

Research Statements in the Writings of Ellen G. White

The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials (1888) 38 (+)

“There is a most wonderful laziness that is indulged in by a large class of our ministers who are willing others should search the scriptures for them; and they take the truth from their lips as a positive fact, but they do not know it to be Bible truth, through their own individual research, and by the deep convictions of the spirit of God upon their hearts and minds.” [Parallels Letter (Lt) 20a, 1888 to Brethren Who Assemble in the Week of Prayer, par. 5]

1888 196 See also 1888 38.

1888 825 (+) “There was among some a spirit manifested in reference to the investigation of this controverted question [interpretation of the two laws] that was not after God’s order. If we have held as truth some points in doctrine that will not bear close criticism and investigation it is our duty—without revealing the spirit that the churches manifested, which was so unlike Christ, patiently to come to the Word of God in an humble, prayerful, inquiring mind. Then we need to be changed in spirit, to be converted. The truth will lose nothing of its force or beauty or power through research, testing every point which we have considered as truth, if we preserve the meekness of Christ in our research. The Word of God will be found a treasure-house full of precious gems. We may draw from this storehouse very much more than we have done, and may be made wise unto salvation.”

1888 978 See Lt 18, 1892, “Letter to J. H. Kellogg,” par. 1-18.

1888 981 (+) “Once these young men were willing to submit their wills and ideas to God’s will and ways. But they became confused through your ideas of science. While you could start them on a track of investigation, you could not control their imagination. Human ideas, contracted, confused, and obscure, were to them like the bright shining of a candle at midnight. They were simply walking in the sparks of their own kindling. If they had consecrated to God their powers of mind, soul, and body, there would have been an amazing change as to the quality of the knowledge acquired, and the mode of acquiring it. Study and **research** were essential, but they needed to realize their danger, and look to God at every step, the creature to be directed by the Creator.” [Written to J. H. Kellogg]

God’s Amazing Grace (AG) 343

See *Education* (Ed) 15.

SDA Bible Commentary vol. 1 (1BC) (1980): 1,083

See *Christ Triumphant* (CTr) 33.

3BC 1141 See Manuscript (Ms) 4 (1882).

3BC 1165 See “The Word Made Flesh,” *Review and Herald* (RH) 83:14 (April 5, 1906): 8; 6BC 1086; Ms 70 (1901).

7BC 916 See *Patriarchs and Prophets* (PP) 115.

7BC 919 See *Sermons and Talks* vol. 1 (hereafter, volume number plus SAT: e.g., 1SAT) 65.

7BC 989 See Lt 3, February 2, 1898, To Brethren, par. 1-16.

- To Be Like Jesus* (BLJ) 25
See Ed 15.
- BLJ 105 See *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students* (CT) 66.
- BLJ 120 See *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4 (4T) 499.
- BLJ 121 See *Messages to Young People* (MYP) 255.
- Conflict and Courage* (CC) 17
See *Christ Triumphant* (CTr) 33.
- CC 191 See *Prophets and Kings* (PK) 33.
- Counsels for the Church* (CCh) 330
See *Mind, Character, and Personality*, vol. 2 (hereafter, volume number plus MCP—e.g., 2MCP) 712.
- Christ in His Sanctuary* (CIHS) 131
See *The Great Controversy* (GC) 411.
- Christ's Object Lessons* (COL) 41 (-)
"In too many schools of our day God's word is set aside. Other subjects occupy the mind. The study of infidel authors holds a large place in the educational system. Skeptical sentiments are interwoven in the matter placed in school books. Scientific research becomes misleading, because its discoveries are misinterpreted and perverted. The word of God is compared with the supposed teachings of science, and is made to appear uncertain and untrustworthy. Thus the seeds of doubt are planted in the minds of the youth, and in time of temptation they spring up. When faith in God's word is lost, the soul has no guide, no safeguard. The youth are drawn into paths which lead away from God and from everlasting life." [Parallels *Fundamentals of Christian Education* (FCE) 328]
- COL 129 (+) "We shall understand God's compassion just in proportion as we appreciate His sacrifice for us. As we search the word of God in humility of heart, the grand theme of redemption will open to our research. It will increase in brightness as we behold it, and as we aspire to grasp it, its height and depth will ever increase."
- COL 378 (+) "'What is written in the law?'" he [Christ] asked. 'How readest thou?' And he [the lawyer] answering said, 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself.' 'Thou hast answered right,' Christ said; 'this do, and thou shalt live.' Christ knew that no one present could keep the law in his own strength. He desired to lead the lawyer to clearer and more critical research, that he might find the truth. Only by accepting the virtue and grace of Christ can the law be kept. Belief in the propitiation for sin enables fallen man to love God with his whole heart, and his neighbor as himself."
- A Call to Stand Apart* (CSA) 46 (~)
"The plan of redemption is laid open to us, so that every soul may see the steps he is to take in repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ, in order to be saved in God's appointed way; yet beneath these truths, so easily understood, lie mysteries that are the hiding of His glory—mysteries that overpower the mind in its research, yet inspire the sincere seeker for truth with reverence and faith."

Counsels on Sabbath School Work (CSW) 33 (+)

“Those who have entered upon the work of teaching, or who have been called to any position of responsibility, should not be satisfied to take the product of the researches of other minds, but they should investigate truth for themselves. If they do not form the habit of investigating themes of truth for themselves, they will become superficial in their life and acquirements. The opinions of your associates may be of value to you, but you should not rely upon them and have no definite ideas of your own. You should examine the truths you have been led to believe, until you know that they are without a flaw.”

CT 52 (~)

“As an educator, the Holy Scriptures are without a rival. The Bible is the most ancient and the most comprehensive history that men possess. It came fresh from the Fountain of eternal truth, and throughout the ages a divine hand has preserved its purity. It lights up the far-distant past, where human research seeks in vain to penetrate. In God’s word only do we behold the power that laid the foundations of the earth and that stretched out the heavens. Here only do we find an authentic account of the origin of nations. Here only is given a history of our race unsullied by human pride or prejudice.” [Parallels *From Eternity Past* (EP) 434; *From Heaven With Love* (HLv) 297; PP 596]

CT 66 (~)

“When men have gone as far in scientific research as their limited powers will permit, there is still an infinity beyond what they can apprehend.” [Parallels 1SAT65]

CT 135 (+)

“Those who indulge the habit of racing through an exciting story are simply crippling their mental strength and disqualifying their minds for vigorous thought and research. Some youth, and even some of mature age, have been afflicted with paralysis from no other cause than excess in reading. The nerve power of the brain was kept constantly excited, until the delicate machinery became worn and refused to act.” [Parallels FE 163]

CT 377 (-)

“Philosophical speculation and scientific research in which God is not acknowledged are making skeptics of thousands. In the schools of today the conclusions that learned men have reached as the result of their scientific investigations are carefully taught and fully explained; while the impression is distinctly given that if these learned men are correct, the Bible cannot be. Skepticism is attractive to the human mind. The youth see in it an independence that captivates the imagination, and they are deceived. Satan triumphs. He nourishes every seed of doubt that is sown in young hearts. He causes it to grow and bear fruit, and soon a plentiful harvest of infidelity is reaped.” [Parallels CT 423; “The Position and Responsibility of a True Educator,” *Signs of the Times* (ST) 26:11 (March 14, 1900). For more information, go to <https://m.egwwritings.org/en/book/820.16509>.

CT 381 (-)

“Your intellectual pride will not aid you in communicating with souls that are perishing for want of the bread of life. In your study of these books you are allowing them to take the place of the practical lessons you should be learning from Christ. With the results of this study the people are not fed. Very little of the research which is so wearying to the mind furnishes that which will help one to be a successful laborer for souls.” [Parallels *Testimonies*, vol. 8 (8T) 308]

CT 423 (~)

“Students devote years to acquiring an education. They study different authors and become acquainted with science and philosophy through books containing the

results of human research; but the Book that comes from the divine Teacher has, to a great extent, been neglected. Its value is not discerned; its treasures remain hidden.”

CT 423 “Cold, philosophical speculations and scientific research in which God is not acknowledged are a positive injury. And the evil is aggravated when, as is often the case, books placed in the hands of the young, accepted as authority and depended upon in their education, are from authors avowedly infidel. Through all the thoughts presented by these men their poisonous sentiments are interwoven. The study of such books is like handling black coals; a student cannot be undefiled in mind who thinks along the line of skepticism.” [Parallels CT 377; “The Position and Responsibility of a True Educator,” ST 26:11 (March 14, 1900). For more information, go to <https://m.egwwritings.org/en/book/820.16509>.

