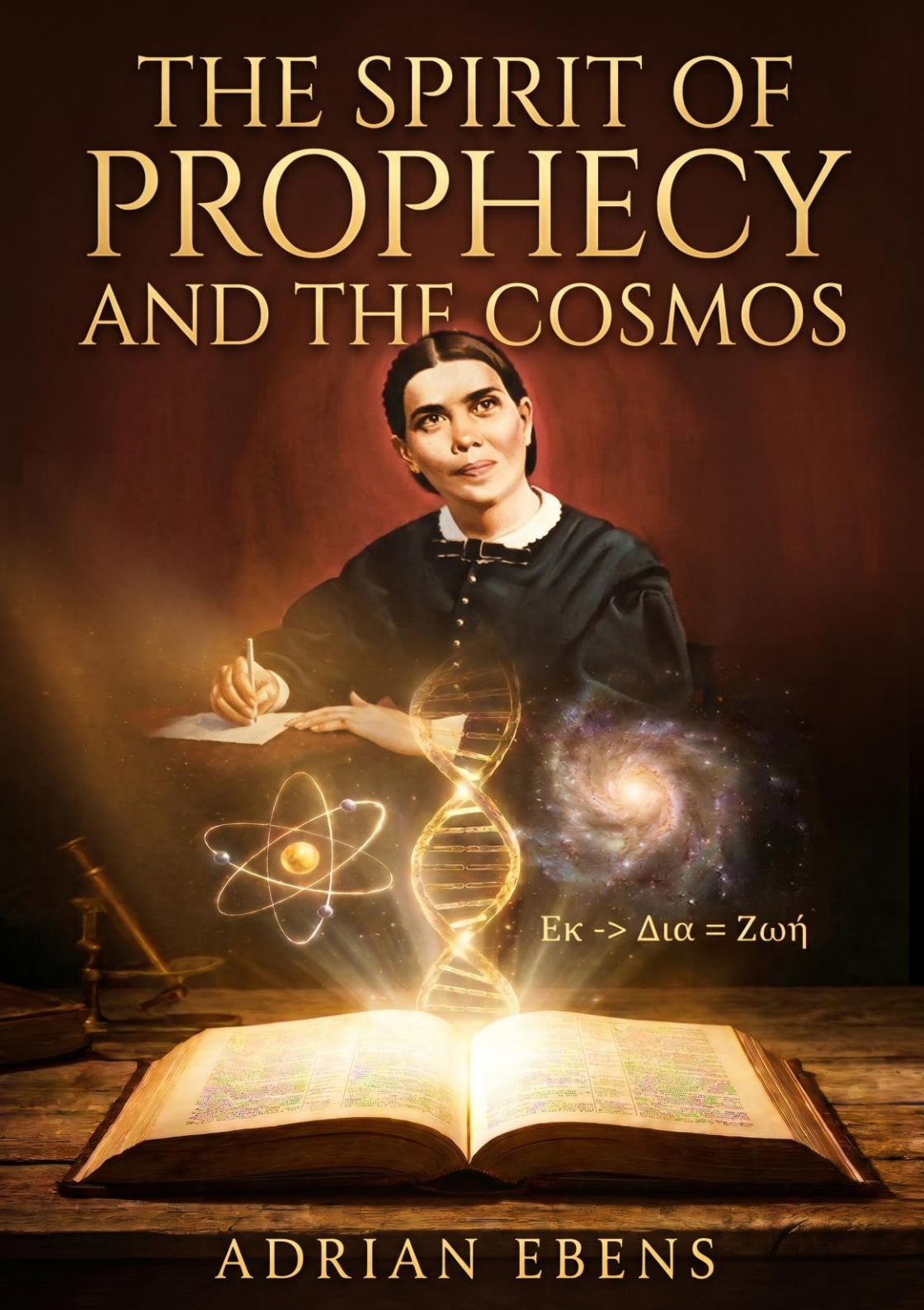
THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY AND THE COSMOS



ADRIAN EBENS



Adrian Ebens, October 2026
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Unless otherwise identified, Scripture quotations are taken from the *King James Version.*

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THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY AND THE COSMOS

Opening Remarks:

Happy Sabbath. Hope you've had a good week. Thank you, everyone, for being here. This is part five in the series on Bible cosmology. Today we're dealing with the Spirit of Prophecy. This should be a good revision for us on how we apply the mirror principle. As I have listened to different people talk about the mirror principle and how they apply it, I can see that people still are not applying it sometimes in the correct way. So, it's good revision. I pray the Lord will bless us as we continue our journey.

As we look at this subject, I know that it is unsettling for quite a number of people. It was certainly unsettling for me in the beginning. But we know that our Father's word is what we look to, we trust in, and we don't look to man to tell us the home that we live in.

So, let's kneel for those who are able.

Opening Prayer:

Father, we thank you that we can come to you. We thank you that you are looking down upon us from the heavenly city just above us. We thank you that you are closer to us than Chicago or Los Angeles. Of course, you're always close to us by your Spirit. You're right here with us.

We pray that you would guide us as we go through this study on the Spirit of Prophecy and its testimony in regard to Bible cosmology. Please open our minds. Please guide us as we spend this time. And we thank you in Jesus' name. Amen.

Presentation:

So, as we said, this is part five in the series. Before we begin, we will start with a quote. This is *Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 114. And this is the key issue, really.

> There should be a settled belief in the divine authority of God's Holy Word.

This is the issue. This is why I have chosen to address this subject, because the real issue is the authority of God's Word and how we approach it.

> **The Bible is not to be tested by men's ideas of science.**

You cannot use your powers of observation to overthrow the plain statements of Scripture, because this is what men are doing constantly.

> **Human knowledge** [science] **is an unreliable guide.** Skeptics who read the Bible for the sake of caviling may, through an imperfect comprehension of either science or revelation, claim to find contradictions between them;

Or worse still, claim to bring the Bible into harmony with their own perceptions.

> **but rightly understood, they are in perfect harmony. Moses wrote under the guidance of the Spirit of God, …**

Notice that statement. He wrote under the inspiration of God. What was revealed to him is what God told him. We have no evidence to show that this was an accommodation, that God actually lied to Moses about what He was saying. No, He told Moses. As Jesus said to the people of His day, if you would believe Moses, you would believe Me.

