

*"What shall it profit
a man, if he shall gain
the whole world,
and lose his own soul?"
Mark 8:36.*

Name _____

Address _____

Lesson 10: The First Angel's Message—Part II Your Day in Court

This Maranatha Bible Reading Guide comes to you with the compliments of your friends in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. You can receive further information by writing or phoning the address nearest to you.

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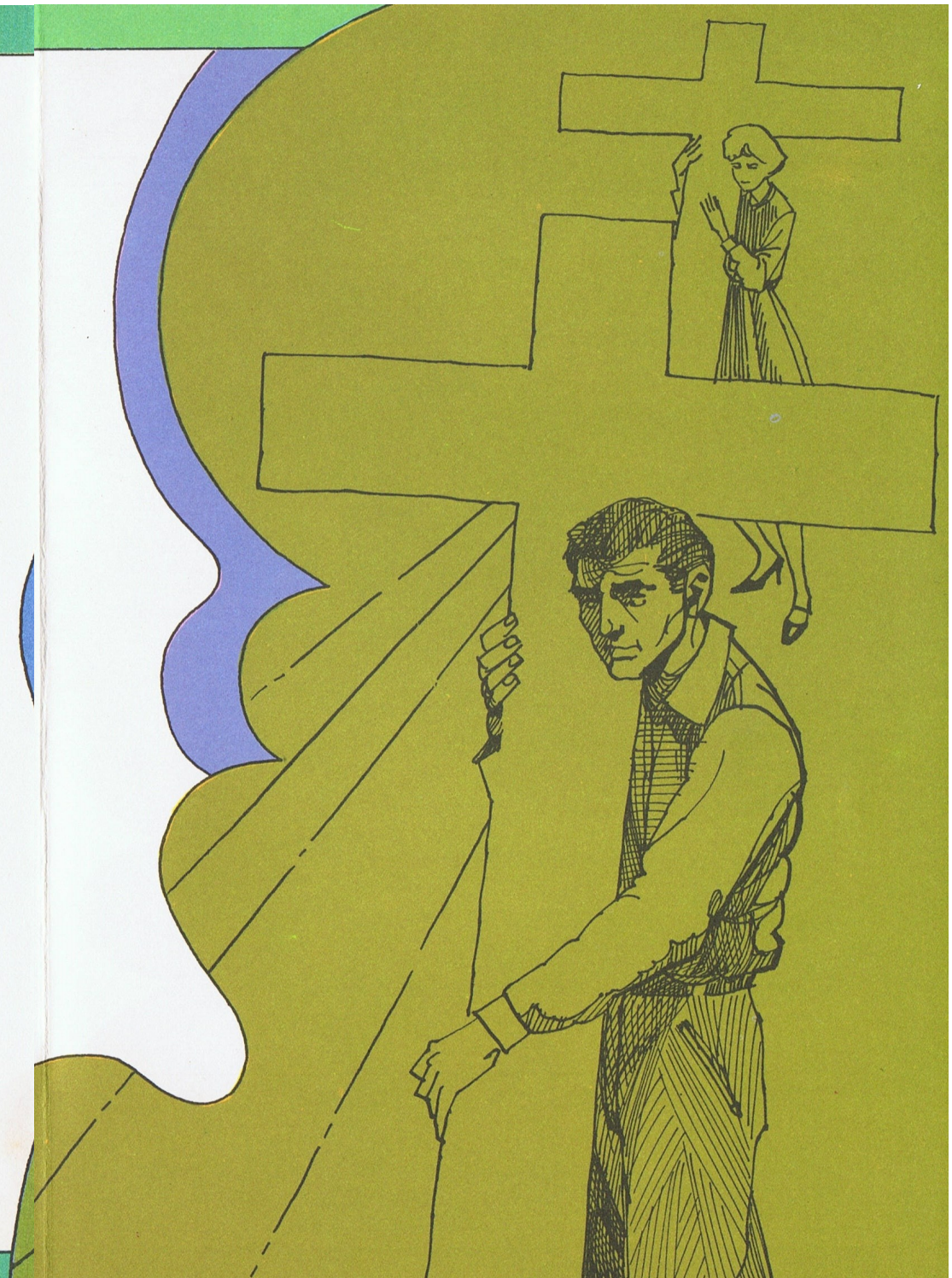
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THE FIRST ANGEL'S MESSAGE—Part I
WHO STANDS WITH YOU IN THE JUDGMENT?

who stands with you in the judgment?

