

Statement No. 14
Spirit of Prophecy Support for the Book, *Daniel and the Revelation*
Statement Sponsor
John Witcombe

Statement: Ellen White's endorsement of Uriah Smith's book, *Daniel and the Revelation*, will have a significant impact on uniting the church regarding the message we present to the world on each major line of prophecy.

Ellen White's statements endorsing Uriah Smith's book provide a green light from heaven for anyone who desires to distribute this book and publically present the prophetic views brought to light in this book. If we present opposing prophetic views from what is presented in this book, major confusion would be generated. To widely promote this book to the public as we have been counseled to do, while at the same time presenting conflicting views on the major lines of prophetic teaching from what is taught in this book, would destroy our credibility. We need to either remove this book entirely from public distribution or bring our public presentations into harmony with what is taught in this book. Seeing that we must not discontinue the promotion of this book, the only other option is to bring our public teaching into harmony with what is taught in this book. At the present time we have chosen to discourage interest in Smith's book and freely present to the public whatever seems right in everyone's own eyes. Las Vegas, we have a problem!

***"Daniel and Revelation, Great Controversy, Patriarchs and Prophets, and Desire of Ages* should now go to the world. The grand instruction contained in *Daniel and Revelation* has been eagerly perused by many in Australia. This book has been the means of bringing many precious souls to a knowledge of the truth. Everything that can be done should be done to circulate *Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation*. I know of no other book that can take the place of this one. It is God's helping hand."** MS 76, 1901

"In the *Desire of Ages, Patriarchs and Prophets*, and in *Daniel and the Revelation*, there is precious instruction. These books must be regarded as of special importance, and every effort should be made to get them to the people." Letter 229, 1903

"Instruction has been given me that the important books containing the light that God has given regarding Satan's apostasy in heaven should be given a wide circulation just now; for through them the truth will reach many minds. *Patriarchs and Prophets, Daniel and The Revelation*, and *The Great Controversy* are needed now as never before. They should be widely circulated because the truths they emphasize will open many blind eyes. . . . Many of our people have been blind to the importance of the very books that were most needed. Had tact and skill then been shown in the sale of these books, the Sunday-law movement would not be where it is today." Review and Herald, Feb. 16, 1905

"The light given was that *Thoughts on Daniel and The Revelation, The Great Controversy*, and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, would make their way. They contain the very message the people must have, the special light God had given His people. The angels of God would prepare the way for these books in the hearts of the people." Special Instruction Regarding Royalties, p.7 (1899)

"Especially should the book *Daniel and the Revelation* be brought before people as the very book for this time. This book contains the message which all need to read and understand.

Translated into many different languages, it will be a power to enlighten the world. This book has had a large sale in Australia and New Zealand. By reading it many souls have come to a knowledge of the truth. I have received many letters expressing appreciation of this book.” 1MR 60

“Those who are preparing to enter the ministry, who desire to become successful students of the prophecies, will find *Daniel and the Revelation* an invaluable help. They need to understand this book. It speaks of past, present, and future, laying out the path so plainly that none need err therein. Those who will diligently study this book will have no relish for the cheap sentiments presented by those who have a burning desire to get out something new and strange to present to the flock of God. The rebuke of God is upon all such teachers. They need that one teach them what is meant by godliness and truth. The great, essential questions which God would have presented to the people are found in *Daniel and the Revelation*. There is found solid, eternal truth for this time. Everyone needs the light and information it contains.” 1MR 61

“Now is come the time of the revelation of the grace of God. Now is the gospel of Jesus Christ to be proclaimed. Satan will seek to divert the minds of those who should be established, strengthened, and settled in the truths of the first, second, and third angels' messages. The students in our schools should carefully **study *Daniel and the Revelation***, so that they shall not be left in darkness, and the day of Christ overtake them as a thief in the night. I speak of this book because it is a means of educating those who need to understand the truth of the Word. This book should be highly appreciated. It covers much of the ground we have been over in our experience. If the youth will study this book and learn for themselves what is truth, they will be saved from many perils.” 1MR 63

“Let our canvassers urge this book upon the attention of all. The Lord has shown me that this book will do a good work in enlightening those who become interested in the truth for this time. Those who embrace the truth now, who have not shared in the experiences of those who entered the work in the early history of the message, should study the instruction given in *Daniel and the Revelation*, becoming familiar with the truth it presents.” 1MR 61

“Young men, take up the work of canvassing for *Daniel and the Revelation*. Do all you possibly can to sell this book. Enter upon the work with as much earnestness as if it were a new book. And remember that as you canvass for it, you are to become familiar with the truths it contains. As you ponder these truths, you will receive ideas that will enable you not only to receive light, but to let light shine forth to others in clear, bright rays.” 1MR 63

“The truth for this time has been brought out in many books. Let those who have been dealing in cheap sentiments and foolish tests, cease this work and study *Daniel and the Revelation*. They will then have something to talk about that will help the mind. As they receive the knowledge contained in this book, they will have in the treasure house of the mind a store from which they can continually draw as they communicate to others the great, essential truths of God's Word.” 1MR 62

“I consider that that book [*Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*] should go everywhere. It has its place and will do a grand, good work.” Letter 25a, 1889

“The books *Daniel and Revelation* and *The Great Controversy* are the books which *above all others* should be in circulation now. Give them to the people. Light and truth they must have.” Ms29-1890.28; 21MR 452.3

“The interest in *Daniel and the Revelation* is to continue as long as probationary time shall last. God used the author of this book as a channel through which to communicate

light to direct minds to the truth. Shall we not appreciate this light, which points us to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, our King?" 1MR 63

Let me comment on this last statement:

What does it mean that God used Uriah Smith "as a channel through which to communicate light to direct minds to the truth"?

One of the most significant and relevant prophecies in the prophetic writings is the prophecy relating to the time of the end that leads right up to the coming of our Lord – Daniel 11:40-12:2.

If I was wanting my mind to be directed to the truth on this most important prophecy, where would God instruct me to look—Louis Were, our current prophetic expositors, or Uriah Smith?

The Testimony of Jesus tells us that Uriah Smith's book would provide the truth on the prophecies right up until the close of probation. In other words, it would never stop being the truth.

It would be unusual for God to decide to stop channeling light through His chosen messenger just during the time that he was writing the commentary on Daniel 11. God knew that our pastors and evangelists would be using Daniel 11:40-45 as an entering wedge message to establish our church around the world. We can believe that God was especially involved in channeling truth when Uriah Smith came to the final verses of Daniel 11. From this important statement, we can have confidence that God channeled truth to our church to protect us from teaching and publishing error on this most important prophecy.