Isn't it interesting that the overwhelming majority of the Christian world do not believe that Jesus is the literal Son of God? They have spiritualised the term Son of God because they have spiritualised their belief in God, along with spiritualising their understanding of the world that we live in. These things are all connected. If we would believe Moses, we are much more able to believe in Christ. There's a direct connection here.

> **Moses wrote under the guidance of the Spirit of God, and a correct theory of geology will never claim discoveries that cannot be reconciled with his statements.**

Moses' statements; Moses' statements from Genesis chapter 1.

> All truth, whether in nature or in revelation, is consistent with itself in all its manifestations. (*Patriarchs and Prophets,* p. 114)

Just making the point there from geology, science, cosmology; geology is study of the earth, cosmology, the study of the sky and the universe.

We looked at these statements in the first presentation, what true science is. This is the treasure that is found in the Scriptures.

> This is the treasure that is found in the Scriptures. The Bible is God's great lesson book, His great educator. **The foundation of all true science is contained in the Bible. <u>Every branch of knowledge may be found by searching the word of God.</u>** And above all else it contains the science of all sciences, the science of salvation. The

> Bible is the mine of the unsearchable riches of Christ. (*Christ's Object Lessons,* p. 107.3)

And another quote, this is again from *Patriarchs and Prophets.*

> God is the foundation of everything. All true science is in harmony with His works; all true education leads to obedience to His government. **Science opens new wonders to our view; she soars high, and explores new depths; but <u>she brings nothing from her research that conflicts with divine revelation</u>.** (*Patriarchs and Prophets,* p. 115.2)

So, this is quite clear. We are admonished to go to the Bible. Paul says,

> And now, brethren**, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up,** and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. (Acts 20:32)

And Ellen White says in *Testimonies to Ministers,*

> When a message is presented to God's people, they should not rise up in opposition to it; **they should go to the Bible, comparing it with the law and the testimony, and if it does not bear this test, it is not true.** God wants our minds to expand. He desires to put His grace upon us. We may have a feast of good things every day, for God can open the whole treasure of heaven to us.—*The Review and Herald,* February 18, 1890. (*Testimonies to Ministers,* p. 119.1)

In regard to this subject, we have begun our journey formally to present this subject, and I encourage everyone to listen to all the evidence that is being presented and to consider the points that are being presented and to go to the Bible according to Miller's rules of interpretation. Notice this next point again in *Patriarchs and Prophets.*

> …those who leave the word of God, **and seek to account for His created works upon scientific principles, are drifting without chart or compass upon <u>an unknown ocean</u>.**

This is the point I want to stress to you. In the Bible, we have a known set of variables. We know how many books are in the Bible. We know

the verses that are in the Bible. This is God's Word. Therefore, we know what we are dealing with when we're dealing with the Word of God. But when we look into the heavens, we have an unknown number of variables. We have things that we do not know and that we do not understand. Therefore, we must always go from the known to the unknown. The known must guide us in the unknown.

When you are conducting experiments to do with our environment, how can you guarantee that you have all of the elements at your disposal? If man is still searching out the universe and searching out what is around him and they do not know and have all of the variables at their disposal, how can they come to a correct understanding? This is the great test.

We must work from the sacred Word of God and its statements about our environment and use those to launch into the unknown. We work from the known to the unknown. We do not use the unknown to tell us what the known means. Does that make sense?

And to a similar extent, this relates to the subject of history. Now, history is always "his story." Men tell different stories to each other, and they often fabricate stories to make themselves look good and make other people look stupid. So, history is not a reliable guide. Now, we can get an idea from history. We can get thoughts from history. There are certain uncontrovertible issues of history that we know about and things that have happened. But some of the details of history we cannot be certain about. And of course, we have the ministry of truth, according to George Orwell, that is rewriting history and taking things away from us and changing history. So, we have to be careful when we approach history.

Now, people present history very heavily on the subject of cosmology as a basis of why they believe what they believe. And there is a place for these things. But again, I want to go from what inspiration says about history and use that as my guide.

Now, one of the guides that I have is that the book *The Great Controversy* makes it very clear to me that the Papal power is doing its utmost to

overthrow confidence in the Word of God. That is an inspired history. I can look at history through that lens, and I can see where the powers, the Papal powers have used their skill to overthrow confidence in the Word of God. We can look at things through that lens and how the book *The Great Controversy* speaks about our relationship to history and the men that are working. We can use the Spirit of Prophecy and the Bible to point us in the right direction. So, we're always working from the known to the unknown. We do not work from the unknown to explain what the known is.

If you get this principle in your mind, you'll be saved from a lot of trauma. Because people are always coming up with things to show you in nature that you may not have an understanding of all the variables and therefore it can be presented to you as an absolute certainty that what you are seeing is reality. But this is what happened to Eve. She saw that the tree was good for food and desired to make one wise. And this led to the downfall, or the beginning of the downfall, of the human race because of what she saw and the conclusions she came to outside of the Word of God. So, we must be very careful in this regard to not "drift on an unknown ocean."

> The greatest minds, if not guided by the word of God in their research, become bewildered in their attempts to trace the relations of science and revelation. (*Patriarchs and Prophets,* p. 113.4)

Most of the men that are considered great minds today are not guided by the Word of God. This is one of the great tragedies that I wish to share with you, that when I attended Adventist University to become a minister, very few of the lecturers actually believed in a literal six-day creation. Most of them believed in theistic evolution. And I was paying thousands of dollars to be taught by these men that were telling falsehoods about the book of Genesis.

Now, how could they get to that position? Because they were spiritualising the Word of God. Where does the spiritualism start? It starts for us in verse six about what the firmament is. And once you spiritualise that, then you can spiritualise anything you want because

it's just poetry; it's just metaphor, and you can just make it up and make it fit with the men of this world.

That's the challenge; and that is why I'm addressing this issue above all things, to prepare us for the things that are coming upon the earth. Because you and I, in the future, are going to see things with our eyes and hear things with our ears that scream at us that what we believe is wrong and what the world is saying is right. And if you are not prepared to trust alone to God's Word, according to the literal rule of interpretation, you will be swept away in the delusion. For God is going to allow a strong delusion to sweep this entire world and most will be taken away. Few there be that find it. "Narrow is the way, straight is the gate, and few there be that find it." (Matt 7:14). That is why I am doing this series for that purpose. And Bible cosmology is simply the vehicle upon which I am presenting that theme, if that makes sense to you.

So here we have a statement in the Spirit of Prophecy that I have read many times. It occurs around 10 or 11 times in the writings and compilations of the Spirit of Prophecy. This is the first time it appears; it's in 1884.

