

Chapter 10, *The Return of the Latter Rain*

"Baal Worship"

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Bible on Baal

Ba`al (plural "Baalim"): 80 times as a proper noun in Old Testament; most referring to "supreme male divinity of the Phoenicians or Canaanites" (Brown, Driver, Briggs, Gesenius - Hebrew Aramaic English Lexicon)

First occurrences: Judges 2:11,13; 3:7

Only one use in New Testament: Romans 11:4

1889 General Conference Session

Battle Creek, Michigan: **October 18 to November 11** 1889

				18 Thu	18 Fri	19 Sab
20 Sun	21 Mon	22 Tue	23 Wed	24 Thu	25 Fri	26 Sab
27 Sun	28 Mon	29 Tue	30 Wed	31 Thu	1 Fri	2 Sab
3 Sun	4 Mon	5 Tue	6 Wed	7 Thu	8 Fri	9 Sab
10 Sun	11 Mon					

October 20, Sunday

Several bore testimony of the blessings received during the past year, of the blessed light they had received and cherished, which was justification through faith. They were delivered from bondage and had realized the rich blessing of God in their labor. They had clearer and more distinct views of the love of Jesus, and their hearts were made joyful in God. {1888 454.2}

Oh, how precious are these testimonies! It was a feast to my soul to hear my brethren recount the mercies of God, and the advancement which they had made during the past year.... {1888 454.3}

October 22, Tuesday

Excellent testimonies were borne. All who spoke made especial reference to the past year--that they had felt much more of the presence of God during the year past than they had ever done before. {1888 456.1}

October 24, Thursday

All related their experience the past year as being of a more spiritual character than they have had before since embracing the truth. The light of justification through faith, and that the righteousness of Christ must become our righteousness, else we cannot possibly keep the law of God, is the testimony of all who speak, and the fruit is peace, courage, joy, and harmony. There is danger of making even these subjects a theory, and not practicing the truth that is expressed. Those who bear this message must carry with them the pure character of Christ Jesus. {1888 461.1}

October 27, Sunday

Elder Jones presented the Bible evidence of justification by faith. {1888 463.3}

Some who will gossip over the Bible subject of justification by faith, and cavil and question and throw out their objections, do not know what they are talking about. {1888 463.4}

October 28, Monday

I called upon some who have been working contrary to God for one year in a marked manner, because special, marked light has been given them and it will be uncommon stubbornness and wilfulness to turn from this precious light God has given. {1888 464.4}

There were a large number present and he [ATJ] presented the subject of justification by faith in a plain, distinct manner, in such marked simplicity that no one need to be in darkness, unless he has in him a decided heart of unbelief, to resist the workings of the Spirit of God. Many were fed and others seem to be amazed, as though they did not know what justification by faith really meant. Certainly the lines of truth were laid out in a distinct manner. I was glad to hear this testimony. {1888 465.1}

I bore testimony that that which I heard was the truth, and those who would walk out upon the light given would be on the Lord's side. {1888 465.2}

October 29, Tuesday

We are having a good meeting. There seems to be no dissention. The testimonies which have been borne by ministers are that the light that came to them at Minneapolis and during the past year has been highly appreciated and they will walk in the light. They have seen more of the blessedness of the truth and the love of Jesus than ever before in their lives; that success has attended their labors during the past year as never before and they enjoyed the presence and the love of God in large measure. This has been the testimony borne and the meetings are excellent. At the same time there are a number who apparently stand where they did at Minneapolis. Oh, that God would work mightily for His people and scatter the clouds of darkness and let the sunlight of His glory in! {1888 450.2}

I am much pleased with the meeting. Thus far, not one voice of opposition is heard. Unity seems to prevail. I have had precious seasons of prayer in your behalf and I believe the Lord is working for you and Satan will be disappointed. {1888 450.3}

October 31, Thursday

The interview with Brethren Nicola and Morrison was not pleasant. I see in them that they are in blindness of mind, self-sufficient. They have yet to be converted, to be learning of Christ in His school. They have not opened the windows of the soul heavenward, and have not closed the windows of the soul earthward.... {1888 468.1}

They do not see that their spirit at Minneapolis was not the spirit of Jesus Christ. They justify their own course in everything. I am sorry to say they are not standing in a position to receive light and to see themselves. They are in darkness still.... {1888 468.2}

I had no satisfaction whatever in this interview. If the flock of God is entrusted to such men, may the Lord pity His poor, poor people, the sheep of His pasture, and enlighten them and save them from being molded by the spirit and influence of these men of dark unbelief. {1888 468.3}

November 4, Monday

Some of our brethren seem anxious that a resolution shall be passed by the General Conference advising our Sabbathkeeping brethren liable to imprisonment and fines, to refrain from labor on that day. Such resolutions should not be placed before this Conference, requiring their action. {1888 471.1}

November 5, Tuesday

That steps be taken at once to form a corporation for the purpose of taking entire control of all our publishing interests, thus bringing the work under one general management. {November 6, 1889 N/A, GCDB 149.3}

Your committee would further recommend that a similar organization be effected for the purpose of controlling all our educational interests, and owning the property, - thus bringing them under one general management. Also, another to control our health institutions. {November 6, 1889 N/A, GCDB 149.16}

During the Conference

Do not think that you will be found as vessels unto honor in the time of the latter rain, to receive the glory of God, if you are lifting up your souls unto vanity, speaking perverse things, in secret cherishing roots of bitterness brought from the conference at Minneapolis. The frown of God will certainly be upon every soul who cherishes and nurtures these roots of dissension, and possesses a spirit so unlike the Spirit of Christ. {1888 442.1}

There has been a departure from God among us, and the zealous work of repentance and return to our first love essential to restoration to God and regeneration of heart has not yet been done. Infidelity to God has been making its inroads in our ranks; for it is the fashion to depart from Christ, and give place to skepticism. The cry of the heart has been, "We will not have this man to reign over us." Baal, Baal, is the choice. The religion of many among us will be the religion of apostate Israel, because they love their own way, and forsake the way of the Lord. The true religion, the only religion of the Bible, that teaches forgiveness through the merits of a crucified and risen Saviour, that advocates righteousness by the faith of the Son of God, has been slighted, spoken against, ridiculed. It has been denounced as leading to enthusiasm and fanaticism. Take it back while it is not too late for wrongs to be righted; for you have sinned against God. But it is the life of Jesus Christ in the soul, it is the active principle of love imparted by the Holy Spirit, that alone will make the soul fruitful unto good works. The love of Christ is the force and power of every message that ever fell from human lips. What kind of a future is before us, if we shall fail to come into the unity of the faith. {1888 444.1}