CT 426 (+) “God is the author of science. Scientific research opens to the mind vast fields of thought and information, enabling us to see God in His created works. Ignorance may try to support skepticism by appealing to science; but instead of upholding skepticism, true science contributes fresh evidences of the wisdom and power of God. Rightly understood, science and the written word agree, and each sheds light on the other. Together they lead us to God by teaching us something of the wise and beneficent laws through which He works.” [Parallels *The Ministry of Healing* (MH) 462; PP 599; *Selected Messages*, Book 3 (3SM) 308]

CT 443 (+) “The Bible is the revelation of God to our world, telling us of the character we must have in order to reach the paradise of God. We are to esteem it as God’s disclosure to us of eternal things,—the things of most consequence for us to know. By the world it is thrown aside, as if the perusal of it were finished, but a thousand years of research would not exhaust the hidden treasure it contains. Eternity alone will disclose the wisdom of an infinite mind.”

Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene (CTBH) 124

See FE 163.

CTr 33 (-) “Age after age, the curiosity of men has led them to seek for the tree of knowledge; and often they think they are plucking fruit most essential, when, like Solomon’s research, they find it altogether vanity and nothingness in comparison with that science of true holiness which will open to them the gates of the city of God. The human ambition has been seeking for that kind of knowledge that will bring to them glory and self-exaltation and supremacy. Thus Adam and Eve were worked upon by Satan until God’s restraint was snapped asunder, and their education under the teacher of lies began in order that they might have the knowledge which God had refused them,—to know the consequence of transgression.”

Counsels to Writers and Editors (CW) 92

See 2MCP 699.

The Desire of Ages (DA) 464 (+)

“The world has had its great teachers, men of giant intellect and wonderful research, men whose utterances have stimulated thought and opened to view vast fields of knowledge; and these men have been honored as guides and benefactors of their race. But there is One who stands higher than they.” [Parallels Ed 13; HLv 313]

Darkness Before Dawn (DD) 8

See GC 522.

- Ed 13 “The world has had its great teachers, men of giant intellect and extensive research, men whose utterances have stimulated thought and opened to view vast fields of knowledge; and these men have been honored as guides and benefactors of their race; but there is One who stands higher than they.” [Parallels DA 464; HLv 313]
- Ed 15 (+) “When Adam came from the Creator’s hand, he bore, in his physical, mental, and spiritual nature, a likeness to his Maker. ‘God created man in His own image’ (Genesis 1:27), and it was His purpose that the longer man lived the more fully he should reveal this image—the more fully reflect the glory of the Creator. All his faculties were capable of development; their capacity and vigor were continually to increase. Vast was the scope offered for their exercise, glorious the field opened to their research. The mysteries of the visible universe—the ‘wondrous works of Him which is perfect in knowledge’ (Job 37:16)—invited man’s study.”
- Ed 17 (+) “It is the work of true education to develop this power, to train the youth to be thinkers, and not mere reflectors of other men’s thoughts. Instead of confining their study to that which men have said or written, let students be directed to the sources of truth, to the vast fields opened for research in nature and revelation. Let them contemplate the great facts of duty and destiny, and the mind will expand and strengthen.” [Parallels *Homeward Bound* (HB) 225]
- Ed 123 (+) “The Bible contains all the principles that men need to understand in order to be fitted either for this life or for the life to come. And these principles may be understood by all. . . . Many of its treasures lie far beneath the surface, and can be obtained only by diligent research and continuous effort.”
- Ed 128 (+) “Since the book of nature and the book of revelation bear the impress of the same master mind, they cannot but speak in harmony. By different methods, and in different languages, they witness to the same great truths. Science is ever discovering new wonders; but she brings from her research nothing that, rightly understood, conflicts with divine revelation. The book of nature and the written word shed light upon each other.” [Parallels EP 68; PP 115]
- Ed 130 (~) “When consideration is given to man’s opportunities for research; how brief his life; how limited his sphere of action; how restricted his vision; how frequent and how great the efforts in his conclusions, especially as concerns the events thought to antedate Bible history; how often the supposed deductions of science are revised or cast aside; with what readiness the assumed period of the earth’s development is from time to time increased or diminished by millions of years; and how the theories advanced by different scientists conflict with one another,—considering all this, shall we, for the privilege of tracing our descent from germs and mollusks and apes, consent to cast away that statement of Holy Writ, so grand in its simplicity, ‘God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him’? Genesis 1:27.”
- Ed 170 (~) “The Bible unfolds truth with a simplicity and an adaptation to the needs and longings of the human heart that has astonished and charmed the most highly cultivated minds, while to the humble and uncultured also it makes plain the way of life. ‘The wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.’ Isaiah 35:8. No child

need mistake the path. Not one trembling seeker need fail of walking in pure and holy light. Yet the most simply stated truths lay hold upon themes elevated, far-reaching, infinitely beyond the power of human comprehension,—mysteries that are the hiding of His glory, mysteries that overpower the mind in its research,—while they inspire the sincere seeker for truth with reverence and faith. The more we search the Bible, the deeper is our conviction that it is the work of the living God, and human reason bows before the majesty of divine revelation.” [Parallels 5T 700]

Ed 173

See CT 52.

EP 66 (~)

“Those who leave the Word of God to account for His created works on scientific principles are drifting without chart or compass upon 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. Those who doubt the records of the Old and New Testaments will be led to go a step further and doubt the existence of God. Then, having lost their anchor, they are left to beat about upon the rocks of infidelity.” [Parallels FE 84; *From the Heart* (FH) 155; GC 522; PP 113; *Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 4 (hereafter, volume number plus SP—e.g., 4SP) 345]

EP 68

“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 she brings nothing from her research that conflicts with divine revelation. The book of nature and the Written Word shed light upon each other.” [Parallels Ed 128; PP 115]

EP 434

“As an educating power the Bible is without a rival. It came fresh from the fountain of eternal truth, and a divine hand has preserved its purity through all the ages. It lights up the far-distant past, where human research seeks vainly to penetrate.” [Parallels CT 52; HLv 297; PP 596, 599]

FE 84

“Men of the greatest intellects, if not guided by the word of God in their research, become bewildered; they cannot comprehend the Creator or His works. But set the mind to grasp and measure eternal truth, summon it to effort by delving for the jewels of truth in the rich mine of the word of God, and it will never become dwarfed and enfeebled, as when left to dwell upon commonplace subjects.” [Parallels EP 66; GC 522; PP 113; 4SP 345]

FE 163

“Those who have indulged the habit of racing through exciting stories, are crippling their mental strength, and disqualifying themselves for vigorous thought and research. There are men and women now in the decline of life who have never recovered from the effects of intemperate reading.” [Parallels CT 135]

FE 328

“The general method of educating the youth does not meet the standard of true education. Infidel sentiments are interwoven in the matter placed in school-books, and the oracles of God are placed in a questionable or even an objectionable light. Thus the minds of the youth become familiar with Satan’s suggestions, and the doubts once entertained become to those who entertain them, assured facts, and scientific research is made misleading on account of the way its discoveries are interpreted and perverted. Men take it upon themselves to rein up the word of God before a finite tribunal, and sentence is pronounced upon the inspiration of God according to finite measurement, and the truth of God is made to appear as a thing

uncertain before the records of science. These false educators exalt nature above nature's God, and above the Author of all true science." [Parallels COL 41]

FE 444

See CT 443.

FH 155 (-)

"There are those who think they have made wonderful discoveries in science. They quote the opinions of learned people as though they considered them infallible, and teach the deductions of science as truths that cannot be controverted. And the Word of God, which is given as a lamp to the feet of the world-weary traveler, is judged by this standard, and pronounced wanting. The scientific research in which these individuals have indulged has proved a snare to them. It has clouded their minds, and they have drifted into skepticism. They have a consciousness of power, and instead of looking to the Source of all wisdom, they triumph in the smattering of knowledge they may have gained. They have exalted their human wisdom in opposition to the wisdom of the great and mighty God and have dared to enter into controversy with Him. The Word of Inspiration pronounces these persons 'fools.'"

FH 155

"God has permitted a flood of light to be poured upon the world in discoveries in science and art, but when professed scientists lecture and write upon these subjects from a merely human standpoint, they will assuredly come to wrong conclusions. The greatest minds, if not guided by the Word of God in their research, become bewildered in their attempts to investigate the relations of science and revelation. The Creator and His works are beyond their comprehension; and because they cannot explain these by natural laws, Bible history is considered unreliable. Those who doubt the reliability of the records of the Old and New Testaments will be led to go a step farther and doubt the existence of God, and then, having let go their anchor, they are left to beat about upon the rocks of infidelity. 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. The idea that many stumble over, that God did not create matter when He brought the world into existence, limits the power of the Holy One of Israel." [Parallels EP 66]

The Faith I Live By (FLB) 166

See Ed 15.