> God has finished his creative work, but his energy is still exerted in upholding the objects of his creation. It is not because the mechanism that was once been set in motion continues its work by its own inherent energy that the pulse beats, and breath follows breath; but every breath, every pulsation of the heart, is an evidence of the all-pervading care of Him in whom we live and have our being. **It is not because of inherent power that year by year the earth produces her bounties, and continues her motion around the sun.**

And many people would say, well, it's because of the inherent energy inside the sun that the earth moves around. They would say that and even that is a violation of what this quote is saying. But in any case, she says about the earth in her motion around the sun. Now, it's interesting to note that when she says it's not because of inherent power year by year, the earth produces her bounties and therefore we could say and

not continues her motion around the sun. You could read it that way, couldn't you? But the next statement indicates that what is written here does support the present view of cosmology.

> **The hand of God guides the planets, and keeps them in position in their orderly march through the heavens.**

Now, you could say that she switches from earth to simply the planets, but that would do violence to the nature of this statement. I think it's fairly clear in this statement that it's indicating a present world cosmology view that the earth is moving around the sun and that we are part of a solar system. That's what this statement appears to be saying.

> It is through his power that vegetation flourishes, that the leaves appear and the flowers bloom. His word controls the elements, and by him the valleys are made fruitful. He covers the heavens with clouds, and prepares rain for the earth; he "maketh grass to grow upon the mountains." "He giveth snow like wool; he scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes." "When he uttereth his voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, and he causeth the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings with rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures." (*The Signs of the Times,* March 20, 1884)

But that highlighted point is, here we have a statement in the Spirit of Prophecy that appears to be supporting the present view of Bible cosmology and in harmony with Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, and Newton. There's about 10 times; it varies, a few words will vary here and there, but it's about 10 or 11 times that this statement occurs.

So, when you look for the word "globe" in the writings and compilations of Ellen White on the EGW CD-ROM, it occurs about 82 times that the word globe is used.

The same word ["globe"] appears 891 times in the Pioneer writings found on the EGW CD-ROM

So, what would that suggest to you about the Pioneers? That they overwhelmingly believed in the globe theory. I've got here the number of times; this is partly representing emphasis that is given, but also some people here don't have many writings on the CD-ROM. So, it's not necessarily a direct relationship with what they think on the subject.

James White: 26 times

Joseph Bates: 19 times

J.N. Andrews: 38 times

Uriah Smith: 61 times (Now, he wrote a lot so that he's appearing a lot more.)

J.N. Loughborough: 21 times

S.N. Haskell: 8 times

J.H. Waggoner: 6 times

R.F. Cottrell: 0 times (But we have very little of his writings, but he probably believed it as well.)

George Butler: 3 times

A.T. Jones: 97 times

E.J. Waggoner: 60 times

Now, we have a lot of Jones and Waggoner's writings, but it's evident that Jones and Waggoner were very much believing in the globe theory. And when you read Jones in particular, his belief in the globe is partly related to his opposition to Roman Catholicism and their resistance of Galileo and the church's apparent slow move towards coming to an understanding of the globe. So, the globe theory for a number of the Adventists is an expression of anti-Catholic sentiment. When you connect those two, you can understand why they took that view and why they looked in that way.

So, the point we're making is that the Adventist movement was overwhelmingly a globe movement and Joseph Bates was a sea captain

and had travelled the seven seas with that understanding and that belief. And all of those that had responded to Newton and were of Newton's ideas of the Enlightenment, they all believed this.

So now we come to another issue. I think this should be self-evident, but I just put this into Gemini to ask a question.

> Length and Breadth
>
> Question: When someone uses to phrase length and breadth of something, is this common language with reference to a ball or sphere
>
> Answer: No, it is not common language to refer to the "length and breadth" of a ball or sphere.
>
> Using "length and breadth" for a spherical object sounds awkward and unnatural in English, both mathematically and idiomatically.
>
> 1. Geometric Conventions
>
> • Spheres and balls are radially symmetrical in three dimensions. Because every straight line passing through the center to opposite sides is identical, they do not have distinct, orientable linear dimensions like "length" or "breadth" (width).
>
> • The natural and standard geometric terms used for spheres are diameter, radius, and circumference (or simply size and girth).

And this is the language that should be appearing in Scripture if that's what the earth is.

> • "Length, breadth, and height/depth" is standard terminology for rectangular or irregular 3D objects (like boxes, rooms, or vehicles), where edges clearly define separate axes.

Does that make sense? And because the earth is a geometric shape, it does come under the language of geometry. So, with that in mind, we see that Ellen White uses the phrase "length and breadth of the earth" 37 times in her writings and compilations. Here's a few samples.

> The third angel is represented as flying in the midst of the heavens, showing that **the message is to go forth throughout the length and breadth of the earth.** (*Christian Education,* p. 45.1)

Now, geometrically, that language cannot be applied to a sphere or a ball. It must be meaning something else. And, of course, we can say that Ellen White is simply using the language of Scripture because it occurs in Scripture a number of times, but that only reinforces and magnifies the problem here with a spherical understanding. Another one:

> **Sound an alarm throughout the length and breadth of the earth.** Tell the people that the day of the Lord is near, and hasteth greatly. Let none be left unwarned —*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 6,* p.22. (*Christian Service,* p. 78.4)

Now, of course, the response is length, and breadth is just an idiom. It's not literal. It's just a phrase that we use. And that is the dilemma. That is the problem, that when you start to do this to one Scripture, you can start to do it to any Scripture that goes against that which you wish to believe. And that becomes a problem, doesn't it?

> The angels of heaven are sent forth to minister to those who shall be heirs of salvation. We know not now who they are; it is not yet made manifest who shall overcome, and share the inheritance of the saints in light; **but angels of heaven are passing throughout** [throughout, not around, throughout] **the length and breadth of the earth, seeking to comfort the sorrowing, to protect the imperiled,** to win the hearts of men to Christ. Not one is neglected or passed by. God is no respecter of persons, and He has an equal care for all the souls He has created. (*The Desire of Ages,* p. 639.1)

Again, if we have a view of a spherical earth, that language cannot be taken literally. It must be poetry. So more and more of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy become poetry, metaphor, idiom; but they're not real and they're not literal.

So, the term "ends of the earth." Now we look in Scripture for ends of the earth.

> His glory *is like* the firstling of his bullock, and his horns *are like* the horns of unicorns:

Well, that's interesting. A unicorn. That's a translation issue, isn't it? Were there ever unicorns? Mythical creatures.

