

SPIRITUAL DISCOVERY

Two early Adventist Pioneers (1844 - 1900)



John H. Kellogg
1852 - 1943

John Kellogg was a multi-talented man: surgeon, inventor of surgical instruments, exercise device inventor, pioneer in physiotherapy and nutrition, and a prodigious writer. At age ten, he worked in his father's broom factory in Battle Creek, Michigan. By the age of 16 he was a public school teacher. The next year he attended high school and graduated the same year. In 1873 James and Ellen White encouraged him to take the medical course, and they assisted in his tuition expenses.

In 1876, after finishing a two-year medical course, at age 24 he was appointed superintendent of the Health Reform Institute in Battle Creek, Michigan. It had opened ten years earlier in answer to a call from Ellen White for Seventh-day Adventists to provide such an institution. Under Dr. Kellogg's management it grew and prospered, achieving world-wide recognition as the Battle Creek Sanitarium. In later years, its patients included J. C. Penney, Montgomery Ward, S. S. Kresge, Dale Carnegie, Will Durant, Alfred Dupont, John D. Rockefeller, Luther Burbank, Thomas Edison, Booker T. Washington, Homer Rodeheaver, Admiral Byrd, Amelia Earhart, and many others.

Shortly before the turn of the century Dr. Kellogg came into conflict with church leaders over the control of all Seventh-day Adventist medical institutions. He finally did gain control of the Battle Creek Sanitarium. He also began teaching strange doctrines regarding the nature of God. In 1903 he published a book, *The Living Temple*, that contained the principles of pantheism. Ellen White wrote him many personal messages of warning, but he ignored them.

Dr. Kellogg took great interest in children and established an orphanage in Battle Creek. During his connection with the church, he probably did more than any other man to bring the work of Seventh-day Adventists to the attention of the world. His lectures and more than 50 books, as well as the Battle Creek Sanitarium, brought him fame. But Kellogg had difficulty with those who differed with him. In early years he strongly defended Ellen White and her message of health. But when she corrected him regarding his beliefs and practices, he began to pull away from the church. He developed a strong dislike for the ministers of the church, claiming that they were relatively uneducated and many did not practice health reform, especially concerning meat eating. A. G. Daniells, president of the General Conference, especially drew his antipathy. At his peak influence, Kellogg had 2,000 people employed in his work, while employees for the rest of the entire church numbered only 1,500.

Ellen White warned him against separating the medical work from the church. She also was concerned that he had gathered too much power to himself. Despite Kellogg's attempts to discredit her, she relentlessly tried to save him from apostasy. She even stayed in his home during the 1901 General Conference session, while still writing her appeals to him. But her counsels went largely unheeded, and when the Battle Creek Sanitarium burned in 1902, she saw it as a judgment against Kellogg's teachings and policies. Finally, on November 10, 1907, the Battle Creek church dropped Kellogg from membership—a tragic ending to more than 30 years of powerful influence in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Reference: <http://www.whiteestate.org/pathways/jkellogg.asp>





Ellen G. White 1827-1915

Ellen G. White was a co-founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church along with her husband James and close friend Joseph Bates. Mrs. White is also known as a messenger from God. She was born Ellen Gould Harmon in Gorham, Maine, November 26, 1827, to Robert and Eunice Harmon. She and her twin sister Elizabeth were the youngest of eight children. When Ellen was in her early teens she and her family accepted the Bible interpretations of the Baptist farmer-turned-preacher, William Miller. Along with Miller and 50,000 other Adventists, she suffered bitter disappointment when Christ did not return on October 22, 1844, the date marking the end of the 2300-day prophecy of Daniel 8.

In December 1844 God gave young Ellen the first of an estimated 2,000 visions and dreams. In August 1846 she married James White, a 25-year-old Adventist minister who shared her conviction that God had called her to do the work of a prophet. Soon after their marriage the Whites began to keep the seventh-day Sabbath according to the fourth commandment.

The mother of four boys, Mrs. White suffered the pain of losing two of her sons. Herbert died as an infant a few weeks old, and Henry died at 16. Her other two sons, Edson and William, both became Adventist ministers.

Ellen White was a prolific writer, with a total literary output of 100,000 pages. Her first book was published in 1851. She wrote a steady stream of articles, books, and pamphlets until her death in 1915. Of her scores of books, some are devotional in nature, while others are selections from the many personal letters of counsel she wrote over the years. Still others are historical and trace the ongoing struggle between Christ and Satan for control of individuals and nations. She also published books on education, health, and other topics of special significance to the

church. Since her death about 50 compilations have been produced, in large part from previously unpublished writings. She also authored several thousand articles which were published in the Review and Herald, Signs of the Times, and other Seventh-day Adventist periodicals.

Initially shy and reluctant, Ellen White eventually became a very popular public speaker, not only in the United States, but in Europe and Australia as well. She was much in demand in Adventist meetings and also before non-Adventist audiences, where she was a much-sought-after temperance lecturer. In 1876 she addressed her largest audience—estimated at 20,000—at Groveland, Massachusetts, for more than an hour without a microphone.

In her vision of June 6, 1863, Mrs. White was given instruction on such health-related matters as the use of drugs, tobacco, tea, coffee, flesh foods, and the importance of exercise, sunshine, fresh air, and self-control in diet. Her health counsels, based on such visions, have resulted in Adventists' living approximately seven years longer than the average person in the United States.

Ellen White read widely. She found that this helped her in her own writing as she presented the truths revealed to her in vision. Also, the Holy Spirit impressed her at times to draw literary gems from the works of others into her own articles and books. She did not claim infallibility nor did she hold that her writings were equal to Scripture, yet she firmly believed that her visions were of divine origin and that her articles and books were produced under the guidance of the Spirit of God. Basically an evangelist, her primary concern in life was the salvation of souls.

Ellen White was a generous, practical Christian. For years she kept bolts of cloth on hand so that if she saw a woman who needed a new dress, she could provide assistance. In Battle Creek she attended auctions and bought items of used furniture, which she stored; then if someone's home burned or some other calamity befell a family, she was prepared to help. In the days before the church started its retirement plan, if she heard of an older minister in financial straits, she sent a little money to help him meet his emergency needs.

For 70 years, until her death on July 16, 1915, Ellen White faithfully delivered the messages God gave her for His people. She never was elected to an office in the church, yet her advice was constantly sought by denominational leaders. Her formal education ended at age nine, yet her messages set in motion the forces that produced the present worldwide Adventist education system, from day-care centers to universities. Though she herself had no medical training, the fruitage of her ministry can be seen in the network of Adventist hospitals, clinics, and medical facilities that circle the earth. And though she was not formally ordained as a gospel minister, she has made an almost unparalleled spiritual impact on the lives of millions, from one end of the earth to the other.

Ellen G. White's books continue to this day to help people find their Savior, accept His pardon for their sins, share this blessing with others, and live expectantly for Jesus' promised soon return.

Reference: <http://www.whiteestate.org/pathways/jwhite.asp>



Ellen White was born in 1827 near Portland, Maine, U.S.A. Seventh-day Adventists believe that God called her to be a prophet and gave her messages through dreams and visions, as foretold in such Bible passages as Joel 2:28, 29 and Ephesians 4:11-13.

Ellen White's writings bring messages of hope that express the love of Jesus for every person. She proclaimed that the Ten Commandments are based on God's great love and that God will help His children keep His commandments as a response to that love. Ellen White dedicated her entire life to serving others. The editors of *Visionary* invite you to read Ellen White's writings for yourself to discover, enjoy, and build a stronger friendship with Jesus.

Reference: http://visionary4kids.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Visionary_Q3-2011.pdf