FLB 320

See 2MCP 712.

FLB 321

See GC 522 and PP 115.

GC 212 (+)

"In France, before the name of Luther had been heard as a Reformer, the day had already begun to break. One of the first to catch the light was the aged Lefevre, a man of extensive learning, a professor in the University of Paris, and a sincere and zealous papist. In his researches into ancient literature his attention was directed to the Bible, and he introduced its study among his students."

GC 360 (+)

"During the twenty-four years from 1821 to 1845, Wolff traveled extensively: in Africa, visiting Egypt and Abyssinia; in Asia, traversing Palestine, Syria, Persia, Bokhara, and India . . . 'The same honor was granted to me by the members of the government of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, in whose presence I delivered lectures on my researches in Asia, and also on the personal reign of Jesus Christ.'"

GC 411 (+)

"Though many abandoned their former reckoning of the prophetic periods and denied the correctness of the movement based thereon, others were unwilling to

renounce points of faith and experience that were sustained by the Scriptures and by the witness of the Spirit of God. They believed that they had adopted sound principles of interpretation in their study of the prophecies, and that it was their duty to hold fast the truths already gained, and to continue the same course of Biblical research. With earnest prayer they reviewed their position and studied the Scriptures to discover their mistake. As they could see no error in their reckoning of the prophetic periods, they were led to examine more closely the subject of the sanctuary." [Parallels 4SP 260]

GC 522 "To many, scientific research has become a curse. God has permitted a flood of light to be poured upon the world in discoveries in science and art; but even the greatest minds, if not guided by the Word of God in their research, become bewildered in the attempts to investigate the relations of science and revelation." [Parallels EP 66; FE 84; PP 113; 4SP 345]

General Conference Daily Bulletin (GCDB) (February 18, 1897), "God in Nature."
See HLv 295.

Gospel Herald (GH) 1:12 (December 1, 1899): 103 (-)
"Very little of the money invested in piling up volumes for study and research, which is wearying to the brain, furnishes anything that will make one a successful laborer for souls."

Gospel Workers (GW) 40
See DA 464.

GW 322 See 3T 327.

Homeward Bound (HB) 16
See *Steps to Christ (SC)* 91.

HB 25 See PP 596.

HB 29 See Ed 123.

HB 34 See CT 52.

HB 35 See *A Call to Stand Apart (CSA)* 46.

HB 40 See Ed 170.

HB 42 See Ed 128.

HB 225 "It is the work of true education to develop this power, to train the youth to be thinkers, and not mere reflectors of the thought of others. Instead of confining their study to that which others have said or written, let students be directed to the sources of truth, to the vast fields opened for research in nature and revelation. Let

them contemplate the great facts of duty and destiny, and the mind will expand and strengthen.” [Parallels Ed 17]

From Here to Forever (HF) 133

See GC 212.

HF 224 See GC 360.

HF 239 See GC 385.

Healthful Living 286 See PP 115.

HL 287 See 3SM 308.

HL 287 See PP 113.

HL 294 (-) “Even the mechanism of the human body cannot be fully understood; it presents mysteries that baffle the most intelligent. Yet because human science cannot in its research explain the ways and works of the Creator, men will doubt the existence of God, and ascribe infinite power to nature. God’s existence, his character, his law, are facts that all the reasoning of men of the highest attainments cannot controvert.” [Parallels Ms 4 (1882)]

HL 297 “The Bible is the most comprehensive and the most instructive history that men possess. It came fresh from the Fountain of eternal truth; and a divine hand has preserved its purity through all the ages. Its bright rays shine into the far-distant past, where human research seeks vainly to penetrate. In God’s word only we find an authentic account of creation.” [Parallels CT 52; EP 434; PP 596]

HLv 313 “Men of giant intellect and wonderful research, whose utterances have opened vast fields of knowledge, have been honored as benefactors of their race. But One stands higher than they.” [Parallels DA 464; Ed 13]

In Heavenly Places (HP) 143

See CT 66.

HP 349 (+) “Our reception of the truth we hold as Seventh-day Adventists was not a chance experience. It was reached by earnest prayer and careful research of the Inspired Word.”

The Impending Conflict (IC) 10. See GC 522.

Lift Him Up (LHU) 60 See FH 155, 3SM 306.

LHU 61 See 3SM 308.

LHU 113 See COL 129.

LHU 155 See COL 378.

LHU 361 See 5T 301.

Lt 23, 1879 to Edson and Emma White See 4MR 212.

Lt 15, 1888 to Brethren and Sisters in Illinois

See “David’s Prayer,” RH 65:50 (December 18, 1888): 785-787.

Lt 20, 1888 to Brethren Who Shall Assemble in General Conference

“I have been shown that there are many of our ministers who take things for

granted and know not for themselves, by close, critical study of the Scriptures, whether they are believing truth or error. If there were much less preaching by such and far more time spent upon their knees before God, pleading for Him to open their understanding to the truth of His Word that they should have a knowledge for themselves that their feet were standing on solid rock, angels of God would be round about them to help them in their endeavors. There is the most wonderful laziness that is indulged in by a large class of our ministers who are willing others should search the Scriptures for them. They take the truth from their lips as a positive fact, but they do not know it to be Bible truth through their individual research and the deep convictions of the Spirit of God upon hearts and minds.”
[Parallels 1888 38]

Lt 20a, 1888 to Brethren Who Assemble in the Week of Prayer, par. 5
See 1888 38.

Lt 18, 1892 to J. H. Kellogg

“Here, my brother, has been and will be your danger in your scientific researches. Unless you are daily increasing in the knowledge and love of the truth, growing up into Christ, your living Head, you are in positive danger. . . . Be careful how you favor these things that limit the power of God. . . . It is fatal for man to feel safe to walk in sparks of his own kindling. Sophistry will weave for you a very fine web; I fear that it will ensnare you.”

Lt 18, 1892 to J. H. Kellogg [Separate paragraph from the preceding] See 1888 981.

Lt 126, 1895 to Edson and Emma White (+)

“Now, Edson, you can judge what relief this gives me. After tugging and toiling in every way for one year to help them discern the mind and will of God, and then after abundant research finding nothing on the whole as good as this, they accept it. The climate is the very best in Australia and cannot be equaled by the New Zealand climate.”

Lt 76, 1897 to George A. Irwin

See *Spalding and Magan Collection* (SpM) 95.

Lt 3, 1898 to Brethren (+)

“In every part of the Word is some lesson to be learned. Then learn how to study your Bibles. This book is not a heap of odds and ends. It is an educator. Your own thoughts must be called into exercise before you can be really benefited by Bible study. Spiritual sinew and muscle must be brought to bear upon the Word. The Holy Spirit will bring to remembrance the words of Christ. He will enlighten the mind, and guide the research.”

Lt 145, 1899 to G. A. Irwin See 15MR 116.

Lt 164, 1899 to Edson and Emma White See *Gospel Herald* (GH) 1:12 (December 1, 1899): 102, 103.

Lt 64, 1904 to J. A. and Sister Burden (~)

“I had written some things to you, but I cannot now find them without considerable research.”

Lt 385, 1904 to J. H. Kellogg (-)

“I am instructed to say to you that you yourself, and all who sustain you, will be

found leavened with the specious ideas and interpretations against which I am to lift my voice of warning. Your putting your mind to research of science is dangerous business, and there is not any warning too strong to be given to withhold you from this field you have entered. I tell you the truth, that if you keep on in the course you have been pursuing for years in research in so-called science, you will lose your soul. This is the testimony I have borne and shall bear to the end because I know the outcome.”

Lt 116, 1905 to J. H. Kellogg See 2MR 349.

Lt 338, 1905 to J. H. Kellogg (-)

“Dr. Kellogg has no idea of the seducing leaven that he has mingled with his theories. Those who have not been wide-awake to the leadings of his scientific researches have been taken unawares. The matter was presented to Dr. Kellogg in the way in which God regarded it, but he would not yield his theories. He has no full faith in the light God has given regarding his danger. He has refused to change his sentiments, which were of a character to undermine the truth that God has given for these last days.”

Lt 366, 1905 to A. F. Ballenger (-)

“There is with you, my brother, a desire to bring in something new and to take the minds captive, and yourself be supposed to be a deep man in research of the Word, when the facts are that you are not rightly interpreting the Word. You are bringing in subjects of controversy and raising all manner of questions which employs the time [of your fellow ministers] to hear you. Your time to go into these explanations is not called for and creates questions and differences of opinion and creates strife and misunderstandings and a party spirit. You are to be careful whom you are serving in this line. You need to stop right where you are, for you have an instructor by your side to lead you astray with deceiving representations.”

