's a good logical question. Now do you see the danger? A false idea about God should not cause one to say, 'God will sort it out when we get to heaven'. No! You need to respond to that here on earth.

The next video clip is a man who is consistent as he practices what he preaches. 1:12:50. The pastor prays to the Holy Spirit; tells God that He can listen in and then apologizes to the Holy Spirit for ignoring Him so much. He emphasizes that God and Jesus are way up in heaven, and then says but you, Holy Spirit, are here. The pastor continues to pray that he knows that "you were sent by God the Father and God the Son." This prayer continues to 1:13:50. This was done in the Loma Linda Church. There is no question that these people are doing a lot of good work in a lot of other areas. But the Omega of deadly heresy shows us how it has come in and has become so common. It is affecting the experience and the practice of us as a people. This is a very, very serious thing. This is not a stand-alone occurrence.

At 1:14:35 Dwight Nelson of Pioneer Memorial Church, starts His prayer as follows, **"Oh God in three persons, blessed trinity, how easy it is for us to talk about you in the third person. God is good ... dear God here we go, you are Holy God, you are holy Christ, you are holy Spirit, and as we plunge into Holy Scripture, we listen for your voice, teach us"** ... then at 1:5:01 he continues, **"Father, Son and Spirit, you have emptied your throne ..."**

We are told that the Father and the Son are **alone** to be exalted. Any prayer, worship and praise, outside of the Father and the Son; where do you think that is going to go? There is one other being in the universe who wants to be worshipped. He doesn't care what name you call him, besides the Father and the Son, so long as he gets some worship.

Enough weight of evidence has been given in this study to show the danger that we are in. We are very close to the end and there are so many people that need to wake up to realize what has happened and what is happening now.

This study will close with this warning from the Spirit of Prophecy, ***"It is God's plan to give sufficient evidence of the divine character of His work to convince all who honestly desire to know the truth. But He never removes al opportunity for doubt. All who desire to question and cavil, will find occasion."*** {1SM 72}

Enough weight of evidence has been presented in this study to show where the truth lies and where the error is. God's promise for those who truly desire to know the truth, is that they will find it.