> with them he shall push the people together to **the ends** [H657] **of the earth:** and they *are* the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they *are* the thousands of Manasseh. (Deuteronomy 33:17)

Now the word ends there means cessation. It means pushing the people to where the earth ceases, where there is none, no, nothing. That's what the word means. If we take it literally as it reads, to be pushed to where there is nothing.

> H657: Cessation. Ends (13) none (6) no (4) nothing (3) besides (3)

Now, in the first one about pushing the people together to the ends of the earth, I think that we can say that there is a figure of speech being employed here. We don't have anywhere in Scripture where God pushed a group of people to the edge of Antarctica and threw them off. We don't have anything that suggests that. So, we can say in this context, then part of this is symbolism that's being employed. But the phrase "to the ends of the earth," do we automatically therefore take that as symbolic rather than literal? Or are we using something literal to set up our symbol?

This is the question because one of the things that people often do and they say, well, if this part of Scripture, this part of the verse is symbolic and this part of the verse is symbolic, then this must be symbolic. That is, what's the word? Syllogism. Let's make it a little easier for you, that's what I call "red fire engine logic." Do you know what red fire engine logic is? Fire engines are red, my car is red, my car is a fire engine. That's the logic that's being employed. If this is symbolic and this is symbolic, then this must be symbolic. No, Miller's rule says you take everything literally unless it becomes impossible to apply a literal understanding. So, you take each word, each phrase literally until you can't and then you apply a symbol and then that symbol, you look for the meaning of

that symbol in Scripture, not the back of your head or the back of anyone else's head or the front of their mouth. You take it from Scripture. This is the rule.

Now, Job 28,

> God understandeth the way thereof, and he knoweth the place thereof. For he looketh to the ends of the earth [H7098], *and* seeth under the whole heaven; (Job 28:23-24)

And the word there means termination, coast, edge, corner. And again, corner in the context of not necessarily a right-angle degree, but in this context, a termination, a coast, an edge, a part.

> H7098: Feminine of H7097; **a termination** (used like H7097): - **coast, corner,** (selv-) **edge,** lowest, **(uttermost) part.**
>
> Ends (17) End (4) uttermost (3) coasts (1)

So, God's eyes look to the edge of the earth. You could translate it that way, that His eyes look to the edge of the earth. This is literally what the Bible is saying, that the earth has ends, ends, end, uttermost, coasts. So that's what it says.

Now, the term "ends of the earth" occurs 28 times in the Bible and 261 times in the writings of Ellen White.

> Question: Is the phrase "ends of the earth" consistent with language describing the globe?
>
> Answer: Literally and geometrically, no; idiomatically and phenomenologically, yes. [As in a metaphor, a symbol.]
>
> A sphere is a continuous, boundless surface with no physical edges or borders. Geometrically, a globe has no "ends." However, human language rarely functions as pure geometry. Understanding how the phrase fits a spherical earth depends on looking at it through three different lenses:
>
> What rules should we apply? Literal or idiomatic?

This is the question that we have to answer. And more and more of Scripture and more and more of Spirit of Prophecy becomes symbolic or spiritual when you are seeking to fit this into a globe or spherical system. You must spiritualise more and more of the Bible.

This should be a warning signal. Why do I have to? Am I submitting myself to the Bible or am I submitting the Bible to the theories and aspirations of men?

So, "Face of the Earth." Now, people would say, well, we all have a face, and our heads are a sphere, so the earth must have a face, too. But which side of the earth then would be the face?

Audience: America. (Laughter)

Pr. Adrian: You mean South America? NASAs told us. Isn't North America larger? And we're the child of America.

> "Face of the Earth:" the phrase occurs 29 times in Scripture and 311 times in EGW Writings.
>
> Question: In regard to Geometric shapes is it normal to use the word face to describe the surface of a sphere?
>
> Answer: In formal geometry, no, it is not normal or standard to use the word "face" to describe the surface of a sphere. However, there is a minor split between formal mathematics and elementary school terminology:
>
> 1. In Formal Geometry (Standard Mathematical Definition)
>
> In rigorous mathematics, a face is strictly defined as a flat, planar 2D polygon that forms part of the boundary of a three-dimensional solid (specifically a polyhedron, such as a cube, prism, or pyramid).
>
> Under this definition:
>
> - A sphere is a non-polyhedral, continuous, curved surface.
> - A sphere has 0 faces, 0 edges, and 0 vertices.

- The proper geometric terms are simply its surface (or spherical surface) and its boundary area is referred to as surface area.

So, a sphere does not have a face. It has a surface. And people at this point may say, "Well, Adrian, stop being such a stickler." Well, your problem, not mine. I'm going with the standard definitions and understandings; and because the earth is a geometric shape and people are using mathematics and physics to prove their theories. And yet when we use mathematics and physics to show there's actually a major problem in what you're saying, they don't want to hear it. Then we go to myth, religion, religion of Santa Claus, or Greek mythology as a result.

So, we have this term "face of the earth." So, if the earth has a face and it's 311 times in the Spirit of Prophecy and they say, "Well, she's just quoting from the Bible." Well, what does that tell you? She never corrected it. So, this is a problem.

The Bible is Not a Science Book:

Now, this is this is from a BRI article,

> The Bible was not written with twenty-first-century concerns or questions in mind.

Oh, what's the 21st century concern that we have? How to be saved? Well, it's not written for that purpose. OK, he's qualifying it, obviously, specifically to a point.

> The Bible was written in Hebrew, Greek, or Aramaic to ancient peoples who lived in the wider Mediterranean society. (*Does the Bible Teach that the Earth is Flat?* by Kayle B. de Waal, BRI, Oct 2019)

So again and again, it says the Bible is not written as a scientific document. Well, where does it say that in the Bible? Does it say that in the Bible? This book was not written as a scientific document, so don't read it as such.

Audience: Doesn't it say it is profitable for all things?

Pr. Adrian: Profitable for all things. Didn't we read every branch of knowledge is found in Scripture? Science is found in Scripture.

Audience: Do you know, even atheists can see when they've read the Scriptures that it's a "flat earth book" and they laugh about Christians that believe in the globe over what the Father says.

Pr. Adrian: You don't believe your own book. So, everyone knows they call it "Ancient Near Eastern cosmology." They all know that that's what was taught. So, to say the Bible doesn't write with these concerns in mind, that's just your opinion. I don't apply the Bible that way. I simply apply Miller's rules to every text, to every word, to every part of Scripture. That's how I apply things.