Read the message of the first angel in Revelation 14:6, 7. Notice his solemn pronouncement, "The hour of his [God's] judgment is come." You have now completed the study of what the third angel said. For the first time you may realize a new concept in your relationship to God based on mutual trust and responsibility between you and your Maker. But such an understanding calls for decision, a decision between the traditional views of religion and worship, and Scripture; between the law of God and the regulations of men—yes, between the seal of God and the "mark of the beast." Your decision involves much. Friends, loved ones, your job, plans for the future—all may be affected. As important as these things are, you must also consider a far greater factor, "for we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ." 2 Corinthians 5:10. The decision you make goes with you into judgment.

When faced with the prospects of appearing in court, man customarily engages the services of an advocate or lawyer. The most important aspect in the relationship between defendant and advocate as they prepare the case for court is mutual trust and understanding. "We have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." 1 John 2:1. Jesus stands willing to take our case and go with us into judgment. In our study now we will explore the mutual trust and understanding that we must experience with Christ as our day in court draws near.



12. When we have started on the way with Christ, what should we decide to do? 2 Peter 3:17, 18 (NT 207).

The Bible says:

13. What will be our experience if we follow truth as God reveals it to us? 1 John 1:6, 7 (NT 207).

The Bible says:

14. What wonderful promises does Christ make to us if we follow Him completely? Matthew 19:27-29 (NT 20).

The Bible says:

15. Are you willing to follow Jesus in the Christian way of life?

Your answer:

We hear much today about relevance. Everybody in our so-called plastic society seems to be constantly searching for depth and meaning. The following words of Christ are pregnant with relevance: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Mark 8:36.

What can you really count on in this world? Recently a young coed hung on her dorm wall a poster of a nuclear explosion with the caption, "When the Bomb Goes Off, Be Sure You're Higher Than the Bomb." It sums up much of today's thinking. Many turn to drugs and sex as escapes from emptiness, or worse, nothingness. Man is looked on as neither good nor bad. He just is. Is that living? To fear the bomb? To cringe from the future? Christ offers you *life* filled with meaning and promise, a universe to explore and ponder, and, above all, His friendship. He will never lie to you. He will never leave you. He is the only One in this crazy world you can really count on. He is worth forsaking all for.

