

Be Still, Know that I am God & That I Have Something Special for You to Do

Option #1:

Lesson from the life of Nehemiah: *God's "great work assignment for you".*

Sanballat and Geshem sent me this message: Come, let us meet together in one of the villages on the plain of Ono. But they were scheming to harm me, so I sent messengers to them with this reply: **I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, while I leave it, and come down to you?**

- Questions:
- 1) What are some examples of daily "great work" assignments God gives us to do?
 - 2) Could it be that God's greatest work assignment for me involves changing my character so that it becomes identical to the character of His Son?
 - 3) If the question above is true (and it is), what can I expect will be Satan's response to the "great work" God desires to do in my character reform? How will Satan attempt to side-track me as I am becoming like Christ?

Think about this: Everyday, God has called me to do a "great work" for Him. He says that I am Christ's ambassador (2 Cor. 5:20), and that I was created by Him, "for good deeds, which He has already prepared for me to do." (Eph. 2:1b)

Satan understands this and each day he works through other people or circumstances to attempt to pull me from God's, "great work" assignment.

When Satan tempts me through negative circumstances or negative people, I am to look beyond the immediate to the one behind it, and, like Nehemiah say:

"Satan, I am doing a great work. How can I leave it and come down to the filthy pit you want me to wallow in."

Private Reflection: "Father, here is what I perceive to be the "great work" you are trying to accomplish IN me. _____."

Here are the barriers I will face to distract me from this task:

Here is what I plan to do to remain focused on your goals for my life:

Option #2:

This is what the Lord says, "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. Behold, I will do a new thing; ... do you not perceive it?" -Isaiah 43: 16-19

Note: God is always ready to do a "new thing" in our lives. He is trying to grow us, to increase us, to give us more, to make us like Christ.

Question: What "new thing," could God be trying to do in the life of an old Adventist?

Question: What are some of the tools God uses to do a "new thing," in each of us?

Question: What is inferred in the question: "Do you not perceive it?"

Note: Am I being quiet enough to hear my Father explain the "new thing" He is desiring to do in my character development? Is He able to give me a clear vision of what the "new me" will look like when He accomplishes His "new thing" in me?

Reflection:

If my desire is that my life be a duplicate of the life of my elder Brother - Jesus, what will my life look like when God has accomplished His "new thing" in me in the following areas:

When my thoughts are like Christ's thoughts:

Things I will think about include:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Things I will not think about include:

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- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

When my thoughts are like Christ's words:

Things I will say include:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Things I will not say include:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

When my actions are like Christ's actions:

Things I will do include:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5

Things I will not do include:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5

Option #3:

Set Your mind and keep it set on higher things.

-Colossians 3:2

- Questions:
- 1) How do you set your mind on “higher things?”
 - 2) How do you keep it set on “higher things” throughout the day?
 - 3) What is your part in this process? What is God's part?