Lt 242, 1908 and Lt 244, 1908, both to S. N. Haskell

“A lifetime of prayer and research will yet leave much unlearned; but what we fail of learning here will be explained to us hereafter. The work of instruction begun on earth will be continued throughout eternity.” [Parallels 5T 301]

Lt 96, 1910 to A. G. Daniels See 9MR 310.

1MCP 20 See 2MCP 712.

Mind, Character, and Personality, vol. 1 (1MCP) 361. See Ed 17.

2MCP 569 (~) “There are men who proudly boast that they believe only what they can understand. But the folly of their vaunted wisdom is apparent to every thoughtful mind. There are mysteries in human life and in the manifestations of God’s power in the works of nature—mysteries which the deepest philosophy, the most extensive research, is powerless to explain.”

2MCP 678 See FE 328.

2MCP 699 (-) “The light of truth which God designs shall come to the people of the world at this time is not that which the world’s men of learning are seeking to impart, for these men in their research often arrive at erroneous conclusions, and in their study of many authors become enthused with theories that are of satanic origin. Satan,

clothed in the garb of an angel of light, presents for the study of the human mind subjects which seem very interesting and which are full of scientific mystery. In the investigation of these subjects, men are led to accept erroneous conclusions and to unite with seducing spirits in the work of propounding new theories which lead away from the truth."

2MCP 702 See *Testimonies*, vol. 9 (9T) 67.

2MCP 712 (-) "Neglect of prayer leads men to rely on their own strength and opens the door to temptation. In many cases the imagination is captivated by scientific research, and men are flattered through the consciousness of their own powers."

2MCP 739 See CT 426.

2MCP 741 See PP 115.

2MCP 742 See PP 115.

MH 427 (-) "One of the greatest evils that attends the quest for knowledge, the investigations of science, is the disposition to exalt human reasoning above its true value and its proper sphere. Many attempt to judge the Creator and His works by their own imperfect knowledge of science. They endeavor to determine the nature and attributes and prerogatives of God, and indulge in speculative theories concerning the Infinite One. Those who engage in this line of study are treading upon forbidden ground. Their research will yield no valuable results and can be pursued only at the peril of the soul."

MH 439 See CT 377.

MH 442 See CT 381.

MH 462 "He who has a knowledge of God and His word through personal experience has a settled faith in the divinity of the Holy Scriptures. He has proved that God's word is truth, and he knows that truth can never contradict itself. He does not test the Bible by men's ideas of science; he brings these ideas to the test of the unerring standard. He knows that in true science there can be nothing contrary to the teaching of the word; since both have the same Author, a correct understanding of both will prove them to be in harmony. Whatever in so-called scientific teaching contradicts the testimony of God's word is mere human guesswork. To such a student, scientific research will open vast fields of thought and information. As he contemplates the things of nature, a new perception of truth comes to him. The book of nature and the written word shed light upon each other. Both make him better acquainted with God by teaching him of His character and of the laws through which He works." [Parallels CT 426; 3SM 308]

Medical Ministry (MM) 90. See 2MCP 678.

MM 139 (+) "When a physician enters upon his work as practitioner, the more genuine, practical experience he has, the more fully will he feel his want of knowledge. If self-sufficient, he will read articles written in regard to diseases and how to treat them without nature's aid; he will grasp statements and weave them into his practice, and without deep research, without earnest study, without sifting every statement, he will merely become a mechanical worker. Because he knows so little, he will be ready to experiment upon human lives, and sacrifice not a few. This is murder,

actual murder. He did not do this work with evil design, he had no malicious purposes; but life was sacrificed on account of his ignorance, because he was a superficial student, because he had not had that practice that would make him a safe man to be entrusted with human lives. It requires care-taking, deep, earnest taxation of the mind, to carry the burden a physician should carry in learning his trade thoroughly.”

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“What high and noble truths the mind may fasten upon and explore in God’s Word! The mind may go deeper and still deeper in its research, becoming stronger with every effort to comprehend truth, and yet there will be an infinity beyond.”
[Parallels MYP 253]

3MR356 See 2MCP 699.

3MR 357 See Lt 18, 1892 to J. H. Kellogg.

3MR 430 See *This Day With God* (TDG) 43.

4MR 55 See TDG 43.

4MR 212 (+) “I have been shown that Edson will search the Scriptures to a limited degree and his light and knowledge and ability to understand the Word of God will be limited to his researches and his prayer in humility and faith for a knowledge of the truth revealed in God’s Word.”

8MR 149 See Lt 126, 1895 to Edson and Emma White.

9MR 310 (+) “By earnest prayer and diligent research, God’s workers may become giants in an understanding of Bible doctrine, and [gain] an appreciation of the practical lessons of Christ.”

11MR 303 See 3MR 357.

15MR 116 (-) “The transformation in our book making has not brought with it a corresponding transformation of character. The almost endless succession of wearisome research and delay and anxiety, and the great expense in increasing facilities to multiply illustrations is simply leading in advance in a species of idolatry. Harmonious spirit and action are not brought into the work, but instead rivalry and strife. The purse is strained to meet the demand; irrespective of the outlay, pictures must be obtained to meet the tastes of canvasser, publisher, and author. Spiritual rest is not secured by us because men do not yoke up with Christ to learn His meekness and lowliness of heart.”

15MR 274 See MM 139.

20MR 335 (+) “Paul said, ‘I have fed you with milk’—the plainest, most simple truths, suitable for converts young in the faith; ‘not with meat’—the solid, nourishing, spiritual food suited to those who have made progress in a knowledge of divine things. They were living on a low level, dwelling on the surface truth which call for no thought, no deep research.”

20MR 349 (+) “My brother, unless you change square about, calling sin, sin, and deception by its right name, you will continue to deny God, and the hindrance to right doing will become stronger and stronger. Yield no longer to the deceptive power of sin. Let

your scientific researches be turned into a wholesome channel. Do not pretend to have fellowship with God while you are an alien from him.” [Written to J. H. Kellogg]

Ms 4 (1882)

“Men of the greatest intellect cannot understand the mysteries of Jehovah as revealed in nature. Divine inspiration asks many questions which the most profound scholar cannot answer. These questions were not asked, supposing that we could answer them, but to call our attention to the deep mysteries of God and to make men know that their wisdom is limited, that in the common things of daily life there are mysteries past the comprehension of finite minds, that the judgment and purposes of God are past finding out, His wisdom unsearchable. If He reveals Himself to man, it is by shrouding Himself in the thick cloud of mystery. God’s purpose is to conceal more of Himself than He makes known to man. Could men fully understand the ways and works of God, they would not then believe Him to be the infinite One. He is not to be comprehended by man in His wisdom and reasons and purposes. ‘His ways are past finding out.’ [Romans 11:33] His love can never be explained upon natural principles. If this could be done, we would not feel that we could trust Him with the interests of our souls. Skeptics refuse to believe, because with their finite minds they cannot comprehend the infinite power by which God reveals Himself to men. Even the mechanism of the human body cannot be fully understood; it presents mysteries that baffle the most intelligent. Yet because human science cannot in its research explain the ways and works of the Creator, men will doubt the existence of God and ascribe infinite power to nature. God’s existence, His character, [and] His law are facts that all the reasoning of men of the highest attainments cannot controvert.” [Parallels HL 295]

Ms 78 (1886) (+)

“Many have been sadly disappointed in our college. They expected to find help in their research of the Scriptures that they have not had. The very men who have been moved upon by the Spirit of God to give themselves to the work of the ministry have not been encouraged in their solemn purpose. Everything has been brought down to follow the example of other schools. The Bible has had but a very small consideration in the school. Paul enumerates the advantages of the Jews above the Gentiles. “Chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.” [Romans 3:2] This, chiefly, is the advantage the college among our people has over every other college. “Unto them is committed the oracles of God.” There is too much chaff among the youthful teachers, too much froth and too little depth, too little religion. They themselves do not understand the deep things of God. The advantage of making the Bible a book of study is that it is ever elevating. The better it is known by research, the more highly it is prized. Those who prate about science and casting God’s Word in the shade, those who would exalt nature as the book of study, cannot understand or read nature without the Bible to interpret and explain it. The Bible is not only the revealer of God to man, but his grand interpreter as the God of nature. The Bible in revealing God has given us the key which unlocks the mysteries of creation. The Bible should have been made one of the principal studies in our schools.”