> The Bible is God's great lesson book, His great educator. **The foundation of all true science is contained in the Bible. <u>Every branch of knowledge may be found by searching the word of God</u>.** And above all else it contains the science of all sciences, the science of salvation. The Bible is the mine of the unsearchable riches of Christ. (*Christ's Object Lessons,* p. 107.3)

So, it is a science book, isn't it? And anyone who says it's not, well show me the chapter and verse that says it's not.

> Miller's Rules does not seek to frame the Scripture to taste or inclination. You simply apply the rules of letting the Bible explain itself, using all of Scripture according to the literal rule of interpretation, and only using symbols when the literal doesn't work.

That levels everything. And that puts into the grinder many human theories and fantasies, and it puts them through the grinder and crushes them. And that's very painful for the human heart.

> Rule 11 speaks of not doing violence to the SIMPLE laws of nature.

Now, Einstein's string theory is not a simple law. Nor his theory of relativity. It's not a simple law. It's quite complex and it's designed to be complex. It's designed to overwhelm you so that you just go, "OK, you

win, I surrender." That's what it's designed to do. And if you screw up your mind and say, "I don't get this," they say, "Well, that's just because you're stupid." It's a brilliant trick. And everyone acts as if they know, when they don't know either.

Audience: And then you don't question them, because you think they're smarter than you are.

Pr. Adrian: Yes, they act as if they know, when they don't..

Audience: So, pride is the only thing that gets in the way of admitting that they're wrong.

Pr. Adrian: Yes, exactly.

And here is my point. Let me make this clear.

> **Such laws must be defined in Scripture for the Bible is its own expositor.**

I'm not going to have the laws of nature defined by things outside of the Bible. The laws of nature must be defined by things in Scripture. Does that make sense?

OK. Now, we looked at these statements before,

> **Now Christ again appears to the view of His enemies.** [There are billions of people outside of the city at the end of the thousand years.] Far above the city, upon a foundation of burnished gold, is a throne, high and lifted up. Upon this throne sits the Son of God, and around Him are the subjects of His kingdom. The power and majesty of Christ no language can describe, no pen portray. **The glory of the Eternal Father is enshrouding His Son. The brightness of His presence fills the City of God, and flows out beyond the gates, flooding the whole earth with its radiance.** (*The Great Controversy*, p. 665.1)

That's impossible on a globe.

> Again I looked and saw the earth purified. There was not a single sign of the curse. **The broken, uneven surface of the earth now**

> **looked like a level, extensive plain.** [Not an area of the earth – it uses the words "the earth" – complete.] God's entire universe was clean, and the great controversy was forever ended. (*Early Writings*, p. 295)

OK. Now, even though she has said these statements, there's a reason why I can't take what she's saying here as that God specifically showed it. Well, in this case, she's being shown in vision, so that's interesting. But we have some statements from her that indicate... Well, we'll have a look at those. But first of all, we need to set up this. We have an apparent contradiction in the Spirit of Prophecy.

We have several statements talking about the movement of the earth around the sun, and there are 82 statements mentioned in the globe, and there may be a number of other statements that appear to support a globe idea.

But on the other hand, we have a few statements of the earth as a level plain that describe and that indicate the earth operates as a level plain. We have 37 statements mentioning the "length and breadth of the earth." We have 261 statements mentioning "the ends of the earth," and we have 311 statements mentioning "the face of the earth."

Now, purely on weight of evidence; if you would use weight of evidence, you could say, well, where's the weight of evidence, based on this? But again, I'm not going to rely on this because there are other statements in the Spirit of Prophecy that tell you can't simply use weight of evidence. But what this does is that once you have an apparent contradiction clearly established within the Bible or the Spirit of Prophecy, you can invoke the mirror principle. You cannot use the mirror principle until you can see an apparent contradiction in Scripture or in the Spirit of Prophecy. Once you see the contradiction, you know that one must be the truth and the other is an accommodation. Do you understand? This is very important.

You cannot say something is accommodation simply because you wish it to be so. You must show that there is a contradiction. Now, if Moses was writing under divine accommodation, we would need to see in the

New Testament statements from Jesus or the Apostles indicating that the earth is a spinning globe. Then we can see there's an apparent contradiction. And because Jesus is the greater light, that means that Moses wrote under divine accommodation. But we have no such statements. Therefore, we cannot say that Moses wrote under divine accommodation, because there is no contradiction in Scripture on this particular point. Does that make sense? It's very important that we get that clear.

Now, the mirror principle and divine accommodation, we should be familiar with this. It speaks about the parable of the rich man and Lazarus.

> In this parable Christ was meeting the people on their own ground. The doctrine of a conscious state of existence between death and the resurrection was held by many of those who were listening to Christ's words. **The Saviour knew of their ideas** [those who He was talking to]**, and He framed His parable so as to inculcate important truths through these preconceived opinions.** He held up before His hearers a mirror wherein they might see themselves in their true relation to God. **He used the prevailing opinion** to convey the idea He wished to make prominent to all. (*Christ's Object Lessons,* p. 263.2)

So, we have a contradiction in the Spirit of Prophecy between two sides clearly established. And here's the point that I'm making.

> Was Ellen White using statements about the globe as revealed truth and using the mirror to meet the prevailing opinion that the earth was level and stationery? Or was she using language that the earth was level and stationery and using the mirror to meet the prevailing opinion that the earth is a globe?

Which was the prevailing opinion within the context she lived and within the world? That the earth is a globe. They all believed this; most, well, many believe this, except Gleason and others. So, when we have a contradiction, which one is being presented as according to the

prevailing opinion? Well, the prevailing opinion is that the earth is a globe. Does that make sense?

> One set of statements are truth and the other are a mirror of prevailing human opinion

And we know what the prevailing human opinion was; and still is, overwhelmingly.

Now, I want you to notice this statement from 1904.

> A man was present who had expressed a desire to see me and talk with me in regard to the round and flat world. I sent him a message that **when Christ gave my commission to do the work He had placed upon me, the flat or round world was not included in the message;**

So, she's saying God never told her specifically. Now, I want you to put this up against the fact that when she wrote about the earth moving around the sun, this is something that she wrote. But when she saw at the end of the thousand years and she saw the earth was a level extensive plain, she was in vision and God showed this to her directly. But even despite that, she's saying she was never told that the round or the flat earth was part of her message. Now, notice:

> **the Lord had taken care of His house, His world here below, better than any human agency could care for it, and until the message came from the Lord, silence was eloquence upon that question.** *(Manuscript Releases,* Vol. 21, 1904, p. 414.2)

> Ellen White was not shown directly the shape of the earth. It was not part of her commission or ministry. Therefore, we cannot definitively use her writings to settle this question. This question was not to be agitated until a message came from the Lord.

