

Chapter 14, *The Return of the Latter Rain*

"Convincing Evidence--Don't Waste Your Time Coming up with a View Different from Waggoner's"

Fred Bischoff

www.scripturefirst.net

(Third chapter addressing the disagreement over the covenants)

1889-1890 Ministerial Institute (Last 5 full weeks; complete dates were November 6, 1889 to March 25, 1890)

16 Sun	17 Mon	18 Tue	19 Wed	20 Thu	21 Fri	22 Sab
23 Sun	24 Mon	25 Tue	26 Wed	27 Thu	28 Fri	1 Sab
2 Sun	3 Mon	4 Tue	5 Wed	6 Thu	7 Fri	8 Sab
9 Sun	10 Mon	11 Tue	12 Wed	13 Thu	14 Fri	15 Sab
16 Sun	17 Mon	18 Tue	19 Wed	20 Thu	21 Fri	22 Sab
23 Sun	24 Mon	25 Tue	= last day of Institute			

February 16, Sunday: EJW: first of his six presentations on the covenants. *Another Date?* EJW: second presentation on the covenants

"In the **first [covenant]** it all depended upon the obedience of the people; in the **second, or new covenant**, God does it for the people." (RLR)

February 17, Monday: Uriah Smith: letter to EGW

The real point at issue at that Conference [Minneapolis 1888] was the law in Galatians; but Brother Waggoner's six preliminary discourses on **righteousness** we could all **agree** to; ... he designed them to pave the way for his **position on Galatians**, which I deem as **erroneous**. {1988 EGWE, MMM 154.2}

I of course do **not believe** there is **any necessary and logical connection between the two....** When you apparently indorsed his position as a whole, ... it was a great surprise to many.... {1988 EGWE, MMM 154.3}

February 19, Wednesday: Uriah Smith: presented his views on the covenants

"... In regard to the subject of justification by faith and righteousness in Christ... there is harmony." "But on this **subject of the covenants**; ...there seems to be a **difference of opinion**." (RLR)

Dates?: EJW: several more presentations: "**so much interruption**" {1888 624.2}

February 24, Monday: R. C. Porter: presented his views: "Abrahamic covenant embraced both the old and the new covenant" (RLR)

March 1, Sabbath: EGW diary & two sermons: "do not love God, ... lacking in love for one another. {1888 580.3}

March 2, Sunday: EGW started speaking at the morning meetings

March 7, Friday: EGW morning meeting

You have stood right in the way of God. The earth is to be lighted with his glory, and if you stand where you stand today, you might just as quick say that the Spirit of God was the spirit of the devil. You have said it now in your actions, in your attitudes, that it is the spirit of the devil. {1888 595.1}

EGW sermon

We know that the Spirit of God has been with us.... We have not a doubt but that the Lord was with Elder Waggoner as he spoke yesterday. We have not a doubt of that. I have not a doubt that the power of God in rich measure was hanging over us.... {1888 607.2}

March 8, Sabbath: EGW letter to Uriah Smith

Night before last I was shown that evidences in regard to the covenants were clear and convincing. Yourself, Brother Dan Jones, Brother Porter and others are spending your investigative powers for naught to produce a position on the covenants to vary from the position that Brother Waggoner has presented.... The

covenant question is a clear question and would be received by every candid, unprejudiced mind.... You have turned from plain light because you were afraid that the law question in Galatians would have to be accepted. {1888 604.2&3}

March 9, Sunday: EGW spoke again

I have no brakes to put on now. I stand in perfect freedom, calling light, light, and darkness, darkness. I told them yesterday that the position of the covenants I believed as presented in my Volume I [Patriarchs and Prophets]. If that was Dr. Waggoner's position then he had the truth. We hope in God. {1888 617.5}

March 10, Monday: EGW: letter to WCW

I am much pleased to learn that Professor Prescott is giving the same lessons in his class to the students that Brother Waggoner has been giving. He is presenting the covenants.... {1888 623.3}

Since I made the statement last Sabbath that the view of the covenants as it had been taught by Brother Waggoner was truth, it seems that great relief has come to many minds. {1888 623.4}

March 11, Tuesday: EGW: testimony; second part of letter to WCW:

The backbone of the rebellion is broken in those who have come in from other places.... Elder Bourdeau spoke well. Elder Waggoner spoke very humbly.... Brother Larson then spoke and confessed that his feeling had not been right.... Brother Porter was on his feet, all broken up so that he could say nothing for a few moments.... He confessed the wrong that he had done me and Elder Waggoner, and humbly asked us to forgive him. He said he could not see clearly on all points in regard to the covenants, but that he would walk humbly before God, follow Jesus and seek light all the time.... {1888 625.1&2}

The whole room was sobbing and praising God for there was a revealing of His power. He drew graciously near. I hear nothing of Elder Smith, but we hope the gracious influence of the Spirit of God may rest upon him, and he will find his way out of the darkness.... {1888 625.3}

March 12, Wednesday: Special Meeting: clarified EJW and Sabbath School Lesson, and rumored plans in 1888 of California men

March 15, Sabbath: EJW spoke on Laodicean message

March 16, Sunday: EGW: spoke to ministers

I made some very close remarks. I kept before them what they had done to make of none effect that which the Lord was trying to do and why. The law in Galatians was their only plea. {1888 631.1}

I say if your views on the law in Galatians, and the fruits, are of the character I have seen in Minneapolis and ever since up to this time, my prayer is that I may be as far from your understanding and interpretation of the Scriptures as it is possible for me to be. I am afraid of any application of Scripture that needs such a spirit and bears such fruit as you have manifested. One thing is certain, I shall never come into harmony with such a spirit as long as God gives me my reason. {1888 631.3}

March 19, Wednesday: Second Special Meeting: ATJ present

[Uriah Smith:] accusing Elder Jones of tearing up the pillars of our faith ... when these matters were investigated revealed that you accused him wrongfully. {1888 734.2}

We had our meeting. Brother Jones talked very plainly, yet tenderly in regard to their crediting hearsay and not, in brotherly love, taking the matter to the one talked about and asking him if the report were true. {1888 642.3}

Willie, I talked as they had never heard me talk before. I went over again the transactions at Minneapolis and since that time, and I addressed plain remarks to Elder Smith.... Elder Smith was not excusable. He had been acquainted with me and the character of my mission from his youth up...; and that there should suddenly come a period of time when without any reason except the imagination of his own darkened, perverted understanding, he should so deliberately and coolly treat the Testimonies in a manner to make them of no effect, was a marvel to me. {1888 642.4}