Ms 22 (1887)

See *Medical Ministry* (MM) 139.

Ms 13 (1888)

See 1SAT 65.

Ms 37 (1890)

See 1888 825.

- Ms 106 (1893)(+) “There is great lack of the diligent searching of God’s word which he has enjoined. If men were not so content with the surface truths of revelation; if they would make earnest investigations of God’s word, giving no weight to human customs or traditions, thousands who are now in error would come to the knowledge of the truth. We are to take the Bible alone, and by earnest, prayerful study, seek for the truth as for hid treasures. As the miner finds rich veins of gold and silver hidden in the earth, so we shall discern the precious things of God if we will but sink the shaft deep in the mines of truth. And Jesus has promised us a guide in our research. The Disciples of Christ failed to understand many things that he desired to teach them, and before he went away he promised to send them the spirit of truth, which he said, ‘shall lead you into all truth.’ [John 16:13] His promise to them is a promise to us also, and we are to pray for its fulfillment. Jesus says, ‘If ye, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit unto them that ask him?’ [Luke 11:13] And under the guidance of the Spirit of God, through the grace of our Saviour, we may understand our duty from his word.”
- Ms 22 (1895) See CT 443.
- Ms 1895-61b (+) “God has given us individually capabilities and talents to use and improve by use, not merely to keep our minds upon common-place matters, but to elevate the mind to dwell upon eternal things. The mind will narrow or expand in just that degree that you shall treat it. If it is set upon the teaching of the Scriptures to understand and know God, the study [being] earnest and sincere, the mind will be strengthened by the research, particularly of truth that treats upon [the question], ‘What shall I do to be saved?’” [See Acts 16:30]
- Ms 2 (1896) See *The Upward Look* (UL) 54.
- Ms 4 (1896) See TDG 43.
- Ms 69a (1896) (+) “Will the perception of the righteous become more clear and distinct as they search and research the Scriptures, that they may learn for themselves the conditions [prescribed] for the salvation of souls?”
- Ms 19 (1897) See “The Lord’s Supper and the Ordinance of Feet-Washing—No. 4,” RH 75:25 (June 21, 1898): 389, 390.
- Ms 33 (1897) (+) “It becomes every one to understand the Word of God. Men may present the theories of the truth, but unless they apply themselves to understand the truth, digging for it as for hid treasure, unless, by earnest research, under the discipline of the Holy Spirit, they understand the truth for themselves, it can never save them.”
- Ms 38 (1897) See “Peter’s Fall,” ST, 23:43 (November 4, 1897): 3, 4.
- Ms 75a (1897) (+) “Hitherto there has been found very much of the treasure that lies near the surface, therefore more accessible. But the research properly conducted, with every effort to keep a pure understanding and the heart purified, will lead to the discovery of many precious, rich deposits. And the mind if kept open and constantly searching the field of revelation, the store-house of the unsearchable riches of Christ, will find

hidden treasures of truth—some revealed in new aspect, others they had overlooked in searching for the treasure.”

- Ms 4a (1898) See “The True, or the False,” RH 75:32 (August 9, 1898): 501, 502.
- Ms 67 (1898) See CTr 33.
- Ms 167 (1898) See COL 378.
- Ms 200 (1898) (+) “The science of the theology of truth we love as Seventh-day Adventists has not been a chance experience. It has been reached by most earnest, careful research of the words of inspiration which has led to faith and obedience” [Sermon].
- Ms 33 (1900) (+) “The Word of God is the only true standard of faith. If the ministers of the different churches would meet together and lay their prejudice at the door of investigation, searching their Bibles to know what is truth, with a sincere desire to receive light, the Lord would respond to their prayers. Their research for truth would be rewarded. They would see that the commandments of God include the Sabbath. Receiving and believing His words, they would become lights in the world, shining amid the moral darkness.”
- Ms 41 (1900) See 2MR 245.
- Ms 70 (1901) See 20MR 335.
- Ms 175 (1902) (-) “There are men who sustain men in unlawful actions, and it is because they trust in men and do not do honor to God. There cannot be a greater contempt revealed among those who have had light and knowledge, whose scientific research is conducted by the father of lies.”
- Ms 23 (1908) See 2MCP 699.
- MYP 190 (-) “One of the greatest evils that has attended the quest of knowledge, the investigation of science, is that those who engage in these researches too often lose sight of the divine character of pure and unadulterated religion. The worldly-wise have attempted to explain, on scientific principles, the influence of the Spirit of God upon the heart. The least advance in this direction will lead the mind into the mazes of skepticism. The religion of the Bible is simply the mystery of godliness; no human mind can fully understand it, and it is utterly incomprehensible to the unregenerate heart.”
- MYP 253 (+) “The study of the Bible is superior to all other study in strengthening the intellect. What fields of thought the youth may find to explore in the work of God! The mind may go deeper and still deeper in its research, gathering strength with every effort to comprehend truth; and yet there is an infinity beyond.” [Parallels 2MR 245]
- MYP 255 (+) “The Bible presents a boundless field for the imagination, as much higher and more ennobling in character than the superficial creations of the unsanctified intellect as the heavens are higher than the earth. The inspired history of our race is placed in the hands of every individual. All may now begin their research. They may become acquainted with our first parents as they stood in Eden, in holy innocence, enjoying communion with God and sinless angels. They may trace the introduction of sin and its results upon the race, and follow, step by step, down the track of sacred history,

as it records the disobedience and impenitence of man and the just retribution for sin.”

MYP 257 (~) “What subjects are presented in the Sacred Scriptures for the mind to dwell upon! Where can be found higher themes for contemplation? Where are themes so intensely interesting? In what sense are all the researches of human science comparable in sublimity and mystery with the science of the Bible? Where is anything that will so call out the strength of the intellect in deep and earnest thought?”

MYP 263 See CT 52.

MYP 280 See FE 163.

A New Life (Revival and Beyond) (NL) 31 See 2MCP 659.

Our Father Cares (OFC) 31 See CTr 33.

Our High Calling (OHC) 205 (+)

“Some portions of Scripture are indeed too plain to be misunderstood; but there are others whose meaning does not lie upon the surface, to be seen at a glance. Scripture must be compared with Scripture; there must be careful research and patient reflection. And such study will be richly repaid. As the miner discovers veins of precious metal concealed beneath the surface of the earth, so will he who perseveringly searches the Word of God as for hid treasure, find truths of greatest value, which are concealed from the view of the careless seeker.” [Parallels SC 91; “Our Great Treasure-House: XVIII: How to Study the Bible,” 32:38 (October 3, 1906): 6, 7; 4T 499]

OHC 276 See CTr 33.

Pastoral Ministry (PaM) 189

See “Diligence a Necessary Qualification in the Minister,” RH 63:14 (April 6, 1886): 209, 210.

The Paulson Collection of Ellen G. White Letters (PC) See MM 139.

Ellen G. White Pamphlets in the Concordance (PH) 36, 37 See FE 163.

PH 81-28 See CT 426.

PH 117-6 See HL 297.

PH 100-81 See MYP 190.

PH 124-22 See CT 423.

PH 124-24 (+) “In the study of the sciences also, we are to obtain a knowledge of the Creator. All true science is but an interpretation of the handwriting of God in the material world. Science brings from her research only fresh evidence of the wisdom and power of God. Rightly understood, both the book of nature and the written Word make us acquainted with God by teaching us something of the wise and beneficent laws through which He works.” [Parallels CT 426; PP 599]

PH 124-46 See CT 423.

- PK 31, 33 (+) “God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much. . . . He was wiser than all men; . . . and his fame was in all nations round about. . . . Solomon took an especial interest in natural history, but his researches were not confined to any one branch of learning. Through a diligent study of all created things, both animate and inanimate, he gained a clear conception of the Creator. In the forces of nature, in the mineral and the animal world, and in every tree and shrub and flower, he saw a revelation of God’s wisdom; and as he sought to learn more and more, his knowledge of God and his love for Him constantly increased.”
- PP 113 “God has permitted a flood of light to be poured upon the world in both science and art; but when professedly scientific men treat upon these subjects from a merely human point of view, they will assuredly come to wrong conclusions. It may be innocent to speculate beyond what God’s word has revealed, if our theories do not contradict facts found in the Scriptures; but 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 an unknown ocean. The greatest minds, if not guided by the work of God in their research, become bewildered in their attempts to trace the relations of science and revelation. Because the Creator and His works are so far beyond their comprehension that they are unable to explain them by natural laws, they regard Bible history as unreliable. Those who doubt the reliability of the records of the Old and New Testaments, will be led to go a step further, and doubt the existence of God; and then, having lost their anchor, they are left to beat about upon the rocks of infidelity.” [Parallels EP 66; FE 84; GC 522; *Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 4 (4SP) 345]
- PP 115 “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 she brings nothing from her research that conflicts with divine revelation. Ignorance may seek to support false views of God by appeals to science; but the book of nature and the written Word do not disagree; each sheds light on the other.” [Parallels Ed 128; EP 68]
- PP 596 “The Bible is the most instructive history that men possess. It came fresh from the fountain of eternal truth, and a divine hand has preserved its purity through all the ages. It lights up the far-distant past, where human research seeks vainly to penetrate.” [Parallels CT 52; EP 434; HLv 297]
- PP 599 “In the study of the sciences also we are to obtain a knowledge of the Creator. All true science is but an interpretation of the handwriting of God in the material world. Science brings from her research only fresh evidences of the wisdom and power of God. Rightly understood, both the book of nature and the written word make us acquainted with God by teaching us something of the wise and beneficent laws through which He works.” [Parallels CT 426; PH 124-24]

Reflecting Christ (RC) 105. See Ed 15.