> She did not say "God showed me the earth is a globe revolving around the sun." She did not say "God showed me the earth is level and stationery." She said leave the subject alone until a message comes from the Lord.

What is that telling you? "Until *the message* came from the Lord," not even until "a message" came from the Lord. Is there a difference between indefinite and definite article? The definite article is hinting that a message is coming from the Lord. "Until the message comes from the Lord, silence is eloquent." Does that make sense?

So, we cannot use the Spirit of Prophecy as indicating in any way that Ellen White is speaking directly to the subject of Bible cosmology as part of her message. But, of course, we can draw hints from what she is writing. And we see clearly there's a contradiction in the writings. I'm simply giving to you the thought process that in vision she saw the earth was a level extensive plain, and that when she wrote, she wrote according to the prevailing opinion of the men around her who, ridiculed those who believed in a level stationary earth. As Uriah Smith called one man in January 1889, "utterly deluded" in believing in a level stationary earth. Now, if Ellen White had have gone against that prevailing opinion, what would have happened? They already had a lack of confidence in Ellen White because of the 1888 message. If she had to put her foot down and says, the earth is a level stationary plain, she would have been tarred and feathered and sent to Australia. (Oh, that's what happened.) And that was why you didn't speak about it.

Audience: But they already had a lack of confidence in her and James White well before.

Pr. Adrian: Yes, before then.

Audience: That's why you didn't speak about it at the time either because there was enough...

Pr. Adrian: And thank you, Danielle. We're going to speak directly to that point because I came to this conclusion 12 years ago. But I was under the distinct impression, don't talk about this yet. And I said to Danielle, be patient, just wait. I didn't know whether the Lord would tell me ever to speak about this subject or whether there would come a time and how it would be framed. And He has certainly done that. And I'll explain to you why.

But here, when you read this statement, doesn't it tell you? We have parallels to this. Now, there's another statement here. This is also in 1904.

> Melrose, Mass., Sunday, August 28, 1904—
>
> I speak to the people that shall assemble in the tent meeting in Melrose. My mind is deeply exercised this morning. I have had matters presented to me to give to our people. An urgent request came to me from a man who desired to discuss with me in regard to the round world—to him a very important matter. *(Manuscript Releases, Vol. 21,* 1904, p.421.3)
>
> My answer was, "I have a message to this people in regard to the life they must live in this world to prepare them for future life which measures with the life of God. **We have nought to do with the question whether this world is round or flat.** [The important thing] is to serve God with full purpose of a renewed heart, sanctified and made holy by the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ." *(Manuscript Releases, Vol. 21,* 1904, p.421.4)

Now, if you take this statement in isolation, you can make the case, we should have nothing to do with this question. So, we're not going to talk about this.

Audience: Well, you're actually making us look bad by talking about it.

Pr. Adrian: Yes, you make us look bad by talking about this. So, there is a reason why Ellen White should have nothing to do with this subject. There's a very important reason. We're going to explain why that is, at least in my mind, why that is. So, this is again in 1904. I think it's part of the same letter.

> Letter 280a, 1904
>
> The mysteries of redemption are not presented to the students in our schools as they should be. The themes of redemption will employ the minds and tongues of the redeemed through everlasting ages. The reflection of the glory of God will shine forth

> forever and ever from the Saviour's face. *(Manuscript Releases, Vol. 21,* 1904, p.419.5)
>
> **Let those who are presenting theories as to whether the earth is round or flat, leave this question, for God has not given it to them to solve, and earnestly inquire, "What shall I do that I may have everlasting life?"** Let them heed the answer, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself." *(Manuscript Releases, Vol. 21,* 1904, p. 419.6)

So, in 1904, she's saying, leave this question alone. Let's now look at the reasons why. Now, there's a parallel to the subject's being left alone for a time; because, "leave this subject alone," but "until the message comes from the Lord silence is eloquence." So, when you put those two statements together, you can see the picture. Oh, this subject will become important, but we shouldn't address it now. We have to sort other things out first.

So, this is Ellen White. I think she's writing to Haskell in particular.

> **I saw that your views concerning swine's flesh would prove no injury if you have them to yourselves;**

And this is essentially what I was saying to Danielle. Your views concerning Bible cosmology will prove no injury if you hold them to yourself.

> **but in your judgment and opinion you have made this question a test,**

I'm not saying you [Danielle] did, but this person did.

> and your actions have plainly shown your faith in this matter. If God requires His people to abstain from swine's flesh, He will convict them on the matter. He is just as willing to show His honest children their duty, as to show their duty to individuals upon whom He has not laid the burden of His work. **If it is the duty of the church to abstain from swine's flesh, God will discover it to**

> **more than two or three. He will teach His church their duty.** (*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1,* pp. 206-207)

Now, if you wanted to, you could just take this statement in isolation from everything else that Ellen White has said and say, Ellen White defends the eating of pork. You could use that, couldn't you? So, if we take this one or two statements from Ellen White on Bible cosmology, we can isolate them from everything else that has been written and we can make the case we shouldn't touch this subject. We should leave it alone. Don't talk about it.

When you think about that, if the Bible does speak to the issue of cosmology and then someone says you should never study this subject, aren't you being inducted into a cult; that you are not allowed to study certain things, you're not allowed to study or look at certain things?

The only question is timing; because timing is important. And I'm so glad I waited these 12 years before I began to speak about this subject, as I will explain.

> When you read this testimony from Ellen White in Volume One of the Testimonies you will discover this note from James White which was inserted after 1863.
>
> This remarkable testimony was written October 21, 1858, nearly five years before the great vision of 1863, in which the light upon health reform was given. **When the right time came, the subject was given in a manner to move all our people.** How wonderful are the wisdom and goodness of God! **It might be as wrong to crowd the milk, salt, and sugar question now, as the pork question in 1858.**—James White, note to second edition. (Footnote on page 206 of *Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1*)

So, there's an issue of timing here. And when the time came, it was important for them to look at this subject. And that's where I'm seeing a parallel to the Bible cosmology.