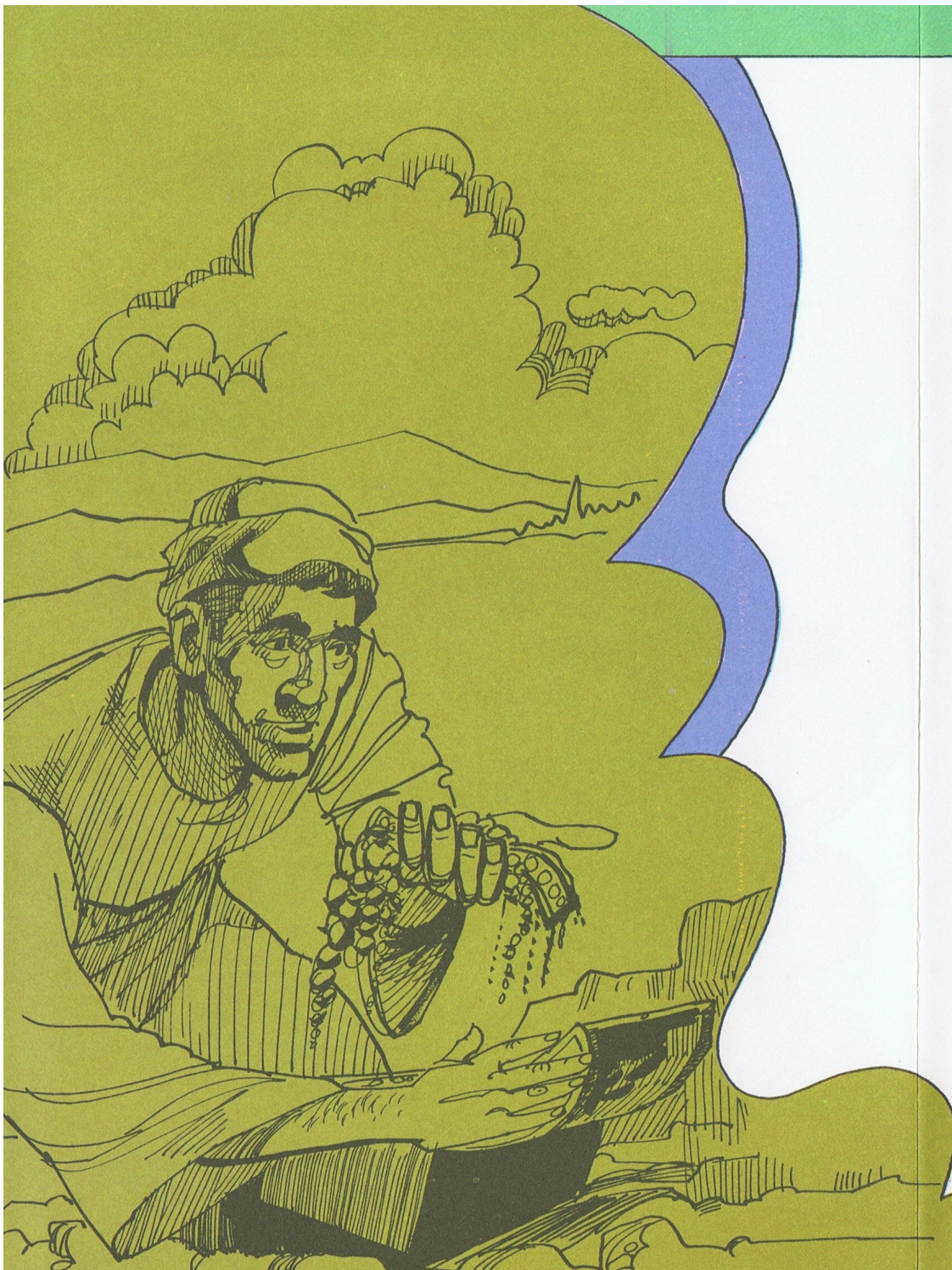
Trust Him; walk with Him. Never be afraid to do His will, to keep His commandments, to fight His warfare. May we invite you now to kneel before the Ruler of the universe and tell Him in your own way that you surrender fully to His leadership.

Pray for me that I may have God's help to hold fast to my decision. ☐

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." Luke 9:23.

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy." Hebrews 4:16.





THE BIBLE SAYS

1. How far was Jesus willing to go for us? Philippians 2:5-8 (NT 175).

The Bible says: _____.

2. What is the first step we must take toward salvation? Acts 16:30, 31 (NT 122).

The Bible says: _____.

3. How earnest must be our desire to become righteous? Matthew 5:6 (NT 5).

The Bible says: _____.

4. When only will we find God? Jeremiah 29:12, 13 (OT 620).

The Bible says: _____.

5. When the man in the parable—a symbol of those searching for salvation—found a great treasure, how much was he willing to sacrifice to secure it? Matthew 13:44-46 (NT 15).

The Bible says: _____.

6. When a person finds the wonderful treasure of salvation, how much should he be willing to sacrifice to obtain it?

Your answer: _____.

7. What does Jesus say about anyone who lets a loved one keep him from being a Christian? Matthew 10:36, 37 (NT 11).

The Bible says: _____.

8. What did Jesus declare about the individual who is unwilling to leave all for Him? Matthew 10:38 (NT 11).

The Bible says: _____.

9. How far must we be willing to go for Jesus? Luke 9:23 (NT 62).

The Bible says: "Let him _____, and take up

_____, and _____.

_____."

10. What kept the rulers of Christ's day from accepting Him? John 12:42, 43 (NT 96).

The Bible says: _____.

11. What stopped the rich young ruler from following Jesus? Matthew 19:21, 22 (NT 20).

The Bible says: _____.

*"The kingdom of heaven
is like unto treasure
hid in a field."
Matthew 13:44.*