RC 115 See PP 599.

RC 155 See Ed 17.

“The Law of God,” RH 35:12 (March 8, 1870): 90, 91 (+)

“Many will not search the Scriptures for themselves. They remain in willing ignorance of the origin and perpetuity of the law of the ten commandments. They trust to the researches of others to settle this matter for them.”

“Sparta Camp-Meeting,” RH 47:21 (May 25, 1876): 162, 163 (+)

“Scripture truth is given us to study. Here is a rich volume of inspiration for old and young. Here are writings running through different dispensations, and in order to understand their meaning we must become Bible students, and search prayerfully and critically for light upon the revealed word. There are inexhaustible streams of light to reward the research of the greatest minds.”

“Watchfulness and Prayer,” RH 58:15 (October 11, 1881): 225 See MYP 255 and 257.

“The Primal Object of Education,” RH 59:28 (July 11, 1882): 433 See HLv 297.

“Christian Work,” RH 59:40 (October 10, 1882): 625, 626 See OHC 205.

“Importance of Education,” RH 61:34 (August 19, 1884): 529, 530 See FE 84.

“Criticising Minsters,” RH 62:14 (April 7, 1885): 209, 210 See 5T 301.

“Workers for Christ,” RH 63:3 (January 19, 1886): 33, 34 (~)

“God has given us in his created works enough to excite thought and stimulate investigation. He does not desire men to be less acute, less inquiring, or less intelligent. But with all our aspirations, and in all our researches, we should remember that arrogance is not greatness, nor is conceit knowledge. Human pride is an evidence, not of strength, but of weakness. It reveals not wisdom, but folly. To exalt reason unduly is to abase it. To place the human in rivalry with the divine, is to make it contemptible.”

“Diligence a Necessary Qualification in the Minister,” RH 63:14 (April 6, 1886): 209, 210

“While it is perfectly right to gather ideas from other minds, they [ministers] should not be satisfied to take those ideas and repeat them in a poll-parrot manner. Make these ideas your own, brethren; frame the arguments yourselves, from your own study and research. Do not borrow the productions of other men’s brains and pens, and recite them as a lesson; but make the most of the talents, the brain power, that God has given you.” See 2MCP 569.

See “Mental Inebriates,” RH 66:44 (November 9, 1886): 689, 690 See CT 135.

“Preach the Word,” RH 65:17 (April 24, 1888): 257, 258 (+)

“Those who preach the word must have an understanding of its doctrines and principles. They must study to show themselves approved unto God. As the servant of God opens the word of truth and humbly seeks to know its significance, its meaning will grow clear to his understanding. But he must be a diligent, painstaking student. He must not be content to depend upon the researches of other minds. He must search for himself. Strength of mind is acquired by exercise. Ability to expound the word of God, depends upon the work that is put into the time of study—

depends upon the attitude of the soul toward God. The mental faculties must become strong and able to deal with great questions of truth and duty. The study should be critical and thorough, and should be pursued with meekness, and with sincerity of purpose, to know the truth as it is in Jesus."

"In Demonstration of the Spirit," RH 65:36 (September 4, 1888): 561, 562 (+)

"Those who labor in word and doctrine, are not to be novices. The word of God gives directions for their course. The Bible is in our hands, and the task of searching for a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, is appointed us. It is at the peril of our souls, that we neglect the duty of searching for the truth, as for hidden treasures. We are not safe when we are content to float along with the current, believing because someone else believes. The questions of truth that are submitted to us, are of vital interest, in contrast with the idle traditions that are sustained by human authority and church pretension; and we must, through fervent prayer and deep and earnest research, become established and settled, rooted and grounded in the faith, and know, each for himself, that we have the truth. If we are thus established, we shall not depart from the faith when tested and tried, as some have done."

"David's Prayer," RH 650 (December 18, 1888): 785, 786 (-)

"If we open our Bibles with a spirit out of harmony with its sacred principles, we shall not be likely to bring from our research the spirit which it should impart. The true Bible reader finds that the teachings of the living oracles cast 'down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.'"

"Imperative Necessity of Searching for Truth," RH 69:45 (November 15, 1892): 706, 707 (+)

"In order to understand the truth of God, there is need of deep research, that we may discover in the teachings of Christ new aspects of truth, and behold the exceeding breadth and compass of grand old truth, of which we have only a superficial knowledge. The searching of the Scriptures would reveal the harmony existing between the various parts of the Bible, and the bearing of one passage upon another. We do not perceive the meaning of the word of God without much study; but the reward of the study of the Bible is exceedingly precious to him who fears God, and earnestly searches for truth as for hidden treasure. At the present day there are a large number in our churches who are not sufficiently interested in Bible study to seek to understand the mysteries of the truth. They do not go below the surface. Those who are living in these last days, who acknowledge the binding claims of the law of God, have no ordinary responsibility. They are not to be satisfied with the surface truths. That which lies plainly revealed, which costs us no effort, will not be esteemed as highly as the treasure that costs us diligent, prayerful research and investigation."

"The Lord's Supper and the Ordinance of Feet-Washing—No. 4," RH 75:25 (June 21, 1898): 389, 390 (~)

"The great Teacher's wisdom in limiting the measure of our researches in earthly directions, called the attention of all to his legislation from the very foundation of our world,—to a code of morals, pure, simple, and practical, unencumbered by the long years of types and sacrifices, which passed away when the only true Sacrifice, Jesus, the only begotten Son of God, was offered for the sins of the world."

"The True, or the False?" RH 75:32 (August 9, 1898): 501, 502 (+)

"When there is so much at stake, why do not those who claim to be God's delegated

messengers go to the Word of life, and make honest, wise, prayerful research, saying, We will know what saith the Lord in this matter [the fourth commandment]? If the search is undertaken in the spirit of Christ, it will be rewarded. But if the teachers of the people echo the words of the great apostate, it will be found to their shame and ruin; and they will carry with them those whom they have deceived, as Satan in his rebellion carried out of the heavenly courts those who accepted his words instead of the words of God.”

“This Do, and Thou Shalt Live,” RH 76:41 (October 10, 1899): 645, 646 See COL 378.

“The Work in Nashville: Its Encouragements and Needs,” RH 82:36 (December 7, 1905): 7, 8
See PK 33.

“The Word Made Flesh,” RH 83:14 (April 5, 1906): 8, 9 (-)

“Solomon had great learning; but his wisdom was foolishness; for he did not know how to stand in moral independence, free from sin, in the strength of a character molded after the divine similitude. Solomon has told us the result of his research, his painstaking efforts, his persevering inquiry. He pronounces his wisdom altogether vanity.”

“Circulate the Publications—No. 1,” RH 85:32 (August 6, 1908): 8, 9 See 2MCP 699.

“As Ye Have Received . . . So Walk,” RH 86:33 (August 19, 1909): 8, 9 See HP 349.

“What Shall Our Children Read?” RH 90:4 (January 23, 1913): 4, 5 See CT 135.

Radiant Religion (RRe) 316 See CT 443.

RRe 316 See SC 90.

1SAT 65 “And although we may try to reason in regard to our Creator, how long He has had existence, where evil first entered into our world, and all these things, we may reason about them until we fall down faint and exhausted with the research when there is yet an infinity beyond. We cannot grasp it, so what man is there that dares to take that Bible and say this part is inspired and that part is not inspired?” [Parallels CT 66]

SC 91 “We cannot obtain wisdom without earnest attention and prayerful study. Some portions of Scripture are indeed too plain to be misunderstood, but there are others whose meaning does not lie on the surface to be seen at a glance. Scripture must be compared with scripture. There must be careful research and prayerful reflection. And such study will be richly repaid. As the miner discovers veins of precious metal concealed beneath the surface of the earth, so will he who perseveringly searches the word of God as for hid treasure find truths of the greatest value, which are concealed from the view of the careless seeker. The words of inspiration, pondered in the heart, will be as streams flowing from the fountain of life.” [Parallels OHC 205; “Our Great Treasure-House: XVIII. How to Study the Bible,” ST 32:6 (October 3, 1906): 6; 4T 499]

SC 107 See Ed 170.

