

Chapter 13, *The Return of the Latter Rain*
"Faulty Guideposts--The Solemn Responsibility Resting on Those in Leadership Positions"
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Overview: E. J. Waggoner's writing on covenant in *Bible Readings* (1889) and the *Sabbath School Quarterly* (October 1889-June 1890), and his teaching at the Ministerial Institute (November 6, 1889 to March 25, 1890; see p. 249); opposition and maneuvering by leading men; Ellen White intervenes

Bible Readings: EJW: old covenant based upon the promised of the people "to make themselves righteous"

Sabbath School Quarterly: on the book of Hebrews; J. H. Waggoner did not complete them due to his death; EJW rewrote 5 or 6 lessons his father has already done

Ministerial Institute: training of church workers (many had no formal education); 157 of 365 total church workers attended the institute

January 11, 1890 (Sabbath)

Sabbath School lesson on Hebrews 8, dealing with the covenant

Dan Jones (Sabbath School teacher at Battle Creek Tabernacle, School Board Member overseeing the Ministerial Institute, Secretary of the General Conference, etc.; opposed Jones and Waggoner): resigned as Sabbath School teacher, stayed away from the Institute for a couple weeks

January 17, 1890 (Friday)

EJW announced he would address the covenants in his Ministerial Institute class the following Monday.

Dan Jones talked with W. C. White and EJW to leave the covenant until Prescott and Olsen were present. EJW declined to change his plans.

January 18, 1890 (Sabbath)

Dan Jones talked with EGW; she recommended that they call a meeting with EJW.

January 19, 1890 (Sunday)

Meeting from 7 p.m. to midnight. Turned into a critique of the *Sabbath School Quarterly*, to which EJW objected. McCoy, Miller, and W. C. White favored letting EJW teach the subject in the Institute. Dan Jones continued to oppose.

January 20, 1890 (Monday)

EJW resigned from teaching the covenant class at the Institute. Uriah Smith put in his place.

January 23, 1890 (Thursday)

Dan Jones writes to A. W. Allee in Missouri and opposes Jones and Waggoner going to an Institute there, specifying his (and other's) opposition to EJW and ATJ on National Reform and some theological questions; called what they had "a high-falutin theory" (definition: self-important, pompous; arrogant or egotistical; tending to show off or hold oneself in unduly high regard)

January 28, 1890 (Tuesday)

Uriah Smith published a disclaimer in the *Review* regarding EJW's Sabbath School lessons.

February 3, 1890 (Monday)

[EGW: addressed Institute] "efforts--a contrary influence--to throw back the light ... in regard to the righteousness of Christ"; "if God has ever spoken by me, it is the truth"

[Reminiscing about her husband's death in 1881] God was to bring an element in this work that we have not had yet. {1888 540.2}

How long is the grace of God to come to this people in vain? I plead with you, for Christ's sake, clear the King's highway, and trifle not with the Spirit of God. {1888 541.3}

I try to present it to you, that you may see the evidence that I saw, but it seems that the words go as into empty air. How long is it to be thus? How long will the people at the heart of the work hold themselves against God? How long will men here sustain them in doing this work? Get out of the way, brethren. Take your hand off the ark of God, and let the Spirit of God come in and work in mighty power. I feel to stand at my post of duty. I may fall here as my husband fell, but I need to do a work for God. I need to do a work for eternity. {1888 543.2}

February 5, 1890 (Wednesday)

[EGW: addressed Institute] Every line I trace about the condition of the people in the time of Christ, about their attitude toward the Light of the world, in which I see danger that we shall take the same position, I offer up a prayer to God: "O let not this be the condition of thy people. Forbid that thy people shall make this mistake. Increase their faith." And as I pray and work, the peace of God comes flowing back to my heart. We shall have to meet unbelief in every form in the world, but it is when we meet unbelief in those who should be leaders of the people, that our souls are wounded. This is that which grieves us, and that which grieves the Spirit of God. {RH, March 4, 1890 par. 9}

February 6, 1890 (Thursday)

[EGW: addressed Institute] Now, I have thought of a good many that ought to be here that are not here. Where are Leon Smith, and Brother Ballenger, and Brother Smith? Can't they spend an hour? Will they draw off for fear that they shall be won? Why not gather these men in here? And if they do not know what they are opposing at all, they will not understand. No, brethren, where is your burden? Is it that you should get those that do not understand these things, and are all the time firing in the dark against them? We know they will not come to hear, and where the Lord can impress their hearts and their minds. Can't you see, that is not the way for man to work? {1888 549.2}

February 7, 1890 (Friday)

[EGW: addressed Institute] I believe without a doubt that God has given precious truth at the right time to Brother Jones and Brother Waggoner. Do I place them as infallible? Do I say that they will not make a statement or have an idea that cannot be questioned or that cannot be error? Do I say so? No, I do not say any such thing. Nor do I say that of any man in the world. But I do say God has sent light, and do be careful how you treat it. {1888 565.2}

February 8, 1890 (Sabbath)

EGW Diary: Feb. 8, "He Shall Teach you All Things." I spoke twice on Sabbath, and again this afternoon. For three weeks I have spoken every day, with one or two exceptions. Some of the meetings that I have attended have called for earnest labor. My powers have been taxed to the utmost limit of endurance. At times I think that I have said all that is necessary, and then the burden rolls upon me, and I confer not with flesh and blood, but in the name of the Lord speak the words He gives me, leaving the consequences with Him. {1888 579.1}

Sometimes the Lord speaks with me in the night season. Sometimes He speaks to me when I am standing on my feet, opening before me the sins of which some have been guilty. The Holy Spirit flashes light before me, giving me instruction to give to the people. This makes me glad; because I know that some will receive the light, and because I know that God, in infinite love and compassion, is still calling His people. {1888 579.2}

In many hearts the messages I bear find no response. In some hearts they arouse a determined resistance, like the resistance that the work of Christ aroused in the hearts of the Jews. {1888 579.3}