So, let's get the context here. I want to walk you through this.

- The SDA Church rejected the 1888 message and rejected the latter rain in 1892-1894. [We've covered this in previous presentations over and over and over. And I'll refer you to those presentations.]

Now, in the light of the fact that the church has rejected the 1888 message, what is the most important thing for the church to do? Repent and reclaim the 1888 message and understand what that 1888 message is. Nothing else is more important than that.

- This message was to reveal the truth of God's character.

We know this from the writings of E.J. Waggoner and what he wrote in regard to the covenant and George Fifield and the fact that we now, 100 years after his death, recovered all of his known writings and sermons, and all of them are affirming the points that we are making about the present cross, the character of God, the fact that he says it, God does not kill. This is what Fifield says. This is the fruit of the 1888 message and that we have reclaimed these truths in our movement.

- It was to unmask Satan's justice system and reveal the truth of the atonement.

Because Waggoner showed that we were the ones that demanded the sacrifice and not God. But this is far more important than Bible cosmology, infinitely more important than Bible cosmology. And until those questions are settled and sorted out, it's pointless talking about Bible cosmology. It's a diversion from what you really should be studying and what you really should be looking at.

- It was to proclaim the Sabbath more fully in the divine pattern of the Sabbath and Feasts.

This is vitally important because the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the sealing message, as we read in 2 Esdras 2:38, is that we will "be sealed in the feast of the Lord" and that this is proclaiming the Sabbath more fully. This is infinitely more important than Bible cosmology. We needed to get these things sorted out and understood.

- To enter into the subject of Bible cosmology BEFORE these subjects were reclaimed and expanded would be a huge mistake. It would bring us into the question of cosmology with a wrong view of the gospel and the character of God.

Even now, there are many people who are presenting the subjects of Bible cosmology without understanding the 1888 message and without understanding the character of God. They are presenting the message in an imperfect way and doing damage to the message. This is one of the problems that you have that when you don't have a correct understanding of these things, you can miss other things.

I will say that of all the material that I have looked at from those who are advocating a level stationary earth, I consistently find errors in the things that they are saying, let alone the expletives that they put into their videos and the arrogance that they display. It matches the arrogance of the scientists on the other side. I'm not saying that they're any less arrogant; they're just more polished in their arrogance, that's all; and mistakes are made.

Like someone sent to me telling me that Copernicus was a Jesuit. Copernicus was not a Jesuit, nothing of the sort. That does damage to the message. I watched a message this morning saying that the man who conducted the experiment with the two sticks showing that the sun is doing parallel lines said that he was a Jesuit in 240 B.C. There's a small problem with that: the Jesuits didn't arrive until the 16th century. And that does damage. People are pumping out information, full of errors in it. It damages the truth because it makes people go, well, this is crazy stuff.

People send videos saying flights from Sydney to Santiago and Chile don't exist. They do exist, I've done it a number of times, and I timed it on my phone. I know they exist. So don't tell me they don't exist. So, there is lots of misinformation because people are coming to this subject again, from their own eyes and their own ears, and from what they think and what they see.

They use the same methodology as those who believe the globe. They distort the truth and they do it in such a way that it misrepresents things. That's why I'm very, very hesitant. I've been looking for some videos to show some friends from a scientific point of view, and all of them have errors in them. They have some very good points, I think, that they make, but they all have errors in them. I'm like, well, I can't share that information. I can't share information that has error in it; I'm not going to share it. This is why I'm focusing on the Bible.

We needed to get the truth of the character of God, the truth of the atonement, the truth of His Sabbath and His feasts. All of this was much more important, and we needed to get this in line.

- Until the subject of the character of God was understood, the subject of Bible cosmology was a non-essential question; silence was eloquence.

But God has given us this light. Do we realize how much light God has given us within the last 12 years? Do we have an understanding? Do we have gratitude for what God has shown us and what He has blessed us with? So that now when we address this subject, we can do it in that context and do it from the Bible? So, my commission was, "Adrian, I want you to address this subject from My Word alone." And this is very important, that we uplift the Word of God.

Father of Love Movement:

- For those in the Father of Love movement, we believe that God has given us a message beginning around the year 2001 that has restored the 1888 message and expanded the character of God truth into the Fourth Angel.
- Great light has been shed upon the Word of God.
- A message has come to us from the Lord.
- With these things in place, we turn to the subject of Bible cosmology. There is no longer a requirement for silence.

- I came to understand the earth as a level stationery plain at the end of 2014. But when I prayed to the Lord as to whether I should speak to this subject, I was impressed that silence was eloquence and that the subject was not of vital importance at that time.
- Now that the essential points regarding the character of God have been revealed, I now believe that in the context that God has given this message, that now the subject of Bible cosmology is important to consider. – I am invoking the words of Ellen White "Until the message comes from the Lord"

And what authority do I have to invoke that? I'm doing it on the basis of what the Lord has shown me over the last 12 years. It's for you to decide whether I've done the right thing or not, and that's fine. People have been deciding what I've been teaching over the last 12 years for a long time, and most people reject what I teach, the overwhelming majority.

To prevent us from reading the Word of God incorrectly and using the Bible to suit my taste and my inclination. This is what this is about. Anchoring ourselves in the Word of God.

The Real Issue:

- The subject of Bible cosmology is a channel to a much deeper issue.
- The real issue is how we approach the Word of God and how we discover truth.
- Do I trust my mind, eyes, ears and experience to arrive at truth guided by the wisdom of this world or do I go to the Bible and ask our Father to guide me in regard to His creation?

That's the issue on any subject. Where do I go? Do I submit myself to the Word of God or do I submit the Word of God to my taste and inclination? That's what this test is about.

- Does our Father tell us what our home is that He created or did He leave this to us to work out from our eyes and ears and the learning of men?

Did He give us any clues about what He created? This is the test; this is the issue, of whether we take the Bible as it reads according to Miller's rules of interpretation. Because I have presented a series of messages over the last number of years and people are deciding how much they want to take on board and how much they don't. People talk about the divine pattern without having any understanding of what the divine pattern is, and they apply it in ways that were never intended. This is what is happening.

So, I have to address the issue of how we read the Scripture. And the Bible cosmology issue is the best mechanism to test this, as to whether we will follow the Scriptures according to the literal rule of interpretation, or whether we will follow our own inclination, teaching, our education. And nearly all teaching over the last hundred years is Jesuit education; nearly all of it, if you think about it carefully. So, do you trust in your education? The Jesuits are building on the Greek principles.