Sons and Daughters of God (SD) 183 See CTr 33.

1SM 218 See 2MCP 569.

1SM 248 See “The Word Made Flesh,” RH 83:14 (April 5, 1906): 8, 9 (-).

- 2SM 352 See 2MCP 712.
- 3SM 306 (-) “There are men who think they have made wonderful discoveries in science. They quote the opinions of learned men as though they considered them infallible, and teach the deductions of science as truths that cannot be controverted. And the Word of God, which is given as a lamp to the feet of the world-weary traveler, is judged by this standard, and pronounced wanting. The scientific research in which these men have indulged has proved a snare to them. It has clouded their minds, and they have drifted into skepticism. They have a consciousness of power; and instead of looking to the Source of all wisdom, they triumph in the smattering of knowledge they may have gained. They have exalted their human wisdom in opposition to the wisdom of the great and mighty God, and have dared to enter into controversy with him. The word of inspiration pronounces these men ‘fools.’”
- 3SM 307 See PP 113.
- 3SM 308 “Scientific research will open to the minds of the really wise vast fields of thought and information. They will see God in His works, and will praise Him. He will be to them first and best, and the mind will be centered upon Him. Skeptics, who read the Bible for the sake of caviling, through ignorance claim to find decided contradictions between science and revelation. But man’s measurement of God will never be correct. The mind unenlightened by God’s Spirit will ever be in darkness in regard to His power.” [Parallels CT 426; MH 462]
- 4SP 259 “Though the majority of Adventists abandoned their former reckoning of the prophetic periods, and consequently denied the correctness of the movement based thereon, a few were unwilling to renounce points of faith and experience that were sustained by the Scriptures and by the special witness of the Spirit of God. They believed that they had adopted sound principles of interpretation in their study of the Scriptures, and that it was their duty to hold fast the truths already gained, and to still pursue the same course of Biblical research. With earnest prayer they reviewed their position, and studied the Scriptures to discover their mistake. As they could see no error in their explanation of the prophetic periods, they were led to examine more closely the subject of the sanctuary.” [Parallels GC 411]
- 4SP 345 “To many, scientific research has become a curse; their finite minds are so weak that they lose their balance. They cannot harmonize their views of science with Scripture statements, and they think that the Bible is to be tested by their standard of ‘science falsely so called.’ Thus they err from the faith, and are seduced by the devil. Men have endeavored to be wiser than their Creator; human philosophy has attempted to search out and explain mysteries which will never be revealed, through the eternal ages. If men would but search and understand what God has made known of himself and his purposes, they would obtain such a view of the glory, majesty, and power of Jehovah, that they would realize their own littleness, and would be content with that which has been revealed for themselves and their children.” [Parallels GC 522]
- Spalding and Magan Collection (SpM) 95 (+)*
 “If the Lord’s will is done, students will not be encouraged to remain in the school for years. This is the devising of man, not the plan of God. Those who come to this school, if they put their minds into studying the Book of all books, will, through

prayer and close, deep research, obtain in a much shorter period of time a knowledge of Bible education. They will learn of Jesus in the school of Christ.”

Special Testimonies on Education (SpTEd) 49 See CT 66.

SpTEd 54 See CT 423.

SpTEd 55 See CT 423. [Parallels “The Position and Responsibility of a True Educator,” ST 26:11 (March 14, 1900). For more information, go to <https://m.egwwritings.org/en/book/820.16509>]

SpTEd 57 See CT 426.

SpTEd 147 See FE 444.

The Story of Redemption (SR) 376 See 4SP 260.

“Wanted, Laborers for the Harvest,” ST 2 (September 7, 1876)(+) Text may be found at https://egwwritings.org/?ref=en_ST.September.7.1876¶=820.580.

“Our ministers are in danger of using only the facts sought out by others, and going no further. They do not themselves dig for truth as for hidden treasures, but become careless and easily satisfied with the researches of others. They need a deep religious experience and knowledge gained for themselves in order to be successful in the important work of the ministry.”

“Science and Revelation,” ST 10:11 (April 13, 1884): 161, 162 See 3SM 306-308.

“The True Object of Education,” ST 10:36 (September 18, 1884) See PP 115.

“The Position and Responsibility of a True Educator,” ST 26:11 (March 14, 1900). For more information, go to <https://m.egwwritings.org/en/book/820.16509>.

“Cold philosophical speculations, and scientific research in which God is not acknowledged, are a positive injury. The thorns of skepticism are disguised; they are concealed and made attractive by the bloom and verdure of science and philosophy.” [Parallels CT 377; CT 423]

“Science Falsely So Called,” ST 10:42 (November 6, 1884): 657, 658 See 2MCP 712.

“Workers With Christ,” ST 11:38 (October 8, 1885): 593, 594 Also in RH 63:3 (January 19, 1886): 33, 34.

“The Character of the Law of God,” ST 12:15 (April 15, 1886): 225, 226 See 2MCP 569.

“Individual Effort,” ST 13:18 (May 19, 1887). Text may be found at https://egwwritings.org/?ref=en_ST.May.19.1887.Art.B¶=820.7951. See OHC 205; “Benefits of Bible Study,” ST 19:14 (January 30, 1893): Page numbers not available. Text may be found at https://egwwritings.org/?ref=en_ST.January.30.1893¶=820.11441; SC 91.

“My People Have Committed Two Evils,” ST 19:47 (October 2, 1893): 741, 742 (+)

“My brethren, be not satisfied with a superficial knowledge of truth, with a surface view of the law of God. Dig deep in the Scriptures of truth, and with an understanding enlightened by the Holy Spirit, dwell upon the holy requirements of the law of Jehovah, until you can reveal to the people their spiritual and eternal character. Your researches have not been deep enough. You need the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to aid you to search into the truth with reverence and awe, bringing your mind to the task with intense desire, that will not be quenched until you see

wondrous things out of the law. Dig deep into the mine of truth, and be not satisfied until you have a more perfect comprehension as to what constitutes the strength of the law of God. You need to search and search, and to weep and fast and pray, in order that you may have revealed unto you such a view of the law of God that you will be fitted to go forth and watch for souls as they that must give an account.”

“Bible Study,” ST 21:38 (September 26, 1895): 8 See SC 91.

“Peter’s Fall,” ST 23:43 (November 4, 1897): 3, 4 (+)

“At this time Peter should have been examining himself. How distrustful of self should he have been! But he refused to admit that the picture presented before him was correct, and in the place of inviting research, although the Holy Spirit of God had revealed to him the character he would manifest under test and trial, he refused to accept it.”

“A Lesson From Peter,” ST 24 (May 5, 1898) See “Peter’s Fall,” ST 23:44 (November 4, 1897).

“The Truth as It Is in Jesus,” ST 24:25 (June 16, 1898) (+). Text may be found at

https://egwwritings.org/?ref=en_ST.June.16.1898¶=820.15195.

“Truth in Christ and through Christ is measureless. The student of Scripture looks, as it were, into a fountain which deepens and broadens as he gazes into its depths. As he searches the Word of God, the grand theme of redemption opens to his research. What subject is so vast and mysterious as the manifestation of God’s compassion for man?”

“The Position and Responsibility of a True Educator,” ST 26:11 (March 14, 1900). For more information, go to <https://m.egwwritings.org/en/book/820.16509>. See CT 423.

“The Divine Teacher,” ST 27:18 (May 1, 1901) (~). Text may be found at

https://egwwritings.org/?ref=en_ST.May.1.1901¶=820.17320.

“To us has been given the precious legacy of Christ’s teaching. This is recorded in His Word. In order to make it our own, we must search the Word diligently. Many truths are hidden, as the precious ore is hidden in the earth. And we must not only search; we must ask God for wisdom to aid us in searching. The truths essential for us to know are too deeply buried to be discovered by unaided human research,” See also “Our Great Treasure-House IV: God’s Word a Perfect Whole,” ST 32:15 (April 11, 1906): 8, 9; HLv 297.

“Our Great Treasure-House VI: Mysteries of the Bible,” ST 32:17 (April 25, 1906): 8, 9 See Ed 170.