Our Pattern:

> And **the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him** [Christ], the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; **And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD:**

And who shall make Him, that's Christ, of quick understanding? The Father makes Him of quick understanding.

> **and he shall not judge after the sight of his** [own] **eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his** [own] **ears:** (Isaiah 11:2-3)

I've added the word, "own" ears, because that's what it means, because He needs eyes and ears to hear His Father and to see His Father, doesn't He? So, He needs to use them for that purpose. But He's not judging after His own mind, His own eyes, and His own ears. Jesus says,

> I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear [from my Father], I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. (John 5:30)
>
> But he answered and said, It is written, **Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.** (Matthew 4:4)

Now, it has been said a number of times that if man realized that his view of the current cosmology was incorrect, it would collapse our entire society. I've seen that in a number of places, that that's what would happen. It would collapse because it's based on a lie. Do we know that our present world order is going to collapse? Well, this is part of the reason. Our whole civilization over the last 500 years is built on a lie, and that refuge of lies is going to be swept away. And this is part of that lie. Because if you remember, Nebuchadnezzar had around him wise men, astrologers, that told the people, when they looked into the heavens, what they were seeing. They interpreted the skies for them.

Nothing has changed. We're in exactly the same situation. The wise men of this world are interpreting for us the heavens and telling us, 'Your Bible cannot be trusted. You cannot take it literally. Trust us. We will tell you what is going on in the heavens." So, I say, "No, thank you."

And this is the point.

> Those who endeavor to obey all the commandments of God will be opposed and derided.

What we believe in regard to our Father's character, the atonement, we are being opposed. I still get regular videos being produced attacking what I'm presenting on the atonement and the character of God; but the personal attacks are diminishing. People have consigned me to hell, and they've given up on me, and they've left me to die. I have peace from many of these people now, which is a good thing because, as it says here,

> They can stand only in God. In order to endure the trial before them, they must understand the will of God as revealed in His

word; **they can honor Him only as they have a right conception of His character** [that's the first thing], **government, and purposes, and act in accordance with them. None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict. To every soul will come the searching test: Shall I obey God rather than men?** The decisive hour is even now at hand. **Are our feet planted on the rock of God's immutable word?** Are we prepared to stand firm in defense of the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus? (*The Great Controversy*, p. 593.2)

That's why the subject of Bible cosmology had to come up, because to go through the last great conflict, we have to understand the truths of the Bible according to the literal rule of interpretation. And if we don't have that correct and we have a spiritualised understanding of Scripture, we will be swept away by the strong delusion that's coming. You can only stand on His word; the sure foundation. "Heaven and earth will pass away. My word shall not pass away." The only thing that is going to stand.

Nothing that we see or look at now is going to exist in the future. The only thing that will remain is the Word of God. Therefore, that is the only thing I'm going to refer to on this subject. I'm going to present it according to Miller's rules of interpretation. And I'm going to recommend to you, to do the same.

Hath God said, this is where it started.

- Did God tell us He is our Father or is this just a metaphor for a benevolent Creator?
- Is Jesus really the Son of God by inheritance or is this a symbolic demonstration of submission that Jesus took on as a role?
- Has Jesus inherited His divinity from His Father or do we restrict this to His incarnation?

- Is the Sabbath a feast along with the other feasts that are statutes forever or are they arbitrary laws that God gave to the Jews until the Cross?
- Did Jesus say the truth when He said, "If you have seen me, you have seen the Father?"
- Did Jesus speak the truth when He said, "If you believed Moses, you would believe me?"
- Did God show Moses the home that we live in or did God bypass Moses and give this truth to the Pagan Greeks and Reformation rejecting Catholics instead?

You decide.

So, I hope that you can see that we have a very strong case in regard to the Spirit of Prophecy and how to read the Spirit of Prophecy. There is clearly a contradiction of what she is saying in the Spirit of Prophecy. Which means that one side is the truth, and one side is divine accommodation. We can see, according to Miller's literal rule of interpretation, what that is. She herself said that "until the message comes from the Lord, silence is eloquence." And I'm telling you today that it is time.

I just want to make one final point, because seven years ago, a message came, and it came from Earthen Vessels. Seven years ago, it came in regard to this subject. And now, seven years later, the message comes again. But now it's coming in a different format. Now it's coming in a slightly different context. So, will you receive the message?

It comes in sevens. God's people number in sevens. You look, seven years ago is when they started to present it. But I was told to wait. It wasn't time because I needed to get the subjects of the character of God, the atonement, the statutes and judgments, and the covenants. I had to get all that clear. And once that was clear, then it became obvious that this subject… and as I said, my charter was, "Adrian, present this from My Word alone, and nothing else." And that's what I will endeavour to do. If I stray from that, you'll remind me of what I just said.

All right. Shall we kneel and pray?

Closing Prayer:

Father in heaven, we thank you that we can come to you and that we can lean on your word. We thank you that you speak to us, your precious, your pure word. We repent, Lord, of the spiritualistic interpretations. And we see now how you wisely use the Spirit of Prophecy, that to come out on this subject of Bible cosmology back in the 1890s and 1900s would have been a mistake, that we had to reclaim the truth of God's character and the 1888 message before we could rightly approach this subject.

Now we believe that the time has come, that we will be saved from the delusion, the strong delusion that is about to unfold and come upon the world. Lying spirits and miracles will be wrought and all those that are not anchored in the Word of God, according to the literal rule of interpretation, will be swept away. I say to all in Jesus' name, "Come into the ark of safety, come into the correct understanding of the Word of God, and be saved."

And I thank you in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Spirit of Prophecy and the Cosmos

The leaders of the Advent movement all held to new view of the Cosmos as presented by Copernicus, Kepler and Newton. No official position was presented on the subject but anyone who believed different was considered deluded.

Around the time of the 1888 message, the subject of the earth being level and stationary began to surface. After the 1888 message rejection, the Adventist movement had to address this rejection before doing anything else. Therefore when people came to Ellen White to ask about the level earth question, she told them that this question should be left alone until the message came from the Lord.

There are several statements from Ellen White that support the globe theory. As it was the prevailing opinion, to present a different view would derail the church from reclaiming the 1888 message.

Today for those who have walked the path of the loving Character of God and seen the depths of the 1888 message, now the time has come for the message about the world God has created.

This presentation puts the pieces together as to how we should understand the Spirit of Prophecy on the subject of Cosmology.