“Our Great Treasure-House XVI: How to Study the Bible,” ST 32:36 (September 19, 1906): 7 See Ed 123.

“Our Great Treasure-House XVIII: How to Study the Bible,” ST 32:38 (October 3, 1906): 6

“We cannot obtain wisdom without earnest attention and prayerful study. Some portions of the Scriptures are indeed too plain to be misunderstood; but there are others whose meaning does not lie on the surface, to be seen at a glance. Scripture must be compared with scripture. There must be careful research and prayerful attention. And such study will be richly repaid. As the miner discovers veins of precious metal concealed beneath the surface of the earth, so will he who perseveringly searches the Word of God as for hid treasure, find truths of the greatest value, which are concealed from the view of the careless seeker. The words

of Inspiration, pondered in the heart, will be as streams flowing from the fountain of light." [Parallels OHC 205; SC 91; 4T 499]

"Able to Make Us Wise Unto Salvation," ST 33:18 (May 1, 1907): 4

See "Our Great Treasure-House XVIII: How to Study the Bible," ST 32:38 (October 3, 1906): 6.

3T 327 (+)

"Men who now go forth to preach the truth have things made ready to their hand. They cannot now experience such privations as the laborers in present truth have endured before them. The truth has been brought out, link after link, till it forms a clear, connected chain. To bring the truth out in such clearness and harmony has required careful research. Opposition, the most bitter and determined, drove the servants of God to the Lord and to their Bibles. Precious indeed to them was the light which came from God."

3T 438 (-)

"I saw that from this time he did not take pleasure in the service of God or in the advancement of the truth. He seemed to possess a zeal to search the Scriptures and different authors, not that he might become established upon important points of present truth which the providence of God had furnished him through men of His choice, but to find a new position and to advance new views in opposition to the established faith of the body. His researches were not made for the glory of God, but to promote self."

4T 499

"The Bible is not studied as it should be; therefore you do not become wise in the Scriptures and are not thoroughly furnished unto all good works. Light reading fascinates the mind and makes the reading of God's word uninteresting. You seek to make others believe that you are conversant with the Scriptures; but this cannot be, for your mind is filled with rubbish. The Bible requires thought and prayerful research. It is not enough to skim over the surface. While some passages are too plain to be misunderstood, others are more intricate, demanding careful and patient study. Like the precious metal concealed in the hills and mountains, its gems of truth are to be searched out and stored in the mind for future use. Oh, that all would exercise their minds as constantly in searching for celestial gold as for the gold that perished!" [Parallels OHC 205; SC 91; "Our Great Treasure-House XVIII: How to Study the Bible," ST 32:38 (October 3, 1906): 6]

4T 585

See MYP 190.

5T 25

See HL 297.

5T 301 (+)

"Jesus is waiting with longing desire to open before His people the glory that will attend His second advent, and to carry them forward to a contemplation of the landscapes of bliss. There are wonders to be revealed. A long lifetime of prayer and research will leave much unexplored and unexplained. But what we know not now will be revealed hereafter. The work of instruction begun here will be carried on to all eternity. The Lamb, as He leads the hosts of the redeemed to the Fountain of living waters, will impart rich stores of knowledge; He will unravel mysteries in the works and providence of God that have never before been understood." [Parallels Lt 242, 1908 and Lt 244, 1908, both to S. N. Haskell]

5T 700

"The Bible unfolds truth with a simplicity and a perfect adaptation to the needs and longings of the human heart, that has astonished and charmed the most highly

cultivated minds, while it enables the humble and uncultured to discern the way of salvation. And yet these simply stated truths lay hold upon subjects so elevated, so far-reaching, so infinitely beyond the power of human comprehension, that we can accept them only because God has declared them. Thus the plan of redemption is laid open to us so that every soul may see the steps he is to take in repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ, in order to be saved in God's appointed way; yet beneath these truths, so easily understood, lie mysteries which are the hiding of His glory—mysteries which overpower the mind in its research, yet inspire the sincere seeker for truth with reverence and faith. The more he searches the Bible, the deeper is his conviction that it is the word of the living God, and human reason bows before the majesty of divine revelation." [Parallels Ed 170]

- 8T 305 See CT 377.
- 8T 308 "Your intellectual pride will not aid in the work of communicating with souls that are perishing for want of the bread of life. In your study of these books you are allowing them to take the place, in mind and heart, of the practical lessons you should be learning from the Great Teacher. With the results of this study the people are not fed. Very little of the study and research which is so wearying to the mind furnishes anything that will make one a successful laborer for souls." [Parallels CT 381]
- 8T 325 See 3SM 308.
- 9T 67 See 2MCP 699.
- TDG 43 (+) "All who handle the Word of God are engaged in a most solemn and sacred work; for in their research they are to receive light and a correct knowledge, that they may give to those who are ignorant. Education is the inculcation of ideas which are light and truth. Everyone who diligently and patiently searches the Scriptures that he may educate others, entering upon the work correctly and with an honest heart, laying aside his preconceived ideas, whatever they may have been, and his hereditary prejudices at the door of investigation, will gain true knowledge. But it is easy to put a false interpretation on Scripture, placing stress on passages, and assigning to them a meaning, which, at the first investigation, may appear true, but which by further search, will be seen to be false. If the seeker after truth will compare Scripture with Scripture, he will find the key that unlocks the treasure house and gives him a true understanding of the Word of God. Then he will see that his first impressions would not bear investigation, and that continuing to believe them would be mixing falsehood with truth."
- TDG 169 See CTr 33.
- TMK 194 (+) "It is a divine law that blessings come at some cost to the receiver. Those who would become wise in the sciences must study, and those who would become wise in regard to Bible truth, that they may impart that knowledge to others, must be diligent students of God's Holy Word. There is no other way; they must search the Scriptures diligently, interestedly, prayerfully. . . . And after all their research, there is beyond an infinity of wisdom, love, and power." [Parallels "Importance of Bible Study," YI 32:19 (May 7, 1884): 75; *True Revival* (TR) 39. See 2MCP 569.]

Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work (TSS) 61 See *Counsels on Sabbath School Work* (CSW) 33. Note: All material found in *Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work* (TSS) is included in *Testimonies for the Church*, volumes 1-9.

UL 54 (+) “The oftener the New Testament is read, the more instructive it becomes. No one ever wearies of its beautiful words, for they are like precious gems. The deeper the research made into them, the newer and more splendid the light reflected by them. The more we study the Word with a simple, trustful heart, the more we understand the path we must travel in order to reach the Paradise of God.”

With God at Dawn (WGD) 29 See CSA 46.

WGD 263 See Ed 17.

“Importance of Bible Study,” YI 32:19 (May 7, 1884): 75

“The knowledge of God’s revealed will, in which men need make no mistake, and the faithful performance of the duties therein enjoined, would tax their mental powers to the fullest extent, and develop the moral power necessary to meet the demands of the time with energy and fidelity; and after all their research, there is beyond an infinity of wisdom, love, and power.” [Parallels TMK 194]

“The Basis of True Education,” YI 43:5 (January 31, 1895): 36 See FE 328.

“The True Object of Education—No. 2,” YI 46:14 (April 7, 1898). Text can be found at https://egwwritings.org/?ref=en_YI.April.7.1898¶=469.2818.

“Students are to bear in mind that their life is a talent, to be highly appreciated and dedicated to the Lord. Those who attend school are to study the Book of books, and through prayer, and close, deep research, obtain a Bible education. They are to learn lessons in the school of Christ; they are to work in Christ’s lines.”

“Timothy,” YI 46:18 (May 5, 1898): par. 1 (+)

“The word of God must be studied, and this requires thought and prayerful research. While some passages are too plain to be misunderstood, others demand careful and patient study. Like the precious metal concealed in the hills and mountains, its gems of truth are to be searched out and stored in the mind. Only by a continual improvement of the intellectual as well as the moral powers, can we hope to answer the purpose of our Creator.”

“God’s Word Our Study-Book,” YI 46: 26 (June 30, 1898): par. 1-7 See 4T 499.

“Search the Scriptures—No. 3,” YI 46:47 (October 27, 1898): par. 1-8 See CTr 33.

“Lessons From the Life of Daniel XV: True Wisdom,” YI 51:47 (November 24, 1903): 6 See MYP 190.

Ye Shall Receive Power (YRP) 263. See PK 33.

Note: Corresponding references for the abbreviations utilized in this listing of statements may be found at <https://whiteestate.org/books/abbrlist/>.

Key

- + Ellen G. White statements that are positive toward research.
- Ellen White statements that speak negatively about research.
- ~ Neutral statements by Ellen White regarding research.